

Monthly Report for the
Cheektowaga Public Libraries (CPL)
January 2025

1. PUBLIC SERVICES

Programs, Learning Opportunities, Outreach and Events

Highlights:

- January 11 – The Anna Reinstein Library hosted its monthly movie day with snacks and drinks for attendees. This month’s family movie was Inside Out 2.



- January 12 & 26 – Librarian Laura Scott led the Teen Dungeons and Dragons sessions at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library. These programs have drawn a loyal following with teens in our area enjoying an afternoon of fantasy adventure.



- January 4 (JBR) & January 11 (REI) “Kids Crocheting” and “Advanced Crocheting” workshops were presented by crocheting expert Joanne Whipkei at the Anna M. Reinstein Library and “Crochet Corner for Kids” and “Beyond Basics Crocheting” workshops at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library.



- Throughout January at both Cheektowaga Libraries children’s story hours 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.



Julia Boyer Reinstein Library

Published by Hima Iype

January 15 · 🌐

The Yeti who lives behind the Library visited us today during Ms. Kathy's Story Hour!
The kids had so much fun making their own yeti 😊



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- January 18 – 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.



- January 16 & 30 (JBR) and 11 & 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.



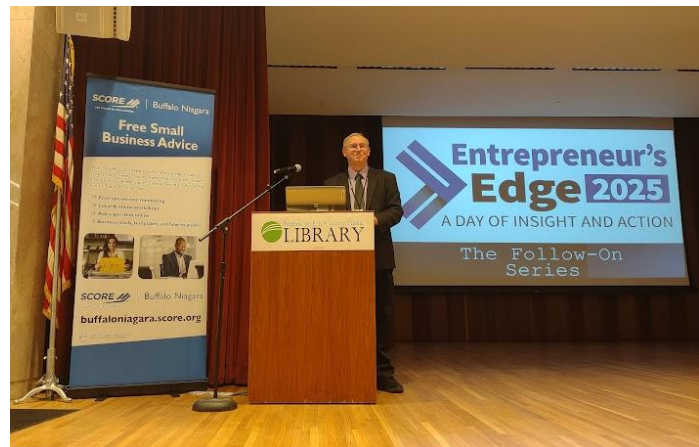
- Throughout January on Tuesdays and Thursday’s “Hooks, Needles, & Thread,” Julia Boyer Reinstein’s Knitting club, met to teach others and work on knitting projects.

- January 27 – The Julia Boyer Reinstein Library hosted its monthly Adult Craft program featuring woven heart shaped baskets. Guests prepared for Valentine’s Day and truly enjoyed the craft and the instruction from Librarian Laura Scott, the program was very well attended.



Outreach

- January 18 and 28 - Director Dan Caufield spoke at Entrepreneur’s Edge, a Small Business event held at the Buffalo Convention Center and the Central Library. Collaborating with SCORE/Buffalo Niagara, Dan staffed an information table at the Convention Center meeting dozens of Entrepreneurs and on the 28th spoke at the follow up event series introducing attendees to the 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.

Displays:



3. OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

a. **Staff** - The Cheektowaga Public Library welcomed Lisa Thiel, new Part Time Clerk to our Libraries. She will be predominantly working at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library but will be cross-trained to work at both Libraries.

b. **Facilities:**

NA

c. **Technology**

NA

6. Partnerships, Meetings / Future Planning / Special Projects

- January 15 - Director Caufield attended the Cheektowaga Community Collaborative meeting. These meetings bring together non-profit and governmental agencies in the region that assist residents who may need help. At this meeting Melissa Duquette, Resource Specialist at the Regional Bilingual Education Resource Network, discussed how food pantries can implement trauma-informed practices to better support their clients, especially refugees, immigrants, and asylum seekers who have experienced trauma. She outlined essential strategies for fostering a healing environment, such as creating welcoming spaces, addressing language barriers, providing client choice in food selection, and emphasizing nutrition education.
- Director Caufield has been working with teachers from Cheektowaga Central Schools to host an art exhibit at the Anna M. Reinstein Library. The exhibit will take place throughout February.
- Conversations held between Director Caufield, the Department of Labor (DOL) and the Small Business Administration (SBA) led to setting up future job fairs and small business development workshops at the Cheektowaga Libraries.
- The Cheektowaga Libraries received a check for \$260 from Niagara Mohawk Community Giving Program.