

BUFFALO & ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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PROPOSED AGENDA

Thursday, May 19, 2011

4:00 p.m.

CE

NOTE MEETING TO BE HELD AT: Kenmore Branch Library  
160 Delaware Road  
Kenmore, NY 14217 (716) 873-2842

- A. Call of the roll
- B. Approval / Changes to the Agenda
- C. Minutes of the Meeting of April 21, 2011 ACTION
- D. Election of Officer ACTION
- E. Report of the Chair INFORMATION
- F. Committee Reports
  - 1. Executive Committee
    - a. Res. 2011-16 – Recognition of Eden Library 100 Years of Service INFORMATION
  - 2. Budget and Finance Committee
    - a. Res. 2011-17 – Consolidated NYS Library Aid 2011-2012 Application ACTION
    - b. Res. 2011-18 – 2011 Budget Transfer ACTION
    - c. Monthly Financial Report (to be distributed at meeting) INFORMATION
  - 3. Planning Committee
  - 4. Search Committee
- G. Report of the Director (sent via e-mail if on file) INFORMATION
- H. Public Comment
- I. Unfinished Business
- J. New Business
- K. Adjournment

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PROPOSED  
MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
April 21, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library was held on Thursday, April 21, 2011, in the Central Library pursuant to due notice to trustees. The following members were present:

Sharon A. Thomas, Chair  
Jack Connors, Vice Chair (via conference call)  
Amy Alvarez-Perez  
Frank Gist  
Phyllis A. Horton  
Sharon M. Kelly  
Hormoz Mansouri  
Elaine M. Panty  
John G. Schmidt, Jr.  
Judith K. Summer

Absent:

Richard L. Berger  
Rick Lewis  
Anne M. Leary  
Albert L. Michaels  
Wayne D. Wisbaum

Chair Sharon A. Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. in the Joseph B. Rounds Conference Room. Trustee Connors was in attendance via conference call.

Agenda Item B - Approval/Changes to the Agenda. Ms. Thomas informed trustees the agenda required an amendment to add Executive Session at some point during the meeting for the purpose of discussing legal matters and possibly placing a resolution on the agenda to be voted on. Ms. Summer moved and was seconded by Ms. Horton. Approval was unanimous.

Agenda Item C - Minutes of the Meeting of March 17<sup>th</sup> and April 12, 2011. On motion by Ms. Horton and a second from Ms. Panty, Minutes of March 17<sup>th</sup> were approved unanimously. On motion by Ms. Summer, seconded by Mr. Gist, Minutes of the Special Meeting of April 12<sup>th</sup> were approved unanimously.

Agenda Item D - Report of the Nominating Committee. Ms. Thomas explained at the March 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting she had asked Ms. Summer, Chair of the Nominating Committee, to gather names for nomination of people to serve as Board Secretary. After reviewing the Bylaws, this step does not need to be done and nominations can come from the floor.

Agenda Item D.1 - Presentation of Nominations for Officer. Ms. Thomas opened the floor for nominations for the office of Board Secretary. Article IV, Section 6 of the Bylaws reads "Vacancies among the officers shall be filled by an election by ballot at a regular meeting or special meeting, and a vote of the majority of the Trustees present shall be necessary to hold an election. No such vacancies shall be filled except after nomination at a preceding regular meeting or special meeting." Ms. Summer nominated Trustee Elaine Panty to serve as Secretary. There being no other nominations, Dr. Mansouri made a motion and Ms. Horton seconded. The motion was carried unanimously, and a vote will be taken at the May Board meeting.

Agenda Item E - Report of the Chair. Ms. Thomas reminded trustees the May Board meeting will take place at the Kenmore Branch Library; directions will be provided in the next Board packet. She invited trustees to save the date and put on their calendars the following events:

- Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Central Library - "Meet and Greet" with final candidates for the next B&ECPL Director. This reception is open to all staff, library trustees and the public.
- Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> - all System trustees are invited to attend the interviews of the final candidates. Interviews are expected to begin around 10 a.m.
- Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. in the Central Library Auditorium - Staff Forum with the final candidates for the next B&ECPL Director. Staff will have the opportunity to listen to each of the final candidates and ask questions. Separate sessions with each candidate are anticipated which will last approximately 50 minutes per candidate. Further details on the Library Director Staff Forum are forthcoming.

Trustee Schmidt arrived at approximately 4:06 p.m.

After being called on by Ms. Thomas, Trustee Alvarez Perez shared her thoughts on the *Library Obscura* event which she attended.

Agenda Item E.1 - Delayed Opening - Special Event. As stated above, on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> the Library will hold a Staff Forum with final B&ECPL Director candidates. Chair Thomas conveyed this resolution proposes delaying opening of the Central Library and Buffalo Branches until 1 p.m. on this date so that all staff has the opportunity to participate. Ms. Panty moved for approval and was seconded by Ms. Summer.

Deputy Director Kenneth Stone pointed out this resolution only applies to the Central Library and Buffalo Branches because those are the entities this Board directly sets the operating hours for. Contracting member libraries have the option to do the same, but that would be determined by their individual board of directors.

Mr. Schmidt inquired at the Central and Buffalo Branch Libraries with delayed openings, do the employees that work at those facilities have to go to the Forum, in other words report for work. Mr. Stone replied it would be a delayed opening so staff would be assigned to either their worksite location or report to this location (Central Library) if they have a scheduled shift.

Approval of Resolution 2011-11 was unanimous.

RESOLUTION 2011-11

WHEREAS, the position of Library Director/Chief Executive Officer is currently vacant, and

WHEREAS, final candidate interviews are scheduled for June 9 - 11, 2011, and

WHEREAS, the Board Chair recognizes the importance of staff participation in the selection of the Library Director/Chief Executive Officer, and

WHEREAS, the staff is invited to participate in a staff forum with the final candidates for Library Director/Chief Executive Officer on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to approximately 1:00 p.m., and

WHEREAS, the Chair of the B&ECPL Board of Trustees recommends delaying the opening of the Central Library and Buffalo Branch Libraries for the purposes of allowing staff to participate in the staff forum, and now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library authorizes the delay in opening of the Central Library and Buffalo Branches until 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 11, 2011 for the purposes of allowing staff to attend staff forums with the final Library Director/Chief Executive Officer candidates, and also, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library also recognizes the date of the staff forum is subject to change and if the date should change, the Central Library and Buffalo Branches shall open for regularly scheduled open hours on Saturday, June 11, 2011 and hereby authorizes administration to delay opening the Central Library and Buffalo Branches until 1 p.m. on the date in which the staff forum with the final candidates for Library Director/Chief Executive Officer, will be held.

Agenda Item F – Committee Reports.

Agenda Item F.1 – Executive Committee. Ms. Summer read the following Executive Committee Report on behalf of Jack Connors:

Buffalo and Erie County Public Library Board of Trustees  
Executive Committee Meeting Report  
April 14, 2011

Present: Executive Committee Members Sharon Thomas, Jack Connors, Ann Leary and Judy Summer.

Also Present: Trustee Elaine Panty and Deputy Directors Mary Jean Jakubowski - COO and Kenneth Stone - CFO.

Meeting called to order 4:04 p.m. A quorum was present.

Meeting with County Executive and the Negotiating Team scheduled for 4 p.m. Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Agenda for April 21<sup>th</sup> Board meeting reviewed.

Discussion held regarding proposed resolution pertaining to date change of June Board meeting. Executive Committee determined it best not to change the date. Board meeting will remain as scheduled: Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. in the Joseph B. Rounds Board Room at the Central Library. Executive Committee meeting remains as scheduled for Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. in the Joseph B. Rounds Board Room at the Central Library.

Discussion held regarding procedures for Nominations for Officer.

Mr. Stone reviewed Resolutions 2011-12, 2011-13 and 2011-14.

Call for Executive Session to discuss potential legal action – Jack Connors, second by Judy Summer 4:25 p.m. Executive Session ended 5:03 p.m. No action was taken in Executive Session.

Discussion regarding meeting agenda followed upon return to open session.

Discussion held regarding Director Search and key dates:

- June 9<sup>th</sup> 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Final Candidates Reception to be held at Central Library. Trustees, staff and public will be invited to attend.

- June 10<sup>th</sup> Search Committee will conduct interviews with finalists. Anticipated to be held in a.m.
- June 11<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. until finished (anticipate 12 noon) Final Candidate Forums for staff and trustees.
- Search Committee will meet following Forums.

Board asked Ms. Jakubowski to develop a resolution recommending the delayed opening of the library on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> so as to allow staff to attend the Final Candidate Forums for the Library Director Search.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m. Motion by Jack Connors, second by Anne Leary.

Agenda Item F.2 – Budget and Finance Committee. Mr. Stone suggested handling the first two agenda items under Budget and Finance and then recessing for Executive Session to discuss potential legal action.

Agenda Item F.2.a – Approve New York State Annual Reports. Mr. Stone communicated these reports were e-mailed to trustees prior to the meeting and two hard copies were also available for review at the meeting. Mr. Stone recognized library staff Kathy Smith and Tracy Palicki for their hard work on these reports. Ms. Panty thanked all staff in the System for their dedication. Resolution 2011-12 was approved unanimously.

#### RESOLUTION 2011-12

WHEREAS, the Library System Basic Aid, Local Library Services Aid (LLSA), Local Services Support Aid (LSSA), Central Library Book Aid (CLBA), Central Library Development Aid (CLDA), Coordinated Outreach Library Services Aid, State Correctional Facilities Aid and Services to County Jails (Interinstitutional) Aid are annual New York State statutory aid programs aimed at assisting library systems, central libraries and local libraries in developing collections and providing services to their constituents, and have provided funding for many years, and

WHEREAS, in order to maintain the Library's charter as well as qualify for State Aid, each library files reports annually with New York State summarizing achievements, activity and financial performance, and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library files both a Public Library Report and a Library System Report, while each contracting library also files a Public Library Report, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Board of Trustees assures that the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library "Annual Report for Public and Association Libraries – 2010" has been reviewed and accepted and

that the Library operated under its Plan of Service in accordance with the provisions of Education Law and the Regulations of the Commissioner, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Board of Trustees assures that the Library System operated under its approved Plan of Service in accordance with the provisions of Education Law and the Regulations of the Commissioner, and assures that this "Annual Report for Library Systems - 2010" has been reviewed and accepted, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Board of Trustees assures that the Library System will be operating under its approved Plan of Service in accordance with the provisions of Education Law and the Regulations of the Commissioner and assures that the "Budget Summary" has been reviewed and accepted, and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Interim Library Director transmit the completed online reports to the State Division of Library Development.

Agenda Item F.2.b - Regional Bibliographic Database Grant Award. Ms. Panty moved for approval of Resolution 2011-13 and Ms. Horton seconded. Following additional project details by Assistant Deputy Director Peggy Skotnicki, approval of Resolution 2011-13 was unanimous.

RESOLUTION 2011-13

WHEREAS, the Library has been awarded a New York State Regional Bibliographic Database grant in the amount of \$14,560 and

WHEREAS, grant proceeds will support and fund digitization of 24 volumes of the Library's Pan American Exposition scrapbooks, and

WHEREAS, a grant budget needs to be established to undertake the program, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library establish a Regional Bibliographic Database grant budget in the following amounts:

Revenue	\$14,560
Grant Program Expenditures	\$14,560

At 4:21 p.m. the Chair accepted a motion from Ms. Summer to enter Executive Session. Dr. Mansouri made a second. Approval was unanimous. All members of the staff and public were dismissed from the room with the exception of Deputy Director



Kenneth Stone, Interim Transitional Team members June Garcia and Susan Kent and Library Counsel Patrick Martin. Trustee Schmidt recused himself for the Executive Session and left the room.

When the Library Board reconvened in public session at approximately 4:52 p.m., it was to introduce proposed Resolution 2011-15 which was read by Mr. Stone. He added this preserves the Library's options but does put forward an amicable settlement that also avoids a fair amount of legal expense for the Library. Mr. Gist moved for approval, Ms. Horton seconded. Mr. Schmidt recused himself from the vote while the other nine trustees in attendance voted in favor of approving Resolution 2011-15.

RESOLUTION 2011-15

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, at its Special Meeting of April 14, 2011 considered a legal opinion from its legal counsel Patrick Martin regarding a dispute with the County of Erie over the County's failure to disburse \$750,000 of the BECPL's year 2010 appropriation from the County and the Board was advised of the steps required for legal action to recover said appropriation as set forth in the legal opinion; and

WHEREAS, the Board therefore resolved that Library counsel Patrick Martin should continue to conduct preliminary work to take such legal action, while the Board sought an amicable resolution of the dispute; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees appointed a Committee to meet with the Erie County Executive to seek an amicable resolution of the dispute; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has obtained an amicable resolution of the dispute, including elimination of a year 2010 debt to the County of \$250,000, due and payable from the \$750,000 appropriation; waiver by the County of a claim to annual payments by the BECPL of \$250,000 for 2011 or any future year; provision by the County of an additional \$250,000 in capital funds for renovations to the Central Library, and

WHEREAS, the County Executive will also consider providing capital funds for a significant portion of the BECPL library materials expense for a transition period (an expense totaling approximately 3.5 million dollars annually), and consider use of County capital funds for other BECPL needs; and

WHEREAS, the County is presently pursuing final approval of the capital funds for renovations to the Central Library and the waiver by the County of a claim to annual payments by the BECPL of \$250,000 for 2011 or any future year but has not yet obtained final approval; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public directs Library counsel Patrick Martin to cease preparations for legal action

to recover said \$750,000 from the County of Erie, subject to reconsideration of this issue at the next regular or subsequent meeting of the Board of Trustees, in the event the County efforts to obtain the settlement items mentioned above has not been realized.

