

MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
July 21, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library was held on Thursday, July 21, 2011, in the Central Library pursuant to due notice to trustees. The following members were present:

Sharon A. Thomas, Chair  
Jack Connors, Vice Chair  
Elaine M. Panty, Secretary  
Amy Alvarez-Perez  
Frank Gist  
Phyllis A. Horton  
Sharon M. Kelly  
Anne M. Leary  
John G. Schmidt, Jr.  
Judith K. Summer  
Wayne D. Wisbaum

Absent:

Richard L. Berger  
Rick Lewis  
Hormoz Mansouri  
Albert L. Michaels

Chair Sharon A. Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. in the Joseph B. Rounds Conference Room.

Agenda Item B - Approval/Changes to the Agenda. There were no changes to the proposed agenda.

Agenda Item C - Minutes of the Meeting of June 16, 2011. Minutes were approved unanimously, as mailed, by Mr. Connors and a second by Ms. Panty.

Trustee Wisbaum arrived at approximately 4:06 p.m.

Agenda Item D - Report of the Chair. Ms. Thomas called upon Director Mary Jean Jakubowski to report on the July 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. County Executive Chris Collins called with village and town supervisors and mayors to discuss his bridge funding plan for

the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library. Ms. Jakubowski reported both she and Deputy Director Kenneth Stone answered questions about the library district options at that meeting, explaining the Board had not yet made a commitment to that option. She felt there was great communication. The County Executive is resolved to having recognized that putting the maintenance and utility costs to the towns and villages (\$1.7 million) would put an undue hardship on them, particularly this year. The possibility of phasing something like this in was discussed, but nothing came to fruition. Both she and Mr. Stone were asked to look at the \$1.7 million and develop a plan to bring back to the County Executive.

Agenda Item E – Committee Reports.

Agenda Item E.1 – Executive Committee. Mr. Connors reported on the July 14<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting. A quorum was present.

Present were Executive Committee members Sharon Thomas, Jack Connors and Judy Summer, as well as John Schmidt, Jr. who was in attendance via conference call. Trustee Elaine Panty, Director Mary Jean Jakubowski and CFO Kenneth Stone were also present.

Ms. Jakubowski reported on her meeting with Erie County Comptroller Mark Poloncarz.

Ms. Panty provided an update on the ACT meeting.

Mr. Connors is setting up a meeting with Kevin Gaughan so that together with Ms. Jakubowski and Mr. Stone, they can explain the library district option.

A timeline and potential date of vote pertaining to the library district option were discussed.

Ms. Thomas is developing an article she would like placed in local newspapers that addresses the library district option and gives a history of the Board's decision making process – possibly Everybody's Column in the *Buffalo News*.

The Executive Committee unanimously approved Res. 2011-26 providing authorization to amend the contract with Library Strategies International LLC.

The Committee reviewed the agenda for the July 21<sup>st</sup> B&ECPL Board of Trustees meeting. The Executive Committee meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Agenda Item E.1.a – Authorization to Amend Contract with Library Strategies International LLC. This resolution was approved unanimously by the Executive Committee on July 14, 2011 and was transmitted in the Board packet on July 15<sup>th</sup>.

RESOLUTION 2011-26

WHEREAS, in February 2011, the Executive Committee approved Resolution 2011-5 which authorized the Library Director to execute a contract with Library Strategies to provide interim administrative services subsequent to the departure of Director Bridget Quinn-Carey in March, and

WHEREAS, Library Strategies International LLC, an international consulting practice and partnership between Susan Kent and June Garcia, provided invaluable services to guide the direction of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System during its critical transition period to a new library director, and

WHEREAS, their continued services at a reduced scope would be beneficial as we move through pending governance issues and the process of filling the Chief Operating Officer position, and

WHEREAS, in order to implement this amendment in a timely manner, authorization is needed prior to the next scheduled Board meeting on July 21<sup>st</sup>, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library authorizes the Library Director to execute a contract amendment with Library Strategies International, reducing the scope of services to 32 hours monthly at a cost of \$8,000 with additional hours if needed at \$250 per hour, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to make the necessary budget transfers to enable the approved compensation set forth in the proposal.

Agenda Item E.2 – Budget and Finance Committee.

Agenda Item E.2.a – 2012 Proposed Budget Guidance. Mr. Stone stated this resolution essentially recommends preparing a budget consistent with the plan that was announced by the County Executive in terms of funding, but identifies the impacts of any situation where that funding not be materialized. He pointed out they will not have exact details on what it would mean in each location, ie. how many work hours, etc. as this takes time to work up with a service plan to do this; however, they should be able to get orders of magnitude impact of what it would mean if the Library had to identify another \$1.7 million dollars out of the current wage base. He added he met with the budget director earlier that day to try to piece together how to put together the budget as there are some other things in flux in terms of the coverage of the Central

Library services maintenance and utilities which the County Executive is still saying he will do, but there are a lot of mechanics to working that out.

Ms. Leary informed trustees she had a conversation with the County Executive's office the prior day and they are still committed to solving this problem and are going to regroup. Trustee Leary also shared she, Ms. Jakubowski and Ms. Testa Cinquino will be meeting July 22<sup>nd</sup> with Stan Lipsey of the *Buffalo News* to talk about a fundraising effort.

Ms. Leary inquired about a survey of usage of libraries by non-library, community groups; Ms. Jakubowski is finishing tweaking this survey.

Following the above discussion, on motion by Ms. Summer and a second by Ms. Horton, approval of Resolution 2011-27 was unanimous.

#### RESOLUTION 2011-27

WHEREAS, as of July 14<sup>th</sup>, the Library had not yet received Year 2012 budget instructions and preliminary targets from the Erie County Budget Office, and

WHEREAS, said instructions are expected to be received soon, with the budget request due to the County in mid August, prior to the Library Board's next scheduled meeting, and

WHEREAS, in order to provide a timely response to the County, budget preparation and review alternatives were discussed with the Board's Executive Committee, and

WHEREAS, Library preliminary 2012 budget planning identified a \$6 million gap between estimated revenue, including the \$18.2 million Library Tax estimate contained in Erie County's current four-year financial plan, and estimated expenditures utilizing present weekly open hour and related service levels, and

WHEREAS, without financial assistance, closing the budget gap would entail drastic reductions in service that would, unfortunately, have to include multiple library closures, and

WHEREAS, multiple budget briefings for system and contracting library trustees, staff, and county officials to explain the budget gap have been conducted and will continue to be offered, and

WHEREAS, one such briefing for the County Executive resulted in discussions centering around providing bridge funding to allow the Library time to complete its current assessment of alternative forms of governance and finance

which has been under way for over one year, and move to implement the resulting recommendations, and

WHEREAS, these discussions led to the County Executive proposing a three-year financing plan to “ensure we maintain a high level of library service throughout our community without branch closures,” and

WHEREAS, under the County Executive’s plan, the Library's \$6 million yearly budget gap would be closed as follows:

- \$2,000,000 per year from Erie County Fund Balance;
- \$1,320,936 transfer facility maintenance and utility expense for the Central Library to Erie County as the Central Library is chartered to serve the entire county and is owned by Erie County;
- \$1,754,728 transfer facility maintenance and utility expense from the library to the cities, towns and villages in which the library is chartered (in all but 3 cases, the buildings are also owned or leased by said city town or village);
- \$ 924,336 reduction from current \$3.5 million Library Materials Budget, Library fundraising to offset at least \$200,000 of this impact, and

WHEREAS, if all elements of the plan occur, it would close the Library’s funding gap and allow current service levels to continue in the 2012 budget year for which this budget request applies, and

WHEREAS, one element of the plan, municipal participation to support library utility and facility maintenance costs for the libraries chartered to serve their municipality is not under the control of either the Library or the County so the extent of such participation is not yet known, and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee recommends that Library Trustees articulate guidelines for preparing the 2012 budget request; designate the Library Director as responsible for preparing a draft budget request consistent with these guidelines; provide for review of the draft budget by the Budget and Finance Committee, which would provide direction to the Library Director in finalizing the budget submission to Erie County as close to the deadline as committee meeting schedules and preparation time will allow, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library hereby directs the Library Director, in cooperation with the Budget and Finance Committee, to complete the 2012 budget request utilizing the following guidance:

- Develop the 2012 budget request consistent with current service levels and the gap closing measures identified in the County Executive’s plan; and

- Develop impact statements showing how service levels would be affected if portions of proposed gap closing funds or equivalent alternate funds were not to be realized, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director transmit the resulting request to the County of Erie's Division of Budget, Management and Finance as close to the deadline as schedules and preparation time will allow.

Agenda Item E.2.b – Monthly Financial Report. The monthly report for the period ending May 31, 2011 was presented for information. Mr. Stone noted this report was also presented July 20<sup>th</sup> to the Erie County Legislature at their midyear budget reviews.

Chair Thomas thanked Trustee Leary for all the help she has given the Board and the access gained to be able to have discussions with the County Executive around this particular issue. Ms. Leary added, that if the Library can regroup and meet again, she would hope to have a representative from the Mayor's Office.

Agenda Item E.3 – Planning Committee. Planning Committee meetings were held on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Central Library and July 20<sup>th</sup> at the Lancaster Public Library.

Trustee Panty read the following Minutes from the June 23<sup>rd</sup> Planning Committee meeting:

**BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Minutes for  
Thursday, June 23, 2011**

*Attendees (Present):*

\*Sharon Thomas, System  
\*Elaine M. Panty, System  
Sue Alessi, North Collins  
Susan Sabers Chapman, Alden  
William Chapman, Alden  
David Dietz, Tonawanda  
Judy Hilburger, Clarence  
Richard Earne, Grand Island  
Gary S. Howell, Lancaster  
George Oliver, Aurora  
Mary Jean Jakubowski, Administration  
Kenneth Stone, Administration  
Joy Testa Cinquino, Administration  
Doreen Woods, Administration  
Ellen Bach, Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna LLP

*Attendees (Phone):*

Suzanne Jacobs, Lancaster  
Susan Kent

Sharon Thomas opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m. in the Joseph B. Rounds Conference Room located in the Central Library.

Ken Stone reviewed the County Executive's gap closing measure plan. Concerns were expressed regarding the size of the monetary ask from local towns and villages. Discussion ensued.

Mary Jean Jakubowski introduced Ellen Bach, of Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna LLP. Ms. Bach has been retained to work with the Library in pursuit of a district model form of governance.

Following a brief overview of the district model, Ms. Bach spoke on the differences of contents of legislation and contents of a memorandum of agreement/understanding (MOA/MOU). She expressed that MOA/MOU's are binding. They should be retained and grow with the uniqueness of each of the libraries. She also expressed the need for at least 2 sets of MOA/MOU's; the first between the System Board and each of the contract member libraries and the second between the contract member library and the municipality which owns the buildings.

Ms. Bach addressed unique situations that were brought forth at this meeting and has asked member libraries to provide her with additional information. Ms. Bach answered questions and addressed concerns pertaining to the special legislative district model. She will develop a framework (draft) MOA/MOU for review by the Association of Contracting Library Trustees (ACT). Suzanne Jacobs, President of ACT, encouraged participation by ACT members.

Ms. Jacobs also suggested ACT work on a resolution in support of the district model. A meeting of the ACT Board is being held on Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup> at the Audubon Branch Library to begin this process. All are welcome to attend.

Meeting adjourned 8:38p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for: Wednesday, July 20, 2011  
7:00 p.m.  
Lancaster Public Library  
5466 Broadway  
Lancaster, NY

Minutes were not completed from the previous day's, July 20<sup>th</sup>, Planning Committee meeting, however, Mr. Connors reported that he, Trustees Thomas and Panty, Mary Jean Jakubowski, Kenneth Stone, Ellen Bach of Whiteman,

Osterman & Hannah, June Garcia and Susan Kent as well as (14) representatives from contract member libraries were in attendance.

The first part of the meeting dealt with an update on contracting member library trustee meetings concerning governance. Presentations have been done with 21/22 contract member library boards. ACT President Sue Jacobs reported feedback was positive.

The second part of the meeting dealt with the timing of support resolutions, MOU development and System Board actions. Ms. Bach distributed and reviewed an initial draft MOU which is being developed in the library district option process. While there is common language through much of the MOU, there are a few sections where the MOU would be specific to that contract member library, ie. real property, personal property, etc. Advisory boards and transfer of employees were also discussed. Ms. Bach will be obtaining answers for some questions that were asked. In response to a question by Trustee Gist if there was any strong opposition, Mr. Connors replied he felt there were still questions they felt hadn't been answered to the degree they felt comfortable with yet. Ms. Panty communicated there are still contract member libraries that are not represented at the Planning Committee meetings.

The next Planning Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 24<sup>th</sup>, however, no time or location has been confirmed.

At the conclusion of Mr. Connors Planning Committee report, Chair Thomas remarked the Library has been at this for about over a year, thinks there has been sufficient time, and feels the Board has been open and inclusive and has tried to answer all questions; it is her belief that the Board should try to move this forward and requested feedback from the Board. In terms of doing a resolution she acknowledged August may be too soon. Mr. Connors reminded trustees there is another ACT meeting August 13<sup>th</sup> and the MOU will be a big part of the discussion. Ms. Jakubowski added Ms. Bach will be attending that meeting and was asked to prepare potential supportive resolution language for each of the contact member libraries which she will be bringing to that meeting. Mr. Connors added Ms. Bach explained that just because a contract member library may pass a resolution that supports the effort, they are not bound to the decision to be part of this if they cannot agree on the MOU - an agreed upon MOU would. In response to a question by Trustee Leary, Mr. Connors clarified that the Library would not negotiate an MOU with contract member libraries until the System Board votes to go forward. In response to a comment by Trustee Kelly regarding negotiating with contract member library towns or villages, Mr. Connors replied there are going to be some informational sessions set with the town supervisors, mayors, and such to explain this. Timelines and elections were discussed. At the July 20<sup>th</sup> Planning Committee meeting, Ms. Bach fully explained the timeline and when legislation would need to be



introduced if the Library would have a vote in 2012 to establish a district in 2013. Mr. Schmidt requested a copy of the draft MOU be sent to trustees. Ms. Jakubowski agreed to send this out but pointed out the draft MOU is in outline format because the details will be worked on at the ACT August 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

In response to a comment by Trustee Gist regarding mayoral support of the library district, Ms. Jakubowski noted her office is in the process of working with Mayor Byron Brown's office to set up a meeting to discuss the library district option. Mr. Connors added there was no representative from the Mayor's office at the County Executive's meeting with the town and village supervisors/mayors, however, was not certain the County Executive's Office invited them.

