Stroll down memory lane

There were fond memories for members of Hamburg High School’s Class of 2022 in May as they took a stroll through the Hamburg elementary school that they attended, followed by a stop at the Middle School. At Charlotte Avenue Elementary, ukele music welcomed the seniors and the halls were lined with students, and current and former staff members, who extended best wishes. The seniors also opened letters they wrote to themselves as fifth graders, for a perfect confluence of past, present and future.

Jordan Ditkowski checked out her mark from the past.

Current Charlotte students looked up to their older siblings. From left: Gabriella Bottoms with Emelia Bottoms and Ella Yeager with Reid Catanzaro.

Friendship endures for, from left, Angelo Walker, Jacob Donner and Evan Ernst.

TOP 10

Jenna Jablonski
Valedictorian

Parents: John & Katherine Jablonski
College plans: William & Mary
Major: Molecular biology
Activities: Varsity soccer, Character Club, Latin Honor Society, National Honor Society

Most rewarding high school experience: Running the Thanksgiving Drive every year
Career plans: Pharmacologist

Clara Forehand
Salutatorian

Parents: Scott & Lisa Forehand
College plans: University of Georgia
Major: Mechanical engineering
Activities: National Honor Society, Academy of Finance, Key Club, French Honor Society, Character Club

Most rewarding high school experience: Character Club’s Thanksgiving Drive and Concert Chorale’s trip to New York City
Career plans: Law school

Top 10 continued on page two
Alyssa Riter
Parents: Dave & Jayme Riter
College plans: University of Notre Dame
Major: Computer science
Activities: Dance, Junior & Senior Class treasurer, National Honor Society vice president, Academy of Finance, Model United Nations, Character Club, tutor

Most rewarding high school experience: Character Club’s Thanksgiving Food Drive
Career plans: Computer engineer who creates technology that aids in advancing the medical field

Quinn Heine
Parents: Bruce & Kelly Heine
College plans: University of Michigan
Major: Biomedical engineering
Activities: Varsity cheerleading, National Honor Society, Spanish Honors Society/Club, unified basketball, Challenger League Baseball volunteer

Most rewarding high school experience: Winning cheerleading sectionals for the first time as a senior
Career plans: Undecided

Alexander Smith
Parents: Steven & Karen Smith
College plans: Michigan State University
Major: Mechanical engineering
Activities: Varsity soccer (4 years), captain (2 years); varsity swimming (2 years), participated in state championship; varsity outdoor track (3 years); varsity indoor track (1 year); Academy of Finance; Unified Basketball Team; Bulldog Dash participant

Most rewarding high school experience: Representing Hamburg in sports; playing alongside teammates on Unified Basketball Team; helping classmates with special challenges have success and fun
Career plans: Engineer for space exploration company

Lyndsay Cyrek
Parents: Joseph & Lori Cyrek
College plans: SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry
Major: Environmental resources engineering
Activities: Field hockey, AP Calculus BC, Character Club

Most rewarding high school experience: Field hockey, Character Club’s Thanksgiving Food Drive
Career plans: Engineer and participate in research

Chika Simon
Parents: Bruce & Kuniko Simon
College plans: Wesleyan University
Major: Classical studies
Activities: Writers’ Guild, Latin Club

Most rewarding high school experience: Playing on varsity golf team
Career plans: Undecided

Josef Dunlap
Parents: William Dunlap & Jennifer Noble
College plans: New York University
Major: Computer science
Activities: Student Tech Support Team, “Purple Underground” (school newspaper), Academy of Finance

Most rewarding high school experience: Starting AI Team, the school student tech support team
Career plans: Software developer

Maze Drum
Parents: Sara Piper & Jeremy Allen; Jesse & Laurel Drum
College plans: SUNY Fredonia
Major: Music composition
Activities: Concert Chorale, Chamber Choir, Symphony Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble, Writers’ Guild, Drama Club, GSA, Civic Engagement Club, musicals

Most rewarding high school experience: Playing Eddie McCuen in this year’s Drama Club production of “The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940”
Career plans: Obtain Ph.D. in music composition; write scores for films and conduct orchestras

Lila Ruff
Parents: Eric & Tonya Ruff
College plans: University at Buffalo (Honors College)
Major: Biomedical engineering
Activities: French Club and Société Honoraire de Français (treasurer), Health Science Academy, National Honor Society, Varsity H Club, Science Olympiad, varsity field hockey, varsity flag football

