

BUFFALO & ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
PROPOSED AGENDA
Thursday, March 15, 2012
4:00 p.m.

CE

NOTE MEETING TO BE HELD AT: The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library
Joseph B. Rounds Conference Room
1 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY 14203

- A. Call of the roll
- B. Approval / Changes to the Agenda
- C. Minutes of the Meeting of February 16, 2012 ACTION
- D. Report of the Chair INFORMATION
- E. Committee Reports
 - 1. Executive Committee
 - 2. Budget and Finance Committee
 - a. Res. 2012-9 — Internet Access Service - RFP Award ACTION
- F. Report of the Director (sent via e-mail if on file) INFORMATION
- G. Public Comment
- H. Unfinished Business
- I. New Business
- J. Adjournment

5M-15

PROPOSED
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
February 16, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library was held on Thursday, February 16, 2012, in the Central Library pursuant to due notice to trustees. The following members were present:

Jack Connors, Chair
Sharon A. Thomas, Vice Chair
Elaine M. Panty, Secretary
Frank Gist, Treasurer
Amy Alvarez-Perez
Phyllis A. Horton
Sharon M. Kelly
Anne M. Leary
Jennifer Zivis

Chair Jack Connors called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. in the Joseph B. Rounds Conference Room.

Agenda Item B – Approval/Changes to the Agenda. The Chair called for a motion to amend the Agenda to add Resolution 2012-7 under Budget and Finance and Resolution 2012-8 under New Business. Ms. Thomas moved, and Ms. Panty seconded. Approval was unanimous.

Agenda Item C – Minutes of the Meeting of January 19, 2012. On motion by Ms. Leary, with a second by Mr. Gist, the Minutes were approved as mailed.

Jennifer Zivis arrived at approximately 4:04 p.m.

Agenda Item D – Report of the Chair. In addition to discussing Committee appointments below, Mr. Connors reported he had a follow-up discussion with Mayor Byron Brown expressing a sense of urgency regarding the filling of mayoral appointed B&ECPL Trustees; he hopes to hear soon on mayoral nominations. A meeting with County Executive Mark Poloncarz is scheduled for February 24th to discuss a number of Library issues; a report will be brought back to the Board.

Agenda Item D.1 – Committee Appointments. Committee appointment lists were distributed at the beginning of the meeting. Discussion ensued and Trustees Alvarez-Perez and Kelly were added to the Development & Advocacy Committee and Trustee Leary was added to the Bylaws Committee. If anyone would like to make additional assignment changes, he or she should notify the Chair. There being no further discussion, on motion by Ms. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Gist, the revised 2012 Committee assignments were approved unanimously. Revised Committee appointment lists will be sent out reflecting these changes. Mr. Connors provided a history of how many times each committee met in 2010 and 2011. It was requested Standing Committees meet a minimum of four times a year.

Agenda Item E – Committee Reports.

Agenda Item E.1 – Executive Committee. Ms. Thomas read the following report from the February 9, 2012, Executive Committee meeting:

Present: Executive Committee members Jack Connors, Elaine Panty and Sharon Thomas. Director Mary Jean Jakubowski and CFO Kenneth Stone also attended.

Chair Jack Connors called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. in the Joseph B. Rounds Conference Room of the Central Library. A quorum was present.

Mr. Connors called for Executive Session for a personnel matter at 4:05 p.m. Second by Elaine Panty. Executive Session ended at 4:15 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Thomas, second by Ms. Panty. Call for a vote on Resolution 2012-5 which authorizes the Director to adjust the salary to the Secretary to the Director. Motion by Mr. Connors, second by Ms. Thomas. Unanimously passed.

The agenda for the February 16, 2012 Board meeting was reviewed and approved.

System Trustees will be invited to the March 8, 2012 meeting of the Executive Committee where the *ReImagine* team will present an overview of their work.

Director Jakubowski and CFO Stone discussed the impact of the potential increase to minimum wage. Initial cost would be \$300k+. Concerns noted. Discussion ensued.

CFO Stone reviewed 2011 financials and preliminary year-end report. Further discussion on future Library budgetary needs including the development of a unified message regarding secure and stable funding. The 2012 budget was discussed. Director Jakubowski and CFO Stone assured the Executive Committee

the Library will live within the budget it has been given. Fundraising will also continue.

Mr. Connors reviewed the committee preferences from Board members. Director Jakubowski will contact trustees per Mr. Connors request. Ms. Thomas will as well.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m. on a motion from Ms. Panty, second from Mr. Connors.

Agenda Item E.1.a – Authorize Director to Adjust Salary – Secretary to the Director. This resolution was approved unanimously by the Executive Committee on February 9, 2012.

RESOLUTION 2012-5

WHEREAS, the Administration of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library consists of positions in the titles of Director, Deputy Director, Assistant Deputy Director, and Secretary to Director of Library, and

WHEREAS, under the Rules of Classified Service for Erie County these are non-competitive positions designated as confidential and policy titles. Accordingly, these titles are not represented by a union for purposes of collective bargaining, and

WHEREAS, the duties and responsibilities of the Secretary to Director of Library have changed dramatically over the years and grown in complexity, and

WHEREAS, the current incumbent has met the increasing demand and demonstrated her abilities and beyond in exemplary fashion without receiving a wage increase since 2006, and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Library has previously exercised the authority to hire, create positions, and set salaries upon appointment, and

WHEREAS, the Director seeks clarification of her authority to include the ability to increase or decrease the salary of the incumbent Secretary to Director, and

WHEREAS, the Director agrees that any increase or decrease shall be reasonable and in consideration of the duties of the incumbent and the fiscal responsibility of the Library Board, and

WHEREAS, such authority will be granted without need for further resolution, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Director to make a salary adjustment for the position of Secretary to the Director in accordance with the above stated considerations and fiscal responsibility of the Library Board, and be it

RESOLVED, such authority is granted without the need for further resolution.

Pursuant to the Bylaws, Resolution 2012-5 was mailed to the full Board within three business days.

Agenda Item E.2 – Budget and Finance Committee.

Agenda Item E.2.a – Monthly Financial Report. The financial report – preliminary financials for the month ending 12/31/2011 was distributed to trustees at the meeting. Deputy Director Stone reported the Library operated within its budget and discussed significant savings in part through turnover, lower utilization rates of health insurance, credit on the NYS retirement bill and lower expenses in gas and electricity.

Agenda Item E.2.b – Regional Bibliographic Database Grant Award. Mr. Stone presented this resolution which supports and funds digitization of the Buffalo City Directories from 1828-1868. Ms. Panty moved for approval of Resolution 2012-7, was seconded by Ms. Panty, whereupon approval was unanimous.

RESOLUTION 2012-7

WHEREAS, the Library has been awarded a New York State Regional Bibliographic Database grant in the amount of \$14,000, and

WHEREAS, grant proceeds will support and fund digitization of the Buffalo City Directories from 1828-1868, 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	\$14,000
Grant Program Expenditures	\$14,000

In response to a question by Trustee Gist, Ms. Jakubowski stated this is the beginning of the Buffalo City Directories and once digitized will allow people from all over to have

access to this information. Brief discussion regarding microfilm ensued. Ms. Kelly asked if this information will be searchable; Ms. Jakubowski replied it would.

Agenda Item F – Report of the Director. In addition to her written report, Director Mary Jean Jakubowski reminded trustees about the following important dates:

- Legislative Briefing and Breakfast, February 29th at 8:30 a.m. at the Central Library – trustees are encouraged to attend.
- Legislative Education Day in Albany, March 6th - Trustee Elaine Panty will be attending this.
- Executive Committee meeting, March 8th at 4 p.m. at the Central Library – trustees are encouraged to attend this meeting to see a presentation by the ReImagine Team.

The Strategic Plan continues to be worked on. Susan Kent and June Garcia of Library Strategies International LLC along with Peter Murad of Architectural Resources have done 31/37 library facility visits to date and will finish up in March. The plan is for a presentation of the Strategic Plan to be done at the May B&ECPL Board of Trustees meeting.

Ms. Jakubowski gave an update on the Milestones of Science project; there will be a big celebration in 2013. Trustee Anne Leary and Joy Testa Cinquino met earlier and discussed this.

Copies were at each trustee's place of upcoming Library events including Commemorating Women's History Month in Buffalo & Erie County.

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

Monthly Report of Library System Activity February 16, 2012

1. PUBLIC SERVICES

Programs, Learning Opportunities, Outreach and Events

On January 31st, Director **Mary Jean Jakubowski** was joined by System Board Chair Jack Connors, Trustee Elaine Panty, Library staff **Ken Stone, Carol Batt, Joy Testa Cinquino** and **Jeannine Doyle** at the Erie County Legislature's Community Enrichment Committee meeting. The Library was invited to update members on last year's progress and the coming year's plans. There was some discussion regarding the Special Legislative District Public Library initiative. The Library reported it is still in the

process of working with staff and board members to answer questions before going public with an education campaign.

Thirty-three public technology classes were held during the month of January for 361 attendees at the Central Library and 11 community libraries. The overall satisfaction rating was 4.63 out of 5. Public comments included:

- *Makes me excited about taking more classes - thank you for offering them!!*
- *I have attended previous non-library computer workshops, and this one is far superior. Teacher very effective + projection is so helpful.*
- *The class was fun. I'd never used Google Maps before + this class was so interesting.*
- *Excellent use of tax \$.*

Community Library staff comments included:

- *Looking forward to the upcoming "downloading e-books" program.*
- *It was excellent.*

The Library's participation in a beta test enabling catalog access through the Central Library's Facebook Fan page <http://j.mp/iZSx5s> ended with the official release of the SirsiDynix Social Library on Friday, January 20th. The application allows patrons to search the catalog, place holds, renew items, and access My Account while logged into their Facebook accounts. The product's use and popularity will be monitored and evaluated.

The Training Team continues to develop and update classes. Central Training Lab Coordinator **Kara Stock** updated *Introduction to the Library Website*, *Microsoft Publisher Basics*, and *Google It*. Kara is also writing the *eLibrary Catalog* computer class for the public. Technology Trainer **Nell Aranoff** updated *Introduction to Skype*, and Technology Trainer **Tom Carloni** updated *Borrowing eBooks from the Library for Your Nook, Sony, Kobo or Similar eReader*, *Searching for eBooks and Audiobooks on the Library's Website*, and *Borrowing eBooks from the Library for Your Kindle*. Tom also completed the *Desktop Outlook* staff class.

Technology Trainers **Andy Aquino** and **Nell Aronoff** are working on e-Library screencasts; **Tom Carloni** will begin working on a screencast about the Kindle.

An attractive bookmark that promotes the *Downloads 2 Go* service, as well as the instructional handouts and video tutorials available on the Library's website, was designed in January. *Getting Started with Your eReader* will be distributed to all library locations.

Anne Conable from Development and Communications reported the following with regard to programming at Central:

Coordinated details, and support promotion, for events occurring this month:

- "Imagining Buffalo" series –
 - 1/3 (40) and 1/17 (48) Chuck LaChiusa
 - 1/10 (68) Kimberley Minkel/Gladys Gifford, NFTA
 - 1/24 (68) Robert Shibley, UB School of Architecture
 - 1/31 (42) Nancy Spector, Albright-Knox Art Gallery
- Working for Downtown Brown Bag Lunch series: 1/4 featuring Hon. Brian Higgins (38)
- UNYTS Community Blood Drive 1/12
- Martin Luther King Day program 1/12 (72)
- Chess @ the Library Open House 1/29 (22)

Joy Testa Cinquino, Anne Conable, Dawn Peters and Dan Caufield participated in planning meetings for future programs with Eva Doyle, RBR staff, Just Buffalo, Disability Awareness Month, Alianza Latina, Womens History Month and Occupy Buffalo programs.

Ms. Conable coordinated copy and layout for centralized Women's History Month (March) calendar – partnership with Erie County as well as coordinated rewrite and submission of IMLS grant (due February 1st) for Depression/digital project – partnership with Randforce Associates, UB Center for Urban Studies, Cleveland State University Center for Public and Digital History, and Buffalo Broadcasters Association.

Anne Conable was the featured speaker at the Sunday, January 8th, Forest Lawn Sunday at the Cemetery Lecture series: *175 Years of Libraries in Buffalo & Erie County*. The event was sold-out with nearly 100+ attending this lecture which kicked off the 2012 Forest Lawn Chapel series.

On January 10th, all Information Services librarians attended a meeting called by Human Resources/Labor Relations Officer **Jeannine Doyle**. This meeting reviewed the new Correctional Facility staffing model. Beginning in February, all full-time librarians and part-time librarians in Information Services will work some hours at the Erie County Correctional Facility to ensure all required service hours are filled.

On January 12th, Information Services Librarians **Dan Caufield** and **Ken Wierzbowski** helped coordinate and spoke at a SCORE workshop held in the Central Meeting Room at the Central Library. The workshop was an all-day event aimed at entrepreneurs who want to start and manage their own businesses. Periodically throughout the day, both Ken and Dan met with attendees of the workshop to educate them on small business resources available at the Central Library and to answer reference questions. The workshop was well received by the 26 attendees.

On January 12th, **Dan Caufield** coordinated the Library's *Tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr.* Community activist and small business counselor Clifford Bell acted as Master of Ceremony for this lunchtime program held at the Central Library's Ring of Knowledge. Featured were the poems/stories of Miguel Santos, Ann Marie Szpakoska and **Sharon Holley**, the music of the **Colored Musicians Club** and vocal performance of Pastor **Angela Stewart**, a presentation of "A Different Time, Similar Circumstances" by the students from **Bennett Park Montessori School** and a keynote speech by Ellicott District Common Council Member Darius Pridgen. The program was well received by the 120 people in attendance.

