

Director's Report
Hamburg Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, March 26 @ 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 January and February. All time slots continue to be filled at both locations.

Scavenger Hunts

Scavenger hunts were held at both libraries during January and February.

Hamburg Library

January's theme was Penguins with 454 participants. February's theme was Valentine's Day with 599 children participating.

Lake Shore Library

February's theme was Pete the Cat with 45 participants.

Therapy Dogs

Hamburg Library

Read into Kruz

On March 8 Kruz and owner Joanne visited with 35 visitors.

Lake Shore Library

Paddy the Reading Dog

Paddy and his owner Elongia Farrell visited on February 15 and March 1 with 15 and 12 visitors each. They set up in the children's area.

Winter Reading

Hamburg Library

During January and February a winter reading contest was held for all ages with 125 patrons participating! Gift cards in the amount of \$25 from Merit Badge Books were given to each of the winners of the four age groups. One of the gift cards was a donation from the book store.

Lake Shore Library

Winter Reading was held in January thorough February with 8 adults, 2 children ages 6 to 11, and 1 child ages 5 and under participating.

Hamburg Middle School

On February 14 Librarian Nicole visited Family and Consumer Science Teacher Sheri Gund's class at Hamburg Middle School. Nicole prepared a presentation on her career as a librarian and other career paths that could be taken in the library.

Kiwanis Kudos Award

On January 27 this writer was selected as January's recipient of the Kiwanis Kudos Award by the Kiwanis Club of Hamburg. This award recognizes outstanding individuals who have made a meaningful impact on the community through their dedication, kindness, and service.

Art Show

The West Seneca Art Society held an art show during February. Members approached this writer last year because they love the space! The art show will run again in August. This is in addition to the Centennial Art Center running shows twice each year.

Dedication of Historical Photo Murals

On March 1 a ceremony was held to dedicate the historical photo murals installed in the meeting room at the Hamburg Library. The murals were funded by Imagine: Hamburg. In attendance were Village trustees Holly Park and Jeff Davis; Library board members Cate Lee and Holly Schreiber; Deputy Director of Public Services Dorinda Darden; former library director Jack Edson, who was recognized for providing photos and captions; and chair and co-chair Dan Rosatti and Maureen O'Brien of Imagine: Hamburg. This writer acted as master of ceremonies. There were 30 attendees. Refreshments were served afterward.

Trustee Orientation

On March 17 this writer held a presentation for new trustee Matthew Bourke. Also in attendance were trustees Anita Metzger and Holly Schreiber. Areas of discussion included: the role of trustees, history of the library, budgets, and laws and regulations applicable to public libraries.

Hamburg Library

Programs offered this month include:

LEGO Club

Senior Pages Lauren and Emily coordinated LEGO Club, which is held the 1st Saturday and 2nd Wednesday of each month. This is for children ages 6 to 11. Children use their imagination to make wonderful creations. Afterwards, they are displayed in the Children's area. Hamburg YES (Youth Engaged Services) volunteers assist with these programs. In February there were 63 participants and in March there were 56 participants.

Story Time

Librarian Nicole held Story Time, a lively event full of songs, movements and stories for children ages 0 to 5. Themes included: valentines, colors, and monsters. The program is held weekly on Wednesday mornings. There were 128 patrons attending in February.

Baby Bounce

In February and March, Librarian Nicole held lapsit story time for children ages 0 to 2. The program is held on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. In February there were 93 attendees. On March 10 there were 44 attendees. Each child receives their own book to hold during the program.

Button Day

Button day is held on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. Supplies are placed on a table for participants. After completing their design, participants come to the public service desk to get their button made.

Camp Create

Librarian Trainee Sarah hosted Camp Create, a crafting program for children ages 6 to 12, on January 27 and February 24 from 6pm to 7pm. For January the theme was Dog

Man, with 20 children and 9 adults in attendance. Children crafted Dog Man hats and badges in celebration of the Dog Man movie coming out. For February the theme was dinosaurs with 10 children and 8 adults in attendance. Children crafted paper dinosaurs and decorated them with feathers, buttons, sequins, googly eyes, and pom-poms.



