

FREE

# The Hampton News

September 2025

From the Neighborhoods of Hampton Township, PA

Vol. 21 No. 1

## Little Stars with Big Moments

by Laurie Rizzo

This summer, a group of 10 and under softball players proved that grit, teamwork, and a love for the game can lead to unforgettable moments — and even a

championship title.

Led by longtime coach Greg Holtz, the Hampton 10U All-Star team wrapped up their season with an impressive 11-2-2

record across three local tournaments. They placed second in their hometown Hampton tournament and clinched the

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Left to right back row (coaches): Mitch Kampmeyer, Jena Seymour, Greg Holtz, Dan Silianoff

Middle row: Ellie Kampmeyer, Ruby Silianoff, Adalyn Bodle, Sydney Leidwinger, Addison Watenpool, Kacey Berkey, Amelia Holtz, and Keira Pater. Front row: Maria Lucey, Ruby Seymour, Peyton Szramowski Not present: Elena Valore, Juliet Kaselitz, Zoe Schutzman, Makenna Cadarette

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Restaurant Week

by Amanda Lukas

Hampton Restaurant Week is back! We heard from many residents and restaurant owners that last year's inaugural Restaurant Week was a great success, and we hope that this year will be even better. Hampton Restaurant Week 2025 will be held September 8<sup>th</sup> through September 14<sup>th</sup>. The goal of this

(Continued on page 17)

## Class of 2005 Reunion

by Laurie Rizzo

Two decades after tossing their caps into the air, Hampton High School's Class of 2005 reunited under the late summer sky at Narcisi Winery to celebrate friendships, memories, and the enduring spirit of their class. With over 55 alumni in attendance from a graduating class of 259, the event was a heartfelt blend of laughter, reflection, and reconnection.

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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 7/13/2025—7/26/2025:

### DUI ARREST

On 7/20/25, a vehicle was stopped at William Flinn Hwy. and Harts Run Rd. for failing to maintain a single lane and an inoperable brake light. The officer could smell marijuana coming from inside the vehicle and an open alcoholic beverage was observed. There was also an open package of edible THC beside the driver's right leg. After receiving consent to search the vehicle, officers recovered the plain view items as well as a rolling tray, beer bong, and two partial marijuana cigarettes. The driver tested positive on a preliminary breath test (PBT). Both driver and passenger were under 21 years of age. The contraband was destroyed at the station and non-traffic citations were issued via summons.

On 7/26/25, HTP were dispatched to Harts Run Road for a report of a male in a vehicle passed out behind the wheel. The first officer on scene located the male still inside the vehicle, appearing unconscious. After waking the driver, he appeared disoriented, had slurred speech and smelled of alcohol. Field sobriety

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## 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!

**Production, Print and Design:** Laurie Rizzo  
**Proofreading:** Deb Brady  
**P.O. Box 243 \* Wildwood, PA 15091**  
**412-818-6491**

### EMAIL AND WEBSITE

[info@thehamptonnews.com](mailto:info@thehamptonnews.com)  
[www.thehamptonnews.com](http://www.thehamptonnews.com)

## Longtime HTPD Sargeant Retires

by Jenn Edmonds

Sergeant Pete Halli has been a mainstay at Hampton community events and a pillar of the Hampton Police Department for the last 25 years. He proudly served the community where he grew up and raised his family until he retired from the police department on July 31<sup>st</sup>.

A 1993 Hampton High School graduate, Halli went to Penn State, where he obtained a degree in Criminal Justice. After college, he graduated from the Police Academy and became a police officer in 1998. "All I ever wanted to be was a police officer. It was my calling. I had no backup plan." explained Halli.

Halli began working for HTPD in early 2000, spent 15 years as a patrolman and was promoted to Sergeant in 2015. He supervised the school resource officer program, worked on scheduling under Chief Tom Vulakovich, and was in charge of all of the township's special events. You may also know or recognize him from coaching football at HJFA, being an officer or a father at Poff Elementary, Hampton Middle School or Hampton High School.

Community support means a lot to Halli. He recounted a story of a Poff Elementary student who approached him in Walmart while he was off duty in plain clothes. The student thanked him for what he does at the school and for keeping them safe. "You want kids to be able to come up to you. We are normal people, fathers and mothers, coaches, and have children of our own," said Halli. His favorite part of the job is to "help people on their worst day and help

them through their crisis."

Halli's family includes his wife Jen, also a Hampton graduate; his son Nick (24), a safety engineer at MSA; daughter Katie (22) a first-grade teacher in Penn Hills; son Jack (17) a senior and football player at Hampton High School, and his three dogs. At home, he likes to work on DIY projects and his '85 Camaro IROC.

The next phase of Halli's career will continue to focus on helping others, but will be as a school resource officer with the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, working to stop any possible threats. He will transition from his days of working 12-hour shifts and working every other weekend to "school" hours Monday through Friday with holidays, weekends, and summers off. Halli will be stationed in two main schools, Blessed Trinity Academy and Holy Cross Academy.

"I'm very fortunate that I've been able to work in Hampton. I wanted to thank the community and the Township for the ability to serve them," said Halli. But, we as Hampton residents are the grateful ones for his devoted service to our community. Thank you, Sgt. Halli and good luck!

Photo by Angela Kenbok



Left to right: Pete's mom Patricia, son Nick, daughter Katie, wife Jen, Pete, son Jack, front: niece Noelle Frank

Photo submitted



Pete Halli's last day in the station

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## Library News



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### What a Wonder-Fall World! 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, Wednesdays and Thursdays \***  
**Starting September 9<sup>th</sup> through Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>**

**from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

10:30 a.m.- “Stories & Songs” 10:45- “Investigate and Create”  
11:00 a.m.- “Stories and Songs” 11:30 a.m.- “Parachute Play”  
11:50 p.m.- “Stories and Songs” 12:00 p.m.- “Stay and Play”  
*\*times are subject to go longer or shorter*

### Dungeons and Dragons Pick-Up Game

**Saturdays, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, and Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**starting @1:00 p.m.**

Calling all gamers! Dust off your dice & get ready for new adventures! We are excited to announce our fall DnD Pickup Sessions. Experienced players, newbies & curious fans are all welcome. The program will run from 1:00pm-3:00pm\*with an option to extend the game until 4:00. This program is for play-

ers ages 11-17. Adults (18+) interested in a pick-up game, please stop in and let us know!

