Director's Report
Hamburg Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, November 16 @ 6:00 PM
To be held at the Hamburg Public Library

On October 1, System Director Christine Schonhart visited the Hamburg and Lake Shore Libraries. This writer conducted a tour of each building. She chatted with staff. At Lake Shore, Director Schonhart attended Miss Laurie's StoryTime ShookUp!

On October 15, this writer attended the 40th Anniversary of the Elaine M. Panty Library. Assemblymember Rivera was on hand to present a $200,000 check for a play area. Mr. Rivera acknowledged that the Hamburg Public Library will be receiving $100,000 in funding to fund various projects at the Hamburg and Lake Shore Libraries.

On November 10, the Hamburg Library hosted a Listening Session with System Director Christine Schonhart. There were 2 staff in attendance from the Hamburg Library and 1 from the Orchard Park Library.

Hamburg Library

Programs offered this month include:

The Art of Grieving

On October 6, Local Author Amanda Woomer presented a program on the art of grieving with 6 in attendance. She discussed some of the strange and unusual funeral and mourning customs practiced by those in the 19th and early 20th Century. She has published over 20 books written for children, teens, and adults.





Tarot History

On October 13, Librarian Heather Gring from the Library's Rare Book Room conducted a program on the history of Tarot Decks in the rare book collection at the Central Library. There were 25 attendees.





Creating a Legacy Document

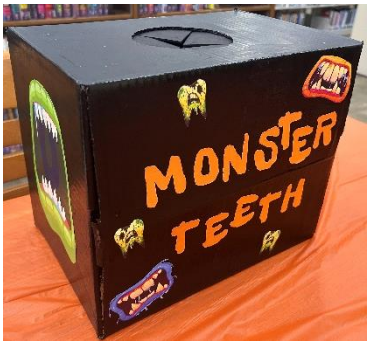
On October 17, Jim Bardot, Chairperson from the Amherst Senior Services Center Advisory Board, presented information on creating a Legacy Document to provide survivors with what they may need if someone should pass or become incapacitated. There were 16 attendees.

Halloween Party

On Monday October 19, Librarian Branch Manager Nicole and Librarian Jordan hosted the Library Halloween Party with 100 adults and 100 children attending. Activities included: crafts, and a special scavenger hunt. Children got to play a sensory game in which they put their hand in a mystery boxes for a prize. The children's area of featured activity sheets on the tables and homemade games including Witch Hat Ring Toss and Spider Toss.










Village Trick or Treat

On October 24, the Annual Village Trick or Treat was held sponsored by the Village Business Advisory Counsel. Children were dressed in their spookiest Halloween costumes. Many businesses including the library participated. The library saw 755 trick or treaters. The event ran from noon until 2pm with the Halloween Parade afterwards.

Teen Programming

Teen Advisory Group (TAG)

On Monday October 5, Librarian Jordan hosted the Teen Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting for teens in grades 7-12. At this meeting, 6 teens attended and helped with creating Halloween decorations for the library as well as a game for the Halloween Party. They also planned a program to make Holiday Cards for our neighbors at Elderwood Assisted Living.

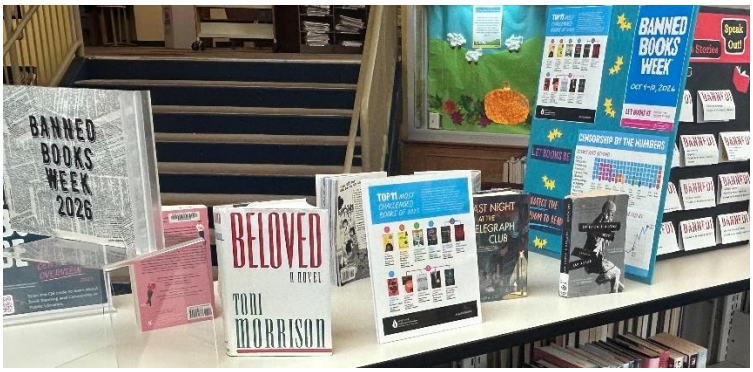
On Monday November 2, 6 teens attended to finish organizing the Holiday Card program and to plan the next escape room that will occur over winter break in December.