Colorful Tuesday

On February 4 Librarian Trainee Sarah hosted Colorful Tuesday from 5pm to 7pm with 3 adults and 1 child in attendance, and on Tuesday, March 4 with 2 adults in attendance. Colorful Tuesday is a passive program that provides coloring books, coloring pages and coloring supplies for adults and children to enjoy while they are in the library.

Green Eggs and Ham

On February 21 Sundance Kids Farms presented a program on Green Eggs and Ham. Children got to meet live chickens that lay green eggs! They also learned about the life cycle of a chicken. There were 43 in attendance.

Pokémon Club

On March 11 Librarian Trainee Sarah started Pokémon Club, a new program for children ages 6 to 12, with 16 children and 5 adults in attendance. Children learned how to play the Pokémon Trading Card Game, which teaches them strategy, math, and improves reading comprehension. The program will run the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 4pm to 6pm. Two teens from the community volunteered to help the younger children learn the game, and will continue to volunteer for future club meetings. Children were also able to do Pokémon themed crafts, such as create your

own Poke ball. This program was made possible by the generous donation of Pokémon cards from several patrons.

Eight O’Clock Book Club

On February 6 the library hosted the Eight O’Clock Book Club with 8 participants in attendance both in-person and virtually. February’s title was, *Strange Sally Diamond* by Liz Nugent. The club was created by a group of 15 women who have a passion for books! Meetings, called Strangers to Booklovers, aim to build a vibrant local community of readers and library lovers alike. Meetings are held quarterly with the group rotating to a different library. All are welcome to join! Librarian Nicole coordinated this event and assisted with advertising, which included making short videos for the social media.

Book a Technology Trainer

One-on-one sessions were held on February 14 and March 14 with a technology trainer from the Central Library. Five and 6 patrons attended respectively.

Vibrant Strings

On February 26 the library hosted the sibling violin trio Vibrant Strings with 56 attendees. Everyone commented on how wonderful the music was! Afterwards, the Hamburg Coalition for Equity and Inclusion hosted a reception for the event providing cookies and fruit.



Director’s Book Club

Book Club is held the 3rd Friday of the month. February’s title was *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride, with 16 members in attendance. March’s title was *A*

Walk to Remember by Nicholas Sparks with 11 in attendance. Discussions are always lively and stimulating.

Cookbook Club

Librarian Trainee Sarah hosted the monthly Cookbook Club on February 19 and March 19. Everyone chose a recipe from the cookbook of the month and brought it to share. February's theme was Afternoon Tea, featuring the cookbook *The Art of Afternoon Tea* and *Teatime at Grosvenor Square*, with 6 in attendance. March's theme was Soul Food, featuring the cookbook *Everyday Grand* by Jocelyn Delk Adams, with 8 in attendance.



Class Visit

On March 13 Librarian Nicole hosted a local Mom Group run by Kathryn Walsh at the Hamburg Library with 10 moms and children in attendance. Nicole provided a story time, craft, and tour of the library.

Book Displays

In celebration of Black History Month, an African American History display was created with books, movies, and informational materials supporting African American History highlighting programming at the B&ECPL.

In celebration of Women's History Month, Librarian Jordan created a display in the teen area focusing on women authors and achievements. Librarian Trainee Sarah also created a display in the children's area with the same theme.

Librarian Trainee Sarah created book displays for February and March. For February the displays were “Mystery Date with a Book,” featuring books wrapped up as presents and “Psychological Thrillers: for those not interested in romance.” The March display was “Library Staff Picks: We hope some of our favorite books will be yours too!” Featuring a selection of books chosen by the library staff.



