

Director's Report
Hamburg Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, July 12 @ 6:00 PM
To be held at the Lake Shore Library

2023 Outstanding Librarian Award

A ceremony and reception was held on Thursday, May 25 for Librarian Ashley Cassidy, the recipient of the New York State Senate's Outstanding Librarian Award for the Western New York region. The announcement was made by Senator Iwen Chu, chair of the Libraries Committee, during National Library Week. Director Brian Hoth welcomed everyone and did an introduction. Senator Patrick Gallivan presented her with a resolution. Ashley's family was present including Supervisor Hoak, Library Board President Michelle Parker, Trustee Anita Metzger, Friends President Donna Ludwig, Jeannine Doyle, chief operating officer for the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library, and Carima El-Behairy, liaison to the system board. Ashley was recognized for her dedication, passion, and going above and beyond for our patrons and the community! Additional presentations were made by Ms. Doyle, Ms. Ludwig, and Director Hoth. A reception was held afterwards. Many thanks to the Friends of the Hamburg Public Library, especially Caren, Tammy, Sally, Marion, Aaron, and Karen for helping to set up and clean up.

Earlier in the week the Town of Hamburg Board held its regular meeting on Monday, May 20 issuing a resolution recognizing Ashley for her achievement and service to the library and community. Ashley and Director Hoth attended.

Staff Anniversaries

We celebrated several staff anniversaries in July. Recognized for their outstanding service were Librarians Leslie Carr and Karen McClure. Senior Page Maddy Della Vella and Caretaker Sean McSkimming were celebrated too. Everyone got to enjoy cake! Congratulations to ALL for their outstanding work!!

Staff Reading Contest

Throughout May, a Staff Reading Contest was held through READSquared. This will help staff gain an understanding on how the site works leading up to summer reading beginning in June. The winner of the \$25 Amazon gift card was Sean McSkimming.

Empire Pass

The Hamburg and Lake Shore libraries each have a NYS Empire Pass available for checkout. The Empire Pass permits unlimited vehicle access to most facilities operated by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The pass can be checked out for 7 days and must be returned to staff. This new service is provided by the Friends of the Hamburg Public Library.

Ongoing Book Sales

Price points for the discarded book sales at each library is at \$.25 for all items. This is to move items out as quickly as possible.

Red Cross Blood Drives

Blood drives were scheduled at both libraries during May and June.

Scavenger Hunts

Hamburg Library

Scavenger hunts were held in May and June with 290 and 463 participants respectively.

Lake Shore Branch

A scavenger hunt was held in honor of Mother Goose Day (May 1). Children were tasked with finding Mother Goose rhymes around the library to win a prize with 63 participating. In June, children were tasked with finding camping symbols around the library to win a prize with 49 participating.

Visits by Therapy Dogs

At the end of May, Phoebe the Reading Dog retired from the Hamburg Library. She had served our library community for 7 years, assisting children to become stronger readers. The library held a retirement party for her on May 27, with cake, activities and presents.

That morning, 83 people stopped by to give her well wishes for a happy retirement. Articles and pictures appeared in the Hamburg Sun and Buffalo News.



Myrra the Reading dog passed away in May. A sympathy card was sent to her owner, Maureen Hammond. Maureen is waiting to receive another therapy dog so Lake Shore can resume visits.

Take and Makes

Take and make crafts were created and distributed during May and June with 100 distributed at the Hamburg Library and 50 distributed at the Lake Shore Library monthly.

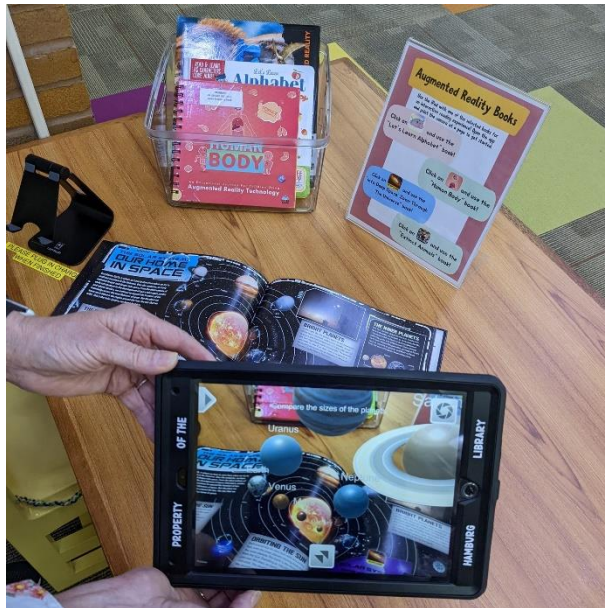
Hamburg

Recycled book sculptures created by students at Hamburg High School's Studio in Visual & Media Arts department are on display for the summer. The books were donated by the Friends of the Hamburg Public Library.

