

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
March 15, 2012

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library was held on Thursday, March 15, 2012, in the Central Library pursuant to due notice to trustees. The following members were present:

Jack Connors, Chair
Sharon A. Thomas, Vice Chair
Frank Gist, Treasurer
Phyllis A. Horton
Sharon M. Kelly
Anne M. Leary (via telephone)
John G. Schmidt, Jr.
Jennifer Zivis (via telephone)

Chair Jack Connors called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. in the Joseph B. Rounds Conference Room. Trustees Leary and Zivis were in attendance via conference call.

Agenda Item B - Agenda/Changes to the Agenda. The agenda was approved as presented.

Agenda Item C - Minutes of the Meeting of February 16, 2012. The February Minutes were approved unanimously, as corrected, upon motion by Ms. Horton and a second by Ms. Kelly.

Agenda Item D - Report of the Chair. Chair Connors referenced a letter from Jeffrey Cannell, Deputy Commissioner for Cultural Education and Acting State Librarian, of the State Education Department which was distributed to each trustee. This letter confirms the initiative to create a special library district is one that has been part of the NYS Board of Regents recommendations and the NYS Education Department's policy. They have re-endorsed and are supporting those initiatives. The letter confirms and provides further detail on the current governance structures of the B&ECPL and its 22 independent member libraries. He also pointed out that back in November, Governor Cuomo did sign a special legislation for creation of a special legislative district public library and has one more he is expected to sign. A copy of this letter is being sent to elected officials (state, county and local) for their information. Ms. Jakubowski

continues to meet with newly elected officials and they will have this piece of information in front of them.

Trustees were encouraged to attend the annual Trustees Workshop on March 24th.

A flyer was distributed for the Judy Summer Tribute Online Auction supporting the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library System running from April 8 - 30, 2012.

Ms. Jakubowski noted this was the brainchild of former trustee Judy Summer and is being dedicated in memory of her. A wide variety of over 140 items will be available for bidding at www.biddingforgood.com/buffalolibrary and she encouraged trustees to spread the word. Proceeds will be split among the libraries for, at Ms. Summer's request, juvenile and adult programming. Ms. Testa Cinquino mentioned trustees are invited to the March 21st Babel author event presented by Just Buffalo Literary Center, at which Judy Summer's sister will be attending from Chicago. To recognize Ms. Summer's love of the Babel series and the work she put into planning the Library's upcoming online book auction, her close friends and book club members were invited as guests of the Library and Just Buffalo.

Agenda Item E - Committee Reports.

Agenda Item E.1 - Executive Committee. Ms. Thomas read the following report from the Executive Committee meeting held March 8, 2012:

Present: Executive Committee members Jack Connors, Elaine Panty and Sharon Thomas. Trustees Phyllis Horton and Sharon Kelly. Director Mary Jean Jakubowski, CFO Kenneth Stone, COO Carol Batt, and Assistant Deputy Directors Dawn Peters and Doreen Woods, along with consultant June Garcia also attended.

Chair Jack Connors called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. in the Joseph B. Rounds Conference Room of the Central Library.

Mr. Connors introduced the Re-Imagine Team of Susan Kent, Library Strategies International, Peter Murad, Architectural Resources and Jack Poling, MS&R Architects.

Presentation included a brief overview and history of the project. Goal was to "Think Big, Be Bold." Team reminded audience that there were 3 community meetings, 500+ responses to a survey and key stakeholders we called to insure community input. Susan Kent discussed the concept of sharing space and securing cooperative ventures which resonate with constituents. Constituents get excited to have libraries as a hub of the community. The concept presented is to recognize the changes in library services, while keeping its core values while partnering with the community.

Presentation of concepts and recommendations ensued. Lively discussion followed the presentation. A full report will be provided to the Board by late April. Mr. Connors thanked the team for the work they completed to date.

Mr. Stone reviewed Resolution 2012-9 Internet Access Service –RFP Award

Mrs. Jakubowski and Ms. Panty discussed NYLA Legislative Education Day.

The Committee reviewed the agenda for the March 15, 2012 Board of Trustees meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m. on a motion by Ms. Panty, second by Ms. Thomas.

Agenda Item E.2 – Budget and Finance Committee.