### Make the Shift, A Wellness Workshop!

**Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30p.m. -7:15p.m**

Learn the 5 reasons your Health and Wellness Goals don't stick – and the simple SHIFTS that could change everything. Join Board Certified Health Coach Mary V. as she helps you to discover the habits that are holding you back from your best life! Please call the library to register: 412-684-1098

### Take Me Out to the Ballgame!

**Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m.**

“Back to the wall goes Berra. It is over the fence! Home run! “The Pirates Win!” - Chuck Thompson. 65 years ago, Bill Mazeroski made history, and the Pirates won their first World Series in 35 years! Pittsburgh has an incredible baseball history with great players, teams, and historic moments, but few realize that Pittsburgh has often been in the lead in ballpark design and development. Join us and author Mark Fatla as we relive Bill Mazeroski's historic home run and visit the nine ballparks that hosted major league baseball in Pittsburgh between 1876 and the present. Historic photographs illustrate design and construction phases, the major changes as parks expanded and aged, and eventually their demolition. There may even be some peanuts and crackerjacks! Please call the library to register: 412-684-1098.

*(Continued on page 5)*



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## Library

(Continued from page 4)

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

**Wednesday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30,**

**Head Cases (Par Unit #1), by John McMahon.**

The Mystery Book Group meets at the Grubbs Pavilion. (This is the pavilion above/behind the pool; parking is available).

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. 19<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 p.m. *The Hunter*, by Tana French**

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!

### **News and Views! First Fridays!**

**Fridays, September 5<sup>th</sup>, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, November 7<sup>th</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup> 1:00 p.m. in the library.**

Join our long-running, thought-provoking discussion group where neighbors come together to explore current local and national issues in a friendly, open setting. Led by longtime journalist and author Gerry K. Smith, the salon offers a welcoming space for lively dialogue and diverse perspectives.

**New members are always welcome!**

### **Cooks-N-Books: Picnic Favorites!**

**Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. -8:00 p.m.**

Love food, friends, and fun conversation? Join *Cooks-n-Books*, our welcoming cookbook and food discussion group for anyone who enjoys cooking (or just eating!). This month, we're dishing

on summer picnic favorites—what did you try, make, or sip in the sunshine? Bring your dish to share. No experience is needed, just your appetite for good food and good company!

We meet in the Adult Lounge inside the Hampton Community Center.

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

### **Fall Hours!**

Monday: 9:30 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

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

Friday: 9:30 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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## Academy Names New Principal

There are new things coming to Blessed Trinity Academy this year. The biggest addition is that of Ms. Margaret "Peggy" Ruefle, who was hired as BTA's new principal in August. Ms. Ruefle comes to BTA with a wealth of experience, having been the principal at Providence Heights Alpha School for the past 12 years. Her career also includes valuable experience working with at-risk and special education students. She previously served as principal at St. Stephen's Lutheran Academy and in administrative leadership at The Bradley Center. Her educational background includes Masters degrees in School Administration and Special Education, and she holds Pennsylvania certifications as a K-12 Principal and in Special Education.



Peggy Ruefle

Mrs. Meredith Kandravy, Director of Advancement at BTA, says, "We are so excited for Peggy to join our BTA family. We are looking forward to having Peggy's leadership and experience as we enter our 9th year at BTA. I know the families, teachers, and students are looking forward to getting to know Peggy."

Blessed Trinity Academy is a preschool through 8th grade Catholic school located between the Hampton and Fox Chapel School Districts. The school will be welcoming 65 new students when they open their doors on August 21st. For more information about BTA, visit [www.btacademy.net](http://www.btacademy.net)

## Celebrating Brown's Promotion at A.W. Beattie Career Center


A.W. Beattie Career Center is proud to announce the promotion of Heather Brown to the role of Assistant Director for Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Building Oversight/Principal—a title that reflects both her deep-rooted commitment and expansive leadership within the school.

Heather's journey at Beattie began in 2003, when she joined as an Instructional Assistant in the Commercial Art program. Over the past 22 years, she has worn many hats, each one adding to a rich tapestry of experience that uniquely qualifies her for this new leadership role. From classroom support to administrative insight, Heather has cultivated a rare, comprehensive understanding of the building's inner workings and the educational process at large.

But what truly sets Heather apart is her unwavering dedication to career and technical education. As a CTE graduate herself, she brings not only professional expertise but personal conviction to her work. "I've always had one main goal in mind," she shares, "promoting the benefits of career and technical education." Her passion has helped shape Beattie's mission to prepare and train the region's future workforce, and her new position will allow her to expand that impact even further.

(Continued on page 14)

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## Neoma Makes the Storywalk Shine

by Laurie Rizzo



As the sun gently filtered through the trees at Hampton Park, nine-year-old Neoma Moore stepped confidently onto the winding path at the playground area featuring the "Storywalk" installation. With school just weeks away, this soon-to-be 4th grader was already in back-to-school mode—and doing it in style.

Neoma was accompanied by her "Mimi," Mariann Davis, who smiled warmly as Neoma led the way from frame to frame. That morning's story—*Teamwork Makes the Dreamwork*—was more than just a tale. It was a celebra-

tion of collaboration, kindness, and clever thinking.

As Neoma read aloud carefully, she made sure her younger brother Eamon, age 5, could hear every word—even if he was more interested in racing down the slide nearby. Eamon started kindergarten at Wyland, and if he's anything like his big sister, the teachers are in for a treat.

