

Hamburg's Community Revitalization Corporation

## Our Town News

[hamburgpa.org](http://hamburgpa.org)

Winter 2024

610.562.3106

### Creating a Vision for Hamburg

Our Town Foundation is embarking on the VISION 2025 Campaign to give the organization a clear plan to carry on the wishes of the Hamburg community and organization successfully. The Foundation is working with Paul Janssen and John Kramer from the Center for Excellence in Local Government to lead the organization in this campaign. The last visioning for the town was done in 2015. The process includes a community perception survey, multiple in person public and stakeholder meetings, creating a transformative strategy and five-year strategic plan, and applying for re-designation as a certified Main Street organization with the PA Department of Community and Economic Development.

Our Town Foundation was initially designated as a Mainstreet Program in 2003, and over the past twenty years has received over \$4 million in grant funding from local, state and federal programs for projects that benefitted the community. Some of the major projects include a downtown streetscape enhancement, trail development, enhancing arts and culture, and business growth. The Foundation purchased the Hamburg Strand Theater in 2013 to save it from its demise and it has since become a thriving community hub. In addition, the Foundation is currently constructing an outdoor event and community center known as State Street Square.

In order to complete this project, input from the community is needed. Our Town Foundation is holding in-person Community Perception Meetings to allow for further discussion and input to shape the vision of the foundation. Area businesses, Our Town Foundation donors, and members are invited to attend the Stakeholders meetings on April 8th at 4:00pm to 5:30pm or April 18th at 6:00pm to 7:30pm. In addition, we will hold public meetings for the community at large. Community members are invited to attend one or both of the public meetings held on April 8th at 6:00pm to 7:30pm and April 18th at 4:00pm to 5:30pm. All meetings will be held at Hamburg Area High School, LGI Room (enter by the main office.) At these meetings, the results of the Hamburg Community Perception Survey will be shared, and attendees will have the opportunity to share in more detail their thoughts about Hamburg and how Our Town Foundation can best serve the community.

### 2023 in Review

Each year, Our Town Foundation works to support the growth and revitalization of Hamburg, while preserving our cultural and historic integrity. We know that the ongoing management of community revitalization projects is essential to economic stability and quality of life in the town. In 2023, Our Town Foundation celebrated the 20th Anniversary as a Downtown Main Street Program. As a community membership non-profit, Our Town Foundation was supported by 191 members in 2023: 112 business, 38 resident, and 41 Art Alliance members.

Promoting Hamburg and the downtown business district has always been a top priority of the Foundation. The Foundation mailed quarterly print newsletters, sent 31 e-newsletters to thousands of followers, and promoted the town through various social media platforms. We held six ribbon cuttings and networking mixers with local businesses and several downtown promotional activities were implemented to encourage downtown shopping, including Small Business Saturday. Fifty volunteers assisted with the Annual Community Cleanup collecting 34 bags of trash and recyclables to keep the town clean. In addition, 15 garden plots were available to rent for a minimal fee of \$30 at the community garden located in Apple Alley between Windsor and Arch Streets. Both produce and flowers flourished. Throughout the town, several Native Wildlife flower beds were maintained by members Kay Greenawalt and Sheryl Delusky with assistance from the Hamburg Rotary Satellite Club and other volunteers.

The Hamburg Strand continues to thrive and serve as a center for community activity. Maintenance and HVAC improvements were made to the building, and there are still plans in place to replace the auditorium flooring under the seat area and to purchase new auditorium seating as soon as funding is secured. In 2023 the Strand sold a record number of 16,861 tickets, screened 33 featured first run movies, 12 Faith Nights and 11 Classic Nights films. The theater hosted many public events including the Polar Express Pajama Party and 58 private events for community members. The theater maintained partnerships with local organizations and schools to hold special events for the community.

