

BUSINESS



Photos by Megan Tomaszewski/Special to The Sun

Performing Arts Dance Academy will be opening a new studio in its Lake Street location in September.

New studio opening inside Performing Arts Dance

By Megan Tomaszewski
HAMBURG SUN CORRESPONDENT

With a new school year comes the start of after-school activities, headlined by sports such as high school and Little Loop football, soccer and volleyball.

And while it may not get as much attention, dance still remains a popular after-school choice for children and teens everywhere — so much so that Performing Arts Dance Academy owner and executive director, Hamburg native Suzanne Mall, will be opening a new studio in its Lake Street location this September.

“We’re just so proud of it,” she said. “I’m excited to see what’s going to happen.”

The new studio space in the Lake Street plaza is adjacent to Studio B Dancewear, which Mall also owns. Mall explained that the addition will allow for approximately 450 students to be part of more individualized, skill level-based classes as opposed to grouping students with varying dance experience together in one class.

“It was hard to have just the two studios; we want to be able to challenge our kids that want to go on (to do this) professionally,” she said. “You always have those kids that have it in their heart and we have a group of really strong, dedicated children that want to go on and dance.”

The new studio will also allow the business to expand to being open six days a week.

Mall noted that while the idea of a third studio had been on her mind for some time, she was unable to find the right kind of space for the project until the Hamburg Pharmacy passed on the opportunity to take over the vacant attorney’s office in the plaza.

It allowed Mall to sign a lease in March. Her husband, Tom, did all of the construction work in the old office, turning it into a bright, airy studio with an 18-foot soundproof wall, coffee station and bathroom.

“I never thought this would be possible,” Mall said. “This is like a miracle to us, because we never thought we would have it here on Lake Street.”

In addition to the new studio, the academy will offer a new character dance class, joining the list of offerings alongside classical ballet, pointe, contemporary, combo, tap, jazz, conditioning, hip-hop, break-dancing and musical theater.

On top of the physical benefits of dance, Mall emphasized the positive social learning that takes place in her classrooms, as well as imparting values of respect and discipline to students.

“Kindness is really important to me and students learn how to



Submitted

Family is an important part of Performing Arts Dance Studio. From left, top row, are Kerri Paufler, co-owner/artistic director, Suzanne Mall, owner and executive director, and Kristen Weigel, co-owner/artistic director, with son, Leo Christian. Bottom row: Mall’s grandchildren, Gwendolynn and Noah Paufler and Henry Weigel.

develop relationships with people outside of their own circle,” she said. “I think that’s really big.”

The 23-year-old company features an expansive class list, due largely to having 12 teachers with a range of experience. They include Mall’s daughters, Kristen Weigel and Kerri Paufler, who became co-owners in January.

While Weigel belonged to Zodiac Dance Company, she never considered dance as a professional option, instead obtaining a bachelor’s degree in sociology from the State University at Buffalo. However, after one summer in social work and a few others jobs, she came home to her mother’s company and found her true career path.

“It was like, ‘I think this is what I want to do.’ I wanted to stay at the studio — that’s where I could work with kids as I imagined originally with social work,” she said. “It’s really cool.”

Paufler, however, always pursued dance professionally, attending the American Music and Dramatic Academy in New York and landing a role in the 25th anniversary national tour of “Cats.”

She also teaches private performance lessons at the studio and recently recorded a Christian contemporary album, “Broken to Beautiful.”

Paufler emphasized her own excitement about the sense of physical and emotional well-being that she hopes students are able to obtain through their classes in the new studio.

“I think it’s going to be a space where the kids not only grow in dancing, but grow in who they are as individuals,” she said. “I’m hoping that they’ll be able to see themselves as God sees them, that they’re beautiful creations. In dance,

sometimes, self-image can be a little distorted, so I’m praying that it’ll be a space where they can learn to love themselves.”

While Mall hasn’t taught at her business since 2008, she has her own storied history of involvement with dance. Trained by a Russian teacher in classical ballet, Mall said she was always passionate about dance, but found herself losing touch with the field after getting married at 21 and having three children by age 29.

“It was like, ‘Why didn’t I pursue it?’” she said. “I went through a very emotional time.”

After some encouragement by a fellow church member who owned her own dance company, Mall made the decision to get back into dance and began performing with the highest level group. Mall’s talent landed her the lead role in the company’s “Snow Queen” performance at Shea’s.

“It was amazing to be a mother that was in her 30s and be able to do that,” she said.

Mall went on to perform with the Buffalo City Ballet until she was almost 40 and noted that her own journey to carry her love of dance beyond the “regular” studio age inspired her to create a new, weekly Christian worship and dance ministry group for older women this fall.

“I started the business as a divorced mother raising three kids, and that’s why it’s such a miracle to me — I had nothing. All I could think was, ‘What am I going to do?’” she said. “But I thought that the only thing was to move forward and that if I had nothing to lose, I might as well go for it.”

For more information about Performing Arts Dance Academy, call 670-1006 or visit performingartz.com.