Mr. Connors communicated the representatives from the contract member libraries who attended the July 20<sup>th</sup> Planning Committee meeting as well as past meetings are very engaged in the process, have a lot of questions, and express not only their personal concerns but the concerns of board members. He believes they recognize the present way of funding the Library, while it has worked on and off in the past, is no longer working and they could be impacted adversely if the Library stays with what we have.

Chair Thomas asked for a motion to bring a resolution forth to the September Board meeting to pursue the special library district with an updated timeline. Trustee Leary made a motion, Trustee Alvarez-Perez seconded, and approval was unanimous (**assigned Res. #2011-28**).

Chair Thomas asked for a motion to intermit the August 2011 Board meeting. Trustee Summer made a motion, Ms. Horton seconded, and approval was unanimous (**assigned Res. #2011-29**). Ms. Jakubowski added this will give ACT the opportunity to work on their supportive resolution. Ms. Thomas pointed out the August 11<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting will still take place. If the need arises, a Special Meeting of the Board can be called.

Agenda Item F – Report of the Director. Ms. Jakubowski announced the 2010 System Annual Report has been approved by the State. Informational packets regarding the library district option are being sent to all town and village supervisors and mayors as well as Erie County Legislators – this is all the information currently posted on the Library website. A cover letter will notify them that the Director's Office will be contacting them to make appointments to meet to help in the education process of what a special library district could potentially mean for the residents of Erie County.

Ms. Jakubowski called upon Mr. Stone to provide an update on the temporary closing of the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library caused by a vehicle running into the side of the building and dislodging the air handling system. Mr. Stone provided detailed information of the incident and damage status. He further explained they are waiting

to receive a part and once installed and operational, the building should be able to be reopened. Mr. Stone's hopes the Merriweather Library can be reopened in less than two weeks, noting however the building will not be perfect and permanent repairs could take any number of months. Both Ms. Jakubowski and Mr. Stone pointed out the Library has had a very positive response from the City of Buffalo and they know it is a priority.

The following was submitted by the Director and transmitted to Board members prior to the meeting:

## **Monthly Report of Library System Activity July 21, 2011**

### **1. PUBLIC SERVICES**

#### **Programs, Learning Opportunities, Outreach and Events**

Grosvenor Room Librarian **Carol Pijacki** prepared the current display, *The Blue and the Gray: Songs of the Civil War*. The Civil War years coincided with the rise of the American song publishing industry. Troops often sung the same songs together at night from their respective trenches. The graphics for the exhibit were created by Graphics Department artists **Dawn Stanton** and **Darlene Pennachi**.

The Milestones of Science website has been completely updated – both content and design: <http://milestones.buffalolib.org/>. The Book Browser now contains complete bibliographic information and an image for every item. This site was initially made possible by the financial support of The John R. Oishei Foundation with the cooperation of the Library Foundation of Buffalo and Erie County, Inc. and the Buffalo Museum of Science. William S. Hein & Co. generously donated imaging services. Special thanks go to Webmaster **Terri Dickson** for doing a phenomenal job on a monumental project and to former Rare Book Librarian - now Director of the Aurora Town Library **Rob Alessi**, Rare Book Librarian **Amy Pickard**, Assistant Deputy Director for Special Collections **Peggy Skotnicki** and former librarians **Amy Vilz** and **Elaine Barone** for text and editing.

The Milestones of Science is a collection of first and rare editions by world famous early scientists that forms a veritable history of science and is housed in the B&ECPL Rare Book Room.

**Carol Pijacki** presided at the June 21<sup>st</sup> Literally Speaking Lunchtime Book Discussion Group for the title *What Happened to Cass McBride?* by Gail Giles.

The Library was contacted by Henry Sweets, curator of the Mark Twain Boyhood Home & Museum in Hannibal, Missouri. He requested that the Library purchase the new commemorative Mark Twain stamp that was issued on June 25<sup>th</sup> and send his museum 4 B&ECPL envelopes with that day's cancellation. This was done and he reciprocated for the Rare Book Room's collection.

Grosvenor Room Librarian **Rhonda Konig** began training UB Department of Library and Information Studies practicum student Jennifer Cheney on the Grosvenor Room's Local History File digitization project.

The Grosvenor Room received a thank you letter from a Buffalo Seminary student who used the Grosvenor Room to work on her senior project, researching her family history. **Rhonda Konig** provided her with a brief tour and consultation session, and Grosvenor Room staff provided guidance when she needed individual assistance. She wrote:

*"Thank you so very much for helping me learn how to research my family history. I enjoyed spending time with you, and discovering new research skills. The skills I have gathered from my time with you are ones I will now have for life."*

The Grosvenor Room had visitors from Australia who used the city directories for their family history research.

Public technology training continues to be in high demand in libraries throughout Erie County. One hundred fifty-eight classes were conducted by the B&ECPL Training Lab staff during the first 6 months of 2011 for 1,334 attendees. This month, 34 classes were held for 292 attendees at 11 different B&ECPL libraries. Attendees continue to highly rate the classes and the trainers. Sample comments included:

- *Having free computer training is a great opportunity to strengthen computer skills for job-related tasks. (Trainer **Nell Aronoff**, Central Training Lab)*
- *These programs are a great benefit to the community (Trainer **Andy Aquino**, Hamburg Library)*
- *Thank you for the opportunity to show off to my grands! (Trainer **Kara Stock**, East Clinton Branch)*

Staff comments supporting the technology training also remain very positive and include:

- *I cannot stress how much the public love this service. It is by far the most successful programming efforts I have done thus far. (Crane Branch)*
- *We appreciate the Computer Training Lab staff providing the computer classes, the public really enjoys them. (Kenmore Library)*

The Central Library Training Lab was also used by the Buffalo Public Schools to conduct 4 ESL classes, 4 specialized classes conducted by the Library's Adult Programming Team and a database overview class conducted by Librarian **Hadeen Stokes** for students from the Pinnacle Charter School.

Technology Trainer **Andy Aquino** taught 2 classes at the Western New York Library Resources Council (WNYLRC) on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Facebook and Flickr were presented as part of the B&ECPL's Web 2.0 LSTA grant. The free classes were offered to library professionals throughout Western New York and provided a partnering opportunity to showcase classes that were developed to support the LSTA Grant.

