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## Buffalo & Erie County Public Library in Albany to meet with WNY Delegation

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### Buffalo & Erie County Public Library in Albany to Meet With WNY Delegation

*Group to update lawmakers on the Special Library District Initiative and encourage restoration of NY State funding to libraries.*

Acknowledging past support, seeking restoration of State Library funding, and discussing a new form of governance for the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System are the main topics of discussion between representatives of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Libraries and local members of the New York State Assembly and Senate.

"We will update lawmakers on our progress to become a Special Library District," said Library Director Mary Jean Jakubowski. "For too long, this library system has been faced with unpredictable funding which impacts open hours, staffing, materials and programs. We are seeking to break from the County based funding and have the people decide, through a public vote, how much money should go to their public libraries."

Seven Buffalo & Erie County Public Library representatives are headed to Albany for Library Advocacy Day, which is held annually at the State Capitol. Library System Trustee Elaine Panty; Chief Operating Officer Carol Ann Batt; Chief Financial Officer Kenneth H. Stone; Amherst Public Library Director Roseanne Butler-Smith; Marilla Free Library Director Shannon Jakubowski; West Seneca Library Director Kathleen L. Goodrich; and Buffalo Branches West Cluster Manager Linda Rizzo will be meeting with Assemblymembers John D. Ceretto, Jane L. Corwin, David DiPietro, Michael P. Kearns, Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, Sean Ryan, Robin Schimming, and Raymond Walter; along with Senators Patrick M. Gallivan, Mark Grisanti, Timothy Kennedy, and Michael Ranzzenhofer.

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