

FREE The Hampton News

April 2023

From the Neighborhoods of Hampton Township, PA

Vol. 18 No. 9

Building a Stronger Community

by Jenn Edmonds

When you bring together kids, police officers, some spouses, social workers, code enforcement, a gym, and pizza, what do you get? A dodgeball tournament of course! On Sunday, March 12, Hampton Social Ser-

vices hosted a Cops vs. Kids dodgeball tournament at the Hampton Community Center.

The kids were divided into five teams and each had the opportunity to choose which of the Hampton officials they want-

ed on their team. Each team played two best of three rounds and the remaining two winning teams faced each other in the final round of the tournament. All of that effort required a break for the fami-

(Continued on page 6)



Rachel Carson Trail

by Julie Mikus

Extending 45 miles, the Rachel Carson Trail is used by hikers and runners yearlong. Hampton residents have access to the trail at the top of the Upper Orchard at the Township Park, just beyond the swimming pool.

A resident of Hampton 30 years, Mark Eyer- man is the Rachel Carson Trail manager whose primary responsibility is maintaining physical aspects of the trail. "I advocate for the trail in everything I do. People I talk to along the trail might learn more about the trail history, or I help

(Continued on page 22)

Cat Rescued!

by Jackie Smith

A cat being stuck in a tree doesn't usually draw so much attention; however, this cat certainly did.

Hampton resident Adrienne Katich Bello happened to be driving through North Park and witnessed the tree rescue. "It was the most amazing thing to see," exclaimed Adrienne. "The gentleman in the tree was the most patient man I have ever seen. He took the longest time, slowly getting the cat to trust him."

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Police Information

The Hampton Township Police Department 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. The remaining December reports will be updated in March. These incident statistics included, but WERE NOT LIMITED TO, the following between the dates of 2/8/2023—2/22/2023:

Traffic Alert:

HTPD and Shaler/Hampton EMS Responded


 On 02/22/2023, HTPD were dispatched for a report of a car driving through a shed and over a hillside. It was reported the driver was out of the vehicle.

Upon arrival, Shaler Hampton EMS was already speaking with the driver. The driver was ultimately transported to UPMC Passavant Hospital to be checked.

In speaking with the driver, she stated she pulled in the driveway behind her husband. She stated she started down the driveway and was not able to stop because the brakes were not working. The vehicle traveled straight through the shed. The vehicle came to a stop when it struck a small tree. The vehicle sustained heavy damage to the front end as well as damage to both driver and passenger sides of the vehicle.

Leo's Towing arrived and requested Ferra's Towing for assistance due to the location of the vehicle and the need for a larger truck. Ferra's Towing got the vehicle out of the woods and Leo's Towing took the vehicle back to their shop.

Officer Assist

 On 02/14/2023, a Penske truck became partially stuck in a driveway on Greengrove Drive. The truck was completely blocking both lanes of the roadway. The Hampton School Dis-

(Continued on page 11)

A NOTE FROM THE HAMPTON NEWS

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

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

Production, Print and Design: Laurie and John Rizzo
Proofreading: Deb Brady **Photography:** Madia Photography
Writers: Jackie Smith, Julie Mikus, & Mary-Theresa Watson

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Local Artist Spreads Kindness

by Mary-Theresa Watson

Hampton artist Sal Greco has a backstory that includes an eclectic mix of experiences, from a career working with large mainframe computers to a 1990's television role on "His Place," with a short stint as a stand-up comedian in-between. Today, Sal follows a very different passion, as he spends his time creating art out of salvaged pieces of wood.