Kid Librarian

Librarian Trainee Sarah hosted 5 Kid Librarians, one each on January 18, February 1, February 8, February 22, and March 1. Kid Librarians were Zoe Walsh, Owen Bourke, Nora Parks, Cole Tomaszewski, and Jayne Tollar. The Kid Librarians worked with Sarah to curate a display of a topic of their choice to feature in the Children’s Area. Zoe chose the theme “Favorites,” Owen chose “Comics,” Nora chose “Fantasy,” Cole chose “Sports,” and Jayne chose “Fantasy.” Each Kid Librarian created a poster to display with their collection using the program Canva. The Kid Librarian program helps children to feel a sense of ownership in the library and the Children’s Area.



Lake Shore Library

Shadow Day

On February 4 Frontier High School student Abigail Stayoch shadowed Librarian Nicole for two hours at the Lake Shore Library as part of Frontier's Big Picture Program. The program is designed to help students learn about career paths. Nicole showed Abigail the process for ordering materials and managing the library's collection budget.

Programs offered this month include:

Take Your Child to the Library

February 1 was "Take Your Child to the Library!" This month's theme was Pete the Cat. Lakeshore featured a Pete the Cat Display. The prizes were Pete the Cat Buttons, pencils, and stickers. All month long children also searched for a patrolling Pete puppet that was hidden randomly in the children's section with 10 children participating. Also offered was a Pete the Cat collaging station at the children tables. 22 Children participated.

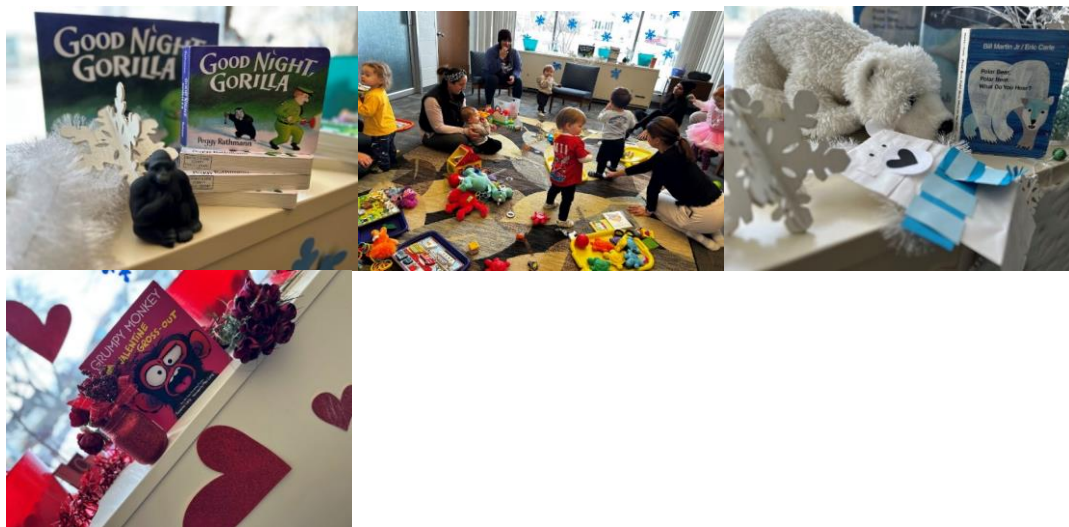


On February 1 Library Associate Laurie celebrated "Dog Man" with 54 children and adults in attendance. Children attended Dog Man Academy going through a rigorous course to earn their Dog Man police officer badge, official handcuffs, donut, and certificate. They also took agility testing, target practice, and citation station. As a sworn in officer, they were required to take an official donut break! The entire Lake Shore staff was outfitted in police uniforms in honor of the occasion.



Story Time Shookup

Storytime Shookup was held in February for children ages 2 to 5 with a focus on literacy, listening, and socialization. On February 6 the children were read *Polar Bear, Polar Bear*. They engaged in snow songs, movement, and made a Polar Bear paper bag puppet with 32 in attendance. On February 13 the children celebrated Valentine's Day with *Grumpy Monkey Valentine Gross-Out*; they exchanged valentines, candy cane hearts, and created homemade valentines with 67 in attendance.