Throughout January, Information Services librarians held 11 sessions with patrons through the Book A Librarian service. During these sessions, they answered various reference questions, demonstrated search techniques for using library databases and helped find print materials related to their questions.

Information Services & Outreach Librarian **Susan Kriegbaum-Hanks** made contact with Shane Stephenson of the Buffalo Employment & Training Center (BETC). A 2-hour training session focusing on the library databases and their information useful to job seekers has been scheduled for Thursday, February 23rd at 10 a.m. at BETC.

On January 21st, **Dan Caufield**, **Ken Wierzbowski** and Sr. Page **Melissa Kania** staffed an information table at the Straight Talk 2012 event held at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center. This annual event is sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration and encourages local entrepreneurs to meet with representatives from over 20 local organizations who counsel and educate small business owners and potential owners. Over 400 people attended the classes and workshops provided by the various local agencies. Classes covered such topics as Taxes and Small Business, Finding Funding, Legal Issues of Starting a Small Business and Business Basics. **Dan Caufield** was one of 4 speakers for the Business Basics workshop. This class was presented at the beginning of the day and all attendees were required to hear this lecture before going on to other workshops. The other 3 speakers for Business Basics included members from the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Sue McCarthy, Clifford Bell, and Mike Hefka. Each of the SBDC members spoke about the importance of planning and stressed a well thought out business plan. This led in very well to Mr. Caufield's part of the lecture which informed the audience what the Library has in the way of business resources.

Information Services Librarian **Beth Lewitzky** began planning a program series suggested by community members called "Organization, Action & Vision" to be started in March 2012. She reached out to 7 possible speakers who all agreed to participate once dates, times and place were set. The overall theme of these talks will focus on activism in Erie County and how grass roots movements grow and get their message to a larger audience.

Information Services Librarian **Hadeen Stokes** has been working with Webmaster **Terri Dickson** and the Graphics Department finalizing plans for the 2012 Winter Reading Challenge "Get wrapped up in a good book". Everything is in place and publicity has already begun. This online reading contest encourages patrons to read and leave book reviews on the Library's website. For each review submitted, participants receive a token and a chance to win a Kindle Fire. The more reviews participants enter, the more chances they have to win. Registration will open on January 30th and the contest will run through the month of February. This competition is open to all B&ECPL staff but the top prize for staff will be a Kindle Touch instead of the Fire.

Information Services Librarians **Jamie Smith** and **Hadeen Stokes** along with Librarians **Gwen Collier**, **Sandra Bush** and **Claudia Yates** have formed the African American Writers Reception Committee. This committee has been revived after some years to plan and execute an African American Writers Reception which will be held at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library (MRW) on April 14th. This reception will allow authors a chance to talk about their books and meet the public who enjoy their work. The committee has started its discussion of dates for the reception and which speakers to invite.

Hadeen Stokes worked with Michelle Gentner from the *Buffalo News* on being a seminar presenter at the February 14th Career Fest at the Millennium Airport Hotel. Hadeen will present an overview of the Library resources valuable to job seekers.

On January 25th, **Hadeen Stokes** held a phone meeting with Staff Sergeant Jason Harper from the US Marines Corp about ASVAB books and the Learning Express Database. Hadeen will follow up with him to see if he would like a demo of the database or possibly teaching a small group of recruits on how to use Learning Express to practice for the ASVAB.

On January 6th, Rare Book Librarian **Amy Pickard** attended by invitation a lunch meeting to preliminarily discuss ideas to develop a community-involved, educational experience for all ages around a Shakespeare Garden in honor of the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death in 2016. The effort is being spearheaded by Catherine Prion-Sarata, a retired Erie Community College English Professor who studied and taught Shakespeare, and involves several other key community members. Another meeting will be scheduled to continue this effort.

On January 19th, **Amy Pickard** and Grosvenor Room Librarian **Sue Cutrona** attended a meeting of the WNY Archivists at St. Louis Roman Catholic Church where the church's archivist provided a narrative history and tour of the collection.

On January 20th, **Amy Pickard** hosted Steven Galbraith, a curator of R.I.T.'s Cary Collection, and Hand Bookbinder Fred Jordan. This was an opportunity for Mr. Galbraith to see B&ECPL's rare book collection and to talk about possible collaborative efforts. Also, in return, Mr. Galbraith extended an invitation for us to visit the Cary.

On January 21st, Grosvenor Room Librarian **Rhonda Konig** attended a Western New York Genealogical Society Board meeting.

On January 26th, **Rhonda Konig** taught a Genealogy 101 Course with 16 students in attendance. Senior Page **Austin Clark** assisted.

Grosvenor Room Librarian **Carol Pijacki** conducted 4 short Grosvenor Room tours for 6 people.

In partnership with YAWNY (Young Audiences of Western New York), **Meg Cheman** coordinated the appearance of award-winning slam poet Gayle Danley in the Ring of Knowledge on January 17th. More than 75 people including fifth and sixth grade classes from Bennett Park Montessori attended this exciting performance.

On January 26th and 27th, **Meg Cheman, Dan Caulfield, Glenn Luba, Kristine Sutton, Beth Staebell, Dorinda Hayes, Peggy Errington, Jack Edson, Mary Muscarella** and **Dawn Peters** attended a "Goals and Objectives" training workshop hosted by Consultant June Garcia of Library Strategies International LLC. The trainers will act as facilitators to staff in future training sessions describing what the new Goals and Objectives of the B&ECPL System will be and ways in which each Library can help meet these goals.

The Rare Book Room closed and dismantled the "Lafayette Square: Then and Now" exhibit during the last week of January. This was a very successful and popular exhibit and as indicated by the guest register, was seen by people from all over the country. It was of special interest to many attendees of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in October. Word of mouth was a great promoter as many people came to Grosvenor to specifically ask to see the "Lafayette Square Exhibit."

Highlights from the guest register include:

- Excellent
- I love the history of the bldgs. I love Buffalo. Thank you.
- Visiting Buffalo for 1st time. Enjoying the city and surroundings. Display provides an interesting perspective + insight. [London, England]
- Wonderful city you have – And an amazing library.
- I loved it and I learned something new!
- Fabulous – makes me even prouder of my hometown city!

- Very impressive, wanted to find out some about Sq. & I did.
- Outstanding collection! [Truro, MA]
- As always another great exhibit. Good job!
- Smashing, just smashing! [San Francisco, CA]
- It is cool to see what Buffalo was like before I was born.
- Thanks for this exhibit! It's a help to many.
- Thanks for preserving these things.
- Informative + attractive display – have enjoyed it in pieces by visiting multiple times. Helps to understand + appreciate history. It's a shame many buildings have had such short lives. Generally find the displays here engrossing + well-done, + attractive.

The next exhibit "Some Things Fishy in Rare Books: Izaak Walton's *Compleat Angler* and Other Fish Tales" is being installed and is scheduled to open February 7th.

Librarian **Wanda Collins** continues to revamp and update the kit, flannel board and puppet pages on the YSG portion of the Intranet. Wanda along with Librarian **Kasey Mack** is also working to add extra flannel boards to the website and add descriptive 'pop-up' windows to each item. Librarians **Kasey Mack** and **Kathy Goodrich** put finishing touches on the Online Winter Reading Challenge before it went live on January 30th. They also developed the Battle of the Books Kid's Choice voting ballot.

Librarian **Mary Ann Budny** gathered copies of the 2012 Caldecott, Newbery and Coretta Scott King Award winners to convert over to reference.

The Central Library has been a hub of activity. The first program of 2012 was "Get Your Game On" gaming program. Sr. Page **Laura Raichel** led over 20 children as they played the Wii, GameCube and some old-fashioned board games. The Pizza Lovers' Book Club had their first meeting of 2012 on Saturday, January 21st. **Mary Ann Budny** led the discussion on penguin and weather books. Later the children made a snowman out of donut holes, pretzels, fruit roll-ups and thin mints. (And of course ate pizza!!)

On January 28th, **Kasey Mack** had a very successful meeting of the Lego Club. Thirty-one children played Brick-tionary (like Pictionary but with Legos!) All the children had a wonderful time. Their creations were displayed on the Kid's Space and Central Library's Facebook pages.

Along with public programming, there were several class visits and tours in January. Each Friday, Bennett Park Montessori teacher Randy McWharf visits the Central Library with his sixth grade class. The students work on research for school and also borrow books for pleasure reading.

On January 6th, **Mary Ann Budny** gave a tour of the first floor of the Central Library for the students of Aspire group home. After the tour, Mary Ann read them stories. The Bennett Park Montessori pre-school visited on January 19th for a special storyhour about Martin Luther King, Jr. Sr. Page **Nancy Smith** read stories about sharing and kindness.

Programs - Branches - City and Town

The end of January marked the beginning of programming season for the CPT (Childrens Programming Team). East Delavan, North Park and Crane Libraries began their winter storyhour session the week of January 23rd. The children at these branches were thrilled by the return of Miss Nancy!

Librarians **Mary Ann Budny**, **Paula Kloczek**, **Kerra Alessi** and Library Associate **Cyndy Lenzner** visited the Pinnacle Charter School on January 4th and 5th. They gave the students their library cards and read stories. After the stories, the children decorated paper mittens for a mitten garland they used to decorate the classroom.

Librarians **Michelle Snyder** and **Pat Covley** each contributed book reviews for the *Buffalo Rising* website in January.

Collection Development staff responded to 388 patron purchase suggestions and 123 staff suggestions in January.

The Merriweather Branch started 2012 with new hours: Thursday was changed to 12-8 from 3-8 and Friday was changed to 1-6 from 10-6 with all other hours remaining the same.

Houghton Academy PTO met in the East Clinton Library's Community room on January 25th with 6 in attendance.

Merriweather Library's Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. program was sponsored and hosted by Mrs. Eva Doyle. The theme of the January 14th program was "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: His Life and Legacy". Participants included praise dancers, singers, poets, musicians and speakers; attendance was 100.

On January 14th, the Buffalo Genealogical Society of the African Diaspora held a session in the MRW Library's computer lab on using FamilySearch.com with 14 in attendance.

"Tradition Keepers: Black Storytellers of WNY" held a storytelling program on January 21st at the MRW Library for children 12 years old and younger with 16 in attendance.

East Delavan (EDL) Library Branch Manager **Gwen Collier** continues to do programming and outreach to Bethel Headstart and Ferry Center Headstart for the MRW Library. Ms. Collier has provided outreach services to CAO Ferry, Bethel 1485

Jefferson and Bethel 1424 Jefferson where she read stories, sang songs, took one classroom collection and provided a bug craft; 203 adults and children were served during outreach in January.

EDL Library's Clerk and Page Supervisor **Stephen Carson** created the public relations information for an upcoming African American History book check out incentive for adults where one winner will receive either a NFTA card for March or a \$50 gas card. The goal of the contest is to promote literacy during African American History Month that will last throughout the year. Mr. Carson will also be placing this contest on EDL's Facebook page.

Graphics Department staff **Dawn Stanton** and **Darlene Pennachi** provided new, welcoming signage for East Delavan including a new "Dolly Parton Imagination Display" section solely for the purposes of promoting this program. It will include applications, news and posters.

The Dudley Branch celebrated Chinese New Year on January 21st. Children colored masks or made a puppet. **Suzanne Colligan** made and served haystacks (cookies made out of chow mein noodles, chocolate and butterscotch chips) and fortune cookies to 8 attendees.

Suzanne Colligan visited St. Agatha's Head Start program twice this month (January 3rd and January 23rd) to read stories and deliver books to a total of 40+ children.

East Cluster Manager **Nancy Mueller** attended the Erie County Records Commission meeting on January 11th at Erie County Hall which is chaired by the newly elected County Clerk Christopher Jacobs. Nancy is Records Manager for the B&ECPL System.

Nancy Mueller, Linda Rizzo, Dan Caufield and Assistant Deputy Director for Human Resources **Doreen Woods** met on January 30th to discuss plans for upcoming staff refresher training on security issues when dealing with patrons and sexually explicit material on the public PCs.

Miss Lisa Brown returned with a Valentine's card making craft. With the help of Crane Page **Julia Conte**, many children created cards while parents expressed their heartfelt wishes to return.

On January 9th at the Niagara Branch, Library Associate **Tami Linkowski** introduced Board Game Night for children on Monday evenings. Five children played Chutes and Ladders, Checkers and Stratego. They loved it. It was a new experience for some children who were only used to playing games on the computer. Tami will lead "bored" game night once a month. In the meantime, some children have been playing the games themselves on evenings when the program is not formally offered.

Tami Linkowski presented Wild Craft Wednesdays throughout the month. Tami keeps the crafts fresh with an assortment of simple and more challenging craft ideas. Team Buffalo, a.k.a. TEAM F.A.M.E., resumed weekly science programming on January 17th.

Nancy Smith, from the Children's Programming Department, held Preschool Storytime Monday, January 23rd and Monday, January 30th at North Park Library from 10:30-11:30 a.m. All of the children who attended were read a story by the always entertaining Miss Nancy. In total 9 children and 6 adults attended the storytimes.

Sr. Page **Sarah Barry** ran the Crazy Craft Monday program on 3 Mondays in January. In all, 19 children and 9 adults attended these programs.

Sean Goodrich ran the "Wiikends" program every Friday and Saturday in January. Any North Park patron can pick up the controller and try his or her hand at Wii bowling, baseball, tennis or boxing from 4:00-7:30 p.m. every Friday and 3:00-5:30 p.m. every Saturday. In total, 17 children and 3 adults played Wii during these times.

Ellen Witoff, a citizenship specialist from Catholic Charities, expressed appreciation for being able to use the community room at the Riverside Branch Library to teach a citizenship class. She commented to **Brian Hoth** that it was the best space she has worked in and expressed interest in scheduling additional classes in April.