The Hamburg Area Arts Alliance had a busy year as well. The Alliance maintained regular business hours for the Art & Craft Gallery of Hamburg, hosted seven featured artists receptions for the public, offered community art and blacksmithing classes, participated in the Hawk Mountain Arts Tour and participated in several downtown Wine Walks. **Continued on page 9**



*Tim Shiffert picking up the Small Business Saturday prize.*





## New Business Members

### Hamburg Self Storage

Windsor-U-Store, now Hamburg Self Storage, was recently acquired by Hamburg residents, Josh and Heather Youpa. Josh and Heather are very involved in the community and have been investing in Hamburg real estate for many years. When the opportunity arose to purchase the storage facility located in the Edenburg Industrial Park, the Youpas were delighted to take on the property and business as their own. Hamburg Self Storage offers many storage solutions to meet the diverse needs of individuals and businesses in the community. Josh & Heather have made many upgrades to the facility in the short time they've owned it, including updated lighting, security cameras, and online payments. They have plans to expand the facility to double its current capacity provided there is enough demand for storage space in the community. If you're looking for a great place to store your treasures at affordable prices, look no further than Hamburg Self Storage in Edenburg, [hamburgselfstorage.com](http://hamburgselfstorage.com), (484) 665-7727.



### Good Shepherd Rehabilitation

Good Shepherd Rehabilitation serves patients of all ages and abilities, helping them to reach their greatest potential. With more than 60 locations in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, Good Shepherd Rehabilitation specializes in treating the full range of major and minor injuries, complex illnesses and chronic conditions, such as stroke; brain injury; spinal cord injury; bone and joint conditions; aches, pains and strains; cardiac and respiratory illnesses; chronic neurological conditions like multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease; and developmental disabilities like autism and ADHD.

Our range of rehabilitation services includes inpatient rehabilitation; outpatient rehabilitation, such as physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy; long-term acute care; long-term care; physician and psychology services; pediatric rehabilitation; and community-based services.

### B's Sip and Paint Studio

Owner, Nancy Boyer, opened B's Sip and Paint Studio in 2015 to fulfill her dream of opening an art business. She has always had a passion for art and all art mediums and began her career as an art teacher in public schools. Almost nine years later she has transitioned her business from painting on canvas to include many art types such as ceramics, clay, and wood boards. Nancy says she is proud to offer a wide variety of art classes and events as well as keep her prices low compared to other art studios. She is grateful for all of the support from the community and repeat customers who have helped keep her business open for over 8 years and throughout Covid.

B's Sip and Paint specializes in birthday parties, kids summer art camp, and art classes. Store hours are by appointment or whenever events are held. You can find more information on B's Sip and Paint on Facebook where you can see her upcoming events and art classes. Information on her popular art camps will be coming out in the next month or two. This year the studio is holding monthly holiday events as well as adding slime making and slime birthday parties. Feel free to call, 484-506-3188, or email, [bssipandpaint@gmail.com](mailto:bssipandpaint@gmail.com), to schedule a party, class, or an individual session to make art. Be sure to check out all there is to offer at B's Sip and Paint Studio!



Good Shepherd Rehabilitation traces our pioneering spirit back to our founding family, The Rev. John and Estella Raker. In 1908, the Rakers opened Good Shepherd Home in Allentown, Pa., to care for children with disabilities, setting the stage for Good Shepherd's continued growth as a rehabilitation pioneer — advancing independence, treatments and technologies for people living with any type of disabilities.

For decades, Good Shepherd Rehabilitation has served as a proving ground for new and innovative rehabilitation technologies, testing and working directly with manufacturers to bring advanced solutions directly to patients — all so that patients can take control and move forward on the path to independence. For more information, call 610-562-3523 or visit [goodshepherdrehab.org](http://goodshepherdrehab.org).