The Library received a \$100 digital gift card from Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds to use for the purchase of seeds for our Seed Share.

Augmented Reality

In May, a new permanent fixture to our Sensory Nook was added. Five augmented reality books to use with an iPad are now being offered. These books offer an interactive, 3D reading experience for a wide age range.



Summer Reading Begins

Between June 26 and August 5, patrons began reading to earn prizes at the library. Each log submitted earns a prize and a chance to win a grand prize. This year, the grand prize options are:

Birth-4: 48 Piece Building Block Set

Ages 5-11: 100 Piece Picasso Tiles

Ages 12-17: Mysterium Board Game

Adults: Mölkky Outdoor game

These prizes are funded by the Friends of the Hamburg Public Library.

Reading logs for children are available in the library. Teens and adults can join us on

ReadSquared. We have several local businesses that have contributed prizes this

summer: Bella Pizza, Ilio DiPaolo's Restaurant, Hamburg Palace Theatre, J.P.

Fitzgerald's, Main Street Ice Cream, Nino's Pizza, Peg's Place, and Penn Dixie.

Programs offered this month include:

Movie Day @ the Palace

On June 17 Assemblymember Jon Rivera and Councilperson Karen Hoak, hosted annual Movie Day at the Palace Theatre. This year's movie was "Hook". Several organizations including Penn Dixie and Village Engaged were on hand. Director Hoth worked with staff from the "Library on Wheels" Bookmobile to provide publicity for upcoming summer programs and children got to do sand art. Twenty-four children and adults visited.



Class visits and Tours

Throughout May and June, 8 kindergarten and first grade classes from Union Pleasant Elementary, Charlotte Avenue, and Big Tree Elementary visited the Hamburg Library for a tour. There were 175 students, teachers, and volunteers who visited.

Baby Bounce

Library Associate Laurie Obrochta continues to hold a storytime for birth-2 year olds on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month with 132 children and parents attending.

Family Story Time w/Miss Laurie

Miss Laurie continues to host a storytime geared toward ages birth-5 on Wednesdays with 311 children and parents attending in May, June, and July.

Tales at Twilight

Librarian Ashley Cassidy continues to hold a storytime for ages 3 and up on Monday evenings with 89 attending.

Bookworms

In May, our middle grade book club discussed *New Kid* by Jerry Craft, with 11 in attendance. We made our own journals. In June, *All's Faire in Middle School* by Victoria Jamieson, was discussed with 5 in attendance. We made our own coat of arms.

Storytime with Crazy Christine Balloons

On June 20, Crazy Christine Balloons conducted a storytime. She read a book about growing up on a New York farm, and created the animals out of balloons. There were 41 children were in attendance. Each child went home with a balloon animal.



Lee Conmigo en Espanol (Come Read with me in Spanish)

Community member Mariely Ortiz continues to conduct a monthly storytime in Spanish. Each month there is a group of 10-15 in attendance.

LEGO Club

LEGO Club continues to be held twice a month on Wednesdays and Saturdays. This program is now run by Senior Page Lauren Atti. There were 58 children and adults in attendance.

Outreach

Storytime at Smarty Pants Childcare

Librarian Ashley continues to provide monthly storytimes for the Preschool and Kinder-Ready classes at Smarty Pants Childcare. She also provides classroom collections for three of the classes at the center. Miss Ashley read to 30 children.

Literacy Night at Charlotte Avenue Elementary

Librarian Ashley Cassidy and Page Paige Huson attended the Literacy Night at Charlotte Avenue on May 16. There were interactive stations throughout the school, and the library provided a sand art activity. They saw 310 people at our station.

Summer Fun Club

Summer Fun Club began on July 5 with 10 children in attendance. This is geared for children ages 8-14 year olds. This will be held for 5 weeks on Wednesday afternoons. There is currently a waiting list each week.

Book a Technology Trainer

In May, the TechKnow Lab visited twice to provide one-on-one technology training sessions. The trainer met with 11 individuals over the two days.

Wellness Wednesdays

The final Wellness Wednesday session for the spring covered the Secrets of a Good Night's Sleep. Jennifer Johnson talked about the basics of sleep and tips to try to become well-rested. There were 10 in attendance for the May 10 event.