Book Displays

In October Librarian Jordan created adult and children displays for Banned Books week. These displays featured books that have been challenged or banned across the country, and material about challenging and banning books. The children's display was located on top of the picture book shelf in the children's area of the library. The adult display was located on top of the low Young Adult book shelves and included pins, stickers, and a prop to take photos in front of.

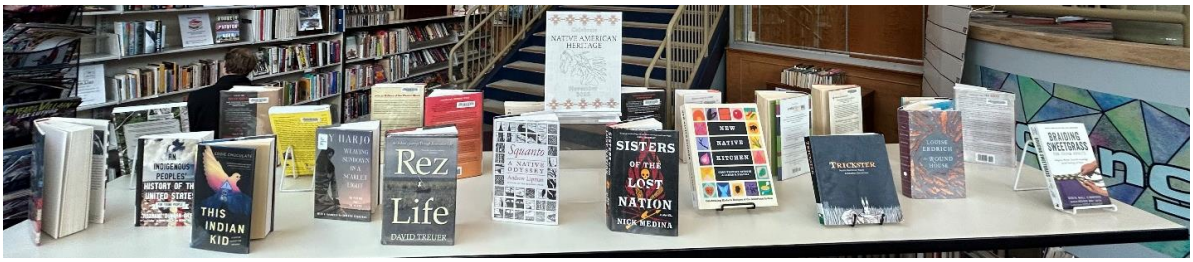




For the month of October and into November, Librarian Jordan also maintained a new nonfiction book display to help circulate new material.

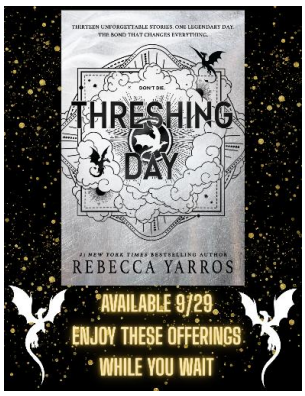
In November, Librarian Jordan created a display on the Young Adult bookshelves featuring cookbooks for the holidays. On the Young Adult shelves on the other side of the seating are downstairs, Librarian Jordan and Librarian Trainee Samantha created a display for Native American Heritage Month. This display features Indigenous authors and books about Indigenous history and people. Librarian Jordan created a similar display in the children's area on top of the picture book shelves.

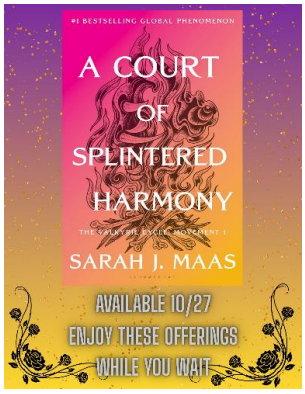






A display was created to promote two popular fantasy books released in October, *Threshing Day* by Rebecca Yarros and *A Court of Splintered Harmony* by Sara J Maas. A book display was created highlighting their release and suggesting other similar reads.





In November a new display with the theme “Fall into a New Book” was created.



Lake Shore Library

Programs offered this month include:

Junior Bat Watchers

On October 17, Wildcare of WNY presented an educational program for children 5 years and up. Those in attendance learned about how important and beneficial bats are in the ecosystem. There were 11 children in attendance.

Boo-Bash

On October 25, an all-day Halloween celebration was held featuring games, crafts, including a morning visit from Paddy, the reading dog, and an afternoon of spooky Lego building.

Legacy Document

On November 7, Jim Bardot, Chairperson from the Amherst Senior Services Center Advisory Board, presented information on creating a Legacy Document to provide survivors with what they may need if someone should pass or become incapacitated. There were 10 attendees.