Transactions July 24 - 28

Real estate transactions for Hamburg and the surrounding communities for the period of July 24, 2017 to July 28, 2017. Information provided by the Erie County Clerk’s Office.

ANGOLA

- 18 John R Drive, Arthur D. Litzinger Jr.; Terry L. Litzinger to Kirk W. Corsi; Sharon A. Corsi, \$190,000.

BLASDELL

- 62 Grafton, Lauren A. Nowalowski to Stephanie N. Caputo, \$118,000.

BOSTON

- 5948 Old Pfarner Road, Nancy E. Lemieux; Richard P. Lemieux to Keith M. Franklin; Michelle M. Franklin, \$270,000.
- 5994 Thornwood Dr14075, Joseph R. Seibert; Becky L. Siebert to Terry W. Smith, \$122,000.

EDEN

- Edn 37 8/3, David C. Lawton; Laurie J. Privitera to Jack A. Cockerel, \$235,000.
- 2894 East Pleasant Avenue, Jack A. Cockerel to Lauren A. Nowakowski, \$192,000.
- 2775 Oakland Drive, Brett B. Lyford; Sara J. Pawlak to Debra Gagliardo, \$155,000.
- 2757 First Street, Thelma W. McCluskey to Duane S. Walczak, \$47,500.
- 7724 Eden Valley Road, Citifinancial Company (de); Citifinancial Company dba to Zachary Palmer, \$27,000.

EVANS

- 9661 Versailles Road, Joseph A. Seggio; Karen A. Seggio to Chama M. Hall, \$275,000.
- 9916 Smith Road, Kathleen M. Hoelzl; Michael R. Hoelzl to Brett B. Lyford; Sara J. Lyford, \$191,060.
- 1403 South Creek Road, John W. Bigelow; Marjorie R. Bigelow to Thomas J. Mozdziak, \$178,100.
- 9590 Harrison Street, Brian J. Hoekh to Paul Dorsheimer; \$153,700.
- 247 Grant, Paul Dorsheimer to Anthony J. Speckzynski, \$121,278.
- 1187 Cain Road, Veronica Davis; Xavier Hardin to Aaron Sterling, \$60,000.
- Vacant land Beach Road, Lydia Murphy; Margit Page; Alexander Schewtschenko to Gregory P. Antholzner; Sheila Fellows, \$45,000.

HAMBURG

- 5665 Southwestern Blvd Unit 26d, Villas At Brierwood LLC to Ellen J. Hayes; Michael F. Hayes, \$320,000.
- 6390 Pincherry Way, Deanna T. Russo; Jason D. Russo to American International Relocation Solutions LLC, \$295,000.
- 6390 Pincherry Way, American International Relocation Solutions LLC to John W. Caruso; Kelly A. Sala, \$295,000.
- 6550 Southwestern Boulevard, Batavia Holdings LLC to Schmitz Holdings LLC, \$275,000.
- 1412 Evergreen Drive, Anthony G. Lacorte; Michelle E. Lacorte; Louis Violanti to Rmac Trust Series 2016-Ctt; US Bank NA Tr, \$270,000.
- 2193 Pleasant Avenue, Clemons D. Charles to Kellie Mcwright, \$270,000.
- 3628 Delilah Lane, Eddy&lewin Homes Inc to Susan E. Harrigan; Thomas W. Harrigan, \$261,649.
- 4530 Lake Shore Road, Steven Aughey to Fei Ni, \$255,000.
- 3027 Cloverbank Road, Michael H. Phillips; Michael Phillips; Nancy M. Rich; Nancy Rich; Deborah Scinta to Fannie Mae, \$235,536.
- 6052 Margaret Ann Drive, John P. Todorof; Karen B. Todorof to Jennifer S. Newhouse; Peter K. Szalowski, \$233,000.
- 6182 Marion Place, Kevin M. Oconnor; Virginia M. Oconnor to Melanie Powell, \$229,900.
- 5194 Overlook Point, Constance M. Leone; Vincent J. Leone to Cartus Financial Corporation, \$205,000.
- 5194 Overlook Point, Cartus Financial Corporation to Amy C. Owcarz, \$205,000.
- 4254 Arthur Court, Nvr Inc dba; Ryan Homes of New York to Michelle Doran; Sean Doran, \$203,540.
- Hmb 120 Sunset, Gail R. Hojsan; Mark D. Hojsan to Shari Getty; Shari Marie Getty; Timothy Getty; Timothy William Getty, \$202,500.
- 3910 Harvard Street, Michele A. Sabia; Steven M. Sabia to Deena M. Roberts; Scott A. Roberts, \$195,099.
- 6720 Heltz Road, Lorilyn M. Hanavan to Jennifer A. Scheg, \$194,000.
- 52 Dudley Avenue, Ashley J. Bauerlein; Erik L. Bauerlein; Ashley J. Mathis to Patricia A. Roman, \$190,000.
- 4585 Kennison Parkway, William Hight to Nathan Monaco; Sarah Monaco, \$180,000.
- 4244 Arthur Court, Joerg Dressler; Stephen Syta to Martin R. Wolinski; Patricia A. Wolinski, \$178,000.
- 5200 East Parkway, Ernest A. Holfoth Jr.; Shirley A. Holfoth to Donald Sauer, \$175,000.
- 106 Huntington, Kevin J. Georger to Sarah A. Farley, \$175,000.
- 454 Brookwood Drive, Pattie A. Budzynski; Caroline J. Stein; Lori M. Vogt to Kyle Pozek; Hannah G. Tyrrell, \$173,500.
- 4589 Drayton Park, E&r Horizons LLC to Carol Keuck; Richard Keuck, \$162,000.
- 3990 Essex, Annette J. Olday to Allyson Olday, \$160,000.
- 58 Foxcroft Drive, Allison M. Germono; Andrew F. Germono to Artum Y. Pazych; Marie R. Pazych, \$159,000.
- 4217 Meadowbrook Parkway, Edward P. Becker to Alexander S. Kish; Joyce A. Kish, \$150,000.
- 38 Chapel Glen Drive, Jennifer Ann Annas to James Scott Srutowski, \$148,000.
- 4067 Beaubain Drive, Shirley M. Schumler to Kelsey Keane, \$140,000.
- 4271 Oakwood Avenue, Anna Schieda; Mario Schieda to Maria L. Schieda, \$120,000.
- 3913 Sharondale Drive, Rocco Lucente II; Jack A. Vogl; Scott A. Vogl to Wells Fargo Bank NA, \$86,765.
- 4533 Mt Vernon Boulevard, HUD to Ugly Duckling Homes LLC, \$63,800.
- 3370 Cedar Valley Wa, Pleasant Development LLC to Forbes Homes Inc, \$60,000.
- 3366 Cedar Valley Way, Pleasant Development LLC to Forbes Homes Inc, \$60,000.
- 4254 Arthur Court, Peter Liberatore Sr Family Limited Partnership to Nvr Inc dba; Ryan Homes of New York, \$27,000.
- 5048 Roseview Avenue, Ronald P. Golden; Gerald Oconnor to Mohamed H. Abdulla, \$26,251.

