

Together on Fridley One Last Time: Class of 2025

by Lainy Carslaw

Hampton High School's Class of 2025 graduates took advantage of a small window of sunshine and held their graduation on Fridley Field on Thursday, May 29th.

Aiden Hanna, the Senior Class President, began the program with opening remarks, touting the many accomplishments of the 2025 class, including in academics, athletics, and the arts.

There were common themes through-

out the evening, one being that this was an extraordinarily small class with only 187 students. This was first mentioned by Ella Acquafondata in her speech, "Strength in Small Numbers" and later echoed by Dr. Imbarlina. Senior Gabriella Spinola offered a reflective message about "the beauty in silence and enjoying the wait."

Superintendent, Dr. Michael Loughead, acknowledged the recent storm that im-

pacted the region and how the community worked together to get things back up and running. He also compared the class's journey through loss and Covid to a bike trip he once took from Pittsburgh to D.C.

Lastly, School Board Vice President, Matt Jarrell spoke, sharing heartfelt words from a personal lens- his son, Griffin was among the graduates.

(Continued on page 3)

Madia Photography



From the lunch table to the real world—Some of Hampton's finest are out: Jake Killian, Charlie Bacasa, Josh Dunmire, Dominic Jordan, Aiden Hanna, Ty Schmitt, Ray Kirsopp, Dylan Eichas, Griffin Jarrell, Josh Carr, Porter Kelly, Zach Williams, Cayden Frank, & Justin Dubee

She Made It

by Laurie Rizzo

Hampton's own Lorraine Hudock, who was recently featured in *The Hampton News* and *Hampton Magazine* as she prepared for her solo adventure to Alaska, has just reached Sign Post Forest in Watson Lake, Yukon. This unique landmark, featuring over 90,000 traveler-made signs, now holds her personal addition, marking her incredible journey.

Lorraine, a seasoned traveler with an eye for

(Continued on page 15)

Student Fulfills Her Dream with a Memorable Ride

by Laurie Rizzo

On the final day of school at Central Elementary, Hampton Township's Taylor Kelly trotted into summer with a memory that will last a lifetime—thanks to her beloved pony, Peyton Patchwork.

Since third grade, Taylor had one big wish: to be picked up from school on her

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Police Information

The Hampton Township Police Department (HTPD) is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of our residents and guests by providing the very best in law enforcement services. Thank you to the staff for helping to keep our community safe.

A summary of noteworthy incidents that occurred are listed below. These incident statistics included, but WERE NOT LIMITED TO, the following between the dates of 5/15/2025—6/8/2025:

Road Hazard

On June 12, 2025, HTP were dispatched to the areas of Route 8 and Craighead Rd. for a tree down said to be blocking the southbound lanes of Route 8.

Upon arrival, officers did observe the tree to be blocking both lanes of travel for Route 8 southbound. Officers were able to remove part of the tree, so the southbound left lane of Route 8 was passable. PENNDOT was notified and arrived a short time later, removing the tree without issue.

DUI Arrest

On June 8, 2025, HTP units were dispatched to the area near Starbucks (4655 William Flinn Highway) for a possible intoxicated driver. There was a total of three different complainants who contacted 9-1-1 regarding this driver. Upon arrival, officers observed a vehicle in the left southbound turning lane of William Flinn Highway and Wildwood Road. The male in the driver seat was slumped over and not alert. The driver was asked if he needed medical attention, which he denied.

Due to the totality of the circumstances listed, in addition to Field Sobriety Testing a Drug Influence Evaluation was conducted by an IACP/NHSTA certified Drug Recognition Expert. Following the testing the driver was subsequently placed under arrest for suspicion of DUI.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

As *The Hampton News* continues its mission to bring you informative and engaging stories, we welcome your feedback, ideas, and submissions. Your voice helps keep our community connected, and we always love hearing from you!

The deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month, so be sure to send in your stories, announcements, and insights.

We also encourage you to support this month's advertisers, whose contributions make this publication possible. And most importantly, remember to support local businesses—they are the heart of our community!

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Two Vehicle Accident

On 6/2/25, HTP were dispatched to the area of Route 8 and Vernon Drive for a report of a motor vehicle accident involving a motorcycle with reported injuries. Hampton Fire and EMS were also dispatched. Shaler Hampton EMS transported one patient.

On 6/5/2025, while on patrol, a Hampton officer observed two wrecked vehicles on Route 8 by South Pioneer Road. Fire and EMS were requested. One person was transported to the hospital and two vehicles were towed from the scene.

Solicitation Permit

Representatives for CNS Construction will be canvassing the township for the next few weeks. Sales representatives have been provided with the non-solicitation list for residents who have requested not to be contacted by door-to-door solicitors. Each sales representative must have their ID clearly displayed so the homeowner can see their permit. If any resident experiences any issues with solicitors, they are advised to contact the Hampton Police Department.

Representatives for Fox Pest Control will be canvassing the township for the next few weeks. Sales representatives have been provided with the non-solicitation list for residents who have requested not to be contacted by door-to-door solicitors. Each Fox Pest Control sales representative must have their ID clearly displayed so the homeowner can see their permit. If any resident experiences any issues with solicitors, they are advised to contact the Hampton Police Department.

