

FREE

# The Hampton News

September 2022

From the Neighborhoods of Hampton Township, PA

Vol. 18 No. 2

## Hampton Hero Receives Presidential Unit Citation

by Julie Mikus

**A** hero lives in Hampton Township! At age 17, Harry VanRiper was drafted into the United States Army. He had just graduated high school in 1968, and earlier that same year the Tet

Offensive of the Vietnam War began, during which both the United States and South Vietnamese militaries sustained heavy losses, both in human life and morale. The Tet Offensive was a major escala-

tion of the war. It was also the largest military campaign of the war. VanRiper entered the draft self-admittedly unafraid and quickly became squad leader.

(Continued on page 6)



Laina, Mary and Andrew Piccolino; Colvin, Ryan and Charlotte Cooley; Marla Piccolino; Vincent and Captain Matt Marcenelle, USMC; Harry VanRiper; and Commander Lindsay Marcenelle, USCG Retired

## Daughter of Holocaust Survivor Publishes Her Father's Story

by Mary-Theresa Watson

After numerous pandemic-related delays, Hampton resident and first-time author Lee Kikel now has a full schedule of speaking engagements where she shares the true story of her father's journey from his childhood in Poland to his final home here in Hampton. *Perseverance: One Holocaust Survivor's Journey from Poland to*

(Continued on page 13)

## A Duck Destination

by Julie Mikus

Things are ducky in Hampton Township! Allison Park neighbors Janet McCall and Joe Lee own several acres of property near Crouse Run, providing them a bird's eye view of wildlife in their backyards.

"We've been observing mallards since 2012," explained Mr. Lee, who owns two acres with Crouse Run stream flowing at the edge of his property. The stream runs downstream into Crouse Run Preserve, which supports large varieties of wildlife, including mallard ducks.

(Continued on page 3)

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## Police Log

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. The 22 officers and two civilian clerks take pride in serving the community in a professional and proactive manner. 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 7/9/2022—7/23/2022:

### Periodic Single-Lane Closure on Part of Duncan Avenue

Allegheny County Public Works Department announced that there will be a periodic single-lane closure on Duncan Avenue near Bryant Road in Hampton Township through December 2022. The closure is required for the rehabilitation of Stillhouse Run Bridge No. 1 as well as the replacement of a sanitary sewer line, and installation of a rock embankment, drainage pipe, and guide rail.

Traffic will be maintained in both directions using flaggers. Drivers should expect to experience short stoppages in the area.

### Traffic Complaint/Drug Arrest

 On 07/13/2022 at 3:50 p.m., HTP were dispatched to assist Shaler Township Police with an erratic driver complaint that originated between Spencer Lane Extension and Butler Plank Road heading north on Route 8. The complainant stated to dispatchers that the driver of a white car/SUV with right side damage was driving very erratically, swerving, and tailgating other cars. The complainant stated that they pulled over at the Get-Go and as the actor passed, they flipped her off. The complainant provided a registration plate for the ve-

*(Continued on page 5)*

### A NOTE FROM THE HAMPTON NEWS

We are excited to share the new website [www.thehamptonnews.com](http://www.thehamptonnews.com) and email [info@thehamptonnews.com](mailto:info@thehamptonnews.com)

**New!**

*The Hampton News* continues to strive to bring you informative and interesting stories. We welcome feedback, ideas and submissions. We're happy to hear from you and want to help to keep the neighbors connected! The deadline for submissions are on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Please support the advertisers this month since they help to provide this publication and remember to SUPPORT LOCAL!

**Production and Design:** Laurie and John Rizzo

**Writers:** Julie Mikus, Jackie Smith and Jenn Edmonds

**P.O. Box 243 Wildwood, PA 15091**

**412-818-6491**

**[info@thehamptonnews.com](mailto:info@thehamptonnews.com)**

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**Ducks**

*(Continued from page 1)*

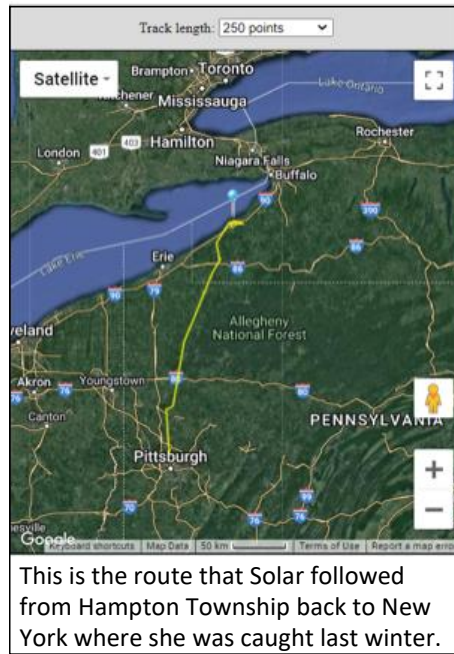
Unfortunately, mallards are experiencing a 36% decline in population. Joe and wife Gerry host birding events on their back deck, collecting funds for local wildlife conservation. "We bring about twenty-five people together to observe and talk about birds!" Joe exclaimed.



Solar with the tracking device

Joe's neighbor, Janet McCall, is also a self declared conservationist, with a passion to advocate for Crouse Run and its

wildlife. In early spring, she spotted a female mallard she named "Solar," after the small solar device on the back of the duck. Neighbors Joe and Gerry helped with the observations. They hoped she would build a nest.



This is the route that Solar followed from Hampton Township back to New York where she was caught last winter.

