

**Director's Report**  
**Hamburg Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 28 @ 6:00 PM**  
**To be held at the Hamburg Public Library**

### **Blood Drives**

Blood drives by the American Red Cross were held at the Hamburg and Lake Shore libraries in November and December. All time slots continue to be filled at both locations with an increasing number of first time donors at the Hamburg Library. Also, several mini-drives are scheduled on Fridays at the Hamburg Library throughout the year during the odd months. The hope is to increase blood donors.

### **Holiday Parade**

On November 29, this writer was, again, one of three judges at the annual Holiday Parade put on by Hamburg Holidays. The other judges were Colleen Kaney, assistant superintendent for student service and former mayor Tom Moses. The falling snow made it look festive. The judges were situated on the rooftop patio at Black Smoke.

### **Advocacy**

On December 2, the Hamburg Public Library hosted an advocacy meeting with Senator Patrick Gallivan at the Lake Shore Library. This was to emphasize the importance of funding all libraries throughout the state. Budget priorities include: State Aid for Libraries: \$181.3 million and State Aid for Library Construction: \$175 million. This is to keep pace with inflation. There were 25 attendees consisting of directors, librarians, the Friends of the Hamburg Public Library, and constituents.

### **Centennial Art Center**

John Nelson, a member of the Centennial Art Center, decorated one of the wooden shelving display units with characters from popular children's books. The unit is on display in the children's area.



## **Spelling Bee @ Hamburg Middle School**

On January 12, this writer was one of three judges for the annual spelling bee at Hamburg Middle School. The other judges were: Superintendent Thomas Adams, Board President Cameron Hall, and Middle School Principal Matthew Lauer. There were 22 participants. Librarian Megan Moelbert coordinated the event. She thanked the judges for volunteering. This writer looks forward to next year!

## **Scavenger Hunts**

Scavenger Hunts in November and December.

*Hamburg Library*

In November the scavenger hunt theme was “Why did the tree laugh?” with 542 participants and in December the theme was “Olaf’s Favorite Drink” with 468 participants.

*Lake Shore Library*

In November the scavenger hunt theme was Turkey Trouble with 240 participants. In December the theme revolved around the holidays with 79 participants.

## **Therapy Dogs**

*Hamburg Library*

## **Read into Kruz**

Kruz visited the library in December and January to read and spend time with both children and adults. There 15 visitors on December and 9 in January.

*Lake Shore Library*

On December 6, Paddy the Reading Dog visited with 15 children and adults and children in attendance. On January 3, Paddy greeted 23 library patrons.

## *Hamburg Library*

### **Programs offered this month include:**

#### **Remembrance Tree**

Librarian Trainee Sarah set up the Remembrance Tree, a passive program where patrons can write the name of a friend or family member who is no longer with us onto a card, attach it to a poinsettia, and hang it on our Book Tree. This program ran from December to January 14. There were 190 participants of all ages.

#### **LEGO Club**

Senior Pages Lauren and Emily coordinated LEGO Club, which is held the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday and 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. This is for children ages 6 to 11. Children use their imagination to make wonderful creations. Afterwards, they are displayed in the Kids Space area. Hamburg YES (Youth Engaged Services) volunteers assist with this program. In December there were 33 participants and in January there were 49 participants.

#### **Story Time**

Story Times are held twice a day, every Wednesday for a 7 week period. Each session consists of a welcome song and greeting, three stories relating to a theme, songs with movements and flannel boards for children's engagement, and a related craft at the end. This program is geared towards children 2-5 years old. Story Time had 228 participants total over 4 weeks in November and 131 over 3 weeks in December. The next session of Story Time began again in January with 54 total participants so far.



#### **Baby Bounce**

In December and January, Librarian Nicole held lapsit for children ages 0-2. The program is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. In December there were 78

attendees. On January 12, there were 36 attendees. Each child receives their own book to hold during the program.

### Kid Librarian

Librarian Trainee Sarah hosted six Kid Librarians, one each on November 15, November 24, December 6, December 27, December 30, and January 6. Kid Librarians were Harper Woolingham, Magdalena Cerrone, Connor Isaacs, Paisley Litzinger, Coralie Bowman, and Parker Purcell. Each Kid Librarian curated a display of a topic of their choice to feature in the Children's Area. Harper chose the theme *Favorites*, Magdalena chose *Let's Read with the Animals*, Connor chose *Graphic Novel Adventures*, Paisley chose *Snakes*, Coralie chose *Magic in Books*, and Parker chose *Graphic Novels*. Each Kid Librarian created a poster to display with their collection. The Kid Librarian program helps children to feel a sense of ownership in the library and the Children's Area.





