

COMMUNITY NEWS



Michael Petro/The Hamburg Sun

Colley’s Pools & Spas on Camp Road in Hamburg is rebuilding its showroom and office area, which collapsed during the November 2014 snow storm.

Colley’s rebuilds, adds rental space to replace structures storm destroyed

By Dave Lukow
HAMBURG SUN CORRESPONDENT

The comeback is almost complete at Colley’s Pools & Spas.

Located at 4953 Camp Road in Hamburg, Colley’s took a big hit during the 2014 November snow storm, which left the company’s showroom and office area shattered.

The business started in 1963 and has been at the Camp Road location since 1972. It has three locations in-state and one in Pennsylvania.

“The damage took down our showroom,” said John Kerber, the field operations manager for Colley’s. “It took down about 85 percent of it. We kept about 15 percent up. The roof basically inverted on itself. We lost quite a bit of product as well.

“It was quite the operation to move the snow out of the Hamburg area. People had their roofs collapsing.”

Despite the devastation caused by almost 7 feet of snow that came down during

the storm, Colley’s continued – to this day, continues – to serve customers.

“We operated temporarily out of trailers,” Kerber said. “We converted our warehouse into our office building. We have temporary retail in our existing office area.”

Nearly three years later, with the development of a retail center, aptly named, “Lake Effect Plaza,” Colley’s is close to establishing an even bigger presence at the site.

“We’re going to have retail space to rent, which should enhance the Hamburg experience,” said Kerber, who has been with Colley’s for five years. “We’ll have approximately four rental opportunities. Colley’s will be anchored at one end.

Work has begun to build the new showroom, reconfigure the entrances and repave the parking areas.

According to Kerber, there will be new signage up by the road and additional green space.

The new storefronts



Work has begun to build a new showroom, reconfigure the entrances and repave the parking areas. The small existing showroom will be demolished, but Colley’s will remain open this winter during the construction.

should be open by spring.

“We hope to be in by March, that’s our goal, to be in before the spring season,” Kerber said. “Our retail space is open for our customers. Some people keep their pools open late, so we’re still closing people’s pools. We’ll stay open throughout the process, but this is really the perfect time of year to get this done.”

While the road back has been rough, Kerber has found a silver lining.

“It’s been a long process, because we wanted to do it right,” he said. “I’m very upbeat. I’m very excited. It’s almost like a blessing in disguise. It caused us to make our business bigger and more efficient.”

New Hamburg Library director finds his place around books, media

By Megan Tomaszewski
HAMBURG SUN CORRESPONDENT

When Brian Hoth was a teenager, he thought he wanted to be a police officer. It wasn’t until many career moves later — none of which involved law enforcement — that he became a clerk typist at a local library and found the field he was meant for.

Stepping into the shoes left by former longtime director Jack Edson, the West Seneca native and Hamburg resident brings a wide breadth of education and experience to his new role as director of the Hamburg and Lake Shore Libraries.

In addition to an associate degree in computer science from Trocaire and a bachelor’s degree in communications from Canisius, Hoth holds his master’s in library science from the University at Buffalo and has a public library administration certificate from Long Island University.

Hoth also worked as a Buffalo branch manager and department head of Central Library, where he oversaw the operations of their bookmobile. With a solid career history under his belt, he decided three years ago to take the library director II exam, scoring between a 95 and 100 and making him a frontrunner when the position in Hamburg became available.

“I knew I wanted to be a director,” Hoth said. “And being in Hamburg, it was a great opportunity for me.”

Hoth said he wants to hit the ground running right away, utilizing \$20,000 in funding from Sen. Chris Jacobs to complete the Secret Garden outdoor reading area project at Hamburg and to install a



Michael Petro/The Hamburg Sun

Brian Hoth has taken over as the director of the Hamburg and Lake Shore libraries. He was introduced to the community Tuesday at a reception in Hamburg.

new circulation desk at Lake Shore. He also wants to create a new teen space in the Hamburg Library and tweak their current collections system.

“The biggest challenge is going to be getting everything done that I want to do,” he said.

Another area that Hoth wants to expand is community outreach, looking to collaborate with individuals and organizations like local schools to engage a wider demographic and further promote the importance of literacy, especially to younger audiences.

Hoth is optimistic about getting more youngsters reading. He said some young individuals may be disinterested in reading because they

“haven’t found the right book yet” and encourages them to identify their key interests to better increase their chances of liking a book.

It’s this initial emphasis and engagement with reading — also provided by various free story time and craft activities at the library — that can make a difference in a child’s life.

“You have to get them early on,” Hoth said.

It’s not just children that can have fun at the library. Hoth explained that the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library System offers a mobile laptop lab with corresponding cyber training classes, as well as book clubs, workshops and an ever-growing collection of e-books for adults to down-

load on devices like Kindle or iPad.

“We provide a myriad of services. It’s not just about taking books out anymore or having quiet spaces,” Hoth said. “It’s great because it’s a location where people can feel at home and welcomed.”