Solar's device is called a 'Global System for Mobile Communication Transmitter (GSM), which downloads data for biologists. Scientists use this data to determine if ducks are feeding, flying,

nesting or resting. They use the data to examine the rapid decline of mallard ducks in southeast America. The research is the first of its kind and extends into eastern Canada. Solar is part of the study, conducted by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Solar was separated from her ducklings, who hatched on the property of Clean Express Auto Wash on Route 8. The ducklings did not follow their mother to Crouse Run, and that's when Luke Scherer, a wildlife technician with Wildlife Futures, stepped in to help.

Manager Kurt Delune from Clean Express Auto Wash remembers Luke looking for the nest. The wildlife technician was working with the New York biologists to determine Solar's route.

"We knew of a duck nest on the car wash property and the wildlife technician asked us to not disturb the nest," said Delune. A week later, the ducklings hatched and made their way into a car wash bay that was undergoing mechanical renovations. Some of the ducklings fell into grates under a track apparatus. "We spent the entire morning chasing ducklings! The mother duck (Solar) was incredibly concerned. She flew into the bay door and we thought she died. However, she flew away moments later," the manager

*(Continued on page 11)*

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## Library News



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The Hampton Community Library is excited to announce new hours for Saturday! Please visit us during the following times:  
Monday, Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30 a.m. -7:30 p.m.

**Saturday – 9:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.** Sunday – Closed.

**Please note:** *The Library will be closed Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> through Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup> for Labor Day! Enjoy your holiday weekend!*

### It's a Wonder-filled Morning! Drop-in Storytime!

Join us as we fill our mornings with stories, songs and crafts designed to celebrate discovery as we interact with our environment. All ages and abilities welcome! Come early and stay for all the activities or come later and stay for a few; you decide!

**Tuesdays and Thursdays Starting Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.\***

10 a.m.- "Stories & Songs", 10:20 a.m.- "Investigate and Create"

10:45 a.m.- "Stories and Songs", 11:15 a.m.- "Parachute Play"

11:45 a.m.- "Stories and Songs", 12:00 p.m.- "Stay and Play."

*\*times are subject to go longer or shorter*

### Friends and N'at!

**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month—11:15 a.m.**

**September 14<sup>th</sup> - Getting to Know You**

This 30-45-minute neurodivergent program is designed to bring everyone of all abilities together to interact, investigate, create and most of all make friends at the library! No registration required!

### Card Club! Wednesdays, from 1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Join us Wednesday afternoons for a game of 500 Bid or something new! Come out and show your skill, teach someone a new game or just enjoy some time out with friends new and old!

### Local Book Club Trivia Bonanza!

**Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m.**

Your favorite local libraries are teaming up for a fun evening of celebrating our local neighborhood book clubs! All trivia is based on popular reads, celebrity book clubs, book to film etc.! BYOB and snacks! \$10 pp, teams of 8 or less. Register at [tinyurl.com/northbookclubbonanza](http://tinyurl.com/northbookclubbonanza). All proceeds benefit the Hampton, N. Tier and Shaler Libraries!

### Murder by the Book! A Mystery Book Discussion

**Wednesday, Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> - 6:30 p.m.**

***The Survivors*, by Jane Harper.**

The Mystery Book Group meets at the Rotary Pavilion in the summer. (this is the pavilion closest to the police station/ municipal building/soccer fields).

Please call the library to request a copy of the book. Everyone who is interested in great reads is invited to join us!

### Betty's Book Buzz Discussion Group.

**Friday, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 p.m.**

***Death on the Nile*, by Agatha Christie.**

Betty's Book Group meets in the library. Please call the library to request a copy of the book. Everyone who is interested in great conversations and good reads is invited to join us!

### Cooks-N-Books: "Fall" for Autumn Dishes!

**Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 p.m. -8:00 p.m.**

Cooks-n-Books is a cookbook and food discussion group for people who love to cook and make new friends! No real experience or culinary expertise is needed- just a desire to share recipes and food!!

We meet in Great Room A in the Hampton Community Center. Here's what to do...

- 1) Check out a cookbook
- 2) Cook that dish and bring it to the group the evening of the discussion. Please bring a copy of the recipe as well.
- 3) Sample all of the amazing recipes!

Please note there will be a \$2.00 fee to cover the cost of supplies.

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## Police Log


(Continued from page 2)


hicle in question. The responding officer was able to intercept the vehicle and observed multiple traffic violations. The vehicle's registration plate was discovered to be suspended. The officer initiated a traffic stop on Route 8. The driver was found to have an active arrest warrant and was found to be in possession of a suspected illegal substance.

## Fire


 On 7/09/2022 at 10:28 p.m., HTP were dispatched to the Wildwood Golf Club for a dryer that was on fire. Upon arrival, officers contacted individuals on scene who informed them that one of the dryers had caught on fire while it was drying towels. The persons on scene put out the fire and called 911. Hampton fire units arrived on scene and made sure that the dryer was safe.

## Fraud


 On 07/14/2022 at 11:43 a.m., HTP took a report from a resident regarding a possible fraud-related phone call that they received from someone claiming to be with US Customs and Border Patrol. The resident reported that they received a phone call from a female who called herself "Yolanda Chocaces." "Yolanda" advised that she worked for the US Customs and Border Patrol, and that a package destined for the resident's home had been intercepted. "Yolanda" stated that the package contained illegal narcotics and fake ID's. The resident was aware that this was a scam phone call and did not provide any sensitive information. They wanted to make local law enforcement aware of this scam.