**Terri Dickson** has completed the "Summer Reading" related web-content additions for the program which was kicked off on June 18<sup>th</sup> and will last until September 4<sup>th</sup>. She is also working on the addition of new map collections of digital content for the Special Collections website.

This month, the B&ECPL Subject Guides resource pages were visited by users not only from all across the United States, but as far away as the United Kingdom, Sweden, Italy, Germany, Romania, Philippines, South Korea, and Brunei. Members of the Subject Guides Committee, **Angela Pierpaoli, Meg Cheman, Maureen McLaughlin, Beth Staebell, Hadeen Stokes, and Kristi Klier** met June 3<sup>rd</sup> to welcome new members **Kara Stock** and **Susan Kriegbaum-Hanks** and plan for continued improved access to our resources. Assignments and oversight maintenance were reallocated.

**Anne Conable** from Development and Communications coordinated the following Central Library events and activities:

- "Imagining Buffalo" lunchtime series - Anthony Bannon, George Eastman House, Rochester 6/14 (42); Kitty Turgeon, Roycroft Campus 6/21 (27); County Executive Chris Collins 6/24 (58).
- UNYTS blood drive 6/9.
- Author program: Chris Van Allsburg 6/6 (125 students, chaperones from Enterprise Charter School and Bennett Park Montessori).
- Community events: Youth Prison Prevention Project Talent Show 6/2 (31); Bloomsday Irish Writers program/Vincent O'Neill 6/16 (24); speaker Jim Charlier on Garden Tourism & Natl Buffalo Garden Festival 6/27 (14); Nickel City Opera lunchtime program 6/28 (12).
- Displays: coordinate installation and opening reception 6/16 for Tapestry Charter School student graphic novels (65).

**Dawn Stanton** and **Darlene Pennachi** have worked on the following:

- RBR - "Lafayette Square Then and Now" display - panels, sign on glass, visual leader, brochure, marble wall
- Family press conference - photos, certificate, large library card

- Anniversary graphic – large cupcake graphic for 7 trucks, 4 on marble wall (front of building), Washington Street entrance
- Pod – decorated for tote bag prize giveaway
- Summer Reading promotion - placed decorations and anniversary cupcake hanging in atrium
- Summer Reading promotion – adult summer reading decorations on pod in circulation area
- *Martha Speaks* program – template flyer
- Kelmscott/William Morris – panels from display – prepare for shipping to libraries for display
- GRO – Civil War music display
- Past Forward posters
- Rules of Conduct – 1 for each library
- Battle of the Books – schedule, map, certificates
- Signs for libraries – LCW, CLA, AUD, CON, WSE, EDL

We are currently designing a new library card to replace our current card when the supply is exhausted.

During the month of June, the Children’s Programming Team presented 50 programs at the Central Library and System branches (including Outreach, school visits and programs) for 1,767 individuals.

On Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, the Jafarjian family concluded their tour of all 37 Buffalo and Erie County Public Libraries with a visit to the Central Library. **Kerra Alessi** and **Kathy Goodrich** gave Stacie, Albert, Anna and Mary Grace a private tour of the Central Library that included a stop in the Grosvenor Room, Mark Twain Room and Tier A. The daughters also received a “Goodie Bag” filled with bookmarks, pens, pencils and summer program information.

Martha, Martha, Martha! In collaboration with WNED- TV, several libraries are offering Martha Speaks Book Clubs. Martha is the canine star of the PBS series, *Martha Speaks* and the star of her own series of popular picture books. At the Central Library, over 100 pre-K and kindergarten students from Enterprise Charter School, Bennett Park Montessori and Ripen with Us daycare enjoyed a “Meet and Greet” with Martha. The Club continued on Saturdays in June. Reading therapy dogs made a special appearance at the June 25<sup>th</sup> program.

At the East Delavan Library, Felicia Santiago, Read To Succeed Buffalo, made arrangements for 106 children and adults from local daycare centers to meet Martha. The following 2 weeks were almost as well attended with 55 and 75 attendees. Children’s Programming Team member, **Nancy Smith** is a big hit with the East Delavan crowd!

Martha also visited the Niagara Branch Library on Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> to kick off their Book Club. **Ashley Stanton** went above and beyond the call of duty in fulfilling the role of Martha on a very warm day! And On June 9<sup>th</sup>, Martha visited the Lackawanna Library. The best part of the program was when the kids had their pictures taken with Martha!

Thanks to **Mary Ann Budny, Wanda Collins, Gwen Collier, Becky Pieszala** and **Nancy Smith** who have helped make Martha really speak to the kids at the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library!

Some highlights from June programming at the Central Library:

- A visit from Caldecott award winning author Chris Van Allsburg on June 6<sup>th</sup>, courtesy of Talking Leaves Bookstore. Two hundred ninety-eight students and teachers from Bennett Park Montessori and Enterprise Charter School 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades attended this event. During his presentation, Mr. Van Allsburg highlighted his most recent book *Queen of the Falls*. Children and adults alike thoroughly enjoyed his talk and slideshow on Annie Edson Taylor who went over Niagara Falls in a wooden barrel.
- On Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, the Summer Reading Kick-Off was held at the Central Library. Along with a variety of activities for children, the community organization EPIC (Every Person Influences Children) had a table promoting their workshops. Special guest Mr. J (the Magic and Mr. J) entertained an audience of about 65 children and adults with his unique show that combined books and magic. Children and families also celebrated the Library's 175<sup>th</sup> Birthday with cupcakes from Wegmans and juice donated by Wendy's. The movie *Never Say Never* featuring Justin Bieber was also shown during this event.
- Summer programs officially began on June 28<sup>th</sup> with the antics of In Jest. Sixty-eight children and adults enjoyed tricks and comedy featuring Nels Creman. This was a great way to start a summer of fun.
- Miss Nancy's "Hold my Hand" story hour returned on June 29<sup>th</sup> with "Funny Funny" stories. Miss Nancy read *Watch Out Big Bob's Coming*, *Bark George* and *The Doghouse*. After the stories, the children made beautiful African necklaces with Miss Nancy.
- The "Terrific Thursdays" children's movie series began on Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup> with *Kung Fu Panda*. Thirty-five children attended and also received snacks to munch and Wendy's juice while enjoying the movie.

June is also a popular month for class visits and field trips. Several schools ended their year with a visit to the Central Library. On June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, Library Associate **Cyndy**

**Lenzner** gave a tour to the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students of Martin Road Elementary School (Lackawanna). After the tour, **Becky Pieszala** read stories and made funny hats with the children. On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 109 students from Arcade Elementary School made their annual trip into Buffalo to visit the Central Library. **Kerra Alessi** and **Mary Ann Budny** led the tours. On June 16<sup>th</sup>, **Kathy Goodrich**, **Mary Ann Budny**, **Cyndy Lenzner** and **Becky Pieszala** led a tour for 100 students from Delavan Elementary School. On June 20<sup>th</sup>, the Bennett Park Montessori kindergarten and preschool students made their final visit of the school year. **Becky Pieszala** read stories and made a paper bag bunny puppet with them.