Agenda Item F.2.c – Erie County 2012-2017 Capital Project Requests. Mr. Stone introduced this resolution which authorizes the Library to submit a Capital Project Request for the 2012-2017 Capital Planning period. A suggested amendment was distributed to trustees with changes highlighted from the proposed resolution sent out in the Board packet. Mr. Stone explained the changes are to add a project for the 2012 Funding Year consisting of transitional capital funding for library materials – up to \$3.5 million; and for the 2013 and Beyond Funding Years adding in a request for transitional capital funding for library materials – up to \$3.5 million for 2013. He then discussed the remaining items as on the original proposed resolution. Mr. Schmidt asked him to explain the transitional nature of the capital funding in the amendments. Mr. Stone stated while library books are a capitalized asset, this is not a recommended recurring long-term solution. It is transitional in the sense that it allows the Library to transition to some other form of finance or for the County's revenues to recover as such at a point in time where we can then be funded on a recurrent operating revenue stream. Further discussion ensued regarding the library material budget. Dr. Mansouri asked at what point/cost level would we lose our accreditation. Mr. Stone replied this varies by community because the state charter requirements minimum standards are population based for chartered service areas. Further discussion ensued regarding chartered service areas and library hour needs versus requirements. On motion by Trustee Alvarez Perez and a second by Trustee Summer, the amended Resolution 2011-14 was approved by a vote of eight to one, with Trustee Schmidt casting the dissenting vote and Trustee Mansouri abstaining.

#### RESOLUTION 2011-14

WHEREAS, the time of year to prepare and submit capital project requests to Erie County for the following five-year period is approaching, and

WHEREAS, on March 29<sup>th</sup> the Library received 2012-2017 Capital Budget preparation forms and instructions, with a due date of April 25, 2011, and

WHEREAS, given that the Central Library Use Analysis Project is not expected to be completed until later this year, amounts for estimated Central Library needs will be subject to significant revision in future years to reflect the results of the study and related collaborative opportunities identified, and

WHEREAS, recognizing these unknowns, recommendations for the 2012-2017 Erie County Capital Budget focus on extending and updating those projects prioritized in the 2011-2016 request and seeking capital funding library materials for a transition period, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library hereby directs the Interim Library Director to prepare, update costs as needed, and submit 2012-2017 Erie County capital project requests prioritized as follows:

**FOR THE 2012 FUNDING YEAR**

- Transitional capital funding for library materials - up to \$3.5 million;
- Central Library Space Reconfiguration/Infrastructure Renewal/Collaborative Opportunities Phase 1 - Estimated cost \$5.725 million; and

**FOR THE 2013 AND BEYOND FUNDING YEARS**

- Transitional capital funding for library materials - up to \$3.5 million (2013);
- Central Library Space Reconfiguration/Infrastructure Renewal/Collaborative Opportunities - future phases (one project area per year 2013-2015) - Estimated cost \$8.275 million ;
- Shipping vehicle replacements (2) in 2013 - Estimated cost \$65,000; and
- Additional Library Replacement Project Incentive Funds (1 project in 2013 and 1 project in 2015) - Estimated cost \$5 million, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library expresses its support for requests that may be submitted by the County Public Works Department to address Central Library mechanical equipment and building needs not covered by the above requests, and be it finally

RESOLVED that the Interim Director transmit the requests to the appropriate County Department pursuant to the County's instructions and timetables and provide a report to the Library Board detailing the requests submitted.

Agenda Item F.2.d - Monthly Financial Report. Due to recent pressing matters, Mr. Stone did not have a Monthly Financial Report available but would send it out. Ms. Summer commented on the wonderful *Library Budget and You* presentation he did at the Audubon Branch Library the prior day.

Trustee Mansouri left the meeting at approximately 5:17 p.m. leaving nine trustees in attendance.

Off topic, Ms. Thomas shared the Library received thank you letters from Senator Michael Ranzenhofer and Assembly Member Dennis Gabryszak for visiting during Library Advocacy Day in Albany. She also noted together with Deputy Directors Jakubowski and Stone, Ms. Thomas accepted a proclamation the Library received from Legislator Lynn Marinelli for National Library Week.

Agenda Item F.3 - Planning Committee. In the absence of Planning Committee Chair Berger, Trustee Summer read the following Planning Committee Report from the April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting held at the Central Library:

Present: Planning Committee Chair Richard Berger and members Sharon Thomas, Elaine Panty and Judy Summer.

Also present: Kenneth Stone, CFO; Mary Jean Jakubowski, COO; Suzanne Jacobs, President - Association of Contract Trustees/Lancaster Public Library; Dr. Paul Wietig, Amherst Public Library; Peggy Snajczuk, Orchard Park Public Library; Richard Earne, Grand Island Memorial Library; Barbara Birt, Grand Island Memorial Library and Roseanne Butler-Smith, Director - Amherst Public Library.

Absent: Jack Connors and Rick Lewis.

Meeting opened at 4:08 p.m.

2012 Budget Overview conducted. Mr. Berger asked Mr. Stone to review the budget process and information, currently known about the 2012 budget. Mr. Stone provided charts and presented County 4 year plan. \$18.1M earmarked by County Executive for 2012 Library Budget. Ken reminded folks that the \$3M received in 2011 was one time money - the \$3M has been received. Also reminded attendees the \$750K in the 2010 budget was never received, thus compounding the reduction in funding. Mr. Stone also reminded the attendees that the Library has committed to using \$2.6M in fund balance to supplement the 2011 budget.

2012 budget problem is not just the \$3M one time funds received; it is compounded by the \$2.6M fund balance use. With anticipated increase costs in both employee benefits such as health insurance and New York State Retirement, the situation is \$5.6 to \$6M in size.

The question was raised about bridging the budget to beyond 2012. Discussion ensued.

Several suggestions were made - including what Dick Earne framed as "off the wall" suggestions such as selling off rare books to corporations or other entities and then leasing them back. "This could be used to bridge the gap..."

Others mentioned the need to define metrics to influence the decisions made. Suggestion made included reviewing the 19 factors used in the 2005 budget planning process, review of 2010 census numbers, etc. 19 factors remain on B&ECPL website under <http://www.buffalolib.org/AboutTheLibrary/governance1.asp?sec=10>.

Bridging the 2012 budget was further discussed.

Mr. Berger discussed strategic planning – typically beyond 1 year, the Library needs to think along these lines. “The System as it is now is not sustainable.”

Suzanne Jacobs suggested a committee made of contracting library trustees.

Ms. Thomas also suggested sub-committees or breakout groups from this committee to look at specific things.

Dick Earne asked about concepts of the System and mentioned the affiliation with the UB Regional Institute – questioned the purpose for their involvement and subsequently the need to see their report.

Discussion ensued on how to form a committee/sub-committee. Suzanne Jacobs said participants must be willing to participate and representative of the member libraries. She mentioned the April 7<sup>th</sup> Act Board meeting where ALL contracting library trustees were invited. Ms. Jacobs will ask people to participate.

Discussion conducted on role of Libby Post – Communication Services. She will be asked to work on concepts “what message/strategies” for moving forward. Also, Ms. Post will be asked what has worked in other libraries she has worked with. Ms. Post will be attending the May 7<sup>th</sup> ACT meeting.

Ms. Jakubowski mentioned the Q&A’s from the Trustee Workshop were sent to Ellen Bach for written response. They will be posted when complete. In addition, Ms. Bach is working on a list of what she feels is and is not included in potential legislation. What would be best in an MOU/MOA (memorandum of understanding/ memorandum of agreement) versus the legislation. Further discussion ensued.

Roseanne Butler-Smith suggested the next meeting be held at a contracting member library and offered to host the meeting at the Eggertsville-Snyder Branch as it is easily accessible.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. for refreshment and 6:00 p.m. meeting at the Eggertsville-Snyder Branch Library located at 4622 Main Street, Snyder. Meeting adjourned 6:50 p.m.

Trustee Gist left the Board meeting at approximately 5:21 p.m. leaving eight trustees in attendance.

Agenda Item G – Report of the Director. Interim Transitional Team member Susan Kent reported she and June Garcia have had much communication with Ms. Jakubowski and Mr. Stone over the past month. She remarked this is one of the most complex governance situations in an urban library anywhere. Their plan is to bring a list of items to consider to the next Board meeting. They are considering doing a

mini affirmation of library service priorities for the Library System as a several hour session around the next May Board meeting. She commented all the issues the Library faces are out there in the ether unless you really focus on what the Library should be over the next 3 to 5 years in terms of what is a public library, how is it organized, what are the foci of services; you cannot be everything to everybody - that is not a sustainable future. She commended staff for working very hard through this.

Copies of the Interim Report Re-Imagine the Central Library prepared by Architectural Resources were distributed to trustees. Ms. Kent reviewed information contained in this report. She pointed out since this report, she conducted twelve individual hour-long telephone interviews with key stakeholders in the community and two staff meetings on the Re-Imagine project. A meeting of the Re-Imagine Committee was held April 20<sup>th</sup>. She discussed possibilities of co-located space for cultural and arts groups who might rent space and added, when she talked to individual interviewees, everyone thought it was a good idea and emphasized the co-location partner should be attractions to help the Library attract people. This process is still ongoing and Ms. Kent stated she was available to answer any questions trustees have about this report.

Trustee Summer commended Carol Pijacki for helping a patron she had referred to the Central Library regarding chamber music items.

June Garcia provided an update on the Director Search. A draft Library Director - Recruitment Timeline was distributed to trustees at the meeting. An electronic brochure has been issued which is on a variety of websites and is getting a lot of attention and attraction. Information on the position has been posted on various listservs and some brief ads on online sites have been done. Applications are due by May 4<sup>th</sup> but open until filled. A conference call with the Search Committee is planned for early May and, at that point, the Search Committee will have an opportunity to review the documents received and determine which candidates they wish to interview by phone.

The following was submitted by Deputy Director Jakubowski and transmitted to Board members prior to the meeting:

## Monthly Report of Library System Activity April 21, 2011

### 1. PUBLIC SERVICES

#### Programs, Learning Opportunities, Outreach and Events

Rare Book Librarian **Amy Pickard** led a tour and discussion of Mark Twain in Buffalo for SUNY Fredonia Professor Emily VanDette's English Senior Seminar students. Subsequently, they enjoyed the rare book exhibit *Travelers and Cosmopolitans*.

Grosvenor Room Librarian **Carol Pijacki** presided at the March 15<sup>th</sup> Literally Speaking Lunchtime Book Discussion of *Brooklyn* by Colm Toibin. Librarian **Kara Stock** led the discussion.

Assistant Deputy Director for Special Collections **Peggy Skotnicki** and **Amy Pickard** provided tours of the Grosvenor Rare Book Room exhibit *Travelers and Cosmopolitans* and the Mark Twain Room to 7 individuals from the March 19<sup>th</sup> Trustees Workshop. In discussion, it was discovered that one of the contract member library trustees works for Microsoft and provided information about a software platform to enhance the presentation of digitized rare books.

**Carol Pijacki** provided a tour of Grosvenor Room local history resources for a class from the Maritime Charter School. She also gave 3 tours of Grosvenor Room local history and genealogy resources to adult researchers.

**Amy Pickard** and Special Collections Librarian **Charles Alaimo** assisted 2 readers studying the Library's facsimile of the manuscript of *Alice's Adventures Under Ground*, the first edition and second printing of the Appleton *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and the first American edition of the same. The 2 ladies will be presenting their study at a Burchfield Penney function.

The Local History/Genealogy blog <http://grogenealogylocalhistory.wordpress.com/>, the Rare Book Room blog <http://grorarebookroom.wordpress.com/> and the blog for the rare book exhibit *Travelers and Cosmopolitans* <http://www.thetourististheotherfellow.blogspot.com/> continue to post informative and interesting information.

March was a very busy month for Training Lab staff. A total of 39 public classes were conducted for 405 attendees at the Central Library Training Lab and community libraries using the mobile Cyber Trains. Participant feedback continues to be extremely positive. The overall average rating was 4.68 (out of a possible 5). The Web 2.0 classes presented using the mobile Cyber Trains received an overall ranking 4.92! Kudos go to

the entire Technology Training Team that includes Training Lab Coordinator **Kara Stock** as well as part-time librarian trainers **Ian Shoff**, **Tom Carloni** and **Andy Aquino**. Central Library Technology Training staff updated the curricula for Computer Basics, Nook & the B&ECPL, Email Intermediate, B&ECPL Web Site, Introduction to Facebook, Internet Intermediate and Introduction to Web 2.0 classes.