 On 07/19/2022 at 1:00 p.m., HTP received a phone call from a resident regarding a suspicious series of phone calls they had received. The reporting party advised that they received 3 calls from someone claiming to be with "Good Housekeeping." The caller requested that the resident purchase a money order from CVS. They were advised to write the money order out to "Vanilla Gift Card." The unknown actor advised the resident that they would then deliver \$500,000.00 directly to the resident's house. The resident was aware that this was likely a scam and did not provide any sensitive information or money orders. The resident wanted police to be aware of this scam.

## Unemployment Fraud

 Multiple Hampton Township residents have notified the HTPD of attempted unemployment fraud. The residents have reported that their employer notified them of an attempted unemployment claim in their name. Residents are advised to monitor their credit and to report fraudulent claims to the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

## Hazardous Conditions

 On 7/23/2022, HTP responded to multiple locations throughout the township for hazardous conditions that were caused by inclement weather. These conditions included many fallen trees on multiple roadways, as well as powerlines that were taken down because of the storm.

end

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## Hampton Hero

(Continued from page 1)

He was a "Bobcat," a nickname assigned to the 5th Infantry Regiment of the United States Army that traces its origins to 1808. Harry explained, "The Bobcats are known for being fast and agile. I was not afraid because I had a very strong faith. When I was a young man, a Pastor encouraged me and built my understanding that God had a special plan for my life." His Christian faith would carry him through tragedy and propel him forward in a lifelong mission of service.

From August through September 1968, VanRiper's infantry division displayed extraordinary heroism in combat operations against Vietnam, who had a numerically superior enemy force. The battle revealed highly specialized ambush missions and counteroffensive actions against a heavily armed enemy.

For VanRiper, the battle caused life threatening injuries for which he was awarded the Purple Heart, an honor reserved for service members wounded or killed as a result of enemy action while serving in the military. Most recently, he received the Presidential Unit Citation Award (Army). The distinction of these awards represent the great sacrifice of the military while in line of duty.

The Tet Offensive changed the trajectory of Harry's life when a devastating explosion would nearly take his life, ending his time in the military with an eight month stay in the hospital.

After hours of harsh battle, VanRiper and his fellow Bobcats took a brief break near a rubber plantation when a rocket propelled grenade (RPG) struck his armored personnel carrier. "There were RPGs flying everywhere," he said. VanRiper fell to the ground face first, grabbing his shoulder. "My left arm was blown off and my left leg was severely injured. My lung collapsed. I remember everything!" His eyes were blistered over from the blast. After gaining his faculties, his first thought was, "If I don't get out of here, nobody will know I'm alive." He was quickly bleeding out and was then rescued by an inexperienced medic, who also captured photographs of the events.

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Harry's platoon leader aggressively demanded the chopper land down to rescue VanRiper, despite heavy enemy fire. "I do remember the chopper flight and being put on the operating table." The surgeon said to VanRiper, "You know you lost your arm." The Bobcat answered, "Yes, I know." The grave day in history would wound 42 and claim the lives of nine soldiers.

VanRiper spent the next eight days in a coma at a field hospital, lying unconscious and still close to enemy fire. In fact, a huge

rocket blast hit close to his hospital, jolting him awake. He remembers sitting straight up. "God's alarm clock woke me up! I was out but the explosions woke me up! Just days before, they sent my mother a telegraph that told her my situation was life threatening and I would never walk again. The doctors didn't think I would make it," said VanRiper.

Months later, when VanRiper left the service, a physician reviewed his medical records. Astonished, he told the young man, "You should not be here. You only had a 15% chance of living. It could only be a will to live that you

(Continued on page 7)

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**Hampton Hero** (Continued from page 6) survived." VanRiper reacted to the doctor's dismay by pointing to the sky. "I pointed directly up to God. God brought me through this. He woke me up with that explosion! He gave me the will to survive. God had other things planned for me," VanRiper tearfully offered.

The young man, only 18 years old, would not only survive, but go on to achieve great things in his life. Many veterans like VanRiper do not abandon lives of service when discharged. They are inspired to become active in their communities and dedicate themselves to lifelong service.



Years later, looking back at the accident VanRiper said, "The injury made me a stronger man. I learned to figure things out without my left arm. I was often done

with tasks before people with two arms, because I learned to figure things out quickly!"

His wife, Susan Mihalo VanRiper, said, "My husband never asks for help. He mows the grass and changes brakes on cars with one arm. We have been married 35 years, and I have learned to wait for Harry to ask for help. My husband is self-sufficient." Reflecting on her husband's injuries and time in the military, Susan added, "I know the history of my husband's life. God wasn't done with my husband the day he almost died."

The Bobcat was not a stranger to life hardships, which ultimately made him the man he is today. "I was sent to a boarding home because my Dad left and my mom could not afford to feed me and my sister. We were served cereal three times a day." Later in his childhood, he would be exposed to an abusive, alcoholic stepfather. "After what I went through in my childhood, Vietnam would be just another bump in the road for me," VanRiper added.

Harry is one of the rare people who, when faced with adversity, becomes stronger. His sense of empathy and resiliency were shaped at an early age. Faith became a constant in this man's life.

He worked as a Professor at Community College of Allegheny County, teaching science and mathematics and also as a Chaplain for the American Legion, Post 548, located in Richland. With tears in his eyes, VanRiper offered, "I love this country. I love the United States Veterans. I love being there for families." Harry still serves in the role of Chaplain today.

VanRiper would spend time teaching at the Veterans' Administration Heinz Campus Recovery Program. An innate sense of empathy and compassion made him a perfect fit to serve those facing life's adversities. "I taught for five years at the recovery program. I love all vets," VanRiper said. Twenty percent of United States veterans return from war suffering a lifelong battle of post traumatic stress disorder and substance abuse.