(Continued on page 14)

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Class of 2025

(Continued from page 1)

Following the commencement speeches, Dr. Imbarlina began the presentation of diplomas beginning with all 32 students who graduated with Summa Cum Laude honors.

In a somber moment, she honored the memory of two absent classmates: Cam Howard who passed away in 2023 from Progeria Syndrome, and Connor Michalek, who passed in 2014 after battling cancer. Many students wore bracelets in their memory. "They were on all of our minds," said senior Alita Leone. "It's so sad they aren't here but we will never forget them."

The class of 2025 leaves a legacy of kindness, strength, and compassion—187 bright futures ready to take on the world.



Top left: Aiden Hanna, top right: Matt Jarrell, Griffin Jarrell, Dr. Michael Loughead
bottom left: Ella Acquafondata, bottom right: Gabriella Spinola.

More photos at www.thehamptonnews.com and on page 13

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Library News



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Hampton Community Library: Summer Reading Program:

Color Our World! Now through Saturday, August 9, 2025. Get ready to paint the town RED (and every other color of the rainbow) with books, events, and fun! Whether you love audiobooks, ebooks, magazines, or good old-fashioned page-turners, there's something for everyone. Just grab your library card and join the fun!

Children (Birth-12) Sign up in-person and get a swag bag and start earning raffle tickets for reading. Weekly visits=more tickets=more chances to win!

Teens and Adults (13+) Join the reading challenge, earn tickets by reading and win prizes-it's that simple!

Please note: There will be no Children's Programs July 28th thru August 2nd!

Check Mate! A Summer Chess Club!

Mondays through July 28th 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Thursdays through July 31st 5:30 p.m. -7:00 p.m.

Learn and play with Ben Lin, a US Chess Candidate Master and 2024 PA K-8 Champion! All skill levels welcome. Ages 5-12.

Chess 101 with Luke Martin

Saturdays: August 2nd, 9th and 16th 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Luke Martin, a seasoned Queen's Gambit lead youth instructor,

will be teaching this program. Perfect for beginners! Enjoy the interactive lessons and practice games. Ages 5-12. Registration appreciated.

Color Our World with Stories!

Tuesdays, Now through August 12th @ 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Thursdays, Now through August 14th @ 10:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m.

This short, sweet story time will get your summer days started off with exciting stories, favorite songs, cheerful puppets and a bubble dance party! Stay and play after. Geared to ages 3+ but all are welcome! Please note, this will be the same storytime each day.

Artastic: Art for Everyone!

Fridays through July 25th 10:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.

Drop-in and create crafts for our pop-up shop. Proceeds benefit NHCO and Animal Friends! Projects may include pet toys, friendship bracelets, beading, garden decor and more! (Ages 8+)

Dungeon and Dragons Night!

Wednesday, July 9th 5:30 p.m. -7:00 p.m.

Join our teen Dungeon Masters for a one-shot adventure.

Ages 11-17. (Adult caregivers may play alongside if space allows). Bring your own character or use one of ours.

Family Game Night at the Library!

Tuesdays through August 12th @ 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Bring your favorite games or play ours-fun for all ages!

No registration required.

(Continued on page 9)



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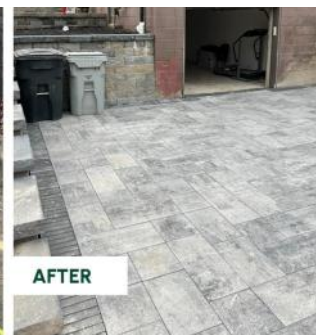
BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER

Pony

(Continued from page 1)

pony. This year, as she wrapped up fifth grade and prepared to head to Hampton Middle School, her dream finally came true. With the help of her mom, Erin Kelly, the pair brought a little magic to the school parking lot.

"It's just not something you get to see every day, especially in our area," Erin shared. "I think the teachers, bus drivers, and other students were just as excited as she was!"

Peyton Patchwork—known affectionately as "Peyton" or "PeyPey"—is a 17-year-old mare Taylor got in November 2022 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The two have been inseparable ever since.

Taylor, now 11 and heading into sixth grade at HMS this fall, has been riding since she was just four years old. In the last three years, she's taken her passion to the next level, competing in barrel racing and pole bending—and already earning



Taylor and Peyton earned their first buckle

two belt buckles in her young career.

"Peyton is my best friend," Taylor said, beaming. "I wake up every morning to go feed her. She's just everything to me." Though the actual ride from Hartwood Acres to the school was short, it was unforgettable. Peyton patiently waited for traffic, stepped onto the sidewalk with poise, and struck a pose in front of Central Elementary for her big moment.

Moments like these are more than just adorable photo ops—they're tributes to an unforgettable sendoff.

As Taylor heads into middle school and new adventures, one thing's for sure: with PeyPey by her side, the ride is just getting started.



Peyton Patchwork trotted over to Central Elementary to pick up her favorite human, Taylor Kelly on the last day of school!

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Rising Scholar: Hampton High School Carolyn Clutter Joins Nation's Academic Standouts

Carolyn Clutter is one of over 2,900 winners of scholarships financed by U.S. colleges and universities. Each sponsor college selected its scholarship recipients from among the Finalists in the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program who plan to attend their institution.



