



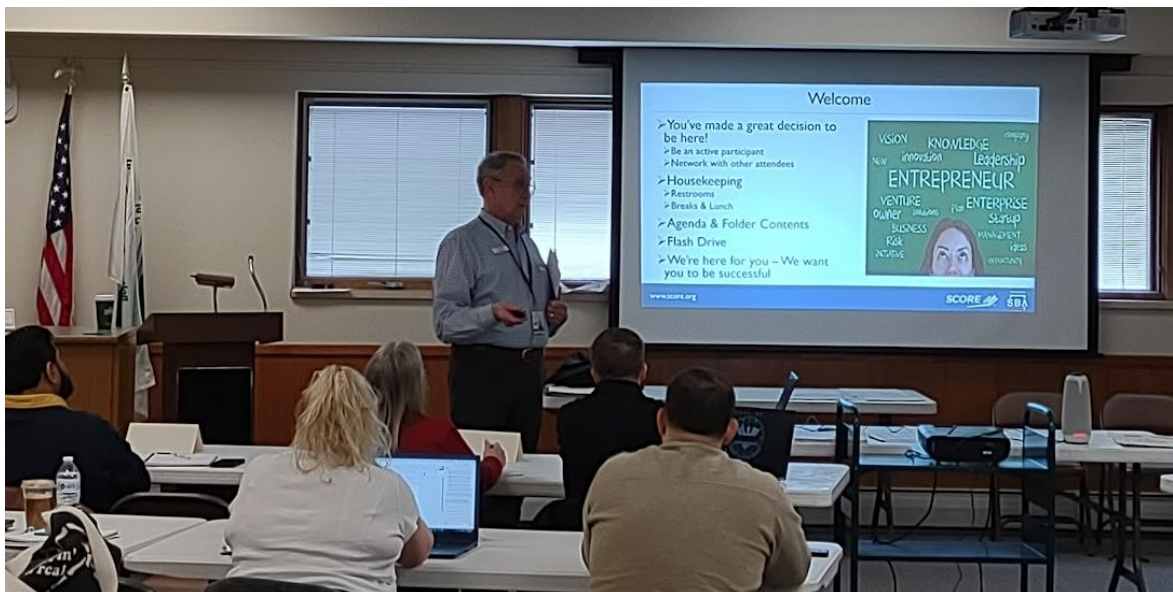
**Director's Report for the
Cheektowaga Public Libraries (CPL)
March 2025**

1. PUBLIC SERVICES

Programs, Learning Opportunities, Outreach and Events

Highlights:

- March 1 - The Buffalo Niagara Chapter of SCORE (Service Core of Retired Executives) conducted a small business development workshop at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library. The workshop entitled "How to Start and Run a Business" was a daylong session for potential and existing entrepreneurs to learn what it takes to create and run a business in Erie County. Throughout the day expert speakers in law, taxes, insurance, marketing, and accounting covered the essentials one may need to know if running a business. Director Caufield spoke to the attendees on free resources found through the Library which could help entrepreneurs find trade and marketing data that could increase business. Attendees were very happy with the program and SCORE looks forward to returning to the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library for more workshops.



- March 2 - The Western New York Iris Society's Sunday speaker series continued with a lecture featuring the Japanese iris. Discussed were how these elegant flowers enhance the beauty of any Iris garden along with practical "how-to" information such as planting and care. The Western New York Iris Society speaker's meet once a month at the Julia Boyer Reinstein (JBR) Library to discuss Iris and flower growing with the public in anticipation of their big Iris and Flower show set for May 31 at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library.



- March 3, 8, 22, 26 - Both Cheektowaga Libraries are hosting Dungeons and Dragons for Adults and for Teens. Librarian Laura Scott coordinates the large and loyal following of Teens at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library and Librarian and Jeff Matrachisia runs the growing adventuring group of adults at the Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library.



