

ST-11

Utah Library News
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Utah State Representative

Nancy Tessman, director of the Salt Lake City Public Library has announced she will retire in June. She began her career as the library's community-relations director and worked her way up the ranks to become director in 1996. In 1998 Tessman helped the library win a bond referendum to build a new building, which opened in 2003. Salt Lake City Public Library was named Thomson Gale/Library Journal Library of the Year for 2006.

Davis County continues to move closer to building a new library in Farmington with the approval of funding to purchase property in the area. "I'm so glad they approved it, because the county is working on master-planning the whole area," said Pete Giacoma, the library director. The library already has budgeted funds for a new building.

Cedar City Public Library will be receiving a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts support Big Read programs between January and June 2007. The Big Read is a new national program by the NEA, in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and Arts Midwest, that encourages literary reading by asking communities to come together to read and discuss one book. The organizations selected to participate in the Big Read will receive grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$40,000 to promote and carry out month-long, community-based programs. The Big Read in Cedar City will take place during late March and early April.

The Annual Utah Educational Library Media Association Conference will be held on Thursday, March 1, 2007 at the Davis Conference Center in Layton. This year's theme is Strategy and Success @ my school library and promises to provide strategies for successful school libraries. The conference features T.A. Barron as the keynote speaker, as well as programs with local authors A.E. Cannon and Rick Walton.