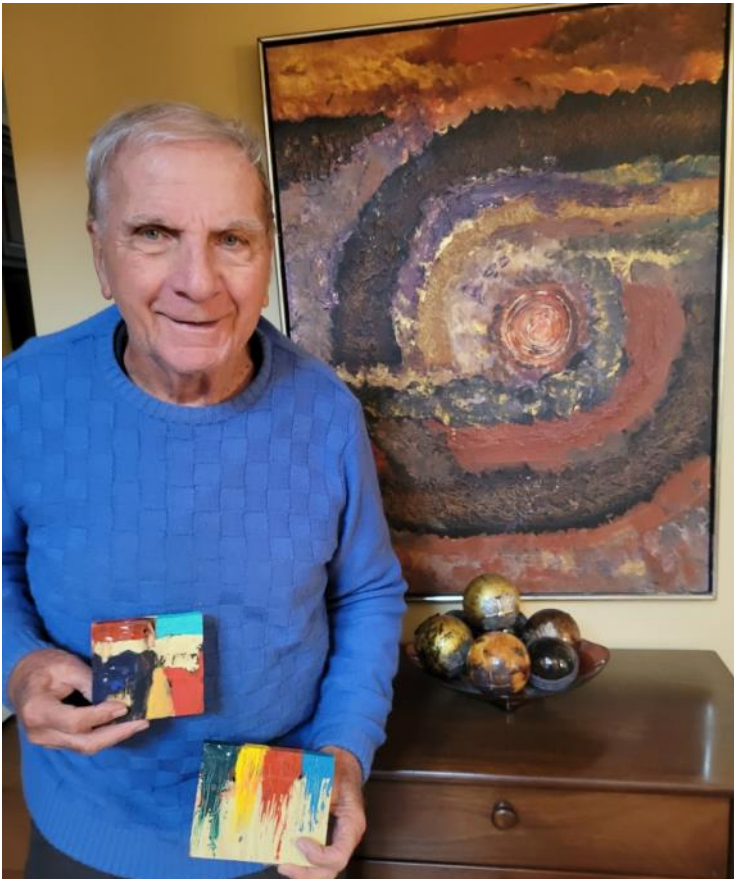
Sal has always been a salvager of sorts, finding new uses for discarded items; with that upcycle mindset, he spent countless happy hours repurposing old furniture. Today, he is gaining a reputation for a different type of wood work, reclaiming pieces to create one-of-a-kind works of art that he uses as part of his mission to blanket the world in kindness.

As a child, Sal enjoyed sketching, but it was not until he took an acrylic painting class ten years ago that he rediscovered a love of art. Initially working on canvas, Sal soon switched to primarily painting on reclaimed wood, aiming to create something beautiful out of something destined for the trash.

In the summer of 2021, he began cutting the wood into smaller pieces. "I thought it would be nice to start giving them away," he shares. "I always carry some with me in my car, so I would leave them at places like Panera. I realized that it took away any interaction with the person who received it. So instead," he explains, "I started to reward kindness wherever I saw it. If someone holds the door for me, greets me, gives me a smile, delivers great customer service, is a great waiter...really just any small kindness, then I offer them a piece of my art."

Sal has given away more than 400 pieces of his art since he began this kindness crusade, and his hope is that the recipients will think about why he gave it to them. "It's the multiplier effect," he says with a smile. "Now they have a story to tell! If someone notices the art and comments on it, then they can say, 'Let me tell you the story about this!'"

As he enjoys the hobby that has morphed into a mission, Sal continues to experiment with color, shapes, and media, spending hours focused on the work that brings such joy. The smile on the kind face of Sal Greco unveils the happiness in his heart, and, as he so wisely notes, happiness is meant to be shared.





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Library News



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It's a Wonder-ful 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 *
Now thru May 25th 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*

Checkmate! Wednesday, April 19th and May 17th
@ 6:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m. Activity Room 1

Chess Club is designed to be a casual, instructive opportunity for children in kindergarten through 12th grade to play each other in the game of chess. The emphasis will be on good sportsmanship and building skill level through instruction and play. A brief lesson will be led by the instructor, Benjamin Lin, 2023 PA State 6th Grade Champion, to learn different moves and evaluate level of play. All levels of play are welcome! "Sometimes you will win, sometimes you will lose, but you will always learn!"

News and Views! First Fridays!

Friday, April 14th @ 1:00 p.m. in the library

We are closed Friday April 7th so we will meet Friday, April 14th!
This longtime discussion group is led by local author and journalist

Gerry K. Smith--with a new format inviting members to participate as guest leaders the *First Friday* of the month. Discussion topics welcome from all. New members are welcome to come share-- or just listen.

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!

Murder by the Book! A Mystery Book Discussion
Wednesday, April 19th @ 6:30 p.m.

Best Day Ever, by Kaira Rouda

The Mystery Book Group meets inside the library. 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, April 21st @ 1:00 p.m. *Violeta*, By Isabel Allende

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!

Intro to Scrapbooking!

Mondays April 17th and May 15th, @ 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Are you new to scrapbooking or maybe got away from it and looking for a reboot?