The Pittsburgh Steelers recognized VanRiper in 2021 at Heinz Field, with fans

cheering loudly while the Vietnam veteran lit up the Jumbotron with his huge smile. "I was totally overwhelmed!" The Purple Heart combat veteran was also selected as "Chaplin of the Year" in 2018 for the Pennsylvania American Legion, the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization, which advocates patriotism through its diverse programs.

On Memorial Day this year, VanRiper received The Presidential Unit Citation for the bravery displayed in 1968. It is the highest honor a unit can receive in the United States military. As part of an executive order made in 1942, the citation is conferred to units of the armed forces of



VanRiper in Vietnam during the war

the United States who display extraordinary heroism while in action against an armed enemy. Criteria includes acts of gallantry and determination. It is reserved for units whose actions set them apart from other units participating in the same military campaign.

"52 years after the act I received my Presidential Unit Award!" exclaimed VanRiper. "It felt good but also sad, as I lost many brothers," the veteran added. He went on to explain how he doesn't want people who meet him and other veterans to say, "Thank you for your service." Rather than express gratitude, VanRiper instructed, "Ask us for our story. Sharing our story is the most important to us. Listening to us is the greatest gift." He went on to explain that stories capture memories and give veterans an opportunity to shed light on their most important roles serving America.

In addition to all of his life's roles, VanRiper also participates in Honor Guard, which renders military honors to military personnel and their families during funeral services. Weeping, VanRiper said, "I just want to be there for the families."

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St. Barnabas Charities hosted the 31st annual Free Care 5K on Saturday, August 6, 2022 presented by Paracca Interiors Flooring America. The race was held at the St. Barnabas Gibsonia campus on Meridian Road.

Top honors go to first place finisher Lance Nicholls, of Pittsburgh, crossing the finish line with a time of 15:41. Overall female winner was Michelle Murray, of Greenlawn, NY with a time of 17:49.

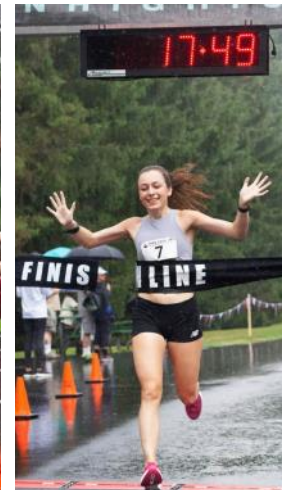
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Male 2nd Place: Eli Anish, Pittsburgh, PA 15:54  
 Female 2nd Place: Harley Kletz, Pittsburgh, PA 18:42  
 Male 3rd Place: Julian Paul, Pittsburgh, PA 16:22  
 Female 3rd Place: Lauren Finikiotis, Gibsonia, PA 18:59  
 Master Category: Eric Shaffer, 18:25 and Amy Brown, 20:04  
 Grand Master: Eric Anish 17:23 and Debbie Deddo, 25:39  
 First place Team: Bananas Mutations with a total time of 55:33  
 Second place Team: Beer Endurance Training with a time of 59:28  
 Third place, hailing from Succasunna NJ, Team Mocha Fan Club with a time of 1:39.

To view full results from the 31st annual St. Barnabas Free Care 5K, visit [www.RunHigh.com](http://www.RunHigh.com). Photography by Alexis Amor Photo. Competitive and amateur runners, joggers, walkers, teams, stroller pushers and wheelchair racers of all ages enjoyed a rolling 3.1 mile out and back course. Cash prizes and medals were awarded during a post-

race party that also featured raffle prizes and food emceed by Pittsburgh Pirate's in-game host, Joe Klimchak.

Proceeds benefited the St. Barnabas Free Care Fund, which provides more than \$6 million in care to residents and patients that cannot afford their care. To learn more, visit [FreeCare5K.com](http://FreeCare5K.com), call 724-625-3770 or to donate to the Free Care Fund, TEXT the word GIVE to 41444. Save the date for the next Free Care K on Saturday, August 5, 2023.



Left: Male first place finisher Lance Nicholls

Right: Female first place finisher Michelle Murray

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### 2022-2023 Hampton Talbot Football Schedule

Friday, August 26 vs. Knoch HS (Hampton Win 48-0)

Recap: First quarter, #9 Joey Mayer pass complete to #5 Benny Haselrig for 35 yards for a touchdown Talbots! Junior #30 Luke Fiscus kicked for the extra point. Then, Mayer ran 5 yards for a touchdown and Fiscus scored the extra point for a score 14-0.

In the second quarter, Mayer threw two more touchdowns to #3 Eric Weeks and again Fiscus kicked the extra points making it 28-0 Talbots. The third quarter, Weeks ran 31 yards for a touchdown and Fiscus scored the extra point for the Talbots making it 35-0. Mayer completed another pass to Haselrig for 70 yard touchdown, but Fiscus missed the extra point making it 41-0. In the fourth quarter, #28 Evan McAneny ran 28 yards for the final Talbot touchdown and Brock Borgo scored the extra point for a final score of 48-0 Talbots!