Baby Bounce

On February 4 Library Associate Laurie held baby bounce for ages 0 to 2. The babies were introduced to the silly boardbook *Mustache Duckstache* and were given popsicle stick fake mustaches. On February 11 the babies were read *Goodnight Gorilla* with 40 in attendance.

On March 4 the babies celebrated Dr. Seuss with *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish*. On March 11 the babies listened to the boardbook *Planting a Rainbow* and emphasized the concept of colors with flowers. On March 18 the babies were introduced to *Maisy on a train*, accompanied by a real train whistle. There were 54 in attendance.



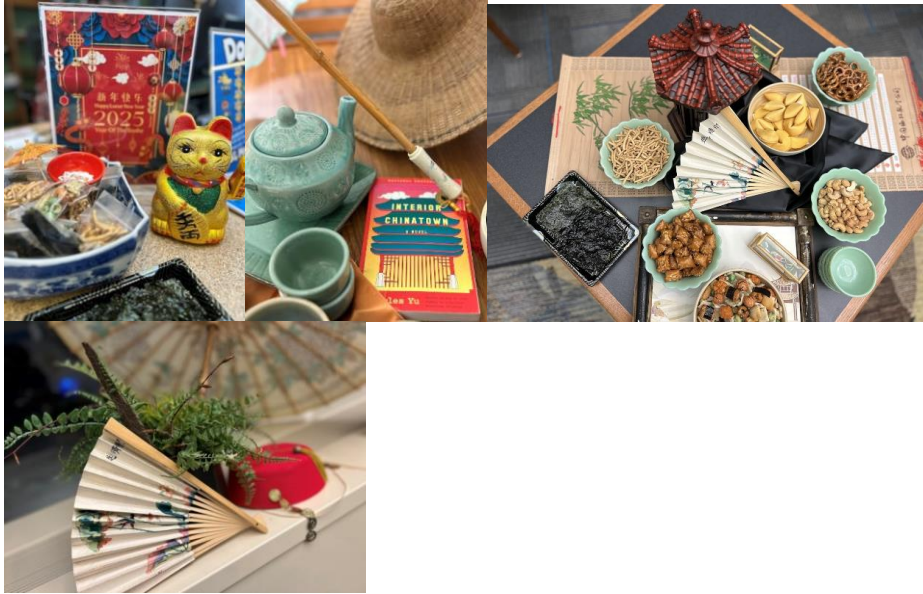
LEGO Club

LEGO Club is held the 4th Saturday of the month for children ages 6 to 11. Children use their imagination to make wonderful creations. Afterwards, they are displayed in the children's section. In February there was 1 participant.



Chinese Lunar New Year

Lake Shore celebrated the Lunar New Year! Wreaths adorned the doors and Chinese lanterns were hung in the display case.



Hedgehog Happiness

On March 15 Mike Morton of Sun Dance Kids Farms brought two live Hedgehogs to the Lake Shore Library Spike and Skittles, a father and son team. Miss Laurie read *Hedgehog needs a Hug*, while Mr. Morton held little Spike up to hear the story with the children. Mr. Morton spoke of his famous friend Jan Brett and her books. Families had the opportunity to ask questions, pet the Hedgehogs, and check out books from Jan Brett. There were 57 people who attended.



MineCraft Mania

In anticipation of the upcoming MineCraft movie Lake Shore Library hosted a MineCraft Mania family fun day on March 15. Children were invited to come and Make and Play with us all day! The children worked their way through seven play levels. Minitaure minecraft figurines were buried in a "suspicious stew" where children had to dig through paper shreadings and various suspicious objects to see if they could find a figurine prize. Kids also made TNT bundles, crafted Creepers and Hegehogs and used giant foam blocks for making creations. 134 people attended over the course of the day.



Cookbook Club

Cookbook Club is held the 2nd week of the month. In February, recipes were chosen from *Taste of Home FarmHouse Favorites* with 10 attendees. They enjoyed a fun night sharing their dishes FarmHouse style accompanied with homemade lavender lemonade from the cookbook.