Most rewarding high school experience: Lille Exchange Program in France
Career plans: Research & development biomedical engineer
LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Agnes H. & Elbert Hargesheimer Jr. Memorial Scholarship
Grace Baumgartner

Country Porcelain Artists Scholarship
Carly Glashauser

Brian Scholl AIDS Awareness Memorial Scholarship
Madison Martin

Hamburg Alumni Foundation & Wall of Fame Scholarship
Derek Moelbert, George Rodis & Caleb Lafko with presenter Kevin Tilley. Absent: Evan Chaffee

Amos J. & Leigh Hunt Minkel Student Award
Alex Smith & Clara Forehand

Anna Kowalska Bley Music Award
Gunnar Nowicki & Lillian Hoffman

Andrea R. McFall Memorial Scholarship
Alexa Steffen, Kathryn O’Brien & Leah Jarzynski with presenter John McFall

David A. Hoffner Memorial Scholarship
Ella Melcher

Character Education Scholarship
Ella Ballowe, Sarah Tanski, Molly Connolly, Lyndsay Cyrek & Jenna Jablonski
Boston Lions Club Scholarship
Hannah Neudeck, Grace Baumgartner, Brianna Reese & Jenna Crowley with presenters Betty & Vito Czyz

Bronson M. Collins Scholarship
William Budney with presenter Jim Harrigan

Russell Villarini Memorial Engineering Scholarship
Lila Ruff with presenters from the Villarini family

Cristin Ann Bambino Memorial Scholarship
Sienna Nowicki

David Brinkerhoff Memorial Scholarship
Michael Nolan with presenters Karen Howard & Michael Brinkerhoff

Terrence C. Mack Scholarship
Bryce Clark with presenters from the Mack family. Absent: Jonathan Oswald
LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Conor J. Long Memorial Scholarship
Sienna Nowicki, Antone Michael Sperry & Jane McGowan with presents from the Long family. Absent: Evan Chaffee

David Stephans Jr. Memorial Music Scholarship
Mia Sorgi & Emelia Bottoms with presenter Timothy Thompson

Fisher Bus Scholarship
Alexa Steffen with presenters Lindsey Nyitrai & Angela Coughlin

Friends of Mark Colmerauer Scholarship
Kai Severson with presenters Joanne Warren & Brian Colmerauer

Frieda W. Waugh Memorial Student Award
Griffin Nunn & Leah Iwanitzki

Hamburg Central PTSA Scholarship
Jordan Dikowski, Kai Severson & Derek Moelbert with presenter Amy Forrest
Hamburg Academy of Finance Advisory Board Scholarship
Brooke Zimmer, Gunnar Nowicki, Alyssa Riter, Liam Riter, Kerith McGarry

Hamburg Administrative Council Scholarship
Daniella Merlino & Robert Weissflach

Town of Hamburg Lions Club Charles Thompson/Lee Benz Memorial Scholarship
Leah Jarzynski, Elizabeth O’Brien & Mya Teijeira with presenter Fred Wengert

Hamburg Class of 1970 Scholarship
Kelsey McCartney, Sienna Nowicki, Matthew Diamond & Mya Teijeira with presenters from the Class of 1970

Hamburg Music Festival Scholarship in Memory of Evan Granville
Gunnar Nowicki, Matt Andrew, Jordan Ditkowski, Kerith McGarry, Adeline Ford & Lillian Hoffman
LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Hamburg Central Maintenance Scholarship
Nathan Morabito
Absent: Cameron Hernandez

Hamburg Historical Society Scholarship
Ashley Hansen

New York State Scholarship for Academic Excellence
Seated: Chika Simon, Lyndsay Cyrek, Quinn Heine, Alexander Smith
Standing: Maze Drum, Jenna Jablonski, Clara Forehand, Alyssa Riter

Town of Hamburg Lions Club Incentive Awards
Sabrina Clancy & Josef Dunlap with presenter
Fred Wengert. Absent: Cameron Hernandez

Hamburg Garden Club Scholarship
Ingrid Siudzinski with presenters
Jean Errington & Donna Griffey

