

# Cheektowaga Y.E.S.

Can't believe summer is around the corner and school is wrapping up! May hasn't started and I'm already in the process of planning July/August.

- Please include your ideas for a summer social on the sign up form! Pick one of these or share your idea:
- **Pool Day** (Afternoon cookout and activities on a Saturday at Dingens Pool. And you'd be able to invite a friend to attend!)
  - **Movie Madness** (8:00 - 10:00 pm @ Dingens or Maryvale with pizza, glow sticks, and bring your own pool floats. AND you'd be able to bring a friend to attend too!)
  - **Beach Day** (Late August to Darien Lake State Park or Beaver Island)

### SIGN UPS & REMIND

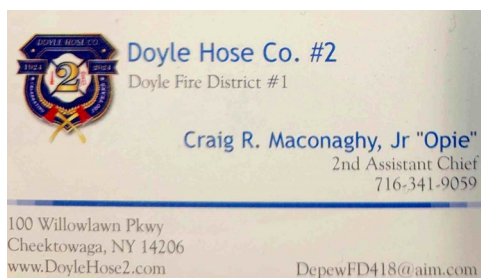
We have decided to discontinue the "mail in" sign up option. In most cases, by the time we receive them via snail mail, many of the activities are already full. Going forward, please submit via text, email, Remind or by calling. We've begun inviting our phone list to Remind, if you haven't subscribed yet, please take a moment do so. We will continue to ALSO use text messaging but Remind makes it so much easier to communicate with cancelations, updates, reminders, last minute events, etc. **REMIND:** @CheekYES

### SUMMER HIRING FOR AGES 15+

The town recreation department is STILL hiring for summer. I know some of you are already planning on working for this town this summer, but there are many opportunities to become a lifeguard, bathhouse attendant, camp counselor, playground rotation attendant, or soccer coach. For any volunteer over 15 years old, we've included a summer application with your newsletter. You can use me as a reference!

### BECOME A JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER

Thank you to everyone who attended the Fire Dept workshop at Doyle Hose Co. #2. If you're interested in becoming a junior firefighter, please reach out to Chief "Opie" Maconaghy for more information. You do not have to live in the Doyle district to become a junior firefighter! Please see his attached business card.



### NEW PROGRAMS

Waiting for a phone call back from Ten Lives Club - fingers crossed - we'll be adding this activity this summer!

### LAST MINUTE ACTIVITIES

Lately we've been getting requests from organizations after the newsletter has already gone out. If you'd like me to contact you regarding last minute activities, please circle it on the sign up sheet and I'll add you to my text list. **LAST MINUTE: Math Night @ Maryvale Primary, Thurs Apr 25, 5:45 - 7:30 pm!**

### VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

- Volunteer of the Month February 2024:** Robert Teller - 30 activities, 60 service hours!
- Volunteer of the Month March 2024:** Ava Brzezinski - 23 activities, 50 service hours!

Thank you volunteers!  
- Alicia



**Cheektowaga Y.E.S.**  
 275 Alexander Ave  
 Cheektowaga, NY 14211  
 716.897.7207 ext 6655  
 716.427.4656 text/mobile  
 Remind: @CheekYES  
 cheektowagayes@tocny.org  
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Alicia Hark  
**Y.E.S. Coordinator**

Jessie Cecere  
**Y.E.S. Event Supervisor**

Jessica Roberts  
**Y.E.S. Event Supervisor**

Taylor Norton  
**Y.E.S. Event Supervisor**



## Activities with the Elderly

### Activities at Peregrine Senior Living

575 Cayuga Creek Rd, Cheektowaga

Join us on the first Wednesday of each month for activities, games and crafts. Cornhole tournaments have become a volunteer and resident favorite!

The first time you volunteer here, you'll be required to complete a HIPPA form. Forms can be downloaded from our website [www.CheektowagaYES.org](http://www.CheektowagaYES.org).

Extra forms will be available the night of the event.

**Please note, volunteers may be required to wear a mask.**

Wed May 1	6:00 - 7:15 pm	Activity Night
Wed June 5	6:00 - 7:15 pm	Activity Night
Thurs June 20	5:30 - 7:30 pm	Cruise to Care

### Activities at Elderwood Assisted Living at Cheektowaga

229 Bennett Rd, Cheektowaga

(enter by 2nd driveway awning)

Join us for crafts, games, bingo and more! Each month will be a different fun activity.