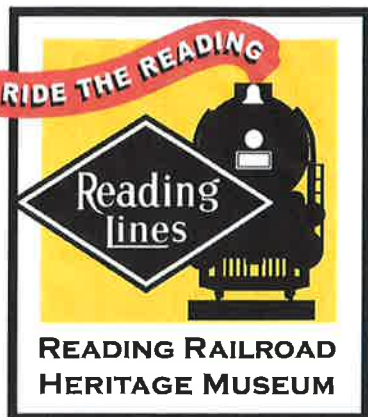
## New Business Members

The Reading Railroad Heritage Museum is the educational and interpretive center for the extensive collections of the Reading Company Technical and Historical Society (RCT&HS). Displays, video, hands-on experiences, and events illustrate the impact of the Reading Railroad on southeastern Pennsylvania and beyond.

The Museum is dedicated to the preservation of the history of the Reading Railroad and is operated entirely by the RCT&HS, an all-volunteer 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, whose efforts have assembled the collections and built the museum. Collections include 70 pieces of historic Reading Railroad locomotives, freight and passenger cars, one of the largest collections in the U.S. pertaining to a single railroad. Broad archival and artifact collections are also available for education and research.

The Museum store is open during Museum hours which are: Saturdays 10 AM to 4 PM, Sundays Noon to 4 PM. Admission: adults \$9; seniors \$8; children age 5-12 \$3; under 5 and Museum members are free. All are invited to become members.

Reading Railroad Heritage Museum is located at 500 S. Third St., Hamburg PA 19526, 610-562-5513, [www.readingrailroad.org](http://www.readingrailroad.org)



## Visitor's Guide

First printed in 2012, the Historic Hamburg Visitor's Guide is a printed 26 page brochure highlighting many attractions, local accommodations, recreational opportunities, and information on history, arts, and culture in and around the Hamburg area. The guide has recently been updated and is getting a 5th reprint. It will be distributed around the area this spring. This has been a great tool for visitors coming to Hamburg and shares many of the great features our town and the surrounding area has to offer.

Reprinting of the guide was funded in part by a matching grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program, under the administration of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation in support of the Schuylkill Highlands Mini-Grant Program administered by Natural Lands. 12,000 copies are being printed at a cost of \$6,750. The grant covered one-half of the expense and the Foundation expended the other half.

## Here Come the Burgers

Our Town Foundation has started to plan the 21st Taste of Hamburg-er Festival to be held on August 31st, 2024! Vendor registrations opened in mid-February and applications have been pouring in. Once again, the streets of Hamburg will be lined with flaming grills, unique vendors, fun activities, and mouthwatering burgers. Always the Saturday before Labor Day, the Taste of Hamburg-er Festival is one of the largest single day events in Berks County. This event raises funds to support revitalization efforts in Hamburg, including the construction of State Street Square, an outdoor event venue and community hub in the center of town.

This annual event would not be possible without the numerous volunteers who plan the event, or who contribute their time to help the day of the festival. In 2023, 138 people volunteered and donated 1,375 recorded hours of time. As we continue planning for 2024 and future years, volunteers are critically needed. For those who love the event and want to see it continue, please consider giving a few hours of your time. Volunteer time slots are usually for two hours, but if you want to extend your time, you are welcome to! Some of the tasks include planning, setting up before the event, and clean up. Volunteers are also needed for help the day of the event with tasks like parking attendant, running an activity, manning a resource table, distributing event booklets and more. If you are interested in helping out, please email [otfmanager@aol.com](mailto:otfmanager@aol.com) or call 610-562-3106.



*Ribbon cutting taking place at Burkey & Driscoll Home Furnishings*





## New Artist Members

## Grace Duncan

I am a resident of Hamburg. I have lived in Berks county my whole life and graduated from Wyomissing Jr/Sr high school, the home of Taylor Swift. (I even attended chorus with her!) My husband, son, and I moved to Hamburg about three years ago. We absolutely love it and plan to be here for a long time.



Here is a little about my family and I. I am one of three children and I am actually a twin. I have an amazing husband who I have been with for eleven years. We have the most adorable and fun son who is three years old. I can't wait to teach him more about art.

