



## **A Letter from the Director**

Dear Community,

I hope this message finds you well and thriving. As we move deeper into this beautiful season, it's a time of growth and renewal, both outside in nature and within the walls of our beloved library and museum. As part of this growth, I am proud to introduce the new print version of our Association newsletter!

This spring has been a remarkable one for us so far, filled with incredible opportunities for growth and connection. Thanks to your support, our library and museum have become more than just a place to borrow books; they have evolved into a vibrant hub of community activity, learning, and shared discovery. From exhibitions of local painters and sculptors and training in computer skills, to sharing the bounties and beauties of nature in our seed library and letting the kids take over, our Association is constantly striving to be a place for everyone!

Looking ahead, we are committed to adapting and expanding our services to better serve you. This includes keeping our technology cutting edge, and enhancing our programming to reflect the needs and desires of our community. We're excited about the future and we hope you are, too!

And to you, the reader, I would like to offer a heartfelt thank you. Whether you're a frequent visitor, a program participant, or a volunteer, your engagement is the core of our mission. You make our Association a dynamic place for learning, sharing, and growing together. We are grateful for your continued support and enthusiasm.

Please feel free to reach out with your ideas, feedback, or just to say hello. We are here because of you, and we are here for you.

Warm regards,

Graham Tedesco-Blair

Director

Darwin R. Barker Library and Museum Association

## **Recent Memorials**

Darwin R. Barker Library accepts gifts in memory and in honor of friends and family at any time. The following community members have been honored recently.

*Marilyn Baressi*

*Carl Bjurlin*

*Mary Bradigan*

*Richard Golden*

*Jim MacDonald*

*Barbara Sam*

*Norma St. George*

*Bea Ullman*

*Page Woodbury*

## **Popular Reads**

These are the top five most circulated books at the Barker Library between January and June 2024:

*The Exchange: After The Firm*  
by John Grisham

*The Little Liar* by Mitch Albom

*Resurrection Walk* by Michael Connelly

*Payback in Death* by J. D. Robb

*Dirty Thirty* by Janet Evanovich



**“Fredonia Un-Censored” Exhibit Opens at the Barker Historical Museum**

Discover who and what filled the columns of the Fredonia Censor (1821-1964) and its rival newspapers in Fredonia and Dunkirk. During its 143-year run, the Censor provided information about contemporary events both global and local; today its original pages provide insights into the daily lives, perspectives, and experiences of people from the past, enriching our understanding of local history and its broader significance.

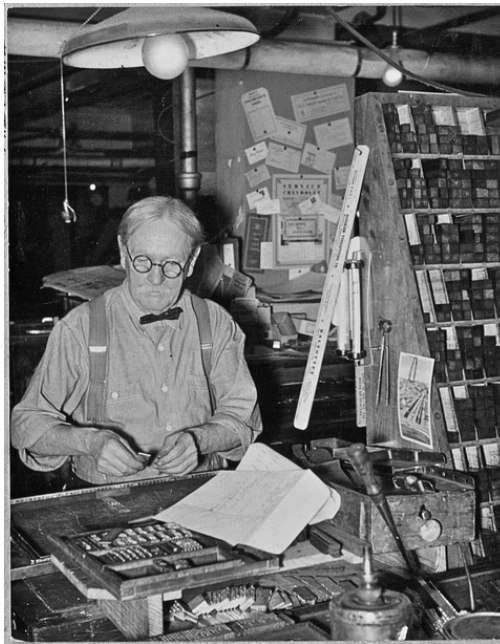
Join us for a journey through the history and methods of printing, stretching back to Gutenberg’s press and extending beyond the closure of the Fredonia Censor in 1964. Examine the type sorts and tools utilized by printers, see advertising plates used by local businesses and organizations, and delve into the world of local editors and staff who oversaw every aspect of running a newspaper.

Explore how news dissemination evolved from the pace of a horse’s travel to the advent of the telegraph, and uncover the reasons behind the newspaper’s “untimely death” in 1964, as recounted by its contemporary publishers.

The exhibit runs from April 27, 2024, to September 24, 2024. Galleries are open for individual or group tours on Tuesdays from 4-8 pm, and Fridays and Saturdays from 1-5 pm at the Darwin R. Barker Museum, 7 Day Street, Fredonia, NY.

“The life blood of a weekly newspaper is news about people you know.”

—“Al” Gent in the Fredonia Censor, June 7, 1946.



Benjamin Franklin Reuther “The Printer” (1864-1943) worked for the Censor for many years as a type-setter and also ran his own printing office from which he printed the Normal Leader. Photo c. 1930.

**Did you know?**

These common words and phrases originated with the printing industry!

- Mind your p’s and q’s
- Stereotype
- Cliché
- Hot off the press
- Out of sorts
- UPPERCASE and lowercase
- Making a good impression



## Computer Education

At the Barker Library, we currently offer computer tutoring and computer classes which are free and open to the general public. If you do not have a laptop or mobile device, we have laptops to borrow for tutoring and class time.

Computer tutoring focuses on mastering basic computer skills on an individual level. These include, but are not limited to: computer navigation, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint), email navigation, smart phones, electronic tablets, social media, and digital library resources.