Hamburg Oktoberfest Community Leaders Scholarship
Jack Skora & Jenna Jablonski

HTA Marcella Fugle Memorial Scholarship
Derek Moelbert & Brianna Reese
with presenters Jodi Follett & Sandy Wittmeyer. Absent: Evan Chaffee & Emma Fiebelkorn
LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Town of Hamburg Lions Club
James L. Haley YES Scholarship
Jack Skora with presenter Fred Wengert

Hamburg Sunrise Rotary Scholarship
Mya Teijeira

High School Student Government Scholarships in Memory of Colleen Brunner
Brooke Zimmer & Ella Melcher

Hamburg Track Scholarship
Alexander Smith & Lauren Beres

James R. Owen Scholar Athlete Cross Country Award
Liam Bonner & Courtney Schaeffer

Karen Farrell Memorial Scholarship
Ingrid Siudzinski & presenter Julie LoTempio

Lois Koss Memorial Scholarship
Ayden Link

James Yoviene Memorial Scholarship
Olivia Rashkin & presenter David Yoviene

Maurice G. Bley Drama Award
Mia Sorgi & Maze Drum

Matthew Adler Memorial Scholarship
Chika Simon & presenter Tom McGowan
LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Parent Child Connection Scholarship
Quinn Heine
with presenter David Yoviene

Steven T. Webb Memorial Scholarship
Matthew Andrew

Mark Prockton Memorial Scholarship
Liam Bonner

Montgomery Family Foundation STEM Scholarship
Alyssa Riter

Ravel Scholarship
Grace Cole
Absent: Benjamin Kisker

Meridia Credit Union Scholarship
Jack Skora & Kathryn O'Brien
Absent: Evan Chaffee

Skingley Memorial Scholarship
Gunnar Nowicki

Shelley Jones Memorial Scholarship
Delaney O'Brien

Southern Erie County Counselors Assn. Scholarship
Carrie Suprenant

Rotary Club of Hamburg Scholarship
Elia Ballowe
with presenter Maria Guizzotti
Having proven their leadership in more than six months in their respective interim roles, two Hamburg High School administrators this month received permanent appointment to their posts.

John Crangle was named High School Principal and Rose Kowalski, Assistant Principal, solidifying the administrative team that has been in place in an interim capacity since Principal Michael Gallagher retired last December.

“In the six months that they have served in their respective roles, Mr. Crangle and Mrs. Kowalski have provided leadership to Hamburg High School that can only be described as outstanding,” said Superintendent Michael Cornell. “As a result, they have earned the trust and confidence of the staff, students, parents, their fellow administrators, and importantly, the Board of Education.”

Mr. Crangle joined the district in 2006 as a social studies teacher at the High School. He later served as an Assistant Principal at the Middle School, then the High School.

Mrs. Kowalski was a teacher with Hamburg Central since 2016, most recently at Armor Elementary, and for a second year is serving as Principal of Hamburg Connects, the district’s summer learning program. She also completed administrative leadership internships while with the district.

Rounding out the High School’s administrative team is Assistant Principal Michael Tylock.
**Director's Key (Outstanding Senior)**: Evan Chaffee, Madelyn Har- rison, Riley Divine, Sophia Olivier, Ella Yeager, Liam Bonner, Courtney Schaeffer, Sean Snyder, Alexandria Stoddard, Kathryn O’Brien, Devin Collins, Jack Luba, Mekena Hruby, Ryan Steiner, Jack Skora, Charlie Hunter, Brady Reinagel, Jenna Jablonski, Jenna Crowley, Benjamin Kisker, Jessica Humby, Sophia Weissflach, Aidan Tanevski, Lauren Beres, Griffin Nunn, Matthew Diamond, Dylan Collins


**Varsity H Club (Leadership)**: Nolan Smith, Ryan Gomolka, Lauren Beres, Emmett Simonsen, Kaylee Mis-...
BOLDLY GOING BALD — There was plenty of head shaving, beard trimming and hair braiding when Hamburg High School Student Government hosted Bald for Bucks in May to raise funds for cancer research and patient care programs at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center. This year’s event raised $5,221, bringing Hamburg’s 10-year total to more than $148,675.

NYS PTA lauds C. Ditkowski for service to children

Candace “Candy” Ditkowski, long active in the Hamburg Central PTSA, received a New York State PTA Honorary Life Membership Award in May. This award is given to individuals whose contributions have improved the welfare of children and youth with far-reaching impact.