- Friday, September 2 vs. Shaler Area HS (Away)
- Friday, September 9 vs. Central Valley HS (HOME)
- Friday, September 16 vs. Kiski Area HS (Away)
- Friday, September 23 vs. Armstrong (HOME)
- Friday, September 30 vs. Connellsville (Away)
- Friday, October 7 vs. North Catholic HS (Away)
- Friday, October 14 vs. Indiana (HOME)
- Friday, October 21 vs. Mars (Away)
- Friday, October 28 vs. Highlands (HOME)



# Your Partners in Real Estate Present:

## HAMPTON HOME SALES (7/20/2022 - 8/20/2022)

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
4865 S Montour Road	\$1,500,000	\$1,300,000	78
4200 Mount Royal Boulevard	\$1,100,000	\$1,250,000	3
3059 Canterbury Drive	\$895,000	\$870,000	29
4261 Groan Glade Court	\$849,000	\$835,000	3
2731 Bristol Court	\$540,000	\$585,206	4
3896 Ashland Court	\$585,000	\$565,000	12
4361 Mount Royal Boulevard	\$490,000	\$480,000	19
2341 Saddle Drive	\$425,000	\$430,000	6
2520 Saddle Drive	\$399,000	\$399,000	3
4357 Kenson Drive	\$354,900	\$365,000	80
4790 Au Sable Drive	\$339,000	\$323,000	67
2860 Grandview Drive	\$289,900	\$280,000	57
2436 Victoria Drive	\$274,000	\$275,000	26
3199 Allison Drive	\$197,800	\$245,000	4
2524 Royalview Drive	\$229,900	\$232,000	34
4321 Hemlock Circle	\$219,900	\$224,000	31
4406 Laurel Oak Drive	\$214,900	\$220,000	4
4520 Bucktail Drive	\$217,500	\$216,500	10
3119 Camberly Drive	\$182,500	\$178,000	31
3984 Cole	\$169,900	\$167,000	31
3956 Auld Avenue	\$184,900	\$165,000	17
4819 Andrews Road	\$159,900	\$146,500	10

## COOL TIP

*Now's the time to trim and clean up your perennials, as well as remove dead twigs and branches. This will give you a clean slate in the spring.*

**FOR A COMPLIMENTARY MARKET ANALYSIS OF YOUR HOME, GIVE US A CALL!**



**Jackie Smith · Julie Mikus · Gina Capizzi Team**

Jackie 412-720-1751 · JSmith@TPRSold.com  
 Julie 412-996-4729 · JMikus@TPRSold.com  
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## Hampton Touchdown Club

*Invites you to the 4th Annual Funny Fundraiser*

When: Saturday, September 10  
 Where: 5149 North Pioneer Road Gibsonia, PA 15044  
 Doors Open at 6 p.m.  
 Showtime 7:30 p.m.  
 \$35 Donations includes: dinner, beer and soft drinks, BYOB & Mixers, Guests 21 and over.

For tickets contact Kim Hultgren 412-495-4419 Kerri Jacob 412-512-9456

Or any football coach or football player

Tickets online:  
[slapstickproductions.com](http://slapstickproductions.com)



# HTPD Host Active Shooter Training

by Jackie Smith

Active shootings are defined as a shooting in which an individual is killing or attempting to kill people in a confined, populous area using a firearm, and usually with no specific target. Between 2018 and 2021, the United States has over 300 active shooter incidents, with 900 fatalities and over 1800 wounded.

Hampton Township's Police Department hosted its annual week long active shooter training at Wyland Elementary School with over 170 officers from numerous police departments in the North Hills including Ross, Franklin Park, Fox Chapel, Millvale, Sharpsburg, and Ohio Township.

The Northern Region Special Response Team (SRT) which is comprised of 19 different agencies including Tactical Emergency Medics (TEMS), snipers, negotiators, etc., provided instruction for advanced training. According to Sergeant Rob Kirsopp, Hampton Police Department, "You cannot underestimate the importance of everyone training together. We have continuous trainings; it's not a one-time thing, and the

integration is key." Kirsopp said, "When I joined the force back in 1998, we didn't hear about active shooters - not until Columbine in 1999. In the beginning, police officers were there to secure the scene, and we would call in SWAT to handle the event."



Today, these teams are all trained together and are responding together. Sergeant Kirsopp believes, "Having an incident commander to quarterback the situation, having that leadership for the team right from the beginning is critical to the outcome of these types of situations. This training allows for leadership at all levels depending on the first officers responding."

The Hampton Police Department wants to assure the community that they are getting as much training as they can and doing everything possible to keep our North Hills communities safe!



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**[www.thehamptonnews.com](http://www.thehamptonnews.com)**

**[info@thehamptonnews.com](mailto:info@thehamptonnews.com)**

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## Ducks

(Continued from page 3)

exclaimed. Finally, the staff corralled the ducklings in a laundry basket. The ducklings were safely rescued and transported to a local wildlife refuge and later released. Two days later, Solar returned to Crouse Run. She appeared stunned and disoriented.

McCall and Lee stay in contact with the organizations to follow the success of Solar the female duck. The neighbors along Crouse Run share a passion for wildlife conservation and advocacy, and hope other Hampton residents will be inspired by the importance of nature and wildlife in Allison Park.

"Nature takes me away from the nonsense of the world. Unfortunately, this is not the world I grew up in, so observing wildlife takes my focus off of the troubles and relaxes me." Joe and wife Gerry have been observing the mallards since 2012.

For Janet, observing nature is an opportunity to learn. "I'm fascinated by what wildlife notices," she said. McCall enjoys cross country skiing on her eight acres during winter months and meditates every morning on her deck, immersed in the sounds of nature. "It helps me to appreciate the interconnectedness of the world," she said.

On Aug 16, 2022 Josh Stiller, a Game Bird Biologist with the New York mallard study shared satellite images with the two Hampton neighbors, revealing that Solar returned to Lake Erie in New York State, where she initially entered the study.

To learn more about the New York Mallard study, visit [www.outdoorlife.com/conservation/atlantic-flyway-mallard-study](http://www.outdoorlife.com/conservation/atlantic-flyway-mallard-study). To learn about the Wildlife Futures Program - Southwest Region, visit [www.vet.upenn.edu/wildlife-futures](http://www.vet.upenn.edu/wildlife-futures).