On Friday, January 13th, **Brian Hoth** visited Niagara Daycare and presented a program on polar bears to 3 classes of 14 preschool students and their teachers. The children heard stories, sang songs, and did a polar bear craft. Brian also dropped off 1 classroom collection.

On Wednesday, January 25th, **Brian Hoth** visited Holy Cross Head Start and read stories to 7 classes of 136 prekindergarten children and their teachers. He also dropped off 7 classroom collections.

On Thursday, January 26th, **Brian Hoth** visited Muchkinland Daycare Center to promote preschool programming beginning in February and encouraged them to come. Many children have registered for next month's Lego Club and Game Night. Plans are under way to celebrate National Library Week with programs, activities, drawings, and an open house scheduled for Saturday, April 14th.

Angola Public Library - submitted by Mary Truby, Director

A new year has begun at the library and ushered in a flurry of activity. The most exciting news is that we have received notice we have been awarded an Erie County Community Development Block Grant. The grant will help build a much needed

meeting room addition to our library. It will permit us to have more programs and the space for increased attendance. We anticipate a period of upheaval and stress before the project is completed but the end product will be well worth it.

In a month filled with holidays, the library has had the opportunity to showcase several of these occasions. We commemorated Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday with a display of books about his life and accomplishments.

Chinese New Year, the Year of the Dragon, saw the library decorated with festive Chinese lanterns and fanciful dragons. We made paper fortune cookies for patrons to choose. Some merely had fortunes in them but lucky patrons won a mystery prize or a lucky orange which is reputed to bring prosperity in the coming year. The chopstick game tested patron's skill using them to pick up small objects within a time limit. Staff helped children make colorful dragon puppets to take home with them.

Groundhog Day did not go unnoticed. "Grab the Ground Hog" was the game of the day. Children were asked to put their hand into the ground hog's den to try to find a ground hog among a variety of other animals. Pop-up ground hogs were given as prizes.

In this technological society the role of our library is changing. Patron's desires for electronic resources are continuing to rise. Traditional books, reference materials and periodicals are no longer the most wanted items. Our library has had an increase in the number of public computer users and we answer many questions about downloading e-books. We have also seen more people coming in to use our wireless access.

Even though libraries are changing, many things remain the same. We still have many tutors who use the library and parents who bring their children to our storytime programs. We are looking forward to spring and the resumption of our children's programs and in the near future a bigger and better place to hold them.

Clarence Public Library – submitted by Monica Mooney, Director

We started out the New Year at the Clarence Public Library with an array of children's programs. In addition to our regular Preschool Storyhour, Toddler Time and Wee Read with our children's programming coordinator, **Amy Swarts**, we also had Creative Essence of Clarence Center here at the library on January 12th to host "Stuffed Animal Hospital." Children were encouraged to bring their favorite stuffed animal with them to the library for a make-believe "Immediate Care" clinic for their cuddly friends. Participants could make and take home a hospital gown, bracelet and plaster cast for their plush pals. This unique program attracted over 60 children.

The Clarence Library Lego Club continues to meet on a monthly basis. Kids enjoy making their Lego creations and putting them on display in the library. Last year, we had over 400 children attend our Lego Club, making it the most popular program for school age children. In March, we look forward to having creations from Lego enthusiast Joe Carrigan on display.

Upcoming programs for February and March include the monthly Library Craft Time hosted by the Clarence Youth Bureau, Primate Sanctuary's "Old World" and "New World" with Carmen Presti, Explore & More's "Fuzzy Felted Rainforest Snakes," and Kelkenberg Farms visit in early spring with their baby animals. Also in March and April, staff from the Central Library's Children's Programming Team will present programs: *The Titanic*, *Don't Let the Pigeon Come to this Program*, and *Nursery Rhymes & Fairy Tales*.

Computer classes presented by the Technology Team from the Central Library will be held in March and include *Introduction to the Library Web site*, *Downloads 2 Go* and *Family History Research with Ancestry Library Edition Database*.

The Clarence Free Tax Service sponsored by the AARP and IRS will be at the Clarence Library Wednesdays through Saturdays, February 1st through April 14th. Trained tax aide volunteers provide free tax preparation assistance to patrons.

The *Bookmarks* Book Club meets every second Tuesday of the month at the Clarence Library. Upcoming titles to be discussed will be *The Sisters* by Nancy Jensen in February, *Ellis Island* by Kate Kerrigan in March and *The Pleasure of My Company* by Steve Martin in April. UNYTS will be hosting a blood drive at the library on February 27th. Also, through March 15th, the Clarence Library will be one of the drop-off locations for Assemblywoman Jane Corwin's Annual Food Drive to Combat Hunger.

On March 2nd, in conjunction with Dr. Seuss's birthday and *Read Across America*, Library Director **Monica Mooney** and Clarence Library Youth Programming Coordinator **Amy Swarts** will visit Curious Minds Montessori on Goodrich Road to present Dr. Seuss-themed programs to their preschool and toddler classes.

Director **Monica Mooney** has been working with IT Administrator **Stephen Hovey** in a collaboration effort with the Clarence School District that would allow students to access the school's *Lexia™* Learning software at the Clarence Library. A dedicated PC will be set up for this project.

In September, the Clarence Public Library had solar panels installed on the roof of the library by Solar Liberty of Buffalo. The project, funded by grant monies received by the Town of Clarence, allows the library to be more environmentally-friendly and save on utility costs. Patrons can also view real-time value of electricity generated, power usage

and cost savings on a wall monitor located in the library. The solar panel installation has been well received by the community.

Collections: Development and Use

Library staff recently submitted recommendations to the Erie County Department of Purchasing for the award of Bid Number 211382-005 (Books & Non-Print Library Materials and Related Ancillary Services for the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library). Given the scope of materials needed by the B&ECPL, awards are being made in 6 major categories determined by material type that correspond to the Library's internal Collection Development and Acquisitions processes as well as the format of the bid document. This has resulted in contract awards with multiple bidders. These awards will help insure that the Library acquires material in the most cost effective manner while providing the flexibility to obtain in stock titles on a timely basis to address public interest or demand.

The annual process of rolling over outstanding orders from the previous fiscal year to 2012 was completed mid-January. Materials budget allocations were made and Library Administrative Manager **Tracy Palicki** entered funds into the Technical Services Department Acquisitions Module. With new budgets in place, ordering of materials has resumed. Bookplates are being affixed to all materials purchased with funds raised during the *Bucks for Books* campaign.

Kara Stock designed the survey that will be used to collect information from all B&ECPL libraries for "SnapShot Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System: A Day in the Life of a Library System."

To improve services at the Correction Facility branch, **Kenneth Wierzbowski** continues a new labeling project and organization scheme which will help staff keep better track of items in the popular materials collection. This collection holds materials that are highly in demand and, until this current undertaking, were indistinguishable from materials out on the open floor. During the month of January, he expanded his previous finding aid to include the non-fiction materials in this collection.

This month, Rare Book Room Librarian **Charles Alaimo** created a display in celebration of the bicentennial of the birth of Charles Dickens. On display in the Gluck Manuscript Collection case are original letters and an essay on "The great international walking match" of 1868. Dickens was an avid walker and walking matches were quite common in the 19th century. Mr. Alaimo also created a display for a one-of-a-kind Buffalo and vicinity fishing map, to coincide with the next Rare Book Room display on Izaak Walton's *Compleat Angler*, and other rare books on fish.

Carol Pijacki completed the Civil War travelling display and began the next Grosvenor display on the topic of fish and fishing to compliment the RBR display on Izaak Walton's *Compleat Angler*.

Carol Pijacki presided at the Literally Speaking Lunchtime Book Discussion Group. **Susan Cutrona** led the discussion of *The History of Love* by Nicole Krauss.

Rhonda Konig created a guide to using the Grosvenor Room's marriage records on microfilm.

Music Collection: **Carol Pijacki** completed 2 check-ins; 13 Orchestration Verification Sheets.

The application of RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) tags began mid-January and **Josh Mitch** has made great progress already.

The reorganization and shelving of the microfilm collection has been completed on Tier A. Microfilm is now shelved alphabetically by title and the microfilm guide updated by Senior Page **Matthew Golebiewski**.

Freegal Music downloads continue to be popular. In January, 711 patrons downloaded a total of 4,603 titles.

In January, 545 downloadable eBooks were added to the Library's collection. A total of 21,110 eBook titles were downloaded in January compared to 8,103 in January of 2011.

East Delavan Branch Library's Page Supervisor and Clerk **Stephen Carson** completed the conversion of CD's from drawers to shelving units to permit better visibility of the CD collection.

2. FUNDING

Finances

The New York State Library Construction Grant review process for the 2011-12 grant cycle continues, with award notices anticipated in the spring. CFO **Ken Stone** has been informed that grant requests for B&ECPL libraries have been recommended for approval by the NYS Division of Library Development and forwarded to the NY State Dormitory Authority for review. The Dormitory Authority is the funding source for this grant. Additionally, because other library systems were unable to match their full grant allocations, additional funds are available for eligible projects not already recommended for the maximum 50% grant share. One B&ECPL project falls into this category, the Central Library asbestos abatement and space reconfiguration project, which could receive additional grant funding of \$75,232 towards the project.

In addition to the Central Library, project requests submitted would help replace the roof at the Aurora Town Public Library; reconstruct sidewalks at the West Seneca Public Library; and reconstruct sidewalks/curbs at the Eden Library. The original grant request for these 4 projects totaled \$664,117 and should the recommended supplemental funding be approved, the total grant share would increase to \$739,349.

Fundraising

The Development and Communications Department is currently cataloging book donations secured by former B&ECPL Trustee Judy Summer for the online auction that will be held in her name. The auction will kick-off Library Week (April 9th) and will run through April 30th. More than 150 items were donated. The auction will be online through the biddingforgood website.

Working with Laurie Dean Torrell, Director of Just Buffalo Literary Center, both of our organizations are partnering to extend an invitation to a dozen of Judy Summer's friends to the March and April Babel author's events and VIP receptions at Kleinhans. Just Buffalo was generous to provide the tickets in honor of Judy's love and support of the Library, Just Buffalo and reading as a whole.

Donations continue to trickle in from the year-end (2011) solicitation. To date \$58,059.25 has been donated from 1,146 donors. The average gift is \$50.41.

Grosvenor Room was awarded an RBDB grant in the amount of \$14,000 to digitize some of the early Buffalo City Directories with Backstage Library Works doing the digitizing.

3. OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Technology

Three RFID libraries recorded well over 80% self-check circulation during the month of January. Elma topped out at 88% with East Clinton close behind with 87% of the circulation performed by patron self checkout. East Aurora recorded 82% and Orchard Park rounded out the top four with 79%. Kudos to the staff and public in these locations who are promoting and supporting the new technology. The RFID self-check system is a tool to maximize efficiency. It helps free staff from the repetitive mundane check-out procedure and provides additional time for reader's advisory and other library tasks.

RFID tagging and encoding continues at the Central Library and several community libraries. The Central Library's Borrower Services Department went live with RFID Staff Stations on January 19th, followed by the Stacks Department on January 27th. Two

additional locations, Reinstein Memorial Library and West Seneca Public Library, are now fully RFID operational, going live with gates and self-check stations on January 23rd and 24th, respectively. Gates were installed and tested in the Central Library Media Room and at the Borrower Services elevator, January 25-26. Project Coordinator **Kelly Donovan** and IT Field Engineer **Dave Kozlowski** spent countless hours facilitating the training and installation. Dave was also primarily responsible for pre-installation of all equipment and he continues to install staff RFID-enabled workstations at the Central Library in preparation for the projected February 2012 go-live date.

Internet bandwidth was increased at several B&ECPL libraries during the month of January. The increases were necessitated by heavy user and system demand at the Central Library, almost every City Branch (Dudley, Crane, Merriweather, East Delavan, East Clinton, North Park, Niagara) and the following contract libraries: Kenmore, Concord, Clarence, East Aurora, Lackawanna. The increased capacity ensure that public PCs are more responsive.

On January 18, 2012, public wireless download capability was enabled at all B&ECPL libraries. Library users can now download from the OverDrive site to personal devices such as laptops, eReaders, and iPads. While we cannot guarantee that all devices will be fully supported, for the most part, Internet-enabled electronic devices are able to complete the download process in-house. Download capability is not available on library-owned desktops or laptops. Technical Support Services Specialist **Johnny Hsu** played the instrumental role in the wireless implementation.

In order to take advantage of e-Rate funding opportunities and insure compliance with e-Rate regulations, an RFP (Request for Proposal) and an RFB (Request for Bid) were recently prepared. Both projects were placed for public bid through the Erie County Division of Purchasing. The "RFP for Internet Access Services" will be awarded to a qualified vendor who will insure transparent connections to and from the Internet and support expansion of the Library's bandwidth to the Internet, if required to provide sufficient service to the Library's patrons. The "RFB for a Switching Upgrade" is needed because the number of workstations and how they are utilized is expected to increase load on the Central Library's network. A switch hardware upgrade is required to meet both current and future needs.

Senior Computer Operator **Roseann Hausrath** and Technology Support Manager **Maureen McLaughlin** coordinated 2011 end of year statistics required for annual formal reports. In addition, **Roseann** began the setup for year 2012 including utilizing delimited output which will serve as the basis for a computerized stat project which should help streamline future reporting and minimize manual data entry.