Some highlights of System programs:

- June 27<sup>th</sup>, saw the return of regularly scheduled story hours, special events and teen programs. *One World - Many Stories* is this year's summer reading theme for children. Each story hour program reflects this theme with stories, crafts and activities about animals, music and children from around the world. Librarian **Wanda Collins** presented story hours at Clearfield, Lackawanna, Lancaster and Clarence Libraries. **Mary Ann Budny** brought her programs to the Reinstein and Angola Libraries. **Becky Pieszala** presented preschool at Marilla, Riverside, and Kenmore Libraries. **Cyndy Lenzner** presented story hours at Dudley, Williamsville and Lakeshore Libraries. **Nancy Smith** presented story hours at North Park, East Delavan and Crane Libraries.
- The Boston Library Pet Show on June 24<sup>th</sup> kicked off the summer specials for System libraries. **Kathy Goodrich** was the guest judge at this event. Each pet received a special award and a treat to bring home. Children who attended spoke about their pets and how they cared for them. Over 50 people and 30 animals attended. Among the cats, dogs and guinea pigs, there were also newts, a bunny, a bearded dragon, snakes, a beetle and 5 chickens! Considering the number of pets (and people) in the community room, the animals were remarkably well behaved!
- On June 27<sup>th</sup>, **Kerra Alessi** presented the delicious "Candy Around the World" program at the North Collins Library. Teens sampled chocolate from different countries and played candy trivia.
- On June 28<sup>th</sup>, 24 children put on their dancing shoes and went to a World Dance Party at the Niagara Branch Library. **Cyndy Lenzner** and children danced to music from different countries. They also used instruments to create their own type of music.
- **Sarah Gallien** presented the popular "Little Green Thumbs" program at the Reinstein Library on June 30<sup>th</sup>. This program introduces children to basic

vegetable gardening. They also had an opportunity to pot their very own plant to take home and watch grow.

Outreach programming opportunities in June:

**Kathy Goodrich** spoke about the library profession to 22 3rd grade ESL students at the Charter School of Technology at Career Day. They also were very excited to receive their first library cards.

**Kerra Alessi** gave 10 tours of the East Delavan Library to over 165 kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students from School 17. She also spoke about the importance of reading during the summer. After the tour, **Becky Pieszala** read stories and made a craft with the students.

Adult Programming and Outreach Librarians **Susan Kriegbaum-Hanks**, **Peter Lisker**, **Hadeen Stokes**, and **Dan Caufield** presented several classes and lectures concerning small business development, health & wellness, consumerism and job hunting. Additionally, they lectured outside the library to various governmental (SCORE, ECC One Stop) and neighborhood community groups about resources available through the B&ECPL. A total of 17 classes/lectures were held reaching 307 people.

The Adult Summer Reading program began on Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Two weeks into the program, there were 82 participants. This includes 64 NEW participants who had not previously registered for the program, as well as 18 patrons who participated in last year's contest. A total of 153 reviews have been accepted for this year's contest so far.

On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, **Dan Caufield** helped coordinate and spoke at a SCORE workshop held in the Central Library meeting room. Thirty-three men and women interested in starting a small business attended and enjoyed this daylong seminar.

Also on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, **Peter Lisker** presented a Health & Wellness Program at LMHF Healthy Mind & Body Retreat. The program, covering all of B&ECPL's health resources, was well received by the 40 LMHF doctors and agents in attendance.

Central Library -

The Media Shelving Team's main accomplishments for June was to lower the average wait time for DVD's to return to shelves from 3-4 days to 1 day! The ability to focus pages on only shelving DVD's has dramatically decreased the time that was needed to get material reshelved.

This anecdote was relayed by **Nancy Mueller**, from Deb Bokobza, the Buffalo Public Schools ESL teacher at the Central Library (Debbie's class is Burmese refugees):



Hi,

*I don't know if this tidbit is worthy of being put in a report but I thought it was a touching story. There is a regular patron of the library who comes everyday rain or shine. You may have seen him-he's an older gentleman who pushes a walker. His name is Jack.*

*My students and I became friendly with him. He seemed to enjoy conversing with them.*

*Yesterday for the last day, he came to the classroom with presents for all the men in the class. He gave each of them a nice hat!!*

*I thought that was really sweet and nice to see the connection between the refugees and an American library customer.*

### Buffalo City Branches –

- The Crane Branch celebrated the Library System's 175th birthday year on June 18<sup>th</sup>. **Mary Schiffhauer** sat at the door along with a volunteer and introduced herself and explained to some unknowing patrons what the celebration was all about. A kite making program was held in the meeting room. Mary talked up the summer programs and encouraged people to become a friend of the Crane Library. The entire staff did a marvelous job in keeping the operation running in the midst of numerous patrons and high decibel volume throughout the day.
- Jeff Musial of Nickel City Reptiles and Exotics stopped by the Dudley Branch and showed off a collection of mammals from around the world! A spider monkey from Mexico, a ball python, and a fennec fox (native to Africa) were among the mammals viewed by an enthusiastic audience of 32.
- On June 8<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, the East Delavan Branch had class visits from Buffalo Public Schools 17 and 71. A total of 175 children and teachers in 5 different groups visited over 3 days. Staff processed 105 library card applications for the classes. **Kerra Alessi** and **Rebecca Pieszala** from the Children's Programming Team came to East Delavan to do a tour, a story and a craft with the children. Grateful staff said that they could not have done it without them.
- On Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, at Merriweather, a discussion and book signing featured Dr. Frank E. Dobson, Jr. Dr. Dobson, a Buffalo native, authored *Rendered Invisible*, a historical novella that centers on the ".22 caliber killer" in Western New York.
- The YMCA Summer Day Camp has begun weekly visits to the Niagara Branch on Monday afternoons.
- North Park Library Associate **Sean Goodrich** held the Superheroes program on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Each child who came to the program made a comic book, superhero and mask while watching *Batman: The Animated Series*. Each child was also given a free comic book. The program was attended by 15 children and 4 adults. The mother of one of the boys who attended, Gina Kleinmartin, posted this on our Facebook page shortly after the event:

*"Just wanted to let you know, our son was inspired. He's been drawing comics all day. :)"*

- On June 25<sup>th</sup>, Riverside Library held their Summer Kick-Off and Library Birthday Party; twenty-four children attended. This event featured story time with special guest reader City of Buffalo Common Council Member Joseph Golombek, Jr. who read a passage from *The Hobbit*. Sr. Page **Leah Brown** read the story *All Kinds of Children*. Library Associate **Tami Linkowski** read *Make the Moose Out of Everything*. **Leah Brown** and **Caitlin Goodrich** helped with a moose door hanger craft and sidewalk chalk drawing contest.

Read Down Your Fines kicked off on June 18<sup>th</sup> and will continue until September 3<sup>rd</sup>. This program, designed to bring kids back to the Library, offers children and teens the opportunity to read as a way to reduce their library fines. To reach even more kids in the community, **Meg Cheman** worked with Penny Snell of YMCA Buffalo Niagara to coordinate the program for the YMCA summer camps. Children can read and earn READING BUCKS at their summer camp and redeem them at any B&ECPL library.

