Christmas In the Village

Notes from 9/24/26 Meeting

Event Date: December 12, 2026 – Noon – 7:00 p.m.

Next meeting: October 13, 2026 – 4 p.m. –Hamburg Pub - Hamburg, MI?

Attended Name	Organization	Email
Jason Negri, Supervisor	Hamburg Township	jnegri@hamburg.mi.us
Deby Henneman, Twp Coordinator	Hamburg Township	dhenneman@hamburg.mi.us
Nancy DeWolf	St. Stephen's Church	nancydewolf@sbcglobal.net
Duane Hoeppner	Hamburg Township	dhoeppner@hamburg.mi.us
Pat Kneeland	St. Stephen's Church	pat.kneeland@gmail.com
Rick Beaudin	PPHH Chamber	rick@pinckneypirate.com
Holly Hentz	Hamburg Library	hhentz@hamburglibrary.org
Lynn Riehl	Hamburg Library	lriehl@hamburglibrary.org
Barb Nettleton	St. Paul's Church	bnettleton52@gmail.com
Kim Gemuend	Old Antique Store Bldg.	kwgemuend@gmail.com
Denise Emery	HTHS	demery12450@gmail.com

Other Committee Members	Organization	Email
Brandy Mills	Hamburg Pub	thehamburgpub@gmail.com
Mia Powers	Powers Flowers	miaflowers@aol.com
John Salame	Village Barbershop	jcsalame@gmail.com
Steve Lindimore	Bennett's Beavers	slindi@yahoo.com
Esther Clingan	Building next to Pub	Clinganesther@gmail.com
Matt Urbanowicz (Antique Fire Truck)	Hamburg FD	murbs@hamburg.mi.us
Mike Steinaway	Hamburg Township FD	msteinaway@hamburg.mi.us
Julie Eddings, Senior Director	Hamburg Township	jeddings@hamburg.mi.us
Casey Yost	Hamburg Township FD	cyost@hamburg.mi.us
Laura Strandt	Hamburg Library	lstrandt@hamburglibrary.org
Alice Winkelman	HTHS	alw6543@gmail.com

Entertainment:

Looking for Strolling Characters/Choir – Will be dotted in during day

- Kensington Woods Schools – Julie to contact
- PCS Schools – Deby to contact
- Church groups – Requested to see if some of the choir members could come other times
- Marketeer - Kim will check with Mr. & Mrs. George Moses to see if they have interest (also for possible ads)
- Senior Pipers Group – Julie to contact

Santa & Mrs. Claus Visit

- Hamburg Historical Museum – Santa Visit
    - Timeframe to be adjusted for a time closer to end of day and tree lighting
- St. Stephen's – Storytime with Mrs. Claus (Library's Mrs. Claus)
    - Timeframe to be adjusted due to change in Santa's schedule
- St. Stephen's – Classic Storytime (Jason)
    - Timeframe to be adjusted due to change in Santa's schedule

Nativity Scene – Duane Hoeppner

    - Hamburg Historical Museum Grounds – Grassy area off parking lot
    - Animals on display starting at 5:00 p.m. – Deposit has been paid
    - Live Nativity/Story starting at 5:30 p.m.
    - Duane to borrow costumes and/manger from Brighton Assembly of God
    - Duane to check with local builder to see if we can build our own manger?

Ceremonial Lighting of the Tree by Santa (Rick B.)

- St. Stephen's
    - Proposed time – 6:00 p.m. start
    - **No generators running during this time!**
        - Pastor Blessing
        - Christmas Sing-along
        - Santa Tree lighting to start the holiday season around 6:30 p.m.
- Tree – Is it possible we can get something larger? Cost? – Powers Flowers donated in 2025
    - Can we budget for this? Can we contact Tree service/Farm to see what they can do?
    - We purchased a topper for this in 2025 – who has it? Star with strings? – St. Stephen's checking if they have it and will advise

Holiday Market:

- Use of Hamburg Grocery parking lot has been confirmed by owner
    - Tent has been reserved and contract was signed – same vendor/setup/pricing
- Food Vendors to be in the same area as the Market – Can also be in the street between barricades if we get a good response.