A new page has been developed on the Library's website that consolidates the listing of public technology classes being offered at libraries throughout the county. The chronological schedule can be found at <http://bit.ly/13WfCu>.

The Central Library Training Lab was used throughout the month by the Buffalo Public Schools where 8 ESL classes were conducted for 18 students. On March 5<sup>th</sup>, Parent Network used the Lab for a program with 12 attendees.

**Kara Stock** has been working with WNYLRC (Western New York Library Resources Council) Training Coordinator **Jaclyn McKewan** to schedule Web 2.0 classes for area library professionals at the WNYLRC Training Center. B&ECPL staff will be presenting Facebook and Flickr classes on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Technology Trainer **Ian Shoff** is developing a video to assist patrons using RFID (radio frequency identification) self checkout computers. Ian visited the Crane Library on March 8<sup>th</sup> to examine the self-check process in a 'live' environment in order to generate ideas for the story board that's the basis for the presentation. When complete, the video will be available on all RFID self-check machines.

The Information Technology Team has completed the installation of a new video game-based learning resource for K-12 students, which is now available on all public computers at the Buffalo City Branches and the Central Library. The video game "DimensionU" by Tabula Digita can be played by any student that holds a Buffalo Public School ID.

The text and content information was updated for overdue, lost and collection agency notifications that are auto-generated to library cardholders via e-mail. The updates include more accurate terminology and better reflect account status.

**Anne Conable**, from the Development and Communications Department, coordinated details and support promotion for Central events including:

- "Imagining Buffalo" Lunchtime Series - Marian Deutschman, Buffalo State 3/8 (26 attendees); Gary Costello, Hull Family Home & Farmstead 3/22 (43 attendees)
- Working for Downtown Brown Bag Lunch Series 3/2 - Michael Schmand, Buffalo Place (37 attendees)
- "Women of Forest Lawn" Lunchtime Series - 4 events, (105 attendees)



- Author Talks: Alice Loweecy 3/1 (7 attendees), Douglas Waller 3/7 (37 attendees), Joseph Ritz 3/15 (7 attendees)
- UNYTS blood drive 3/3
- Women's History Month Kickoff 3/3 (125 attendees)
- Lunchtime Program "How Women Won the Civil War" 3/29 (18 attendees)
- Squeaky Wheel "Stories from the Niagara Frontier" Series 3/10 (9 attendees), 3/17 (34 attendees), 3/24 (11 attendees)
- Community Event: Honoring Buffalo Merit Roll Students 3/10 (24 attendees)
- Literacy Volunteers Scrabblefest 3/13 (48 attendees)
- CASH Financial Wellness Fair 3/30 (65 attendees)
- Also, coordinated graphic novels workshop (Apr) and display w/Tapestry Charter School
- Support Programming and Big Read Committees
- Displays: Coordinate WNY Artists Group display at Fables window space; coordinate logistics for BPS Student Art Show installation (late March) and Apr 5 opening reception
- Confirm speakers and date for 5/24 PastForward Discussion Series program

The Graphics Department - **Dawn Stanton** and **Darlene Pennachi** had a busy month, designing things, especially with the moves at Central. Projects included:

- CEN - new Kids' Space decorations, bulletin board, signs
- CEN - Magazine Section signage
- RandForce posters - printed 48
- City Branches - Open House flyers
- Signs for libraries including: ECL, EDL, OPK, CRA, CLA, EGG, CFD, AUD, KNM, GRI, JBR
- Battle of the Books - 2011 poster
- Children's Programming CEN - flyer for April
- CEN - "Information" arrows on floor
- Summer Reading planning
- Other misc. signs, flyers and promotion

The Library System is supporting the *Buffalo News Books for Kids* initiative during the month of April by providing drop-off boxes in all 37 libraries. The *News* held their media announcement about this year's fundraiser at the Central Library.

March began a new era for System children's programming. The Children's Programming Team expanded programming services to include contracting member libraries in addition to Central Library and Buffalo City Branches. Services included weekly sessions of Lapsit, Toddler Time and Preschool Story Hour as well as single highlighted programs for school-age and teen participants. Programs are slated to

continue through the end of May. Children's staff is monitoring program logistics including staff assignments, program times and attendance and craft supplies.

Children's librarians are planning for summer programming experiences. Librarian **Mary Ann Budny** identified and ordered supplies for summer crafts and incentives for the Summer Reading Challenge. Librarian **Sarah Gallien** booked summer performers and spoke with Graphics about summer promotional materials. Librarian **Kasey Mack** created a letter to be sent to schools promoting summer programs and the importance of reading over the summer and soliciting summer reading lists. Kasey, with intern Meg Hepburn, designed and became the administrator of the 2011 Battle of the Books Facebook page.

Librarian **Mary Ann Budny** facilitated a Teacher/Parent Literacy workshop at the Reinstein Library in anticipation of the arrival of Family Place.

### Programs - Central

Preschool story hour returned in March on Wednesday and Saturday mornings. **Nancy Smith** and **Sarah Gallien** presented these programs. There were several themes in March which included Ducks, Monsters, Turtles, Favorite Stories, Spring and Pop-Up books. At each story hour children listened to stories and fingerplays and created such crafts as a lion puppet and a duck pond.

On March 5<sup>th</sup>, Senior Page **Laura Raichel** presented Gaming Saturday. Nineteen children enjoyed playing video games on the Game Cube and Wii. They also like playing the board games and putting together puzzles. On March 19<sup>th</sup>, **Mary Ann Budny** led the Pizza Lovers' Book club. Nineteen children listened to a booktalk about math books (both fiction and nonfiction) and 5 children shared a book they read. On March 26<sup>th</sup>, **Kasey Mack** moderated the Lego Club. The Lego Maniacs had a "Tall Tower" competition, to see who could build the tallest Lego tower.

### Programs - Branches - City and Contracting

In March, the program team presented 134 programs (including Outreach, class visit story hours, tours, preschool, toddler, Lapsit storytimes, special interest programs, tween and young adult) at the Central Library, Buffalo City Branches and contracting member libraries. Total attendance was over 1,200. The response to these programs has been very positive.

The most popular program offered has been Little Chefs. **Sarah Gallien** shared the Little Chefs program at the following branches: Lancaster, Reinstein, Audubon, Eggertsville, Orchard Park, Kenmore, Clearfield, Newstead, Boston and Clarence. **Mary Ann Budny** presented this program at East Aurora, Lackawanna, JBR and Williamsville Libraries. **Nancy Smith** presented Little Chefs at East Delavan and Crane Branches. **Kerra Alessi** presented Little Chefs at the East Clinton Branch Library. Due

to a scheduling conflict, an outline of the Little Chefs program was provided to North Park and a staff member presented this program at that branch. The Little Chefs program featured understanding basic cooking utensils and offered the children the opportunity to make something from scratch. The children made 3 creations including a "butterfly" made with a carrot stick and apple slices and a lion face. The lion face was created with a bagel, cream cheese and chow mein noodles for whiskers and black olives and celery for a face. The Little Chefs program was designed as either a family or school-age program.

**Kerra Alessi** and **Matt Kochan** created a "Scratch" program for teens and tweens. Scratch is a programming language that makes it easy to create interactive stories, animations, games, music, and art. As children create Scratch projects, they learn important mathematical and computational skills, while also learning to think creatively, reason systematically, and work collaboratively. **Matt Kochan** presented this program at the JBR, Boston, Williamsville, Niagara, Lancaster and Newstead Libraries. The children that attended had nice comments about the program. At Lancaster the teens wanted to know when this program was going to be held again. Niagara had the highest attendance (10) and the teens wanted to learn more about Scratch and have another program. **Kerra Alessi** presented this program at Riverside, East Clinton, Lackawanna and West Seneca Libraries. At Riverside one teen said "usually library programs are lame, but I like this one!" At the Scratch program at East Clinton one child liked the program so much he didn't want to leave!

Along with family, tween and teen programming, there were also traditional story hours. Lapsit, Toddler and Preschool Story Hours were offered with mixed results. At branches where Children's Programming Team story hours were offered in addition to existing branch story hours, attendance was low. However, at branches such as Lackawanna and Riverside where the Children's Programming Team story hour was the only one offered, the attendance was very good. **Kasey Mack** provided story hours at Riverside, Hamburg and Kenilworth Libraries. **Wanda Collins** provided them at Clearfield, Lackawanna, Clarence and Lancaster Libraries. **Mary Ann Budny** presented an evening story hour at Reinstein. **Cyndy Lenzner** presented an evening story hour at JBR. She also presented morning story hours at Newstead, Williamsville and Lakeshore. **Becky Pieszala** presented story hours at Marilla, Boston and Kenmore. **Nancy Smith** presented story hours at North Park, Crane, and East Delavan Libraries.

Although the story hour themes varied, each program included: stories, fingerplays, a craft, activities and fun! The themes in March were: Spring, Robins, Frogs, Wind, Down on the farm, Mud, Colors of Springtime, My Body, Zoo, Ducks, Spring Flowers and Monsters. Lapsit programs (for children 2 and under) also include about 20 minutes of playtime which gives moms or caregivers a chance to socialize. One of the most unusual (as well as fun) crafts this month was done by **Wanda Collins** at her Lackawanna story hour on March 31<sup>st</sup>. The children marched through the library

singing the "Mud Song" and made a worms in dirt (chocolate) craft ... and ate it! They also made their own mud with instant pudding and milk in baggies for them to squish together. After the program each child got a worm "Dirt" sticker to place on their cups.

**Tours:**

March 2: Bennett Park Montessori, Attendance: 10 (Story Hour and craft)  
March 4: Enterprise Charter School, Attendance: 46 (Story Hour and craft)  
March 14: Aspire Group Home, Attendance: 17 (tour and stories)  
March 29: Elmwood Village Charter School, Attendance: 38 (tour, stories and craft)  
March 31: Drop-In Group - School #45, Attendance: 7 (browsed books and used computers)

- Information Services Librarian **Chuck Alaimo** provided a tour and database training on March 1<sup>st</sup> for the WNY Maritime Charter School; 12 students and 1 teacher attended.
- **Chuck Alaimo** provided a tour on March 3<sup>rd</sup> for the Foundations Course students of the Graduate School of Information and Library Science; 10 adult students and 1 teacher attended.
- **Chuck Alaimo** provided a tour on March 7<sup>th</sup> for the Stanley Falk School; 21 students and 5 adults attended.
- **Chuck Alaimo** provided a tour and reference instruction on March 7<sup>th</sup> for Baker Victory Services; 16 students and 3 adults attended.

**Outreach:**

March 1: Librarian **Sarah Gallien** attended Dr. Seuss night at EPIC. Sarah read Dr. Seuss stories and made crafts with children. Attendance: 55

March 2: Librarian **Kerra Alessi** attended Dr. Seuss day at School #90. Kerra read Dr. Seuss stories to the children. After the stories they sang Happy Birthday to Dr. Seuss. Attendance: 14

March 10: Librarian **Mary Ann Budny** attended the Adult Education Career Exploration Fair. Mary Ann promoted Family Place and passed out publicity. Attendance: 60

March 19: Librarian **Kathy Goodrich** attended "Project Parenting" at D'Youville College. Kathy manned a library information table that promoted Family Place and library services. She also did a 10 minute presentation to parents about Family Place and library services.

March 30: Children's programming staff led the Youth Services Group Summer Reading Workshop for System Children's staff. They shared summer craft ideas and NY State Summer Reading information.

YMCA at the Family Court

March 8: Attendance: 13 Kathy Goodrich

March 14: Attendance: 11 Kathy Goodrich

March 21: Attendance: 12 Kasey Mack

March 29: Attendance: 13 Kerra Alessi

\*Staff continues to present stories, songs and puppets to the children at City Branches.

In addition to the wonderful programming brought to the City Branches by the Children's Programming Team, the following programs were conducted by the City Branch staff and others:

- Preschool Storyhour has come back to life at the Crane Branch with Nancy Smith on Tuesday mornings. The children and parents adore her as well as the staff.
- East Clinton's Young Scientist program for the month had a total of 23 attendees.
- East Clinton Library hosted a Cancer Screening Program on March 21<sup>st</sup> which had 3 people come in for test kits.
- Lego Club continues at East Delavan Library. Lego Club ran 4 out of 5 Wednesdays in March with a total of 24 participants.
- "Movie Saturday" continued in the East Delavan Library's Children's Area. Four different movies were shown. A total of 52 children and adults attended and they were served popcorn and juice boxes.
- Branched Out Young Explorers ran all month at the East Delavan Library. Thirty-five children and 16 adults attended the 4 programs.
- UNYTS set up a blood drive at the Dudley Branch on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Ten donors stopped by.
- Rince Na Tierna thrilled Dudley Branch patrons with their award winning Irish dancing to get everyone revved up for St. Patrick's Day! Ninety-two guests were on hand to watch 24 performers on March 8<sup>th</sup>.
- The Dudley Branch held a party on March 31<sup>st</sup> to celebrate author R.L. Stine who writes the *Goosebumps* series. Children voted for Stine as their favorite author in February. The Goosebumps Party hosted by Senior Page Kate Shea and Page Chelsea Hausrath included games, "Monster Blood" punch, snacks, a video and a mask making contest. Twenty-three people were in attendance.
- The Buffalo Museum of Science continued its programs at Dudley Branch during the month of March. Young Explorers held on Saturdays for 3-5 year olds attracted 7 attendees while Young Scientists for ages 6-10 had 28 kids in attendance for the month.