Neoma's favorite part? "Reading is my favorite thing to do," she said with a grin. And her love of reading paid off—at the final stretch of the Storywalk, frames 16 through 19, Neoma answered every question with precision and enthusiasm, showing she had not only understood the story, but connected with it.

## Sports

### Hampton Celebrates at the 2025 Hall of Fame Banquet

Hampton High School is proud to announce its annual Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet, honoring the Classes of 2024/2025. This cherished tradition will take place on Thursday, October 2, 2025, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the North Park Lounge, located on Route 8 in Gibsonia.

The Hall of Fame Banquet is more than just an evening of accolades—it's a heartfelt celebration of the athletes, coaches, and contributors who have left a mark on Hampton's sports legacy. From record-breaking performances to quiet leadership behind the scenes, the event shines a spotlight on the stories that have shaped the school's proud athletic history.

Tickets are \$50 and include dinner, the induction ceremony, and an evening of camaraderie among alumni, families, and community members. Tickets can be purchased online through <https://admin.eservicestech.com/p/hampton/events>.

Whether you're a former teammate, a proud parent, or simply a fan of Hampton's rich sports tradition, this banquet offers a chance to reconnect, reflect, and cheer on the newest inductees as they take their place among the legends.

(Continued on page 18)

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20328 R4-23



# Hampton Fastpitch Team Defies the Odds

by Laurie Rizzo

This summer, the Hampton girls fastpitch softball team, led by longtime coach Tom Carlin, proved that grit, growth, and heart can outshine even the toughest competition. With a roster split between rising 6th and 7th graders, the team took on a bold challenge: competing in 12U tournaments against older, often larger opponents—many heading into 8th grade.

Coach Carlin, who's been involved for four summer seasons, follows the age group of his daughters Haley and Callie, both key players on the squad. "The all-star team changes every other year," he explained, "but the spirit and drive these girls bring to the field never wavers."

What made this season stand out wasn't just the wins—it was the transformation. "We intentionally entered tournaments where we'd face strong competition," Carlin shared. "The size difference alone was something to see! But the girls never backed down."

One of the most memorable matchups came against Fox Chapel, widely regarded as one of the strongest 12U teams in the region. Hampton faced them three times—twice at home and once in a nail-biting finale that went into extra innings and ended

with a one-run difference.

"Watching how competitive we were in that final game compared to early summer really showed everyone's improvement," Carlin said proudly.

Despite the sweltering summer heat, the team's energy never faltered. After a rain-soaked spring, the weather finally cooperated, and ASA umpires kept the games running smoothly and professionally. "This is fastpitch softball," Carlin noted, "and these girls just love to play and compete."

In fact, five of the players heading into 6th grade could have opted to play 10U—but chose to stay with their teammates and take on the tougher 12U bracket. That decision speaks volumes about their character. "Win or lose, they support each other and keep working hard," Carlin emphasized.

With the season wrapped and memories made, the team is already buzzing about next summer. There's talk of entering the

Little League tournament series—if enough interest builds. Given the team's passion and progress, it's easy to imagine them making a strong showing.

Coach Carlin summed it up best: "These girls grew so much this summer—not just as players, but as teammates. I've been fortunate to coach them, and I can't wait to see what they do next."



Team roster not in order of photo: Haley Carlin, Johna Ontko, Evelyn Mascaro, Grace Jaworski, Callie Carlin, Hannah Koontz, Leah Schutzman, Leah Yurchick, Madison Peck, Marlo Wheeler, Natalie Lowell, Samantha Murray. Coaches: Chris Mascaro, Kellen Wheeler, Michael Yurchick, Rob Jaworski, Tim Schutzman, Tom Carlin (head coach)

## U10 Softball

championship in Saxonburg — but it wasn't just the wins that made this team special.

Coach Holtz, who has coached most of these girls off and on for five seasons, describes the summer as one of growth and resilience. "The team had a very positive attitude all summer," he shared. "They never got down on themselves and always believed we could win."



Addison Watenpool with her over the fence grand slam homerun ball!

That belief paid off in dramatic fashion during the Saxonburg Tournament, when Addison Watenpool stepped up to the plate with two outs and a full count. Down 4–3 against Plum, she connected with the pitch and sent it soaring over the left-center field fence — a grand slam. "It was a very rare moment, because not many go over the fence in 10u," Holtz said. "Everyone was going cra-

zy." The video of the homerun, posted to the Hampton Athletics Association Facebook page, quickly became a community favorite.

Another standout performance came from pitcher Amelia Holtz, who racked up an astonishing 123 strikeouts in just 15 games. She pitched 55 of the team's 73 innings, averaging 2.25 strikeouts per inning — a rare feat for any young athlete.

But beyond the stats, Coach Holtz emphasized the joy of watching first-year players gain confidence. "It's always intimidating to go up against older girls that can pitch very fast — and sometimes wild," he said. "Seeing them succeed in fielding and hitting by the end of the summer was incredibly rewarding."

With a championship under their belts and memories that will last a lifetime, these young athletes are already inspiring the next generation of Hampton softball players — and maybe even future WPIAL champions.



Amela Holtz reached over 100 strike outs in 15 games!