**Please note, volunteers may be required to wear a mask.**

Wed May 22	5:45 - 7:30 pm	Activity Night
Wed June 12	5:45 - 7:30 pm	Activity Night

### Meals on Wheels Craft Night

Give the gift of a smile! Help us make crafts to add to Meals on Wheels trays for seniors in the community. Each volunteer will create at least a dozen favors during the event. We've gotten multiple thank you notes from seniors who've received our favors!

Wed May 8	5:00 - 6:30 pm	Alexander Center
Mon June 10	5:00 - 6:30 pm	Alexander Center



### Want to earn some extra spending money???

The Cheektowaga Senior Center has reached out to us and asked if any Y.E.S. volunteers would be interested in getting paid to do odd jobs. You could be helping with raking leaves or light housework.

Please let us know if you'd be interested in adding your name to the "Odd Job" list. We'll share that information with the Senior Center and as jobs come up, you'll be contacted by the Senior Center Outreach Coordinator. Y.E.S. volunteers will be responsible for their own transportation. A Y.E.S. director will not be present for "odd jobs" scheduled.

## Activities with Children

### Event Locations

Julia Boyer Reinstein Library (JBR)  
1030 Losson Rd, Cheektowaga

Reinstein Library, 2580 Harlem Rd, Cheektowaga

Alexander Community Center  
275 Alexander Ave, Cheektowaga

### Library Craft Night & Saturday Crafternoons

Join us for crafts, games and other fun themed activities. Please remember, no water bottles are allowed at library.

**Themes:**                      **May:**

**June:**

Thurs May 2	5:45 - 7:15 pm	JBR
Thurs May 16	5:45 - 7:15 pm	JBR
Sat May 25	1:15 - 2:45 pm	Reinstein
Thurs June 6	5:45 - 7:15 pm	JBR
Sat June 15	1:15 - 2:45 pm	Reinstein
Thurs June 20	5:45 - 7:15 pm	JBR

### LEGO Club

Help kids embrace their creative side as they build structures, vehicles, and anything else they can dream up!

Thurs May 9	5:45 - 7:00 pm	JBR
Mon May 13	5:45 - 7:00 pm	Reinstein
Thurs May 23	5:45 - 7:00 pm	JBR
Mon June 3	5:45 - 7:00 pm	Reinstein
Thurs June 13	5:45 - 7:00 pm	JBR
Thurs June 27	5:45 - 7:00 pm	JBR

### Craft Nights

Encourage kids to be creative with themed crafts, games, and other fun activities!

### Preschool Craft Night

Tues May 7	5:45 - 7:15 pm	Alexander
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Theme: Teddy Bear Picnic

### Family Craft Nights

Tues May 14	5:45 - 7:45 pm	Alexander
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Theme: in-TENTS Camping Adventure  
Outdoorsy crafts and songs around the campfire.

Tues June 11	5:45 - 7:45 pm	Alexander
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Theme: Drive-in Movie Night

Lights, camera, action! Activities galore inspired by all of your favorite movies.

### REMINDERS:

If you're unable to attend an event,  
don't forget to contact us to cancel!  
Call 716-897-7207 ext 6655 or Text 716-427-4656

# Community Activities

## Grace Guest House - MEET AT ALEXANDER

The Grace Guest House provides a place for families to stay while loved ones receive care in area hospitals. We'll be cooking dinner for the guests staying there. Meet at the Alexander Center and we'll be driving together in the van. Look for the van in front of the Alexander Building. *(Limit 1 per newsletter)*

Tues May 21 4:00 - 6:30 pm  
 Tues June 18 4:00 - 6:30 pm



## St Stephen's Faith & Joy Food Pantry

750 Wehrle Dr, Cheektowaga

Help organize and distribute food at a community food pantry. If the weather is nice, we may be helping in the garden.

**PLEASE NOTE: Occasionally this event finishes early and volunteers may call for a ride sooner than 3:00 pm.**

Sun May 5, 19 12:00 - 3:00 pm *Limit 1 per month*  
 Sun June 2, 9, 30 12:00 - 3:00 pm *No open toe shoes!*

## PTO Babysitting @ TR

Theodore Roosevelt (TR) Elementary, 2495 William St, Cheek  
 (Enter lot from Parker Ave, enter through back door)

We'll be hanging out with kids ages 4-10 while their parents attend the PTO meeting for their school. We'll be making crafts and playing games.

Thurs May 2 6:00 - 7:45 pm TR  
 Thurs June 6 6:00 - 7:45 pm TR

## PTO Babysitting & Special Events @ Maryvale Primary

1 Nagel Dr, Cheektowaga

We'll be hanging out with kids ages 4-10 while their parents attend the PTO meeting for their school. We'll be making crafts and playing games, or helping with special events.

