PO Box 201800 1515 East 6th Avenue Helena, MT 59620 (406) 444-3115

Dear Montana State Library Talking Book Patron,

Beginning in July you will start receiving enhanced library services when Montana State Library partners with the Utah State Library for the Blind and Disabled. Utah State Library will provide all your existing Talking Book services, plus the following additions:

- Two Librarians and additional Reader's Advisors that are dedicated to helping you find the books you want to read;
- Easy access to staff in Utah through a 1-800 number with an answering machine for calls after hours, as well as an email address just for your requests;
- Multiple books, and access to the entire National Library Service's book collection, on a cartridge through a process called Duplication on Demand;.
- Access to Utah's 16,000 large print books;
- Continued access to Montana recorded items plus access to additional items recorded by the Utah State Library.

By partnering with the Utah State Library, the Montana State Library will be able to provide more efficient Talking Book services for Montana and will have more resources to invest into our Talking Book program. In addition to ensuring that services still meet your needs, the Montana State Library will invest additional resources to reach the thousands of Montanans that aren't currently patrons but could benefit from this program the way you do. We will work to create stronger community partnerships with organizations that work with the blind and print disabled across the State to raise awareness of these programs. Finally, it is also our expectation that a renewed focus on outreach will help ensure you and all Montana Talking Book patrons are aware of, and have access to, Talking Book services that will meet your needs.

You remain a valued patron of the Montana State Library Talking Book services. We know how much you value Talking Book services and we are working hard to make this transition as seamless as possible for you. Your experience as a patron will not change until July. Between now and then we will provide regular updates, so that you know what to changes to expect, so that the services you rely on continue uninterrupted.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (406)444-3115 or JStapp2@mt.gov.

Jennie Stapp

State Librarian