Other Information Technology (IT) Projects:

- Computers system-wide were upgraded to Adobe Flash 11
- Laptops were configured and delivered to the Concord Public and North Collins Public Libraries. The laptops for in-library public use were purchased with private funds
- Library IT Administrator **Steve Hovey**, along with part-time computer techs **John Sloma** and **Steve Stoveld**, disconnected and moved the Circulation Desk PCs and all public workstations to facilitate a building renovation project at the Kenmore Library
- Library Webmaster **Terri Dickson** began to build a Drupal substructure which will eventually replace the Library's current public website www.buffaloli.org. The new site will ultimately have an updated look and authorized staff will be able to provide edits to insure information accuracy and relevancy.

The new Database Page Committee met twice in January to develop the new database page that will replace the current page when WebFeat is discontinued. The structure of the page is now in place. All database links and descriptions have been added, overall design is being developed and functionality is being tested. The framework and functionality are in place for the new page: <http://databases.buffalolib.org/databases/>. The goal of the committee is to replace the current federated search of the databases. Committee members include **Steve Hovey**, Computer Operator **Sandy Sywak** and Librarians **Meg Cheman**, **Pat Covley**, **Angela Pierpaoli**, **Kristine Sutton**, **Ken Wierzbowski** and **Hadeen Stokes**.

The Library's Subject Guides received 1,200 unique visitors from 19 countries in January. The most popular Subject Guides were Music, Genealogy, Virtual Database Tours, and Movies.

Chief Operating Officer **Carol Batt** informed Crane Branch that on January 3rd they would receive an Internet bandwidth upgrade of 5 Mb. Staff and patrons alike have noticed the increased speed and responsiveness and are greatly appreciative.

On January 12th, Crane received a new touch screen computer for one of their staff RFID workstations. They were a test site for the new combination. It was set up by IT staff member **Dave Kozlowski** who also stayed to help work out some initial bugs.

Facilities

The City of Buffalo recently completed a project to install new energy efficient lighting on the main floor of the Crane Library. The project included repairing/replacing damaged ceiling tiles and repainting the ceiling.

Staff Development

On January 28th, Librarian **Claudia B. Yates** became the Manager of Children Services when Librarian **Peggy Errington**, the former Manager, became the Director of the Orchard Park Public Library.

The *Downloads 2 Go* class was revised and presented to staff on January 30th as an eBook session focused on the Kindle and the Nook. Because of limited class space, it was recorded by IT staff and will be offered for staff viewing as a podcast. Public *Downloads 2 Go* classes will kick off on February 1st at the West Seneca Public Library.

On January 6th, Technical Services and Technology Support Manager **Maureen McLaughlin** attended a Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting at D'Youville College's Montante Family Library.

Carol Batt attended an Infopeople webinar entitled "The Hopeful Workplace" on January 17th. This program presented by industry specialists George Needham and Joan Frye Williams provided an excellent overview on cultivating a hopeful workplace environment during difficult times.

Technical Services Manager **Jennifer Childs** attended a Preservation Committee meeting at the Western New York Library Resources Council (WNYLRC) on January 18th.

Library Director **Mary Jean Jakubowski**, along with Deputy Directors **Ken Stone** and **Carol Batt**, attended *Business First's "Power Breakfast: What lies ahead for the Western New York economy in 2012?"* on January 19th. *Business First* put together a panel of experts who shared their insight into the factors that will influence the region's business prospects in the year ahead.

Throughout the month, several staff members attended the NYLA e-Institute webinar series, *Lean Library Management*, which focused on strategies for reducing costs and improving services. **Carol Batt** and **Maureen McLaughlin** viewed the introductory session, *What is Lean Library Management and How Can it Help Your Library*, on January 12th. They were joined by **Mary Jean Jakubowski** on January 19th for *Lean Techniques to Streamline Your Customer Holds Workflow Process* and **Jennifer Childs** on January 26th for *Lean Techniques to Streamline Your Technical Services/New Book Service Delivery Chain*.

Doreen Woods visited the University of Buffalo's Graduate School of Library and Information Science on January 25th. Ms. Woods discussed the most-desired skills and traits in new librarians with graduate students in the LIS585 Public Libraries class.

Doreen Woods updated the Central Library Emergency Evacuation procedure. The procedure was distributed to all employees and posted on the Intranet.

Jeannine Doyle developed new policy and procedure for handling requests for reasonable accommodations by employees and job applicants. Human Resources shall follow the policy and procedures for requests for accommodations and shall be available to assist staff in gaining a greater understanding of the law and clarify institutional obligations under the law to provide reasonable accommodations.

Processing Department Supervisor **Deborah Geier** attended the January 24th session of *Microsoft Excel Basics*. On January 31st, she and Library Associate **Jeff McChesney** attended the *Microsoft Excel Intermediate* class.

Library Associates **Cindy Zubler** and **Diane Doster** attended a Western New York Library Assistants (WNYLA) meeting on January 31st at UB's Health Sciences Library.

January 10th and 18th, Information Services Librarians **Patty Pohl**, **Susan Kriegbaum-Hanks** and **Michelle Hurley** participated in training conducted by **Peter Lisker** regarding the Assisted Technology Room (ATR) and resources for disabilities available for patrons at the Central Library.

On January 20th, **Kathy Galvin** attended a Refugee Educational Forum presented by Assemblyman Sean Ryan at D'Youville College.

Library staff attended Library District Training presented by Libby Post of Communication Services at various locations throughout the System.

4. COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Information Services Librarian **Beth Lewitzky**, serving as the point person for ordering important tax forms, helped coordinate tax forms setup procedure with other staff. Information Services senior pages have been busy filling in available tax forms which are located outside the Media Room and finding past tax forms online.

There is still a high demand for help from the many visitors sent to the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library from the Canadian Consulate of Buffalo. Information Services computer desk senior pages have been very busy assisting these visitors with finding the website for their application for a temporary resident visa and helping them with their printouts.

Media Coverage / Media Releases

Joy Testa Cinquino sent Press Releases for:

- Kenmore Reopening Delayed

- Winter Reading Contest
- Eva Doyle – Eye on History Series
- New Library Trustees

Mary Jean Jakubowski appeared live on AM Buffalo on January 17th. We have asked the producer if they are interested in the Library appearing on the show monthly to provide updates on Library programming, popular books, etc.

The Graphics Department accomplished the following in the past month:

- CFD - Installed decorations for Children's Area and Young Adult Area
- Women's History Event calendar
- Winter Reading Contest – adult, teen, kids – posters
- Sesame Street Ticket Contest – poster for city branches
- Battle of the Books Kids Choice – posters
- Regional Institute pages
- Bi-lingual signage for Central stairwells
- Signage for EDL, WIL, POP, CEN
- CEN – Martin Luther King Jr. program – invite, program, posters
- KNM, KNL, REI, JBR – closed for renovations – signage and bookmarks
- REI – Computer Center – invitation & banners
- Teen Top Ten – voting – posters
- E-Library bookmark
- RBR - Fishing Display

The Library received 35 online patron comments, many asking about the new online catalog.

On January 9th, the first of 3 public hearings to improve the Buffalo Public Schools' code of conduct and bring down the student suspension rate was held at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library with 75 in attendance. Also, the District's Advisory Board scheduled an additional public hearing on January 18th with 85 in attendance.

Assemblyman Sean Ryan held a town hall meeting on January 12th concerning the NFTA budget cuts. With an overwhelming community response, Assemblyman Ryan commented on the meeting's great success and the helpfulness of the Crane staff. Many news outlets reported on the concerns of individuals who use the NFTA as their primary source of transportation. Those media partners present included YNN Buffalo and WBFO 88.7 FM who held interviews with attendees.

On Tuesday, January 10th, **Brian Hoth** introduced himself to Office Assistant Susan Gartin at the Riverside Review and dropped off publicity for upcoming programming.

Library 2.0: Facebook. The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library Facebook page has 2,905 fans, up from 2,822 in December; an increase of 83 fans. A sampling of posts include:

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library Buffalo Libraries are closed on Monday, Jan 16 in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Central Library hosts a tribute to MLK on Thursday, Jan 12 at Noon. Free and open to the public. Storytelling, music, poetry and more!



January 5 at 4:36pm 3 people like this.

Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York Inc. We join WNY in Celebrating the Dream !



Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library On this day in 1875, Mark Twain published "The Boy's Ambition" in the Atlantic Monthly. It was the first installment in his Old Times on the Mississippi series, published in the Atlantic and then later collected in book form as Life on the Mississippi. As the Atlantic series appeared a year before Tom Sawyer, this first article marks the debut of Twain's most famous setting and his river-boy persona. This info is from Today In Literature | 24 Empire Ave | St. John's | Newfoundland | A1C 3E6 | Canada .



January 17 at 11:05am Sweet Jenny's - Buffalo - NY likes this.



Sweet Jenny's - Buffalo - NY Great!



PhilipJames Jarosz A Twain you just can't miss ! It's Smart to be Smart! Visit your Public Library in person or on-line and Get Smart !

Library 2.0: Twitter. As of January 30th, @buffalolibrary, the System's Twitter page, has 2,279 followers, up from 2,200 in December; an increase of 79 followers. In addition to many RTs (re-tweets), tweets mentioning the Buffalo Library included:



Justin Hoenke @JustinLibrarian Good Twitter Practice for Libraries (a post over at Tame The Web)
<http://goo.gl/KT1os> @QueensLibrary @buffalolibrary



[Myenchantedbookshelf @myenchantedbksh](#) Supporting my local library [@buffalolibrary](#) they are amazing and without them I wouldn't get to read all the books I want to!!



[Buffalo History @bflhistory](#) [@buffalolibrary](#) we champion the library! it's where we go to learn about the intricacies of our city's history!

Library 2.0: Flickr. In January, 29 new photos were posted to Flickr. The set "Lego Club at the Central Library" can be viewed here <http://bit.ly/zLeB3W> "All time" photo views totaled 37,269, up from 36,649 in December; an increase of 620.
<http://bit.ly/xDPsx4>

Partnerships

On January 9th and 25th, Information Services Librarian **Peter Lisker** met with Ophelia Morey from SUNYAB Health Sciences Library regarding displays of health information at public libraries. An initial outline for an outreach program was developed with Ms. Morey this month and allows an avenue to advertise many of the electronic medical resources offered by SUNYAB Health Sciences Library and B&ECPL.

In cooperation with Read to Succeed Buffalo (RTSB), East Delavan Library will continue in their partnership by featuring a Storyhour which is open to the public, but is geared to RTSB partner day care centers. The program is facilitated by **Nancy Smith** from the Children's Programming Team and Felicia Santiago from RTSB. Every Friday, the children are at the library from 10:00 a.m. until noon. Approximately 45 patrons participated in the first program of the year. EDL Branch Manager **Gwen Collier** provided 100 library applications to Ms. Santiago for the purposes of the population who is not served by the Dolly Parton program so they may register for a library card and become users of the library.

Kathryn Galvin, Linda Rizzo, Dan Caufield, Joy Testa Cinquino and Anne Conable attended a meeting at the Central Library with members of Alianza Latina to discuss the possibility of them staffing an information table at the Niagara Branch, Central, and other locations. There are tentative plans to offer the first session at Niagara in February.

The Literacy Volunteers SES program continues to tutor students in the Niagara Branch meeting room on Tuesday and Thursday evenings on school nights.

Council member David Rivera's Constituent Drop In night was held on Tuesdays this month.

5. SPECIAL PROJECTS

Strategic Plan: Consultants Susan Kent and June Garcia of Library Strategies International LLC along with Peter Murad and Nick Derr of Architectural Resources continue to work with this writer on the Library's Strategic Plan. Consultants Kent, Garcia, Murad and Derr are currently visiting B&ECPL libraries. To date 31/37 locations have been reviewed.

System Goals and Objectives, along with Organizational Competencies have been distributed to System Trustees for review and comment. The Board is expected to vote on Goals and Objectives and Organizational Competencies at the February 16th Board of Trustees meeting. A team of enthusiastic staff members, lead by Assistant Deputy Director **Dawn Peters** are being trained in the next phase of the plan development. They are expected to meet with staff to identify and assess Goal and Objective focused activities over the course of the next 2 months. It is anticipated the Strategic Plan will be presented at the May Board meeting.

LIST of MEETINGS and EVENTS ATTENDED by DIRECTOR MARY JEAN JAKUBOWSKI January 2012

January 3, 2012	Albany - Commissioner of Education/DLD - Special Legislative District Public Library
January 4, 2012	Staff Forum: Q&A with Library Director
January 4, 2012	Susan Sizemore Meeting
January 5, 2012	South District Common Council Member Michael Kearns @ Cazenovia Resource Center - Meeting
January 6, 2012	Mary Woronowski - Buffalo Niagara Partnership
January 6, 2012	Hein Online - Catalog Project
January 6, 2012	Doreen Woods/Jeanne Doyle
January 6, 2012	Libby Post, Communication Services - conference call
January 10, 2012	Public Website Meeting
January 10, 2012	Admin Team Meeting
January 10, 2012	Doreen Woods/Jeanne Doyle
January 10, 2012	Charity Vogel - Buffalo News
January 11, 2012	Libby Post, Communication Services
January 11, 2012	Managers/Directors Meeting

Minutes of the Board of Trustees

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January 12, 2012 Libby Post - SLDPL Training a.m. & p.m.

