



Press Release

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Texas State Library and Archives Commission

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Texas State Library and Archives Commission awards \$250,898 in Library Cooperation Grants

AUSTIN, Texas – The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) approved \$250,898 in Library Cooperation Grants to Texas A&M University – Commerce, University of North Texas Libraries, the Uvalde County Library System and the Weatherford Public Library.

Library Cooperation Grants promote the development of public and private partnerships between libraries and other agencies & community based organizations. TSLAC received nine Library Cooperation Grant proposals for state fiscal year 2009. The projects that have been funded are:

Texas A&M University - Commerce (\$74,060) – The “Heirloom: Something Worth Saving, Something Worth Sharing” project will work with local public libraries and the Northeast Texas Library System (NETLS) to support small community libraries in 13 counties with technology to better serve rural communities. University library staff will provide technology training, digitization support and ongoing technical assistance to preserve the existing local library’s history collection and make them available on the Internet. Texas A&M – Commerce will provide server space and the technology expertise to preserve the collections.

University of North Texas Libraries (\$60,403) – The University of North Texas Libraries will partner with the Bartlett Activities Center and Historical Society of Bartlett to microfilm, digitize and provide free online access to issues of the *Bartlett Tribune* between 1902 and 1978. The newspapers will be freely accessible over the Internet and through [UNT’s Portal to Texas History](#), as well as searchable through Texas Heritage Online. The *Bartlett Tribune* began publishing in 1886 and served a vital role in the community.

Uvalde County Library System (\$46,611) – This grant will enable the purchase and implementation of an automation system that will allow patrons to access library resources from the Internet for El Progreso Memorial, Sabinal Public and Utopia Memorial Libraries. The system will create a Google type access for patrons from their homes, businesses and in the libraries. Patrons will be able to renew and reserve materials online and receive e-mail notices of overdue materials. This will also allow patrons to search the catalogs of Southwest Texas Junior College / Sul Ross Rio Grande College and the El Progreso Memorial Library /Archives database of regional history, photos and documents.

Weatherford Public Library (\$69,824) –This grant will increase the resource sharing among Parker County libraries (Azle Public, East Parker County, Springtown Public,

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and Weatherford Public) and also addresses the needs of Parker County's rural population. It will migrate the East Parker County Library and Springtown Public integrated systems to the Polaris system that is currently shared by the Azle Public and Weatherford Public Libraries. It will also establish a countywide courier service to share materials among the four libraries, and purchase Internet and print management software for East Parker County and Springtown Libraries.

More information about TSLAC Library Development grants can be found at <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/funding/>

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ABOUT THE TEXAS STATE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES COMMISSION

TSLAC helps Texans find the information they seek. The people of Texas utilize TSLAC services and programs to effectively use information and materials that improve their lives, the lives of their families, and their communities. Since 1909, TSLAC has carried out a commitment of making information work for all Texans by providing history and genealogical services, federal and state government documents, electronic research, and library services to Texans of all ages who are unable to read standard print material due to visual, physical, or reading disabilities. For more information, go to <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us> or email pio@tsl.state.tx.us.