**Collins Public Library** – submitted by Karen McClure, Library Director

Like most libraries, we are noticing a change in our usage. We circulate more media and have an interest in new technology like eBooks and audio downloads. These numbers have us reducing print reference and nonfiction while increasing audio, DVD, Blu-Ray, and other newer collections that support our users changing needs.

Libraries are always vibrant changing places and it is exciting to be part of the new technology classes that are being offered to the staff. I have taken 3 so far in the past month and they have been very relevant. I helped a user with his NOOK the day after I took a class on eBooks and audio downloads.

We used June to get ready to garden in the country with Herb Gardening Basics taught by Master Gardener Tina Szulewski. We are having a series of programs featuring Master Gardeners from the Cooperative Extension.

Legislator John Mills sponsored his Hot Dog Roast on June 18<sup>th</sup>. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> year Legislator Mills has generously donated his time, food (hot dogs, Italian sausage, and Mayer Brothers water), and all of his proceeds to the libraries in his district.

The Library celebrated its 175 Anniversary and we served punch and cupcakes all day long on Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> to honor the event. In the evening, we had a Summer Reading Kick-Off with giveaways and a program for our children.

In July, our Summer Reading programs begin along with a new Family Film series we are trying this summer. The adults can take computer classes, come to our Friday film, or Quilt with Florence. Summer is always fun in WNY and we love to participate in that with our summer programs.

## Collections: Development and Use

Chris Van Allsburg signed a first edition of his latest book *Queen of the Falls* for the Rare Book Room during his visit to the Central Library on June 6<sup>th</sup>. The picture book depicts the life of Annie Edson Taylor, the first person to go over Niagara Falls in a wooden barrel and live to tell about it.

Grosvenor Room Librarian **Charles Alaimo** worked with **Terri Dickson** to add a Maps section to the Grosvenor Room web pages. The Grosvenor Room is now responsible for Central Library maps.

<http://www.buffalolib.org/libraries/collections/maps/index.asp>

**Carol Pijacki** and **Charles Alaimo** evaluated holdings in the boxed newspaper collection, identifying titles for special treatment and others for de-selection, based on criteria involving condition, worldwide holdings and microfilm access.

Library materials' vendor Ingram sales representative Jeff Meskill met with several B&ECPL staff members on June 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss recent features added to their collection development and ordering website called iPage. As a result of his visit, Technical Services Manager **Jennifer Childs** created iPage accounts for Collection Development team members who order print materials. Several features on iPage may prove to be beneficial for collection development purposes and warrant further review.

On June 21<sup>st</sup>, Assistant Deputy Director **Carol Batt**, Technical Services & Technology Support Manager **Maureen McLaughlin** and **Jennifer Childs** met with representatives Dana Reeves and Jill Mason from subscriptions vendor W.T. Cox to learn about their periodicals purchasing and management services.

Collection Development staff responded to 374 patron purchase suggestions in June.

Freegal Music downloads continue to be popular. In June, 526 patrons downloaded a total of 3,474 titles.

In June, 553 downloadable eBooks and 161 downloadable audiobooks were added to the Library's collection.

## 2. FUNDING

### Fundraising

The Library Gala (11/5/11) is moving along with \$33,500 committed in sponsorships from: Library Foundation - \$10,000; William S. Hein & Co. - \$ 5,000; Trish Brunsing \$ 5,000; Webster Szanyi, LLP -\$ 3,500; Manning & Napier Advisors - \$ 2,500; Hodgson

Russ (Sharon Kelly) \$ 2,500; Amy Alvarez \$ 2,500; and Anne Leary \$ 2,500. Table commitments include: Victor Rice, Wayne Wisbaum, Jack Connors, Rick and Nancy Berger, Pat Martin, Mark and Leslie Celmer, William Mattar, Alisa LaPlante, Chantal Martin, Hadley Exhibits (in-kind), Eric Mower & Associates (in-kind). More than 100 proposals have been sent including to M & T and Blue Cross.

Anyone interested in committing to a table should contact Administrator for Public Relations and Development **Joy Testa Cinquino** at 858-7182. Invitations will be mailed in late September.

The online auction spearheaded by B&ECPL Trustee Judy Summer has approximately 175 donations to date. The auction will run mid-October – November 5<sup>th</sup>. More details are forthcoming.

A HUGE library book sale will take place at the Central Library on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Joy Testa Cinquino**, Director **Mary Jean Jakubowski** and B&ECPL Board Trustee **Anne Leary** will meet with Stan Lipsey from the *Buffalo News* later this month to map out the plan for the new to run ads in support of giving to the Library System. Mr. Lipsey committed to providing financial support for the libraries.

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, Anne Leary, **Mary Jean Jakubowski**, **Joy Testa Cinquino**, **Peggy Skotnicki** and **Amy Pickard** met with William S. Hein & Co. President Kevin Marmion and Vice President Scott Fiddler to discuss the selection of Rare Book Room items for reproduction to benefit the Library.

Subsequently, **Amy Pickard** consulted Thomas Lisanti, Manager of the New York Public Library's Research/Document Delivery/Permissions section, about their image/reproduction sales. According to Mr. Lisanti, local photos and views of the Hudson are their best sellers for non-licensed images. Licensed image use constitutes the bulk of their money generation; prints for personal use represent only 10% of their reproduction business.

**Debra Lawrence**, **Linda Bohlen** and **Joy Testa Cinquino** from Development & Communications and **Tracy Palicki** from the Business Office have and will continue to participate in Blackbaud webinars on management of online fundraising.

### 3. OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

#### Facilities

At 5:04 a.m. on Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, a vehicle careened out of control and struck the southeast corner of the Frank E. Merriweather Jr. Library (the portion closest to the corner of Jefferson and Utica). Police and fire response were almost immediate (police within 2 minutes, fire within 5 minutes).

While the overall building appears structurally sound, the circular section housing heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment suffered extensive damage. A section of the wall is gone and the force of the impact literally bent and shifted HVAC equipment approximately 1 foot. City Fire and Public Works Department crews, **Chip Campbell** - Supervising Chief Engineer Central Library Maintenance Department, and Deputy Director **Kenneth Stone** responded to the site to inspect the damage and clear away debris. City Police performed accident investigation work. A City of Buffalo board up crew secured the building.

At present, the building's ventilation and air conditioning systems are not functional. In addition to the air handler equipment in the room, portions of the integrated hot water and chilled water system serving the remaining building air handlers were also extensively damaged.

City engineers have inspected the damage and have recommended actions to stabilize the impacted area. Work will then be undertaken to isolate and bypass the damaged portions of the hot and chilled water system to allow the 2 remaining air handlers to resume operation. This should then allow the building to reopen.

Given expected temperatures this time of year and the library's sealed windows, the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library has been closed until further notice.

Repair or replacement of the damaged HVAC system will take much longer.

While detailed engineering analysis is yet to be completed, very preliminary repair costs estimates could range in excess of \$50,000-80,000.