Carolyn earned the National Merit University of South Carolina Scholarship and plans to attend the university to study Biology and Economics. The college-sponsored Merit Scholarship winners announced on June 4, 2025, are part of a distinguished group of more than 6,930 high school seniors who will receive National Merit Scholarships for undergraduate study, totaling nearly \$26 million. Earlier this spring, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the winners of corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards and National Merit \$2,500 Scholarships.

Over 1.3 million juniors in approximately 21,000 high schools entered the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2023 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), which served as an initial screening of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists — representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors — includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state.

From over 16,000 Semifinalists, more than 15,000 advanced to the Finalist level. All National Merit Scholarship winners were selected from this group of Finalists. Merit Scholar designees are chosen based on their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

Aquinas Academy's Class of 2025 Earns Scholarship Awards

The graduating Class of 2025 at Aquinas Academy has achieved remarkable success, securing over \$7 million in scholarship awards and earning 112 acceptances to more than 60 prestigious colleges across the country. Their dedication, perseverance, and strong academic foundations have paved the way for an exciting journey ahead.

Leading the class with distinction, valedictorian Clara Yuo will be attending Dartmouth College, while salutatorian John J. Ortiz will be continuing his education at Duke University. Their accomplishments reflect both their personal dedication and the unwavering support of their families, teachers, and the Aquinas Academy community.

The academy takes immense pride in its students' achievements, not only in academics



Valedictorian Clara Yuo receiving her diploma from Aquinas Academy's President Peter Blume, Esq.

(Continued on page 7)

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Graduates!



Adanna Smith, Molly Bernett and Sydney Loebig (Left to Right) are joined by Mrs. Amy Faith, Hampton High School Special Education teacher, at their graduation ceremony from the UPMC Project SEARCH program.

UPMC Project SEARCH is a one-year program, in partnership with Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania, that educates and trains high school students with disabilities with the aim of acquiring key skills that can lead to employment.

Aquinas Academy *(Continued from page 6)*
but also in their commitment to faith, service, and personal growth. As they step into this next chapter, the graduates carry with them the values instilled during their years at Aquinas—strengthening their bond with Christ and embracing the principles of Catholic education.

Aquinas Academy extends heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2025, wishing them success in their collegiate endeavors and continued blessings in all that lies ahead.



Salutatorian John J. Ortiz opening the Commencement Ceremony with prayer

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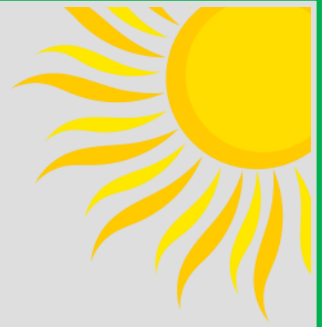
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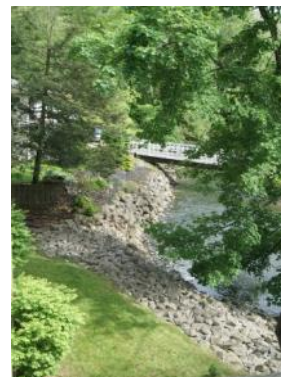


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Hartwood's Industrial Art Through Sound

Allegheny County and the Allegheny County Parks Foundation have launched a free, self-guided audio tour for the Carol R. Brown Sculpture Garden at Hartwood Acres Park. Announced at the Parks Foundation's event, this immersive experience is the first of its kind in any Allegheny County Park.

County Executive Sara Innamorato praised the initiative, calling it a fabulous addition to Hartwood Acres and an exciting reason for both tourists and locals to visit. The audio tour allows visitors to explore 14 sculptures, reflecting Pittsburgh's industrial art legacy and showcasing weathering steel's strength and beauty.

Notably, the collection includes four women sculptors, three of whom worked in steel, including local artist Dee Briggs. The guide is accessible via QR codes on signage, a brochure, and online, funded by the Richard King Mellon Foundation.

"This tour brings deeper appreciation to this incredible collection," said Joey-Linn Ulrich, Parks Foundation Executive Director. "By making it free, we're inviting more people to engage with world-class public art within nature."

Carol R. Brown, whose vision created the sculpture garden, expressed her joy at seeing the collection thrive: "I love Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, and Hartwood Acres—this is truly special."

Hartwood Acres Park, known for its historic Tudor mansion and scenic beauty, welcomes over 1.8 million visitors annually.

Learn more and explore the tour:

<https://acsculpturegarentour.org>.

Library (Continued from page 4)

Rainbow Lab Adventures!

Tuesdays, July 1st through August 12th
1:30 p.m. -2:30 p.m.

Let your creativity soar with hands-on STEAM projects blending art and science—just be ready to get messy! Held outdoors at the Rotary Pavilion in Hampton Community Park (near the police station), this program is for ages 8–12. *Registration appreciated.* In case of stormy weather, call the library for indoor plans.