January 12, 2012 Black History Month Opening Remarks

January 12, 2012 Rich Tobe, Deputy County Executive

January 12, 2012 B&ECPL Executive Committee

January 13, 2012 Libby Post - SLDPL Training

January 17, 2012 AM Buffalo

January 17, 2012 WNYLRC Board Meeting

January 18, 2012 Meg Cheman - Special Projects

January 18, 2012 Sawrie Becker & Anne Conable - Anti-bullying Meeting

January 19, 2012 Business First Economic Forecast Power Breakfast

January 19, 2012 Meeting - Volunteers

January 19, 2012 NYLA e-Institute Webinar Series: Lean Library Management

January 19, 2012 B&ECPL Board of Trustees Meeting

January 20, 2012 Doreen Woods/Jeanne Doyle

January 20, 2012 Ellen Bach - Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna

January 21, 2012 ACT Meeting

January 23, 2012 Mayor Byron Brown Meeting

January 23, 2012 Legislative Education Day - Meeting

January 25, 2012 Governor Andrew Cuomo's 2012 Executive Budget

January 25, 2012 Susan Kent/June Garcia

January 26, 2012 Susan Ken/June Garcia

January 26, 2012 June Garcia - Strategic Planning

January 26, 2012 Admin Team Meeting

January 26, 2012 NYLA e-Institute Webinar Series: Lean Library Management

January 27, 2012 Susan Kent/Peter Murad - Facility Visits

January 27, 2012 June Garcia - Strategic Planning

January 27, 2012 Grant Training

January 30, 2012 Ken Stone Meeting

January 31, 2012 Community Enrichment Committee Meeting

January 31, 2012 Doreen Woods/Jeannine Doyle

Agenda Item G – Public Comment. There was no public comment.

Agenda Item H – Unfinished Business.

Agenda Item H.1 – 2011-2014 Goals and Objectives; Organizational Competencies 2012-2014. At the January 19th B&ECPL Board of Trustees meeting, a draft resolution was brought to the Board as an informational item and trustees were invited to provide input before brought up to the Board for formal approval at the February Board meeting. Ms. Jakubowski explained the goals remained the same, however, the objectives were revised by rounding off some of the numbers and word clarifications made with date specifics in the revised System Goals and Objectives that were distributed at the beginning of this meeting. Ms. Panty moved for approval. Ms. Thomas seconded. Approval of Resolution 2012-4 was approved unanimously as presented.

RESOLUTION 2012-4

WHEREAS, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library (B&ECPL) administrative team has compiled multiyear Goals and Objectives that reflect the Library's current Five-Year Plan of Service, key initiatives, ongoing programs, major projects, and

WHEREAS, these Goals and Objectives shall be the basis for the 2011 – 2016 Plan of Service, and

WHEREAS, these Goals and Objectives along with newly established Organizational Competencies are criteria by which the Library evaluates success in achieving its mission of service to the community, and

WHEREAS, the staff has compiled these Goals and Objectives, along with the Organizational Competencies, and presented them to the Board of Trustees for information and action, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Board adopts the attached Goals and Objectives for 2011 - 2014.

Agenda Item I. New Business.

Agenda Item I.1 – LSTA Service Improvement Invitational Grant 2012-2013. Deputy Director Carol Batt presented this resolution noting this money will be used to promote e-Book downloads, in particular provide staff and training at all 37 libraries. It will also allow the Library to purchase some additional e-devices such as an iPad, Nook and

Kindle to do the training. Ms. Thomas moved for approval and was seconded by Ms. Panty. Ms. Batt and Ms. Jakubowski answered trustee's questions regarding e-Books. Following this discussion, Resolution 2012-6 was approved unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2012-6

WHEREAS, the demand for e-Books continues to grow, and

WHEREAS, the B&ECPL is experiencing heavy and persistent demand for training in e-Book downloading and the use of e-Devices, and

WHEREAS, the B&ECPL is eligible to apply for \$17,400 in Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funding from a one-year Invitational Grant Program focused on assisting library systems to help their member libraries improve library services for their customers and to implement New York State's 2007-2012 LSTA Five Year Plan, and

WHEREAS, the Library has sufficient resources available to fund the difference between the estimated \$17,400 available grant amount and the total estimated project cost of \$20,000, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Buffalo and Erie County Board of Trustees approves the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) application to obtain a grant of \$17,400 for the B&ECPL to promote the use of e-Book downloads and hire staff to conduct training at libraries throughout Erie County, and authorizes the Library Director to submit the application, and be it further

RESOLVED, that if the grant application is approved and awarded in the anticipated amount, the Buffalo and Erie County Board of Trustees authorizes amending the 2012 Grants Budget by appropriating grant revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$17,400 to support the B&ECPL's efforts to supplement e-Book use and download training, and be it further

RESOLVED, the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library Board of Trustees authorizes the use of \$2,600 from the Library Fund Designated Fund Balance for Grant Match and budget this amount should the grant be awarded.

Agenda Item I.2 - LSTA Summer Reading Program 2012. Ms. Batt presented this resolution. Ms. Panty moved for approval. Ms. Thomas made a second. Ms. Leary questioned considering corporate sponsorships and putting out proposals. Ms. Jakubowski agreed and indicated the Library would seek additional funding via corporate sponsorships and fundraising efforts. She noted the LSTA Summer Reading Grant is an invitational as opposed to a competitive grant made available annually through the NYS D.O.E. Division of Library Development. The Chair called for a vote. Approval of Resolution 2012-8 was unanimous.

RESOLUTION 2012-8

WHEREAS, 36,494 children and teens participated in the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library (B&ECPL) 2011 Summer Reading Program, and

WHEREAS, the B&ECPL is eligible to apply for a mini-grant of \$12,000 which will be used to purchase supplies and materials, as well as fund performances in support of the 2012 Statewide Summer Reading Programs for children *Dream Big: READ* and teens *Own the Night*, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the B&ECPL Board of Trustees approves the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) application to obtain a mini-grant of \$12,000 for the 2012 Statewide Summer Reading Program and authorizes the Library Director to submit that application, and be it further

RESOLVED, that if the grant application is awarded in the requested amount, the B&ECPL Board of Trustees authorizes amending the 2012 Grants Budget by appropriating grant revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$12,000 to support the 2012 Summer Reading Program.

Before adjournment, Trustee Panty acknowledged and expressed her appreciation of County Executive Mark Poloncarz's representative in attendance, Leonard Williams.

There being no further business, on motion by Ms. Leary and a second by Ms. Panty, the meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Panty
Secretary



Monthly Report of Library System Activity March 15, 2012

1. PUBLIC SERVICES

Programs, Learning Opportunities, Outreach and Events

The B&ECPL Legislative Briefing and Breakfast was held on February 29th at the Central Library. Legislators Joseph Lorigo and Edward Rath, III, in addition to Deputy Clerk of the Legislature James J. Cerroni, Jr. who represented Legislators Timothy R. Hogues, Thomas A. Loughran, Lynn M. Marinelli, Thomas J. Mazur and Terrence D. McCracken and Karla Thomas who represented Legislator Betty Jean Grant were present. B&ECPL Board of Trustees Chair Jack Connors, Vice Chair Sharon Thomas, Secretary Elaine Panty, Trustees Amy Alvarez-Perez, Ted Johnson and Sharon Kelly were also present as well as members of the Administrative Team. This writer provided attendees a PowerPoint presentation which included a brief history of the B&ECPL, budget information and an overview of the special legislative district option being explored by the Board of Trustees. Many excellent questions and suggestions were offered. The program concluded with a brief "movie" created by Development and Communications Officer **Joy Testa Cinquino** that reflected on our 37 locations and 2011 circulation, visits, programming and computer statistics.

The following attended Library Education Day in Albany on Monday and Tuesday, March 5th and 6th: Library Trustee Elaine Panty, Director **Mary Jean Jakubowski**, Assistant Deputy Directors **Jeannine Doyle**, **Dawn Peters** and **Joy Testa Cinquino**, **Roseanne Butler-Smith** and **Lucy Stanton** (Amherst Libraries), **Jack Edson** (Hamburg Libraries) and **Shannon Jakubowski** (Marilla Free Library). The contingency met with state elected officials from Erie County to advocate for continued support of state library funding and for the creation of the Library District.

Mary Jean Jakubowski, **Jeannine Doyle** and Assistant Deputy Director - Workforce Development **Doreen Woods** met with Frank A. Cammarata III, Executive Director of the Erie County Office for the Disabled, to discuss future collaborations.

February was a record-breaking month for the Training Lab. Forty-one public technology classes were held for 439 attendees at the Central Library and 17 community

libraries. This represents a 207% increase in attendance compared to February 2011! The overall satisfaction rating was 4.65 out of 5. Public comments included:

- *Very well presented, especially for one whose knowledge of use of the computer was practically non-existent. Gives incentive to learn more.*
- *The computer trainings have been helpful. I have used what I have learned and applied it to my job.*
- *Have recently taken training classes for change to electronic charting at hospitals - that training was almost unintelligible - yours was excellent.*
- *Since attending these computer classes I feel more comfortable using my computer at work. Thanks.*
- *Happy to be able to use my brand new Kindle in the Library System.*
- *Keep this program! I'm increasing my annual contribution!*
- *These are great training programs. Please continue with them even if we have to pay something.*

Community Library staff comments included:

- *The community expressed a high excitement level for this class. Again, with sincere appreciation, I am so grateful for all you do.*
- *Nearly all of the attendees stopped by the desk w/ positive feedback of the class.*
- *Thank you for presenting this class! The public loves them!*

The Training Team continues to develop and update classes. Central Training Lab Coordinator **Kara Stock** updated *Introduction to Twitter*, *Internet Intermediate*, *Introduction to the Library Website*, *Google It*, and *Searching for eBooks and Audiobooks on the Library's Website*. Technology Trainer **Nell Aranoff** debuted the *Introduction to WordPress Blogging* class that she wrote.

Trainers **Nell Aronoff** and **Andy Aquino** produced screencasts about e-Library. Nell's *Performing a Basic Search in the e-Library Catalog* (<http://bit.ly/w8ERUy>), released during the first full week of February, has 275 views on the Training Lab's YouTube channel. Andy's *Using the e-Library Catalog's My Account Feature* (<http://bit.ly/zRumwH>), uploaded on February 24th, has 108 views.

The much-anticipated *Downloads 2 Go* classes for the public kicked off at the West Seneca Public Library on February 1st. The session also served as a salute to Digital Learning Day, a nationwide celebration of innovative teaching and learning through digital media and technology. Student feedback has been very positive. Training Lab staff continues to modify the class based on the devices attendees bring to the sessions, with Kindles dominating.

The 2012 Adult Winter Reading Challenge "Get Wrapped Up in a Good Book" concluded on February 29th and was a great success with 496 reviews being submitted.

Winter reading participants were asked to write brief book reviews, each of which counted as an entry in a prize drawing. The more book reviews participants submitted, the more chances they had to win. The grand prize was a Kindle Fire!

During the online registration process, participants identified their local libraries and from this breakdown winners were selected at a local library level. There were entries from 32 libraries and each library had 1 winner. They received: a travel book light, a B&ECPL fleece blanket, travel mug, and assorted coffees, teas and hot chocolates to help them get wrapped up in a good book.

The grand prize winner of the Kindle Fire was **Heather McCarthy-Bryan** from the Kenilworth Library.

February 7th, Information Services and Outreach Librarian **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. The class was presented at Medaille College and was well received by the 108 potential business men and women in attendance. After the class, Dan also allowed attendees the opportunity to apply for a library card. Twenty-six new cards were processed.

February 12th, Information Services and Outreach Librarian **Hadeen Stokes** presented a workshop entitled "Job Search Resources at the B&ECPL" at The Buffalo News Career Fest at the Millennium Hotel in Cheektowaga. The workshop was well received by the 35 jobseekers in attendance.

February 23rd, Information Services & Outreach Librarian **Susan Kriegbaum-Hanks** performed a 2-hour training session focusing on library databases and other information useful to job seekers. The session was held at the Buffalo Employment & Training Center and was well received by all those in attendance.

Throughout February, Programming, Information Services and Outreach librarians conducted 18 Book a Librarian sessions with members of the public. Many of these were small business related as the Small Business Administration and its advisors are conducting classes on how to write your business plan. After each class, SBA members recommend that these potential business men and women come to the library and utilize our resources.

Throughout February, e-Branch answered approximately 128 calls per weekday and a total of 459 "Contact Us" requests for information were answered. There were 1108 lending ILL requests (libraries asking for our materials be sent), and 581 borrower requests (patrons using us to borrow materials from other libraries). One of the major inquiries asked through e-Branch regards e-Reader technical support. Library

Associate **Kathy Schultz** has taken the lead in answering many of these questions and shared her knowledge with the rest of the Public Services staff.

Grosvenor Room Librarian **Sue Cutrona** created a PowerPoint presentation on local history and genealogy resources available in the Grosvenor Room for students in an "Information & Research Basics" course at Trocaire College.

"Some Things Fishy in Rare Books: Izaak Walton's *Compleat Angler* and Other Fish Tales" opened on February 7th as the latest rare book exhibit curated by Rare Book Librarian **Amy Pickard**. On display are several editions of *The Compleat Angler*, other rare and significantly illustrated fish and fishing books, fishing artifacts and examples of fish lithography. In addition to the Library's material, included in this exhibit are books loaned by a private collector who wishes to remain anonymous, the Fish Pond Game (ca. 1890) loaned by the Strong Museum in Rochester and fishing tackle loaned by various staff members. Graphic designers **Darlene Pennachi** and **Dawn Stanton**, again, came up with very creative ways to enhance and make inviting the exhibit as a whole. Grosvenor Room music display, "Fishing Time," was completed by Grosvenor Room Librarian **Carol Pijacki**.

February 18th, Grosvenor Room Librarian **Rhonda Konig** attended a Western New York Genealogical Society Board meeting.

February 21st, Literally Speaking Lunchtime Book Discussion for the title *Before I Forget* by Leonard Pitts, Jr., was led by **Carol Pijacki**. She also conducted 2 short Grosvenor Room tours for 4 patrons.

February 25th, **Rhonda Konig** gave a presentation about Grosvenor Room genealogy resources to the Niagara County Genealogical Society at the Niagara County Historical Society Museum in Lockport. Twenty-eight people attended and several members are planning a trip to the Grosvenor Room as a result of the lecture.