Book a Technology Trainer

One-on-one sessions were held on February 12 with a technology trainer from the Central Library with 3 attendees.

Adult Craft Night

On February 12 Library Associate Laurie held adult craft night with 3 in attendance. The crafters made a Vintage Valentine Rag Wreath.



Adult Book Club

On January 27 book club read *Interior Chinatown* by Alex Yu with 5 in attendance. Participants got to enjoy Chinese snack samples from a previous program.

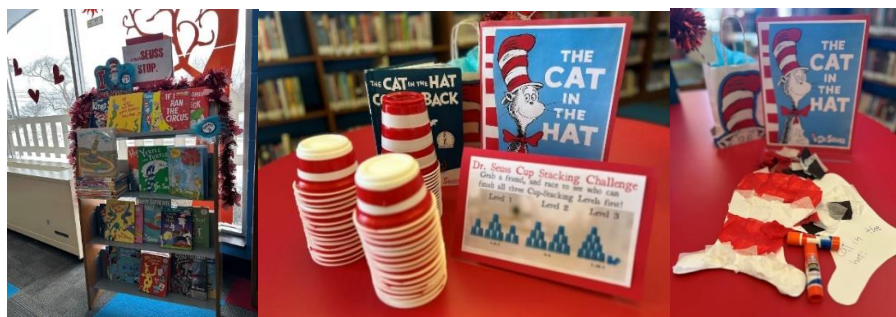
On February 24 the group discussed *Conjure Women* by Afia Atakora amongst sips of sun tea and homemade pralines in the spirit of Southern Plantations with 3 attendees.

Passive Crafts

On February 18 a Valentine Creation Station was set up for children in the children's area.



March 2 marked Dr. Seuss' Birthday with a book display and fully decorated display case. A Cat in the Hat was hidden in the Childrens' section. Children received a Seuss pencil or eraser prize. There have been 16 children have participated so far.



The Library was also decorated for St. Patrick's Day.



A Hedgehog Creation Station was set up in the Children's section with 26 participants.



PlayMore

The meeting room was opened on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10am to 11am during February for play-time and Mommy- Meet Up. Toys and a train table were set out. There were 31 people in attendance. This program runs during breaks in story time.

Outreach

Hamburg Library

Smarty Pants Daycare

On February 6 Librarian Nicole visited Smarty Pants Daycare to read stories and drop off classroom collections. Nicole saw three classes of 34 children.

Lake Shore Library

Bright Path

On February 14 and 28 Miss Laurie visited BrightPath. She read silly Dr. Seuss books and ended with a lively interactive song. Miss Laurie visited 5 classes of 140 children. Each received stickers.

In March Miss Laurie visited 5 classes of 74 children. Miss Laurie read 3 books about spring and ended with an interactive song. All classes were given stickers.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Hoth, Director

Hamburg Public Library -February 2025 Report

Circulation Statistics

	February 2025	February 2024	% Change
Hamburg	16,564	17,767	- 6.8 %
Lakeshore	4,783	5,693	- 16.0%

Patron Door Counts

	February 2025	February 2024	% Change
Hamburg	7,452	8,110	- 8.1%
Lakeshore	2,703	3,654	- 26.0%

Computer Sessions

	February 2025	February 2024	% Change
Hamburg	861	866	0.6%
Lakeshore	175	188	- 6.9%

WiFi Sessions

	February 2025	February 2024	% Change
Hamburg	1,756	1766	- 0.6%
Lakeshore	423	555	- 23.8%

LSH - 2/11-2/12: Door counter malfunction.

2/15: Closed 4 hours early due to no heat.

2/18: Closed due to no heat.