Art has always been my therapy. When I'm creating, I am a happy soul. I was an art major in high school. My amazing art teacher, Mr. Miller, got me into mosaics. Once I started I was hooked. There is one of my pieces hanging in the hallway of my high school. It is a shooting star and my first piece. I've actually assisted with quite of few art installations in my art career. I assisted with the mural at the Reading Hospital parking garage. We used our hands to add to the mural and my handprint will forever be a part of that mural which I find really cool. I also love to paint. I usually paint in acrylic but learned to paint with oil paint in college and loved it. However, mosaics will always be my favorite.

I am excited to be a part of the Hamburg Arts Alliance and can't wait to share my pieces with everyone. You can also find me on Instagram under Peaces of Grace.

## Margi Wright

I was asked to write a bio to introduce myself to many of the amazing artists who call The Hamburg Area Arts Alliance home. I always find it difficult to describe myself as I am a very diversified individual. I will try to break myself down, as to not bore you all, into five key areas. Number one is family. My husband and I of over 30 years, have three adult children. Two of my children are married and one has two children of her own. Being a Mom-Mom is the best. We reside within a short hop down the hill to The Westy with my mom and three big dogs.

Number two is reading. I am a voracious reader and it is not unusual for me to read over two hundred books in any given year. I love a good mystery but I also will delve into esoteric and ancient historical topics. I do not have one favorite author, I have many!

Number three is athleticism. I have worked out in one way or another all my life. I played basketball. I have done a number of triathlons, cross country skiing and I life weights and enjoy CrossFit. My husband says this is how I burn of the crazy.

Number four is teaching. I am foremost and educator and I am truly happy when I am sharing what I love. I loved teaching high school History in NJ and attained a Fellowship in American History. That love of teaching is not the best kind as I no longer have to do lesson plans or grade papers. I love teaching my fifth and final area: Fiber Arts.

I knit, crochet, spin a variety of fibers into yarn, dye yarn, and weave. I love demonstrating, especially in historical dress. I teach drop spindle spinning and open fire dyeing at Joanna Furnace to fourth graders every spring. I also demonstrate flax and wool and spinning and open fire dyeing using natural dyes at a variety of festivals and historic locations in PA and NJ. Twice a year I teach a textile class down the Jersey Shore about how to go from a fleece to a fabric and the students get to drop spindle spin. I love seeing the joy of learning taking place.

I just joined the Hamburg Area Arts Alliance and display and sell my work in the Art and Craft Gallery. Some of my pieces are currently displayed in the storefront display windows. Please stop by to take a look!



Sampling of Margi Wright's shawls

**HAMBURG AREA ARTS ALLIANCE** Shoemakersville Fire Co.  
**Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>**

Presents **3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL BINGO! BASKETS & BAR-BQ**

**20 Games**

\$25 Advanced Tickets / \$30 at the door  
 Doors open 12 Noon, BINGO starts 1:30 PM

Advanced Tickets at **OUR TOWN FOUNDATION**  
 320 State St., Hamburg, PA 19526  
 or through [www.hamburgarts.org](http://www.hamburgarts.org)

Food & Drinks available for purchase  
**Cash & Prizes awarded**

**PLUS 50/50 Raffle Special Games Basket Raffle and JACKPOT**

For more information: call 610-562-3106 or email [hamburgarts@verizon.net](mailto:hamburgarts@verizon.net)  
 Limited Seating License ID#B-24-045116-L



## Spring Art Classes

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL CLASSES.** Visit [hamburgarts.org](http://hamburgarts.org) to register on-line or call the Arts Alliance office at 610-562-3106. Email [hamburgarts@verizon.net](mailto:hamburgarts@verizon.net) with questions. Space may be limited for some classes.

### Blacksmithing Classes

When: Mondays, April 8, 15, 22, and 29

Time: 6-9 pm

Deadline to register: 4/2/24

Cost: \$190 for a series of 4 classes

Where: Fisher Forge 572 St. Michaels Rd. Hamburg,

Ages: 18+

Hosted by: Dave Fisher

Class Description: Hands on experience in forging while creating unique take home projects.