Given the damaged was caused by a vehicular accident, staff is assembling documentation and will track costs so they can be recovered from the vehicle owners/insurers in cooperation with the City.

Also, as the repairs are a major capital outlay in nature, it falls to the City of Buffalo as building owner to contract for and supervise reconstruction (even if paid by an insurer). **Chip Campbell** has already spoken with Steve Stepniak (City Department of Public

Works Commissioner) and Joe Scollard (City Buildings and Grounds). We understand City staff are gathering data from the Police Department to get started on an insurance claim.

New windows have been installed at the Dudley Branch giving the front of the building a facelift. The Children's area is really bright and open now!

### Technology

After a postponement necessitated by theft-detection gate production delays, the Audubon and Williamsville Libraries were brought up as fully functioning RFID (radio frequency identification) sites the week of June 27<sup>th</sup>. To date, all Buffalo City Branches, all Amherst Libraries and the East Aurora Library are operating with the new RFID program and self check-out process. The Orchard Park and Elma Libraries are scheduled to 'go live' in July 2011. RFID tagging and encoding continues at the Central Library, with a dedicated conversion team making significant progress updating the open shelf collection.

RFID Kudos! Special mention should be made that the East Clinton Library achieved an 89.72% self check-out rate and East Aurora an 80% self check-out rate this month. Congratulations to the staff at both locations for adopting the new technology and encouraging their users to take advantage of the automated check-out process.

Information Technology Administrator **Toni Naumovski** released a software package to all staff computers for an automated upgrade of Adobe Flash Player to version 10.3. The latest Flash Player application safely enables staff computer users to view and browse work-related websites that provide enriched web content experience.

Two under-utilized City Branch laptops have been reconfigured by the Information Technology Team and reassigned for public use at the East Clinton Library. Library cardholders now have the option of checking out a laptop for in-house use as an alternative to the standard desktop PCs. The 2 additional computers will also help minimize wait time during peak public computer use.

The eLibrary Technology Team continued working with the software that will replace the online Web2 Catalog. Despite some ongoing instability with the test platform, **Maureen McLaughlin** continues to work with SirsiDynix WorkFlows policy files to enable catalog enhancements, while **Johnny Hsu** and **Terri Dickson** have been dealing with programming and display functionality. Some of the features enabled this month include the ability to edit and suspend holds and display of item type icons. Lists of "best seller" and "recommended reading" titles have been successfully downloaded, and reports that will generate lists of new and "on order" titles are being configured.

Separate search screens for popular material types are also in development. It is anticipated that the catalog will be ready for public release early this fall.

Key Information Technology and Technology Support staff members joined the SirsiDynix Strategic Partner Program (SPP) in June. The program provides an opportunity to preview, test, and suggest improvements in a collaborative environment while products and software are in development. In July, the team plans to participate in the development of the company's integrated Facebook application.

Central Library Reorganization:

**Meg Cheman** met with **Ann Kling, Dan Caufield, Nancy Mueller, Bruce Weymouth** and **Michelle Hurley** to discuss which nonfiction collections should be moved to the Popular Materials area when the media is moved to its new space.

The new Media space has been cleared of the old partition, shelving, desks, etc. The floor has been stripped and waxed and walls are getting a fresh coat of paint. A special thank you goes to the Maintenance staff for their untiring work to keep this project moving forward. IT and Maintenance staff shifted BST computers to tables and moved the computer furniture to the first floor in readiness for the wiring. When drilling and wiring is complete, all computers will move to the first floor and BST will be closed.

### Staff Development

Grosvenor Room Manager **Claudia Yates** attended the last session of the Western New York Library Resources Council's series, Basics of Managing Archives and Historical Records Collections, entitled *How Things Look to the Outside: Promoting Use and Support for Your Collections*.

Grosvenor Room Librarians **Carol Pijacki** and **Susan Cutrona** attended *Excel II Intermediate Training*.

**Carol Pijacki** attended the June 22<sup>nd</sup> evening presentation *Developing the Larkin District: Past, Present and Into the Future*. Of the 4 presenters, Chris Hawley, urban planner and writer, is a frequent user of Grosvenor Room resources.

Staff technology training classes continue to be well attended and well received. A total of 12 classes were conducted by B&ECPL Training Lab staff for over 100 attendees during the month of June. In addition to *Introduction to Facebook* and *Introduction to Flickr* classes, "hands-on" e-book downloading for the Nook, SONY e-Reader & iPad2 as well as audiobook downloads on the iPod Touch classes were also conducted. Staff comments about the downloads classes included:

- *Tom Carloni was a wonderful presenter. Definitely makes more sense now. All librarians & staff should participate.*

- *Andy Aquino did great training. I feel much more confident in finding my way around downloads. I liked the hands-on, it was very helpful to have devices right in front of us.*

**Maureen McLaughlin** and Technology Support Librarian **Kelly Donovan** traveled to Pennsylvania Dutch Country June 13-16 to attend the 2011 SirsiDynix Northeast Regional User's Group (SNRG) conference at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, PA. Highlights of the conference included a preview of the SirsiDynix Facebook for Libraries application, a presentation on customizations for eLibrary, and meeting B&ECPL's Library Relations Manager (LRM) Vera Maeser.

On June 10<sup>th</sup>, **Kara Stock** and **Kelly Donovan** attended WNYLRC's *Gadgets & Gear 2: Mobile Trends & Technology* workshop. Mobile library websites were covered as well as eReaders. Speaker Kevin Purdy was the highlight with future predictions including WiMax and cloud computing.

Senior Library Clerk **Jeff McChesney** attended the "Downloads 2 Go" staff training class on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Staff members, **Cindy Zubler**, **Jeff McChesney**, **Amy Pieczynski**, **Dale Schmid** and **Laura Lewis** attended the "Excel II" staff training class on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Processing staff, including Processing Supervisor **Britt White** attended the EAP (Employee Assistance Program) workshop "Improving Effective Communication" on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

Library Associates **Cindy Zubler** and **Diane Doster** attended a Western New York Library Assistants' (WNYLA) meeting on June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Members of the Disaster Preparedness Committee, **Meg Cheman**, **Jennifer Childs**, **Nancy Mueller**, **Claudia Yates**, **Britt White** and **Dawn Peters** met to plan the October 2011 Manager's Meeting presentation.

**Jennifer Childs** attended a Preservation Committee meeting at WNYLRC on June 16<sup>th</sup>.

Library Associate **Rosalyn Damico**, Librarian **Peter Lisker** and Library Associate **Lenora Macy** participated in a two-day wellness initiative on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at Tamarack Inn at Holiday Valley. Sponsored by the Labor Management Healthcare Fund, the retreat modeled positive behavior in eating, exercise, and overall health and wellness. Participants found the retreat enjoyable as well as educational.

**Ann Kling** attended the American Library Association Annual Conference in New Orleans from June 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>.