## From Underdogs to State Playoffs

by Jenn Edmonds

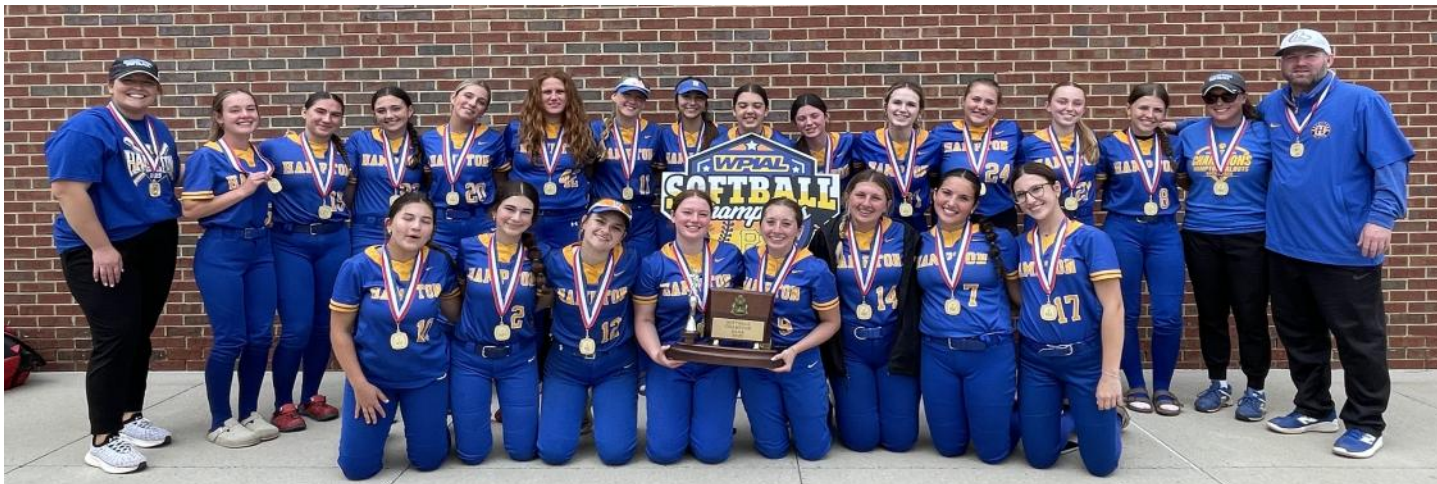
The Hampton girls' softball team just kept winning and etched their place in Hampton High School history with the furthest playoff run in program history. In their second year under coach Katie Hedderman, they accomplished many firsts and finished the season 8<sup>th</sup> in the state of Pennsylvania.

There was a combined roster of 21 girls between varsity and JV. The mix of experience and young talent allowed them to

build depth and was one of the reasons they could be so flexible with pinch hitters, defensive changes, and late-game substitutions in big moments. "The past two years have been nothing short of incredible. We've made history both seasons," said Coach Hedderman.

They completed the season 18-5 overall, with a perfect 12-0 record in their section, gaining the Section 3-4A title. "That undefeated section run was a huge confidence boost going into

(Continued on page 10)



Left to right standing: Coach Haley Dietz, Emily Maloy, Marissa Snyder, Alena Zottola, Juliette Lange, Aliza Michielli, Sydney Pacek, Ashley Schick, Jenna Backus, Mackenzie Peck, Grace Zavidny, Lauren meister, Sophia Catone, Katelyn Dubee, Coach Kate Hedderman, Coach Joe Merz. Kneeling: Ava Manno, Eden Lawrence, Alaina Dittrich, Cara Ibinson, Cassie Vidic, Teresa Fritsch, Addi Hanna, Mia Leybovich. Missing from photo Coach Alyvia Merz

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## Sports

### Varsity Football Schedule

(check website for updates)

**Friday, September 5,**  
Shaler Area AWAY

**Friday, September 12,**  
Upper St. Clair AWAY

**Friday, September 19,**  
Chartiers Valley HOME  
(HMS Band Night) & (Military & First Responders Night)

**Friday, September 26,**  
McKeesport AWAY

**Friday, October 3,** Indiana Area HOME  
(Homecoming & Hall of Fame)

**Friday, October 10,** Knoch HOME

**Friday, October 17,** Mars AWAY

**Friday, October 24,**  
West Mifflin HOME  
(Senior Night)

All games start at 7 p.m.

**Prior to kickoff at the home football games, the band often delivers a spirited pregame performance!**

**High School Softball** (Continued from page 9)  
the playoffs and a testament to how locked-in the girls were," Hedderman added.

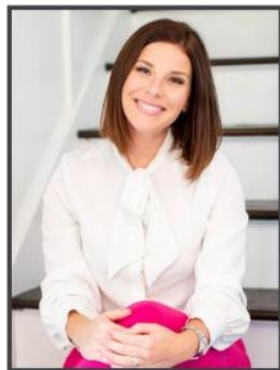
The 2024 season was their history-making first trip to a WPIAL championship, finishing as runners-up. This year, they brought home the program's first-ever gold medal in WPIAL's. In the championship game, the Talbots faced section rival Blackhawk. Blackhawk had a 3-0 lead by the sixth inning. Walks from Katelyn Dubee and pinch-hitter Ashley Schick put runners on, and Marissa Snyder smashed a ball to center, scoring two. Freshman shortstop Alena Zottola followed with a double to tie it up. Eden Lawrence grounded out to move Alena to third, setting the stage for their cleanup hitter, Teresa Fritsch, who launched a deep fly ball to center. Alena tagged and scored to give them the 4-3 lead. Hedderman remarked that winning the WPIAL championship was the ultimate season highlight. "The energy in the stadium, the fans jumping to

their feet, the moment the girls grabbed the trophy together, it was pure joy."

The Talbots made it to the state playoffs for the first time in 2024 and lost in the first round. This year, they won the first game but fell 6-3 to LeBoeuf in the PIAA quarterfinals. "This was the most unified, selfless team I've ever coached. Everyone had each other's backs. They bought into the 'one common goal' mindset and it showed every time they stepped on the field," Hedderman explained.



"The most rewarding part was watching the girls grow as people. They've hosted charity games like our Pediatric Cancer Awareness night and organized youth nights to connect with younger players in our community. Those bonds off the field are what make the on-field success so special." There were just 3 graduating seniors (Aliza Michielli, Cassie Vidic, and Alaina Dittrich) so a lot of talent remains for next year's team.