Mrs. Ditkowski said she has particularly enjoyed being a voice for children and the legislative advocacy in which she’s been involved at the local, state and federal levels. This included pressing for e-cigarettes to be included in the New York State Indoor Clean Air Act.

While serving with Hamburg PTSA, Mrs. Ditkowski chaired multiple events that engaged families; led the School of Excellence committee at both the elementary and middle school level to fortify the partnership between parents and school administrators; and served as the unit’s Membership Chair, Treasurer, Vice President and President.

Her outreach moved to the state level when she was named as the Literacy Chair for NYS PTA, where she supported the implementation of programs to develop reading and writing skills in students.

She served Western New York by joining the Western Region PTA board as the Education Chair and then Advocacy Chair (to meet with legislators on issues specific to children, families and schools). PTA members across the five-county area of Western Region PTA elected her to serve as a Regional PTA Associate Director, before she was appointed by NYS PTA to lead the region as its Region Director from 2018-2021. During this time, Mrs. Ditkowski led more than 75 PTA units and 3 PTA councils through the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring schools maintained family engagement, high educational standards and open communications. After serving as Western Region PTA Director, she was appointed Field Support Coordinator for NYS PTA, where she oversaw three regions of PTA in the state.

Said Sarah Ruth of Western Region PTA when she presented Mrs. Ditkowski with the award, “While that might be quite the list, I can tell you with certainty, it barely scratches the surface of the roles Candy has played to uplift children and our families. Sometimes there aren’t enough words to recognize someone for all they do or how much of themselves they give for the betterment of their community.”

In honor of the award, Western Region PTA made a donation in Mrs. Ditkowski’s name to The Jenkins Memorial Scholarship for Teacher Education, a program to support college students pursuing educational careers.
Congratulations to our 2021-22 retirees

Thank you for your many years of dedicated service

Bethann Cheney ..........Armor Elementary ........................................... senior clerk typist .................. 33 yrs.
Michele Darstein ........Administration Building .................................... community relations coordinator .... 24 yrs.
Michael Edwards ..........High School .................................................... art teacher ................................. 24 yrs.
Linda Fox .....................Armor Elementary ...................................... cleaner ....................................... 28 yrs.
Michael Gallagher ......High School .................................................... principal ...................................... 21 yrs.
Ania Gibbon .............Union Pleasant Elementary .................... teacher aide ................................ 17 yrs.
Debra Hohl .............Administration Building/Registrar ............ clerk typist .................................... 20 yrs.
Mary Huen ................High School .................................................... math teacher .................................. 30 yrs.
Marilyn Knoll ..............Middle School ................................................ teacher aide .................................. 34 yrs.
Susan Kruszynski .........Middle School ................................................ nurse .......................................... 23 yrs.
Kathleen Philipps ..........Union Pleasant Elementary .................... cook manager ................................ 22 yrs.
Edith Roll ..................Boston Valley Elementary ......................... custodian ....................................... 35 yrs.
Janet Stephan .............Union Pleasant Elementary/Tech Office .... senior clerk typist .......................... 21 yrs.
Tracy Tone ................Union Pleasant Elementary .................... special ed. teacher ................................ 24 yrs.
Deborah Willis ..........High School .................................................... computer aide ................................ 31 yrs.
Rhonda Willcox ..........High School .................................................... food service helper ................. 7 yrs.
Sharon Zaccarine ..........Union Pleasant Elementary .................... cleaner ....................................... 29 yrs.

The district honored its retirees at a reception in June. Celebrating, in the photo at left, from left: Linda Fox, Edith Roll and Sharon Zaccarine. At right, Debra Hohl was joined by grandchildren MaKenna and James Skeels.