- The Dudley Branch had a coloring contest for the month of March. Children were asked to color a leprechaun finding his way to a pot of gold. Eli Gerde won a chocolate shamrock and some gold foil covered chocolate coins.
- On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the Merriweather Library, the Erie County Cancer Services Program provided a free colon cancer screening kit and information.
- On March 5<sup>th</sup>, a Special Saturday Story Time was held at the Riverside Branch. Library Associate **Tami Linkowski** read the books *Lynn Was a Cow Who Could Ski* and *Lynn Can Fly* to 6 children and 4 adults.
- The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Harriet Tubman Celebration Committee presented "We Are Women Warriors" celebrating Women's History Month on March 9<sup>th</sup> at the Merriweather Library. Presenters and performers included Patricia Bozeman, Eva M. Doyle, Pamela Garner, Sharon Holley and Sherry Sherrill. The program was hosted by Legislator Betty Jean Grant.
- The March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Buffalo Genealogical Society of the African Diaspora, held at the Merriweather Library, featured a presentation by researcher, historian, and author Florence Hargrave Curtis who has written numerous books on her research, church history, and genealogy. Her titles include: *Daughter, Be Somebody*, *Landonia Epps: A Paper Trail of Her Times and Travels*, and *In the Footsteps of Our Forefathers: The Churches Where they Worshipped, The Graves in Which They Slumber*.
- A free Conference and Family Reunion Planning seminar was held on March 15<sup>th</sup> at the Merriweather Library. It was presented by Dionne Williamson of the Buffalo Niagara Convention & Visitors Bureau.
- In March at the Niagara Branch, substantial time was spent in preparing for the Family Place program which begins in April. Delightful new toys have been arriving. A breakfast meeting was held on March 22<sup>nd</sup> to introduce local human service and educational agencies to the benefits of the program so that they may refer their clients. Grant Coordinator **Karen Kwandrans** made the presentation. Branch Manager **Kathryn Galvin** also made a brief presentation about Family Place to the attendees of the Community Health Workers Network Chat 'n Chew meeting at The Belle Center on the afternoon of March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Starting March 10<sup>th</sup>, the Niagara Branch began offering library patrons free coffee from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. This promotion is designed to draw attention to their new hours on Thursday, because the branch had previously been closed on Thursdays. Participation is light but increasing steadily.
- Library Associate **Paul Guminski** finalized the *Welcome to the Niagara Branch Library* flyer, improving the look and incorporating recent policy changes. This flyer is given to everyone who registers for a card and is freely available for anyone to pick up.
- LA **Sean Goodrich** ran North Park Library's Wii program on 4 Fridays and 2 Saturdays in February. Children, teens and tweens use it on a walk-in basis.
- North Park's Craft Crazy Monday program was held 4 Mondays in March. Senior Page **Sarah Barry** and Page **Karen Leonard** created Mardi Gras masks

with the children who attended on March 7<sup>th</sup>, paper towel roll wind chimes on March 14<sup>th</sup>, cellophane butterflies on March 21<sup>st</sup> and painted with bouncy balls on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

- Senior Page **Katherine Brown** and **Sean Goodrich** ran the Wild Life Rumpus on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at the North Park Library. Everyone who attended heard the story *Where the Wild Things Are*, made some monsters, and played a matching game. Patron Ali-Cha Morrison won the grand prize of a stuffed monkey!
- **Sarah Barry** and **Sean Goodrich** ran the Little Chefs program on Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, at North Park.
- On March 12<sup>th</sup> at the Riverside Library, Senior Page **Leah Brown** and Page **Catlin Goodrich** helped 4 kids make Shamrock crowns.
- On March 17<sup>th</sup>, Riverside Library Page **Brittany Snead** chaperoned a board game of Jenga. In attendance were 10 children.
- Throughout the month of March, TCE- Arp Tax preparation managed by Rida Bross began preparing taxes for Senior Citizens and Low Income Families at the Riverside Branch. It has been a very busy time for staff who has been scheduling appointments. Tax service ends Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.
- East Clinton Library hosted an ECC Information Night that had 3 attendees.
- Computer classes at the East Delavan Library continue to be held on Wednesday and Saturday. The classes are taught by the Adult Education Division of the Buffalo Public Schools. This month they served a total of 27 participants.
- "Introduction to Web 2.0" was held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Dudley Library with 3 patrons in attendance.
- **Sean Goodrich** helped a North Park Library patron set up an e-mail so that he could apply online for a job at Geico. A week later the patron came in and informed Sean that he got his job!

### City Branch Outreach

- On Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Outreach Librarian **Brian Hoth** visited Bethel Head Start (FLARE Center) to participate in "Read Across America" in commemoration of Dr. Seuss' birthday. Brian read the book *Ten Apples on Top* to 20 preschool students and their teachers. The children introduced themselves to Mr. Brian and enjoyed listening to the story.
- On Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, **Brian Hoth** visited CAO Head Start (Ferry Academy) and read stories to 6 classes of 92 preschool children and their teachers. Four classroom collections totaling 100 books, CDs, and media kits were also dropped off. The teachers and children were happy to see Mr. Brian. His next visit is scheduled for Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- On Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> and Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, **Brian Hoth** visited Bethel Head Start (1485 Jefferson Ave) and read stories to 5 classes of 100 preschool children and their teachers. Four classroom collections totaling 100 books, CDs, and

media kits were also dropped off. The children were happy Mr. Brian came to visit. The teachers were especially appreciative of the classroom collections.

- On Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, **Brian Hoth** made his monthly visit to CAO Head Start at The Old First Ward Community Center where he presented a program on spring to 34 prekindergarten students and their teachers. Brian read stories, did a counting activity, and the children sang songs. Afterwards, they made a kite craft. A classroom collection of 25 items was dropped off as well. Brian's next visit is scheduled for Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- On Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, **Brian Hoth** made his monthly visits to CAO Head Start at Ferry Academy. Brian read stories to 197 students and teachers. He also talked to a class about being a librarian as part of a community helpers unit they were doing. Nine classroom collections were dropped off. He also met Scott Reed, the center's incoming director. Brian's next visit is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- In the first week of March, Niagara Branch Assistant Librarian **Gwen Collier** presented a library skills program at the Frank Sedita School. Gwen read, discussed book care, and concluded the program with a "Simon Says" library skills game developed by her and **Paul Guminski**.
- **Gwen Collier** took library programming to Niagara Daycare on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> with themes of Eric Carle, Dinosaurs, Music and Bears. Gwen always enriches her programs with hands-on, literature-based activities.
- **Gwen Collier** took library programming to 3 classes of Gateway-Longview's Therapeutic Pre-K on March 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- **Gwen Collier** took library programming to Holy Cross Head Start on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. She read stories about music and sang songs accompanied by a tambourine to 7 preschool classes.
- Niagara Branch also delivered classroom collections to Niagara Day Care and Holy Cross Head Start this month.

#### Adult Programming and Outreach

- March 4<sup>th</sup> Programming and Outreach Librarian **Dan Caufield** spoke at an advisors meeting at the Small Business Development Center located at Buffalo State Collage. Dan spoke for 40 minutes about the Library's resources with much of the interest revolving around using ReferenceUSA. The talk was well received by the 9 advisors.
- March 8<sup>th</sup> **Dan Caufield** presented a Business and Marketing resources class for the SBA's Straight Talk series. Straight Talk is a 9 week program designed to match entrepreneurs with essential resources in WNY. Dan spoke for an hour and demonstrated through remote access many of the useful databases available from the Library website. The class was presented at Medaille College and was well received by the 64 potential business men and women in attendance. After



the class Dan also allowed attendees the opportunity to apply for a library card. Fifteen new cards were processed.

- March 10<sup>th</sup> **Dan Caufield** and **Mary Ann Budny** manned an information table at a Buffalo Board of Education Adult Career/Job Fair. The fair was held at the Buffalo Adult Learning Center on Edward Street and attracted approximately 250 people from the surrounding community. Both Dan and Mary Ann answered questions, promoted library programs/resources and offered attendees the chance to sign up for library cards. The information was well received and 29 new library cards were processed.
- March 16<sup>th</sup> Programming and Outreach Librarian **Glenn Luba** presented a Foundation Center training class at Canisius College. This hour and a half long class was one of 6 components for individuals working with non-profits in WNY. The presentation was well received by the 18 attendees and focused on materials, services, and electronic resources the library provides to aid non-profits.
- March 22<sup>nd</sup> **Dan Caufield** helped coordinate and spoke at a SCORE workshop held in the Central Library meeting room. This daylong workshop covered many aspects of starting and running a business and featured speakers from many business development groups and government agencies. The workshop was well received by the 21 potential entrepreneurs attending and 7 new library card applications were processed.
- March 30<sup>th</sup> **Susan Kriegbaum-Hanks**, **Glenn Luba**, **Peter Lisker**, **Dan Caufield** and Senior Page **Melissa Kania** helped host the Library's table at the Western New York Diversity Job Fair held at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center. The staff from Community Connections answered questions, promoted library programs/resources and offered attendees the chance to sign up for library cards. The information was well received by the over 1,200 people in attendance. Thirty new library cards were processed and quite a few attendees were spotted at the Central Library by Community Connections staff using the promoted resources.
- **Dan Caufield** and **Glenn Luba** answered 15 Book a Librarian appointments in March.

**Collins Public Library** - submitted by Karen McClure, Library Director

April at the Collins Library is a month full of programs. We had local author Steve Paskuly speak to our book group about the research he did and the book he edited, *Death Dealer*, in remembrance of the holocaust. Our seniors enjoyed *Secretariat* at the movies. We quilted on Tuesdays. Story Hour is going strong. We participated in Gowanda Central schools PARP (Parent's As Reading Partners) culminating in a

carnival night on April 1<sup>st</sup>. **Bethany Kibler** handed out canvas bags that said "One World Many Stories" promoting our summer story time with goodies inside. We are also looking forward to April 23<sup>rd</sup> when the Easter Bunny will be on the loose again. The hunt will be on in our children's section and parents can bring cameras to have pictures taken of their children with the Easter Bunny.

**West Seneca Public Library** - submitted by **Cathy Foertch**, Library Director

For the last couple of months, West Seneca has been hosting a "Wisdom & Wealth" program on planning for retirement, investing, will-writing, and more. Local accountants, investment counselors, and tax lawyers have shared their expertise with a core group of interested adults. The U.S. Census workers used our meeting room to "tie up loose ends" along with Homeland Security interviewing applicants for jobs. Storyhours, Lapsits, and other children's programs continue to do well. The "Scratch" program from Central attracted a small, but eager group. We are weeding extensively to prepare for RFID implementation later this year.

### **Collections: Development and Use**

Customized 9xx ordering has been implemented with Brodart's Bibz2 product. This functionality helps streamline the automated ordering and receiving processes, allowing for quicker receipt of new juvenile and young adult items. Brodart joins 2 other major vendors (Baker & Taylor and Midwest Tape) as being fully functional with the 9xx features that allow the B&ECPL to use the capabilities of our SirsiDynix Integrated Library System (ILS) to facilitate the ordering process.

Technical Services Librarian **Britt White** and Senior Library Clerk **Jeff McChesney** completed a project to convert 55 "second copy" Central Library magazine subscriptions from non-circulating to circulating. The process involved editing and updating holdings information in the Sirsi Serials Module and linking the copies into WorkFlows to allow check-out. In addition, the title serial controls were edited and notes were added to ensure future issues will be checked in appropriately. These changes will help maximize magazine use, providing a larger circulating collection. Senior Computer Operator **Roseann Hausrath** created several Integrated Library Systems (ILS) statistical reports to assess collection usage and analyze circulation statistics. These reports included a percentage of total circulation being processed through the RFID self-check, BookMyne (an iPhone application) item renewal statistics, and a graphic (pie chart) representation of the circulation ratios by Item Type at each library.

The Department of Information and Library Science intern and Senior Page **Ken Wierzbowski**, in continuation of the Rare Book Room WWI poster indexing project,

discovered the rare and iconic James Montgomery Flagg poster, *I Want You for U. S. Army*. It had not been previously identified as part of the collection.

The Central Terminal scrapbook, which had been missing for several years, was recently found. It was scanned by William S. Hein & Company and will be sent with the 24 Pan American scrapbooks to an outside vendor to build the online collection that will be viewed on the [www.wnylegacy.org](http://www.wnylegacy.org) site. Hein will also provide microfilm and bound paper copies of all the scrapbooks. The Library will pay for the work on the Central Terminal scrapbook. The Pan Am scrapbooks will be paid by a grant from the Western New York Library Resources Council.