Local Author Visit

Laura Evans, author of *Silent Seasons* visited the library on June 29 with 10 adults in attendance. *Silent Seasons* attempts to demystify how current sustainability approaches are not working by combining thought leadership, personal stories, and legal information. Laura Evans is a planner, inactive environmental lawyer, and creator/host of the Keeping Things Alive Podcast. Laura is passionate about fostering a better relationship between humans and the Earth.

Cookbook Club

In May, Cookbook Club was held with 21 people attending! The numbers are growing, with members bringing family and friends who are becoming regulars also. The book they chose from was *The American's Test Kitchen Complete Recipes, 2001-2023*. The recipes the members picked were wonderful and complimentary. Everyone left feeling they just had Thanksgiving Dinner!

In June, Deb Perelman's *Smitten Kitchen Keepers* was chosen. This is a wonderful and very pictorial new cookbook with amazing and user friendly recipes. It was another

gastronomic feast, with much discussion about recipes and cooking in general. Only 12 people had signed up, but 20 attended!

Director's Book Club

Book Club was held on May 19 and June 16. May's title was, *We Must be Brave* by Francis Liardet with 16 in attendance. June's title was, *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London. A viewing of the movie was held after the discussion. There were 17 in attendance.

Estate Planning

Michael DeLong and Lisa Yuhnke, financial advisors from Equitable Advisors, presented an introduction to estate planning on June 13. There were 4 in attendance.

Village Business Advisory Council (VBAC)

Librarian Ashley Cassidy continues to attend the monthly VBAC meetings. At the June meeting, she was announced as a new board member for VBAC.

Lake Shore

Programs offered this month include:

Summer Reading Kickoff

On Saturday, July 1, a Summer Reading Kickoff Party was held with 49 attendees. Snacks were served. Children made crafts. Hamburg YES was on hand to do face painting, and Mr. No the Balloon Guy was also on hand. Everyone had a wonderful time and are looking to all the fun activities planned!







Story Time with Miss Stephanie

Story time was held in May and June with 152 participants in total. Story Time Themes included Ladybugs, Butterflies, Ponds, Camping, and In the Sky, and The Beatles.

LEGO Club

LEGO Club was held on May 27 and June 24 with 6 total attendees.

Cookbook Club

Cookbook Club met on May 8 and June 12 with 14 attendees each. In May, recipes were chosen from *The Austin Cookbook* by Paula Forbes. In June, recipes were chosen from *Plat Du Jour* by Susan Herrmann Loomis.

Adult Book Club

Book Club was held on May 22 and June 26 with 6 and 5 attendees respectively. In May, *Mexican Gothic* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia was chosen and in June, the group discussed *White Houses* by Amy Bloom. Participants mentioned they would still like to meet, even though the attendance has been low as of late. Librarian Stephanie Molnar suggested creating a newsletter for each book sent out two weeks before meeting to give patrons background on books and readalikes. Book Club picks were voted on for August through December.

Adult Craft Night

Adult Craft Night was held the 2nd week in May and June with 14 and 16 attendees respectively. Attendees created oil bracelets in May and painted Fourth of July banners in June.

Outreach

Librarian Stephanie Molnar continued to visit EduKids (now Bright Path) every other Friday each month. Stephanie reads to 192 students in May and June.

Programs for Adults

On Monday, May 1, Master Gardener Lyn Chimera visited to speak on Container Gardening with 18 participants.

On Wednesday, June 7 an Estate Planning Presentation by Equitable Advisors was held with 3 participants.

On Wednesday, June 14 the National Guard did a presentation on Emergency Preparedness, but did not have any participants. They discussed rescheduling for the fall/early winter.

On Saturday, June 17 Toby Jewitt, a curator at Old Fort Niagara, led a discussion on the history of Lake Erie and the War of 1812 with 4 participants including this writer. Everyone had many questions and found it interesting.

Class Visits

Classes from Bright Path continued to visit the library in June for story time with Miss Stephanie. There were 13 students in attendance.

Passive craft making was held in May where children had to make a bookmark. Seven children participated.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Hoth – Director

Hamburg Public Library – June 2023 Report

Circulation Statistics

	June 2023	June 2022	% Change
Hamburg	18,558	18,287	1.5%
Lakeshore	6,112	5,411	13%

Patron Door Counts

	June 2023	June 2022	% Change
Hamburg	7,469	5,990	24.7%
Lakeshore	2,696	2,692	0.1%

