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UTAH LIBRARIES NEWS

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Utah Library Association held its annual conference May 1-3 in Sandy, a suburb of Salt Lake City. Keynote speakers were Amy Owen, Director, Utah State Library Division, and Beverly Evans, State Senator. They presented an overview of the 21st Century Library Initiative and the recently-completed statewide needs assessment. Kayla Willey, of the Lee Library at Brigham Young University, started serving her term as ULA president for 2002-2003.

BOOKMOBILES

The state has its first new bookmobile to be built in a quarter century. Last fall, a company received a \$1.5 million contract to manufacture thirteen bookmobiles over the next six years. The new units will replace seriously aging bookmobiles that have served rural county library patrons for an average of nearly thirty years.

The Sanpete County Bookmobile Library moved to the old post office building, next door to city hall, on the main street in Fairview. The new facility has better lighting and better protection from the elements that did the old facility. The library is open to the public, and serves all rural areas of Sanpete County, in central Utah.

MARK TWAIN SCULPTURE

A life-size sculpture of Mark Twain now sits outside the Delta City Library, a community in the state's western desert. The bronze sculpture sits on a bronze park bench, reading, and inviting a library patron to join him on the bench. Gary Price of Springville, Utah, designed the sculpture, one of an edition of sixty released in 2001.

EX-UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT SERVES ON BOARD

Gerald Sherratt, formerly President of Southern Utah University in Cedar City, now serves on the city's library board. Since the city is in the process of building a new library, Dr. Sherratt's experience in public capital facility programs will be very beneficial.

NEW LIBRARIES

The newly-formed Eagle Mountain Public Library in Utah County was formally recognized and certified by the Utah State Library Board. The library was started in 1998 by a Friends group which secured a small room at the fire station and acquired books through local donations and a grant from the Le Libre Foundation. The library has now moved into a larger facility, with a salaried librarian.

The South Salt Lake Library moved into a newly-renovated building, three times larger than the old library. The Lehi City Library in Utah County expanded into a vacant building next door. The two buildings were so professionally melded as to appear seamless.

Jean Jensen, July 13, 2002