Local Author

On October 5, local business owner and founder of The Performing Arts Academy in Hamburg, Suzanne debuted her book *Scattering the Pieces***.** She spoke to 7 patrons about her journey to faith, hope, and freedom. She stayed afterwards for a book signing.



Empowered Care Giver Series

On October 22, the Lake Shore Library hosted the Alzheimer's Association with a seminar on "Supporting Independence" as part of an ongoing educational series to assist caregivers. There were 5 attendees.

Tarot History

On October 28, Librarian Heather Gring from the Central Library Rare Book Room conducted a program on the history of Tarot Decks with 5 attendees.






Class Visits

On October 1 and November 5, Miss Anne's class visited from BrightPath ChildCare Center with 28 students visiting.

On October 27 and 29, Cloverbank Elementary brought 4 excited Kindergarten classes for visits totaling 71 students. The Kindergarteners toured the library, sang a witch's brew song, were read a story, and did a bat craft with Miss Laurie.

Doors and Displays

For October and November, Lake Shore wrapped up fall with Halloween, Thanksgiving, and the annual voting season. Library Associate Laurie hung Fall wreaths on both doors, and Library Director Brian Hoth brought over pumpkins and mums for the entrances.

October 14th marked Winnie-the-Pooh's 100th Birthday! The first book was written in 1926. For October, Miss Laurie showcased a Halloween and Winnie-the -Pooh book display in the children's area, and set up Interactive stations with Bats and Pumpkin Patching collage crafting, Winnie-The-Pooh plushies, and coloring. Laurie honored the passing of Tim Curry for the Adult Book Display.

The Women League of voters visited and set up a Voting Display in the display case. For November, Library Associate Laurie created a Thanksgiving and Charlie Brown Book Display in the Children's area. She also set up Interactive stations with Acorns and Turkey crafting, coloring, and pumpkin pie plushies.

Laurie created a Thanksgiving display case, and featured football books in anticipation of the beloved Buffalo Football season for the November Adult Book Display!










October also brought the Annual Banned Book Display.



Outreach

Hamburg Library

Smarty Pants Day Care

On Thursday October 1, Librarian Jordan visited Smarty Pants Childcare to read stories to 2 different classes. Between the Kinder-Ready room and the Pre-k room, she read to 16 participants at the day care. On Thursday November 5, she visited again and read to 19 participants.

Classroom Collections

Smarty Pants Childcare participates in the classroom collections program. Every month they receive library books based on their weekly themes. Their books are dropped off with the class visit at the beginning of each month. In October they requested books about Fire Safety, Community Helpers, Nocturnal Animals, and Halloween. They borrowed 25 books in total. In November they borrowed 36 books about Transportation, Veteran's Day, Hibernation, Thanksgiving, and Arctic Animals.

Giving Garden

During the summer, Jordan participates in outdoor story times at the Giving Garden across from Union Pleasant Elementary. These story times are co-hosted with Seeds of Living Education (S.O.L.E.). On September 14, Jordan read to 12 participants about fall gardens. After the stories, the children did a sunflower craft and helped care for the gardens.





Fall into Reading

On October 24, Librarian Nicole and Senior Page Lauren attended "Fall into Reading", an annual event at Frontier Middle School. The event ran from 10am-12pm. Nicole and Lauren spoke with 197 people and registered 8 individuals for library cards! The event promotes literacy.

