



**Director's Report for the
Cheektowaga Public Libraries (CPL)
November & December 2025**

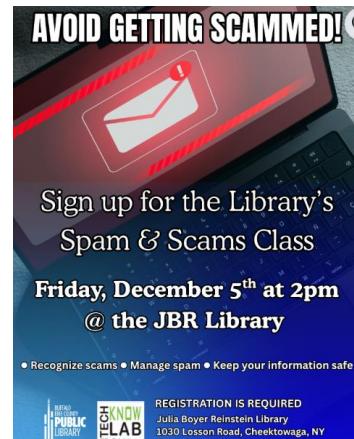
1. PUBLIC SERVICES

Programs, Learning Opportunities, Outreach and Events

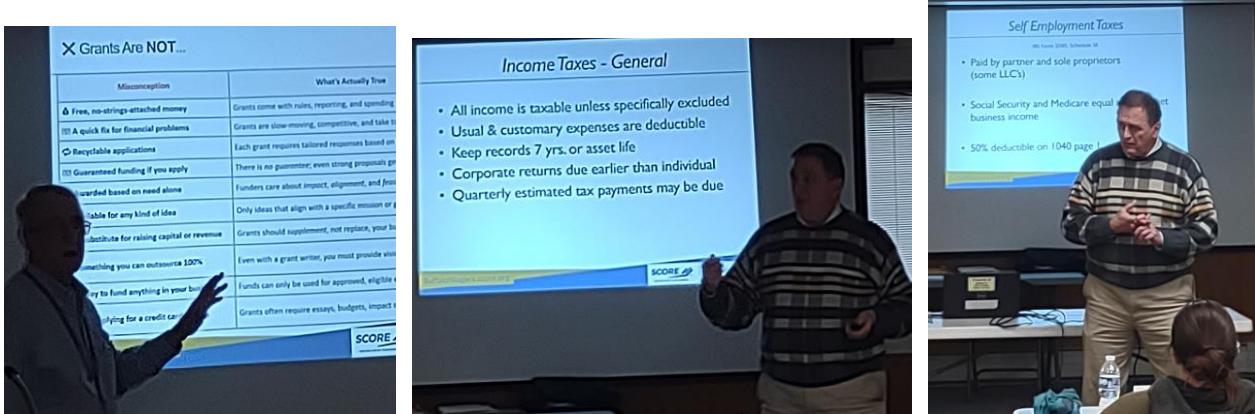
Highlights:

- November 2 – The WNY Iris Societies Lecture series ended for 2025 with Iris Society members speaking about winter gardening and preparing you plants for spring. Also, included was an overview of the 2025 lecture series and a thank you to the Reinstein Libraries for hosting their events.
- November 18 - Hafner Financial Group offered a preretirement workshop for individuals considering retiring. The financial experts explained what happens when you retire at various ages and how this will affect your future income as well as how to prepare for future medical costs. The Hafner Financial Group offers these free, well attended, workshops throughout the year at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library, the information is very well received with participants thanking both the experts and the Library staff for hosting these useful programs.
- November 19 – The Julia Boyer Reinstein Library hosted a walk-in Tech Tutoring program. This three-hour walk-in tutoring program taught computer and cell phone skills to anyone with questions. Many patrons came in to learn how to use features such as email and how to download Libby to their cell phones along with many questions about Google Drive and Google Photos. After this program, questions will be reviewed and longer workshops offered on the most commonly asked questions in 2026.

- The Julia Boyer Reinstein Library hosted a “Spam and Scams” workshop explaining what spam is in your email and phone, and how to avoid the dangers of online fraud. Patrons who were worried about conducting banking and making purchases online had requested this program. Attendees were very appreciative for the information and the Library will be offering this workshop again in 2026.



- December 6 - The Julia Boyer Reinstein Library hosted a daylong “Starting and Running a Business” program. Moderated by SCORE (Service Core of Retired Executives) attendees received thorough overviews on the importance of a business plans, marketing, taxes, insurance, corporate legal structures and much more. Library Director Caufield was on the agenda to discuss the many free resources the Library offers that help entrepreneurs. The day long program was a success with many of the attendees coming back to meet with Caufield to learn more about how to use Library databases focused on their particular business.