This is the day for you. The first hour will be creating a simple page that can get you started scrapbooking or you can take

(Continued on page 5)



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Library

(Continued from page 4)

home and frame. Bring 3-4 pictures to get started. If you are a seasoned scrapbooker looking for like minded friends come join us for a morning and scrap to your hearts content! Marie Golio from Creative Memories will be here to share, teach, and support fellow scrapbookers and their goals! No need to register, class will be in the library!

Cooks-N-Books: Brunch Favorites!

Thursday, April 27th, 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 or magazines from the library.
- 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.

Easter Holiday hours:

Saturday, April 1st: CLOSED

Good Friday, April 7th: CLOSED

Saturday, April 8th: 9AM – 1PM. Happy Spring!

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Dodgeball

(Continued from page 1)

lies to sit and enjoy pizza and snacks together with the police and social services, an opportunity that many never get within or outside of their community.

"It's very endearing to witness the positivity from the police, social services and the kids in the community coming together without barriers. This event displays the true meaning of public service all while having fun," said Detective Dave Mitchell of the Hampton Township Police Department.

The event was free to all who attended. The police and social services volunteered their time for the opportunity to have fun with the families in the community. "There was a lot of work put into it and it was a lot of fun to see community services and family members interact," said Angela Kenbok, Social Services Coordinator.

Along with the accolades, the winning team received McDonald's gift cards and candy.



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HAMPTON HOME SALES (2/21/2023 - 3/20/2023)

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
3163 Beechwood Drive	\$1,299,000	\$1,200,000	82
4407 Wildwood Sample Road	\$979,900	\$875,000	6
2177 Chardonay Circle	\$875,000	\$856,000	114
4818 Andrews Drive	\$774,900	\$774,900	151
4790 Au Sable Drive	\$639,000	\$606,000	78
2805 Manor Oak Lane	\$610,000	\$590,000	52
5032 Apple Ridge Drive	\$539,500	\$540,000	87
5098 Lakeview Drive	\$337,500	\$339,000	98
4024 Mount Royal	\$314,900	\$293,000	199
3300 Antler Drive	\$300,000	\$285,000	6
5190 Hardt Road	\$250,000	\$270,000	2
2754 Drake Court	\$250,000	\$250,000	2
4424 Laurel Oak Drive	\$235,000	\$230,000	26
2278 Lake Avenue	\$199,900	\$180,000	121
2331 California Drive	\$119,900	\$131,500	4
2619 Hampton Avenue	\$99,899	\$120,000	7

TIP OF THE MONTH:

Inspect and clean window and door screens.

Dirt and grime tend to get stuck in screens during the winter months. Take advantage of a sunny day and give your screens some TLC. You'll appreciate looking out your windows and enjoying spring views through clean screens.

Helpful Hint:
Use a lint roller to clean off screens!

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Forensics Team Takes Diocese Championship

by Meredith Kandravy

Blessed Trinity Academy's Forensics Team came into the season in the fall with high expectations for the year. The team, consisting of students in 5th through 8th grades, felt confident they could do well this season, especially due to the veteran leadership of their 8th graders and having finished in 2nd place last year.

During the regular season, which runs from November through February, they compete in three meets against 8 teams from schools in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. All teams finish the season at the Finals Meet which also consists of an All-Star Tournament for individual recognition. This year BTA's team finished 1st place out of 16 teams with 333 total points and were crowned the season's overall winner, plus they had two All-Star Tournament winners, Erika Mitchell, 8th grade, for poetry, and their Group Read, Claire Bandurski, Ella Shapiro, Savannah Vogel, and Sara Pomeitto, all in 6th grade. Typically, it is very rare to have even one winner in the All-Star Tournament let alone two, so this was quite an accomplishment for the team.

Part of the success of the team comes from the dedication of the coaches, John Hess, Patty Cross, Amy Clontz and Xander Hill, who met with the team weekly to practice.

Members of BTA's Forensics Team include: Erika Mitchell, Allie Gruseck, Hailey Chase, Kaitlyn Miller, Madalyn Hill, Thomas Bainbridge, Madelyn Vernon, Jules Georgescu, Luke Anderson, Brandon Satz, Callie Kandravy, Hailey Glass, Kaylie Mitchell, Ella Shapiro, Savannah Vogel, Sara Pomeitto, Claire Bandurski, Ashlynn Murray, and Rowan Blauvelt.