Hoth said the increasingly inviting atmosphere of the library is largely attributed to not only his trained staff, but the patrons.

“Especially in the village, people are very nice, friendly and sociable ... I feel like I’ve been accepted well,” he said. “I like the close-knit community.”

For more information about the Hamburg Library or any of its free community programs, call 649-4415.

Transactions Oct. 9 - 13

Real estate transactions for Hamburg and the surrounding communities for the period of Oct. 9, 2017 to Oct. 13, 2017. Information provided by the Erie County Clerk’s Office.

- ANGOLA**
 - 31 Beverly Drive, Angelo J. Gullo; Donna J. Gullo to Jason R. Hussong; Maria C. Hussong, \$187,000.
- BOSTON**
 - 7743 Back Creek Road, Christine Incorvala to Karen Malloy; Matthew Malloy, \$224,500.
- EDEN**
 - 8386 Cobblestone Court, Victor N. Farley; Michael C. Lewis to Ls88 Master Participation Trust Tr; US Bank Trust NA Tr, \$481,024.
 - 2295 New Jerusalem Road, Chad Witkowski to Joann Norman; Ronald Norman, \$189,900.
 - 7305 Sisson Hwy, Karen R. Orechwa to Adam D. Eaton; Michelle V. Eaton, \$127,000.
 - 8665 West Avenue, Christine Zakusylo to Jessica Dossier, \$100,700.
 - 8643 West Avenue, Albert Burruano; Pilgrim Properties LLC to Mary J. Puckhaber, \$71,000.
- EVANS**
 - 58 Summerdale Road, Fannie Lynn Lamparelli to Kevin M. Burns, \$287,000.
 - 612 Adams Avenue, Kevin Burns to Edward N. McCormack; Kelli M. Vachon, \$139,500.
 - 467 Gordon Avenue, Michael W. Kwietniak; Rory A. Kwietniak to Carl Rizzo, \$116,000.
 - 6914 Putnam Drive, V Demarco Enterprises Inc to Robert K. Green, \$110,000.
 - 6884 Erie Road, Matthew Albert; Joey Vs Derby Inc to 6884 Erie Road LLC, \$100,000.
 - 6542 Hamilton Drive, Patty R. Hooper to Jennifer L. Hoffman, \$85,000.
 - 218 West Pleasant Avenue, Kenneth J. Gallagher to Kimberly A. Kurek; Mark W. Raczka, \$53,000.
 - 7444 Derby Road, Brougham Reo Owner Lp to Anna Kathleen McGowan; Joseph Paul McGowan; John David Warda, \$47,579.
- HAMBURG**
 - 3027 Cloverbank Road, Fannie Mae to Bernard Lorden; Maria Lorden, \$279,900.
 - 1412 Evergreen Drive, Rmac Trust Series 2016-Ct Tr; US Bank NA Tr to Dawn A. Barnas; Paul D. Barnas Jr., \$254,000.
 - 5460 Maelou Drive, Jeffrey C. Alles to Jennifer Buckley, \$235,000.
 - 1430 Evergreen, Michael Molea; Stacy Ann Molea to Jacob G. Welsted; Stacy Welsted, \$234,000.
 - 6260 Eckhardt Rd14085, Sandra A. Eisenmann; Timothy R. Eisenmann to Gerald V. Dixon, \$232,000.
 - 4766 Lilydale Street, Deborah Critoph; Dennis L. Critoph to Jay L. Smith; Kristen E. Smith, \$195,000.
 - 3683 Harrison Avenue, Brian F. Attea; Gloria J. Retka; Richard Retka to Mooney Family Trust 021907 Tr, \$187,645.
 - 6299 Versailles Road, Angelo J. Nicotra; Nancy Nicotra to Angela T. Wiktorowski; Kristofer A. Wiktorowski, \$165,000.
 - 4260 East Frontier Drive, Jennifer Buckley; Jennifer Dabolt to Sandra A. Eisenmann; Timothy Eisenmann, \$152,000.
 - 3808-10 Big Tree Road, Russell J. Grosjean; Francis Pordum to Oak Properties of WNY LLC, \$149,900.
 - 6178 Mckinley Parkway, Elizabeth L. Hallman; John Patrick Lennon to Stanwich Mortgage Loan Trust A Tr; Wilmington Savings Fund Society Fsb Tr, \$147,082.
 - 4685 Chapman Parkway, Cheryl A. Lakeman to Patrick J. Schneider Jr., \$143,900.
 - 87 Dudley Avenue, Charles G. Olds to Sara C. Jones, \$133,000.
 - 6010 Dover Road, Elizabeth Kovacs; Erszabet Kovacs to Paul Wodzinski, \$123,000.
 - 3785 Cornell Street, Jodi A. Deangelis to Katelin Lagreca, \$119,900.
- 5505 Cooper Ridge, Pleasant Development LLC to Natale Building Corp, \$65,000.
 - 3611 Dartmouth Street, Ronald J. Carnevale to Jj Dartmouth LLC, \$63,000.
 - 4251 Arthur Court, Peter Liberator Sr Family Limited Partnership to Nvr Inc dba; Ryan Homes, \$27,000.
 - 4253 Arthur Court, Peter Liberator Sr Family Limited Partnership to Nvr Inc dba; Ryan Homes, \$27,000.