Baby Rave

Wednesday, July 16th

6:00 p.m. -7:15 p.m. Great Room A

You're invited to baby's first rave! Dance to techno remixes of children's songs, play with baby-friendly glow toys, and have a blast! Dress up in fun ravewear, costumes, and bright colors, and BYO flashlights.

For ages 2 & under with an adult. Registration required; no older children permitted.

Card Club!

Wednesdays 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday afternoons play 500 Bid or other games. New players welcome!

Murder by the Book!

A Mystery Book Discussion Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. at the Grubbs Pavilion. Call the library to request the book.

July 16th *Findlay Donovan is Killing it*, by Elle Cosimano.

Betty's Book Buzz Discussion Group.

Fridays, 1:00 p.m.

Betty's Book Group meets in the library. Call the library to request the book. July 18th: *Magnolia Palace*, by Fiona Davis.

Researching Your Family's Story with Ancestry

July 30th 6:30 p.m.

Great Room B.

Curious about your family history but unsure how to navigate Ancestry.com? Join professional genealogist Trish Buben of Stonycreek Genealogy for a helpful session on building your family tree, refining your search skills, and uncovering hidden records. *Registration appreciated.*

Rainbow Road Racers on Wednesday, August 6th @ 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Great Room A, Ages 6-12

Race into action with our first-ever *Mario Kart* tournament on the Nintendo Switch! Players (ages 6–12) will be bracketed, with surprise courses and optional practice rounds if time allows. No controller? No problem—you can borrow one.

Registration required; space is limited. Walk-ins may watch but not play. *Adult caregiver must remain onsite—no drop-offs.*



Summer Hours

Memorial Day–Labor Day

Mon & Fri: 9:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Tues & Thurs: 9:30 a.m.–7:30 p.m.

Wed: 11:30 a.m.–7:30 p.m.

Sat: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Library Closures:

July 3–6

(Community Day/July 4 Weekend)

August 30–September 1

(Labor Day Weekend)

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Sports

Hampton High School Softball Team Wins First-Ever WPIAL Championship

by Laurie Rizzo

History has been made! The Hampton High School girls softball team has claimed their first-ever WPIAL 4A softball championship, defeating the Blackhawk Cougars in a thrilling 4-3 victory.



The Cougars started strong, jumping to an early 3-0 lead, but the Talbots showed resilience and determination, battling back in the bottom of the sixth inning to score four runs and take the lead.

The intensity continued into the final inning, with Blackhawk loading the bases and putting pressure on Hampton's defense. Marissa Snyder remained composed, striking out the last Cougar batter with two outs, sealing the historic win for the Talbots.

This championship victory is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the players and coaches, who have poured their passion into the game. Hampton High School celebrates this incredible milestone, marking a new era for Talbots softball.

Tennis Team Defies Odds *One Team, One Goal*

by Jenn Edmonds

The Hampton Talbots boys tennis team began the season as underdogs, losing five seniors from last season, but the 11 determined athletes ended their season with a semi-final run in the WPIAL playoffs, on the doorstep of being a PIAA qualifying team. They got further than any Hampton boys tennis team since 2013, finishing 10-6 overall.

(Continued on page 11)



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Tennis *(Continued from page 10)*

With only one senior, team captain JJ Edwards, it was a big task to define the roles early, identify weaknesses, and work to fix them. "The team worked really hard in the off-season. They knew they were going to have to play key roles with a lot of seniors leaving," said Coach Grant McKinney. The Talbots had a good JV program last year so many of those players had the ability to step into a varsity role.

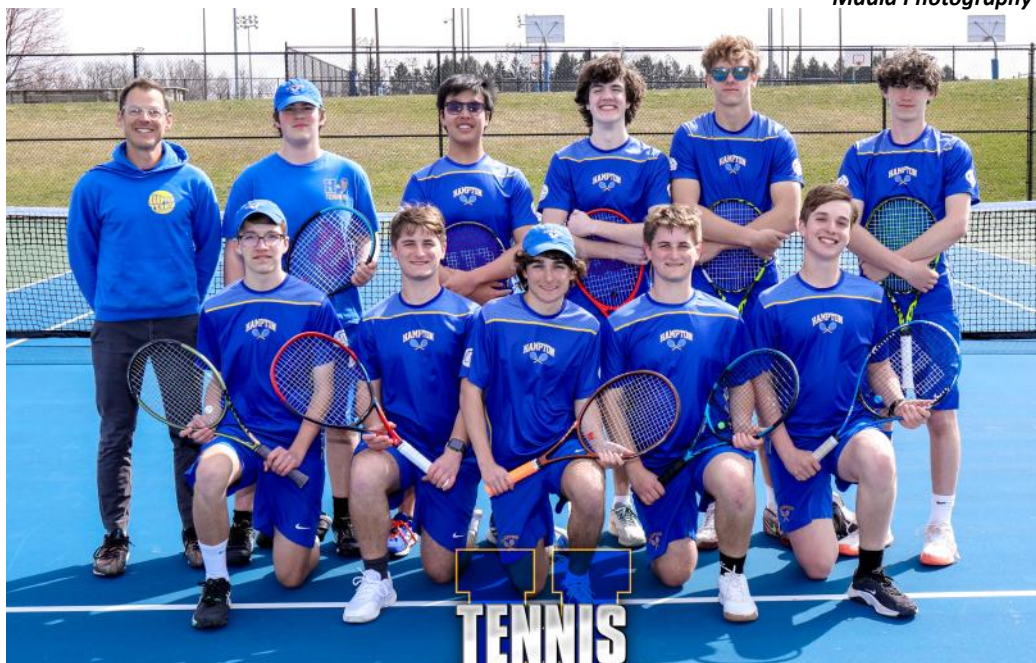
Edwards helped to prepare the team. "I tried to keep everyone motivated and ready to fight for the win, to try to make our team one group, and to give our team camaraderie. The best way for a team to function is to build our relationships with each other, so I worked to build those relationships." The team voted Edwards the MVP for the season. "He was so good for us in big matches; the MVP was well-deserved," said Coach McKinney. "Edwards was undefeated at 3rd singles until the playoffs. For his only loss at 3rd singles, he was ill with a 100+ degree fever, but still went out and lost a close match."