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## Police Log

(Continued from page 2)

testing was attempted but terminated by officers due to the safety concerns of the individual injuring himself due to being highly intoxicated. Chemical testing was refused, and the driver was subsequently placed under arrest for suspicion of DUI.

On 7/26/25, while on patrol, an officer initiated a traffic stop after observing a vehicle leaving its lane of travel on three separate occasions. While speaking with the driver, the officer could smell the odor of an alcoholic beverage, and the driver had heavily slurred speech. After failing to complete field sobriety testing and taking a PBT, the driver was arrested for suspicion of DUI of alcohol or a controlled substance. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

## Vehicle Accident

On 7/23/25, HTP were dispatched to the scene of a two-vehicle motor vehicle accident near the intersection of Bryant Road and Sample Road. Upon arrival, officers observed two vehicles, both with significant damage. There were no injuries; both vehicles were towed from the scene.

On 7/28/25, while on patrol, an officer located a two vehicle accident on William Flinn Highway at Oxford Blvd. between an automobile and a motorcycle. Shaler/ Hampton EMS arrived on scene and transported one person to the hospital. Both vehicles were able to be driven from the scene.

## FRAUD ATTEMPT

On 7/22/25, a complainant came to HTPD to report an alleged fraud attempt involving their bank account. They had been contacted through their computer by an individual identifying himself as being from Microsoft. The individual claimed there was an issue with the complainant's account and that he owed a \$12,000 fine related to pornography.

The individual initially instructed them to contact him at a phone number he provided. He then provided a secondary number stating it was a private line to avoid the call being recorded or intercepted. The complainant complied and called the secondary number.

During the call, they were directed to go to the bank and transfer the funds into a "new account" while remaining on the phone. Upon arriving at the bank, the complainant informed the teller of the situation. The bank employee advised them to hang up the call immediately, which they did. The bank then documented the incident, cancelled the existing account, and issued a new ATM/debit card.

The complainant was advised by both the bank and HTPD that this was a scam. They were instructed to closely monitor all accounts associated with them and were also informed about credit monitoring agencies for further assistance. At this time, no financial loss was reported.

(Continued on page 12)



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## Credit Union Celebrates Customer Appreciation Day

by Laurie Rizzo

On August 6, 2025, the North Districts Community Credit Union welcomed members old and new to their gleaming new facility at 101 NorthTowne Square in Gibsonia, PA—with open arms, festive tents, and a whole lot of gratitude. The Customer Appreciation Day was more than just a celebration—it was a tribute to decades of trust, community, and growth.

Outside the branch, laughter and aromas filled the air as guests enjoyed complimentary hot dogs, baked beans, a variety of side dishes, and desserts that disappeared as quickly as they arrived. Families gathered under sunny skies and marveled at balloon animals conjured by Putts the Clown. Every guest had the chance to win prizes, and those who brought canned goods for Lighthouse Food Bank received extra tickets—underscoring the Credit Union's spirit of giving back.

The North Districts Credit Union was chartered in 1942. Current board member Tom Castello, helped operate the union modestly out of his home. Growth led to a few moves—and now, to this spacious, modern hub equipped with multiple tellers, a large parking area, drive-thru services, and an automatic banking machine. “The old location was so cramped,” shared longtime member and president of the board Bob Wiskemann. “This new space feels just perfect—and so much brighter.”

Originally serving teachers and staff from ten local school

districts—including Shaler, Hampton, Fox Chapel, and Pine Richland—the credit union offered a financial lifeline in times when educational salaries were modest and pensions small. “It was a way to save for the future,” Wiskemann recalled. Former teacher and board member Mary Louise Ellena added, “It’s serendipity, really—how the credit union brings so many of us together.”

Leadership at North Districts reflects its community values. Former Hampton High School principal Joe Merhaut has been a credit union member for over 25 years and serves on the board. Fellow board members include Donna Castello, Liz Fox and vice-president Barb McCalley. CEO Paul Fero not only steers the organization but also shares financial wisdom through his teaching roles at LaRoche and Robert Morris Universities.

As a non-profit financial institution, the Credit Union is member-owned and mission-driven. It offers safe, reliable services at fair rates and is regulated by the Pennsylvania Department of Banking, with accounts insured up to \$250,000 by the National Credit Union Administration.

Eligible members include those who live, work, or worship in over a dozen communities within the Fox Chapel, Hampton, Pine-Richland and Shaler school districts. For these neighborhoods, the Credit Union remains a vital thread in the fabric of community wellbeing.

This year’s Customer Appreciation Day reflected more than just generous hospitality—it celebrated a legacy of service, the joy of progress, and the promise of future generations banking together, one neighbor at a time.



### Police Log

#### Raccoon baiting through Allegheny county through September 20

For over 20 years, there has been a significant reduction in human and pet exposures to the rabies virus throughout Allegheny County. This is largely due to the efforts of the rabies vaccination program for wild raccoons, spearheaded by the Allegheny County Health Department and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This year, employees and volunteers from both organizations are distributing vaccine-containing baits through September 20<sup>th</sup> across Allegheny County.

(Continued from page 11)

During this time, please keep your dog on a leash, indoors or confined to your property as much as possible during baiting and the week after. The risk of adverse effects to humans and animals due to exposure to the vaccine is minimal, but the ACHD and Township urge the public to avoid contact with the bait if possible.

### Safety Tip

Who Sent This Package? You Don't Want to Know

You may be familiar with QR codes. They are square black and white barcodes that you can scan with your phone's camera to

(Continued on page 14)



## Reunion *(Continued from page 1)*

Class President and Reunion Committee Chair Matthew Meister welcomed the guests to the celebration, opening the afternoon with words that resonated deeply: "Today, we gather not only to revisit the halls of memory, but to honor the friendships, teachers, and experiences that shaped our lives during our years at Hampton High School." Meister, who admitted he didn't realize back in high school that he'd be organizing reunions years later, credited his fellow committee members for making the event possible. "Teresa Plunket is the glue that keeps our class together," he said. "She's been the biggest cheerleader of the event, and her love for Hampton and this reunion truly shined." Though committee member Kari (Ickert) Lewis couldn't attend as she recently gave birth to her first born child, a girl named Emmy—her contributions were felt throughout the planning process.

