

For Immediate Release:May 9, 2024Information:Joy Testa Cinquino, testaj@buffalolib.org, 716-858-7182

## BUFFALO & ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY'S FAMILY HISTORY DAY KICKS OFF TRIO OF EXCITING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS PROGRAMS @ CENTRAL LIBRARY

The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library will host its second annual **Family History Day** event on **Saturday, May 18 from 1:00-3:30 p.m.** at the downtown Central Library, 1 Lafayette Square, Buffalo. The event is the first of three informative programs presented by the Library's Grosvenor Room that focus on genealogy, local history, and research.

At Family History Day on May 18, local urban planner **Angela Keppel** will discuss her popular blog, *Discovering Buffalo, One Street at a Time*, at 1:15 p.m. in the Library's Ring of Knowledge. Keppel's blog works to uncover the stories behind the names of Buffalo streets. At 1:45 p.m., genealogist **Jeanette Sheliga** will demonstrate how to use the digitized *Sanborn Maps of New York* database for genealogy research. Following a panel discussion at 2:15 p.m., participants can take a "Secrets of the Stacks" tour with Librarian and genealogy specialist Rhonda Hoffman to discover additional resources the Library can offer researchers. **Western New York Genealogical Society** volunteers will also be on-site in the Grosvenor Room from 12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. to assist and answer general questions.

Several local history organizations will participate with information tables, including the Buffalo Genealogical Society of the African Diaspora; Buffalo History Museum; Buffalo Irish Genealogical Society; Centro Culturale Italiano di Buffalo; Friends of Concordia Cemetery; Italian Genealogical Society; Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor; Polish Genealogical Society of New York State; and the Tonawanda-Kenmore Historical Society.

On **Saturday**, **June 1 from 2:00-3:00 p.m.** at the downtown Central Library, the Grosvenor Room presents **Buffalo Then and Now: What Building Was There 100 Years Ago?** with Explore Buffalo. Presenter Chuck LaChiusa will provide comparisons of several well-known Buffalo buildings in 1918 to the present day.

On **Saturday**, **June 8 from 2:00-3:00 p.m.** at the downtown Central Library, the Grosvenor Room presents **The Real People of Buffalo's Grain Elevators**. Attendees will learn about the Library's *Spilling Grain* digital collection, which helps bring Buffalo's industrial waterfront to life. Speakers include journalist Kate Kaye, former mill workers Joel Carter and Don Dodd, and UB architecture professor emerita Lynda Schneekloth.

All three programs are free & open to the public. No registration is required.

For more information about these and other upcoming history and genealogy programs at the Library, visit <u>https://tinyurl.com/Grosvenor2024</u> or call 716-858-8900.



## Family History Day - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual

Saturday, May 18 @ 1 - 3:30 pm Central Library, Ring of Knowledge 1 Lafayette Square, Buffalo, NY This event is free and open to anyone interested in learning about organizations and resources that further genealogical research! Presentations on Buffalo's streets and utilizing local atlases in your family history research, a "Secrets of the Stacks" tour of the Central Library & more.