### Pressed Flower Power and Wine

When: Friday, 4/12/24

Time: 5-7 pm

Deadline to register: 4/7/24

Cost: \$15 includes supplies

Where: Lucky Leprechaun Winery, 337 State St. Hamburg

Ages: 18+ (21+ to consume alcohol)

Hosted by: Ann Steffel and Karla Jensen

Class Description: Create a wonderful pressed flower keepsake to take home while sipping wine. Select from a variety of colored flower petals and greens selected from nature here in lovely Pennsylvania. Extra embellishments will be included to dress up your creation.



### Napkin Basket with Diagonal Weave

When: Wednesday, 4/17/24

Time: 6-9 pm

Deadline to register: 4/11/24

Cost: \$40 includes supplies

Where: The Strand Theater Party Room 6 S. 4th St.

Ages: 16+

Hosted by Debra Zvanut

Class Description: Learn how to lay out a basket and basket weaves, and a diagonal weave with a variety of dyed reeds as accents.



### Sketch Like Crazy

When: Sunday, 4/28/24

Time: 3-4:30 pm

Deadline to register: 4/23/24

Cost: \$15

Where: Martafacts Studio

1960 Appaloosa Ln. Mohrsville, PA

Ages: 18+

Hosted by: Marta Tomosy-Herman.

Class Description: Learn to sketch free and easy! Please bring your own sketchbook.



### Springtime Sip and Paint

When: Saturday, 4/20/24

Time: 1-3 pm

Deadline to register: 4/16/24

Cost: \$25 includes supplies and complimentary glass of sweet wine

Where: The Strand Theater Party Room, 6th S 4th St.

Ages: 18+ (21+ to consume alcohol)

Hosted by Becky Kunkleman

Class Description: Have a fun time sipping wine and painting a spring time canvas.



### Spring Flower Woven Bowl

When: Tuesday, 5/7/24

Time: 6-9 pm

Deadline to register: 5/2/24

Cost: \$40 includes supplies

Where: The Strand Theater Party Room 6th S. 4th St.

Ages: 16+

Hosted by: Debra Zvanut

Class Description: Small bowl woven on wooden base with continuous weave. Sides enhanced by reed flowers, color accents optional.



### Blacksmithing Classes

When: Tuesdays, May 7, 14, 21, and 28

Time: 6-9 pm

Deadline to register: 5/2/24

Cost: \$190 for a series of 4 classes

Where: Fisher Forge 572 St. Michaels Rd. Hamburg, PA

Ages: 18+

Hosted by: Dave Fisher

Class Description: Hands on experience in forging while creating unique take home projects.





## State Street Square - We are Making Progress!

Construction on the building began this past October and was completed by the end of the year. The next phase of the project is building the outdoor stage, and we are pleased to say Forte Contracting from Tilden Township has been hired to complete the job. A \$40,000 Hometown grant received from T-Mobile last year enabled us to begin the stage construction. Once that phase is completed, we will move forward with installing the interior plumbing lines and pouring a cement floor. Additionally, we will be constructing an outdoor decorative patio with funding committed by M & T Bank. We also applied for an AARP grant in the amount of \$10,000 to purchase café style tables with bench seating and shade umbrellas and should hear from AARP before June if we were a successful applicant. Additional interior construction, including the kitchen and public restrooms, will be completed as funding is secured. Our goal is to have the interior framing, insulation, and electrical work completed by the end of 2024.

Our Town Foundation is extremely grateful for the monetary support we have received so far. To date, close to \$50,000 in capital campaign donations were raised and applied to the construction of the building. The campaign is still ongoing as we continue to seek additional funding to complete the interior.