The digitized 1815 William Smith map, *The Delineation of the Strata of England and Wales with a Part of Scotland* ("The Map that Changed the World") is now in the Library's possession. The oversized map (9' x 6') was scanned for the Library Foundation's exhibition in 2005. Its size made the process difficult so thanks go to Crowley Webb and Associates for providing the scans through the intervention of Public Affairs Manager Joy Testa Cinquino.

Collection Development staff responded to 320 patron purchase suggestions in March.

Librarian Rhonda Konig wrote a description of Heritage Quest for the Resource of the Month.

The popularity of Freegal Music downloads continues to be strong. In March, 603 patrons downloaded a total of 4,059 titles.

One hundred ninety downloadable eBooks and 157 downloadable audiobooks were added to the Library's collection in March.

## 2. FUNDING

### Fundraising

Development & Communications Department sent 50 Gala sponsorship solicitation letters to local companies with sales volumes of \$100 million +. To date, we have sold 1 table for the November 5, 2011 event.

A catering RFP for the Gala has been developed with the help of Gala Planning Committee members. The RFP will be sent out by April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Eric Mower & Associates, local marketing and PR agency, has agreed to provide pro bono artwork for the Gala event, thanks to the efforts of Trustee Rick Berger.

Nearly 100 autographed items have been donated for the online fundraising auction through Trustee Judy Summer's efforts. A student intern from Buffalo State College is organizing a database for the donated items.

The next Gala Planning Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m. in the West Room at the Central Library. See Trustee Anne Leary with questions.

Elizabeth Rooney, the wife of former B&ECPL Director Paul Rooney, died earlier this month and \$1,155 in memorial donations have been received by the Library.

A conference call meeting was held with Blackbaud, provider of our Raiser's Edge Database, to discuss setting up a secure online donation process; attendees were Ken Stone, Carol Batt, Toni Naumovski, Tracy Palicki, Anne Conable and Joy Testa Cinquino. The Library Foundation purchased the software for our use in 2010.

A discarded books arrangement has been structured with Better World Books.

Anne Conable, liaison to the Library Foundation, reports: a Library Foundation meeting was held on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. She prepared agenda and minutes and has been reviewing and organizing FDN files, closing out FDN offsite storage unit, Margaret Henry Trust paperwork resolution, and review of financials.

Linda Bohlen and Debra Lawrence continue to update the System's database, Raiser's Edge with donors, potential donors and members of the Gala Committee.

### 3. OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

#### Technology

The RFID project is moving forward at the East Clinton, East Aurora and Audubon Libraries. Field Engineer Dave Kozlowski set up server and client software; created user accounts & permissions; installed antenna pads; and assembled self-check kiosks. Technology Support Manager Kelly Donovan provided on-site staff training. Staff members at the 3 libraries are now familiarizing themselves and their users with the new technology. Full implementation will be complete when detection gates are installed; East Clinton is scheduled for April 4<sup>th</sup> with East Aurora following on April 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Library continues to work closely with EnvisionWare staff on all aspects of RFID functionality, in support of this major System initiative. Significant staff time was spent testing and troubleshooting recently identified RFID software anomalies. Working closely with EnvisionWare, Inc. staff and developers, the B&ECPL received validation that the programming was accurate and this provided the opportunity for additional staff training to clarify procedures and maximize RFID capabilities. EnvisionWare Sales

Consultant Steve Kraus spent March 29-30 in Buffalo visiting current sites and assisting with the Audubon and East Aurora implementations. Mr. Kraus also met with **Carol Batt** and **Kelly Donovan** to discuss B&ECPL customization of the self-check computers to help maximize the user experience.

The Information Technology Team has completed the upgrade of the Internet bandwidth from 100 Megabit per second to 200 Megabit per second. Technical Support Services Specialist **Johnny Hsu** working together with the Internet Service Provider (ISP) FiberTech Networks, enabled and programmed the associated data networking equipment to support the increased bandwidth throughput. The upgrade downtime was very minimal and did not impact use of the system.

The Information Technology Team has been configuring SirsiDynix e-Library, an online catalog server, to prepare for prime development of the new web catalog. During the setup and testing, many technical challenges were encountered and with a combination of team effort and assistance from the vendor, the problems were resolved. The team is now ready to develop, select features and options and test the online catalog software prior to its public release.

**Johnny Hsu** and Web Page Master **Terri Dickson** worked together and expeditiously created a new website dedicated to the Association of Contracting Library Trustees (ACT) March 19<sup>th</sup> Workshop and information regarding governance alternatives for the Library System. The content of the password-secured website is primarily available to the members of ACT and Library consultants.

The Library has received notification that Year 2 of the LSTA Service Improvement Grant Program will be fully funded. This grant will provide the B&ECPL \$17,400. Funds will be used to replace another dated Cyber Train as well as supplement staff funding to continue Web 2.0 technology classes at libraries throughout the System.

#### **Central Library Reorganization:**

The new Kids Space at Central Library is now open! Children's materials and furniture was moved to its new area in the beginning of April. A special thank you goes to Maintenance for preparing the space, Graphics for beautifying the space and Stacks for filling the space. All staff did a great job of making the new area warm and welcoming for the kids. The move was planned and coordinated by Special Projects Coordinator **Meg Cheman** and **Glenn Luba**, who is now the new Director for the City of Tonawanda Public Library.

### Staff Development

A Staff Forum was held on April 6<sup>th</sup> at the Clarence Public Library, **Mary Jean Jakubowski** and **Joy Testa Cinquino** attended. Topics ranged from the director search, 2012 budget, new governance, floating collections, new collections, marketing the System and the System's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary events.

One of the objectives of the Library's current Technology Plan is to "train staff to insure skills needed to optimally use the new technologies and electronic resources to maximize staff productivity and respond to public needs." A Technology Survey was recently conducted to assess staff needs. As a result of this survey, **Kara Stock** is developing a series of classes to support core competencies and provide Web 2.0 technology training.

Assistant Deputy Director **Carol Batt**, along with Library Information Technology Administrator **Toni Naumovski** and several key technology support staff members participated in a conference call with newly assigned SirsiDynix Library Relations Manager Vera Maeser, March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Kelly Donovan**, Technical Services Manager **Jennifer Childs**, Central Library Manager **Nancy Mueller**, e-Branch Manager **Tim Galvin**, **Peter Lisker**, **Kathy Goodrich**, **Kerra Alessi**, and **Kara Stock** attended the Manager's Meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>, conducted by **June Garcia** to discuss the search for the next Library Director.

Technical Services staff members, Senior Library Clerk **Jeff McChesney**, Library Clerks **Doreen Sajecki** and **Virginia Fryson**, Book Repairer **John Farah**, and Book Processors **Kathy Alabisi** and **Liane Savage** attended Safety and Ergonomic Training on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Technical Services and Technology Support staff and Collection Development staff met with Baker & Taylor, Inc. representatives **Frank McDonald** and **Marne Fellows** to discuss their Bibz2 software which supports the Library's item selection and ordering processes on March 15<sup>th</sup>. As a follow-up to the meeting, **Jennifer Childs** made changes to Title Source 3 (TS3) templates and settings facilitating cart creation and title selection for the Collection Development Team.

**Mary Jean Jakubowski**, along with **Carol Batt** and **Toni Naumovski**, met with MLS-candidate **Ryan Luce**, a graduate student at the University of Buffalo, on March 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss a Directed Study project designed to compare various Integrated Library Systems (ILS). As a follow-up, Information Technology staff members compiled answers to a series of questions about Library's SirsiDynix ILS. Mr. Luce intends to share his findings comparing traditional ILS products to emerging open source software such as Koha.

**Carol Batt** and **Toni Naumovski** participated in a meeting with Collection Development and Public Services staff to review the PAC on EBSCOhost product, March 16<sup>th</sup>. This product would supplement the Library's online Web2 Catalog and better-facilitate database searching.

Library Associates **Diane Doster** and **Cynthia Zubler** attended a Library Assistants' Committee meeting at WNYLRC on Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Jennifer Childs, Carol Batt, Pat Covley, Peter Lisker, Linda Rizzo, Nancy Mueller, Angela Pierpaoli, Meg Cheman, Kathy Smith, Ann Kling** and **Maureen McLaughlin** along with B&ECPL staff members from around the System, viewed the March 17<sup>th</sup> Library Journal webcast "Effective Floating Collections".

**Carol Batt, Kelly Donovan** and **Maureen McLaughlin** watched the "Social Media, Libraries and the Law" webinar sponsored by Infopeople on March 17<sup>th</sup>. The 1 hour program discussed online copyright-protected content, public comments, and privacy issues related to children.

**Carol Batt** and **Toni Naumovski** participated with several other staff members in a telephone conference call March 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss implementation of the Blackbaud NetCommunity's e-marketing solution Spark.™ This online giving solution provides a powerful and cost-effective way for organizations to complement or expand their existing online fundraising strategies.

On March 18<sup>th</sup>, **Kelly Donovan, Kara Stock, Suzanne Colligan, Peg Errington, Kathy Galvin, Linda Rizzo** and **Carol Pijacki** attended the "Library Innovation: Thinking Outside the Book" conference sponsored by WNYRLC. Speakers Michael Stephens and Anita Cook were the main speakers, providing information about technology trends and eReaders.

**Carol Batt, Ann Kling, Toni Naumovski, Joy Testa Cinquino** and **Meg Cheman** attended the ACT Annual Trustee Workshop March 19<sup>th</sup>.

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, **Maureen McLaughlin** attended the annual joint meeting of WNYLRC's Regional Advisory (RAC) and Resource Sharing (RSC) Committees

Grosvenor Room Manager **Claudia Yates** attended the Canal Society of New York State's Winter Symposium at Monroe Community College on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Carol Pijacki** attended the DuPage webinar on "Free Content for Library Collections" on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Assistant Deputy Director **Doreen Woods** attended the webinar "George and Joan on Conflict Resolution Techniques" on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Kenneth Stone, Doreen Woods and Doreen Sajecki** participated in the Erie County Safety Committee meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Meetings/Conferences:**

- Pat Covley participated in the webinar "World Book Goes Digital".
- On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, **Linda Rizzo, Pat Covley, Angela Pierpaoli and Ann Kling** attended a presentation by a representative from Haines online.
- On March 9<sup>th</sup>, **Mary Ann Budny** attended the Niagara Branch Family Place meeting.
- **Tim Galvin** attended a conference call along with members of the Resource Sharing Committee on March 16<sup>th</sup>, after which a discussion was held with a representative of Coutts Publishing, a division of Ingram. The purpose was to explore the possibility of a new Purchase-on-Demand program which would include eBooks. He also attended a follow-up conference call, again with members of the Resource Sharing Committee, on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.
- On March 18<sup>th</sup>, **Becky Pieszala and Kerra Alessi** attended the Re-Imagine Staff Forum.
- On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, **Kathy Goodrich** attended the meeting at the Kenmore Library to discuss Juvenile Collection Development and children's programming.
- **Kathy Smith** participated in Booklist's webinar "Scoop on Non-Fiction" on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and ALA Graphics' sequel to "Creating Read Posters" on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Kathy produced Read Posters of the Collection Development staff for the Intranet.
- On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, **Kathy Goodrich, Peg Errington, and Ann Kling** met with **Dawn Stanton, Darlene Pennachi and Joy Testa Cinquino** to discuss summer publicity.
- On March 24<sup>th</sup>, **Kathy Goodrich** attended the Buffalo School Library Council meeting.
- **Ann Kling and Peggy Errington** attended the Books for Kids Kick-off event.



- **Tim Galvin** attended a joint Resource Sharing Committee/Regional Advisory Committee meeting on Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at WNYLRC headquarters.
- On March 30<sup>th</sup>, the Children's Programming Team presented the annual Youth Services summer meeting.
- **Peggy Errington** and **Kerra Alessi** met with the East Aurora Library staff to discuss Juvenile Collection development and children's programming.
- On March 30<sup>th</sup>, **Linda Rizzo**, Manager Buffalo Branches, attended a meeting of the Buffalo-Cheektowaga Revitalization Task Force Steering Committee.
- On March 31<sup>st</sup>, **Peggy Errington** and **Kathy Goodrich** attended the System Programming meeting
- **Kasey Mack** renewed her certification for Adult/Child/Infant CPR.
- **Meg Cheman, Jennifer Childs, Nancy Mueller, Britt White, Claudia Yates** and Information Services Librarian **Jamie Smith** attended an all-day workshop on Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, at WNYLRC on Disaster Planning sponsored by WNYLRC's Preservation Committee. It was presented by the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC). The workshop covered the importance of planning for emergency situations by examining 3 of the 4 facets of emergency management: prevention, preparedness, and an introduction to disaster response. Elements of a disaster plan and ways to update current plans are discussed. This workshop will be followed by a disaster recovery workshop in the late spring/early summer.
- Collection Development staff met with librarians at the Alden, Elma, Marilla, Kenilworth, Kenmore, and Eden Libraries to discuss collection priorities at those locations on various dates.
- Librarians **Angela Pierpaoli** and **Pat Covley** and volunteer **Carol Ann Strahl** each contributed a book review for the *Buffalo Rising* website.
- Information Services Department welcomed Librarian **Patty Pohl** on March 21<sup>st</sup> to replace Librarian **Charles Alaimo** who will be moving to GRO in April. Patty had been laid off from the Correctional Facility Library as a full-time librarian and this is a recall for her! Welcome Patty!
- We bid farewell and good luck to Community Connections Librarian **Glenn Luba**. He was chosen as the new Director of the City of Tonawanda Public Library and will begin this new job in April. He was also a Guest Librarian on

the Reference Desk and wore many other hats here at the Central Library. Congratulations to Glenn on his promotion.

