

**Director's Report**  
**Hamburg Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Monday, November 18 @ 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 September and October.

**Scavenger Hunts**

Scavenger hunts were held at both libraries during September and October.

*Hamburg Library*

October's scavenger hunt theme was witches and ghosts with 406 participants.

*Lake Shore Library*

September's Scavenger Hunt was themed for Hispanic Heritage Month. Participants found pictures native to Central and South America around the library. Each participant received a sticker. There were 80 participants.

October's Scavenger Hunt was themed for the Buffalo Sabres. Participants found hockey images around the library. Each participant received a sticker prize. There were 75 participants.

**Therapy Dogs**

*Hamburg Library*

On October 19, Kruz visited with 10 children and adults in attendance. He has become very popular! Unfortunately, he had to cancel his November visit.

*Lake Shore Library*

On October 2, Lake Shore Library's new reading dog Paddy debuted at the library along with his owner Elongia Farrell. Six participants read stories to him in the Children's area.

## **Library Advocacy**

On September 25, this writer was one of five panelists participating in a webinar entitled, Effective Library Awareness: Engaging Representatives Locally and in Albany. The session was designed to equip professional academic, school, public, and special, library staff with the resources and knowledge needed to effectively organize local meetings with legislators, navigate Library Advocacy Day in Albany, and stay engaged in library advocacy year-round. The webinar was sponsored by the Western New York Library Resources Council (WNYLRC).

On September 27, this writer met with Erie County Legislator John Mills at the Hamburg Library to discuss various funding needs. He was given a packet, which included information on programs and given a tour. He was very impressed with the size of the building and what the Hamburg Public Library offers.

On November 13, Librarian Nicole, Trustee and vice president Cate Lee, and this writer attended an advocacy meeting with Senator Patrick Gallivan in McGrath Library at Hilbert College. Topics of discussion included construction aid funding, staffing, and providing social workers in libraries.

## **Intersect Unconference 2024**

On October 11, Librarian Stephanie was a presenter at Intersect Unconference 2024. This year's event, held at the Central Library, was entitled, Innovate or Stagnate: Embracing Necessary Changes in Library Practices. Stephanie presented on the topic of passive programming with Lackawanna Public Library Librarian Trainee Leah Mosher. They discussed what passive programming is and its benefits. Several examples of programs for all sizes and types of libraries were given. There were 30 colleagues in attendance. This event is sponsored by the Western New York Library Resources Council (WNYLRC).

## **WNYLRC Annual Meeting**

On October 22, Librarian Stephanie attended the WNYLRC's 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting held at the National Comedy Center in Jamestown. A tour was given; lunch was served; and Library All-Star Awards were given out.

On November 9, two trees were planted on the grounds of the Hamburg Library courtesy of ReTree Hamburg. An elm was planted at the parking lot entrance. A tree with yellow leaves (not sure of the type ☺) was planted at the Buffalo Street entrance.

## **Committees**

Librarian Stephanie and this writer have volunteered to be on the System's Records Management Committee. The committee is charged with developing a policy and coming up with best practices for the handling of records.

This writer has volunteered for the Village of Hamburg AARP Steering Committee. The Village was recently enrolled into the AARP Age-Friendly Community of Networks. The committee is charged with coming up with a resident survey to establish some baseline knowledge about the areas that our residents think the Village is doing a good job in, and areas where maybe the Village could implement some improvements. This may expand into the Town.

## ***Hamburg Library***

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

#### **LEGO Club**

LEGO Club was held on October 5 and 9; and November 2 and 13, with Senior Pages Lauren & Sarah. Children used their imaginations to make unique creations, which were then displayed in the library. A total of 31 children attended in October and a total of 45 children attended in November.

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

Book Club was held on October 18 and November 15 with 12 and 15 members each. October's book title was *The Curator* by Owen King. November's title was *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt. The discussions are always lively and fun.

#### **Cookbook Club**

Librarian Trainee Sarah hosted the monthly Cookbook Club on October 16. Everyone chose a recipe from the cookbook of the month and brought it to share. October's title was *101 Greatest Soups on the Planet* by Erin Renouf Mylroie with 8 in attendance.