**LAST MIN ACTIVITY!** Thurs Apr 25 5:45 - 7:30 pm Math Night  
 Thurs May 20 5:45 - 7:30 pm PTO Babysitting

## Community Day @ Old Navy

Join us for face painting at Old Navy in the Galleria Mall. We'll be among one of the community organizations there promoting all the amazing stuff that what we do.

Sat May 11 10:45 am - 1:00 pm  
 Old Navy @ Walden Galleria Mall 1 Galleria Dr, Cheektowaga

## Get Outdoors Day

Spend the day outdoors in nature! We'll be face painting at the beautiful Reinstein Woods nature preserve. Volunteers can bring money for snacks (Last year there were food trucks, popcorn and hot dogs available for sale).

Sat June 8 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
 Reinstein Woods, 93 Honorine Dr, Depew



# Sign Up Sheet (Please remember to include your name!)

Circle the dates and send a pic of your activities. Four ways to register:

- 1 - Email [cheektowagayes@tocny.org](mailto:cheektowagayes@tocny.org)
- 2 - TEXT - 716-427-4656
- 4 - Send via NEW Remind group!
- 3 - Call 716.897.7207 ext. 6655 (leave a message if we're not here)

ACTIVITY	MAY	JUNE	NOTES!
Peregrine's Senior Living	1	5 20	
Elderwood at Cheektowaga	22	12	
Meals on Wheels Crafts	8	10	
JBR Craft Night	2 16	6 20	
JBR Lego Club	9 23	13 27	
Reinstein Crafternoon	25	15	
Reinstein Lego Club	13	3	
Preschool Craft Night	7		
Family Craft Night	14	11	
Grace Guest House	21	18	Meet @ Alexander! Limited to 8 volunteers. Limit 1 per newsletter! May be cancelled!
St Stephan's Food Pantry	5 19	2 9 30	Limited to 5 volunteers; Wear sneakers! Limit 1 per month!
TR PTO Babysitting/Events	2	6	
Maryvale PTO/Events	20	APR 25	<i>Last Min Activity Added!</i>
Old Navy Face Painting	11		
Get Outdoors Day		8	
Ten Lives Club	TBA	TBA	We'll contact you with date/time!
<b>WORKSHOP:</b> Face Paint/Balloons		4	
<b>SOCIAL:</b> Craft/Game Night	31		
Would you like to be added to the Last Min Activity List?	Yes	No	
Would you like to be added to the odd job list?	Yes	No	
<b>Summer Social Suggestion:</b>			

Name:

Phone:

Email:

**Accomplishment:**

Did you make the honor roll? Get a scholarship? Earn Student of the Month? Become captain of your team? Tell us your brag!

## February Volunteer of the Month: Robert Teller

Even before becoming a Y.E.S. volunteer, Robert has always been the first person to offer to help with any task while participating in programs.



Being a staple at all of our holiday events, he's become the official greeter welcoming all program participants and pointing them in the right direction as they arrive. With his eagerness to help and positive attitude, the program staff can rely on Robert to be their right-hand man during events.

Whether he's dyeing eggs with residents at Elderwood Assisted Living, helping pack groceries at St Stephen's Faith and Joy Food Pantry, or making favors for Meals on Wheels recipients, he is always participating with a smile on his face. Robert's outgoing personality and friendly nature always make other volunteers feel welcome.

## March Volunteer of the Month: Ava Brzezinski

Ava is a mature and responsible young adult who always comes to activities willing to pitch in with a smile on her face. She is friendly, witty, and outgoing.



Ava is a well-rounded young adult, signing up to assist with a variety of different activities each month. She is so natural working with any population. While volunteering with children, she jumps right in ready to have fun while making crafts, face painting, and babysitting. When working with the elderly she is engaging, attentive and patient. We look forward to having you at each activity.

Ava's commitment is impressive – making time to volunteer while also playing sports and earning top grades and making the honor roll each quarter.

## Workshops & Socials



### WORKSHOP: Face Painting & Balloon Animals 101

Tues June 4 6:00 - 7:30 pm Alexander

Get in touch with your creative side! Prepare for summer activities by sharpening your artistic abilities by learning the basics of face painting and balloon animals. In this hands-on workshop we'll show you how to do it and then you'll get to put your newly-learned skills to work! We'll also practice our seasonal face paint designs and vote on new designs for an updated face paint sheet!

