

# Hawk Happenings

Volume XXVIII Issue 6 November 9, 2023



## Coach Brad Valentino

Bella Byers - 11

Coach Brad Valentino believes that we will have a good fall sports season, especially because we have a good strong senior class. The Hamburg Area High School Cheer squad consists of nine senior members, which is a large number for cheerleading. Usually, there are three to four senior participants in cheerleading on average.

This is Brad's 20th year coaching at Hamburg. He has been coaching high school cheer for his entire career. He has also volunteered to coach the sports of football, basketball, and baseball at youth levels.

He has been fortunate to coach for a long period of time and has witnessed many great victories and successes for our Hamburg Area sports teams. "Regardless of the sport, my greatest memories are always the smiles on our athletes' faces when they participate in events like the Parade of Athletes, King Frost Parade, or other community events.

Our athlete's involvement with our community is truly why Hawk Nation is unrivaled."



## Stevens shares opinion on German

Bella Kenyel - 9

Mrs. Stevens has been a German teacher at Hamburg Area High School since January 1993. Mrs. Stevens then got a call from Frau Schenck that the school was in need of a German teacher. She became a German teacher because her Hamburg Area High School German teacher Mrs. Schenck persuaded Mrs. Stevens to go to college and become a teacher. Before becoming a teacher, Mrs. Stevens worked at Eve's Sandwich Shop and babysat for others. In 1991, Mrs. Stevens taught at a pre-k level. One thing that Mrs. Stevens liked was when the children were proud of themselves and when they asked for help because they wanted to try new things and do their best. One thing that she disliked was the germs from the children. Mrs. Stevens often got colds, strep throat, pink eye, and the list goes on. In Mrs. Stevens' opinion, the only thing that is different from pre-k and high school is making high schoolers enjoy themselves and make them experience new things.

Mrs. Stevens plans to travel to Germany with her junior and senior students during this summer. She is also a part of the German American Partnership Program (GAPP), which is a program where students from Germany come over to Pennsylvania to see what it is like and interact with the students at Hamburg and participate in the community. Mrs. Stevens would not be able to do these trips to Germany without the support of the GAPP program. The German exchange students are coming here during the middle or near the end of March.

One student, Jayden "Meadow" Henry, states, "I like Mrs. Stevens' class. Her class makes me happy even when I'm having a rough morning." Jayden started taking German class this school year, Jayden decided to take German class because he wanted to learn more about where his mother's side of the family came from and about his culture. Jayden also wants to confuse his significant other when speaking German to him.

Students in the German course have a good time and can make friends in different parts of the world, which is why others should sign up. For more information on German, look at the Program of Studies on the high school website under the resources tab. Then in early spring when students choose courses for next school year, sign up for German.



## Metal or Plastic bottles

Landon Poullos - 9

When it comes to water bottles, lots of people have opinions, whether it is about the safety of the environment, their preference, or sometimes it does not matter.

Metal water bottles have many benefits. They keep water cold, they are reusable, and they can be decorated with stickers. Metal water bottles could be heavy and impractical to carry around all day.

Plastic water bottles have benefits too. They are small and simple and they carry enough water for the school day. Plastic water bottles are bad for the environment though, if not disposed of properly. Classpass.com says that metal water bottles are better for the environment and more popular with younger kids.

Sophomore, Maisie Weeks for on said that she uses plastic but prefers metal. She only uses plastic if she is in a hurry in the morning.

Freshman, Hailee Regal believes that using plastic water bottles is the way to go! She uses them because they are easy to get in the morning and simple to carry around. After reviewing the survey, out of the students of HAHS metal water bottles are most used throughout the school day.



## Students choose favorite pencil

Tia Adam - 10

Whether students are writing notes, papers, or other school assignments, they tend to use pencils or pens. Two students Maddie Handwerk and Allie Houck both prefer pencils over pens.

Allie tends to lean toward mechanical pencils specifically, as they tend to be more convenient. She rather the brand BIC when it comes to mechanical pencils. Allie prefers BIC as she can get a lot more pencils for a smaller price of \$8.49 for 40 pencils rather than \$6.79 for 26 pencils. When comparing both of these prices the 40-pack sells each pencil for five cents cheaper.

Maddie also likes mechanical pencils. She likes how she does not have to get up and down all the time to sharpen a pencil if it breaks, although she does find it hard to find the exact lead she needs at times. Maddie does not have a specific brand of mechanical pencils that she likes as they mainly all work the same. Even though the pencils work the same they do not always cost the same. At Walmart, a 24-pack of Papermate pencils are \$5.24, whereas a five-pack of BIC pencils are \$5.94 which is an insane difference. Then at Target, a 50-pack of Target brand pencils are \$5.49, but then a 40-pack of BIC pencils are \$10.59. Even though some of the brands vary in price and amount they can also differ in quality, hence why prices are different.