## **Story Time All Shook Up**

In October and November Library Associate Laurie held Story Time Shook Up, a lively event full of songs, movements and stories for children ages 0-5. The themes were story time characters with 150 and 56 children and adults attending respectively.

## **Baby Bounce**

On October 14 and 28, Library Associate Laurie and Librarian Nicole held lapsit story time for children ages 0-2. Each child received their own book to hold during the program. On October 14, 47 children and adults attended and on October 28, 82 were in attendance.

## **Colorful Tuesdays**

On October 1 and November 5, Librarian Nicole and Library Associate Laurie held Colorful Tuesdays! This is a passive program held on the first Tuesday of the month. Coloring supplies and sheets are put out for patrons to enjoy. There were 6 and 9 attending respectively.

## **Camp Create**

On October 15, Library Associate Laurie held a monthly craft program for children ages 6-12. This month's theme was Day of the Dead. Kids made a day of the dead mask with 18 in attendance.

## **Horror in the Library**

On October 3, magician Cris Johnson visited to present "Horror in the Library!" The program involves spooky subject matter, creepy magic, mind reading, and more. Thirty three children and adults attended.

## **Halloween Party**

On October 21, a Halloween Party was held with 110 children and adults in attendance. Volunteers from the Hamburg YES program and an adult volunteer assisted with running the program. Children made bookmarks, necklaces, and popcorn hands. A special spooky scavenger hunt was also held where kids had to find bones scattered throughout the library! Activities included: bowling, a bean bag toss, and a photo taking wall.

## Village of Hamburg Trick or Treat

On October 26, the annual Trick or Treat in the village, including the parade was held. The Library served as a stop with staff handing out candy to 506 trick or treaters!

## Book Displays

Librarian Trainee Sarah created book displays next to the New Fiction and New Nonfiction for September, October, and November. The September book display was “Dear Diary,” featuring fiction and nonfiction diaries, journals, and personal stories, and “Banned Books Week” featuring frequently banned and challenged books. The October book displays were “It Came From the Library” and “Devour Books Not Brains,” featuring horror books. The November book displays were “Learn Something New this Know-Vember,” featuring science, math and technology nonfiction books, and “No-Shave November,” which is a month-long journey during which participants forgo shaving in order to evoke conversation and raise awareness for cancer and men’s health and wellness.

## Banned Books Week

For Banned Books Week from September 23 through September 29, Librarian Trainee Sarah created an interactive display which featured the most challenged books of the last few years, inviting patrons to guess why certain books were banned. The display also incorporated statistics related to books challenged in public libraries, and resources for those who wish to fight censorship and book banning. Stickers and pins were given out to celebrate Banned Books Week.



## Transgender Awareness Week

Librarian Trainee Sarah created a display for Transgender Awareness Week, which was November 13 through November 19. Transgender Awareness Week is meant to increase understanding of the transgender community through educating the public about who transgender people are, sharing stories and experiences, and advancing advocacy around issues of prejudice, discrimination, and violence that affect the transgender community. The display featured various materials available for checkout related to transgender history, experiences and lives. The display also provided resources for the transgender community and allies related to local events and support for the transgender community. The display is meant to increase diversity, equity and inclusion in Hamburg Library, and provide a safe and welcoming space for all members of the community. The display will be up the full month of November.



## Kid Librarian

Librarian Trainee Sarah hosted three Kid Librarians, one each on September 23, October 7, and October 23. Kid Librarians were Kaydence Schmitt, Lena Binder, and Sienna Franjoine. The Kid Librarians worked with Librarian Trainee Sarah to curate a display of a topic of their choice to feature in the Children's Area. Kaydence chose the theme "Mysteries," Lena chose "Kids in History," and Sienna chose "Fantasy for All Ages."



Each Kid Librarian created a poster to display with their collection.

## **Class Visits**

### **Hamburg Nursery School**

On November 1, Hamburg Nursery School visited with 24 children in attendance. Librarian Nicole conducted a tour of the building including the staff area, read them stories, and let them help discharge movies returned.