The Talbots entered the WPIAL Class 2A team playoffs as the #6 seed and defeated #11 seed Montour in the first round, then pulled off a huge upset in the second round beating #3 seed Blackhawk. The wins over Blackhawk and Montour in the playoffs were hard-fought close matches and Coach McKinney credits many of the close wins this season to competitive gritty play. They lost 2-3 in the semi-finals to #2 seed Valley and fell 2-3 to the #1 seed South Park in the consolation 3rd place match for a PIAA spot.

Coach McKinney highlighted some standout players including Weston Gross, who went from 1st singles on JV to 2nd singles on Varsity and worked hard every day. "Having the twin brothers AJ and Zane List at first doubles was the strength of the team. They made WPIALs for the Doubles Championship," said McKinney.

He credits the success of this team with the discipline to play good tennis, listen to coaching, and to help make each other better. "They were very coachable but they also really wanted to see each other succeed. They were unselfish. It was a privilege to walk this meaningful journey with the team."

Madia Photography



kneeling left to right: Weston Gross, A.J. List, JJ Edwards, Zane List, Sam Holmes. Standing: Coach McKinney, Matt Pike, William Zhang, Liam Webb, Jaxson Mayer, Chase Essig.

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Silver Medal, Golden Spirit: Chris Belch Shines at WPIAL Championships

by Laurie Rizzo

Hampton senior Chris Belch delivered a remarkable performance at the WPIAL Boys' Track and Field Championships, capturing silver in the 1600-meter race with a stellar time of 4:16.33. His finish was not just a display of athleticism, but the culmination of years of perseverance and growth.

"Before I ran, I did a lot of swimming," Chris shared, reflecting on his early athletic pursuits. "But after I had run, I really enjoyed cross country." His journey began back in middle school track, yet it was in cross country that he discovered a lasting passion.

Chris attributes much of his success to his family and the supportive environment within the Hampton program. "A lot of credit is owed to my brothers for inspiring and pushing me," he said. "I got into running following my older brother Michael's footsteps, and I have always had motivation to challenge myself in every practice and race."

That drive was nurtured by his coaches—Mrs. Dietz for track and Mr. Longwell for cross country—who, alongside his teammates, helped shape his high school experience. "Growing with my teammates helped a lot because we trained and sweat alongside each other," Chris said. "Each season we had a team goal to stay disciplined."

Crossing the finish line at WPIALs was more than a medal moment—it was a defining one. "All I could think about was the

thrill of the race and how fortunate I was to continue my season," he said. At states, the emotions deepened. "It was more bittersweet, but being surrounded by my friends, family, and coaches helped me to realize how fortunate I am."

In recognition of his standout season and unwavering dedication, Chris was honored at a recent Hampton school board meeting—an acknowledgment of both his athletic talent and his character.

Looking ahead, Chris is setting his sights on new goals. "Currently, I am training the University of Pittsburgh's cross country workouts," he explained. "I've spoken with the coach for the past year and we are trying to find me a spot on the team at some point this year, so to start the fall I will be running unattached at some college cross country meets." At Pitt, he will begin his studies in engineering, carrying forward both his discipline and ambition.

From middle school beginnings to a silver medal on the WPIAL stage, Chris Belch's story is one of heart and hustle.



Chris Belch
by Madia Photography

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Your Partners in Real Estate Present:

HAMPTON HOME SALES (5/23/2025 - 6/22/2025)

This information is supplied from the West Penn Multi-List. It is deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

ADDRESS	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
2153 Grandeur Drive	\$1,075,000	\$1,085,000	16
3093 Fairfield Court	\$900,000	\$910,000	16
4824 Toftrees Drive	\$549,900	\$612,500	4
2502 Saddle Drive	\$550,000	\$587,500	35
3224 Cedar Ridge Road	\$559,900	\$550,000	55
3184 Harts Run Road	\$375,000	\$400,000	5
3036 Mccully Road	\$399,000	\$390,000	12
2918 Woodland Circle	\$349,000	\$343,000	17
2925 McNeal Road	\$350,000	\$340,680	51
2866 Harts Run Road	\$339,000	\$332,000	57
2429 Tanglewood Drive	\$299,000	\$316,000	7
4540 Bucktail Drive	\$275,000	\$285,000	22
2806 Anderson Drive	\$249,900	\$249,900	91
3064 E Bardonnor Road	\$234,900	\$237,900	2

TIP OF THE MONTH:

July tends to be a reliably hot and humid month. Making sure your home is able to utilize energy efficiently to keep you cool—and prevent mold and moisture build-up—is essential for the health of both you and your home.