- **St. Paul's thinking about providing free smores 😊 Will need access to electric for this**
- **St. Stephen's will have their Holiday Market and Bake Sale again this year Noon-6 p.m.**
- Set-up 10-11:30 – Market opens at Noon and closes at 6:00 p.m.
    - Vendors must be in place and cars moved no later than 11:30 a.m.
    - Vendors may quietly break down starting at 6:00 p.m. with vendor vehicles for pick-up starting at 6:30 p.m.
    - Roads will be open after 7:00 p.m.
- **Shuttles to run between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. (or last person leaves)– same route as last time**
- **Vendor Total To Date: 3 ($95)**
- **Sponsor Commitments to Date: 7 ($4,250)**

Gingerbread Alley:

- Location to be confirmed - Deby
    - Need an electricity source – Museum and Kim from Old Antique Store have offered. Can also check with Suzanne Hines (next to Old Antique Store)
    - Possibly will need lighting – Tunnel?
- Hope to have free standing displays set up for "photo booth" options
    - Will need to replace a lot of those since they were damaged/stapled/windblown
    - It is possible we will have access to buildings nearby, owner will advise
- Will need hay bales again for Gingerbread Alley & Nativity
    - Powers Flowers supplied in 2025 – Deby will arrange for these
- **Would like to make Tomato cage trees with lights to put along the path – Library will make these**
- Get neighbors to decorate if possible – Jason and Deby to send letter to residents again. May go door to door on Stone Street
- See if Bennett's Beavers building front can be used? Can we get Antique Fire Truck this year for photos?

Live Reindeer:

- Kim mentioned Live Reindeer as something that could be fun to have during event. She will check into feasibility and costs, if any.

Arts & Crafts:

- Bennett's Beavers and Museum will work together to provide wooden cutouts for crafts
- Arts and Crafts will be handled by Museum

Powers Flowers – Deby to see if they can provide a tree this year closer to 20'

Megan Paul – Deby to contact and see if she can still help with some painted features

Deby Henneman – Will design and build Gingerbread Alley

Donations:

Xmas in the Village Donations: GL#101-000.000-674.200

Expenses:

Xmas in the Village Expenses (Old Park It! Event): GL#101-751.000-943.001

Event Website Page:

https://www.hamburg.mi.us/departments/parks_and_recreation/christmas_in_the_village.php

Facebook Event Page: https://www.facebook.com/events/2013442172633854/

Other listings:

Evvent (Argus) - https://evvnt.com/events/?_evDiscoveryPath=/event/3859418-christmas-in-the-village-village-of-hamburg-township-mi

WHMI – Submitted Ad copy to Community Calendar on 10/5/26

PPHH Chamber – Requested distribution of Sponsor/Vendor packets on 10/5/26

Freedom River – Sent Vendor and Sponsorship packets on 10/5/26

Event Schedule:

- Event Flyer on website page – finalized by end of November

Parking/Shuttle:

- $30 an hour – **Julie contacted LETS and they are scheduled**
- **Barb Nettleton to check if we can use parking again at St. Paul's**
- Overflow parking: Village Trailhead
- Road must remain clear to Hamburg Pub
- Cones must be up to give visual to pedestrians who park at trailhead – Need to order this year
- **Suggestion to put maps and schedules inside the van for guests**

Barrier Inventory:

- **Checked with Livingston County and they do not have cones or barriers available for use.**
- **What Township has on hand:**
    - **Road Barrier Inventory**
        - **6 Yellow Sandwich Board Signs**
        - **5 ADA Sandwich Boards**
        - **4 Large Barricades**
        - **5 Sidewalk Barricades**
        - **2 Tall Delineator Posts**
        - **5 Orange Barrels**
        - **3 Be Prepared To Stop Canvas Signs**
        - **20 Cones B&G**
        - **25 Cones PD**
        - **3 Large Barricades Road Closed**
        - **2 Stop For Pedestrian Crosswalk Signs**