Alumni shared stories that spanned from sports victories to legendary pranks. Jay Hagerman reflected on the class's collective personality: "We had a lot of jokers in the class... even back to middle school with the legendary

'Adam Miller' chant and at graduation, there was even an inflatable shark being passed around!" That sense of humor, camaraderie, and light-heartedness was a defining trait of the Class of 2005—one that still brings smiles today.

The reunion was made possible in part thanks to generous sponsors, including: Scott Baret Educational Services, Costa Leonard Wealth Management Group, John Artzberger Auto Body, and Abernethy & Hagerman Elder Law.



### Pour at the Park North Park

Saturday, October 11, 2025

VIP 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm

General Admission 6:00 – 9:00 pm

North Park Lodge

<https://pouratthepark.com>

**P**our at the Park at North Park, presented by Peoples Gas, is a fundraiser to support the Allegheny County Parks Foundation and all proceeds benefit the nine Allegheny County Parks.

The event will feature beer, wine, spirits and non-alcoholic drink tastings, food trucks, live entertainment by the Alter Egos, children's discovery activities hosted by Coach Dave of CDG Sports and fabulous raffle baskets.

Ticket levels and prices vary:

- ◆ VIP
- ◆ General Admission
- ◆ Designated Driver
- ◆ Children's Ticket - Kids under 5 are free (includes children's activities)

To kick off the event, there will be a public tree planting beginning at 1:00 pm.

All remaining funds from the reunion will be donated to the Hampton Alliance for Educational Excellence (HAEE), in support of its mission to enhance educational opportunities within the Hampton community.

Scott Baret, when asked to describe the class as a whole, simply said in three words, "We are family."

The afternoon also included a moment of remembrance for six classmates who have passed away:

Josh Akanowicz, Corey Cook, Ray Hollihan, Greg Kania, Wes Mensing and Richie Schussler.

Their names were spoken with reverence, their memories held close by those who knew and loved them.

As the sun was shining over the vineyard, laughter echoed and old friendships were rekindled. The Hampton High School Class of 2005 proved that while time may pass, the bonds formed in youth—and the stories that come with them—only grow stronger.



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## HAMPTON HOME SALES (7/23/2025 - 8/23/2025)

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
2207 Grandeur Drive	\$1,825,000	\$1,754,900	49
4541 Nature Trail Drive	\$935,000	\$955,000	3
4077 Clarkland Avenue	\$905,000	\$915,000	39
Lot 6 Haberlein Road	\$774,000	\$774,000	34
3875 Ashland Court	\$785,000	\$727,500	16
2336 Saddle Drive	\$589,000	\$630,000	4
4025 Grand Avenue	\$625,000	\$610,000	11
5020 Meadow Crest Drive	\$525,000	\$535,000	64
4252 Forest Glen	\$464,900	\$460,000	14
3960 Parkview Lane	\$375,000	\$385,000	80
2899 E Elfinwild Road	\$385,000	\$379,000	20
5015 Graphic Drive	\$350,000	\$360,000	4
4625 Middle Road	\$399,900	\$325,000	132
3080 E Bardonner Road	\$239,000	\$237,000	5
3146 Camberly Drive	\$198,900	\$200,000	8

## TIP OF THE MONTH:

### Protect your deck.

Safety inspections of your deck are a must-do on the autumn home maintenance checklist. Spray water on various spots around the deck and reseal if water seeps into the planks. The deck will be secure throughout the winter if water beads up or forms puddles.

Look for any loose screws or nails to prevent cold weather damage. Tighten or replace fasteners as needed. Power wash the deck and inspect it for splintering or cracking. If necessary, fill the cracks in the wood with epoxy. Use a water-repellent stain to prevent damage from melting ice and snow.

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## Beattie Tech

(Continued from page 6)

Heather's promotion is more than a recognition of her longevity—it's a testament to her ability to evolve, learn, and lead. She plans to begin this new chapter by observing internal processes from a fresh perspective, meeting with district leaders, and exploring collaborative opportunities to enhance student offerings. "We are fortunate to have such wonderful educational resources in the northern region of Pittsburgh,"



Heather and Veyda Brown

she says. "I'm excited to continue working with the district leaders I'm surrounded by." Outside of Beattie, Heather is supported by her husband John and their daughter Veyda. The family has called Hampton home for the past 15 years, and her commitment to the community is as strong as her commitment to education.

Please join us in congratulating Heather Brown on this well-deserved promotion. Her leadership, insight, and heart will continue to shape A.W. Beattie Career Center for years to come.

## Police Log

(Continued from page 12)

be instantly directed to a website or mobile app. Unfortunately, cybercriminals can use QR codes to their advantage. This scam begins when you receive a package in the mail that you weren't expecting. There's no return address or sender information, but a QR code is printed on the box.

However, the package, which contains an item of little to no value, is just a trick to get you to scan the code. It was sent by cybercriminals, and they hope you will be tempted to scan the code to find out where the package came from. If you scan the QR code, you'll be taken to a fake website and asked to enter your personal information so that cybercriminals can steal it. The website could even secretly install malware on your device!

Follow these tips to avoid falling for this QR code scam:

- ♦ Be suspicious of any package you receive that you did not order, especially if it has no sender information.
- ♦ Never scan a QR code from a source you don't recognize or trust. Cybercriminals can use them to send you to malicious websites.
- ♦ Be careful about allowing websites and apps to access your phone's data after scanning a code. Cybercriminals can use these websites and apps to steal your data or download malware to your device.