February 13th, Rare Book Room Librarian **Charles Alaimo** gave an impromptu group discussion and display of the cuneiform cones and tablets from the Rare Book Room for 2 teachers and 8 students from the Aurora Waldorf School. Studying *Gilgamesh*, the class was highly impressed with the temple documents from ancient Babylonia, circa 2350-2150 B. C.

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

- "Imagining Buffalo" series -
 - 2/7 - John Siskar, Buffalo State College (48);
 - 2/14 - Thomas Herrera-Mishler, Olmsted Parks Conservancy (65);

- 2/21 - Ginny O'Brien Lohr, artist (31);
 - 2/28 - Thomas Yots, Preservation Buffalo Niagara (65) .
- Working for Downtown Brown Bag Lunch series:
 - 2/1 - Buffalo Public Schools Interim Superintendent Amber Dixon (28).
- BPOvations @ the Library series:
 - 2/8 - Central (38);
 - 2/8 - OPK (39);
 - 2/15 - AUD (55).
- Squeaky Wheel Channels Video series:
 - 2/2 - Riverkeeper (12);
 - 2/9 - Resurrection Church neighborhood (10);
 - 2/16 - Peace Bridge neighborhood (18);
 - 2/23 - Clean Air Coalition (20).
- UNYTS Community Blood Drive 2/22.
- "Eye on History" series with Eva Doyle:
 - 2/10 - "Teaching African American History in the Schools, Part 1" (54);
 - 2/17 - "Part 2" (35).
- Program "Understanding the Affordable Care Act" 2/15 (12).
- Buffalo Broadcasters program "The Way We Were - Jack Benny" 2/24 (18).
- Chess @ the Library Open House 2/26 (15).
- Author Talk: Frances Schmidt, "Handling Job Search Stress" 2/29 (7).
- Planning meetings for future collaborations/programs with Young Audiences of WNY, Summer Reading Kickoff, Music is Art, Literacy Volunteers, Occupy Buffalo.
- Coordinate copy and layout for centralized Women's History Month calendar - partnership with Erie County. Plan logistics and program for Women's History Month Kickoff, Central, on March 1st.

The Graphics Department worked on the following projects in February:

- Rare Book Room - Fishing Display
- Kids Choice flyer - create and distribute
- Renovation signs and bookmarks - KNM/KNL, JBR/REI, LNC
- Signs for ECL, RIV, EDL, WSE, CFD, AKR, JBR, DUD, GRI, TON
- Grosvenor Room - Fishing Music Display
- CEN - Self Check-Out signage and stickers
- CFD - children's area decorations - finished up
- Snapshot - Day in the Life poster
- Computer Training brochure

- Children's Programs flyer – April & May

The Children's Programming Team was back on the road this month as story hours, Lapsits, Toddler Times and special programs began their winter/spring session. The Team presented 97 programs to an audience of 1,794 children and families.

Programs - Central

"Get Your Game on Saturday" with Sr. Page **Meg Hepburn** was the first of 2 programs scheduled for Saturday, February 4th. The children who attended played the Wii, GameCube and board games. Storyteller Sharon Holley presented a program to kick off Black History Month. Sharon had an audience of about 45 children and adults who listened to her tell folktales from Africa, stories about the Underground Railroad and famous African Americans. She did a "Call and Response" story from Africa that had the audience on their feet!

The Central Library's very special Valentine Party took place on a very cold and snowy Saturday, February 11th. Miss Kasey and 8 children had a good time playing Valentine lawn darts and Valentine bingo. After listening to an excerpt from *Junie B. Jones and the Mushy Gushy Valentine*, the children watched the classic *A Charlie Brown Valentine* movie while making their Valentines.

On February 18th, the Pizza Lover's Book Club had an excellent turnout. Twenty-seven children and their families listened as Librarian **Mary Ann Budny** talked about several books about famous African Americans. Afterward, 9 children shared their favorite books with the rest of the club. The children also made a craft and ate pizza!

Miss Kasey and the Lego Club met on Saturday, February 25th. This month's theme was undersea mysteries. The children learned about the deepest part of the ocean, deep sea creatures and the mystery of Atlantis. They made up their own Lego shipwrecks including the Titanic and sea creatures.

Children had their winter break the week of February 21st through February 24th. During that week there were DIY crafts and board games available for the children to play between 1-3 p.m. in the Kid's Space.

Miss Nancy's Hold My Hand Story Hour was held each Wednesday in February. The little ones who attended were treated to songs and stories. Each child also made crafts to take home.

On February 13th, 10th and 11th, grade students from the Waldorf School in East Aurora visited the Central Library. Librarian **Kathy Goodrich** gave them a tour and a brief

lesson on databases as well as how to search the online library catalog. The teachers and students were thrilled when Kathy showed them the databases.

On February 9th, the Bennett Park Montessori pre-K visited the library for a special Valentine's Day story hour. Librarian **Meagan Carr** read stories and the children created owls out of hearts. They also went on a heart scavenger hunt!

On February 16th, **Meagan Carr** presented a special story hour for the kindergarten students of Enterprise Charter School. The theme was the 5 senses which the students were learning about in school. Meagan read 3 stories about sight and had the children participate in a very smelly activity where they had to guess an object based on the smell. The children listened to sound effects to guess what they were by using their sense of hearing.

Programs - Branches - City and Town

The special programs this month were "Pinkalicious", "Wild About the West" and "Don't Let the Pigeon Come to this Program".

"Pinkalicious" was presented at the Clearfield, Elma, Lakeshore, North Collins, Julia Boyer Reinstein, Niagara, Anna Reinstein, Eggertsville and North Park Libraries. "Pinkalicious" based on the popular children series by Victoria Kann, has been an extremely popular program. Each program had the maximum number of children registered and often there was a waiting list. At this program children frosted pink cupcakes, made crowns and magic wands, played a unicorn toss game and listened to stories from the *Pinkalicious* stories.

Librarian **Mary Ann Budny** presented "Wild about the West" at the Hamburg Library on February 23rd. Each child received a badge and pledged "to read every day and visit the library often." After their "swearing in" and stories, the children played the game "lasso the cactus" and made a western scene using Ellison cutouts and fun foam shapes.

"Don't Let the Pigeon Come To This Program" is based on the books by Mo Willems and was presented at the Kenmore Library by Library Associate **Cyndy Lenzner**. The children listened to stories from the pigeon series and played a hot dog game from the pigeon books. They also made and decorated a pigeon door hanger to take home.

Preschool, Lapsit and toddler story hours were held at libraries across Erie County this month.

On February 13th, the children attending Miss Kasey's story hour celebrated Valentine's Day early. The children listened to the stories *Kiss Kiss* and *No More Kissing* about the

special people in their lives. After the books they learned a little sign language (how to say "I love you" in ASL).

Librarian **Kathy Goodrich** attended a Buffalo School Library System Council on February 16th.

Librarians **Kathy Goodrich** and **Claudia B. Yates** attended a 2012 summer reading planning meeting at the Nioga Library System on February 29th. This was a wonderful opportunity to network with librarians from another system and share ideas.

YMCA at the Family Court - staff continues to present stories, songs and puppets to the children.

Clarence Library volunteer Carol Ann Strahl and Librarian **Pat Covley** each contributed book reviews for the *Buffalo Rising* website in February.

Collection Development staff responded to 347 patron purchase suggestions and 169 staff suggestions in February.

Crane Library welcomed the Wordflight Poetry Reading Series to the meeting room again this month.

Crane Library's Book Club met and discussed *The Good Daughters*.

Attendance for computer classes at the Crane Branch was at an all time high. Classes included *Skype*, *Ancestry*, and *EBay*.

On February 27th, **Cindy Lenzner** of the Children's Programming Team presented a Pinkalicious program at Niagara Branch. Approximately 18 children and some of their parents heard pink stories, made wands and crowns, and decorated pink cupcakes.

Niagara Branch Library Associate **Tami Linkowski** presented Wild Craft Wednesdays this month. This month's crafts included: ground hog pop-ups, Valentine's cards, African masks, peace wreaths and a bookmark. The children always look forward to this event.

Board Game Night was held for children on February 6th at the Niagara Branch. It is interesting to watch how children, who are so used to games being something that are played on the computer, interact with board games.

TEAM Buffalo met every Tuesday in February. They performed a variety of science-based activities for school-aged children.

Riverside Branch Manager **Brian Hoth** conducted outreach to Niagara Day Care on February 10th. On Wednesday, February 15th, **Brian Hoth** made his monthly visit to Holy Cross Head Start and read stories about numbers and letters to 7 classes of 126 prekindergarten children and their teachers. He also dropped off 7 classroom collections. Brian's next visit is scheduled for March 14th.

Nancy Smith, from the Children's Programming Team, held preschool story time on Monday's at the North Park Library. All of the children who attended were read a story by the always entertaining Miss Nancy. They danced like crazy and did a craft to end their story time. In total 23 children and 21 adults attended the story times.

North Park Sr. Page **Sarah Barry** ran the Crazy Craft Monday program on 3 Mondays in February. In all, 22 children and 10 adults attended the Crazy Craft Mondays.

Sean Goodrich ran the Wiikends program every Friday and Saturday in February. In total, 10 children and 9 adults played Wii during these hours.

Sean Goodrich and **Sarah Barry** ran a Valentine's Day Party on Wednesday, February 8th from 4-5 p.m. The children who attended made Valentine's Day cards for their special valentine, played a matching game and were treated to cupcakes specially baked by Sarah.

Children's Librarian **Kerra Alessi** ran a Pinkalicious Party at North Park on Wednesday, February 28th, from 4-5 p.m. Everyone who attended played games, heard stories and made crafts.

Thursday, February 9th, was the start of Game Night. Board games included: Twister, Sorry, Trouble, Monopoly, and Jenga. This program is held on Thursdays from 4-8 p.m. Twenty-two children attended every week for the month.

On Friday, February 10th, **Brian Hoth** made his monthly visit to Niagara Daycare and presented a program on Valentine's Day to 3 classes of 19 preschool students and their teachers. The children heard stories, sang songs, played a game, and afterwards, made a Valentine's Day card.

Saturday, February 11th, was the start of Lego Club. Nineteen children attended every week for the month.

Wednesday, February 14th, was the start of preschool story time with Mr. Brian. A total of 51 children and adults attended in February.

On Thursday, February 16th, students from the work-readiness program at Journey's End Refugee Center returned for a class on job training with 17 students participating.

The students learned basic job searching skills using the Internet taught by a work-readiness instructor. Technical Specialist **John Sloma** was on hand to assist. **Brian Hoth** conducted a library tour for the group and registered them for library cards.

Central Children's Librarian **Kerra Alessi** held 3 preschool story hours at the East Clinton Library for a total of 9 attendees.

Dudley Library patron Teresa Gutowski won the Sesame Street tickets. She said, "Thank you so much! If I didn't win these through the library, I wouldn't have been able to take the kids to the show!"

Dudley Library Branch Manager **Suzanne Colligan** provided Cub Scout Pack 336 with a library tour on February 25th. There were 5 Scouts and 5 adults. They wanted to learn more about the library so they could earn a badge.

Preschool story hour started up at Dudley Library on February 6th. Central Children's Librarian **Kerra Alessi** had 25 adults and children for her first 2 sessions. The participants are thrilled to have her and have really enjoyed the stories and crafts she provides.

UNYTS stopped by Dudley Library for a blood drive on February 9th with 6 donors participating.

In the days leading up to Mardi Gras, Dudley Library had a "Make and Take" program where children were given the basics for a craft and then they would drop in to the library at various times and "make it" and "take it". This coincided with school vacation.

Dudley Library held a *Google It* computer class which 4 people attended on February 23rd.

The momentum for East Delavan's Lego Club and TEAM Buffalo picked up this month with many of its faithful participants returning to the program. The members of TEAM Buffalo have a great idea to make a presentation to parents while their children are conducting a science experiment. Parent involvement is a goal of TEAM Buffalo so that more of them will understand the program and spread the word to other parents.

East Delavan Branch Manager **Gwen Collier** provided outreach services to CAO Ferry where the theme this month was bugs! She provided outreach to 4 classes with a total of 74 participants.

On February 1st, Erie County Legislator Betty Jean Grant kicked off the month with a program celebrating Black History Month at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library with the theme "Black History: Run and Tell That!" - attendance reached 60.

Free tax assistance began at the Merriweather Library on February 2nd and will continue every Thursday evening through April 11th sponsored by the IRS Volunteer Tax Assistance Program (VITA).

In celebration of writing the "Eye On History" column for the past 33 years, columnist Eva Doyle kicked off her anniversary year with a program on February 4th at the Merriweather Library. The program theme "Beyond Black History Month: A Challenge to the Community" featured music, poets, singers and speakers. Mrs. Doyle will continue her anniversary recognition with a series of 33 films and lectures at both Central and Merriweather Libraries; 103 were in attendance.

On February 7th, a panel appointed to review and recommend operational changes for the Buffalo Police Department held the first in a series of 3 public meetings at the Merriweather Library to gather input on its work. The "Joint Commission to Examine Police Reorganization", which was formed in 2010 to perform the first external review of police operations in 2 decades, is preparing a written report with a series of recommendations.

On Saturday, February 11th, storytellers Karima Amin and Sharon Holley, and vocalist Joyce Carolyn, presented their annual program: "Along This Way: Storytelling in the African Tradition" at the Merriweather Library; 53 attended.