- December 10 - High School students from Cheektowaga Central finished their fall/ winter photography course offered by Forty Two Photo. From October to December, students learned how to use both mechanical and digital cameras to capture images to tell a story and evoke emotion. Meeting at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library to learn the many facets of photography they ended their course with an exhibit for family and teachers to display their work.



- December 20 – Both Cheektowaga Libraries celebrated the holidays with a performance by Juggler Jacob Drops. Jacob thrilled audiences at both libraries with feats of juggling, spinning plates, and a musical finale! After the show, attendees were able to make their own ornaments, decorate cookies to take home and meet with Santa who stopped by to wish everyone a happy holiday.





- December 30 – The Julia Boyer Reinstein Library Celebrated 2025 with a Kids Noon-Year Eves party. Coordinated by Children's Librarian Kathy Goodrich children 7 and under celebrated with crafts, music and dancing and at 12 NOON a balloon drop. Both Children and parents had a wonderful time and look forward to attending many of our programs in 2026.



- Cheektowaga's Books Clubs (The Next Chapter, Between the Lines and the Silent Book Club) met through November and December with inclement weather postponing the Next Chapter meeting in December. The Cheektowaga Book Clubs have a strong base of participants who always bring insight and excitement to discussions of their reading.

Story Times at the Cheektowaga Public Libraries

- Throughout November and December 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 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.



- The Cheektowaga Youth and Recreation YES (Youth Engaged in Services) group moderated both Lego and Craft nights for November and December at both Cheektowaga libraries. Always a draw for 5 to 11 years olds the YES teens show wonderful organization and attention to everyone who participates. Director Caufield once again signed the contract between the Libraries and the Cheektowaga Youth and Recreation Department continuing these programs into 2026.



The Cheektowaga Public Libraries Soup Drive

- The Cheektowaga Libraries collaborated with the Cheektowaga Lions Club and Resurrection Life Food Pantry to hold a Soup Drive at the end of December. Two-hundred and thirty eight cans of hearty soup were collected and donated to the pantry. At the holidays where many donations focus on a Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner, the soup drive was initiated to keep an available amount of simple meals that could be used at any time as needed.



Outreach:

- November 8 - Director Dan Caufield presented an hour-long program on "Free Library Resources for the Entrepreneur" at a daylong SCORE workshop at Buffalo State University.
- November 13 - Liberian Carol Vech visited Cleveland Hill High School's "Parent's Night". Meeting parents and students, Carol offered Library card sign up and an overview of Library resources.
- November 28 - Carol Vech visited all the 3rd grade students at Maryvale Intermediate School (8 programs with 165 participants) She read a story, offered a craft and spoke about the Libraries and what they offer. With the help of Maryvale teachers Carol was able to sign up 87 students for Library cards.

2. Collections: Development and Use

Highlights:

- Thanks to the diligent attention of Anna M. Reinstein Manager Matthew Best, all final collection funds were spent in 2025.

Displays



3. OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

a. Facilities:

- November - Danforth HVAC inspected the boilers at both Libraries to ensure they were operating optimally for the coming winter.
- December 23 - The NYS Library announced that the Anna M. Reinstein Library would receive \$298,000 to replace the flat roof and replace structural support beams at the entrance through its NYS Library Construction Grant program.

b. Technology

NA

4. Partnerships, Meetings / Future Planning / Special Projects.

- Throughout November and December, Director Caufield has been in touch with SCORE, the Small Business Development Center, Canisius Women's Business Center, Department of Labor, Cheektowaga Community Collaborative, Cheektowaga Lions Club, WNY Polish Heritage Society, WNY Iris Society, Cheektowaga Garden Club, Cheektowaga Town Supervisor and Engineer to plan programming, construction, and outreach for the coming 2026 schedules.
- Cheektowaga Programming Librarians met in November and December, planning in-house, and outreach programming for 2026.
- In November, the Cheektowaga Public Libraries welcomed Hannah Krull as the new part-time Adult Services Librarian to the Anna M. Reinstein Library.
- November 20 - The Julia Boyer Reinstein Library hosted B&ECPL's system Youth Services training workshop. B&ECPL Librarians attended the daylong to learn about new reading programs, how to include STEAM aspects in your story times and to become certified in adult and child CPR.

