2014 was exciting for Hamburg as we spent the entire year building a large addition onto the Hamburg Public Library. This new 6,000 square foot space will feature an indoor ramp, skylight, coffee shop, fireplace, new lavatories, a large sunlight filled meeting room, more computers, and more room for our books and material.

We kept the Hamburg Public Library open for most of the year, except four weeks, to provide library service during the construction period. It was a bit difficult, as parking was reduced and the public lavatories were not available, but we certainly did whatever we could to offer services and materials to our loyal patrons.

Our “Buy a Brick” fundraising project was a big success with over 160 people contributing. Each donor will have a brick engraved with their name or message built into our library fireplace.

On June 12th we had our official Groundbreaking Ceremony. Over 300 people heard the celebratory speeches and stayed for the community picnic afterward. This was probably our finest moment of the year.

Our 2014 Output Measures statistics show a decline when compared to previous years, as should be expected during a large construction project. This project is a great step into the future for our library, so we anticipate that library use will increase dramatically when the new addition is opened and people fall in love with it.

We offer our gratitude to the groups and individuals that have made this project possible: The Town of Hamburg, The New York State Library Construction Grant Program, and the hundreds of people in our extended Hamburg Public Library family who have contributed so much to this exciting project.