

Director's Report
Hamburg Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, March 21 @ 6:00 PM
To be held at the Lake Shore Library

Winter Reading Program

Our first-ever Winter Reading Program was held for adults this year. The program ran from January 3-March 1. Participants were able to log reading through ReadSquared or by paper at their branch. We had 60 participants at Hamburg and 17 at Lake Shore. When participants read 10 hours, they could visit their branch to receive a free book. At the conclusion of the program two \$25 Thrive 14075 gift cards were raffled off to participants at each branch. Rachel M. and Lindsay W. were the grand prize winners. The prizes were funded by the Friends of the Hamburg Public Library.

Red Cross Blood Drives

Blood drives were scheduled at both libraries on January 23 and March 1. All slots were filled.

State of the Town

On January 26 Director Hoth and Librarian Ashley Cassidy attended the annual State of the Town address. I got an opportunity to speak with the county executive.

New York State Talking Book and Braille Library

On January 31 this writer visited Bethel Estates and registered 4 residents for the NYS Talking Book and Braille Library (TBBL). This is a free library service for eligible residents of upstate New York who are unable to use standard print materials due to a visual, physical or reading disability. Director Hoth partnered with Mark Parlato of Aspire. Additional days will be scheduled in the future. This writer also reached out to Elderwood Assisted Living to do something similar. Denise Grupp, the activities director, will see if there is interest.

Advocacy Day

On February 28, Librarian Stephanie Molnar participated in Library Advocacy Day in Albany. Her group met with Senator Patrick Gallivan, Assembly Member Michael Norris, Assembly Member Jon Rivera, and Assembly Member David DiPietro to speak on the Library Operating Aid and Library Construction Aid, among other issues.

Below are some photos.



Chief of Staff Keith Bryan
w/Senator Patrick Gallivan

Assemblymember
Michael Norris

Assemblymember
Jon Rivera

Annual Survey

The System conducts an annual survey to find out what our patrons and the community desires/expects from the library. They further break it down by individual libraries. This writer has reviewed the survey with Ashley and Stephanie to ensure we are meeting the needs of the community and if not, to take steps to provide programs and services they would like to see.

Scavenger Hunts

Hamburg Library

Scavenger hunts continue to be held each month in the kid's space area. Both January's dragon hunt and February's gnome hunt had more than 400 participants each.

Lake Shore Branch

Scavenger Hunts were held monthly in January and February.

- In honor of Lewis Carroll's birthday, children found characters from *Alice in Wonderland* around the library to win a prize. Forty-six children participated.
- In honor Black History Month, kids found artwork by famous black artists around the library to win a prize. Fifty children participated.

Visits by Therapy Dogs

Both Phoebe and Myrra made visits to the Hamburg and Lake Shore libraries respectively to the enjoyment of children and adults!

Take and Makes

One-hundred take and make kits were distributed each week to children in January and February. In March, the distribution was changed to 100 per month. This allows us to redistribute time and resources to create additional in-person programming.

AmazonSmile Charity donations

Amazon ended this program on February 20. The library will receive a one-time payment equivalent to 3 months of payments based on what was accrued in 2022 within 60 to 90 days.

Hamburg

Sensory Play Nook

In January, liquid floor tiles were installed in the Sensory Play Nook!



Seed Share

In 2022, 3,500 seed packets were distributed. Since the Seed Share began in 2020, roughly 10,000 seed packets have been distributed. Each packet contains 10-15 seeds, and all seeds are donated. The library depends on company and community donations to keep the seed share stocked. In February, the library received generous donations from W. Atlee Burpee Company, High Mowing Organic Seeds, and Fedco Seeds.

Programs offered this month include:

Family Story Time w/Miss Laurie

Library Associate Laurie Obrochta continues to lead a family storytime on Wednesday mornings in the Children's Area. More than 30 children attend each session.

Tales at Twilight

Librarian Ashley Cassidy continues to lead an evening storytime for ages 3 and up on Monday evenings. Each session ends with either process art or sensory play, with 15-20 children in attendance.