## Button Day

Button day is held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month. Supplies are placed on a table for participants. After completing their design, participants come to the public service desk to get their button made. In January there were 7 participants.

## Camp Create

On December 22, Librarian Jordan hosted Camp Create, a monthly craft program for kids aged 6-12. Twenty-eight attendees participated in making Winter Slime, a STEM based activity that mixed a variety of common kitchen materials to create a fun sensory “slime” material.

## Colorful Tuesdays

Librarian Trainee Sarah hosted Colorful Tuesday from 5-7pm on December 2 and January 6. For December there were 2 children and 5 adults in attendance, for a total of 7 attendees. For January there were 10 children and 4 adults in attendance, for a total of 14 attendees. Colorful Tuesday is a passive program that provides coloring books, coloring pages and other coloring supplies for adults and children to enjoy while they are in the library.

## Pokémon Club

Librarian Trainee Sarah hosted the program Pokémon Club for children ages 6-12 on January 13 from 4-6pm, with 19 children and 10 adults in attendance for a total of 29. Children learned how to play the Pokémon Trading Card Game, which teaches them

strategy, math, and improves reading comprehension. There were two adult volunteers from the community to help out with the program. Children were also able to do Pokémon-themed crafts, such as create your own Poke ball and Pokémon headbands, and to trade cards with other children.

### **Director's Book Club**

Book Club is held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month. November's title was, *The Girl with the Louding Voice* by Abi Dare with 15 members in attendance. December's title was *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purnell with 16 in attendance followed by the annual pot luck luncheon. Finally, January's title was *Daisy Jones & the Six* by Taylor Jenkins Reid with 15 attendees.

### **Local Author Visit**

On December 8, Sudhir Suchak gave a talk on his book, *Last Boat to Freedom* which is about the daring escape he made from the island of Zanzibar in East Africa. Fleeing a repressive regime, political violence, and the trauma of a genocide that tore apart the fabric of his family; he trusted his father's belief that boarding a ship with the ultimate goal of reaching America, would lead to a better life. There were 8 in attendance.

### **Stories with Santa**

This program is part of Hamburg Holidays and continues to be a community favorite! Santa and Mrs. Claus visited the Hamburg Library to read stories and sing songs. Due to its popularity, there were two sessions scheduled on Tuesday, December 9 and Thursday, December 11. Registration was limited to 50 children. The first group of 25 listened to stories while the second group made a craft. There were 175 children and adults who attended over the two days.



## **Book a Technology Trainer**

Book a Tech sessions were held on December 19 and January 9 by a staff person from the Tech Know Lab. Patrons receive one-on-one training to get help with their tech needs. There were a total of 8 attendees.

## **Cookbook Club**

Librarian Trainee Sarah hosted the monthly Cookbook Club on November 19, December 17, and January 21 from 6-7pm. Participants chose a recipe from the cookbook of the month and brought it to share. November's theme was Gatherings, and the cookbook was *Magnolia Table Volume 1* by Joanna Gaines, with 14 adults in attendance. December's theme was Winter Holidays, and the cookbook was *New York Christmas: Recipes and Stories* by Lars Wentrup and Lisa Nieschlag, with 8 adults and 2 teens in attendance. January's theme was Food and Family History, with everyone choosing their own family recipe to share with the group. There were 5 adults and 1 teen in attendance.

## **Find Your Balance**

On January 15, Librarian Nicole hosted "Find Your Balance". A program for adults where they can spend a relaxing evening at the library. Light refreshments were provided as well as games and crafts. There were 2 patrons in attendance.

## **Winter Party**

On December 20, Librarian Nicole hosted a winter party for adults. The purpose of the event was to celebrate the season for individuals who don't have anyone to celebrate with. There were snacks and board games. Due to inclement weather, only 1 person attended.

## **Teen Programming**

### **Teen Advisory Group**

On December 1, Librarian Jordan hosted the second Teen Advisory Group Meeting for teens in grades 7-12. At this informational meeting, 4 teens attended and helped plan upcoming programs including Teen Art Night and the Teen Winter Reading Bingo challenge.

## Holiday Cards for Elderwood

On December 15, Librarian Jordan and the Hamburg Teen Advisory Group (T.A.G.) hosted a Holiday Card making event for residents at Elderwood Assisted Living. One teen from the T.A.G. volunteered to help families and participants of all ages craft cards for our neighbors at Elderwood. There were 19 total participants who created nearly 70 Holiday Cards. Additional cards were later made as part of an open craft table in the children's area of the library. These combined efforts made over 100 cards, enough for each resident at Elderwood.



