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Hug Your Library Gatherings Planned

Community Invited to Show Support for Libraries

Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries are reaching out and inviting the community to join an upcoming "*Hug Your Library...so it's here tomorrow*" event taking place in the next few weeks. Library Director Mary Jean Jakubowski and Librarians Association President Tim Galvin today announced plans for "*Hug Your Library*" gatherings beginning with the kick-off at the downtown **Central Library on Thursday**, **June 20 at 5:15 p.m.** There are 26 Libraries planning *Hug* advocacy events over the next few weeks throughout the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System.

"Hundreds of thousands of Erie County residents use their free public libraries annually and we know they love their libraries," said Ms. Jakubowski. "We are hoping they all come out and show support for our libraries by attending one of these free *Hug Your Library* events. The *Hug* gatherings are intended to show the entire community – individuals, businesses, elected officials, the media - that libraries not only enhance but they enrich lives and, Erie County residents want their libraries open and accessible for generations to come."

Several libraries have planned special programs, speeches, and entertainers around their *Hug* gatherings. The *Hugs* will vary from library to library, and supporters are encouraged to embrace the idea and attend as many as they like. At a designated time, attendees will join hands for a "big Hug around the building" and all will receive a special Hug sticker for participating. A complete list of participating Libraries is enclosed and can be downloaded by going to <u>http://bit.ly/1aYJJOC</u>

"With summer right around the corner, our libraries will be filled with activity." said Tim Galvin. "Libraries are a great deal, providing children and families unlimited access to information through books, programs and many other resources. These *Hug* events are designed to help spread the word about the amazing value you get from libraries."

The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System has more than 2.6 million materials available for borrowing including books, eBooks, DVDs, music and more. Free library card applications can be downloaded and taken to any of the 37- local public libraries for processing. A valid form of identification and proof of address is necessary. For more information call 716-858-8900 or visit <u>www.BuffaloLib.org</u>.

The Librarians Association has 150 members and has represented the public librarians of Buffalo and Erie County since 1968.

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Tags: Hug support gathering Rally libraries »

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