Lake Shore Library

BrightPath Daycare

On October 9, Library Associate Laurie visited 6 classrooms and read 3 Halloween books to each reading to 98 children.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Hoth, Director

HAMBURG BRANCH LIBRARY PROGRAM STATISTICS: BOARD REPORT OCT & NOV 2026

SUBMITTED BY: Nicole Brown, Branch Manager

FOR CHILDREN

Program: Story Time Facilitator: Jordan, Librarian

Date	# of Programs	Adults	Children	Total
9/23	2	21	21	42
10/21	2	21	24	45
10/28	2	22	24	46
11/4	2	22	33	55

Program: Lego Club Facilitator: Emily & Lauren, Senior Page

Date	Adults	Children	Total
10/3	5	10	15
10/14	7	16	23

Program: Pokémon Club Facilitator: Mary, Senior Page

Date	Adults	Children	Total
10/13	7	20	27

Program: Baby Bounce Facilitator: Nicole, Librarian Branch Manager

Date	# of Programs	Adults	Children	Total
10/12	2	22	22	44
11/9	2	22	22	44

Program: Camp Create Facilitator: Jordan, Librarian

Date	Adults	Children	Total
9/28	12	18	30

10/26	11	16	27

Program: Bricks to Go Facilitator: All Staff

Date	Total
September	9
October	9

FOR ADULTS

Program: Director's Book Club Facilitator: Brian, Library Director

Date	Total
10/16	15

Program: Cookbook Club Facilitator: Sam, Librarian Trainee

Date	Teens	Adults	Total
10/21	1	7	8

INTERGENERATIONAL

Program: Colorful Tuesdays Facilitator: Brian, Library Director

Date	Adults	Children	Total
10/6	3	6	9

Program: Scavenger Hunt

Date	Riddle	Total
September	What is a pirate's favorite subject?	524
October	What kind of music do mummies listen to?	480

Program: Button Day Facilitator: Nicole, Librarian Branch Manager

Date	Adults	Children	Total

10/1	1	0	1
10/15	3	2	5

Program: Read to Kruz

Date	Adults	Children	Total
10/17	7	11	18

LAKE SHORE BRANCH LIBRARY PROGRAM STATISTICS: BOARD REPORT OCT & NOV 2026
SUBMITTED BY: Nicole Brown, Branch Manager

FOR CHILDREN

Program: Playmore Facilitator: Laurie, Library Associate

Date	Kids	Adults	Total
10/20	8	8	16
10/22	8	8	16
10/29	7	7	14

Program: Lego Club:

Date	Kids	Adults	Total
9/26	12	3	15
10/31	3	4	7

Program: Story Time All Shook Up! Facilitator: Laurie, Library Associate

Date	Kids	Adults	Total
9/17	17	15	32
9/24	13	13	26

10/1	15	15	30
10/8	18	18	36
10/15	18	18	36
11/5	24	14	29

Program: Baby Bounce Facilitator: Laurie, Library Associate

Date	Kids	Adults	Total
9/22	12	12	24
9/29	9	9	18
10/6	17	17	34
10/13	9	9	18
11/3	10	8	18

Program: Crafting Station Facilitator: Laurie, Library Associate

Date	Total
9/26	102
9/30	132
10/10	125
10/31	123

FOR ADULTS

Program: Adult Craft Night Facilitator: Laurie, Library Associate

Date	Total
9/21	24
10/19	10

Program: Book Club Facilitator: Laurie, Library Associate

Date	Total
9/28	10

INTERGENERATIONAL

Program: Read with Paddington

Date	Kids	Adults	Total
10/10	6	6	12
10/31	7	5	12

Program: Scavenger Hunt Facilitator: Laurie, Library Associate

Date	Total
9/30	192
10/31	154

Program: Hidden Stuffy Facilitator: Laurie, Library Associate

Date	Total
9/30	44

Hamburg Public Library – October 2026 Report

Circulation Statistics

	October 2026	October 2025	% Change
Hamburg	18,289	19,191	- 4.7%
Lakeshore	5,379	5,096	5.6 %

Patron Door Counts

	October 2026	October 2025	% Change
Hamburg	8,233	8,271	-0.5%
Lakeshore	2,889	2,924	-1.2%