### **Charlotte Avenue Elementary School**

On November 8, 48 5<sup>th</sup> grade students from Charlotte Avenue Elementary School visited. Librarian Nicole gave them a tour including behind the scenes areas. They received a presentation of how the library works including programs and services provided. Nicole read them a story. Afterwards, they did a scavenger hunt to find where things are in the library and how they worked. For example, how much are copies for the copier.

## ***Lake Shore Library***

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

#### **Preschool Story Time**

On September 24, October 1, October 8, and October 15 Librarian Stephanie held storytime for ages 2 to 5, which focused on literacy, listening skills, and socialization. Each session typically includes 3 books, a game or activity, and a craft. There were a total of 107 attendees.

#### **Halloween Party**

On October 19, Librarian Stephanie and Library Associate Laurie held the annual Halloween Party with 35 attendees. Children decorated cookies donated by neighbor Sue, made crafts, played bingo, and listened to a story. There was also a costume contest with the winner pictured below.



## **Adult Book Club**

Book Club was held on September 30 and October 28 with Librarian Stephanie. September's title was: *Anxious People* by Frederik Backman. Swedish snacks were served with 7 attendees. October's title was, *Wilder Girls* by Rory Power. Crab rangoon snacks were served with 9 attendees. A newsletter was created and distributed for each book by Librarian Stephanie with background information, fun facts, and recommended reads.

## **Cookbook Club**

On October 14, Cookbook Club was held with 13 participants. Participants chose recipes from *Eat and Enjoy Gluten Free* by Laura Strange and shared their dishes pot-luck style.

## **Hearts and Hands Volunteer Information Session**

On October 16, Michael Murphy, director - Community Input, informed potential volunteers about the program and how they can help. This non-profit provides rides and companionship to home-bound or other older adults in need throughout Western New York. There was 1 attendee.

## **Adult Craft Night**

On October 21, Miss Stephanie held adult craft night with 11 participants. Participants made paper mosaics with scrapbook paper donated by a patron. Participants glued paper on chipstock in different patterns.



## **Narcan Training**

On October 30, the Erie County Department of Health presented a Narcan Training program demonstrating the proper use of Narcan. There were 5 attendees, including Senior Page Lisa.

## **Class Visits**

On September 26 and October 10, a toddler class (age 2) from Bright Path visited the library. They visit every other Thursday on Miss Stephanie's off outreach weeks. She read three books and gave each child a sticker. A total of 21 students visited.

## **Passive Crafts**

Halloween and outer space-themed passive crafts were put out in October in the children's area. Kids were encouraged to make a scene with the provided crayons, Ellison cutouts, and glue. There were a total of 30 participants for these crafts.

The easel wipeboard was put out in October to encourage passive programming participation in the library. Questions were asked about candy corn, Halloween costumes, and spring vs. fall. There were 84 participants.



## Outreach

### Hamburg Library

#### Smarty Pants Daycare

On October 3 and November 4, Library Associate Laurie visited Smarty Pants Daycare to read stories and provide classroom collections. Miss Laurie saw 33 and 40 children respectively.

#### Scholastic Book Fair

Librarian Trainee Sarah and Page Emily attended Union Pleasant Elementary School's Scholastic Book Fair family event on October 17. They saw approximately 141 people and handed out library card applications, Hamburg Public Library event calendars, and provided a craft with the children attending the event.

#### Giving Garden

On October 17, Library Associate Laurie presented story time at the giving garden for 44 adults and children. She read stories and sang songs.

### Lake Shore Library

#### Storytime at Bright Path

On October 4, October 18, and November 1, Librarian Stephanie made her bi-weekly visit to Bright Path and read stories to students ages 1 to 5. She recently added the baby room bringing the total number of classes to six with total attendees of 226. Below is a photo from the baby room's bulletin board.