Bathroom: Eliminate any signs of mold. Repair and clean grout, replace caulk and seal where necessary. Clean faucet aerators and showerheads. Check water softener and salt levels.

Wash windows and door screens.

Check drainage to make sure summer storm water runs away from the foundation of your home.

HVAC and furnace filters need to be changed every three months (average; more if you have pets, use fireplace, allergen sensitivities, etc), so doing this quarterly will help set a schedule..

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Class of 2025



Police Log

(Continued from page 2)

 Representatives for Home Genius Exteriors will be canvassing the township for the next few weeks. Sales representatives have been provided with the no-solicitation list for residents who have requested not to be contacted by door-to-door solicitors. Each sales representative must have their ID clearly displayed so the homeowner can see their permit. If any resident experiences any issues with solicitors, they are advised to contact the Hampton Police Department.

North Hills DUI Task Force Completed Weekend Enforcement Detail

 The North Hills DUI Task Force conducted a DUI enforcement detail during the weekend of June 20–22, 2025, as part of its ongoing commitment to roadway safety. The task force, now in its 29th year, included officers from the communities of Blawnox Borough, Bradford Woods Borough, Etna Borough, Hampton Township, Indiana Township, Marshall Township, O'Hara Township, Pine Township, Rich-

land Township, Ross Township, Shaler Township, West Deer Township, McCandless Township, West View Borough, Millvale Borough, and Franklin Park Borough.

To date, the task force completed 264 checkpoints and roving patrols. During these operations, 2,272 individuals were tested for driving under the influence (DUI), with 1,072 arrests made. These efforts reflected the task force's core mission: to save lives and reduce injuries on area roadways.

Sobriety checkpoints served as both a visible deterrent and a means of removing impaired drivers from the roads. In addition, roving and saturation patrols were deployed to identify and stop impaired drivers before they could endanger others. These mobile patrols often supported stationary checkpoints and were especially effective at catching drivers who attempted to bypass enforcement areas.

The North Hills DUI Task Force urged all drivers over the age of 21 to act re-

sponsibly and never drive while impaired. They reminded motorists to read all warning labels on prescription or over-the-counter medications and to plan ahead by arranging for a designated driver when consuming alcohol.



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Thrivent provides advice and guidance through its Financial Planning Framework that generally includes a review and analysis of a client's financial situation. A client may choose to further their planning engagement with Thrivent through its Dedicated Planning Services (an investment advisory service) that results in written recommendations for a fee.

20328 R4-23

Hudock

adventure, spent hours wandering through the sprawling site, which boasts both front and rear entrances due to its sheer size. Reflecting on her visit, she shared that some visitors arrived un-

(Continued from page 1)

prepared to leave their mark and resorted to creative improvisation—using unexpected items such as frying pans, red food storage container lids, and frisbees to craft last-minute signs.

"The wooden shoes were particularly interesting," Lorraine

noted, recalling the eclectic mix of objects adorning the forest. "There was even a heavy machinery section, which stood out among the countless wooden, metal, and plastic plaques."

This global tradition of leaving signs dates back to 1942, when a homesick soldier stationed in Watson Lake posted a sign pointing toward his hometown. Since then, tens of thousands of travelers have added their own contributions, creating a mosaic of wanderlust, nostalgia, and creativity.

Lorraine's visit to Sign Post Forest underscores the enduring appeal of roadside landmarks and the personal stories they hold. Her journey serves as an inspiring reminder that travel isn't just about reaching a destination—it's about embracing the unexpected and leaving a lasting footprint along the way.



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Current Events

Hartwood Acres Summer Music Lineup

Enjoy free live music under the open sky at the Allegheny County Summer Concert Series! Shows kick off at 7:30 pm (unless otherwise noted), with no tickets required. Arrive early to explore a variety of local food trucks, plus refreshments from Hop Farm Brewing and Black Dog Winery, available starting at 6:00 pm. Rain or shine, performances will take place at the open-air amphitheater with no covered seating.

- 07/27 - Mat Kearney: platinum-selling singer-songwriter with a heart for indie-pop storytelling
- 08/03 - Nick Lowe & Los Straitjackets: a rock 'n' roll dream team full of retro cool
- 08/10 - KT Tunstall: Grammy-nominated hitmaker and loop-pedal wizard
- 08/17 - Smash Mouth: 90's favorites with mega-hits like "All Star" and "Walkin' on the Sun"
- 08/31 - Monty Alexander: Jamaican jazz pioneer known for fusing bebop and reggae

PERMITTED ITEMS:

- Folding Chairs
- Outside food and drinks
- Popup tents and umbrellas may be used for shade prior to the concert, but they must be taken down before the performance begins.
- Dogs are permitted, but they must remain on leashes at all times and be up-to-date on all vaccinations and licensing. Owners must clean up after their dogs.