Computer Sessions

	October 2026	October 2025	% Change
Hamburg	769	685	12.3%
Lakeshore	186	161	15.5%

Wi-Fi Sessions

	October 2026	October 2025	% Change
Hamburg	2,686	2,317	15.9%
Lakeshore	539	452	19.2%

September 2026 Financial Report
Hamburg Public Library

M&T Business Account – Checking

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
9/25/2026		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	337.36		2,773.26
9/25/2026	4944	Cintas Corp (floor mat replacements for Hamburg and Lake Shore September)		212.36	2,560.90
9/25/2026	4955	Brian Hoth (Reimbursement for VBAC membership)		125.00	2,435.90
9/30/2026	4946	HJS Supply (Hamburg vacuum repair)		55.00	2,380.90
10/6/2026	4947	Spook – Eats (Hamburg Program)		120.00	2,260.90
10/7/2026	4948	Guis Lumber (Maintenance Hamburg & Lake Shore September)		222.07	2,038.83
10/7/2026	4949	Larry Davis (September mileage reimbursement)		62.75	1,976.08
10/8/2026		M & T Bank Service Charge October		7.49	1,968.59
10/9/2026	4950	ECWA (Hamburg monthly water bill)		33.00	1,935.59
10/9/2026		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	492.82		2,428.41
10/13/2026		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	457.97		2,886.38
10/13/2026	4951	WildCare of Western New York (Hamburg Program)		75.00	2,811.38
10/13/2026	4952	Laura W. Cunningham (September mileage reimbursement)		20.00	2,791.38

10/13/2026	4953	Laurie Obrochta (Reimbursement for Program supplies and Mileage for September)		108.00	2,683.38
10/13/2026	4954	Rachel Martinic (September mileage reimbursement)		9.53	2,673.85
10/13/2026	4955	USPS stamps (Stamps)		246.00	2,427.85
10/23/2026		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	891.98		3,319.83
10/23/2026	4956	Cintas (floor mat replacements for Hamburg and Lake Shore October)		221.36	3,098.47
10/23/2026	4957	ECWA (Hamburg & Lake Shore water bill 7/2-10/1/2026)		607.83	2,490.64
10/23/2026	4958	Nicole Brown (Reimbursement for Program supplies & Spot Cleaner)		62.79	2,427.85
11/6/2026		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	294.46		2,722.31
11/6/2026	4959	Jordan Roeder (October mileage reimbursement)		8.00	2,714.31
11/6/2026	4960	ECWA (Hamburg Monthly water bill October)		33.00	2,681.31
11/6/2026	4961	Rachel Martinic (October mileage reimbursement)		36.47	2,644.84
11/6/2026	4962	Laura W. Cunningham (October mileage reimbursement)		16.00	2,628.84
11/6/2026	4963	Guis Lumber (Maintenance Hamburg & Lake Shore October)		200.99	2,427.85

Final Balance: $2,427.85

M&T Business Account – Savings

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
9/25/2026		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue)	121.20		6,336.67
9/25/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		337.36	5,999.31
9/30/2026		M & T interest for September	0.10		5,999.41
10/8/2026		Deposit (Lake shore fine & printing revenue for September)	255.45		6,254.86
10/8/2026		Service Charge		1.00	6,253.86
10/9/2026		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue)	168.59		6,422.45
10/9/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		492.82	5,929.63
10/13/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		457.97	5,471.66
10/15/2026		Deposit System Return	2,882.50		8,354.16
10/23/2026		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue)	248.30		8,602.46
10/23/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		891.98	7,710.48
10/30/2026		M & T interest for October	0.12		7,710.60
11/5/2026		Deposit (Lake Shore fine & printing revenue for October)	113.95		7,824.55
11/6/2026		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue)	232.20		8,056.75
11/6/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		294.46	7,762.29