If you would like to support this special project aimed at improving the economic and cultural development of our town, scan this QR code or visit [bit.ly/3nGxiJq](https://bit.ly/3nGxiJq) to donate. You can also support the project by volunteering to assist with planning activities. If you are interested in serving on the State Street Square committee, please email [otfassistant@verizon.net](mailto:otfassistant@verizon.net) with your volunteer interest and availability.



## Thank you to our capital campaign donors!

Lehigh Agricultural & Biological Services

Jim and Ann Steffel

Harold (Buck) Holtzman

Carleen Duque

Reading Blue Mountain & Northern Railroad

Martin and Sandra Christman

Lightfoot Properties, LLC  
Vreeland and Linda Wood  
Michael and Jane Adam  
Art Suite at Blue Mountain  
V & M Towing Service Inc.  
Brenda Binns  
Cindy Blefgen  
Richard and Kathy Mextorf  
The Bridge Church  
CrossKeys Insurance  
Tom Schaeffer's Camping and  
Travel Center, Inc.  
Barry Haag  
Dorothy Brobst  
Sharon Dietrich  
Michael Berk  
Jane and Dennis Kramer  
Deena Kershner  
Michele and Jed Seitzinger

Anna Heffner  
Carol Justice  
Tom & Lori Palubinski  
Barbara Findling  
Terrie Moseman  
Keith Brobst  
Mary Brensinger  
June and Kervin Kline  
Stewart McGowan  
Terrie Moseman  
Eileen Puglia  
Ed and Carol Schaeffer  
Stacie Slack  
James and Patricia Troutman  
Kathleen Ramsey  
James P. Miller  
Dave and Norma Berger  
Theodore E. Dando, DMD  
Sharon Dietrich  
Stewart R. McGowan  
David Mengle  
Keith and Sue Phillips  
Ed and Carol Schaeffer  
Allen and Vicki Shollenberger

Creation Cabinetry, LLC  
Mary Laurie  
Beverly Hess  
Professional Hair Design  
Donald Schilke  
Jeffry Pettit  
Marcia H. Scharadin  
Debbie Steely and Jeff Werley  
Jim Gilmartin  
Brian and Margaret Warfel  
Carol A. Adam  
Hamburg Grange #2103  
Byron and Kay Fritz  
Tracie Hain  
Jeffry and Lynn Cooper  
Francis Caruano  
Allan P. Rodgers  
David Mengle  
Sharon Geschwindt  
Lori Moyer  
Stephanie Marquette



**THE HAMBURG COMMUNITY GARDEN**

RESERVE YOUR SPACE FOR THE 2024 GROWING SEASON



ORGANIC VEGETABLE &amp; FLOWER GARDEN

LARGE BOX SIZE: 10FT x 4FT x 1FT

LOCATION: APPLE ALLEY, HAMBURG PA 19526

Cost \$30 per box

RESERVE YOUR BOX TODAY!

Call Our Town Foundation - 610-562-3106 or email [otfmanager@aol.com](mailto:otfmanager@aol.com)**SAVE THE DATE!****KEEP HAMBURG BEAUTIFUL  
CLEANUP DAY**

Saturday, April 20, 2024

(weather permitting)

9am-12pm

Registration begins at 8:30am

Meet at  
The Journey Café  
3rd & Pine StreetsFree lunch for all  
volunteers!

For more information on volunteering for the clean-up, please call Lynn at 610-562-3106/ [otfassistant@verizon.net](mailto:otfassistant@verizon.net) or Kay at 610-562-4329/ [kay@kaygreenawalt.com](mailto:kay@kaygreenawalt.com)

**Hawk Mountain Art and Studio Tour**

Mark your calendar for the annual Hawk Mountain Art and Studio Tour being held on June 1, 2024 at the Etchberger Community Park in Hamburg!

Join us in celebrating artists from the Hamburg Area Arts Alliance and around the region as they display their artwork on the banks of the Schuylkill River. It is sure to be a fun day by the riverfront.