PROHIBITED ITEMS:

- Charcoal grills
- Fire lanterns
- Drones

19th Annual Firecracker 5K – July 4, 2025

Join the Hampton community at Hampton Community Park for the 19th Annual Firecracker 5K! The race begins at 8:30 a.m. featuring both a competitive course for runners and a walker-friendly option. Medals are up for grabs, and early registration ensures a tech-style race shirt. Proceeds support the Hampton Rotary Club's charitable and educational initiatives. Be part of this meaningful tradition! Visit the Rotary's donations page for details.



Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Roundtable

Jared Peatman presents "The Long Shadow of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address."
Monday, July 21 at 6 pm. Hampton Township Community Center, 3200 Lochner Way, Allison Park. Presentation is free and open to the public.

Help Students Start the Year Right:

Back-to-School Supply Collection Is Underway!

Every child deserves the chance to begin the school year with confidence, equipped with the tools they need for success. North Hills Community Outreach (NHCO) is making that possible through its Back-to-School Supplies Collection, running now until August 10.

NHCO is calling on the community to donate essential school supplies for students in need throughout northern Allegheny County. Last year, 787 students received donations, allowing them to start the school year prepared. This year, with your support, NHCO hopes to assist even more children.

How You Can Help

You can donate school supplies at any of NHCO's 3 locations:
Main Office – 1975 Ferguson Road, Allison Park, PA 15101
Greenstone United Methodist Church – 939 California Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15202
Millvale Community Center – 416 Lincoln Ave., 2nd floor, Millvale, PA 15209
Donations are accepted Monday–Friday, 9 AM–4 PM, with additional drop-off availability at the Allison Park location.

Items Needed:

Pens and Pencils
Pencil Boxes and Sharpeners
Markers, Highlighters, and Colored Pencils
Notebooks, Loose-Leaf Paper, Binders, and Pocket Folders
Rulers, Scissors, Erasers, and Glue Sticks
New Backpacks
TI Graphing Calculators
24-Packs of Crayons
For added convenience, donors can order from NHCO's Amazon Wishlist, ensuring supplies are delivered directly to the organization.

Why It Matters

School supplies are more than just materials—they empower students to focus on learning rather than worrying about their basic needs. With the support of generous donors, NHCO continues to foster self-sufficiency and dignity for local families.

Let's come together to make this year's collection even more impactful! Visit [NHCO.org/sharing-project-donations](https://nhco.org/sharing-project-donations) to learn more and join the effort.

Together, we can help students step into the classroom prepared and confident!

Hampton Community Day

Thursday, July 3
Community Park
4 p.m. until Fireworks

Christmas In July

Wednesday, July 23
4:00–6:00 p.m.
Community Pool

National Ice Cream Day

Sunday, July 20
at 1 p.m.—3 p.m.
Community Pool

Farmer's Market

Wednesday, July 9, 16, 23, &
30 (no market on July 2)
3:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.
Community Center Parking Lot

Pints In The Park

July 18, August 8,
September 6 and 12.
Hampton Park



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Presents:
4th Annual MEGA
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When: Friday,
July 11, 2025
Where: 2536 Duncan Ave.
Allison Park, 15101
What: Music, food, auc-
tions, 50/50 and much
more!



**HHS Class of 1980
45th Class Reunion**



Mark your calendars!

The HHS Class of 1980 will celebrate its 45th class reunion on
October 4, 2025, at Iron City Brewery.

Invitations are currently being mailed.

If you don't receive yours soon, please contact Marguerite
Breen at Margb1079@gmail.com or Michael Lichina to ensure
you're included.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

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Rep. Arvind Venkat

30th District
Allegheny County

Talking Together as a Community: Protecting Pennsylvanians with Food Allergies

by State Rep. Arvind Venkat

A wonderful, engaged group of neighbors turned out for my May 29 community town hall. We discussed the April 29 storms and the Public Utility Commission's investigation of the utilities' response, the importance of education funding, and the positive impact of immigration on our region, among other topics.

Residents also expressed many of the same concerns I hear in my neighborhood door knocking, including fears about how the Trump administration's budget bill will drastically cut Medicaid funding, and other actions at the federal level that have cut medical research and hurt our regional economy. I encourage everyone who is concerned to contact our federal representatives.

I also updated residents about the passage of my bills that would better educate the public about opioid overdose information and ban financial institutions from imposing fees for providing paper account statements – a practice that disproportionately burdens older consumers on fixed incomes.

In June, lawmakers and advocates rallied at the state Capitol to push for state Senate passage of legislation I introduced with Republican state Rep. Natalie Mihalek that would make our restaurants and other retail food facilities safer for more than 1.3 million Pennsylvanians with food allergies.

Our H.B. 77 – which passed the House in February with strong bipartisan support – would require PA restaurants and other retail food establishments to display employee-information posters and provide notice to customers regarding food allergy safety.



State Senator
LINDSEY M. WILLIAMS
38th Senatorial District



Shred the Risk: Free Document Disposal Event

Need to safely dispose of documents this summer? Join Senator Lindsey Williams at two FREE paper shredding events in July:

July 12 from 9:00 – 11:00 am at the Shaler Area High School Front Parking Lot, 381 Wible Run Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15209 with Rep. Lindsay Powell.