(Continued on page 16)



## Retirement Residence Garden Flourishes



### From Garden to Gift!

Residents at Hampton Fields Retirement Community enjoyed a fragrant afternoon of basil citrus soapmaking, using fresh basil snipped straight from their own garden. With lifestyle engagement coordinator June Gravitte's warm guidance and expert touch, creativity bloom —proof that joy grows wherever community thrives.



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## Current Events

**Dog Swim Day** Saturday, September 6  
11 a.m.—1 p.m. Community Pool

### Farmer's Market

Wednesdays (Last Day October 8th)  
3:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.  
Community Center Parking Lot

### Pints In The Park

September 12.  
Hampton Park



### Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Roundtable

Michael Kraus presents "New Findings Regarding the Allegheny Arsenal Explosion." Monday, September 15 at 7 pm.  
Hampton Twp. Community Center, 3200 Lochner Way, Allison Park.  
Presentation is free and open to the public.

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- Artisan Market
- Parents Night Out Events
- Birthday Parties, Girls Night Out, & Private Events



***www.turtleyslow.com***

## Police Log

(Continued from page 14)

### Western Alliance Team DUI Task Force North Hills DUI Task Force

The **North Hills DUI Task Force** conducted a Stationary DUI checkpoint detail that was in conjunction with the **National Highway Transportation Safety Administration Checkpoint Strike Force**. On 8-15-2025 the task force conducted a sobriety checkpoint in Shaler Township. There were 1308 vehicles that passed through the checkpoint and 7 individuals were administered field sobriety test. Of those tested, 5 were arrested for driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. 32 citations and 11 warnings were issued for various vehicle code violations.

This is the 29<sup>th</sup> year for the North Hills DUI Task Force and to date, 267 checkpoints/roving patrols have been conducted. There have been 2,292 individuals tested for DUI, and of those tested, 1,080 have been arrested. The North Hills DUI Task Force is comprised of officers from the police departments of Borough of Aspinwall, Borough of Etna, Indiana Township, Northern Regional, O'Hara Township, Ross Township, Shaler Township, West Deer Township, Borough of West View, McCandless Twp, Borough of Millvale, Hampton Township, Borough of Blawnox, and Reserve Township.

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## Restaurant Week

(Continued from page 1)

event is to promote the local restaurants that we are so grateful to have in our community and give residents the opportunity to try some great food at great prices. We know that many of you would like to see more restaurants come to Hampton, and Township staff would like to see that too. By creating a community where restaurants are successful, it will encourage more to open here. And the good news is that we already have many great restaurants in Hampton that would love to serve you. We hope that you will show your support to your local eateries during this year's Hampton Restaurant Week. Each of the restaurants below has offered a special or discounted menu item for the duration of Restaurant Week. You just need to ask for the "Restaurant Week Special" any time between September 8<sup>th</sup> – September 14<sup>th</sup> to get the deal listed below. We hope you'll join us!

This year's participating restaurants include:

**The Wine Cave:** Mahi-Mahi - \$25.00

**Three Little Birds Café & Juice Bar:** Soup and ½ sandwich special - \$11.50

**K-Asian Bistro and Sushi Bar** – Black 'n' Pink Roll - \$10.00 (limit one per transaction)

**Mineo's Pizza House:** Veal Parmigiana with linguine and garlic bread - \$23.00

**A Fare to Remember:**

(take-out only - dishes need to be heated)

Mom's Hot Chicken Goodness –

half order for \$18, full order for \$35

Sissy's Shepherd Pie – half order for \$20, full order for \$39

**Vocelli Pizza:** Large 1 topping traditional crust pizza - \$8.99

(limit one per transaction)

**Crispy Cones:** Ice Cream Cup - \$3.00

## Upcoming Events

### Halloween Parade

Saturday, October 25, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

### Trick Or Treat

Friday, October 31—Please turn on your porch light if you plan on handing out candy 6:00—8:00 p.m.

For additional information on these events, visit [www.hampton-pa.org](http://www.hampton-pa.org)

### 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](mailto:Margb1079@gmail.com) or Michael Lichina to ensure you're included.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

## ~SAVE THE DATE~

Saturday, October 11—Pour at the Park in North Park  
<https://pouratthepark.com>

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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](http://gcacpgh.org/pizzazz)





## Volunteer Fire Department

### Monthly Summary: July 1–July 30, 2025

Throughout the month of July, the Hampton Volunteer Fire Department responded to a wide range of calls, demonstrating unwavering commitment to the safety and well-being of our community.

From emergency medical responses to fire alarms and public assistance, every call represents a moment when our volunteers stepped forward to protect lives and property.

We extend our gratitude to the firefighters and support personnel whose dedication continues to make Hampton a safer place for all.

#### JULY 2025 - 61 calls

Fire Alarm / Sprinkler Activation	24
CO alarm	7
Structure, Electrical	4
Gas leak	4
Police assist	4
Structure, Fire	4
Motor vehicle, accident clean-up	3
Controlled burn / smoke investigation	3
Trash / Brush / Grass Fire	3
Motor vehicle, rescue / extrication	3
Wires down	1
Combustible / Flammable gas or liquid	1

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[www.HTVFD.org](http://www.HTVFD.org)

## A Cause Fore! Parkinson's

Local Hampton business Fit 4 Boxing Club will host a golf outing at Green Oaks Country Club in Verona, PA on September 8th. The outing's goal is to raise awareness and funds for their Rock Steady Boxing program, in which they aim to Punch Out Parkinson's Disease. Fit 4 Boxing Club was born 10 years ago in February 2015 in the Hampton Plaza with a goal to help as many people as possible through contact free fitness boxing routines. They started their Rock Steady Boxing program shortly after and have since had over 1200 individuals with Parkinson's from all around the area come through their door.

The forced intense exercise that boxing provides releases dopamine in the brain, alleviating the symptoms of Parkinson's and slowing down the progression of the disease. Through rigorous exercise routines, individuals from the age of 41-91 living with Parkinson's can strap the gloves on and fight back.