A community forum, "What's Going on at the Erie County Holding Center?" was held at the Merriweather Library on February 15th with panelists Mary Pat Fleming, Chief of the civil division of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Buffalo; Nan L. Haynes, an attorney and law lecturer who sits on the Erie County Community Corrections Advisory Board; and Legislator Timothy R. Hogues, Chairman of the County Legislature's Public Safety Committee. The public discussion, organized by 3 community groups, focused on recent events at the Holding Center, including the status of efforts by the U.S. Department of Justice to monitor improvements at the jail; 68 attended.

The Merriweather Library held a "Craft Night" with Ms. Laura on February 16th and had 12 enthusiastic participants.

On February 16th, Group Ministries AIDS Leadership Coalition presented a National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Concert that featured the New Beginnings Chorale Ensemble, poet James Hall, author Jasmine Morgan and the East High Panthers Vocal Ensemble at the Merriweather Library; 55 attended.

The 35th annual Carter G. Woodson Essay Contest program was held on Saturday, February 18th, at the Merriweather Library. An audience of 100 listened to the winning students read their essays on the theme "A Salute to African American Businesses in Western New York".

A 2-hour black history awareness forum — "Saving Our Youth for Tomorrow — Who Are You Really?" — was held on Saturday, February 18th, at the Merriweather Library. It covered ancient Egypt/Kemet, the Moorish presence in medieval Europe, the African presence in early America, black Hebrews, black inventors and important recent black figures. The forum was sponsored by Starr Connexions.

On Sunday, February 19th, Mrs. Eva Doyle held a program "Dressing Up For Black History" at the Merriweather Library for students in grades 4-12. The students in the competition portrayed different African Americans who have made a difference from past history to present.

Catholic Health System sponsored a "Wellness Event" at the Merriweather Library with free blood pressure, diabetes and cholesterol screenings on February 28th.

Assistant Deputy Director for Public Services **Dawn Peters** visited the 8 Buffalo City Branch Libraries to tour the branches and meet the staff.

East Delavan Library's Sr. Page **Paula Gilbert** created a lovely window display on Maya Angelou for African American History. One patron said that it makes you want to stop and read it! Another said that our library looks "100% nicer"! This is also due to the creative efforts of the Graphics Department at Central — **Dawn Stanton** and **Darlene Pennachi** who have done a wonderful job with new signage, posters and an overall "sprucing up" of the library.

East Delavan continues to put the Wii out on Saturdays from 12-2 p.m. The Wii program was conducted twice this month with a total of 7 participants.

Nurse Linda Smith from Roswell set up an informational table about cancer at the East Delavan Library on February 22nd.

On February 24th, the East Delavan Library and Sandi Williams (Army Veteran) presented "The Wereth Eleven" film — a little known documentary about African American soldiers who served with the 333rd Field Artillery Battalion during WWII. This free film screening was followed by a special guest speaker Mr. Russell A. Guthrie, recipient of the Purple Heart and Presidential Volunteer Services Award, for his time in WWII in which he served under General Patton; 32 attended.

Contracting Member Library Activity Reports

Eden Library – submitted by Joyce Maguda, Library Director

Celebrating a Century of Service 1911 – 2011 – Special events: 157 people enjoyed Mike Randall's "Mark Twain Live" last April; over 100 people attended a gala celebration dinner in May; an Open House held in November closed out the 100th year festivities!

Yarn Club members, under the guidance of Senior Library Clerk **Helga Antonou**, have now donated nearly 2000 items to various charities since September 2007. Last October, the group was featured on Channel 2's "Good Neighbors" segment. In December, the group was honored by the Quota Club of Amherst for their charitable works!

The Friends of Eden Library's third calendar photo contest was again a success, and 2012 calendars are currently on sale. The Friends continue to support library programming, as well as biannual sessions of "Antique Appraisers."

Images of America – Eden by Susan Minekime (former Eden Library Manager) is available for purchase. The library's nonfiction collection has been enriched with special titles since the fall of 2010, through the generosity of Laing Funeral Home Inc.'s monthly memorial donations.

New outdoor lighting was installed, and shrubs planted to enhance library grounds. Parking lot flooding during heavy rains continues to be a major concern. The county has been notified of this ongoing problem.

Looking ahead: National Library Week programs; Spring Book Sale April 25 – 28; Juggling and Balloon Sculpture workshops; computer classes; author talks; Legos; Book Club and summer!

Grand Island Memorial Library – submitted by Lynn Alan Konovitz, Director

Demand for services at the Grand Island Memorial Library has reached new all time highs. A family program, Nickel City Reptiles, held during the February school break attracted a standing room only crowd of over 225 people. The interest and enthusiasm for our school break programs has forced us to hold 2 sessions of our next program on April 11th featuring Carmen Presti of the Primate Sanctuary.

Adult computer classes also have been extremely popular at the Grand Island Memorial Library. Again, demand has outpaced supply. Fortunately, **Kara Stock** has graciously allowed us double sessions of the Cyber Train for many of our classes. New B&ECPL

computer classes have attracted 36 registrants for *eBay* and 31 for *Ancestry* as of this time. Patrons continue to request more computer classes.

Our 2 "regular" preschool story hours have 24 and 25 participants. The toddler program has 23 children and with their caregiver, a class of 46 fills up our meeting room! Youth Services Librarian **Anne Slater** continues to have a big following with more programs constantly requested.

In addition to our in-house children's programming, we continue to work closely with our local schools. **Dawn Stanton** and the graphics team have designed bookmarks that we have donated to 2 schools for their PARP (Parents As Reading Partners) programs this month. **Anne Slater** will act as a guest reader at the Kaegebein Elementary School later this month.

At long last, our digitization grant for the Grand Island Dispatch is finishing up. Through the efforts of the Western New York Library Resources Council, our local history will be available over the Internet for all researchers to share.

The month of March features a UNYTS blood drive and the conclusion of our children's story hours and adult computer classes. On March 30th and 31st, the Friends of the Grand Island Memorial Library will be holding a used book sale. The proceeds from this event will help the library fund its programs throughout the year

Collections: Development and Use

As was previously reported, awards have been made by the Erie County Department of Purchasing (Bid Number 211382-005) for Books & Non-Print Library Materials and Related Ancillary Services for the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library. Ingram Library Services is now the Library's primary vendor for all print materials and audio books on CD. Baker & Taylor received the top award for DVD and Blu-Ray purchases. The competitive bid process and resultant 2-year agreement help to insure that the B&ECPL will acquire new and replacement items in the most cost effective manner. The awards also provide the flexibility to obtain items in a timely manner coinciding with publishing trends as well as public interest and demand.

Technical Services Librarians **Maureen McLaughlin** and **Jennifer Childs** presented a brief overview of Floating Audiobook procedures at the February 8th Managers' meeting.

Maureen McLaughlin and **Jennifer Childs** began working with representatives from Ingram Library Services, the company that was recently awarded a primary vendor contract to supply the Library with print materials, audiobooks, and music CD's. A

preliminary phone discussion on February 15th addressed ordering and invoicing needs; shipping and delivery requirements; and cataloging and processing options. On February 29th, a WebEx training session introduced the grid capabilities of Ingram's online ordering site, iPage. Testing will begin as soon as B&ECPL information is entered into the company's system. Training tailored to Collection Development staff will follow.

Catalog Department staff recorded an impressive 78% increase in the number of new titles cataloged, compared to February 2011.

Sr. Page **Austin Clark** along with **Rhonda Konig** scanned and printed an index to miscellaneous Erie County records from microfilm, to make the relatively unknown resource more accessible to patrons. The records contain genealogy rich materials such as military discharge papers, adoption records, marriage certificates and wills.

After a behind-the-scenes look at the AKAG's art storage system given by Professor Walsh of Buffalo State's Art Conservation Department, **Amy Pickard** and **Charles Alaimo** implemented methods for arranging and protecting framed prints in the RBR. **Jason Barone** cut archival corrugated boards and spaced shelf brackets to achieve the following protective and orderly system.

All of the Central Library's children media items are now housed in the Media Room.

Freegal Music downloads continue to be popular. In February, 736 patrons downloaded a total of 4,751 titles.

In February, 545 downloadable eBooks were added to the Library's collection. A total of 20,142 eBook titles were downloaded by patrons in February compared to 7,585 in February of 2011.

2. FUNDING

Finances

No report this month.

3. OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Mary Schiffhauer has placed orders for the children's area and special displays at the Crane Branch. New display units have arrived, along with animals and a rug for the children's space. The children's area looks fabulous!

On February 15th, Fire Safety Systems installed an electric strike on the main floor door leading to the basement at the Niagara Branch. It is operated with a wireless key fob. The security guard can now control access to the basement from almost anywhere in

the building. This installation represents a big improvement that allows for better security for the public while maintaining relative ease of access.

Technology

The Central Library became the 19th B&ECPL location to offer full RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) self check-out service on February 21st. Nine self-check machines are located throughout the public areas with concentration in the Media Room and near Borrower Services. Project Coordinator **Kelly Donovan** instructed a significant percentage of the staff, from librarians to pages, on how to use the self-check and how to best assist patrons. Several automatic override capabilities were deployed at all self-check stations in February. These improvements have significantly reduced the number of checkout errors and greatly facilitate the self-check process.

From creating signage to shifting materials, all staff members worked tirelessly to get ready for the new RFID check-out to begin at Central. An incredible job of removing all security cases in the Media Room was undertaken by the pages and senior pages of Central. Congratulations to **Jacob Maracle** for coordinating the removal of thousands of CD and DVD security devices in one day.

RFID tagging and encoding continues at the Kenmore and Kenilworth Libraries. Both locations are scheduled for gate installation in April.

Library IT Administrator **Stephen Hovey** developed a utility to provide staff with an expedient way to address patron library card renewals that were impacting OverDrive Holds and Wish Lists. OverDrive needs to be notified to merge a new card number when a change is made. The new utility provides staff with a simple convenient desktop utility that handles collecting, reporting and e-mailing the appropriate information using an automated submission.

Stephen Hovey wrote a door count utility program to facilitate the monitoring, recording and tabulation of daily library visits. Pursuant to library feedback, modifications were made to allow staff to enter data for any date. In addition, the collection of CompuCount (RFID branch counter) data was automated, relieving those branches of the burden of daily checking and data entry. The automation solution e-mails a notification if a counter is not functioning correctly. A similar project is also under way to automate door count reporting related to the newest generation of RFID gate counters.

Stephen Hovey visited 3 System libraries during the month:

1. Clarence: to review connectivity and hardware issues associated with a proposed collaboration with their local school district. The goal is to install a software product called Lexia which would be used to support student needs outside the school environment.
2. Tonawanda: to rearrange equipment and profiles as well as answer questions and assess networking and computer needs.
3. Lancaster: to assist with the planning for additional cabling and hardware to support a technology build-out, associated with a refurbishing project which will include carpet replacement and facilitate floor cabling.

Other Technology Updates:

- Java software was updated on public PCs to release 31 to address user needs.
- Technology Field Specialist **Mike Grabek** addressed a problem with EnvisionWare printing of guest passes for use with B&ECPL public computers. New receipt printers had been acquired and the font size was too large to support the character print-out requirements. Mike resolved the issue by implementing an upgrade to both the servers and client software.
- **Maureen McLaughlin** identified a software incompatibility between e-library and Firefox 10.0 and higher, which was causing users of the latter to be unable to navigate properly between screens. When a solution could not be identified, **Stephen Hovey** wrote a modification to that software to fix the problem.

The Library's website Subject Guides received 1,160 unique visitors from 16 countries in February. The most popular Subject Guides were Music, Genealogy, Small Business, and Virtual Database Tours.

Grosvenor Room Librarian **Rhonda Konig** and Senior Page **Jason Barone** digitized Grosvenor Room publication *Buffalo Deaths 1882-1892* and it has been placed on the Grosvenor Genealogy Subject Guides webpage.

For the month of February, **Hadeen Stokes** completed the write up on the African American Resource Subject Guide for The Resource of the Month also tying in with Black History Month.

The Database Interface Committee met on February 15th. The committee is now fine-tuning the design of the new page. The goal of the committee is to replace in April the current federated search of the databases. Committee members include IT Administrator **Stephen Hovey**, Computer Operator **Sandy Sywak** and Librarians **Dawn Peters**, **Meg Cheman**, **Pat Covley**, **Angela Pierpaoli**, **Kristine Sutton**, **Hadeen Stokes** and **Ken Wierzbowski**.

Dawn Peters, Maureen McLaughlin, Meg Cheman, Angela Pierpaoli, Hadeen Stokes and Pat Covley attended an EBSCO Discovery Service webinar on February 10th.

Pat Covley attended a Baker & Taylor Axis 360 webinar on February 23rd. Axis 360 is Baker & Taylor's eBook platform.

Staff Development

On February 8th, Western New York Library Resources Council (WNYLRC) Digital Services Library conducted a site visit with Catalog Department Librarian **Allison Lund** to review CONTENTdm software functionality and metadata best practices. The digital collection management software will be used to upload, describe, and manage B&ECPL-produced digital collections than can be accessed through the New York Heritage research portal (<http://www.nyheritage.org>).

Deputy Director **Carol Batt** attended a 2-day administrator orientation program with the Division of Library Development (DLD) in Albany, NY February 29 - March 1. The program included a tour of the New York State Research Library as well as a series of sessions which provided an overview of state administered grants, services and annual reporting requirements.

Jennifer Childs attended a Preservation Committee meeting at the Western New York Resources Council on February 29th.

February 6th, B&ECPL's Security and Human Resources Departments began a staff training course entitled "Adult Content Viewing Guidelines." The training explains the tools and procedures available to staff when a patron reports discomfort while others view adult content on library computers. The one-hour training sessions are the first of ongoing sessions to be conducted.

February 14th, Information Services Librarian **Peter Lisker** provided Disabilities Room training for 6 Computer Services desk staff members and on February 16th provided database training for Librarian **Rebecca Pieszala**.