- **We need more cones and blockades to provide a "walkway" in the street where there are no "sidewalks"**

Live Nativity:

- **Duane** Hoppner is Team Lead on this feature (look under Entertainment for details)
- Deby to reach out to Tri County to see if they would be interested in building a Nativity for us. Will give them Duane's number to work with directly. L/M 10/5/26

Food & Market Vendors

- **Deby** is Team Lead on Vendors
- **Spaces will be $25, with $10 extra for table and 2 chairs**

Festival Lights/Decorations:

We have permission to use the "alley" from new building owner. Deby to double-check with Suzanne Hines to see if there is a possibility to keep the alley through the buildings in lieu of Stone St.

- Inventory of all Holiday Decorations will be done shortly and shared – Deby & Duane
- We are taking donations of used holiday decorations

Along with Over the Road banner, I would like to look into the small banners for the light poles as well here at the township, and purchase a few for in the Village as well.

Library has offered to purchase 4 x 4 street signs for trailheads and/or Merrill corner

Church will provide Electricity and location for the Tree again.

Restrooms/Warming Stations/Vendor Tent/First Aid:

Facilities for one or the other, or both: Need to determine if these all still stand

- Hamburg Pub – **Open all hours of the event**
- St. Stephen's Church – **Open all hours of the event**
- Hamburg Museum – **Open all hours of the event**
- Portable Toilets at Village Trailhead (Parks & Recreation)
    - **PTS to advise if donating – 5 units again this year for shuttle stops**

Building & Grounds/Parks & Rec will decorate the Gazebo unless resident approaches again this year

Powers Flowers will decorate the StoryWalk like she did in 2025

Hamburg FD to help with First Aid Tent/Vehicle.

Garbage and Utilities – **Duane Team Lead**

- **Will need blue barrels for garbage**
- **Metal Barrels for heat/fires – Duane to borrow from Shalom Church**
- **Dumpster for garbage – Monroes to donate per Duane**
- **Light for evening hours only? – Duane to arrange for vendor**

Tent Vendor:

Classic Tent and Event – Brighton, MI (734) 891-2699

Letters to Santa: Library to do again

- Seniors to respond again, have already coordinated with the Library
- Alice will be sure to get the Mailbox back to the Library
- Library will have the Santa Mailbox in the lobby starting 12/1/26 and letters will be collected through our event

Signage

- Wasn't "seen" last year, need more. Library offered to order and pay for 2 signs through their vendor.
- We had banners at Pettysville Trailhead & Village Trailhead as well as the Merrill Banner which were partially donated. Funding collected didn't allow for more. Hoping we can add to our supply this year.
- Do inventory of signage and determine the shape it is in – Deby
- Order Sponsorship signs and banners – Deby
- Order Sponsorship shopping bags – Deby
- Order Banners & arrange to have put up over Merrill Rd. – Deby
- Order Parking Lot Banners - Deby

Member Requested Tasks:

Chamber - Rick Beaudin

- Chamber offered $1,500 again this year
- Rick stated we can distribute Sponsorship and Vendor letter via Chamber
- Rick will be Santa

Senior Center - Julie Eddings

- Kensington Woods Schools contact for strolling carolers
- Santa letter contact – Responses

Building & Grounds, Hamburg Township – Duane Hoeppner

- Set up Road Barriers as per LCRC Permit/Parks/Public Safety
- Maintain Garbage Cans, Fire Barrels, & Dumpster
- Tables and Chairs for vendors and eating were both under tent
    - If more vendors the food area may need to be a separate tent?
    - Perhaps we could use a nearby building for seating?
- Coordinate Live Nativity
- Decorating – may need more frames built for backdrops

Public Safety – FD & PD (Kelly liaison?)

