



**Monthly Report for the
Cheektowaga Public Libraries (CPL)
June 2024**

Congratulations

1. PUBLIC SERVICES

Programs, Learning Opportunities, Outreach and Events

Highlights:

- June 1 - The Western New York Iris Society presented their annual Iris and Lily Show at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library. Flower enthusiasts throughout Western New York gathered to view this year's best grown flowers and learn best practices for growing Lilies and Irises in their own backward.





- June 1 - Librarian Jeff Matrachisia organized and moderated a Puzzle Race event at the Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library. Individuals were provided identical copies of a 200 piece puzzle and given two hours to race to completion. Two patrons completed the puzzle first before the two hour time limit and each won a Buffalo themed puzzle that had been donated to the library system.



- June 8 – The Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library hosted a “Bike Repair and Bike Rodeo” event. Partnering with GoBike Buffalo, children 5-12 years of age took part in bike games, helmet fittings, bike safety checks, and tested their skills on a traffic skills course. For all ages GoBike Buffalo also included a Mobile Bicycle Repair Shop: which offered fixing flat tires, adjusting brakes, seats, chains, and other features. Any type of bicycle was welcomed with many families attending and enjoying the day. The cost of the event was covered by Ralph Wilson grant funds administered by B&ECPL library system whose aim is to inspire outdoor activity and play.



- June 8 – The Read to a Dog program sponsored by the SPCA’s Paws for Love campaign came to the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library to the joy of many young readers. PAWS for Love offers children the opportunity to read aloud to a well-trained therapy dog in order to improve their reading and communication skills. Akela listened to many stories and snuggled with the readers.



- June 6, 13, 20, 27 - 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.



- June 18 - The Anna M. Reinstein Memorial Library hosted a “Just Say Yes to Fruits and Vegetables” workshop. Angie Braun, a nutritionist from Just Say Yes, reviewed wellness techniques and how to incorporate more fruits and veggies into everyday cooking. She demonstrated a recipe for participants, pineapple fried rice, with samples for tasting. Ms. Braun has SNAP recipients in mind when presenting recipes. The program was well received by attendees who enjoyed the samples and came away with needed health information.

- June 21 - Homeschool Students participating in a 10-week course offered by Forty Two Photo LLC ended the course with a gallery exhibit of their work for friends and family at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library. The aspiring photographers. Learned the basics of photography, how to use different cameras (exploring settings and capabilities) in many different environments.



- Throughout June on Thursday's from 12pm-2pm "Hooks, Needles, & Thread," Julia Boyer Reinstein Knitting club, met to teach others and work on knitting projects.
- June 24 - The Clarity Group hosted a free Medicare 101 class at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library. Multiple speakers presented many of the services provided by Medicare and how to apply or switch to a new plan. The class was very well received with 24 attendees asking many questions.
- June 26 - Librarian Jeff Matrachisia organized a STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) program for ages 8-12 focusing on Air & Water. Jeff showed eight science activities involving fluids and air pressure. The program and demonstrations were all hands on which allowed attendees to try the different experiments and ask questions why certain effects happened. Jeff gave simplified explanations on how the science worked with all attendees learning a little and having fun with each activity.

Outreach

- June 6 - Director Dan Caufield led a Small Business Development workshop at the Caspian Building on Genesee Street. Partnering with SCORE/Buffalo Niagara, Dan was able to introduce the many free resources the Library offers to aspiring entrepreneurs.

2. Collections: Development and Use

Highlights:

- Library staff continue to weed and order for their respective collections.

3. OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

a. Facilities:

Summer maintenance continues at both libraries.

b. Technology

NA

6. Partnerships, Meetings / Future Planning / Special Projects

- June 4 - Director Caufield met with Jacob Rachwell, B&ECPL Library Accessibilities specialist and conducted an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) audit for both Libraries. Both libraries met all standards set by the ADA allowing for more inclusive service.
- Partnering with CollectLife, Librarians Laura Scott and Jeff Matrachisia set schedules for both libraries to host a blood donor event on July 8.
- Conversations between Director Caufield and the Dept. of Labor set the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library to host another Job Fair on September 18, 2024.
- The Cheektowaga Libraries received a check for \$25 from Kara Jagodzinski Treasurer of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Abilgail Filmore Chapter.