Bookworms

In January, club members discussed *El Deafo* by CeCe Bell. Special guest Angela Nicotera joined us to provide a short lesson on American Sign Language. There were 13 in attendance. In February, the discussion centered on *Voyage of the Frostheart* by Jamie Littler and composed our own song using the musical talents and instruments of our 5 attendees.

Book a Technology Trainer

On January 3, the TechKnow Lab visited to provide one-on-one instructional sessions on a topic of the participants' choice. There were 5 sessions with 6 attendees.

Local Author Visit

On January 5, local author Tyler Dunne visited to discuss his new book, *The Blood and Guts: How Tight Ends Save Football*. Tyler wrote his book at the Hamburg Library. In *Blood & Guts*, Tyler interviews the greatest tight ends ever, whose stories reveal why they were uniquely qualified to serve as the blood and the guts of football. There were 6 in attendance that evening.

Tenants' Rights and Resources

Alan Williams, a housing attorney at the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, gave a presentation on January 27 to educate tenants about their legal rights, and resources available to tenants in need. There were 6 in attendance that evening.

Prehistoric Party

On February 4, Penn Dixie hosted a movie with a take home craft. There were 28 children and parents. Afterwards, library staff distributed additional take home craft kits.

Editing Digital Photos

On February 9, the TechKnow Lab visited to present a two-hour class on editing digital photos. There were 3 people in attendance.

Spelling Bee at Hamburg Middle School

On February 28 Librarian Ashley served as a judge in Hamburg Middle's first-ever spelling bee. There were 7 participants. All the spellers were terrific spellers!

Valentines for Elderwood Residents

In February, a craft station was set up in the Kids Space Area for our library community to create valentines for our neighbors at Elderwood Assisted Living. Laurie and Ashley dropped off 100 valentines to the delight of the residents!

Village Business Advisory Council (VBAC)

Librarian Ashley continues to attend the monthly meetings.

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

Volunteer Mariely Ortiz continues to conduct a monthly storytime in Spanish. Each month there is a group of 10-15 in attendance. On January 21 Assemblymember Jon Rivera attended the program with his daughter.

LEGO Club

Senior Page Shannon Carnall continues to lead the ever-popular LEGO Club each month. In January, a second LEGO Club date was added on Wednesday evenings. Both the Wednesday and Saturday session have continued to be at full registration.

Cookbook Club

On January 18 Librarian Leslie Carr and the group detoxified their systems from the holidays and had a Vegan Night with 15 attendees. They chose recipes from *Mission Vegan* by Danny Bowhein.

On February 15 the group had an old fashioned Pot Luck Night; where everyone brought a crowd sized casserole to share and enjoy with 14 attendees. It was a lot of fun and there was very little leftover! There are some marvelous and enthusiastic cooks in the group.

Director's Book Club

Book Club was held on January 20 and February 17. January's title was, *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict with 12 in attendance, including 3 from the Orchard Park Library. February's title was, *Their Eyes were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston with 12 in attendance.

Storytime at Smarty Pants Childcare

Librarian Ashley continues to provide monthly storytimes for the Preschool and Kinder-Ready classes at Smarty Pants Childcare.

Lake Shore

Programs offered this month include:

Story Time

Story Time was held on Tuesday mornings in January and February with 155 participants. Themes included Sounds, the Circus, Winter, Construction, Monsters, and Valentine's Day/Black History Month. On February 14, we partnered with Zeneta and Zaire's Book Club to distribute copies of *I'm Enough* by Grace Byers to kids and read books about equality and inclusion for Black History Month.

EduKids

Librarian Stephanie Molnar visited EduKids every other Friday morning in January and February reading to 4 classes. She read to a total of 163 children.

LEGO Club

LEGO Club was held on January 28 and February 25 with 25 total attendees.

Cookbook Club

On February 13 the group selected recipes from the book, *Scrumptious* by Christy Denney. There were 6 people in attendance.