## **Woodlawn Beach Trunk or Treat**

On October 26, Librarian Stephanie and System Youth Services Library Assistant Emily McDonald attended a Trunk or Treat event held at Woodlawn Beach. Emily set up decorations in her trunk and each brought candy to distribute. They saw about 20 people but left after two hours due to low turnout.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian Hoth, Director

## Hamburg Public Library – October 2024 Report

### Circulation Statistics

	October 2024	October 2023	% Change
Hamburg	19,358	19,957	- 3 %
Lakeshore	6,272	6,766	- 7.3%

### Patron Door Counts

	October 2024	October 2023	% Change
Hamburg	8,112	8,759	- 7.4 %
Lakeshore	3,054	3,756	- 18.7%

### Computer Sessions

	October 2024	October 2023	% Change
Hamburg	770	831	- 7.3%
Lakeshore	201	195	1.5%

### WiFi Sessions

	October 2024	October 2023	% Change
Hamburg	2,110	1,643	28.4%
Lakeshore	511	586	- 12.8%

**2024 Financial Report  
Hamburg Public Library**

**M&T Business Account – Checking**

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
9/27/2024		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	383.65		3,098.81
9/27/2024	4722	Laura Cunningham (September Mileage Reimbursement)		16.00	3,082.81
9/27/2024	4723	Cintas Corp (Door Mats Hamburg & Lake Shore September)		160.00	2,922.81
9/27/2024	4724	Rachel Martinic (September Mileage Reimbursement)		8.51	2,914.30
9/27/2024	4725	Fun Express LLC (Hamburg Varied program needs)		199.14	2,715.16
10/3/2024	4726	Lori Wells (Reimbursement for a book)		34.95	2,680.21
10/4/2024	4727	Brian Parisi Copier Systems, Inc.		3.65	2,676.56
10/5/2024	4728	Guis Lumber (Hamburg maintenance September)		147.73	2,528.83
10/5/2024	4729	ECWA (Hamburg monthly water bill 8/31 - 9/30/24)		33.00	2,495.83
10/8/2024		M & T Bank Service Charge October		7.52	2,488.31
10/11/2024	4730	ECWA (Lake Shore water bill 7/1 - 10/1/24)		69.48	2,418.83
10/11/2024	4731	Cintas Corp. (Door Mats Hamburg & Lake Shore October)		160.00	2,258.83
10/11/2024	4732	Waste Management (Lake Shore Refuse bill 10/1 -12/31/2024)		659.05	1,599.78

10/18/2024	4733	ECWA (Hamburg water bill 7/1-10/1/2024)		436.44	1,163.34
10/18/2024	4734	Stephanie Molnar (Reimbursement for program needs)		68.82	1,094.52
10/18/2024		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	1,613.12		2,707.64
11/7/2024		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	313.73		3,021.37
11/7/2024	4735	Guis Lumber (Hamburg & Lake Shore Maintenance)		212.42	2,808.95
11/7/2024	4736	John W. Danforth (Filters for Hamburg Library)		43.80	2,765.15
11/7/2024	4737	ECWA (Hamburg Monthly water bill)		33.00	2,732.15
11/7/2024	4738	Laura W. Cunningham (October Mileage Reimbursement)		12.00	2,720.15
11/7/2024	4739	Rachel Martinic (October Mileage Reimbursement)		12.51	2,707.64

**Final Balance: \$2,707.64**

M&T Business Account – Savings					
Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
9/26/2024		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue )	122.95		5,041.84
9/27/2024		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		383.65	4,658.19
9/30/2024		M & T Interest September	0.08		4,658.27
10/8/2024		Deposit (Lake Shore fine & printing revenue September)	124.45		4,782.72
10/28/2024		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue )	142.69		4,925.41

10/18/2024		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		1,613.12	3,312.29
10/25/2024		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue )	133.15		3,445.44
10/31/2024		M & T Interest October	0.07		3,445.51
11/5/2024		Deposit (Lake Shore fine & printing revenue October)	100.14		3,545.65
11/7/2024		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue )	177.04		3,722.69
11/13/2024		Deposit Reimbursement for Copier work)	3.65		3,726.34

