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Utah Report to the Mountain Plains Library Association
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The Utah State Library and the Library of Congress hosted a 75 year anniversary celebration of the Talking Book with Utah First Lady Mary Kaye Huntsman, descendents of Senator Reed Smoot, and Library of Congress representative Carolyn Sung. Over 200 patrons attended the event on August 7, 2006, at the Utah State Library

A groundbreaking ceremony for Utah Valley State University's new library was held on September 6, 2006,. UVSC received a \$46.75 million dollar grant from the state legislature for the project, which is estimated to be completed by summer 2008.

The City Library hosted the second annual Thinking Ahead Symposium on September 7-8, 2006. The program, a collaborative effort developed by Weber County Library System and Salt Lake City Library System, serves as a forum for discussion of issues and ideas that will impact libraries in the future. This year the focus was on library leadership, the role of libraries within their community, and the global information economy.

Utah Library Association's Great Issues Forum will be held on October 18, 2006. Keith Curry Lance, Director of Library Research Services at Colorado State Library, will be the keynote speaker of the forum entitled: The Impact of School Library Media Centers on Academic Achievement. Dr. Lance is the author of numerous studies that relate the impact of certified school librarians and a current collection on student learning. The event will be held at the Salt Lake City Library.

On October 12, 2006, the Everton Genealogy Collection was opened to the public after finding a new home in a spare courtroom in the Logan Justice Center. The 1.7 million dollar collection includes over 82,000 papers and genealogical resources which are considered to be "one of the most important individual, private collections of family history and genealogy ever" by Genealogist Nancy Bennett and others.