Adult Book Club

Book Club was held on January 30 with two attendees. We discussed *Marmee & Louisa* by Eve LaPlante. February Book Club had no attendees due to the weather.

Adult Craft Night

Adult Craft Night was held on January 25 with the Pollock-Krasner House via Zoom. The 12 participants took a virtual tour of the house and created winter paintings. Adult Craft Night was cancelled on February 22 due to the ice storm, but 15 kits were assembled of the Heart Hand Warmer crafts for participants to make at home.

Craft Table

A passive craft was put out where kids decorated a bookmark. Fifteen kids participated.

Valentine's Day Party

On Saturday, February 11 a Valentine's Party was held with 45 attendees. Kids made Valentine crafts, played bingo, heard a story, and ate snacks. Cupcakes were made by Library Clerk Alyssa Johnson.



Hamburg Public Library -February 2023 Report

Circulation Statistics

	February 2023	February 2022	% Change
Hamburg	17,467	9,900	76.4%
Lakeshore	5,779	3,325	73.8%

Patron Door Counts

	February 2023	February 2022	% Change
Hamburg	6,934	5,429	27.7%
Lakeshore	2,729	2,696	1.2%

Computer Sessions

	February 2023	February 2022	% Change
Hamburg	797	756	5.4%
Lakeshore	209	165	26.7%

WiFi Sessions

	February 2023	February 2022	% Change
Hamburg	1,415	1,486	-4.8%
Lakeshore	301	341	-11.7%

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Hoth - Director

**2023 Financial Report
Hamburg Public Library**

M&T Business Account – Checking

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
1/10/2023		M & T Service charge		5.08	5346.64
1/12/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	162.68		5509.32
1/12/2023	4555	Cintas (Door mats replaced Hamburg & Lake Shore)		129.68	5379.64
1/12/2023	4556	ECWA (Monthly water bill Hamburg)		33.00	5346.64
1/19/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	419.79		5766.43
1/19/2023	4557	ECWA (Hamburg water bill)		419.79	5346.64
1/26/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	149.68		5496.32
1/26/2023	4558	Robert Adler - ACT Dues		20.00	5476.32
1/26/2023	4559	Cintas (Door mats replaced Hamburg & Lake Shore)		129.68	5346.64
2/2/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	49		5395.64
2/2/2023	4560	Brian Hoth (Mileage reimbursement January)		16.00	5379.64
2/2/2023	4561	ECWA (HAM monthly water bill)		33.00	5346.64
2/9/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	127.7		5474.34
2/9/2023	4562	Guis Lumber (maintenance Hamburg and		107.70	5366.64

		Lake Shore)			
2/9/2023	4563	Laura Cunningham (Mileage reimbursement January)		20.00	5346.64
2/17/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	319.4		5666.04
2/17/2023	4564	VBAC (yearly membership dues)		100.00	5566.04
2/17/2023	4565	Laurie Obrochta (Reimbursement for program supplies)		46.62	5519.42
2/17/2023	4566	Laurie Obrochta (Mileage reimbursement January)		4.00	5515.42
2/17/2023	4567	Stephanie Molnar (Mileage reimbursement January)		4.00	5511.42
2/17/2023	4568	Sean McSkimming (Mileage reimbursement January)		35.10	5476.32
2/17/2023	4569	Cintas Corp. (Door mats replaced Hamburg & Lake Shore)		129.68	5346.64
3/2/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	1312.64		6659.28
3/2/2023	4570	BECPL (2022 Return to System)		1,286.80	5372.48
3/2/2023	4571	Brian Hoth ((Mileage reimbursement February)		8.00	5364.48
3/2/2023	4572	Laurie Obrochta (reimbursement for program supplies)		17.84	5346.64

