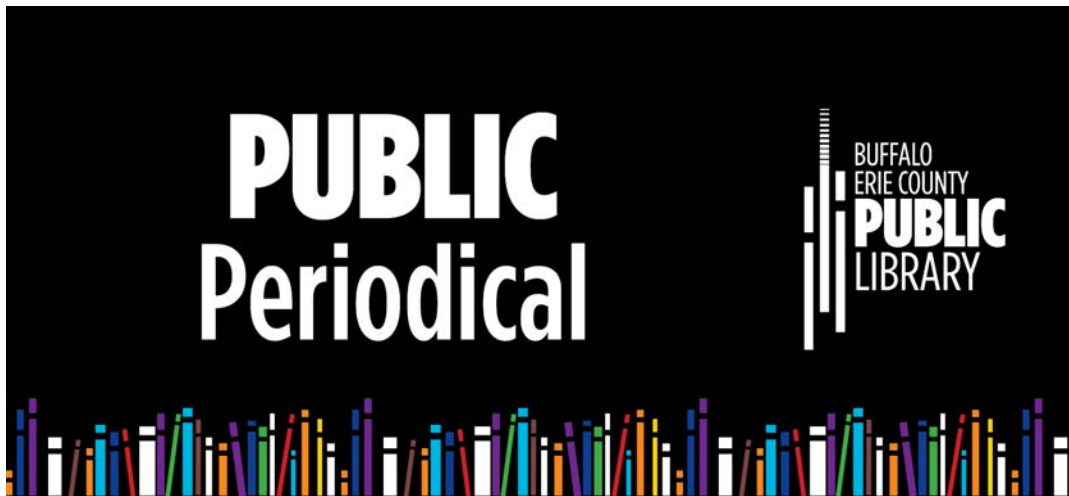


Public Periodical - August 2026



[Check each library's open hours schedule here.](#)

You can access eBooks, online databases, and other digital resources 24/7 at www.BuffaloLib.org.



This August, **Christine Schonhart** joins the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library family as our new Director! Join us in welcoming Christine back to Western New York. She grew up in Forestville and graduated from SUNY

Fredonia and UB.

Christine brings more than 25 years of library leadership experience, most recently as the Deputy Chief Librarian at Brooklyn Public Library.



[716 Celebrates: Stars, Stripes & Signers!](#)

Did you know that the text of the Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4 — but the collective signing actually took place on August 2?

Hosted by the Buffalo & Erie County Naval & Military Park, Buffalo's waterfront will transform into a full-day festival experience honoring America's 250th Anniversary on Sunday, August 2 from 4-9:30 PM. (Weather permitting.) This will be a free, family-friendly event featuring live entertainment, historical reenactors, family activities, military heritage, food trucks, exhibits, and more, all culminating in a major waterfront fireworks spectacular!

On Sunday, Aug. 2, you'll *also* get a first look at the ["We the People" Community Quilt Project](#) — a joint effort of Buffalo & Erie County Public Library and Explore & More Children's Museum, assembled by the artists at Stitch Buffalo.

This event is weather permitting. Up-to-date details can be found [here](#).



With the generous support of our community, over \$10,000 was donated during this year's *Give 716* campaign! Funds raised support the Library's [Bucks for Books](#) initiative — giving our community more opportunities to learn, discover, and foster a love of reading in all 37 library locations.

We're also recognizing the Western New York Rural Library Grant Program, powered by the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, which has generously awarded nine Buffalo & Erie County Public Library locations funding for the following projects:

- **Angola Public Library** — awarded \$10,200 for *Study Seating for Success @ the Angola Public Library*
- **Aurora Town Public Library** — awarded \$20,000 for *Aurora Town Public Library: Preparing Tweens, Teens, and Young Adults for Success*
- **Boston Free Library** — awarded \$20,000 for *Connecting the Community to Nature: A Native Plant Garden and Outdoor Educational Space at the Boston Free Library*
- **City of Tonawanda Public Library** — awarded \$4,000 for *Covered Bicycle Shelter and Community Resources @ the City of Tonawanda Public Library*

- **Town of Collins Public Library** — awarded \$39,061 for *Work Pod in the Town of Collins Public Library*
- **Elma Public Library** — awarded \$3,400 for *Roots of Elma: Rural Homesteading Through Libraries*
- **Grand Island Memorial Library** — awarded \$33,188 for *Grand Island Memorial Library Study Room Project*
- **Hulbert Library of the Town of Concord** — awarded \$20,139 for *One Booth, Many Opportunities: Access for All*
- **North Collins Public Library** — awarded \$13,140 for *Enjoy the Warm Weather: Library Kayak Lending Program*

Additionally, a \$43,500 grant was awarded by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo's WNY With Youth for Youth Ambassadors program. The funding will go toward revitalizing two existing teen advisory group initiatives – one at the Central Library (known as TAG) and one at the Aurora Town Public Library.



Mark your calendars — Our inaugural [How-To Festival](#) will be held on **Saturday, September 19**, from 11 am – 2 pm at the Central Library!

The Central Library's **How-To Festival** is an all-ages, free event that will be

filled with people sharing skills, hobbies, knowledge, community resources, and hands-on activities. Explore the library and learn how to fix a flat tire, use a letterpress, create a song, propagate plants, and much, more more!

Featuring GoBike Buffalo, WNY Book Arts, Urban Roots Cooperative Garden, FeedMore WNY, Stitch Buffalo, Evergreen Health, Neighborhood Legal Services, Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens, NAMI of Buffalo & WNY and dozens of others.

INDIE!

AUTHOR DAY

We're looking for local writers, booksellers, editors, literary agents, illustrators, influencers, and other creative partners to be part of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library's Indie Author Day 2026 on **Saturday, November 14** at the **Downtown Central Library**. All genres, backgrounds, and levels of experience are welcome to propose a program.

[Submit your program idea at this link by **August 15** to be considered.](#)

What's HAPPENING.

- [**Happy Birthday, America!:**](#)
Orchard Park Public Library
(8/5)
- [**Pop-up Consumer Debt Legal Clinic:**](#) Anna Reinstein Memorial Library (8/6)
- [**Job Fair:**](#) Elma Public Library (8/7)
- [**Polish Immigration in Buffalo & WNY:**](#) Central Library (8/8)
- [**Know Your Housing Rights Workshop:**](#) Kenmore Branch Library (8/12)
- [**Really, Really Free Market:**](#)
Elaine M. Panty Branch Library
(8/15)
- [**Voices in Motion:**](#)
Isaías González-Soto Branch Library (8/19)
- [**Astronomy Night:**](#) Lake Shore Public Library (8/19)
- [**Teen Cupcake Competition:**](#)
Lancaster Public Library (8/20)
- [**Sidewalk Chalk Workshop:**](#)
Crane Branch Library (8/22)
- [**Author Talk: Arlynn S. Braun - Crystal Beach Days:**](#)
Newstead Public Library (8/26)
- [**Job Fair:**](#) Central Library (8/28)

[Visit the Library's website](#) for details about hours of operation, programs and more.

Profoundly **PUBLIC.**



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