 - 4255 Arthur Court, Peter Liberator Sr Family Limited Partnership to Nvr Inc dba; Ryan Homes, \$27,000.
 - 4257 Arthur Court, Peter Liberator Sr Family Limited Partnership to Nvr Inc dba; Ryan Homes, \$27,000.
- LACKAWANNA**
 - Pt 2303 Hamburg Turnpike, Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc to Buffalo & Erie County Industrial Land Development Corporation, \$1,959,640.
 - 3280 South Park Avenue, Agape Parents Fellowship Inc to 3280 South Park LLC, \$195,000.
 - 950 Ridge Road, Michele Chapman; Richard M. Schweichler to Catherine S. Bergen, \$135,700.
 - 69 Firestone Street, Scott T. Bugala to Deborah F. Alabisi; Vincent J. Alabisi, \$110,000.
 - 106 Rosary Avenue, Francis Warthling to Francis J. Rozwood, \$106,000.
 - 174 Ludel Terrace, Jeffrey W. Gaj to Ali A. Mohammed, \$90,000.
 - 72 Modern Avenue, Kenneth J. Schultz to Renee Crabtree, \$86,500.
 - 130 Kirby, Nicholas Cyna to Discount Pharmacy LLC, \$73,000.
 - 21 Roland Avenue, Erin E. Moser to Deborah A. Yohannes; Raymond J. Yohannes, \$65,500.
 - 20 Kirby Avenue, Joseph A. Strnad to Justin B. Dibbert, \$47,000.
 - 149 Kirby Avenue, Goshen Mortgage Reo LLC to Ali Harhara, \$30,000.
- NORTH COLLINS**
 - 10014 Gowanda State Road, John Gallina; Roberta Gallina to D&m Bugenhagen Property Management Inc, \$100,000.
- ORCHARD PARK**
 - 6 Woodshire Court, Forbes Homes Inc to Celeste V. Kozerski; Gregory L. Kozerski Sr., \$697,000.
 - 95 Graystone Lane, Curt Balch; Stephanie Straka to Malik Boyd; Varinia Boyd, \$452,000.
 - 125 Alexander Way, Cynthia J. Maino; Louis R. Maino to Karl Kimle; Lauren Kimle, \$433,000.
 - 6 Lakeridge South Drive, Linda M. Smith; Peter J. Smith to Michael J. Loehfelm; Robyn E. Loehfelm, \$412,000.
 - 96 Fox Chapel Drive, Michael J. Loehfelm; Robyn E. Loehfelm to Van Note Jason R; Van Note Kelly A, \$350,000.
 - 22 Queens Place, Barbara Organisciak; William T. Organisciak to Monica L. Hondzinski; Stephen J. Hondzinski, \$302,000.
 - 57 South Lane, Van Note Jason R; Van Note Kelly A to Lindsay N. Parr; Nathaniel J. Parr, \$257,000.
 - 111 Maple Drive, John Zintz to Jason A. Johnston; Lauren J. Johnston, \$245,000.
 - 5083 Ellicott Road, Larry H. Bieler; Sharon R. Bieler to Michael T. Kowal; Nicole M. Kowal, \$180,000.
 - 39 Iroquois Drive, Allison Vegas; Allison B. Vegas; Joseph Vegas; Joseph L. Vegas to Jacqueline Milosevski, \$140,000.
 - 25 Wentworth Dr (sl 57), Pleasant Acres West LLC to Forbes Homes Inc, \$96,000.
 - Vacant land Reppien Place, Norine L. Wiese to Spencer R. Davis, \$9,000.

Memorial March helps vets throughout year

Organizers of the annual K.I.A. (Killed in Action) Memorial Road March at Chestnut Ridge Park recently recognized Erie County for its support of this effort for veterans. The latest march was held in August and drew 500 road marchers, who collected and carried 25,000 pounds of non-perishable food for veterans’ organizations.

Event founder Jason Jaskula of Hamburg said the march continues to grow.

“It is a beautiful walk in the park for a great cause and it’s one of many events we have all year round,” he said. “This support means a tremendous amount to our veterans and their families, and we encourage anyone who’d like to march with us to please join us next time.”

March participants register for a 10K walk and are encouraged to donate a minimum of 30 pounds of non-perishable food, which they can then carry in a rucksack during the event if they choose. Participants can form teams or go solo for the event. The food collected was distributed to the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 77, the Gold Star Mothers, and the Buffalo State Milligan’s Food Pantry.

“The K.I.A. Memorial Road March is a great way to support our veterans and we are honored to be a part of this mission,” said Erie County Executive Mark C. Poloncarz. “With Veteran’s Day approaching, we want to let the men and women who’ve served our country know that they are in our thoughts and prayers.”