LACKAWANNA

- Pt 2303 Hamburg Tpke, Tecumseh Re-development Inc to Buffalo&erie County Industrial Land Development Corporation, \$813,750.
- 228 Ludel Terrace, David Evtimovski to Sami Mawdha, \$151,000.
- 73 Martin Road, Ahmed Umar to Toni M. Daurelio, \$132,000.
- 275 Orchard Place, Amanda L. Ciesielski to Lynn M. Buehlmann, \$121,000.
- 33 Shamokin Drive, Myron V. Balas to John Wysocki, \$80,000.
- 21 Caldwell Place, Flagstar Bank Fsb to Mohammed Albaadani, \$36,933.
- 9 Center Street, Paul M. Chlosta; Susan M. Chlosta to Himalayan Home Solutions LLC, \$16,000.

ORCHARD PARK

- 8 Sandpiper Court, Patricia L. Kapelewski; Richard F. Kapelewski to Brian W. Gaine; Patricia A. Gaine, \$655,000.
- 21 Knoche Way, Essex Homes of WNY Inc to Carolyn R. Culley; David W. Culley, \$535,966.
- 41 Ponderosa Court, Kim M. Mesi to William H. McDonald, \$420,000.
- 20 Lakeridge Drive, Charles K. Sauberan to Kristen M. Wolbert; Mark R. Wolbert, \$343,338.
- 9 Fawn Terrace, John P. McGirr; Mary E. McGirr to Quinn Thomas Patrick Jr; \$335,000.
- 17 Windgate Road, Frank H. Nowak; Janice M. Nowak to Ann O. Mccarville; Terrance Mccarville, \$280,000.
- 94 Stonehenge Drive, Constance J. Narbe; Thom M. Narbe to Cindy Gottstine; Todd Kwiatkowski, \$279,500.
- 96 Woodland Drive, Donna J. Logel; Debora L. Morlock; Sandra L. Quinlan to Caren L. Cahoon; Steven W. Cahoon, \$232,000.
- 3640 Transit Road, Caren L. Cahoon; Steven W. Cahoon to Jaclyn C. Kiera; James P. Kiera, \$226,000.
- 64 Stepping Stone Lane, Howard M. Curran; Mary Anne Curran to Barbara Jezek; Rainer Jezek, \$173,000.
- 5427 Lake Avenue, Mileva T. Damovski; Mileva T. Milosevski to Susan M. Ott, \$145,000.
- 3911 North Buffalo Road, Robert G. Biel-er to Birch Run Inc, \$125,000.
- 5363-5365 Berg Road, Jonathan D. Estoff; Salvatore J. Macaluso; Salvatore Macaluso to Bmg Property Holdings Inc; Milhap Capital Group LLC, \$124,001.
- 14 Hearthstone Terr; Brompton/caesar Associates Joint Venture to Forbes Homes Inc, \$116,000.
- 8 Stone Bluff Court, Thomas J. Johnson Construction Inc to Geoffrey J. Schweikhard; Sarah M. Schweikhard, \$100,000.



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