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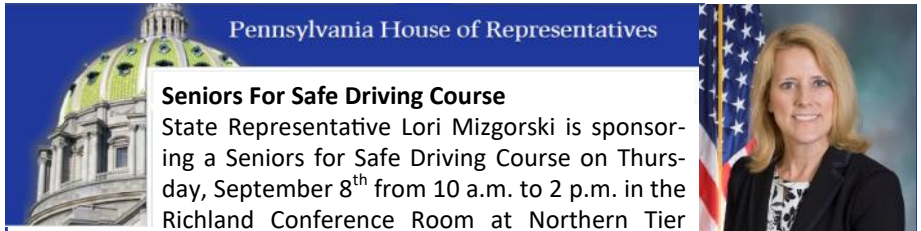
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20328 R1-21





School is back in session!



**Seniors For Safe Driving Course**

State Representative Lori Mizgorski is sponsoring a Seniors for Safe Driving Course on Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Richland Conference Room at Northern Tier Library, 4015 Dickey Road Gibsonia, PA.

Seniors For Safe Driving is a PennDOT approved program that offers mature driver improvement courses. The courses are for drivers 55 years of age or older, and the fee is \$16.00 payable to Seniors for Safe Driving. Participants who complete the course, will receive a minimum five percent discount on their auto insurance as required by state law. Refresher courses are required every three years after the initial course. No exam will be given, and the course is classroom instruction only. To register, call 1-800-559-4880 or go online to [www.SeniorsForSafeDriving.com](http://www.SeniorsForSafeDriving.com)

**Senior Expo**

Representative Lori Mizgorski is pleased to host a Senior Expo on Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10 a.m. to Noon at Hampton Community Center, 3101 McCully Road, Allison Park. The Senior Expo will feature a large variety of informational booths geared toward senior citizens and their families and caregivers. Exhibitors will range from state and federal agencies to local non-profit organizations that provide services which promote the health, safety, and welfare of senior citizens.

Flu shots will be available to attendees who present their health insurance card. Free health screenings will also be offered. Pittsburgh Regional Transit representatives will be onsite to submit senior applications for the Senior Transit ConnectCard. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, please call the district office at 412-487-6605.

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*Happy Labor Day*



## Holocaust

(Continued from page 1)

*America* is the tale of Melvin Goldman's inexplicable survival, a frightening journey recounted in his own words as transcribed from audiotapes he recorded in the late 1970s. With truth and authenticity, Melvin tells how his childhood was stolen by the Third Reich as his family and friends were forced into a Jewish ghetto and ultimately condemned to Auschwitz.



Jason, Lee, and John Kikel share their family's history, from pre-WWII to the present.

After a miraculous survival, Melvin immigrated to Pittsburgh, where he became a well-respected jeweler in Squirrel Hill. Over the years, he was often seen speaking into a tape recorder during free moments, working independently to document his story. Lee knew about the tapes, but it wasn't until 2015—nearly 20 years after Melvin's death—that she pulled them out of storage. Wrestling with the flood of emotions that came with hearing his voice again, Lee clearly understood why he had taken such care to document his story. In his recording, Melvin shared his hope for his story to be made into a book, so Lee took her cue and got to work.

John and Jason Kikel, Lee's husband and son, joined her as she took on the arduous task, blending Melvin's words with her own. Divided into two sections and punctuated by a treasure trove of photos, the book's dual-person storytelling adds layers of perspective to the unimaginable losses borne by so many.

Lee was recently approached by Pittsburgh's Prime Stage Theatre about adapting the book into a play for the enGAGE program (Genocide Awareness Global Education). Details are

being finalized for performances in April 2023.

Available to purchase directly from Lee at [www.leekikel.com](http://www.leekikel.com), *Perseverance* also can be found on the shelves of local independent bookstores, in museum shops, and at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com). For more of this incredible story, please visit [www.leekikel.com](http://www.leekikel.com).

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## Allison Russell brings her Unique Style of Music to Hartwood

by Lainy Carslaw

The Hartwood Acres concert season is almost at an end, but it brought many talented performers to our area all summer long. One of these special entertainers was musician Allison Russell, who visited on August 14<sup>th</sup> with her all-woman band. Russell took to the stage with her messages of resilience and gratitude. Although her songs are deeply poetic and sometimes haunting, they carry a certain hopefulness in their beauty.



Russell's career is just taking off after collaborating with musicians like Brandi Carlisle and Hozier and getting a Grammy nod for her song "Nightflyer." She is a story teller and opens up about her childhood trauma and her "chosen family." As she invites the audience into her life, a stronger connection is drawn, making way for both an emotional and entertaining experience.

"Her music makes you believe this world can be a better place," said Katie Hilko. "I'm so glad she chose to visit our corner of the world and bless our community with her talent and positive messages."

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## Current Events

### Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Roundtable

Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.  
Hampton Township Community Center, 1301 McCully Road.  
Col. Kevin Weddle will present, "Lincoln's Forgotten Admiral: The Life of Samuel Francis DuPont."  
Lecture is free and open to the public. Masks are required.

### Township of Hampton Community Event September Lineup:

During the month of September we have added a food truck each week to the Farmer's Market area. Please see the tentative schedule below for what food truck will be here! Please note: food truck lineup is subject to change.

