



CARNEGIE LIBRARY SUMMER SERIES

The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders invites residents and visitors to celebrate the rich legacy of the Carnegie Libraries this summer, with a series of three **FREE** special events in June, July and August. Events will be held at the **Main Library in historic midtown Elizabeth**, at 11 South Broad Street.

The three events:

Wednesday, June 13 at 6:00 p.m. — A panel discussion with representatives of the five Union County towns that have or had a Carnegie Library, including presentations, pictures, and documents associated with the six buildings.

Wednesday, July 11 at 6:30 p.m. – An opening reception for a new exhibit, “A Carnegie Library: The History of the Elizabeth Public Library,” including original materials related to the design, construction, and evolution of Elizabeth’s two Carnegie Libraries. The exhibit will run from July 2 through July 28.

Thursday, August 9 at 4:30 p.m. — Author and Monmouth University librarian Eleonora Dubicki will be the featured speaker sharing research for her article “*Carnegie Libraries in New Jersey: 1900-1923.*” Ms. Dubicki has published two books and more than a dozen articles on topics in the field of library and information science.

Andrew Carnegie was a hard-driving industrialist of the 19th century who became a leading civic philanthropist in the early 20th century. A major part of his legacy was the endowment of 1,688 public libraries throughout the country, including six in Union County: Westfield, Plainfield, Cranford, Summit and Elizabeth, which had two.

The Main Library in Elizabeth was constructed in 1912 and is the only one of those six to continue functioning as a library.

The Carnegie Library series is a partnership with the Union County of Board of Chosen Freeholders through the Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs, the Elizabeth Public Library and the New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance.

This program is funded in part by a grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a Division of Cultural Affairs in the Department of State.

For more information on all Cultural and Heritage programs visit ucnj.org, email jprescott@ucnj.org or call 908-436-2912.