Final Balance: \$5,346.64

M&T Business Account – Savings

Date	Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
1/12/2023	Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		162.68	3,334.14
1/19/2023	Deposit (Hamburg Fine & Printing Revenue)	166.03		3,500.17
1/19/2023	Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		419.79	3,080.38
1/26/2023	Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		149.68	2,930.70
1/30/2023	Deposit (funding from System to cover direct expenses)	3220		6,150.70
1/31/2023	M & T Interest	0.06		6,150.76
2/2/2023	Deposit (Hamburg Fine & Printing Revenue)	120.35		6,271.11
2/2/2023	Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		49	6,222.11
2/9/2023	Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		127.7	6,094.41
2/9/2023	Deposit (Lakeshore Fine & Printing Revenue)	66.35		6,160.76
2/17/2023	Deposit (Hamburg Fine & Printing Revenue)	149.9		6,310.66
3/2/2023	Deposit (Hamburg Fine & Printing Revenue)	247.54		6,558.20
3/2/2023	Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		1312.64	5,245.56

Final Balance: \$5,245.56

Northwest Private Account – Checking

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
1/12/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	44.86		2209.64
1/12/2023	3395	Laurie Obrochta (reimburse for take-n-makes)		44.86	2164.78
1/19/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	102.51		2267.29
1/19/2023	3396	Stephanie Molnar (reimburse for bags of rice and zip lock bags for take-n-makes)		11.60	2255.69
1/19/2023	3397	Ashley Cassidy (reimburse for Hamburg scavenger hunt prizes and learning magnetic wands for Lake Shore)		90.91	2164.78
1/26/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	118.07		2282.85
1/26/2023	3399	Brian Hoth (reimburse for ink supplies)		108.57	2174.28
2/2/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	449.18		2623.46
2/2/2023	3400	BECPL (purchase of memorial books)		55.52	2567.94
2/2/2023	3401	Amazon (Take-n-make bags and tablet holder and giant puzzle)		316.72	2251.22
2/2/2023	3402	High Mowing Organic Seeds (Seed bundles for Hamburg Seed Share)		49.95	2201.27
2/2/2023	3403	Ashley Cassidy (reimburse for additional Lego boards)		26.99	2174.28
2/17/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	1048.74		3223.02

2/17/2023	3404	Brodart Company (Additional wire vinyl easels)		174.57	3048.45
2/17/2023	3405	Creative Advertising Specialties (Pens and folders for Hamburg Public Library)		532.00	2516.45
2/17/2023	3406	Travelers liability Insurance		232.00	2284.45
2/17/2023	3407	Brian Hoth (reimburse for additional sensory area supplies)		52.85	2231.60
2/17/2023	3408	Stephanie Molnar (Reimburse for Valentine's Party supplies)		57.32	2174.28
3/2/2023		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	576.00		2750.28
3/2/2023	3410	Brian Hoth (Reimburse Candy fundraiser)		576.00	2174.28
3/2/2023	3411	Ashley Cassidy (Winter reading prizes)		54.50	2119.78

Final Balance: \$2,119.78

Northwest Private Account – Savings

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
1/5/2023		Deposit (Lakeshore December Book Sale & donation box)	206.50		40803.44
1/12/2023		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	104.50		40907.94
1/12/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		44.86	40863.08
1/19/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		102.51	40760.57

1/26/2023		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	129.50		40890.07
1/26/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		118.07	40772
1/31/2023		Northwest Bank Interest	0.35		40772.35
2/2/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		449.18	40323.17
2/9/2023		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	60.00		40383.17
2/9/2023		Deposit (LSH January Book Sale & Donation Box)	148.75		40531.92
2/14/2023		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	81.50		40613.42
2/14/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		1,048.74	39564.68
3/2/2023		Deposit (Donations)	175.84		39740.52
3/2/2023		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		576.00	39164.52

Final Balance: \$39,164.52

Transactions were very routine over this period. We did purchase four books from a memorial donation and received a donation of seeds at a minimum cost from High Mowing Organic Seeds for our Hamburg Seed Share.

Proceeds from Book Sale, Candy Sale and mugs:

1/5/2023 -3/1/2023 = \$754.55