- September 14<sup>th</sup> - Rescue Dogs
- September 21<sup>st</sup> - Rolling Meatballs
- September 28<sup>th</sup> - Cousins Maine Lobster

### Make Health Your Hobby

This new program will be lead by Dr. Suchita Kulkarni-Lambore (certified Health Coach), who will focus on improving one's overall health and making appropriate lifestyle choices covering various health related topics. Presentations are interactive with time for a question/answer session at the end. This adult program is (6) one-and-a-half hours classes on Tuesdays beginning September 20<sup>th</sup> and includes a refreshing "get up and move/stretch" break. Register by September 16<sup>th</sup>. Call 412-487-7870 with questions or check out [www.hampton-pa.org](http://www.hampton-pa.org)

### HAEE 5K Fundraiser

Hampton Alliance for Educational Excellence (HAEE) is proud to announce the 30<sup>th</sup> 5K Race on Sat., October 15, 2022 at 9 a.m. in the Hampton Community Park.

This year, the celebration is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a "\$30 for 30" campaign. Representatives from the campaign are requesting that residents donate at least \$30. This unique program is something everyone can participate in. Registration to participate is simple. Scan the QR code and join us in celebrating 30 years of excellence!



If you cannot join us at the race, you can still participate by donating to the \$30 for 30 initiative: [www.hamptonalliance.org/donations](http://www.hamptonalliance.org/donations).

### Hartwood Summer Concert Series

- September 4<sup>th</sup> Allegheny County Music Festival Jam Fest: 5:30-6:20 theCAUSE
- 6:40-7:40 Dogs in a Pile
- 8:00-10:00 Pink Talking Fish
- \$20 per vehicle requested donation benefits the Allegheny County Department of Human Services



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## N. Hampton Vol. Fire Dept.

July 2022 Monthly Report, Chief Michael Piovesan

### Monthly Incident Summary:

Assist EMS	3
Brush Fire	1
Commercial Fire Alarm	10
Commercial Structure Fire	3
CO Alarm	1
Natural Gas Leak	2
Residential Fire Alarm	3
Residential Structure Fire	3
Transformer Fire/Wires Down	6
Tree Into a House	1
Vehicle Accident No Entrapment	3
Vehicle Accident with Entrapment	3
Vehicle Fire	1
Vehicle Into Structure	1
<b>Total Incidents for the Month</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Total Incidents for 2022</b>	<b>210</b>

### Noteworthy incidents and events:

- NHVFD responded to a report of smoke coming from a commercial structure at the intersection of Sample Road and Bryant Road. First arriving crews were able to quickly find and isolate the source which was electrical in nature causing minimal damage to the structure.
- NHVFD responded to two separate sprinkler alarm activations on Route 8 in July. Both sprinkler heads were accidentally set off, causing water to flow throughout both structures. NHVFD assisted in shutting off the water and cleanup of the structure.
- NHVFD responded to Duncan Avenue for the report of a gas line struck by construction workers. Crews arrived to find an auger had struck an 8-inch gas line and had an active leak. Several homes were evacuated out of precaution and crews remained on scene for over 2 hours while the gas line was repaired.

### New Membership:

We can always use new members who are interested in fire-fighting, fire police or as drivers only. There is a place in the department for anyone who is interested in helping. Please contact an officer at 724-443-5250, or visit our website at [www.northhamptonvfd.org](http://www.northhamptonvfd.org).

## Unite for Bleeding Disorders

14th Annual Unite for Bleeding Disorders Walk

Saturday, September 10, 2022

North Park Swimming Pool Parking Lot  
S Ridge Dr, Allison Park, PA 15101



**UNITE for hope.**  
**UNITE for community.**  
**UNITE to make a difference.**  
*The proceeds from this event will support the Western PA Bleeding Disorders Foundation.*

[www.uniteforbleedingdisorders.org/event/wpa](http://www.uniteforbleedingdisorders.org/event/wpa)



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## Upcoming Events

### 2022 Township of Hampton Community Events & Activities

**Dog Swim Day**  
 Saturday, September 10  
 Hampton Community Pool  
 12-3:15 pm

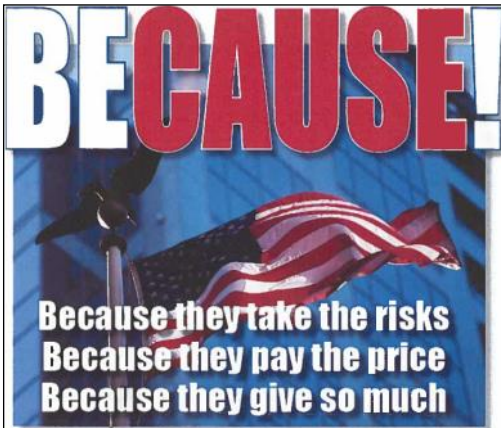
**Cancelled**

**Halloween Parade**  
 Saturday, October 22,  
 1-3 pm  
 Hampton Community Park

**Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest**  
 October 21<sup>st</sup>

**Online Dog Costume Contest**  
 photo submissions are from October 1<sup>st</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>

For additional information on these events and more, please visit the township website:  
[www.hampton-pa.org](http://www.hampton-pa.org) for the most up to date information!