With these two interviews it is shown that as much as students like pencils, they specifically like mechanical pencils. Mechanical pencils tend to be more convenient as users do not always have to get up and sharpen them, but the graphite can break more easily and be harder to find. As compared to wooden pencils they have stronger graphite in them so they do not break as often, but if it does break it would need a sharpener which might not always be available.



## St. Mary's hosts their annual Harvest Fest

Bethany Stuffle - 10

Every year on the first Friday and Saturday of October, St. Mary's Church in Hamburg hosts their yearly Harvest Fest. Consisting of music entertainment, games, bingo, themed basket raffles, and a special Polka Mass on Saturday. The music entertainment is provided by Flamin' Dick & The Hotrods, Golden Tones Polka, and Northkill Creek Band. In addition to musical entertainment, they also had many fun activities for kids of all ages. Every year they have tons of games including a "Kiddie Korner" for the little ones. Some of the other games consist of basketball throw, paint ball, corn hole, tic tac toe, as well as many more. They also had bungee jumping, a rock wall, and a bouncy house. More activities for the whole family were things such as a hayride and corn maze. There were also pumpkins and gourds for sale just like the previous years.

For those who enjoy learning about race cars, the Reading Fairgrounds Racing Historical Society (RFRHS) was there with their mini museum. The RFRHS is a non-profit organization based around racing. Who goes to dirt tracks to advertise and sponsor events. They provide trophies for races at Shellhammers Speedway and show off a collection of old race cars for people to look at.

Sophomores Tia Adam and Jaden Ryan both attended Harvest Fest this year as well as other years. Tia went to Harvest Fest on Friday October 6, and she thought that it was "boring and unenjoyable," mainly due to the fact that her best friend was not able to make it. She explained that her favorite part of Harvest Fest was actually the food. Although she did like putting tickets in the baskets, she unfortunately did not win. Jaden went on Saturday October 7, and he thought that the music and food was good and the maze was fun. However, he said overall it was "boring." Ultimately, it seems that Harvest Fest is better enjoyed by younger kids with a group of friends that also attend, but the adults seem to enjoy the gathering very much, with or without people they know.





## Hannah Kristiniak - 11

I am currently in 11th grade at HAHS, and I entered as a freshman into Hamburg Area High School new to the district. Before the school year began, I met with my guidance counselor to discuss courses and elective choices. I had a list of all the electives offered at HAHS with brief descriptions and publications on that list. I learned that it was a writing class, and since I enjoyed and was good at writing I thought I would enjoy the class. The other thing that interested me was the opportunity to learn how to design the yearbook and be a part of something significant to the entire school. I am so thankful for that decision and have taken publications every year since then and I plan to continue my entire high school career. I have learned so much and I noticed my



LeeAnn Mills, a senior at HAHS, joined the publications class as a junior. She wants to pursue a career in writing, therefore she wanted to take extra classes that were English related. At the time she joined publications, she was unsure what field of writing she wanted to pursue, either creative or informational. So she decided to join publications to try new things and see what she liked. LeeAnn was looking at the HAHS class handbook under the English section when she discovered publications. LeeAnn really regrets not joining publications sooner and says, "However, as a freshman during orientation I didn't pay much attention to the presenter representing publications. I remember her being flat-voiced and unenthusiastic that might have something to do with my late enrollment as well." She does not have a specific favorite part of the class. She says that every part is her favorite because she truly loves the class. The office-like environment, the perfect teacher, free-range writing, awesome assignments, and a creative space for work are some of the things that

## Congratulations Hamburg BTCB Students of the 1st Quarter!

 Caleb Atkinson	Precision / Computerized Machining Technology
 Michael Clancey	Advertising Art & Design Technology
 Cassandra Dietrich	Painting & Decorating
 Bodhi Impink	Business Management & Entrepreneurship
 Ava Kocher	Early Childhood Education Technology
 Garrett Peters	Service Occupations
 Katie Stitzel	Health Occupations III
 Elizabeth Wiebner	Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning Technology

## Hailey Quinn - 11

To watch the Apple Music interview visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rg-XIxApDLI>

## Molly Krick - 10

According to the HASD home page, “Students are also encouraged to participate in the 29 clubs and 25 athletic teams and numerous musical programs and performance groups that make up the extra-curricular and co-curricular program. The clubs and athletics provide students with outstanding opportunities to apply their formal education, develop life-long leadership skills, and provide a service to the community.”

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