Fit 4 Boxing Club hosts an annual amateur boxing event in February in which they raise money for their program, but decided to launch a golf outing this year to supplement some income and bring people in the community together. Club manager Brett Burkhart said, "We have a lot of friends and supporters of our Rock Steady program that are golfers and wanted something fun to do this fall, so we thought we'd be creative in our ways of raising awareness for what we do. We want to bring people together to support our mission, have a fun day on the golf course and Punch Out Parkinson's together."

Following the golf by day at Green Oaks, an evening dinner event will take place featuring local disco band *Dancing Queen* in which the golfers can join together with their families for food, dancing, raffles, and a cash bar. Club owner Rich Mushinsky said, "*Dancing Queen* is always fun... our Parkinson's fighters at the gym love music and dancing, so the goal is to get them there for no charge so that they can enjoy a fun night out and celebrate with their families." Standing room tickets will be available at the door for purchase, and more information can be found on Fit 4 Boxing's website at [www.fit4boxingclub.com](http://www.fit4boxingclub.com). Call Fit 4 Boxing Club at 412-213-3584 for more information.

## Gary Massimino Cancer Benefit Spaghetti Dinner & Bake Sale

**When:** Sunday, September 14, 2025, 4 p.m. — 8 p.m.

**Where:** Hampton VFD

2536 Duncan Avenue, Allison Park, PA

**Donations:** \$15 adults

\$10 kids 2 & under are free

**Includes:** pasta dinner, salad, roll and soda

**Raffle Baskets and 50/50**



### Hall of Fame

(Continued from page 7)

Class of 2024: Bruce Alstad: varsity and middle school wrestling coach; Byron Collier: 1957 basketball, track & field; Laryn Edwards: 2018 basketball, track & field; Kevin Green: announcer and middle school track & field coach; Bruce Steckel: 1971 varsity golf coach and assistant baseball coach; Angie Raimondi: 2008 swimming.

Class of 2025: Ron Fedell: girls softball and middle school basketball coach; Pete Geiss: 1989 football; Dave Kuniak: basketball, baseball and football coach; Melinda Maers: 2019 lacrosse; Matt McAwley: 2009 soccer player and boys' soccer coach; Michael Pschirer: 1984 basketball; Jack Zierenberg: 2007 swimming; 1990 boys soccer state championship team represented by coach Mark Perry.

Mark your calendars, grab your tickets, and get ready to celebrate the spirit of Hampton athletics in style.

First Day of School







## Rep. Arvind Venkat

30<sup>th</sup> District  
Allegheny County

### Pushing Back Against Federal Healthcare Cuts

by State Rep. Arvind Venkat

As we continue our work in Harrisburg to pass a fair, balanced budget, we are already seeing the impact on everyday Pennsylvanians of the federal budget advocated by President Trump. We are witnessing the decimation of health care access, rising numbers of uninsured residents, and increasing health care costs in our state. These problems will only multiply in the months and years ahead.

As an emergency physician, I have seen patients die after losing their health insurance. As a lawmaker, I'm working to fight back against these cuts. I have voted for and proposed significant legislation aimed at staving off the reductions in health care access passed by the Trump administration and the Congress in Washington.

My H.B. 79, which passed the PA House with overwhelming bipartisan support, would require greater transparency in hospital-based financial assistance programs so patients know about them — a step that can help prevent them from accruing medical debt.

I also voted for four bills that would protect essential health care access under the Affordable Care Act as this administration threatens to dismantle it. These bills would protect coverage for pre-existing conditions, ensure parents can keep their children insured until age 26, prohibit insurance companies from capping coverage for essential benefits, and require health insurance to cover preventive health care services without cost-sharing.

Health care is fundamental for all of us. Moving into the fall, my focus will be on passing a state budget that expands access for all Pennsylvanians and makes health care more affordable across our state.



State Senator  
**LINDSEY M. WILLIAMS**  
38th Senatorial District



Help keep your identity safe while reducing paper clutter in your home this fall at Senator Lindsey Williams' FREE paper shredding event on Saturday, September 20 from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. at the Hampton Community Center!

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!

We will also be collecting new and gently used Halloween costumes for our annual Costume Drive. Help make a local kid's holiday a special spooky one by donating costumes that your family has outgrown. Pass along the holiday magic (and make space in your storage at the same time!).

For more information, please visit [SenatorLindseyWilliams.com/events](http://SenatorLindseyWilliams.com/events) or subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter at [SenatorLindseyWilliams.com/subscribe](http://SenatorLindseyWilliams.com/subscribe)!



CONGRESSMAN  
**CHRIS DELUZIO**

Pennsylvania's 17th District

### An Update from Congressman Chris Deluzio



#### Getting Smartphones Out of Classrooms

I'm a dad of four. Like a lot of parents, I see the clear evidence: Big Tech, social media, and smartphones are hurting kids in the classroom and beyond. From doing worse in school, to mental and physical health, to social relationships, and more—our kids are getting pummeled by devices and apps that are designed to be addictive.

At a minimum, our classrooms should be free of smartphone distractions so kids can focus on learning.

So I'm asking every school district in Pennsylvania's 17th Congressional District a simple question: what will your policies be this coming school year around smartphone use in the classroom?

I hope my letter gets school districts to think more about how distracting and addicting smartphones can disrupt the classroom. And the responses I'm getting back from schools are helping me and my team dig in more on ways we can best pro-

tect our kids and set them up to succeed at school.

Want to learn more about my work in Congress? Sign up for my e-newsletter at

<https://deluzio.house.gov/contact/newsletter-subscribe>, or follow me on

Facebook at @RepChrisDeluzio, YouTube at @Rep.ChrisDeluzio, or other channels Instagram, X (formerly twitter), Threads, and Bluesky at @RepDeluzio.

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