If you are an artist interested in displaying your work, please call 610-562-3106 for more information or to reserve a spot. Booth fees are \$20 for Hamburg Area Arts Alliance members and \$30 for non-members.

**Feature Your Garden**

We want to showcase your garden at our Annual Hamburg Garden Tour on Sat., June 22nd 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. All you need to do is be present to show your garden to visitors. We handle ticket sales, directions, refreshments, and a raffle at the conclusion of the day which is held at the park. If you would be willing to show off your garden for this event, please contact Kay at (610) 562-4329.

**Hamburg Classic Car Cruises  
3rd Friday of each Month  
April thru October**

VJ Wood  
2291 Old 22  
Hamburg, PA 19526

**ART & CRAFT GALLERY  
UPCOMING FEATURED  
ARTISTS****MARCH**

MARGI WRIGHT  
FABRIC ARTS - CRAFTS

**APRIL**

MARTHA RESSLER  
FABRIC ART

**MAY**

JAY RESSLER  
PHOTOGRAPHY - MIXED MEDIA - OIL AND  
ACRYLIC PAINTINGS

**JUNE**

MARY ANN MENGEL  
OIL PAINTING



## Theater Talk

**FAITH  
NIGHT  
2024****The Hamburg Strand**

Join us the 2nd Tuesday of  
each month at 7pm. Tickets are  
\$8, include popcorn & soda

**3/12: His Only Son**

**Sponsored by Faith Church**

**4/9: The Hill**

**Sponsored by Strouse Brothers Inc.**

**5/14: Jesus Music**

**6/11: Soul Surfer**

**Sponsored by Mind Matters**

**7/9: Sound of Freedom**

**Sponsored by Saunders Real Estate**

**8/13: Woodlawn**

**Sponsored by Grace Bible Church of Hawk Mt.**

**9/10: Jesus Revolution**

**sponsored by St. Michael's Church**

**10/8: TBD**

**11/12 Pilgrims Progress (animated)**

**12/10: The Least of These; A Christmas Story**

**sponsored by The Bridge Church**

The Hamburg Strand  
6 South 4th Street  
Hamburg, PA 19526  
610-562-4750  
hamburgstrand.org

THE HAMBURG STRAND

# MOVIE SPONSORS

**\$250 SPONSOR FEE,  
FAITH, CLASSIC OR SPECIAL EVENT  
MOVIE...**

## BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- **ADVERTISING ON FLYERS, FB, INSTA, WEBSITE,  
OUR NEWSLETTER, MOVIE SCREEN.**
- **TABLE TO HAND OUT FLYERS, COUPONS, ETC. DAY  
OF MOVIE.**
- **2 FREE TICKETS TO YOUR SPONSORED MOVIE.**

**INTERESTED??**

**CONTACT HAMBURGSTRAND@OUTLOOK.COM  
TO SEE MOVIES AVAILABLE OR FOR MORE INFO!**

## THE HAMBURG STRAND CLASSIC NIGHTS 2024

Join us the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Tickets\* are  
\$8, include a complimentary popcorn and soda.  
\*except Rocky Horror (sold online)

**3/26: ROCKETMAN (ELTON JOHN- 2019)**

SPONSORED BY LABSERVICES

**4/23: FOOTLOOSE (1984)**

SPONSORED BY DANCE POINTE STUDIO

**5/28: REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE (1955)**

SPONSORED BY VJ WOOD TOWING & SERVICE CENTER

**6/25: SCOOPY DOO (2002)**

SPONSORED BY SAUNDERS REAL ESTATE

**7/23: NATIONAL LAMPOON'S VACATION (1983)**

SPONSORED BY NAFTZINGER'S USED AUTO PARTS

**8/27: AMERICAN GRAFFITI (1973)**

SPONSORED BY WOLFE MOBILE RV

**9/24: A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE (1951)**

**10/22: THE EXORCIST (1973)**

SPONSORED BY THE HAMBURG MOOSE

**10/25: ROCKY HORROR\* (MOVIE ONLY)**

**11/26: GRUMPY OLD MEN (1993)**

SPONSORED BY RONNIE FOLK PAVING

The Hamburg Strand  
6 South 4th Street  
Hamburg, PA 19526  
610-562-4750  
hamburgstrand.org