July 26, Time TBD, at the Ross Township DPW, 225 Cemetery Lane, Pittsburgh, PA 15237 with Rep. Emily Kinhead.

You can get rid of clutter and protect your personal information at the same time!

Each car will be limited to two file-size boxes. Drivers are asked to remain in their cars and open their trunk. Our office staff will unload documents from cars and the materials will be immediately shredded on-site. Bags and boxes will be returned to the car after they are emptied. All you have to do is drive through and we will handle the rest!

For more information, please visit

www.SenatorLindseyWilliams.com/events or subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter at SenatorLindseyWilliams.com/subscribe!



Jeremy Shaffer



Reform Starts With Us

The state's fiscal year, along with the budget year, ended on June 30. As lawmakers, we are tasked to pass a budget on time. I will be doing all I can to make sure the budget is fiscally responsible, balanced and reflective of the needs of our communities.

Unfortunately, as you are reading this, it is highly unlikely that Pennsylvania has an on-time budget. This is not acceptable and until the budget is passed, I will spend many days in Harrisburg, and I will not be taking a paycheck.

Moments like this are a reminder of why I support down-

sizing the Legislature and making it part-time. Lawmakers should feel the urgency of getting the job done, and on time, just like the hardworking people we represent.

There is strong need for reform in our state government. In addition to the reform bills I am already supporting, including term limits, eliminating automatic pay raises for legislators and downsizing the state Legislature, I will soon be introducing new ones, including supporting a two-year budgeting process and a measure to prevent legislators from getting paid when a budget isn't passed.

These reforms are about restoring trust and accountability in our state government. Pennsylvanians deserve a system that works efficiently, spends responsibly and puts the needs of the people ahead of partisan gridlock. I am committed to working with Republicans and Democrats who are ready to make that a reality.



An Update from Congressman Chris Deluzio Keeping Up the Fight Against Corruption

CONGRESSMAN
CHRIS DELUZIO

Pennsylvania's 17th District

Now, I'm proud to continue my fight against corruption with new legislation I've introduced. It would ban corporate executive crooks who have been convicted of financial crimes or corruption from serving in the Executive Branch of our government. That means any federal agency or White House offices.

The No Corporate Crooks Act is a simple, two-page bill. It says that if you've been convicted of crimes like bribery, embezzlement, fraud, or insider trading, then you should have no place in high executive office.

Corporate power has corrupted our government through its dark money in our elections and more. They rig the system in their favor and against the American people. This corruption is shredding what's left of Americans' confidence in our government's ability to deliver for the Common Good.

Western PA is a place where we believe if you work hard and play by the rules, you ought to have a shot at the American Dream. We've got to get back on track to restoring that promise. A big part of that is rooting out corruption—and stopping corporate criminals from taking power *inside the government itself* is a great step.

Let's get this done and help deliver a government of, by, and for the People.
Very respectfully,

Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress

Have an issue with a federal agency like Social Security, the IRS, or the VA? Call Congressman Deluzio's office for help at (412) 344-5583

UPCOMING EVENTS

Township Movie Night

Friday, August 8 at 8:45 p.m.
Community Park Soccer Fields

Pool Member Appreciation Day

Wednesday, August 13 4-6 p.m. Community Pool

Dog Swim Day

Saturday, September 6
11 a.m.—1 p.m. Community Pool

For additional information on these events,
visit www.hampton-pa.org

The Legacy of the Garden Club of Allegheny County

Since its founding in 1914, The Garden Club of Allegheny County (GCAC) has been a driving force in gardening, horticulture, and conservation. What began as a group of passionate individuals dedicated to civic planning and beautification has blossomed into a century-long legacy of transforming communities across southwestern Pennsylvania.

GCAC's mission is rooted in action. Through its annual Pizzazz fundraiser, the club has contributed over \$2 million in grants and scholarships, supporting education and environmental initiatives. Beyond financial impact, GCAC works directly with partner organizations to enhance parks, neighborhoods, and historic gardens, ensuring green spaces remain vibrant and accessible.

The club also plays a pivotal role in documenting horticultural design and history, collaborating with the Archive of American Gardens at the Smithsonian Institution to preserve critical records. Its dedication to conservation extends to demonstration projects, educational programs, and grants, inspiring sustainable practices among individuals and organizations alike.

For over 100 years, GCAC has translated passion into action, proving that gardening is more than aesthetics—it's about fostering community, preserving history, and shaping the future. Through its tireless efforts, GCAC continues to cultivate change, one garden at a time.



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FOUNDED IN 1914 ~ A MEMBER OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA

gcacpgh.org/pizzazz

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2025

5:00 PM – 8:30 PM: Preview Party
Tickets starting at \$150.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2025

9:30 AM – 7:00 PM: \$10 admission
\$45 admission with Luncheon.*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2025

9:30 AM – 1:00 PM: \$10 admission
\$45 admission with Luncheon.*

**Advanced ticket purchase recommended*

For more information and tickets,
visit: gcacpgh.org/pizzazz



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**FREE
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July 12th 4 - 6 pm

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