**Pro-Tip:** Wear a t-shirt for a larger canvas to practice your drawing skills!

### SOCIAL: Craft Night/Game Night @Alexander

Fri May 31 6:00 - 8:00 pm Alexander

While our group is always leading the activities, it's our turn to enjoy a rec night at the Alexander Center! We'll order pizza and have tons of activities to choose from:

- **Game Room** - Skee ball, ping pong, foosball, and hockey
- **Crafts** - DIY String Art, painting, perler beads, diamond paint, bracelets and more!
- **Switch Games** - We'll project the Switch on the wall for some Mario Kart, Mario Party, your other favorite games.
- **Board Games** – Uno, Pictionary, Taboo, etc.



To attend a social, Y.E.S. volunteers must attend at least 2 activities during May/June and have ZERO "no-shows" for the past six months.

### CONGRATULATIONS OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Susetta G - 99.99% averages for second quarter!

Aiden H - Bowled a 203 during Maryvale meet!

Gigi - Improved grades and made merit roll!

Chloe C - Earned a scholarship to St Marys HS!

Amaja O - Named Captain of basketball team and Student of Month for Science!

Great Job to all of our members who made the Honor Roll:




Abigale B	Ava B	Cole D
Giada D	Austin J	Amaja O
Maddy R	Dylan W	Brianna W
Austyn W		



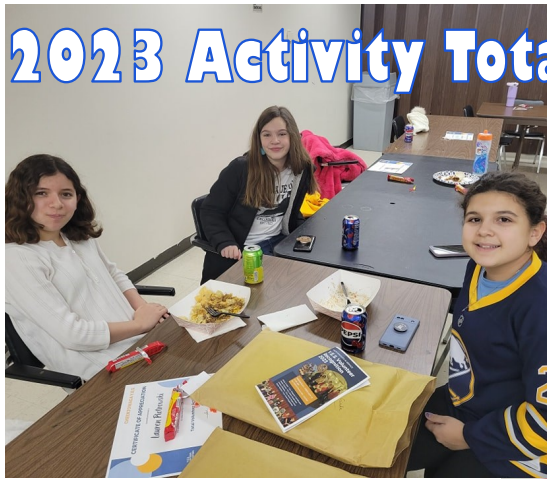
# MAY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Activity Night 6:00 - 7:15 pm @ Peregrine Senior Living	2 Craft Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ JBR Library  PTO Babysitting 6:00 - 7:45 pm @ TR Elementary	3	4
5 Food Pantry 12:00 - 3:00 pm @ St Stephens	6	7 Preschool Craft Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ Alexander	8 Meals on Wheels 5:00 - 6:30 pm @ Alexander	9 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ JBR Library	10	11 Face Painting Community Event 10:45 am - 1:00 pm @ Old Navy
12 	13 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ Reinstein	14 Family Craft Night 5:45 - 7:45 pm @ Alexander	15	16 Craft Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ JBR Library	17	18
19 Food Pantry 12:00 - 3:00 pm @ St Stephens	20 PTO Babysitting 6:00 - 7:30 pm @ Maryvale Primary  New Volunteer Orientation 6:00 - 7:00 pm	21 Grace Guest House 4:00 - 6:30 pm <b>MEET @ ALEXANDER</b>	22 Activity Night 5:45 - 7:30 pm @ Elderwood	23 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ JBR Library	24	25 Crafternoon 1:15 - 2:45 pm @ Reinstein
26	27 	28	29	30	31 <b>SOCIAL:</b> Craft Night/Game Night 6:00 - 8:00 pm @ Alexander	



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Food Pantry 12:00 - 3:00 pm @ St Stephens	3 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ Reinstein	4 <b>WORKSHOP:</b> Balloon Animals & Face Painting 101 6:00 - 7:30 pm @ Alexander	5 Activity Night 6:00 - 7:15 pm @ Peregrine Senior Living	6 Craft Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ JBR Library  PTO Babysitting 6:00 - 7:45 pm @ TR Elementary	7	8 Get Outdoors Day 10:00 am - 2:00 pm @ Reinstein Woods
9 Food Pantry 12:00 - 3:00 pm @ St Stephens	10 Meals on Wheels 5:00 - 6:30 pm @ Alexander	11 Family Craft Night 5:45 - 7:45 pm @ Alexander	12 Activity Night 5:45 - 7:30 pm @ Elderwood	13 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ JBR Library	14	15 Crafternoon 1:15 - 2:45 pm @ Reinstein
16 	17 New Volunteer Orientation 6:00 - 7:00 pm @ Alexander	18 Grace Guest House 4:00 - 6:30 pm <b>MEET @ ALEXANDER</b>	19 	20 Craft Night 5:45 - 7:15 pm @ JBR Library  Cruise to Care 5:30 - 7:30 pm @ Peregrine Senior Living	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Lego Club 5:45 - 7:00 pm @ JBR Library	28	29
30 Food Pantry 12:00 - 3:00 pm @ St Stephens						