- First Aid
- Road Blockades/Public Safety
- Antique Firetruck (or regular) to take Santa back to North Pole?
- Need to review and approve route so we can apply for permit via LCRC

Hamburg Museum

- Santa Visit
- **Bennett's Beavers Craft – to contact Bennett's Beavers to coordinate**
- Location of Live Nativity

Parks & Recreation – Deby Henneman

- Finalize Event Map with Public Safety & Supervisor – In process
  - Add St. Stephen's craft show onto the flyer
  - Confirm and add smores by St. Paul's to flyer
- Finalize all Applications, Flyers, Marketing Materials – In process
- Redo the schedule to accommodate Santa later in the day – In process
- Set up website with updated information once finalized – in process
- Distribute ½ sheet flyers and schedules to committee to pass out – Deby to print
  - Church and Hamburg Pub requested stacks
  - Pass out during Halloween event for trick-or-treaters
- Coloring Books and Crayons at services tent/info area – Deby to arrange
- Market Coordination – Day of
  - Coordinate, design, and order all sponsor swag, banner & bags
  - Social Media, Admin lead
  - Vendor contact
- **Deby securing Banner Permit, Park Use Permit, and LCRC Road Closure Permit**
- **Hamburg Township has a speaker system with microphone**

Powers Flowers – Mia?

- Big Beautiful Tree for in front of St. Stephen's – 20' possible? Cost?
- Decorations at the Village Trailhead and Story Walk

Pat Kneeland/Nancy DeWolf – St. Stephen's?

- Will have their own craft show 12-6 – Deby to add to flyer
- Will host Mrs. Claus and the Victorian Gentleman reading events
- Will be warming station and restroom during event
- Will have a Sunday service and cookies after – open to public

Brandy Mills – Hamburg Pub?

- Will offer food specials and/or be a food vendor with pizza by the slice?
- Parking available for customers only
- Will be warming station and restroom during event for customers?

Jason Negri – Supervisor

- Main point of contact for choirs
- Assist Parks and Rec for Map, Route, Blockades – approve with Public Safety
- Jason & Deby – Send out letters to Hamburg Businesses and residents to coordinate with neighborhood for tree lighting and house decorating. Advise there is an event.
- Jason to work with Duane and property owner to get Hamburg Grocery cleaned up and decorated.
- Jason to find out status of the Boy Scout cabin and what is to be done with it. – He is on it
    - Possible location for Future events?
- Oversite of CITV Budget and Cash Flow

Everyone:

- **Approach potential sponsors**
- Pass out flyers to your customers
- **Like and share our posts**
- Share the event and RSVP there even if you just respond "interested"
    - **https://www.facebook.com/events/2013442172633854/**
- **Approach potential vendors & crafters**
- **Flyers can be picked up at Township Hall – Please give me a day or two to print!**

Christmas In The Village - Event Ad Copy:

Join us for our 2nd Annual Christmas In The Village Event, in the Village of Hamburg (near Stone Street & Hamburg Rd.), on Saturday, December 12, 2026, from Noon- 7PM. Features include: Jingle Market with Gift & Food Vendors - Holiday Storytime with Mrs. Claus - Kids Crafts - Sweets & Treats - Music & Entertainment - Visits with Santa - Family Friendly Fun - Local Business Specials - Live Nativity Scene - with free admission for all!

The Jingle Market will be open from Noon - 6, with Santa closing out the festivities shortly after during our ceremonial tree lighting in front of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Letters to Santa can be dropped off at the Hamburg Library starting 12/1/26 along with the Hamburg Museum on the day of our event, so be sure to bring those wish lists! Responses from Santa will be sent for all letters collected through our event which include a return address.

If you are interested in being one of our sponsors or craft vendors, please fill out the form found on our website and send it to dhenneman@hamburg.mi.us! We will provide a heated tent for the Jingle Market Vendors and cost to participate is minimal. A final schedule of events will be posted by the end of November, and a shuttle will be provided for our guests.

More information is available on the Hamburg Township website:

https://www.hamburg.mi.us/departments/parks_and_recreation/christmas_in_the_village.php

or follow the Facebook Event here: https//www.facebook.com/events/2013442172633854

Hope to see you there!