### Operation Troop Appreciation Remembers them.

Join us in a very special fundraising race.  
 The Operation Troop Appreciation Veterans Day

### 5K Race

Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 9:00 a.m. Hampton Community Park  
 All Proceeds will be used to send Holiday Care Packages to Active Duty Troops  
[www.operationtroopappreciation.org](http://www.operationtroopappreciation.org)  
 To Register, please email:  
[Gerardmac977@aol.com](mailto:Gerardmac977@aol.com)  
 Or go to RunSignUp.com  
<https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/AllisonPark/OPERATIONTROOPAPPRECIATION5K>

### Veterans Breakfast Club

Wednesday, November 30 at 8:30 a.m.  
 at Christ Church at Grove Farm  
 49 Duff Road  
 Sewickley, PA 15143

If you'd like to attend one of our monthly breakfasts, join us on a day trip or volunteer, please contact:

**Main Contact:** Betty Karleski, Administrator  
**Phone:** 412-623-9029  
 Or Todd 412-623-9029  
**Email:** [betty@veteransbreakfastclub.org](mailto:betty@veteransbreakfastclub.org)

### Fire Prevention Day!

Join us for our annual Fire Prevention Day!  
 Home Depot

4960 Route 8, Allison Park, PA  
 Saturday, October 1, 2022  
 10am-2pm

Meet your local First Responders  
 Fire Safety  
 Touch-A-Truck  
 Crafts & Games  
 Raffles & 50/50  
 Hot Dogs & Refreshments  
 Fun for the entire Family!



**TOWNSHIP OF HAMPTON HALLOWEEN PARADE**  
 OCTOBER 22ND FROM 1 - 3 PM  
 HAMPTON COMMUNITY PARK

**REGISTRATION BEGINS MID-SEPTEMBER**  
[WWW.HAMPTON-PA.ORG](http://WWW.HAMPTON-PA.ORG)  
 REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS.

### CHEERTOBERFEST

Yard Sale \* Food Trucks: Black Dog Wood Fire Pizza  
 \* Games \* Corn Hole Tournament \* And Much More!  
 Saturday, October 1st  
 Time: Start 9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.  
 Grubbs Pavillion at Hampton Park

**SALON 13** and **VILLAGE CENTER FOR HOLISTIC THERAPY** PRESENT:  
**PAW-SITIVE CHANGES BENEFIT**  
 Benefits *Paws Across Pittsburgh*, a non-profit pet rescue

**Sunday, October 9, 2022**  
**3:00 - 6:00 PM**  
 Salon 13 | 2400 Ferguson Rd. | Allison Park, PA 15101 | 412-487-1313

- MEET ADOPTABLE DOGS
- MEET THERAPY DOG PARKER FROM THE VILLAGE CENTER
- BASKET RAFFLE
- ENJOY LIVE MUSIC FROM THE BLEIL BROTHERS
- DELICIOUS FOOD FROM TOCAYO FOOD TRUCK
- FACE PAINTING

**Rain or Shine - Tented Event - Dog Friendly**  
 Monetary donations or items from the list below are appreciated and will be collected at Salon 13 and The Village Center through October 9th (and at the event):  
 Collars, bowls, leashes, treats, toys, puppy pads, Rachel Ray puppy food, senior wet/dry food.

PayPal



## A Grand Tradition

Marching Band Performs at Kennywood

by Julie Mikus

The Hampton High School Marching Band continued the grand tradition of performing at Kennywood Park on Saturday, August 6. Despite predicted thunderstorms,

Mary-Parmer Keyser, parent of freshman Linea Taube, has a unique perspective of the marching band, as she is a music teacher at Highlands School District, teaching general music, band, and chorus to elementary students.

"The marching band displayed such precision not only in their musicality, but also in marching technique. You see the great detail that goes into teaching students how to move as a flexible unit while maintaining that great marching band sound we all love to hear each season. I was blown away by their tone and stage presence!" exclaimed Ms. Keyser.

Ms. Keyser is also proud of her daughter's participation in the marching band. "Seeing my daughter at her first official performance as a Talbot band member was exhilarating! I had such pride seeing her in the crisp uniform for the first time, and I was amazed that she was able to keep such great composure while marching side by side with her new band friends," said Keyser.

Ms. Keyser's daughter, Linea, enjoyed her introduction to the marching band at Kennywood. "I had many favorite things happen at Kennywood! I felt loved and welcomed by all the flute players, and never felt out of place. We sounded so good together!" the 14-year-old student said. Linea further explained, "When people said the band felt like a family, I didn't quite know what they meant. After the parade, I really understood. Band is a family. It's more than I could have imagined and the Kennywood trip gave me a taste of that!"

The band's 2022 halftime show is called, "Senior Prom: A Night to Dismember." Marla Capsambelis, President of the Hampton Band Association, looks forward to this year's halftime performances. "I think the students are really excited about the theme. During the show they will get to zombie walk, dance choreography from "Thriller," and let loose on "Ballroom Blitz." The music is terrific and the kids' enthusiasm will shine through" she exclaimed. Mrs. Capsambelis is the parent of Brendan, a tenth grader, who plays quads in the drum line.



Photo by Lisa Towers

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## Hampton Band Association Hosts Allegheny Valley Band Festival

by Jennifer Vecchio

It's a Saturday night under the lights for the Allegheny Valley Band Festival! On Saturday, September 10, 2022, Hampton Marching Band and Hampton Township School District will host the 42<sup>nd</sup> Allegheny Valley Band Festival. This gathering of marching bands, dance teams and color guards provides a special opportunity for North Hills residents to come together and celebrate music education with our students, families and friends. This year, the Allegheny Valley Band Festival will include nine marching band units including: Avonworth, Hampton, North Allegheny, North Hills, Northgate, Pine-Richland, Riverview, and Shaler. From Northgate's BoomBox Hits to Hampton's Zombie Prom, these bands are sure to entertain you! The festivities will be held from 7 - 10 p.m. at Hampton's Fridley



Hampton Band at a prior Band Festival

Field, 4589 School Drive, Allison Park. Admission is \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. Please use McCully Road to access guest parking at Hampton High School and the Hampton Community Center. Continuous shuttle vans will be available to transport guests to Fridley Field. Once you are there, make sure to check out the concession stand. There will be a full menu of fresh hot food and snacks available including Haluski, walking tacos and pulled pork.



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