### Facilities

Work on the reconfiguration of the HVAC unit in the rare book storage room is on hold until construction materials that meet the American Society of Archivists requirements are found.

## 4. COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Forty-five patron comments were received via e-mail, hardcopy and phone calls over the past month. Comments ranged from concern regarding moving the Children's Room at Central to questions about overdue fines, approval of the new borrowing procedures and frustration regarding adult content being viewed by patrons using computers. With input from the various departments, most of the comments received responses from Joy Testa Cinquino, Public Affairs Manager.

### Library 2.0: Facebook.

The Central Library Facebook page currently has 2,429 fans, 1,445 monthly active users and has "likes" totaling 2,433. March Facebook posts included lots of love for the B&ECPL's anniversary logo and patrons' comments about (and the Library's response to) the 2011 Battle of the Books titles:



Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library We're celebrating 175 years of Library service in Buffalo and Erie County! Our new anniversary logo will be used to promote events and programs throughout 2011. It's now featured prominently as the banner on our website <http://bit.ly/9wPX2T>



Deborah Maggiore hopefully the Erie County gov't will help you kept open for many more!



Randolph Cole We love our library! We use it every week. The anniversary logo would be great as a car magnet similar to the oval Buffalo Zoo logo magnet!



Steve Neubeck 6 days a week I will be at one of the branch libraries



Mary Goehring Congratulations! Great logo!



Jeff Szudzik Renewed my library card today! Another vote for a car magnet or similar implement.

**Library 2.0: Twitter.**

@buffalolibrary, our System Twitter page, has 1,715 followers, an increase of 72 followers in March. In addition to many RTs (re-tweets) tweets mentioning the Buffalo Library include:



KaitiBoBati wishes @buffalolibrary had more mac friendly downloads2go because they're awesome



alsnyder02 Can't go wrong w/libraries & hockey :) RT @buffalolibrary Hey @alsnyder02 we love following @prattlibrary and rooting for our @SabresDotCom!



JennJustReading just taught someone how to use the self checkout at the @buffalolibrary! I love that station!



kdegen love @buffalolibrary -- they are 175 this year (to TPL's also excellent 127) - Buffalo: sabres, chicken wings, and the Mark Twain ms room



freedommary @buffalolibrary Happy Anniversary Buffalo-Erie Library: 175 years and counting! :)

### Media Coverage / Media Releases

**Press Releases were sent for:**

- Library Open Houses - March 31<sup>st</sup>
- National Library Week - April 8<sup>th</sup>
- El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day) @ Niagara Branch Library - April 15<sup>th</sup>

### Partnerships

**Peggy Skotnicki** and **Claudia Yates** met with **Patricia Forsberg**, President of the Western New York Genealogy Society (WNYGS), on April 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss a proposal to augment the collection in the Grosvenor Room. Different options, print and microfilm, were discussed and will be presented to the WNYGS Board for approval.

**Ann Kling** and **Joy Testa Cinquino** met with **Rich Lee** from the Block Club Coalition. Discussion centered on how the Buffalo Branch Libraries can partner with block clubs in an effort to encourage literacy and promote education and reading.

## 5. SPECIAL PROJECTS

### Re-Imagining

Two Forums were held at the Central Library for all library staff on Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. **Susan Kent**, from the Re-Imagine Team and now part of our new Interim Transitional Leadership Team, led the presentation which followed with discussion to get staff input for this project.

Agenda Item H – Report of the Foundation. On behalf of Library Foundation of Buffalo and Erie County President Victor Rice, Anne Conable reported on the Gala project under way. Trustee Anne Leary has put together a wonderful Committee for the November 5<sup>th</sup> Gala in honor of the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Library. The Gala will be staged on the second floor of the Central Library and more information is forthcoming. Support from all trustees is appreciated.

Agenda Item I – Public Comment. Trustee Panty shared a positive patron experience. There was no public comment.

Agenda Item J – Unfinished Business. No unfinished business.

Agenda Item K – New Business. No new business.

There being no further business, on motion by Ms. Horton , second by Ms. Panty, the meeting adjourned at approximately 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon A. Thomas  
Chair



## Monthly Report of Library System Activity May 19, 2011

### 1. PUBLIC SERVICES

#### Programs, Learning Opportunities, Outreach and Events

During April, a total of 33 public technology classes were conducted. Nine took place at the Central Library Training Lab and 24 sessions were held at 8 different suburban libraries for 296 total attendees. Demand for these classes remains high and attendance continues to increase. The training team led by Coordinator **Kara Stock** along with part-time librarians **Andy Aquino**, **Tom Carloni**, and **Ian Shoff** continue to receive positive public and staff feedback.

Training Lab staff members updated content for the *Internet Basics*, *Google It!*, *Introduction to Twitter*, and the *Introduction to LinkedIn* classes. The *Nook & the Public Library* training guide that is available on the Library's website <http://bit.ly/gM2veA> was also updated.

A new display featuring items from the James Fraser Gluck Collection is titled: *Robert Burns: In Good Company*. The exhibit was curated by Assistant Deputy Director for Special Collections **Peggy Skotnicki**.

Rare Book Librarian **Amy Pickard** and **Peggy Skotnicki** provided a tour of selected treasures from the Rare Book Room to members of the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Committee on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

On April 4<sup>th</sup>, Librarian **Charles Alaimo** joined the staff of the Grosvenor and Rare Book Rooms. As Chuck is the map librarian and maps are a special collection, Central Library maps are now part of the Grosvenor Room.

**Amy Pickard** presented pre-print and print history examples from the Rare Book Room to Kerry Reynolds' Park School seminar class on April 6<sup>th</sup>. The visit also included the current Travelers' Exhibit and the significance of ephemera in printing.

Chief Operating Officer **Mary Jean Jakubowski**, **Peggy Skotnicki** and **Amy Pickard** met with William S. Hein & Company's President Kevin Marmion and Vice President of Production Scott Fiddler on April 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss a proposal for investment in interactive (kiosk) rare book presentations utilizing Turning-the-Pages™ software, as well as the scanning of selected bibles from the rare book collection.

**Amy Pickard** worked with Burchfield Penney Art Center Curator Nancy Weekly on April 8<sup>th</sup> as she researched local woodcut artist J.J. Lankes. The Burchfield Penney will borrow several of the Library's Lankes items for an exhibit to begin in June.

Grosvenor Room Librarian **Sue Cutrona** gave a tour of family history resources on April 16<sup>th</sup> to students of a West Seneca Community Education Genealogy Basics course. Grosvenor Room Librarian **Rhonda Konig** gave the same tour to additional students from the same course on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Rhonda Konig** attended meetings of the Western New York Genealogical Society and the Chautauqua County Genealogical Society.

Grosvenor Room librarians and **Peggy Skotnicki** attended training on the new Local History File database with creator John Iardo of UB on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Minor adjustments to improve the product will be made. Work can now begin on entering the thousands of entries in the card file.

**Rhonda Konig** updated the text for Grosvenor Room information on the Grosvenor Room Research Services and Fees page as well as the Contact Us FAQ web page.

The Local History/Genealogy blog <http://grogenealogylocalhistory.wordpress.com/>, the Rare Book Room blog <http://grorarebookroom.wordpress.com/> and the blog for the rare book exhibit *Travelers and Cosmopolitans* <http://www.thetourististheotherfellow.blogspot.com/> continue to post informative and interesting information. The Local History/Genealogy blog and the Rare Book Room blog are now linked to the B&ECPL Twitter account.

**Anne Conable** from Development and Communications coordinated details and support promotion for events occurring this month including:

- "Imagining Buffalo" Lunchtime Series - Dr. Aaron Podolefsky, Buffalo State College 4/5 (36)
- R. Andrew Nixon, Chautauqua Visitors Bureau 4/12 (32)
- Randy Kramer, Give 4 Greatness 4/19 (24)
- Jon Schmitz, Chautauqua Institution 4/26 (31)
- Congresswoman Louise Slaughter 4/28 (64)

- Working for Downtown Brown Bag Lunch Series 4/6 - Howard Zemsky, Larkin District (42)
- Setup and Opening reception 4/5, Buffalo Public Schools Student Art Show (75)
- UNYTS Donate Life Series - 4/11 (5), 4/14 (8)
- UNYTS blood drive 4/14
- Author Talk - Duane LeVick, *Bridges: A Tale of Niagara* (14)
- Exotic Travels Lunchtime Series (in conjunction with current RBR exhibit) - Dr. Richard Lee 4/21 (21)
- Give 4 Greatness Lunchtime Series - 4/25 (22), 4/29 (20)

**Ms. Conable** also represented the Library at Senator Gillibrand Grants Workshop April 27<sup>th</sup>, Albright-Knox Art Gallery; presenter on Depression project April 7-8, National Council for Public History Conference, Pensacola, FL.

Displays: Coordinate WNY Artists Group display at Fables window space. They are currently preparing for the May 24<sup>th</sup> *PastForward Discussion Series* program.

Library Associate **Debra Lawrence**, Librarian **Dorinda Hayes**, Library Clerk **Marilyn Quagliana** and volunteer Carol Ann Strahl each contributed a book review for the *Buffalo Rising* website.

Collection Development staff responded to 335 patron purchase suggestions in March.

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, Programming and Outreach Librarian **Dan Caufield** presented a 2-hour class in business and marketing resources to the Entrepreneurial Assistance Program (EAP) held at the West Seneca Chamber of Commerce. The information was well received by the 28 entrepreneurs in attendance and 10 new library card memberships were processed from the class.

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, Programming and Outreach Librarian **Susan Kriegbaum-Hanks** presented a 2-hour training session on career resources available through the library catalog, databases, and Online Resources page to 10 staff members of the ECC One Stop Center in Orchard Park.

On April 30<sup>th</sup>, Programming and Outreach Librarians **Dan Caufield**, **Hadeen Stokes** and Sr. Page **Melisa Kania** manned an information table at the Green Expo at the Walden Galleria Mall from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Twenty new library card memberships were processed.

Kudos to Information Services Librarian **Beth Lewitzky** for going above and beyond when working at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library to help a patron locate information on a little known local event.

A Central Library Manager received this comment from a grateful patron: *"This is a thank you to two of your staff members who "found" a book I had been looking for at the library since last year. This book, "Listen to Me Good: The Life Story of an Alabama Midwife," was listed in your catalogue, but was never on the shelves. ....after a short search, this very nice woman found the book I had been looking for. I do not know their names, but I appreciate the time and effort they took to find this book for me. My late father was born in small, impoverished Greene County, Alabama where Margaret Charles Smith was a practicing midwife. Her descriptions of Greene County reminded me of what my father told me about his home community many years ago. Two very nice library staff members not only found a book for me, their help has brought back many fond memories of my father. If you find out who they are, I hope you will thank them for me."*

Three Central Library tours were given during April: People Inc. on April 8<sup>th</sup> with 15 people; People Inc., City CAPP, on April 28<sup>th</sup> with 16 people; Buffalo Psychiatric Center on April 29<sup>th</sup> with 4 people.

The Information Services and Adult Programming staff conducted 6 Book-A-Librarian sessions in April.

### Children's Programming Team

Family Place returned for a 5 week session starting on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Family Place workshops have expanded to 4 locations this spring including the Central, Niagara, Anna M. Reinstein and Kenmore Branch Libraries.

The Children's Programming Team expanded the National Library Week celebration (April 11-16) to include the entire month with programs featuring a book and library theme. Children played Book Bingo highlighting book titles, authors and characters. This program was presented by **Mary Ann Budny** at Alden, Marilla and JBR (Julia Boyer Reinstein) Libraries. Librarian **Sarah Gallien** presented this program at the Lancaster, Orchard Park, Kenmore, Newstead and Audubon Libraries. Librarian **Kasey Mack** presented Book Bingo at Lackawanna and Sr. Page **Nancy Smith** presented this program at Crane. At the "Book Ends" program, children decorated library books with fun foam, markers and literary quotes. After the bookends were decorated they were used in the library. This program took place at the Crane, Dudley, East Aurora, East Clinton, Niagara, Williamsville and Newstead Libraries.

In April, the Children's Program Team lived up to its name and presented 102 programs (Outreach, story hours, class visits) with 1,164 in attendance.