Raindrops for rainbow crops at Union Pleasant Elementary

Union Pleasant Elementary School was first place winner in a recent rain barrel painting contest sponsored by the Erie County Department of Environment & Planning. Fourth graders decorated their entry with kawaii vegetables to illustrate that raindrops make rainbow crops.
**Wall of Fame event returns; 2022 Inductees announced**

The Hamburg Alumni Foundation’s Wall of Fame event returns in 2022 after a two-year hiatus due to COVID. The dinner and induction ceremony will be held on Saturday, Oct. 1, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Michael’s Banquets and Catering on Southwestern Boulevard in Hamburg. The Wall of Fame Committee is pleased to announce this year’s honorees:

**Distinguished Alumni:** Rudy Arendt, Class of ‘60  
Phil Grigsby, Class of ‘65  
Tom Zabieliski (“Tommy Z”), Class of ‘89

**Distinguished Educators:** Evelyn Morgan  
Dick Kosha  
Diane Hanitz  
Erma Meisenheimer

**Sports Legends:** Dale Boelke, Class of ‘66  
Steve Shiffler, Class of ‘72  
Ian Margerum, Class of ‘05  
Katie Medina, Class of ‘08  
Nicole Shea, Class of ‘08  
Amanda Obenshain, Class of ‘12

**Team of Distinction:** 1974 Boy’s Championship Soccer Team

The community is invited to an evening of nostalgia and recognition as athletes, teachers and distinguished alumni are honored. Tickets go on sale Aug. 1. See the Foundation website at [www.hamburgalumnifoundation.com](http://www.hamburgalumnifoundation.com) for additional event and ticket information or to nominate future inductees.

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**SUPERINTEDENT HONOREES —**

Hamburg High School’s Top 3 academic seniors were honored by the Erie-Niagara School Superintendents Association in May. They were among more than 200 students recognized from 81 high schools in Western New York. From left: Superintendent Michael Cornell, Jenna Jablonski, Alyssa Riter and Clara Forehand, School Board President Thomas Flynn and High School Principal John Crangle.

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**BATTLE OF BOOKS —** Twelve schools went head-to-head when Hamburg Middle School hosted the Battle of the Books final in May, a competition where teams that have read the same five titles answer questions to determine who remembers the most details from those books. The Middle School’s Musical Mayhem team, from left, Tessa Reinagel, Kennedy Calvert, Soleil Marcinelli and Charlie Dzubella, clinched second place, a mere one point away from winner Casey Middle School.

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**Health Science Academy students lead second graders in microbe study**

Microbes were the focus as Hamburg High School Health Science Academy students led a lesson for Union Pleasant Elementary second graders in May. Guided by their older peers, the youngsters swabbed surfaces and plated samples in petri dishes. They completed a lab report on the colonies’ growth a week later, documenting their observations and drawing conclusions on their hypotheses.

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**The Focus / Page 14 / Summer 2022/ Inspiring Today. Empowering Tomorrow**
Coming Summer 2022...

Bulldog Pride Entrance!

Show your Bulldogs Pride by becoming a sponsor and leave your MARK on the wall for years to come!

The Bulldog Pride Wall will welcome visitors who enter through the gymnasium doors by displaying images of all types of groups and activities that happen within the halls of Hamburg High School - classroom learning, clubs, the arts, and athletics throughout the years.

Honoring our Past, Celebrating our Present, Inspiring our Future!

*The above images are a draft and not the final project.*
Bulldog Pride Wall
at the Hamburg High School Gymnasium Entrance
Become a Sponsor!
Recognize your family, club, team, group, class year, business, or activity.

- A sponsorship cost is $100.
- It includes ONE name, business, group, club, team, school based activity, or class year.
  Ex: The Smith Family, Shrek the Musical '22, AOF Class of 2022, Varsity Golf '21, Ted & Ed Wright '92 '94
  (Limit to 40 characters and spaces: the & symbol may be used for "and". Committee may contact you if editing is needed).
- A wall wrap will be applied directly to the existing wall, tiles, and doors. Sponsorships will be printed directly on the wall wrap.
- All proceeds will go to Hamburg Bulldogs Booster Club sponsorship of project.

SPONSORSHIP ORDER
MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 29, 2022

Credit Card Orders: Online at www.bulldogsbooster.com

Check Orders: Made out to Hamburg Bulldogs Booster Club and mailed to:
Hamburg Bulldogs Booster Club PO Box 87 Hamburg NY 14075

Name:___________________________________________ Email & Phone:___________________________________________
Address:___________________________________________ City/State/Zip___________________________________________

Please PRINT sponsorship name in boxes below as you would like it to appear on Pride wall.
(Limit to 40 characters and spaces: the & symbol may be used for "and". Committee may contact you if editing is needed)