Computer Sessions

	June 2023	June 2022	% Change
Hamburg	876	810	8.1%
Lakeshore	192	225	-14.7%

WiFi Sessions

	June 2023	June 2022	% Change
Hamburg	1,755	1,699	3.3%
Lakeshore	449	384	16.9%

**2023 Financial Report
Hamburg Public Library**

M&T Business Account – Checking

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
5/5/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	100.00		5,431.45
5/5/2023	4599	Lyn Chimera (Container garden program)		100.00	5,331.45
5/8/2023		M & T Service charge		5.07	5,326.38
5/11/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	427.05		5,753.43
5/11/2023	4600	John W. Danforth (Hamburg Ventilation filters)		427.05	5,326.38
5/18/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	8.00		5,334.38
5/18/2023	4601	Laurie Obrochta (Mileage reimbursement May)		8.00	5,326.38
5/25/2023	4602	Ashley Cassidy (Mileage reimbursement May)		20.64	5,305.74
5/26/2023	4604	Cintas (Door mats replaced Hamburg & Lake Shore)		129.68	5,176.06
5/26/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	149.68		5,325.74
6/1/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	23.58		5,349.32
6/1/2023	4605	Brian Hoth (Mileage reimbursement May)		23.58	5,325.74
6/9/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	218.31		5,544.05

6/9/2023	4606	Stephanie Molnar (Mileage reimbursement May)		30.40	5,513.65
6/9/2023	4607	Guis Lumber (Hamburg & Lake Shore maintenance)		134.91	5,378.74
6/9/2023	4608	ECWA (Hamburg Monthly water bill)		33.00	5,345.74
6/9/2023	4609	Laura Cunningham (Mileage reimbursement May)		20.00	5,325.74
6/29/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	142.76		5,468.50
6/29/2023	4610	Cintas Corp (Door mats replaced Hamburg & Lake Shore)		142.76	5,325.74
7/6/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	1,076.79		6,402.53
7/6/2023	4611	Stephanie Molnar (June Mileage & program reimbursement)		51.45	6,351.08
7/6/2023	4612	Waste Management (Hamburg Refuse bill 7/1 – 9/30)		684.53	5,666.55
7/6/2023	4613	ECWA (Hamburg monthly water bill)		33.00	5,633.55
7/6/2023	4614	Guis Lumber (Hamburg & Lake Shore maintenance)		275.81	5,357.74
7/6/2023	4615	Brian Hoth (Mileage reimbursement June)		12.00	5,345.74
7/6/2023	4616	Laura W. Cunningham (Mileage reimbursement June)		20.00	5,325.74

Final Balance: \$5,325.74

M&T Business Account – Savings

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
5/5/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		100.00	2,981.58
5/11/2023		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing Revenue)	213.54		3,195.12
5/11/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		427.05	2,768.07
5/11/2023		Deposit (Lake Shore April fine & printing Revenue)	105.05		2,873.12
5/18/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		8.00	2,865.12
5/26/2023		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing Revenue)	160.00		3,025.12
5/26/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		149.68	2,875.44
5/11/2023		M & T Interest	0.05		2,875.49
6/1/2023		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing Revenue)	196.55		3,072.04
6/1/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		23.58	3,048.46
6/9/2023		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing Revenue)	65.60		3,114.06
6/9/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		218.31	2,895.75
6/13/2023		Deposit (Lake Shore May fine & printing Revenue)	114.24		3,009.99
6/15/2023		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing Revenue)	235.45		3,245.44
6/22/2023		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing Revenue)	128.45		3,373.89
6/29/2023		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing Revenue)	104.55		3,478.44

6/29/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		142.76	3,335.68
7/6/2023		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing)	76.00		3,411.68
7/6/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		1,076.79	2,334.89

Final Balance: \$2,334.89

Northwest Private Account – Checking					
Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
5/11/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	694.10		2956.55
5/11/2023	3426	B&ECPL (Attendance at ACT)		45.00	2911.55
5/11/2023	3427	Laurie Obrochta (Reimbursement for crafts supplies)		67.99	2843.56
5/11/2023	3428	Amazon Capitol Services (iPad and augmented reality books)		238.24	2605.32
5/11/2023	3429	Mark Jones (Buffalo's Early Musical History Program)		100.00	2505.32
5/11/2023	3430	Brian Hoth (reimbursement for annual Zoom membership)		149.90	2355.42
5/11/2023	3431	Stephanie Molnar (reimbursement for labels)		14.02	2341.40
5/11/2023	3432	Ashley Cassidy (reimbursement for scavenger hunt prizes)		78.95	2262.45
5/18/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	244.74		2507.19
5/18/2023	3433	Ashley Cassidy (reimbursement for sand		147.96	2359.23