Central Library tours conducted by the Children's Team:

- Bethel Head Start - Attendance: 39 (Stories and Craft)
- Heritage Center - Attendance: 19 (Drop-In)
- Bethel Head Start - Attendance: 38 (Stories and Craft)
- Trinity Lutheran Preschool - Attendance: 33 (Stories and Craft)
- School #45 - Attendance: 9 (Drop-In); Attendance: 7 (Drop-In Group)
- Day Care - Attendance: 11 (Drop-In - Library Associate **Becky Pieszala** read stories and provided coloring sheets)

### Outreach - Children's Program Staff

#### YMCA at the Family Court

- April 13: Attendance: 14 - Librarian **Kerra Alessi**
- April 19: Attendance: 11 - Librarian **Kasey Mack**
- April 26: Attendance: 10 - Librarian **Kathy Goodrich**

### Buffalo City Branches

- Dudley Library's Branched Out series began late in April with the Young Scientists and Young Explorers programs on April 26<sup>th</sup> and April 30<sup>th</sup> respectively.
- The Dudley Branch held "Hockey Night in South Buffalo" on Thursday nights (during the hockey playoffs). The Jafarjian family made the Dudley Branch #28 on their quest to visit all 37 B&ECPL locations. They included the branch in their blog <http://operationreadingroadtrip.blogspot.com>.
- Facebook visitor Amy Sorrentino commented the following on the Dudley page, "... so grateful for this library, it brings technology to those of us who don't have a computer @ home."
- East Clinton Library's Young Scientist program resumed in April.
- Lego Club continues at East Delavan Library. Lego Club ran 3 Wednesdays in March with a total of 14 participants.
- Movie Saturday continued in the Children's Area of the East Delavan Library. A total of 17 children and adults attended. Branched Out Young Explorers ran through Monday April 4<sup>th</sup> at the East Delavan Library.
- The topic for the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Buffalo Genealogical Society of the African Diaspora (BGSAD), held at the Merriweather Library, was "Start With Yourself: Recording Your Personal History" presented by Dr. Sharon Amos.
- Tell Me A Story III was held at the Merriweather Branch on April 16<sup>th</sup> with the theme "Stories For Peace." The free storytelling concert featured storytellers

- from Tradition Keepers: Black Storytellers of WNY, Spin-A-Storytellers, and the Network of Biblical Storytellers. The program was held in collaboration with Peace on Earth Month (POEM) 2011, a project of Peace Education Fund (PEF).
- The 2011 KIP Business Education Seminar Series presented "Barriers to Business: A Business Community Discussion" on April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Merriweather Library. These monthly programs are sponsored by The Buffalo Black Chamber of Commerce.
  - On April 21<sup>st</sup>, at the Merriweather Library, a spring break Family Film Festival attracted an audience of 55.
  - At the Merriweather Library on April 28<sup>th</sup>, Patient Voices (University of Buffalo) held a discussion on ways to reduce stress in one's life presented by Donald Cartlett, Ph.D., Clinical Psychologist.
  - The Open House for the Niagara Branch was held on Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup>. All staff was on hand along with Buffalo Branches Manager **Linda Rizzo**.
  - Library Associate **Sean Goodrich** ran North Park Library's Wii program on 4 Fridays and 2 Saturdays in April. Children, teens and tweens used the Wii on a walk-in basis.
  - North Park's Craft Crazy Monday program was held 3 Mondays in April. Sr. Page **Sarah Barry** and Page **Karen Leonard** made paper plate snakes with the children who attended on April 4<sup>th</sup>, Easter bunny baskets on April 18<sup>th</sup> and painted with bubbles on April 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - North Park Sr. Page **Katherine Brown** and **Sean Goodrich** held the Seustravaganza on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - North Park's Open House was held on Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> and was a great success! Assistant Deputy Director for Public Services **Ann Kling** and **Sean Goodrich** welcomed patrons. Buffalo Common Council Member Joseph Golombek, Jr. also attended the Open House.
  - On April 9<sup>th</sup>, at the Riverside Library, a Spring Egg Decorating Craft was held. Attendance totaled 40 children. On April 9<sup>th</sup>, an Open House was held at the Riverside Branch. Attendance, in addition to regular patrons using the branch was 20 individuals. Linda Rizzo and Riverside staff hosted the Open House. Thank you to Legislator Maria Whyte who dropped off cookies for the celebration.
  - On April 16, 17, 21 and 23, a craft table was set up at the Riverside Library. Twenty-five children participated in making bunny bag puppets.
  - On April 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, a Retro Board Game event was held at the Riverside Branch. A total of 8 children participated in Library Pictionary.
  - On Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, Merriweather Library Outreach Librarian **Brian Hoth** visited Bethel Head Start (1485 Jefferson Ave) and read stories to 5 classes of 83 preschool children and their teachers. Five classroom collections totaling 125 books, CDs, and media kits were also dropped off.

- On Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, **Brian Hoth** made his monthly visit to CAO Head Start at The Old First Ward Community Center where he presented a program on space to 28 prekindergarten students and their teachers. A classroom collection of 25 items was dropped off as well.
- On Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, **Brian Hoth** made his monthly visit to CAO Head Start (Ferry Academy) and read stories to 14 classes of 220 students and teachers. Ten classroom collections of 25 items each were delivered as well.
- Assistant Librarian **Gwen Collier** took library programming to Niagara Daycare on April 1, 8, 15, 19 and 29. Classroom collections were delivered to Niagara Day Care and Holy Cross Head Start this month.
- **Gwen Collier** took library programming to School #3 on April 25<sup>th</sup>, incorporating music into a theme of movement. On April 14<sup>th</sup>, **Ms. Collier** represented the Niagara Branch at School #19's Harry Potter night. About 85 children and 15 adults attended.
- **Dave Kozlowski** from the Information Technology Department installed the math program "Dimension U" on all City Branch Library public access computers. This program is part of the math curriculum in the Buffalo Schools.
- On April 26<sup>th</sup>, Riverside LA **Tami Linkowski** read *Peter Rabbit*, *Little Quack* and *Three Little Rabbits* to children who were waiting for their turn to decorate eggs.
- On April 6<sup>th</sup>, a representative from Erie Community College held a workshop on the school's degree, certificate and training programs at the Merriweather Library.
- We Are Women Warriors Community and Family Empowerment Group had Robert Harris, founder and CEO of the Youth Prison Prevention Project, and Benjamin Willis, assistant principal of East High School, as the guest speakers on April 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Merriweather Library. On April 20<sup>th</sup>, Dr. William Small, Buffalo police officer and author of "Strengthening the Family", was the guest speaker.
- On April 7<sup>th</sup>, the Metro Buffalo Alliance of Black School Educators held a general meeting at the Merriweather Library.
- On April 13<sup>th</sup>, Roswell Park Cancer Institute held a focus group meeting at the Merriweather Library.
- On April 26<sup>th</sup>, Masten District Councilmember Demone Smith held a reapportionment meeting at the Merriweather Library.
- On April 30<sup>th</sup>, a fundraiser, spearheaded by retired Buffalo schoolteacher Eva Doyle, was held to bring author Jawanza Kunjufu to the Merriweather Library on June 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Kunjufu is the author of *Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys* as well as more than 30 other titles that include alternative ways to educate inner-city children, particularly African-American male students as a way to bridge the academic achievement gap.
- On April 11<sup>th</sup>, Maria Whyte held a redistricting meeting at the Riverside Branch; attendance totaled 10.

- On April 28<sup>th</sup>, the Riverside Business Association met with an attendance of 10.
- Staff at the Merriweather Library received the following note from Erie County Cancer Services Program (CSP):

*April 6, 2011*

*"On behalf of the CSP, thank you for allowing us to use your beautiful facility to share information during Colon Cancer Awareness Month. Your branch is lovely and the staff was so helpful. Although I was there for work, my family tagged along and had a wonderful time as well.*

*I hope that you will consider this collaboration for events to promote breast and cervical cancer in the future.*

*Thanks again,*

*Lisa Napier"*

- The 5<sup>th</sup> annual El Dia de los Niño's/El Dia de los Libros was held on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. The theme was "Many Children, Many Cultures, Many Books." There were a variety of activities including a performance by the band Unit III, face painting and crafts by the contestants in the 2011 Miss Borinquen Leadership Pageant, readings by celebrity readers Mr. Brian (a.k.a. Outreach Librarian **Brian Hoth**) and Tamara Gonzalez, the 2010 Miss Borinquen Queen. Page **Ashley Gormady** assisted Mr. Brian in 2 bi-lingual readings by reading the Spanish portion. Refreshments were selected to represent the variety of immigrants who have settled on the West Side, including pizza (Italian), hummus (Iraqi), Burmese fried rice (Karen), chorizo, guava paste and crackers (Puerto Rican). Visiting dignitaries included Niagara District Councilmember David Rivera and Selina Kaye, aide for State Senator Mark Grisanti. Betty Calvo-Torres, Presiding Domestic Violence Court Judge, City Court of Buffalo, was the leader of the Miss Borinquen contestants. Through a donation by Project Flight, approximately 40 books were donated to children on El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros.
- The Niagara Branch meeting room was used by Journey's End Let's Go to the Library (3 times), the Homeschool Group (4 times), Upward Bound (3 times), Heart of the City Neighborhood Inc, (twice) and the Bennett Park Players (twice). The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services held an informational meeting about the naturalization process. The Mayfair Lane Homeowners Association also utilized the meeting space.
- On Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, the community rooms at Niagara Branch were particularly busy - Heart of the City volunteers used the basement as a staging and warming area to assemble for a large scale tree planting they did in the surrounding area; 55 people volunteered for this event. At the same time, the interviews for the Miss Borinquen parents were being held in the small room downstairs. Later that same day Journey's End Let's Go to the Library held their final session for this spring. The following week the Bennett Park Players utilized the auditorium to practice a performance. They were very happy with

the space and kindly offered the branch a free performance by Young Audiences, a generous offer the branch hopes to be able to make use of later this year.

- Effective Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, Councilmember David Rivera's staff began hosting a constituent drop-in night on Tuesdays from 4-7 p.m. at Niagara Branch.

**Concord Public Library** - submitted by Annette Gernatt, Library Director

Concord Public Library commenced the month with the continuation of our Preschool Story Hour. We met Thursday mornings from 10-11 a.m. with a read aloud story, special circle time activities, a related craft, and a much anticipated snack and film. Each Story Hour revolved around a specific theme ranging from dinosaurs to snowmen. This session of Story Hour was for children ages 2-5 years. It commenced in February and ran through April.

We also commemorated National Library Week this month, with a local Women's Club making Monster Cookies and theme pins to sell to patrons. The library was bustling with this activity on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Fun was had by all.

We finished the month with a very well attended library course in *e-mail* and *Word* curricula; the 19 who attended left with new confidence in their computer skills.

**Orchard Park Public Library** - submitted by Dawn Peters, Library Director

The Orchard Park Public Library provides story hours for children ranging in ages of 6 months through school age. We have Me Time Lapsits, Toddler Time, Preschool Story Hour and a Hanging out at the Library Story Hour. The library is very fortunate to have the support of a Friends Group that sponsors the many performances and programs that the library offers in addition to the story hours. Following is a brief listing of some of the programs that the Orchard Park Public Library has and continues to offer.

**April 9, 2011 - Book Bingo.** Children played bingo with a board on well-known and recognizable titles.

**April 14, 2011 -** Our own **Haley Burakowski** conducted the ever popular Jewelry Making workshop.

**April 21, 2011 - Family Movie Night.** The library showed the movie *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. Fun was had by all. We are excited to provide movies to the community to encourage family events at the library.

**April 23, 2011 - Sneaker Garden.** The Sneaker Garden program has been an annual event for the last several years. Children planted flower gardens in their old shoes. This group also planted flowers in the library's planters as well.

**April 26, 2011 - "The Frugal Gardener"** was the topic for the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Series program sponsored by the Friends of the Orchard Park Public Library. Roxanne McCoy presented a program on how to be frugal with your cut flowers.

The following are some of the many programs that are scheduled in May.

In celebration of **Children's Book Week, May 2<sup>nd</sup> - May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011**, the Orchard Park Public Library is having a poster contest. Design a poster that displays a book you would like to share with everyone. Posters will be judged by secret ballots. Winners will be announced on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011 followed by a Children's Book Week Party with "Juice" and "Cookies." Winners will receive a gift card. As a result of the partnerships among the library and the schools, approximately 133 entries were received.

**May 7, 2011 - Hula Hoops Program.** Explore and More Children's Museum will be here to present a program on Hula Hoops. Fun is sure to be had by all!

**May 18, 2011 - "BPOvations @ the Library" Series.** BPO Conductor Paul Ferington will present a Choral Masterpieces lecture. The lecture will cover the joy of singing and celebration of life catapults upward in the Requiem settings of Berlioz, Faure, Brahms, and Verdi, each uniquely magnificent and moving. This program has grown in popularity; we have continued the partnership with the BPO and have scheduled additional programs for the remainder of this year.

**May 19, 2011 - Family Movie Night.** Disney's *Tangled* will be the featured movie.

**May 21, 2011 - Silly Bandz Exchange.** Children will bring their Silly Bandz to exchange and receive new ones. Before the exchange, the librarian will discuss other "fads" and one as an example (EG beanie baby).

**May 28, 2011 - Doug the Bubbleman.** Returning once again one of the most popular programs the library presents. Let Doug entertain and amaze you with his sleight of hand bubble magic.

*Coming in June...*

June 3-5, 2011 - Friends Book Sale

The Suzuki String Instrument Zoo will be here on June 11, 2011 as well...