**2025 Financial Report
Hamburg Public Library**

M&T Business Account – Checking

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
1/17/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	70.33		2,914.33
1/17/2025	4757	ECWA (Lake Shore Water Bill)		70.33	2,844.00
1/23/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	101.38		2,945.38
1/23/2025	4758	Buffalo & Erie County Public Library (Parts for Hamburg's vacuum)		101.38	2,844.00
1/30/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	620.21		3,464.21
1/30/2025	4759	ECWA (Hamburg water bill 10/24 - 1/1/25)		441.77	3,022.44
1/30/2025	4760	Cintas Corp (Replace door mats for Hamburg and Lake Shore)		160.00	2,862.44
1/30/2025	4761	Larry Davis (January Mileage reimbursement)		18.44	2,844.00
2/4/2025	online	Deluxe Checks (security checks re-order)		278.40	2,565.60
2/6/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	284.58		2,850.18
2/6/2025	4762	Rachel Martinic (January Mileage reimbursement)		8.82	2,841.36
2/6/2025	4763	Nicole Brown (Reimbursement for scavenger hunt prizes)		156.89	2,684.47
2/6/2025	4764	Guis Lumber (maintenance for Hamburg)		118.87	2,565.60
2/10/2025		M & T Bank interest		7.45	2,558.15
2/13/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	53.00		2,611.15
2/13/2025	4765	ECWA (Hamburg monthly water bill for January)		33.00	2,578.15
2/13/2025	4766	Peggy Snajczuk Treasurer (ACT Dues)		20.00	2,558.15
2/14/2025	4767	Michael Morton (Hedgehog program for Lake Shore)		150.00	2,408.15
2/19/2025	4768	Michael Morton (Green Eggs and Ham program for Hamburg)		150.00	2,258.15
2/19/2025	4769	Cintas (Replace door mats for Hamburg and Lake Shore)		120.00	2,138.15
2/19/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	270.00		2,408.15
2/27/2025	4770	Supervacuum Hamburg (Parts for		82.94	2,325.21

		Hamburg's vacuum)			
2/28/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	232.94		2,558.15
3/6/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	200.25		2,758.40
3/6/2025	4772	Cintas (Replace door mats for Hamburg and Lake Shore)		80.00	2,678.40
3/6/2025	4773	Guis Lumber (maintenance for Hamburg)		120.25	2,558.15
3/13/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	41.89		2,600.04
3/13/2025	4774	Rachel Martinic		8.89	2,591.15
3/13/2025	4775	ECWA 1/31-2/28 monthly bill		33.00	2,558.15

Final Balance: \$2,558.15

M&T Business Account – Savings

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
1/17/2025		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue)	201.20		2,764.52
1/17/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		70.33	2,694.19
1/23/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		101.38	2,592.81
1/30/2025		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue)	135.80		2,728.61
1/30/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		620.21	2,108.40
1/31/2025		M & T interest for January	0.05		2,108.45
2/6/2024		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue)	180.44		2,288.89
2/6/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		284.58	2,004.31
2/2/2025		Deposit (Lake Shore fine & printing revenue for January)	61.85		2,066.16
2/13/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		53.00	2,013.16
2/13/2025		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue)	173.05		2,186.21
2/13/2025		Deposit System return	2,812.50		4,998.71
2/19/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		270.00	4,728.71
2/28/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		232.94	4,495.77

2/28/2025		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue)	191.65		4,687.42
2/28/2025		M & T interest for February	0.05		4,687.47
3/6/2025		Deposit (Hamburg fine & printing revenue)	206.95		4,894.42
3/6/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		200.25	4,694.17
3/6/3035		Deposit (Lake Shore fine & printing revenue for February)	65.95		4,760.12
3/13/2025		Deposit (Hamburg Fine & printing revenue)	158.15		4,918.27
3/13/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		41.89	4,876.38