		art bottles for program)			
5/18/2023	3434	Brian Hoth (reimbursement for sand for program)		96.78	2262.45
5/19/2023		Amazon Smile (donation program deposit)	39.97		2302.42
5/25/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	2596.14		4898.56
5/25/2023	3435	Brian Hoth (reimbursement for SOD and WNY Outstanding Librarian of the Year Award reception)		265.17	4633.39
5/25/2023	3436	Amazon (coin envelopes for seed share)		80.70	4552.69
5/25/2023	3437	Town of Hamburg (Share of the cost for the concrete pad for garbage/recyclable receptacles)		2250.00	2302.69
5/31/2023		Order for new checks		27.25	2275.44
6/1/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	27.25		2302.69
6/7/2023	online	Amazon (prizes for the summer reading contests for Lake Shore and Hamburg)		313.01	1989.68
6/9/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	549.52		2539.20
6/9/2023	3438	Amazon Supplies for various craft programs at Lake Shore and Hamburg)		182.40	2356.80
6/9/2023	3439	Stephanie Molnar (Reimbursement for Wooden Stacking Blocks for summer reading prize)		14.99	2341.81
6/9/2023	3440	Ashley Cassidy (Reimbursement for summer reading gift card prize)		25.00	2316.81
6/9/2023	3441	Laurie Obrochta (reimbursement for story time crafts)		14.12	2302.69
6/15/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	197.16		2499.85

6/15/2023	3442	Brian Hoth (Reimbursement for collapsible wagon for outreach)		49.88	2449.97
6/15/2023	3443	The Library Store (Lakeshore inspirational and star labels)		47.28	2402.69
6/15/2023	3444	Old Fort Niagara (Program event at Lake shore)		100.00	2302.69
6/22/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	741.53		3044.22
6/21/2023	3445	B&ECPL (Private Material Purchases – Vox Books for Lake Shore & Juvenile graphic novels for Hamburg)		246.58	2797.64
6/21/2023	3446	Brian Hoth (Reimbursement for BJ's annual membership's)		85.00	2712.64
6/21/2023	3447	Ashley Cassidy (reimbursement for Book Worms middle grade program and summer prizes and scavenger hunt)		409.95	2302.69
6/22/2023	online	Amazon (Shelving for creative shelving project)		84.96	2217.73
6/29/2023	3448	Ashley Cassidy (reimbursement for plastic bins for shelving project)		53.88	2163.85
6/29/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	138.84		2302.69
7/6/2023		Deposit	64.61		2367.30
7/6/2023	3449	Laurie Obrochta (reimbursement for take-n-make supplies)		47.45	2319.85
7/6/2023	3450	Stephanie Molnar (reimbursement for summer reading kick-off party)		17.16	2302.69

Final Balance: \$2302.69

Northwest Private Account – Savings

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
5/11/2023		Deposit (Hamburg donation box)	40.00		41183.76
5/11/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		694.10	40489.66
5/11/2023		Deposit (Lake Shore regular book sale & special discard sale)	388.50		40878.16
5/18/2023		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale)	126.50		41004.66
5/18/2023		Deposit (Private Donation)	1000.00		42004.66
5/18/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		244.74	41759.92
5/26/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		2,596.14	39163.78
5/26/2023		Deposit (Hamburg donation box)	30.00		39193.78
5/31/2023		Northwest Interest	0.35		39194.13
6/1/2023		Deposit (Hamburg donation box)	20.00		39214.13
6/1/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		27.25	39186.88
6/9/2023		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale)	119.50		39306.38
6/9/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		549.52	38756.86
6/13/2023		Deposit (Lake Shore May Book Sale & Donation Box)	179.58		38936.44
6/15/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		197.16	38739.28
6/22/2023		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale)	141.00		38880.28

6/22/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		741.53	38138.75
6/29/2023		Deposit (Hamburg donation box)	25		38,163.75
6/29/2023		Deposit (private donation check)	50		38213.75
6/29/2023		Deposit (Reimbursement check from the Friends of the Library for summer reading prizes and Lake Shore Vox Books)	607.48		38821.23
7/6/2023		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale)	128.50		38949.73
7/6/2023		Deposit (Hamburg memorial donation in honor of Dorothy Rood)	25		38974.73
7/6/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		64.61	38910.12
7/6/2023		Deposit (Eastern copier)	646.95		39557.07

Final Balance: \$39,557.07

Transactions were fairly routine over this period. Eastern copier will no longer be picking up our change from their machine so we will be collecting and depositing the money for ourselves.

Proceeds from Book Sale, Candy Sale and mugs: 5/3/2023 -7/5/2023 = \$560.25