The Orchard Park Public Library continues to be a popular community place where at any time you can observe children of all ages enjoying their library.

### **Collections: Development and Use**

The Library was given a free digital subscription to Buffalo News Microfilm Online after discussions with our Proquest representative regarding microfilm partially received for calendar years 2008 and 2009. The digitized version will provide another access option for those interested in acquiring copies of *Buffalo News* articles from 2010 and 2011.

The Children's Room joined Centralized Serials Check-In this month. All Children's Room magazines are now being checked in by Serials staff.

The Buffalo & Erie County Historical Society donated to the Grosvenor Room a copy of an anonymous, 42 page typescript genealogical manuscript focusing on the Weed, Chapin, Kimberly, and Hawley families dating from the 1930s.

The popularity of Freegal Music downloads continues to be strong. In April, 582 patrons downloaded a total of 3,630 titles.

In April, 378 downloadable eBooks and 149 downloadable audiobooks were added to the Library's collection.

## **2. FUNDING**

### **Finances**

The Ellicott Street Entry Reconstruction Project is now complete and the new entrance opened to the public on May 10<sup>th</sup>! This New York State Construction Grant project replaced the vintage 1963 entrance that was not American with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible with a fully ADA accessible ramp and assisted door entry. Lighting levels are much better while using energy efficient fixtures. The project also included the reuse of marble panels salvaged from the 2003-5 first floor renovation, saving cost and exactly matching the quality materials present in the rest of the Library.

### **Fundraising**

The Gala Planning Committee, chaired by B&ECPL Trustee Anne Leary, with staff liaisons Joy Testa Cinquino and Anne Conable, met on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 20 attendees were updated on catering proposals, sponsorships and timeline. We are encouraging members to provide sponsorship contacts. Ted Johnson from Hadley Exhibits ran an event brainstorming session with the Committee in an effort to focus the

evening's affairs in the direction of enlightening and educating guests about the Library's many assets.

**Ms. Testa Cinquino** attended a webinar on *Fundraising for Libraries* presented by webjunction.

**Anne Conable**, liaison to the Library Foundation, has reviewed and organized Foundation files, reviewed financials and met with the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo staff on Library Foundation funds.

### 3. OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

#### Technology

The East Clinton Branch and the East Aurora Library are now fully functioning RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) locations. A total of 12 B&ECPL libraries now provide the RFID self check-out capability, including all branches in the City of Buffalo. EnvisionWare Senior Implementation Consultant Desroy Rodney toured 20 contract libraries with IT Field Technician **Dave Kozlowski** and **Kelly Donovan** from April 25-29. Only 4 libraries still require site visits (Hamburg, Lake Shore, Concord and Boston). Site assessments for these locations will be coordinated in conjunction with future RFID "go live" implementations and gate installations.

The use of library-owned laptops continues to offer users an attractive alternative to the standard desktop. During the month of April, 898 laptops were checked out for in-library use at the 16 libraries that currently provide this technology.

**Toni Naumovski**, Information Technology Administrator, has begun planning and testing for the massive deployment of Microsoft's Internet Explorer 8 to all public and staff computers in the System. **Toni Naumovski** also planned, tested and released Adobe Digital Editions software to all public computers in the System.

This month significant progress was made on the development of e-Library when Technical Support Services Specialist **Johnny Hsu**, **Terri Dickson**, Technical Services Manager **Maureen McLaughlin** and **Kelly Donovan** worked on customizing the functionality of the new Catalog Online called SirsiDynix e-Library. e-Library will replace the Library's current Web2 Catalog.

Purchased with a second round of LSTA Grant funding, 13 new laptops were purchased to replace the oldest Cyber Train laptop set. The Team anticipates that the newest Cyber Train with updated equipment will be available for classes by mid-May.



April was most notable for the successful transition of the children's materials to their new home at the front of the building. The Graphics Department provided new jungle themed décor making the Kid's Space welcoming to families and children alike. Special Projects Coordinator **Meg Cheman** continues to coordinate moves at the Central Library.

### Staff Development

Together with many other Central Library staff participants, **Toni Naumovski** and **Maureen McLaughlin**, Collection Development Librarians **Pat Covley**, **Patti Foley**, **Angela Pierpaoli**, **Peg Errington**, and **Meg Cheman** attended the 1-hour web meeting titled "CollectionHQ overview" on April 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Johnny Hsu** and **Maureen McLaughlin** traveled to Phoenix, AZ, April 18-21, for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual COSUGI (Customers of SirsiDynix User's Group, Inc.) conference.

Library Associates **Diane Doster** and **Cynthia Zubler** attended WNYLA's, "Getting to Know You" meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

B&ECPL attendees of the recent Disaster Recovery and Response workshop - **Meg Cheman**, Technical Services Manager **Jennifer Childs**, **Britt White**, Central Information Services Manager **Nancy Mueller**, and **Jamie Smith** met with Chief Operating Officer **Mary Jean Jakubowski** on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The group, which includes Grosvenor Room Manager **Claudia Yates** and Orchard Park Library Director **Dawn Peters**, will meet on a regular basis to update the Library's disaster plan, phone tree and other disaster preparedness measures. A team presentation is planned for the October 2011 Manager's meeting.

**Jennifer Childs** attended a Preservation Committee meeting at WNYLRC (Western New York Library Resources Council) on April 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Claudia Yates** participated in the April 6<sup>th</sup> webinar *Libraries to Go-Mobile Tech in Libraries* offered by the WNYLRC and attended the Building Digital Communities with Digital Collections class at WNYRLC on April 18<sup>th</sup>. She is also participating in a 4-week course entitled *The Basics of Managing Archives and Historical Records Collections* at WNYLRC.

On April 6<sup>th</sup>, Librarian **Kathy Smith** viewed the webinar, *Search Engine Optimization Basics for Libraries* sponsored by the Texas State Library and Archives.

Librarian **Angela Pierpaoli** attended a Law Depot webinar with **Hadeen Stokes** on April 14<sup>th</sup>.

On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Librarian **Patti Foley** viewed the webinar, *Superbooks: How Graphic Novels can Save Your Life*, from Booklist.

On April 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> Librarians **Dan Caufield**, **Susan Kriegbaum-Hanks** and **Peter Lisker** attended and presented at four 3-hour cross training sessions for Central Library Information Services librarians in the Training Lab at the Central Library. On April 18<sup>th</sup>, **Peter Lisker** presented an overview of health and wellness resources.

**Angela Pierpaoli** conducted training on April 25<sup>th</sup>. She discussed the most popular Humanities and Social Sciences databases, the Database Blog, Virtual Database Tours, Subject Guides, Ning, and Collection Development (Intranet info. and suggestion forms).

On April 12<sup>th</sup>, **Dan Caufield** spoke at UB about Patent & Trademark searching for an LIS class covering Government databases. The information was well received by the 23 students in attendance.

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, **Dan Caufield** attended a daylong training seminar in Cleveland, Ohio covering Foundation Center resources.

Librarian **Tim Galvin** attended a Resource Sharing Committee meeting at WNYLRC on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

April 8: Buffalo West Even Start Board meeting  
(Librarian **Kathy Goodrich**)

April 19: Summer programming meeting  
(Children's Programming Team)

April 27: Collection Development Meeting  
(Librarians **Kathy Goodrich** and **Kerra Alessi**)

April 28: WNYLRC Audio Editing & Podcasting Seminar  
(Librarian **Kasey Mack**)

April 29: NYLA/YSS Spring Conference – Rochester  
(Librarians **Kerra Alessi** and **Wanda Collins**)

Dudley Librarian **Suzanne Colligan** met with NYS Assemblyman Mark J.F. Schroeder to discuss library issues including the Library District on April 11<sup>th</sup>. **Suzanne Colligan** attended Workplace and Ergonomic training at the JBR Library on April 26<sup>th</sup>.

On April 9<sup>th</sup>, Niagara Branch Manager **Kathy Galvin** attended the Buffalo West Even Start Advisory Council meeting.

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, Niagara Branch Assistant Librarian **Gwen Collier** attended the NYLA Youth Services Section spring conference "Libraries in Bloom," held in Rochester, New York.

**Linda Bohan** and **Terri Dickson** are working with Evance Solutions in an effort to offer conference room reservations through an online request system.

**Joy Testa Cinquino** met with **Kristine Sutton** of the Newstead Public Library to discuss internal and external communications.

#### 4. COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

##### Media Coverage / Media Releases

Press releases/press statements, written by **Joy Testa Cinquino** were composed for:

- April 13<sup>th</sup>: Library's Stance on Library Obscura - provided upon request to *The Buffalo News*, *Tonawanda News*. The story was covered in *Gusto*, WEBR Radio and in *Tonawanda News*
- April 15<sup>th</sup>: Niagara Branch Library celebrates El día de los niños/El día de los libros
- April 19<sup>th</sup>: Travel talks at Central Library
- April 21<sup>st</sup>: Give 4 Greatness Campaign presentation at Central Library
- May 5<sup>th</sup>: Eden Library Celebrates 100 Years
- May 10<sup>th</sup>: Author Amy Stewart to appear at Clearfield Library
- May 12<sup>th</sup>: PastForward Series at Central Library

A press event is also being planned on Wednesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> to kick off Summer Reading. A media conference will be held at 10 a.m. at the Central Library.

##### Library 2.0: Facebook.

The Central Library Facebook page currently has 2,474 fans, an increase of 45 fans since last month. Sample postings follow:



[buffalolibrary](#) We're halfway through National Library Week... If you love your library, share one of your favorite memories with us!



Lynne Steen Brown I remember when I was a kid, we used to go to the Cazenovia branch all the time. There was a story time for kids there and one of the librarians used to dress up as a princess and read fairy tales. She called herself "Princess Librarianna." It was hysterical!



Art Klein I always had a reverence for books especially collections of books. I was about 14 years old and my Aunt Alice took me down to the old Grosvenor Library that was in the Cyclorama Building.



Jennifer Harnick When I was little the librarian at Brighton used to save all the new children's books for me (I'd gone through all of the ones on the shelves) and then ask me what I thought of them when I returned them the following week. ...& now I review for a book blog. See what she started? LOL



Marty Mummery Walking to the Fairfield branch with my best friend and getting pizza at Santora's afterward. Loved the raised mezzanine where books for young people was.



Dori Smits Sajeki Reading the biggest children's book I could find at the angled table by the window at the Kensington Library.



Bernadette Ruof I remember spending hot summer afternoons at the Lackawanna Library reading in the rooms off to the left of the front door. There was always a breeze and it was always quiet. Miss Bajorek wouldn't have it any other way. I loved the big old wooden doors which are gone now. I was so sad when I saw they had been replaced.



Tabetha Lynn Snyder I worked at downtown and I met this amazing guy who also worked there. We are really happy and I'm sure will get married!



Randolph Cole I've used the libraries for most of my 65 years. My mother used to take me to the East Aurora Library which was located in an old house on the site of the present library. I used to borrow all their books on magic and make up magic shows ...

### Library 2.0: Twitter.

@buffalolibrary, our System Twitter page, has 1,761 followers, an increase of 46 followers since last month. Sample *tweets* follow:



Buffalo History @buffalolibrary thanks for the chance to listen to Imagining Buffalo!



[RepBrianHiggins](#) Brian Higgins A National Library Week shout out to [@buffalolib](#):  
[www.buffalolib.org](http://www.buffalolib.org)



[freedommary](#) Mary Burrowes [@buffalolib](#) The tweets of Mark Twain quotes r nice...Keep up the good work :)

Sara Thompson of RIT thanked Grosvenor Room staff for scanning a plate (Lady Chapel) from *Delineations, Graphical and Descriptive, of Fountains Abbey in the West Riding of the County of York* for an upcoming article in the scholarly British journal *Third Text*.

James R. Miller acknowledged B&ECPL staff assistance in his article "Old Envelopes and Postcards Reveal Incorrect Veteran Statuses in the 1930 U.S. Census," published in the current issue of *NGS Magazine* (National Genealogical Society).

**Dawn Stanton** and **Darlene Pennachi** have created more than 20 templates for libraries to use to promote Summer Reading events and activities including flyers, posters, entry forms, etc. Additionally, the Graphics Team has produced Gluck labels for Central display, updated the donation form, produced a PastForward program flyer, updated for summer hours various signage, worked with RBR to produce the tabletop travelling display - *Travelers and Cosmopolitans*, produced Branched Out posters, Battle of the Books bookmarks and the Anniversary poster for all libraries.

Forty-five patron comments were received ranging from acknowledging the hard work of library staff (throughout the System) to questions and concerns about overdue fees, e-book options and library collections.

### Partnerships

**Joy Testa Cinquino**, **Anne Conable** and **Peggy Skotnicki** met with Buffalo businessman Tony Diina to discuss his lending of his collection of Roger Lalli watercolors for downtown Central Library.

## 5. SPECIAL PROJECTS

### Re-Imagining

*Explore Possibilities*, the first progress report, for Re-Imagine was held on April 20<sup>th</sup>. This working meeting explored project goals and program and service goals, directions and

options for building space and use, partnering options and funding/budgeting concepts.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Jean Jakubowski  
Deputy Director - COO