## Teen Art Night

On January 5, Librarian Jordan hosted a Teen Art program, "Teen Paint and Sip" for ages 13-17. Sixteen teens followed along to create a painting of a winter scene while enjoying hot chocolate.



## Teen Librarian

On December 15, Librarian Jordan welcomed our first Teen Librarian to curate a library book display. He chose a selection of manga and graphic novels to display. Books are displayed on top of the Young Adult shelves. He also made his own flyer to advertise the display.



## Displays

Librarian Trainee Sarah made several displays, including a Happy Holidays and Winter Reading display in the Children's Area, a Managing Mental Health during the holidays display in the Adult Area, which featured books on managing anxiety, depression, and loneliness during the holiday season. In December, Sarah also made a Civil Rights display in the Teen Area, which featured a timeline of civil rights history in the United States, as well as biographies about figures from the Civil Rights Movement. In January, Sarah made a Children's New Nonfiction display and a Snow Books display in the Children's Area. She also made a New Year's Resolution display in the Adult Area and a Books Like Stranger Things display in the Teen Area, featuring books with a similar tone to the hit series Stranger Things. Sr. Page Mary made a Free Winter Getaways display in the Adult Area featuring books that take place in tropical locations.





## *Lake Shore Library*

**Programs offered this month include:**

### **StoryTime ShookUp!**

Miss Laurie hosted Storytime Shookup! in December for children ages 2-5 focusing on literacy, listening, and socialization with 38 in attendance. On January 22, Librarian Jordan hosted Story Time with 10 attendees. Each story time consists of a welcome song and greeting activity with a ball, three stories relating to a theme, songs with movements and flannel boards for children's engagement, and a related craft at the end.

### **Baby Bounce**

Miss Nicole hosted Baby Bounce in January with 6 in attendance. Children ages 6 months-2 years engaged in music, play, and board books.

### **LEGO Club**

LEGO Club was held on December 27 with a total of 15 attendees. Families made their own creations. Their work was displayed in the Children's Area.

## **Cookbook Club**

On December 8, a cookie exchange was held with 14 participants. In January the group got together and shared recipes from *Food Babe Kitchen* by Vani Hari with 10 participants.

## **Adult Craft Night**

On December 15, the group made a New Year's Center piece with 19 participants. On January 14, the group created a cozy snow man soup jar mix with 13 participating.

## **Christmas Magic Show**

On December 17, magician Cris Johnson visited for a Christmas Magic Show featuring music, laughter, magic, and fun! There were 62 patrons in attendance.

## **Children's Craft and Interactive Stations**

There were two passive programs in December. Stocking lace up where 30 children practiced their lacing skills. Children got to make a reindeer with 56 participating.

## **Playmore**

During the month of December the playmore group met twice with 35 attendees. This is a playgroup that meets when story time is not in session to socialize and play together.

## **Outreach**

### **Hamburg Library**

## **Smarty Pants Day Care**

On December 4, Librarian Jordan visited Smarty Pants Childcare to read stories to 2 different classes totaling 26 children.

## **Classroom Collections**

Smarty Pants Childcare is currently the only participant in the classroom collections program. Their books are dropped off with the class visit at the beginning of each month. In December they requested books about Winter, Arctic Animals, and all of the holidays during the month. They borrowed 38 books total. In January they borrowed 23 books about Senses, food and nutrition, friendship, and authors/books.

**Lake Shore Library**

**BrightPath Daycare**

On December 18, Miss Laurie visited BrightPath Daycare reading to 89 children.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian Hoth, Director

## Hamburg Public Library - December 2025 Report

### Circulation Statistics

	December 2025	December 2024	% Change
Hamburg	15,314	16,047	- 4.6%
Lakeshore	4,454	4,643	- 4.1%

### Patron Door Counts

	December 2025	December 2024	% Change
Hamburg	6,208	5,932	4.7 %
Lakeshore	2,945	2,557	15.2 %

### Computer Sessions

	December 2025	December 2024	% Change
Hamburg	485	618	- 21.5%
Lakeshore	159	158	0.6 %

### Wi-Fi Sessions

	December 2025	December 2024	% Change
Hamburg	1,844	1,580	16.7 %
Lakeshore	502	423	18.7 %

Hamburg & Lake Shore - closure 12/29/2025 - Winter storm

Lake Shore - 2 hour network outage 12/9/2025, impacting computer use, WiFi, and circulation statistics.