- March 6 & 13 (JBR) and 20 & 27 (REI) - The Cheektowaga YES group (Youth Engagement Services) moderated the monthly LEGO Clubs and Craft Nights at both the Cheektowaga Libraries. This wonderful partnership between the Library and the Town of Cheektowaga's Youth & Recreational Services Department allows teens to volunteer and help provide activities for younger children.

- March 10 - The Julia Boyer Reinstein Library hosted a concert featuring local Musician Sally Schaefer, and a special accompaniment from locally known Irish musician Taylor Bogwell. Sally Schaefer is a Buffalo-based ethnomusicologist, archivist, and multi-instrumental folk musician best known for her work as a violinist in genres as diverse as Americana, Celtic music, rock, hip-hop, polka, and punk. The concert was a wonderful lead up to the coming St. Patrick's Day celebrations and was truly enjoyed by the many who came to hear them sing and play.

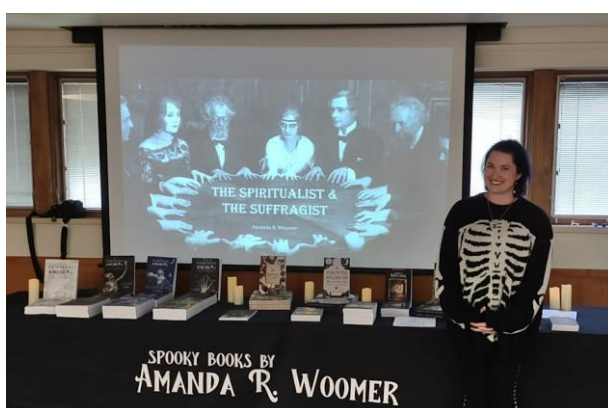


- March 15 - The Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library hosted a movie day featuring "Wild Robot", recently released to DVD. Wild Robot follows an intelligent robot called Roz who is stranded on an uninhabited island after a shipwreck. These newly released movies are popular with our families visiting the Anna Reinstein Library.

- March 15 - The Julia Boyer Reinstein Library hosted a Read to a Dog event sponsored through the SPCA's Paws for Love program. Children 10 and under signed up to read to a dog who listened and loved all the attention.



- March 25 - The "Spiritualist and the Suffragist" author Amanda Woomer spoke at the Julia Boyer Reinstein for Women's History Month. Her talk focused on the early connections of spiritualism with the suffragist movement in the late 1800s to early 1900s. Women mediums found freedom from the norms expected at the time by becoming sought out advisors who controlled their own finances and work schedules. Many of the early spiritualists lived a life being fought for by the suffragists and having the financial means helped the suffragists fund their campaigns.



- Throughout March at both Cheektowaga Libraries children's story hour programs drew in many families for reading and crafts. Librarian Heidi Bofinger facilitated the Wednesday Night Owl and Thursday Early Bird Story Times at the Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library while Librarian Kathy Goodrich led the Wednesday Preschool Story times at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library. These story times are very popular and well received by children, parents and grandparents attending.



Outreach:

- March 6 - Librarian Carol Veach staffed a Library information table at the Maryvale Elementary School. Over 40 children stopped by to make a popsicle stick superhero and look at the upcoming event flyers. Many library card applications and flyers for Dolly Parton's Imagination library went home. Throughout March, Library staff at Outreach events and at both Cheektowaga Libraries have informed patrons about the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library program so much so that the Read to Succeed Buffalo organization called to commend the work Cheektowaga Libraries have done in advertising their Partnership with the Dolly Partner Foundation. Through this program dozens of children (ages birth to 5yrs old) in Cheektowaga will be receiving free books through the mail creating home libraries and foster a love of reading.



- March 22 - Director Caufield attended the Willie Hutch Jones Educational and Sports Program S.T.E.A.M. Fair at the Waterfront Elementary School, Buffalo. Director Caufield was one of a dozen judges who met and scored the children's science projects. The Fair was a chance for elementary and High Schools Students from all of Erie County to show what they learned in Science Engineering and Math. Caufield also staffed a library table accepting new library card applications and promoting library services for the students and their parents.



