

ST-11

Report to MPLA from Utah Library Association

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2008 Joint Conference Planning:

Conference planning chair Jeffrey Belliston has organized the 2008 Joint Conference Planning Committee, and plans are starting to come together. The committee has met several times in the past few months. The Joint Conference of MPLA and ULA will be held April 29-May 2, 2008.

Utah State Library Celebrates Its 50th Anniversary:

The Utah State Library (USL) celebrated its 50th anniversary with a gala event hosted by Governor Jon Huntsman, Jr. and First Lady Mary Kaye Huntsman at the Governor's Mansion on September 13, 2007. The State Library began in the Governor's Mansion horse stables a half century ago and has now progressed into a statewide cutting edge library system with bookmobile service, an online library, state-of-the art technical systems and programs for the blind and disabled.

North Logan Library Director Announces Departure:

Sue Randleman, director of the North Logan Library for the past 10 years, recently announced that she is moving to Texas with her husband, Charlie. With her departure, the very popular "Story time with Quackers" — an event that drew youthful crowds to the library each week — will be discontinued.

"We just thought maybe it was time for a change," Randleman said.

Randleman was heavily involved in the construction of North Logan's current library building, an 11,200-square-foot facility that has enabled the city's book collection to grow from 6,000 volumes to more than 54,000 in her time as director.

Bookmobile Services to Uintah County Discontinued:

Two weeks ago local library officials in Daggett, Duchesne and Uintah counties received letters from Utah State Librarian Donna Morris advising them that the state library did not plan to renew its contract for Bookmobile service after the current contract expires on Dec. 31. A single Bookmobile currently provides service to 2,783 active patrons in the three counties, using a vehicle and books bought by the state system and with operational costs shared by the state and counties.

According to the letters written by Morris, the Bookmobile will be withdrawn and used "in another location," while books will be gifted to the counties' libraries and divided up according to what share of the budget each county was paying.