Throughout the month of January, Programming and Outreach librarians have settled into a schedule to fill the service hours at the Erie County Correctional Facility branch library. Here they provided services to inmates including submitting interlibrary loan requests, obtaining court cases and other legal information and checking out materials from the series, graphic novel and high-demand collections.

February 16th, **Carol Pijacki** attended the Squeaky Wheel Women in Film lunchtime program: *Living in the Shadow of the Bridge*, pertaining to local history, Peace Bridge truck traffic, and the health problems of nearby residents.

February 23rd, **Sue Cutrona** attended Library Journal webinar: LJ webinar: "How to Use Census 2010 Data."

February 7th, **Kerra Alessi** attended Booklist's webinar "What's New in Children's Literature."

February 24th, System Children Services Coordinator **Claudia B. Yates** attended WNYLRC's Lunchtime Learning webinar on *Library Programming*. Information was shared with Children Services staff.

Librarian **Kathy Smith** held a training session for the non-financial portion of the State report on February 1st at JBR. Librarians **Angela Pierpaoli** and **Kelly Donovan** were observers. Participants worked through the report step by step and left with their non-financial section completed.

February 14th and February 28th, the Collection Development Team staff met with **Dawn Peters** to discuss a variety of issues.

Merriweather Branch Manager Sandra Williams Bush participated in Black History programs at Artspace, Canisius College, Lorraine Academy and the Merriweather Library.

East Delavan Library Branch Manager **Gwen Collier** attended a one-hour webinar on "Vuja De" by author Simon T. Bailey.

4. COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Media Coverage / Media Releases

Joy Testa Cinquino reports the following media releases were sent out:

- Kenmore Library Extends Temporary Closing
- 2/14: Cheektowaga Public Library Public Community Center 1 - year anniversary (covered by the Cheektowaga Bee, Channels 4 & 7, YNN, radio interview with WBFO)
- 2/17: Winter Reading Challenge
- 2/24: Women's History Month, sent to selected media
- 2/29: Anna Reinstein Temporary Closing

Sent the *Buffalo News* a "viewpoints" editorial regarding establishment of a Special District Public Library. The editorial by Jack Connors was in response to a News

editorial that ran on February 26th and an article about the Library System that ran on February 21st. (The *News* ran the editorial on March 7th.)

Members of the Buffalo Genealogical Society of the African Diaspora (BGSAD) were interviewed by Deidre Williams of the *Buffalo News* during their February meeting at the Merriweather Library. A featured article with photo was in the newspaper on February 13th, pg. B1.

The "Annual African American Read-In" was held on Sunday, February 12th, at the Merriweather Library. The event was a featured article with photo in the *Buffalo News* on February 13th.

Library 2.0: Pinterest. The B&ECPL is now on Pinterest! In its own words, Pinterest is "a virtual pinboard. Pinterest allows you to organize and share all the beautiful things you find on the web. You can browse pinboards created by other people to discover new things and get inspiration from people who share your interests." Technology Support Librarian **Angela Pierpaoli** has assumed primary support for the project, exploring all that B&ECPL can do with this fast-growing social media application. We currently have 5 active Boards: Library Locations, Fiction Worth Reading, Non-Fiction Worth Reading, How Do I and Library Blogs. With a soft opening, we received the following Twitter tweets:



KathleenColeAnderson @KMCANDERSON Social media karma=at **@TraversCollins**

Digital 2.0 discussing Pinterest while getting a tweet that **@buffalolibrary** is now pinning!

#tc2you



Jennifer Macey @jennmacey @buffalolibrary I really like the use of Pinterest to give reading suggestions. Great idea! <http://pinterest.com/buffalolibrary/>

Active promotion for the site will begin in March. The page can be viewed at:

<http://pinterest.com/buffalolibrary/>

Library 2.0: Facebook. As of February 28th, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library Facebook page had 2,950 fans, up from 2,905 in January; an increase of 45 fans. Following are some of the February postings:



Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library

With Valentine's Day around the corner, we are asking our Facebook fans to let us know the titles of their favorite "romantic" books. It can be a classic, fiction, non-fiction, etc. Share your favs.



Heidi Lynn Farrell Brown romancing miss bronte



Gina Maria Littlebird Pride and Prejudice. Always.



Arlene Sirkin Stone Jane Eyre



Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library These are great! My choice Gone With the Wind



Linda Meadows Their Eyes Were Watching God



Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library

If your kids are into science, head to the downtown Central Library this Thursday, Feb. 23 from 5 – 6 p.m. for Team Buffalo. Free, geared toward ages 6 -12. For more info, call 858-8900.



4 people like this.

Justin Reitz with Hunt Real Estate This sounds like a gréat program for our city's kids.



Library 2.0: Twitter. As of February 28th, @buffalolibrary, our System Twitter page, had 2,367 followers an increase of 88 followers. In addition to many RTs (re-tweets), tweets mentioning the Buffalo Library included:



Alexandra Miniri @AllieMiniri Browsing e-books for my iPad from @buffalolibrary - pretty cool!



Nick Guy @thenickguy @jennmacey I was in the same camp, but I love my Kindle. Reading more now than I was before, especially with e-loans from @buffalolibrary



Jennifer Macey @jennmacey @thenickguy Oh wow, that's great. I had no idea the @buffalolibrary was doing that for the e-readers!



Adam Justus @CLCLeather Great movie & book! RT @buffalolibrary: The Help by Kathryn Stockett <http://pinterest.com/pin/103160647684395626/> via @pinterest

Library 2.0: Flickr. There were no new photos posted to Flickr in February. "All time" photo views totaled 38,050 up from 37,269 in January; an increase of 781. Our photostream can be viewed here: <http://bit.ly/xDPsx4>.

Partnerships

Library Chief Financial Officer **Ken Stone** and Chief Operating Officer **Carol Batt**, along with Central Library Security Officer **Mike Miechowski** and Assistant Deputy Director **Dawn Peters** met with Dale Zuchlewski and Joyelle Tedeschi from *The Homeless Alliance of Western New York* on February 16th. The meeting facilitated a partnership with *The Homeless Alliance* to insure appropriate access to library users in need of their services.

On February 21st, Librarian **Kathy Goodrich** met with Eva-Marie, Edukonis Marketing Manager for the Theatre of Youth (TOY). They discussed a partnership with the library to cross promote both organizations. As a result of this meeting, the library will have a table at 2 upcoming TOY plays. Also, TOY will have a table at the summer reading kickoff at the Central Library on June 16th. They will also be sending a representative to speak at an upcoming Pizza Lover's book club meeting where they will raffle off tickets to a TOY play.

The first week of February saw 3 new community and health agencies using the Niagara Branch Library for information tables. Roswell Park Breath of Life, the Public

Policy and Education Fund of New York and Alianza Latina held information sessions on a Tuesday and/or Wednesday. Alianza Latina had a successful session and has requested a weekly Tuesday afternoon time slot from now through the end of April to have an informational table set up in the library. The branch is happy to accommodate this request.

On February 24th, Niagara Branch Library Associate **Tami Linkowski**, Manager **Kathryn Galvin**, and West Cluster Manager **Linda Rizzo**, toured the Belle Center on Maryland Street. They learned about much of the progress the agency has made as it has changed its focus from primarily a recreation center to a “cradle to college” learning center. They also received a complete, personal tour of the facility and learned about its many services. In the future, the Belle Center and the branch will discuss collaborating on a literacy promotional event at LaSalle Park this summer.

On February 9th, **Dawn Peters** and City Branch Managers **Nancy Mueller** and **Linda Rizzo** met with Brian Enright, Community Partners Coordinator from the Buffalo Museum of Science, to discuss re-introducing the Branched Out programs in the City Branch Libraries.

On February 13th and 22nd, **Kathy Goodrich** and **Linda Rizzo** met with *Read To Succeed* coalition members to discuss a final draft of the Summer Learning Loss goals, strategies, and benchmarks portion of their 2012 All-America City Grade-Level Reading Award application.

On February 21st, **Linda Rizzo** attended the monthly meeting of the Riverside Business Association.

Brian Hoth discussed the possibility of getting park benches with North District Councilman Joseph Golombek, Jr. He also invited Councilman Golombek and Legislator Lynn Marinelli to his upcoming Open House. Those invited to host a table at the Open House include Natalie Luczkowiak (Public Policy and Education Fund of New York) and Wayne Tahara (Exchange Club).

Brian Hoth has expanded his community outreach with Holy Cross Head Start to include their Central and North Buffalo Centers.

Brian Hoth met with Rose Roa-Higgins from the Boys and Girls Club and Robert Katt from the Town Boys and Girls Clubs to discuss possible outreach and collaborations.

In cooperation with *Read to Succeed Buffalo* (RTSB), East Delavan Library continues to host a story hour which is open to the public, but is geared to RTSB partner day care centers. The program is facilitated by Sr. Page **Nancy Smith** from Children’s

Programming Team and Felicia Santiago from RTSB. Every Friday, the children are here from 10 a.m. until noon. The program includes stories, songs and crafts; lunch is provided by *Read to Succeed*. The theme this month was "ABC's" and "Clifford" followed by a pizza lunch. Approximately 49 patrons participated in the program.

5. SPECIAL PROJECTS

Re-Imagining

The Re-Imagine Committee continues to work with Architectural Resources, et al on considerations for potential improvements to the Central Library. Presentation will be given at a future Executive Committee meeting.

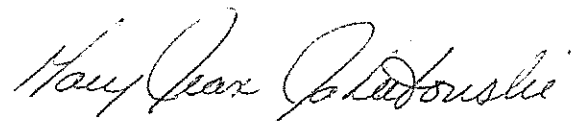
Governance Models

System Trustees, Member Library Trustees and Administration continue to meet to discuss various aspects of regovernance. System Board Chair Jack Connors, Library Director **Mary Jean Jakubowski**, COO **Carol Batt** and CFO **Ken Stone** attended the January 21st meeting of ACT (Association of Contracting Library Boards of Trustees).

Chair Connors, Trustee Wayne Wisbaum, ACT President Suzanne Jacobs, Director **Jakubowski** and CFO **Ken Stone** met with County Executive Mark Poloncarz. The meeting focused on funding stability and governance structure. All agreed to ongoing conversations.

Libby Post of Communication Services has presented multiple training sessions to educate staff (and trustees) on answers to FAQ's pertaining to the district option. Additional sessions are being planned. Ms. Post will provide focused training at the 2012 Annual Trustee Workshop, March 24th. Ellen Bach of Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna continues to work on legislation and MOU development – incorporating suggestions and clarifications as presented by both System and Member Library Trustees. Ms. Bach will also be a presenter at the Trustee Workshop.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Jean Jakubowski
Director

LIST of MEETINGS and EVENTS	
ATTENDED by DIRECTOR MARY JEAN JAKUBOWSKI	
FEBRUARY 2012	
February 1, 2012	Staff Forum: Q&A with Library Director
February 2, 2012	Conference Call - Attorneys Ellen Bach & Patrick Martin
February 2, 2012	State Report - Goals/Objectives
February 7, 2012	Admin Team Meeting
February 7, 2012	Doreen Woods/Jeanne Doyle - HR
February 7, 2012	WNYLRC Business & Finance Meeting
February 8-9, 2012	June Garcia/Susan Kent - Strategic Plan/Facility Visits
February 8, 2012	Managers/Directors Meeting
February 8, 2012	June Garcia - Facilitator Training
February 9, 2012	Read To Succeed Forum
February 9, 2012	B&ECPL Executive Committee Meeting
February 10, 2012	Libby Post/Ellen Bach Conference Call
February 10, 2012	Eva Doyle Remarks
February 10, 2012	Paul Hogan - John B. Oishei Foundation
February 13, 2012	Anti-Bullying Awareness Meeting
February 14, 2012	Grand Opening Computer Center /Julia Boyer Reinstein Library
February 14, 2012	Personnel Grants Training
February 14, 2012	Open Meeting Law Discussion
February 15-17, 2012	Libby Post - Communication Services - Special Legislative District Public Library Training
February 15, 2012	Paul & Stephen Powell - Lawley Insurance
February 15, 2012	State of the City - Mayor Brown Luncheon
February 15, 2012	PLS Directors/State Library Staff Conference Call
February 16, 2012	Meeting with Deputy Director Carol Batt
February 16, 2012	Sue Jacobs, ACT President / Libby Post
February 16, 2012	Meeting with B&ECPL Public Affairs Manager Joy Testa Cinquino - Leg. Educ. Day
February 16, 2012	B&ECPL Trustee Anne Leary - Meeting
February 16, 2012	B&ECPL Board of Trustees Meeting
February 17, 2012	Jack O'Donnell - Bolton St. John
February 17, 2012	Anti-Bullying Awareness Steering Committee
February 23, 2012	Nick Genile -- M&T Bank

February 23, 2012	Admin Team Meeting
February 23, 2012	B&ECPL Chair Jack Connors, Trustee Wayne Wisbaum, ACT President Sue Jacobs
February 23, 2012	Just Buffalo Literary Legacy Awards
February 24, 2012	Team Meeting - Legislative Education Day
February 24, 2012	County Executive Mark Poloncarz - Meeting
February 24, 2012	Meeting with B&ECPL Development & Communications Officer Joy Testa Cinquino
February 28, 2012	Meeting with B&ECPL H.R. Labor Relations Officer Jeannine Doyle
February 28, 2012	Frank Cammarata, Executive Director Erie County Office for the Disabled
February 28, 2012	Legislative Breakfast Team Meeting/Training
February 29, 2012	Annual Legislative Briefing/Breakfast Meeting
February 29, 2012	Ellen Bach Conference Call