



Seneca East Class of 2025  
Graduation Pictures  
A6 and A7



Attica-Bellevue-Bloomville-Republic Local News



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May 16th - National BBQ Day

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2025 Memorial Day Grand Marshall and Program

**Submitted by Nancy King**

American Legion Victory Post 260 Commander, Jim Schumacher, has announced that local United States Army veteran and Legion member, David Hawblitz, has been selected as the 2025 Attica Memorial Day Parade Grand Marshall. David was born in Pontiac, Michigan, to Harry and Betty Hawblitz and was raised on a farm west of Attica with his three siblings, Peter, Jerry, and Martha. Dave graduated from Attica High School in 1959. After high school Dave enlisted in the US Army on September 10th and was assigned to Fort Knox, Kentucky, for Basic Training. Because Ft. Knox was full, he and his fellow enlistees were put on a train to Fort Hood, Texas for their training. Following Basic Training, Dave was flown to Fort Devens, Massachusetts, for testing and his school assignment. There he joined the Army Security Agency (ASA) and was sent to Fort Gordon, Georgia for advanced training. In April 1960, after completing his ASA schooling, Dave was driven to Fort Dix, New Jersey by his family where he boarded a troop ship for a "beautiful" nine-day cruise (troop class) to Germany. After arriving in Frankfurt, Germany, Dave was assigned to the 279th Detachment in Rothwesten Kaserne (barracks), Kassel, Germany, for one year. While much of Dave's job was classified some details have now been released by the military. In 1960, the Army Security Agency (ASA) in Germany focused on intelligence gathering and communications security. The 279th ASA Detachment was later redesignated as the 77th United States Army Security Agency Special Operations Unit (SOU) in June 1961. This ASA (SOU) unit served in West Germany, separated by approximately 3 miles behind Russia's Iron Curtain (a hard border controlled by the Russian Military) separating 1/2 of Germany and all of the Eastern European countries from the free, independent countries of Western Europe. These ASA Special Ops, operated under a variety of security covers from a number of monitoring sites scattered across West Germany from the end of WWII until November 1989 when the infamous Berlin Wall that went up in 1961 came down. In 1961 Dave was moved to Offenbach Kaserne in Offenbach am Main, Germany, where he stayed until late 1964. He received Good Conduct Medals and the Overseas Ribbon. During these years Dave met and married Heidi, and their two children, Denise and Bob, were born. The troops spent time at the Kaserne (barracks) mostly during winter. During spring to fall they were at sites on the east/west border from the Baltic Sea to southern Germany. They lived and ate economically staying in hotels or private homes. When Dave had to be away on assignment, Heidi stayed with her family in Offenbach, and he would visit as often as possible. In the late summer of 1964, the 77th SOU was dissolved, and Dave was reassigned back to the US. On October 18, 1964, Dave and Heidi, now a family of four, took another beautiful cruise on a troop ship, only this time, cabin class.

**See Grand Marshall on B4**

**David Hawblitz**

Are you Ready  
for Some BBQ

National Barbecue Day is celebrated annually on May 16th in the United States. It is a day dedicated to the art and enjoyment of barbecue, a cooking method that involves slow-cooking meat over indirect heat, often with the addition of flavorful smoke. Barbecue holds a special place in American culinary traditions, with regional styles and techniques that vary widely across the country.

**History and Origins**

While the exact origins of National Barbecue Day are unclear, the tradition of barbecue itself dates back centuries. Indigenous peoples in the Caribbean and the southeastern United States practiced early forms of slow-cooking meat over open flames. Over time, barbecue evolved into a beloved American pastime, particularly in the South. National Barbecue Day was established to honor this rich culinary heritage and to encourage people to gather and enjoy barbecue together.

**See BBQ on B6**

14 Questions with BHS Valedictorian

**By Phil Wheeler, Staff Reporter**

Being named Valedictorian is the highest honor you can achieve academically in high school. The Valedictorian should not only display the highest level of academic achievement but should also exhibit the highest levels of character and behavior. Here are 14 questions with the Bellevue H.S. 2025 Valedictorian, Senior Maisyn (pronounced "May-sin") Groves.

**Q1: How does it feel to be a Valedictorian?**

"It is recognition for all of the hard work I've had to put in for these last five years. I started taking High School courses in eighth grade, so it's definitely nice to get that reassurance that all of the hard work I have done has definitely meant something."

**Q2: From Bellevue High School, who do you believe impacted you the most?**

"I would have to say Mr. Meadows and Mr. Strayer. They're two teachers in the music department, and I have been grateful to have been taught by them for the last four years."

**Q3: What are your plans for after high school?**

"I have been accepted to Main Campus Ohio State, so I definitely plan on going there. I plan to study biochemistry in hopes of becoming a pediatric anesthesiologist. (Basically, what they do is administer pain meds and medications so the patient can stay asleep, and monitor conditions throughout the surgery.)"

**Q4: What extracurricular activities were you involved in at Bellevue High School?**

"Jazz Band, pep band, wind ensemble, symphonic band. The National Honor Society, the FCCLA (a student leadership organization - It's like the FFA without the agriculture)."

**Q5: What was the most rewarding volunteer**

*opportunity you did?*

"Honestly, I don't think there's necessarily been a reward to any of the volunteer opportunities, except knowing that I've helped improve my community and helped out when people needed it. I wouldn't say I necessarily got any rewards, except just the satisfaction of knowing that I was helping people. I definitely did the most time [at The Hub]. I kept track of all of the times and what articles needed to get put in what date, so I set up every single calendar for 2025 for the paper - that was all my junior year."

**Q6: Who/what motivated you the most in school?**

"Obviously, all my teachers, they have definitely pushed me and provided me with helpful environments and situations, opportunities like District Two honors band, or applying for different scholarships. But I kind of derived my motivation of just wanting to be the best I could absolutely be. Something I kind of live by is I have to do it because nobody else is gonna do it for me. If I don't try and do well in school nobody else is gonna do my work for me. It's what motivated me to keep going and stay strong."

**See Valedictorian on B8**

**Maisyn Groves**

**Obituaries**

James A. Kuhn, 97, Attica