Final Balance: $7,762.29

Northwest Private Account – Checking

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
9/23/2026	on-line	Amazon (purchases for the Kiwanis Literacy Grant)		358.81	1669.32
9/23/2026	on-line	Amazon (purchases for the Kiwanis Literacy Grant)		27.48	1641.84
9/29/2026	3665	Jordan Roeder (Reimbursement for Scavenger Hunt and Halloween)		250.95	1390.89
9/29/2026		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	637.24		2028.13
9/30/2026		Northwest paper Statement fee September		5.00	2023.13
10/6/2026	3666	Brian Hoth (Reimbursement for Lake Shore Fall Décor)		132.21	1890.92
10/6/2026	on-line	Amazon (Hamburg Program supply needs)		188.84	1702.08
10/7/2026		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	39375.00		41077.08
10/7/2026	3667	Town of Hamburg (Construction Grant payment for Lake Shore Parking Lot)		39375.00	1702.08
10/7/2026	3668	Primo Brands (Lake Shore Drinking Water gallons)		31.97	1670.11
10/7/2026	3669	Guis Lumber (Hamburg Program supplies for Banned Book Week)		26.97	1643.14
10/7/2026	on-line	Amazon (Summer purchases to be reimbursed by the Friends of the Library)		387.54	1255.60
10/10/2026		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to	578.69		1834.29

		Checking for bills)			
10/13/2026	3670	Laurie Obrochta (Reimbursement for Program needs)		13.44	1820.85
10/13/2026	3671	Acorn Naturalists (Summer purchase to be reimbursed by the Friends of the Library)		230.89	1589.96
10/21/2026	3672	DEMCO, INC (Lake Shore Book Cart to be reimbursed by the Friends of the library)		679.07	910.89
10/21/2026		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	923.40		1834.29
10/30/2026		Northwest Paper Statement fee October		5.00	1829.29
11/4/2026	3673	Town of Hamburg (Final amount due for Construction Grant – Lake Shore Parking lot)		334.00	1495.29
11/5/2026	3674	Hamburg Village Foundation (Wreaths for Hamburg & Lake Shore)		108.00	1387.29
11/6/2026	3675	Jordan Roeder (Reimbursement for Scavenger prizes & Teen advisory items)		164.79	1222.50
11/6/2026		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	678.79		1901.29
11/6/2026	3677	Primo Brands Blue Triton (Lake Shore Drinking Water gallons)		40.46	1860.83

Final Balance: $2,028.13

Northwest Private Account – Savings

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
9/25/2026		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	150.00		61575.59
9/29/2026		Deposit (Hamburg Copier Money)	201.00		61776.59

9/29/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		637.24	61139.35
9/30/2026		Northwest Interest September	0.51		61139.86
9/30/2026		Northwest Paper Statement October		5.00	61134.86
10/6/2026		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	186.00		61320.86
10/7/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		39,375.00	21945.86
10/8/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		578.69	21367.17
10/8/2026		Deposit (Lake Shore Book Sale & Donation Box September)	179.00		21546.17
10/21/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		923.40	20622.77
10/22/2026		Deposit (Hamburg Donation)	250.00		20872.77
10/31/2026		Northwest Interest October	0.25		20873.02
10/31/3026		Northwest Paper Statement October		5.00	20868.02
11/5/2026		Deposit October (Lake Shore Book Sale & Donation Box)	236.00		21104.02
11/6/2026		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		678.79	20425.23
11/6/2026		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	173.75		20598.98

Final Balance: $20,598.98

Payment of 90 percent of the Library's share of the NYS Construction Grant for rehabilitation of the parking lot at the Lake Shore Library has been made.

Grant money from the Kiwanis Club of Hamburg has been used to purchase materials for a Literacy Hub at the Hamburg Library.

Summer prizes chosen by children and adults summer program were purchased. The cost will be reimbursed by the Friends of the Hamburg Public Library.

In addition the Friends purchased of a new book cart for the Lake Shore Library. All other expenditures were routine.

Proceeds from our routine Book Sale, Candy Sale and mugs: 9/16/2026 – 11/11/2026 = $679.25