

November 24, 2014

The Honorable Mark Poloncarz  
Erie County Executive  
Edward A. Rath County Office Building  
95 Franklin Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear County Executive Poloncarz:

On behalf of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library (B&ECPL) Board of Trustees and Library Administration, I wish to express our sincerest thanks regarding snow removal and safety efforts by the County of Erie during the *November Storm Knife* (a.k.a. *Snowvember Storm*).

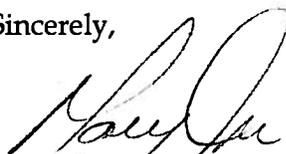
Libraries in areas of travel bans, travel advisories and those most severely affected by the storm were closed Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> - Friday November 21<sup>st</sup>. In addition, the libraries located in the City of Buffalo were closed because the County State of Emergency and our inability to staff buildings.

All Buffalo branches and most suburban libraries were able to reopen on Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. Only those located in the hardest hit areas and those in areas under travel bans remained close for the weekend. The following libraries were also open regularly scheduled hours on Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>: downtown Central Library, Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch, Audubon Branch (Amherst), Clearfield Branch (Amherst), Julia Boyer Reinstein (Cheektowaga), Kenmore Branch (Town of Tonawanda), and North Collins.

We believe it is because of the snow removal efforts of the County of Erie, the State of New York, the City of Buffalo, the National Guard and the countless agencies who provided assistance across the state and beyond that we were able to reopen all B&ECPL locations today, Monday November 24<sup>th</sup>.

Please express our gratitude and appreciation to all who responded to the *November Storm Knife*. We truly live in a County that puts its residents first. We are grateful. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Mary Jean Jakubowski  
Library Director

MJJ/mb

cc: The Erie County Legislature  
Jack Connors, Chair, B&ECPL Board of Trustees

Comm. 25M-7

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