Final Balance: \$4,876.38

Northwest Private Account – Checking					
Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
1/17/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	147.81		2238.17
1/23/2025	Amazon	Bags for crafts at Lake Shore		42.98	2195.19
1/24/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	3200.00		5395.19
1/24/2025	3545	Personnel/Confidential Matter		3,187.50	2207.69
1/30/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	134.55		2342.24
1/30/2025	3546	Brodart Co. (Labels and book covers)		68.36	2273.88
1/30/2025	3547	DEMCO Inc. (Classification Labels)		69.90	2203.98
1/30/2025	3548	Buffalo & Erie County Public Library (Purchase of a memorial book)		8.79	2195.19
1/31/2025		Northwest paper statement fee		5.00	2190.19
2/1/2025	online	Amazon (various programming needs)		98.60	2091.59
2/5/2025	online	Amazon (replacement of chairs for public service desk at Lake Shore)		279.96	1811.63
2/13/2025	3549	Eastern Copier (Toner for Lake Shore)		47.84	1763.79
2/13/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	469.38		2233.17
2/25/2025	online	Amazon (Pokémon dice for program and Book Easels)		67.96	2165.21
2/27/2025	3550	Travelers Insurance		232.00	1933.21
2/27/2025	3551	Sarah Hoover (Reimbursement for cookbook club expenses)		12.44	1920.77
2/27/2025	3553	Brian Parisi Copier Systems (overage		9.43	1911.34

		charge)			
2/28/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	321.83		2233.17
2/28/2025		Northwest paper statement		5.00	2228.17
3/4/2025	online	Amazon (metal shelves for Lake Shore)		155.04	2073.13
3/6/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	562.97		2636.10
3/6/2025	3554	Brian Hoth (Reimbursement for refreshments for dedication of historical murals)		140.00	2496.10
3/6/2025	3555	Nicole Brown (Reimbursement for paint and Winter Reading prizes)		422.97	2073.13
3/10/2025	3556	B&ECPL (Registration for Association for Contracting Library Trustees Workshop)		45.00	2028.13
3/13/2025		Deposit (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)	45.00		2073.13

Final Balance: \$2,073.13

Northwest Private Account – Savings

Date		Transaction	Deposit	Payment	Balance
1/23/2025		Deposit (Hamburg book sale)	142.30		64524.48
1/24/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		3,200.00	61324.48
1/30/2025		Deposit (Donation to the Hamburg Library)	500.00		61824.48
1/31/2025		Northwest Interest	0.54		61825.02
1/31/2025		Northwest paper statement		5.00	61820.02
1/31/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		134.55	61685.47
2/6/2025		Deposit (Hamburg book sale, donation box and copier)	294.25		61979.72
2/6/1900		Deposit (Lake Shore book sale & donation box)	51.00		62030.72
2/13/2025		Deposit (Hamburg donation box)	50.00		62080.72
2/13/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		469.38	61611.34
2/19/2025		Deposit (Hamburg book sale & donation box)	206.25		61817.59
2/28/2025		Northwest Interest for February	0.47		61818.06

2/28/2025		Northwest paper Statement February		5.00	61813.06
2/28/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		321.83	61491.23
3/4/2025		NYS (Annual Sales Tax 3/1/2024 - 2/28/2025)		416.62	61074.61
3/6/2025		Deposit (Hamburg Book Sale & Donation Box)	289.75		61364.36
3/6/2025		Withdrawal (Transfer from Savings to Checking for bills)		562.97	60801.39
3/6/2025		Deposit (Lake Shore Book Sale, Donation Box and copier)	113.75		60915.14
3/6/2025		Deposit (Lake Shore Fine Revenue February)	113.75		60915.14
3/13/2025		Deposit (Hamburg donation box)	30.00		60945.14

Final Balance: \$60,945.14

Expenditures were fairly routine since the last board meeting.

We received the annual check from Erie County in the amount of \$2812.50 to supplement revenue for no fines.

Return to System invoice was \$0. Two desk chairs and metal shelving were purchased for the Lake Shore Library.

Paint was purchased for both Hamburg and Lakeshore.

Winter reading prizes and program purchases (Cook Book Club, Pokémon, craft supply) for Lake Shore and Hamburg were among the items purchased.

Proceeds from Book Sale, Candy Sale and mugs: 1/14/2025 -3/14/2025 = \$809.35