Hamburg & Lake Shore -System-wide - Catalog offline 12/20/20225-12/21/2025, impacting circulation and other monthly statistics - Server issue.

**January 2026 Financial Report**  
**Hamburg Public Library**

<b>M&amp;T Business Account – Checking</b>					
Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
11/10/2025		M & T Service charge November		7.53	2,510.49
11/13/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	40.98		2,551.47
11/13/2025	4849	Nicole Brown (Reimbursement for outreach craft)		40.98	2,510.49
11/26/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	259.46		2,769.95
11/26/2025	4850	Supervacuum (Hamburg vacuum repair)		79.98	2,689.97
11/26/2025	4851	Cintas (floor mat replacement for Hamburg and Lake Shore)		179.48	2,510.49
12/4/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	204.45		2,714.94
12/4/2025	4852	Larry Davis (November mileage reimbursement)		32.00	2,682.94
12/4/2025	4853	Brian Hoth (Reimbursement for solar lights for outdoor display)		41.99	2,640.95
12/4/2025	4854	Laura W. Cunningham (November mileage reimbursement)		16.00	2,624.95
12/4/2025	4855	Guis Lumber (Hamburg & Lake Shore Maintenance November)		111.46	2,513.49
12/8/2025		M & T Service charge December		7.56	2,505.93
12/11/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	49.38		2,555.31

12/11/2025	4856	ECWA (Hamburg monthly water bill October)		33.00	2,522.31
12/11/2025	4857	Rachel Martinic (November mileage reimbursement)		16.38	2,505.93
12/12/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	46.44		2,552.37
12/12/2025	4858	Northwest Bank program supplies from amazon		46.44	2,505.93
12/26/2025	4859	Cintas (floor mat replacement for Hamburg and Lake Shore)		179.48	2,326.45
12/26/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	179.48		2,505.93
1/9/2026		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	955.54		3,461.47
1/9/2026	4860	Cintas (floor mat replacement for Hamburg)		44.87	3,416.60
1/9/2026	4861	Guis Lumber (Hamburg & Lake Shore Maintenance December)		86.28	3,330.32
1/9/2026	4862	ECWA (Hamburg monthly water bill December)		33.00	3,297.32
1/9/2026	4863	Evan Angelo (December mileage reimbursement)		5.18	3,292.14
1/9/2026	4864	Laura Cunningham (December mileage reimbursement)		20.00	3,272.14
1/9/2026	4865	Rachel Martinic (December mileage reimbursement)		16.38	3,255.76
1/9/2025	4866	Waste Management(1/1-3/31/2026)		749.83	2,505.93
1/22/2026		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	614.95		3,120.88
1/22/2026	4867	ECWA (Hamburg & LSH water bill 10/1 - 1/1/26)		588.39	2,532.49

1/22/2026	4868	Larry Davis (December mileage reimbursement)		26.56	2,505.93
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**Final Balance: \$2,505.93**

### **M&T Business Account – Savings**

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
11/12/2025		Deposit (Lake Shore fine & printing revenue October)	74.90		7,498.27
11/13/2025		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue final for 2025)	125.30		7,623.57
11/13/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		40.98	7,582.59
11/26/2025		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue final for 2025)	162.80		7,745.39
11/26/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		259.46	7,485.93
11/28/2025		M & T Interest for November	0.12		7,486.05
12/4/2025		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue final for 2025)	171.50		7,657.55
12/4/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		204.45	7,453.10
12/4/2025		Deposit (Lake Shore fine and printing Revenue November)	71.90		7,525.00
12/11/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		49.38	7,475.62
12/12/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to		46.44	7,429.18

		Checking for bills)			
12/19/2025		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue final for 2025)	127.65		7,556.83
12/26/2025		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue final for 2025)	113.75		7,670.58
12/26/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		179.48	7,491.10
12/31/2025		M & T interest for December	0.13		7,491.23
1/2/2025		Deposit (Lake Shore fine & printing Revenue December 2025)	141.95		7,633.18
1/9/2025		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue final for 2025)	122.15		7,755.33
1/9/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		955.54	6,799.79
1/13/2026		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue)	189.20		6,988.99
1/22/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		614.95	6,374.04

**Final Balance: \$6,374.04**

<b>Northwest Private Account – Checking</b>					
Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
11/13/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	204.41		2238.34
11/13/2025	3590	Buffalo & Erie County Public Library (supplies for the button machine)		89.95	2148.39
11/13/2025	3591	Laurie Obrochta Reimbursement for program supplies)		114.46	2033.93