***Final Balance: \$2,726.34***

## Northwest Private Account – Checking

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
9/20/2024		Withdrawal (returned to savings)		168.75	2154.41
9/20/2024		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	180.68		2335.09
9/26/2024		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	841.94		3177.03
9/26/2024	3520	Cris Johnson (Hamburg Horror in the library program)		350.00	2827.03
9/26/2024	3521	Brian Hoth (Reimbursement for fall holiday décor)		123.75	2703.28
9/26/2024	3522	Brodart (Lakeshore read-n-go bags)		46.23	2657.05
9/26/2024	3523	Lakeshore Learning (Hamburg purchase of hopscotch carpet and soft and safe building blocks for sensory area)		321.96	2335.09
9/27/2024		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	216.88		2551.97
9/27/2024	3524	Demco Inc.(Hamburg purchase of bookends and easels for shelves)		216.88	2335.09
9/30/2024		Northwest paper statement fee September		5.00	2330.09
10/18/2024	3526	Buffalo & Erie County Library (Reimbursement for private material)		433.07	1897.02
10/18/2024	3527	American Button Machines (Purchase of 2 button making machines reimbursed by Friends of the Library)		722.75	1174.27
10/18/2024	3528	Nicole Brown (Reimbursement for Halloween program needs)		45.87	1128.40

10/18/2024	3529	Sarah Hoover (Reimbursement for supplies for cookbook club )		17.99	1110.41
10/18/2024		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	1219.68		2330.09
10/25/2024		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	264.70		2594.79
10/25/2024	3530	Brian Hoth (Reimbursement for paint to paint the meeting room)		264.70	2330.09
10/31/2024		Northwest paper statement fee October		5.00	2325.09
11/7/2024	3531	Village of Hamburg (Support Hamburg Holidays –purchase of 4 wreaths)		108.00	2217.09
11/7/2024	3532	Laurie Obrochta (Reimbursement for Camp Create supplies)		30.00	2187.09
11/9/2024	3533	Explore Buffalo (Canceled program)		50.00	2137.09
11/13/2024	3534	Hamburg Public Library (Reimbursement to M & T account)		3.65	2133.44
11/13/2024		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	191.65		2325.09

***Final Balance: \$2,325.09***

## Northwest Private Account – Savings

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
9/26/2024		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		841.94	24536.20
9/27/2024		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		216.88	24319.32
9/30/2024		Northwest Bank Interest September	0.20		24319.52
9/30/2024		Northwest Paper Statement fee September		5.00	24314.52
10/8/2024		Deposit (Lake Shore Book Sale & Donation Box)	84.25		24398.77
10/8/2024		Deposit Copier (Lake Shore copy Machine September)	33.00		24431.77
10/18/2024		Deposit (Hamburg Copy machine)	195.80		24627.57
10/18/2024		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		1,219.68	23407.89
10/25/2024		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale + Friends donation for VOX Books at Lake Shore and Donation Box)	503.72		23911.61
10/25/2024		Deposit (Hamburg Copy machine)	101.00		24012.61
10/25/2024		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		264.70	23747.91
10/31/2024		Deposit (Private Donation check)	1000.00		24747.91
10/31/2024		Northwest Bank interest October	0.20		24748.11
10/31/2024		Northwest paper statement October		5.00	24743.11
11/5/2024		Deposit (Lake Shore October Book Sale & Donation Box)	165.00		24908.11

11/7/2024		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	168.00		25076.11
11/13/2024		Deposit (Discarded Book Sale)	209.55		25285.66
11/13/2024		Deposit (Private Donation for children's programs)	250		25535.66
11/13/2024		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		191.65	25844.01

***Final Balance: \$25,844.01***

The Friends of the Hamburg Public Library reimbursed the Library for the purchase of two Button Making machines plus the supplies needed and for new Vox books for the Lake Shore Library. All other expenditures were routine operational costs. In addition to the Friend's donation's the library received two generous gifts from patrons in the community.

Proceeds from Book Sale, Candy Sale and mugs: 9/19/2024 -11/12/2024 = \$726.30

Proceeds from Discarded Book Sale on 11/9- 11/10/2024: \$209.55