2. Collections: Development and Use

Highlights:

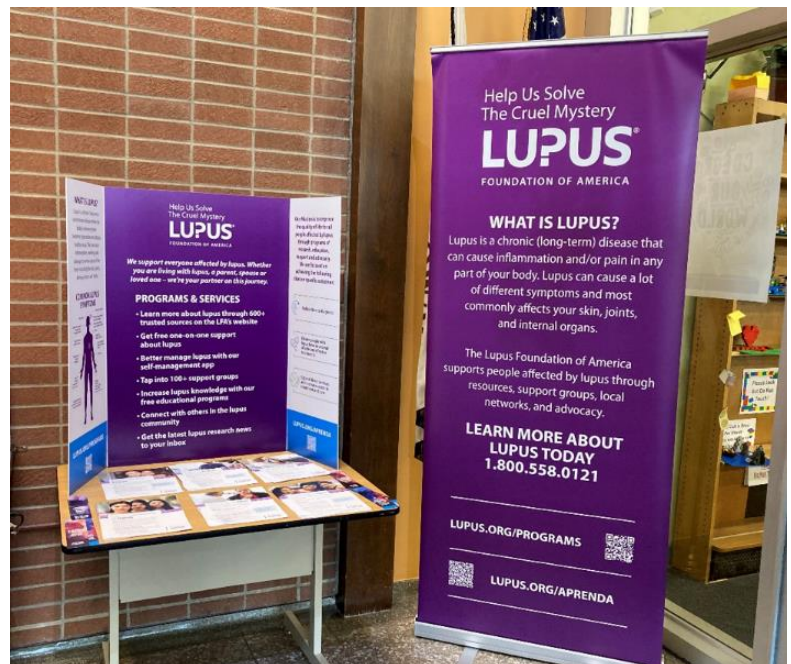
- Library staff have weeded their assigned collections and Children's Fiction and Board Books order checklists were completed.

Displays:

- Both Cheektowaga Libraries Celebrated Woman's History Month with various book and poster displays.



- Throughout March, Anna Reinstein Memorial Library hosted The Lupus Foundation of America's "Health Corner" display in the library's lobby. This traveling display also appeared at other B&ECPL libraries during 2025. The Cheektowaga Libraries regularly provide public health information to their visitors in order to promote awareness and general knowledge within the community.



3. OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

a. Facilities:

- March 6 - Johnson Controls repaired a coupling on the boiler system at the Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library. Service was not interrupted.
- March 27 - Johnson Controls repaired, inspected and cleaned the air conditioning system at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library in preparation for the summer weather.

b. Technology

NA

6. Partnerships, Meetings / Future Planning / Special Projects

- March 2 – Director Caufield received word that the Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library was chosen to receive \$7,000 in funding to improve Library services through an Increasing Resources in Libraries Grant provided by the B&ECPL system. The funding will help buy new seating, a podium with speaker system for the programming room and various tablets and STEAM technologies that will support Book-A-Tech Trainer Sessions and Science programming. Library Manager Matthew Best will be working with the Central Library to facilitate all purchases and shipping.
- March 5 - CPL Staff met at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library for a Programmer's Meeting. In the meeting both Libraries were able to roughly plan out the remaining programming and outreach for 2025.
- March 12 – Director Caufield and Matthew Best attended the Monthly Directors managers meeting at the Central Library.
- March 21 & 27 - Working with the Dept. of Labor the Cheektowaga Public libraries posted announcements for a Job Fair at the Apple Tree Mall held on April 1st. Along with helping the Dept. of Labor reach a larger audience through our social media, plans to host a Job Fair at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library were set for June.

- March 22 - Director Caufield and Vice-Chair of the CPL Board, Denise Wilczak attended an Association of Contracting Library Trustees (ACT) Meeting at the Central Library. Topics discussed:
 - The status of Library funding with the closure of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) under new federal executive orders.
 - The roll out of a new logo for the B&ECPL system.