11/20/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	208.84		2242.77
11/20/2025	3592	DEMCO (Hamburg Labels for books)		198.47	2044.30
11/20/2025	3593	Brian Parisi (Hamburg copier overage charge)		10.37	2033.93
11/21/2025	online	Amazon (Variety of program supplies for Stories with Santa program)		254.85	1779.08
11/26/2025	3594	Jordan Roeder (reimbursement for teen advisory, art night & scavenger hunt)		146.99	1632.09
11/26/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	401.84		2033.93
11/28/2025		Northwest paper statement		5.00	2028.93
12/11/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	483.27		2512.20
12/11/2025	3595	Cris Johnson ( Lake Shore Christmas Magic Program)		350.00	2162.20
12/11/2025	3596	Nicole Brown (reimbursement for program supplies)		77.30	2084.90
12/11/2025	3597	Laurie Obrochta (Reimbursement for program supplies)		55.97	2028.93
12/12/2025	on-line	Amazon program supplies		46.44	1982.49
12/12/2025		Deposit from M&T to reimburse purchase that should be via Northwest Bank)	46.44		2028.93
12/19/2025	3598	DEMCO (Lake Shore labels for books)		46.31	1982.62
12/19/2025	3599	Laurie Obrochta (Reimbursement for program supplies)		20.32	1962.30
12/22/2025	online	Local author book		20.09	1942.21
12/22/2025	online	Thermabind book repair material		48.51	1893.70
12/22/2025	online	Book guard repair tape		18.94	1874.76

12/22/2025	online	Libby clip frame for book shelves		42.00	1832.76
12/22/2025	online	Snowflake crafts, display stands, etc.		86.55	1746.21
12/26/2025	3600	Rachel Martinic (reimbursement for Lake Shore program supplies)		13.47	1732.74
12/26/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	296.19		2028.93
1/2/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	270.15		2299.08
1/2/2025	3601	Jordan Roeder (Reimbursement for Teen Art Night)		86.08	2213.00
1/2/2025	3602	Buffalo & Erie County Public Library (Private book library material for Hamburg & Lake Shore)		141.98	2071.02
1/9/2025	3603	Brodart Co (Lake Shore labels for holidays)		42.09	2028.93
1/16/2026	on-line	Amazon (Lake Shore program supplies adult craft night)		64.95	1963.98
1/22/2026		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	4203.19		6167.17
1/22/2026	3604	Laurie Obrochta (reimbursement for Lake Shore program supplies		55.39	6111.78
1/22/2026	3505	The Library Store (purchase of 2 chairs for the teen area which will be reimbursed by The Friends of the Library)		4082.85	2028.93

**Final Balance: \$2,028.93**

## Northwest Private Account – Savings

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
11/12/2025		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	145.00		62699.8
11/13/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		204.41	62495.39
11/18/2025		Deposit (Lake Shore discarded book sale)	350.00		62845.39
11/20/2025		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	291.25		63136.64
11/20/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		208.84	62927.8
11/26/2025		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale)	53.00		62980.8
11/26/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking to pay bills)		401.84	62578.96
11/28/2025		Northwest interest for November	0.51		62579.47
11/28/2025		Northwest paper statement		5.00	62574.47
12/4/2025		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	119.75		62694.22
12/4/2025		Deposit (Lake Shore Book Sale & Donation Box)	120.00		62814.22
12/11/2025		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Copier)	266.00		63080.22
12/11/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		483.27	62596.95
12/19/2025		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	181.75		62778.7
12/26/2025		Deposit (Donation Box)	32.00		62810.7

12/31/2025		Deposit (Donation)	100.00		62910.7
12/26/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		296.19	62614.51
12/31/2025		Northwest paper statement		5.00	62609.51
12/31/2025		Northwest Interest	0.53		62610.04
1/6/2025		Deposit (Lake shore Book Sale & Donation Box)	120.00		62730.04
1/9/2025		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	145.45		62875.49
1/9/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		270.15	62605.34
1/22/2026		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	116.00		62721.34
1/22/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		4,203.19	58518.15

***Final Balance: \$58,518.15***

Expenditures were fairly routine since the last board report. Program supplies were utilized for holiday events and programs as well as supplies. The Library will be receiving reimbursement from the Friends of the Hamburg Public Library for the purchase of teen furniture.

Proceeds from Book Sale, Candy Sale and mugs: 11/12/2025 – 1/21/2026 = \$ 318.05