# STRAND

**Hamburg's Historic  
Non-Profit Theater**

Now accepting applications to advertise  
on the big screen

Priority is given to OTF business members

6 month and 1 year slots are available  
15 second screen shots or a 30 second video  
will be accepted

Visit [hamburgstrand.org](http://hamburgstrand.org) for an application and  
details on prices and video formatting



## A Year in Review

Continued from page 1

The Alliance also planned and hosted the annual Silent Art Auction during the Taste of Hamburg-er Festival as well as the annual Bingo, Beer, and BBQ event which raised \$14,582 to support the Alliance's arts programming. Also in 2023, several members of the Arts Alliance worked with interns from Penn State University to develop a new hamburgarts.org website to better represent member artists to the community.

In 2023 we also celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Taste of Hamburg-er Festival! Kinley Automotive Group/Manderbach Ford was the title sponsor and 59 other sponsors supported the festival along with 247 vendors. The American Xcellence Wrestling group entertained the crowd with professional wrestling matches and other fun activities such as wrestling trivia. The professional burger eating competition included two fan-favorite professional eaters and four wrestlers competing for the burger eating title. Dan "Killer" Kennedy, was crowned the winner for 2023. Kennedy ate 24 Red Robin burgers in ten minutes and set a new record! We held the inaugural "You Lucky Duck" Contest and gave participants a chance to win up to \$500. The contest was sponsored by Joe Jurgielewicz, Lowes, and Deitsch Eck.

Our Town Foundation is working hard to make 2024 as successful, if not more, than 2023! For the complete annual report, visit hamburgpa.org. If you would like to help with any of these initiatives, please reach out to [otfassistant@verizon.net](mailto:otfassistant@verizon.net).

### 2023 Volunteer of the Year: Jacob Sholl

Jacob (Jake) Sholl became involved with Our Town Foundation in 2015 when his wife, Bethany, was hired as the Hamburg Strand Theater Manager.



Jake is the theater's volunteer Projection System Technician and spends anywhere from two to five hours per week at the facility. He does all things with the projector such as downloading the weekly movies from the film companies, updating the projector's programs, trouble-shooting technical issues with the projector and server, communicating with the movie suppliers, and performing regular maintenance. He offered many hours of technical support during the installation of the theater's digital satellite system enabling the theater to receive the weekly movies via satellite, rather than relying on hard drives from the film company.

In addition to operating the projection system, Jake pitches in anytime or anywhere help is needed including working the ticket counter or concession stand during weekly movies, special screenings, or other activities held in the theater. He also runs for concessions if necessary.

Jake also volunteers for the Bridge Church and as a coach for the Orwigsburg Area Girls Softball Association. He is very family oriented and enjoys taking his children to sporting events, especially the Phillies! Jake has great pride in his hometown theater and loves being able to spend time with his family there.

### Special Thanks

We would like to thank all of the volunteers that helped Our Town Foundation during 2023. We recorded 2828 hours of donated time equaling \$80,727 in labor costs as per government statistics. You did a great job!

### 2024 Board of Directors

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#### Monday, April 8th

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#### Thursday, April 18th

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All sessions held at Hamburg Area High School, LGI Room  
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Our Town Foundation  
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## Our Town Foundation administers the following programs:



**Taste of  
Hamburger Festival**



Our Town Foundation's mission is to revitalize, preserve, and promote downtown historic Hamburg for our families and future generations to enjoy.

Our vision of Hamburg is one of vibrant streets adorned with restored historic buildings filled with shops, restaurants and professional services. The town will build on and prosper from the abundant natural, cultural, and historic resources with the community. Hamburg will once again be the premier location in Northern Berks to shop, dine, and be entertained.