Computer classes focus on mastering basic computer skills in a small group setting. Each class has up to six students. The topics from our previous classes include Ancestry Library Edition, Computer & Internet Safety, the Cricut machine, Email Organization, Facebook, Goodreads, Google Accounts, Instagram, LIBBY app for electronic books (eBooks), Library Catalog navigation (Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System), Library websites, Microsoft Office, PINTEREST, Podcasts, and Twitter.

We will be taking a break from classes this summer and will return in September. Computer tutoring will continue throughout the summer based on staff availability and patron needs. To further enhance our computer education program, we want your suggestions. We would appreciate your input regarding topics that interest you, as well as preferred days and times.

## Summer Programming

Whether they be over land, under the sea, up in the sky, or Olympic-sized, adventures begin at your library! Join us at the Darwin R. Barker Library as we read exciting stories, get creative with weekly crafts and activities, make new friends and complete exciting challenges during our summer programs for kids!

### Monday, July 8th - Friday, August 9th, 2024

For kids going-into-PreK through going-into-2nd grade, register for **The Wanderers** Mondays at 10:30am OR Tuesdays at 2pm.

For kids and tweens going-into-3rd grade through going-into-8th grade, register for **The Champions** Wednesdays at 10:30am: July 10th, 17th, 24th, and August 7th.

PLUS, events for the whole family, including...

**Buffalo Museum of Science** presents **Insectigation** Friday, July 12th at 10:30am

**Magician Cris Johnson** presents **The Great Reading Adventure** Friday, July 26th at 10:30am

**A Dr. Seuss Adventure** with **Sun-Dance-Kids Farm** Friday, August 2nd, at 10:30am

Registration is required for these library programs. Call (716) 672-8051, e-mail [childrenslibrarian@barkerlibrary.org](mailto:childrenslibrarian@barkerlibrary.org) or stop by the Circulation Desk to register beginning June 10th, 2024!

## Spotlight on Local Art

The Barker Library is honored to use our space to showcase the work of several local artists this year.

In January and February, "Scenes from Where You Live" featured the landscape photography of Tom Janik, which illuminated the beauty of our natural surroundings in Chautauqua County.

In March and April, the Barker hosted two art shows concurrently. "Artistry and Alchemy" exhibited the wood-fired pottery of Scott Creek Collaborative, while Jackie Damore's oil paintings depicted birds and the landscapes they

inhabit in her show "Something about Birds."

Our May and June show "Conflict and Wonder," currently on display during regular library hours, features ceramic crucibles hand-carved by Penelope Williams-Yaqub inspired by her time living in the Middle East, juxtaposed with Sara Baker Michalak's mixed media collages that evoke the ephemeral vitality of the natural world.

The Barker hosts an opening reception for each art exhibition, where members of the public are invited to enjoy refreshments while chatting with the artists.

Upcoming art shows in 2024 include the work of Robert John Holland of Arkwright, who passed away in 2022; the paintings of Susan Gutierrez of Jamestown; the pottery of Ron Nasca's students at Mudslingers Studio; and the *plein air* paintings of Thomas Annear's art students. Check our website and Facebook for more information - or subscribe to our email newsletter!





## **Visit Our Community Seed Library**

Our community seed library is restocked thanks to generous donations from the Silver Creek and Hanover Garden Club, Chautauqua Institution, and Home Depot!

The seeds are sorted into three categories—flowers, vegetables, and herbs—and they are arranged alphabetically within each category. Divider cards show pictures of the mature plants along with helpful growing tips. Use your phone to snap a photo for reference.

Patrons are invited to take up to five seed packets home per visit. Seed donations are accepted on an ongoing basis!

*Generously funded by the Friends of Barker Library and*



### **HOURS OF OPERATION**

#### **BARKER LIBRARY**

Mondays 10am - 5pm  
Tuesdays 1pm - 6pm  
Wednesdays 10am - 5pm  
Thursdays 1pm - 6pm  
Fridays 10am - 5pm  
Saturdays 10am - 2pm  
Sundays CLOSED

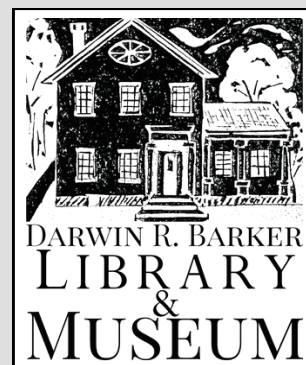
(716) 672-8051  
[barkerlibrary.org](http://barkerlibrary.org)

#### **BARKER MUSEUM**

Mondays CLOSED  
Tuesdays 4pm - 8pm  
Wednesdays CLOSED  
Thursdays CLOSED  
Fridays 1pm - 5pm  
Saturdays 1pm - 5pm  
Sundays CLOSED

(716) 672-2114  
[barkermuseum.org](http://barkermuseum.org)

Sign up for our monthly email newsletter to hear about upcoming programming!



#### **BARKER BULLETIN**

**June 2024 - Volume 1, Issue 1**

7 Day Street, Fredonia, NY

(716) 672-8051 Library

(716) 672-2114 Museum

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