Agenda Item E.2.a – Internet Access Service – RFP Award. Deputy Director Kenneth Stone explained this resolution awards the contract to the successful proposer of the Internet Access Service RFP process. This is under the E-rate program and this service is provided through competitive procurement under state/local guidelines and those of the Federal Communications Commissions E-rate program. As such, an RFP was put out, the results came in and the Library’s net share of the estimated \$273,000 five year cost would be approximately \$106,470, with E-rate discounts covering the remaining \$166,530 cost (estimated based upon our present 61% discount rate). He added, the Library had an option to renew but went out to bid to see if we could do better and we did indeed because of the changing market. For a five year agreement the Library will be paying less than it presently is now through June 30, 2016 even with upgrades and bandwidth over that period of time from the present 200Mb service all the way up to 800Mb on July 1, 2016. Mr. Gist moved for approval and was seconded by Ms. Zivis. Following brief discussion regarding wording and savings, Resolution 2012-9 was unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION 2012-9

WHEREAS, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library provides Internet Access Service to the System’s 37 locations, and

WHEREAS, these services are eligible for E-rate program discounts, which currently pay 61% of the cost, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to E-rate program requirements, on January 27, 2012 the Library posted an online *FCC Form 470 Description of Services Requested and Certification* and issued a Request for Proposals (RFP), and

WHEREAS, a total of four (4) vendors submitted proposals in response to the RFP on or before the March 2, 2012 submittal deadline, and

WHEREAS, the Library's RFP review committee determined that the cost for Internet Access Service as proposed by FIBERTECH NETWORKS was lower than the other proposals, and

WHEREAS, the committee's review of vendor qualifications, technical and service proposals found the FIBERTECH NETWORKS proposal as the most highly rated, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library designates the services proposed by FIBERTECH NETWORKS as the lowest cost response for Internet Access Service, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Library Director and/or her designee(s) is authorized to negotiate and execute the necessary documents to enter into a multi-year agreement with FIBERTECH NETWORKS pursuant to the terms and conditions of the RFP that, regardless of starting date, the first term would end June 30, 2017 (coincident with the E-rate funding year) and the agreement would include the option extend for up to two (2) additional periods of five (5) years with mutual agreement between the Library and the contractor, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Library Director and/or her designee(s) is authorized to file all necessary E-rate forms and certifications on or before the respective E-rate filing deadlines throughout the term of this agreement.

Agenda Item F – Report of the Director. Director Jakubowski recapped NYLA's (New York Library Association) Legislative Library Education Day in Albany noting there was a wonderful turnout and they were able to meet with many state representatives themselves or their aides and spoke about state funding as well as the district option. General discussions were held and were very well received. She passed around a letter from Assemblymember Robin Schimminger thanking the Library for attending; while they were unable to see him, they were able to see his Chief of Staff. Ms. Jakubowski plans to have a local meeting with him in the future. She mentioned positive movement on state funding in both the Senate and the Assembly for increase of funds to libraries. The Senate has proposed a 4% increase in the funds provided to libraries. The Assembly has requested a \$1 million increase to funds. Ms. Jakubowski believes the advocacy efforts and record turnout from NYLA members this year is working. Ms. Jakubowski thanked Trustee Panty for being in attendance, noting her passion definitely came through.

As previously requested, a Rare Book Room exhibit schedule was distributed. She encouraged trustees to see the current exhibit "Some Things Fishy in Rare Books: Izaak Walton's *Compleat Angler* and Other Fish Tales".

A handout was distributed listing public officials and which libraries fall under their jurisdiction which can be referenced by trustees.

Trustees were updated that Mayor Byron Brown's office requested information regarding appointees, so we do know there is some movement on their end. Follow-up will be done on this. Mark Cornell, Director of Policy and Communications from the County Executive's office, was in attendance and she thanked him for sharing that there has been discussion at the County Executive's level as well on this subject.

Ms. Jakubowski was proud to report that Library's statistics continue to rise; as of February, we are up 3.6% in patron count, 7.2% in circulation, and computer usage is holding status quo.

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

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**, **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/w8ERUv>), 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 Librarian 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 that 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](#)

favs.

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



[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 great 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 all 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.

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/Jeannine 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

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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

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

Agenda Item H – Unfinished Business. No unfinished business.

Agenda Item I – New Business. There was no new business.

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There being no further business, on motion by Ms. Horton and a second by Mr. Schmidt, the meeting was adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Panty
Secretary