# 2023 Activity Totals



*Thank you Volunteers!*

## 1 - 5 Activities

- Tasnia Begum - 1
- Silas Borowiec - 5
- Ocean Brooks - 1
- Tamiya Brown - 2
- Hannah Burkett - 1
- Leah Chiarello - 3
- Dominic Cote - 2
- Jonathan Douglass - 4
- Desean Eaton - 5
- Zoey Feind - 5
- Dominic Felty - 5
- Connor Furan - 4
- Jaiden Grant - 1
- Daniella Harhigh - 3
- Carla Holtz - 2
- Antwan Johnson - 2
- Emma Jones - 5
- Kendrick Kyaw - 1
- Kaelin Lamberson - 3
- Alexis Lanzieri - 2
- Julia Migliaccio - 3
- Sophia Mills - 2
- Emma Misener - 3
- Ella Molik - 1
- Serenity Murphy - 2
- Kyvia Nguyen - 5
- Dau Non - 4
- Emily Nye - 1
- Braxton Pham - 3
- Brennan Pham - 1
- Ryan Piotrowski - 5
- Adam Pipien-Bolis - 5
- Charlize Plant - 4
- Madelyn Radder - 5
- Avery Ratcliff - 3
- Sydney Ratcliff - 4
- Kennedy Ratcliff - 1
- Haley Roberts - 5
- Nicholas Ross - 3

- Joseph Schuster - 5
- Shayasta Shams - 2
- Luke Stachura - 4
- Kenny Thongchanh - 2
- Kristine Tran - 2
- Jennifer Tran - 2
- Eva Wagner - 4
- Cody Warcholak - 5

## 6 - 15 Activities

- Sophia Barniak - 10
- Lucas Barniak - 10
- Bradley Bartnik - 6
- Ava Brzezinski - 13
- Gareth Bundy - 12
- Alex Chudoba - 8
- Chloe Connor - 15
- Logan Davila - 7
- Miabella Devans - 7
- Riley Flores - 7
- Arge Gallo - 6
- Cecilia Gmyrek - 12
- Susetta Gonsiorek - 8
- Ella Goodrich - 14
- Julia Guerra - 7
- Gabriella Hecht - 13
- Aidan Hecht - 14
- Victoria Hirner - 8
- Hayden Jarmusz - 11
- Salvatore Jeswald - 8
- Aaron Jones - 8
- Lily Jones - 10
- Austin Jones - 8
- Cecilia Kwitek - 13
- Bethany Lama Sherpa - 18
- Isha Lama Sherpa - 9
- Lhamu Lama Sherpa - 7
- Ian Lupejkis - 12
- Katie Macchia - 6
- Alexandria Milne - 7

- Michael Mogavero - 6
- Elliott Mook - 12
- Eirelynn Murphy - 6
- Victoria Orzechowski - 10
- Michael Pajak - 8
- Kaylee Parsons - 10
- Lauren Piotrowski - 7
- Courtney Romalewski - 11
- Elijah Schlossin - 8
- Olivia Schmidt - 6
- Lucas Spruch - 7
- Jake Stachura - 15
- Leland Stein - 6
- Gracie Stuber - 9
- Robert Swiatkowski - 13
- Lucas Swierczynski - 12
- Hannah Wachala - 6
- Charlotte Wachowski - 14
- Zoey Wagner - 19
- Dylan Wagner - 7
- Austyn Wicher - 11
- Corbin Wickline - 11
- Olivia Ziccardi - 12
- Michael Zukowski - 9

## 16 - 25 Activities

- Mercedes Bivins - 18
- Erik Finger - 23
- Guenevere Golombek - 24
- Maggie Heintz - 24
- Madelyn Pollack - 24
- Celina Pollack - 23
- Wynter Sniatecki - 19
- Emme Grace Targia - 17
- Robert Teller - 19
- Brianna Walterich - 21

## 25 - 39 Activities

- Matthew Blotzer - 26
- Nathan Cratsenburg - 27
- Cole DiGesare - 34
- Dylan Walterich - 29
- Scarlett Westfield - 33
- Zoey Ziarniak - 26

## 40+ Activities

- Giada DiGesare - 54
- Jacieleigh Easterling - 48
- Jacob Habitzruther - 48
- Audriana Miller - 57
- Michaela Reardon - 41

## 2023 Y.E.S. STATS

- 2023 Total Events:** 194
- 2023 Total Volunteer Hours:** 2,617.50
- 2023 Total Community Served:** 6,197
- Total Volunteers:** 188