#### 4. COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

##### Media Coverage / Media Releases

**Joy Testa Cinquino**, PR Manager reports:

Media Events:

- Summer Reading / 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Media Event @ Central Library on June 15<sup>th</sup>, covered by *Buffalo News*, Channel 4, Channel 7, YNN, WBEN, WNED, WBFO, *Metro News*, *Bee Publications*
- Jafarjian Family Tour Media Event @ Central Library on June 29<sup>th</sup>, covered by the *Buffalo News*, WIVB TV, *Bee Publications*, WBFO radio

Media releases sent for:

- JBR Computer Center
- Mary Jean Jakubowski new Director
- Jafarjian Family
- Summer Reading events and activities
- Merriweather Damage Temporary Closure

**Mary Jean Jakubowski** interviewed by:

- *Spree Magazine* for September issue
- *Lancaster Bee*
- *Buffalo News* for July article
- WNED, WBFO, WBEN

**Ann Kling** was interviewed by the *Buffalo News* regarding Harry Potter on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

Summer Reading radio spots are currently running (at no charge) on Kiss Radio, 102.5 Radio, WBEN Radio, WGR radio (Entercom stations).

Summer Reading TV spots are currently running (at no charge) on WGRZ TV 2 and the City of Buffalo cable station.

All Erie County employee paychecks now feature a blurb about the Library System's summer reading programs.

We have received 40 patron comments in the past month. Comments ranging from questions about overdue fines to recommending books for our circulation.

##### **Library 2.0: Facebook.**

The Central Library Facebook page has over **2,560** fans, up from 2,511 in May. The average number of monthly active users to the B&ECPL Facebook page is **1,778** with the

overall number of "likes" totaling **2,565**. In addition to the usual event announcements, June Facebook posts included this fan question:



[Shreen Beshures](#) Do any of the libraries carry Rosetta Stone? Would like to teach my daughter French over the summer...



[Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library](#) Hi Shreen- We're glad you asked! Rosetta Stone will not sell its product to public libraries. But we do have good news! You can learn French with Mango Languages accessible online through our website. You'll need your library card...



[Shreen Beshures](#) That is too bad about Rosetta Stone, but awesome about the Mango Languages! Hopefully my daughter will be able to "parle Francais" in no time!



[Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library](#) Oui oui! Have fun with the program and keep us posted on her progress this summer...

And this wall post as well:



[Buffalo & Erie County Public Library - Central Library](#) Kids -- "Read Down" your fines! If you are 16 and under and have overdue fines, now is your chance to read them down. Visit your library for more details. **READING BUCKS** are redeemable through September 30, 2011. It's Fun! It's Exciting! IT'S READING!



[10 people](#) like this.



[Lilly White](#) Sounds like a progressive program. Getting kids back into the library. GREAT!

### **Library 2.0: Twitter.**

The Library's Twitter account now has over **1,850** followers. In addition to many RTs (re-tweets) tweets mentioning the Buffalo Library included:



[kristinmjordan](#) Kristin Jordan: Looking for summer literacy programs for children in Buffalo? Check out [@monkeysread](#) [@buffalolibrary](#) for different opportunities! [#buffalo](#)



[lakeeriemonster](#) lakeeriemonster: At [@BuffaloLibrary](#) Dudley to see [@JeffAnimalGuy](#).



[karakane](#) karakane: [@buffalolibrary](#) you're my hero. I'll start with Kurlansky's Salt, move into the Standage bk on beer & then everything by Simon Winchester.



[@karakane](#) karakane: 5 down, 15 to go [#readingchallenge @buffalolibrary](#). Any recs for microhistories like "Cod" & "Mauve"? <https://ny.evanced.info/buffalo/sr/hom>



[@thedog\\_ear](#) Senga Rich: USPS will offer Mark Twain stamp on June 25. [@buffalolibrary](#) is probably very excited. <http://lat.ms/13lMzb>

## 5. SPECIAL PROJECTS

### Re-Imagining

Re-Imagine's next meeting will be held in September.

### Governance Models

Association of Contracting Library Trustees President Suzanne Jacobs, Consultant Libby Post and **Mary Jean Jakubowski** met with 21/22 Boards of Trustees in the month of June to answer questions and address concerns with regard to the potential re-governance to a library district model.

Ellen Bach of Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna LLP attended the June 23<sup>rd</sup> Planning Committee meeting. Ms. Bach provided legal insight to the district concept, answering questions and speaking about contents of legislation versus memoranda of understanding/agreement. Unique situations, particularly with the association libraries will be investigated by Ms. Bach as additional information is received.

**Ken Stone** and **Mary Jean Jakubowski** presented information pertaining to the district model to the Erie County Legislature's Community Enrichment Committee on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Included in the presentation was historical and current financial information. Board Chair Sharon Thomas also presented.

**Doreen Woods**, Assistant Deputy Director, and **Ken Stone** met with Librarian Association President **Tim Galvin** discussing the district model at the monthly meeting of labor-management.

Meetings with additional stakeholders are being planned. Ms. Post will be presenting an overview of the library district model to staff in August.

Agenda Item G - Report of the Foundation. Anne Leary reported the Foundation met on June 23<sup>rd</sup> mainly to discuss the Library's November 5<sup>th</sup> 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala. Victor Rice, Foundation Board Chair, has scheduled a meeting with Director Jakubowski to discuss how the Foundation is going to play a role if the Library moves to a library voter district. Ms. Leary provided a Gala update noting they currently have 21 tables of 10 committed and \$36,000 in sponsorships plus in kind with some asks still

out there. All the Foundation members have committed to purchasing or putting together a table. The hope is to get about another 100 people to attend the Gala. Rich's Renaissance Catering has been selected as the caterer, there will be a silent auction, and a number of gift gathering parties in the community held this fall; trustees will be included on the list to attend any/or all. Trustees will be receiving an invitation to a cocktail reception held by Ms. Leary at her home on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Work continues on the live auction and online auction. Ms. Summer announced she met her goal of collecting 175 items for the online auction (which begins October 17, 2011) and noted there will be more; people have been incredibly generous. Discussion regarding obtaining donations from library vendors as well as from Library Counsel took place. Mr. Connors inquired how many letters have gone out. Ms. Testa Cinquino answered over 100-125 and committee members as well as others sent additional letters to their contacts.

Mr. Connors commented they will need to look at Foundation bylaws to see if they are still relevant in relationship to the Library System should it become a special district.

Agenda Item H - Public Comment. There was no public comment.

Agenda Item I - Unfinished Business. Library Counsel Patrick Martin was consulted to clarify a question from a previous Board meeting pertaining to whether or not a board member who calls into a board meeting is allowed to vote. Ms. Thomas shared Mr. Martin's answer that the current bylaw Article II, section 6 is in compliance with NY law (Not for Profit Corporation Law section 708) if a trustee participates by teleconference as stated therein (can be heard and can hear all trustees at the same item), that participation shall "constitute presence in person at the meeting". Therefore, the trustee would count towards a quorum and would be able to vote.

Agenda Item J - New Business. None.

There being no further business, on motion by Ms. Summer, seconded by Ms. Horton, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Panty  
Secretary