Team Photo:

Kneeling front row (l to r): Kaylie Mitchell, Hailey Glass, Rowan Blauvelt, Ashlynn Murray 2nd row (l to r): Callie Kandravy, Allie Gruseck, Madalyn Vernon, Hailey Chase, Jules Georgescu, Erika Mitchell, Sara Pomeitto, Ella Shapiro, Savannah Vogel, Claire Bandurski, Colin Miller 3rd row (l to r): Luke Anderson, Brandon Satz, Kaitlyn Miller, Madelyn Hill, Thomas Bainbridge



All-Star Photo: (l to r): Erika Mitchell (Poetry Winner), Sara Pomeitto, Claire Bandurski, Savannah Vogel, Ella Shapiro (Group Read Winner)

Cat Rescued

(Continued from page 1)

This gentleman, Rob Kruljac, is a certified arborist from Davey Tree. With safety harness in place, Kruljac had to climb quite high in the old tree. According to Bello, "the cat ended up walking right up to him; everyone was so excited, and Mr. Kruljac was able to carry the cat down to the ground safely."

It appears the cat had been stuck in the tree for a week; he was treated for dehydration and is doing well! He is now safe and in a foster home until his owners are found, or he is adopted.



Photos by Adrienne Katich Bello

Outstanding Season for Hampton's Joey O'Donnell

by Garrett Gess, HHS student

The Hampton golf team capped off a well-played season, with one senior departing this summer. Joey O'Donnell, Hampton senior and WPIAL qualifier, led the golf team with strong showings and was recognized at the HHS board meeting for his great performances.

Joey's journey to WPIALS took an unlikely path. After not making varsity in his first three years at Hampton, O'Donnell worked his way up from JV to one of the top golfers on the team. He hit a 79 at Saxon Golf Course on Sep. 20 at the Section 8-3A qualifiers to place 10th and become the only Hampton golfer to hit below the target score of 82, reaching the WPIAL Class 3A semifinal. At the semifinals, Joey placed a disappointing 69th out of 77 golfers, but was proud of the progress he made throughout



the season.

Outside of golfing, Joey has excelled at A.W. Beattie Career Center in addition to his studies at Hampton. He will attend Pennsylvania College of Technology (Penn College) in Williamsport, Pennsylvania to pursue a rewarding and in-demand career in HVAC.

Hampton will return its top golfers next year, including junior Peter Kramer, who averaged a team-best 39 per nine holes. Kramer was ruled ineligible for the postseason after transfer-

ring from Shady Side Academy following his sophomore year. A standout basketball player, Kramer lost his appeal to the PIAA in September and had to sit out for the basketball playoffs this past season, with Joe Lafko's basketball squad not the same without him.

Others expected to return for golf are sophomore Tyler Schmitt, who averaged 40, and juniors Matt Erka and Robert Coll, with 42 and 44 respectively. The current varsity and JV rosters include 11 juniors, and because seniors are not allowed to play JV, some talented golfers are going to face cuts next season, but that's a good problem to have to field a competitive team.



Joey O'Donnell

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Young Diver's Return Contributes to Team's Success

by Lainy Carslaw

On Friday, February 24th the WPIAL Swimming and Diving Championship took place at North Allegheny High School. One of those twenty-seven Class 2A divers, was Hampton freshman, Gabriella Elk.



Gabriella Elk

Elk started diving three years ago when an unfortunate back injury led her away from gymnastics. But due to Covid and other factors, she did not start competing until this season. At the start of the year, her goal was just to qualify for WPIAL's, but as the season progressed, her aspirations grew. "I started to see States as a possibility," said Elk.

This was not going to be an easy task, with only sixteen girls making the second round of dives, and only seven qualifying to States.

But despite this being

her first year, she did it! With 450 points, Elk was able to finish in 3rd place behind one sophomore and one senior from North Catholic. Her solid performance, along with that of her teammates, Sophie Shelkey and Megan Baker, helped the Hampton girls finish as the Section Champions.

Entering the competition, Elk was nervous but more excited. "Most of the divers know each other and it was a really positive atmosphere," she said. Plus, Elk had learned a valuable technique in order to stay focused: "I tried to only pay attention to what I needed to do and my own dives, rather than wondering or getting distracted with how the others were doing."

It was a promising first season for Elk, who trains three to four days a week with the Pitt Club diving team in order to reach her goals. "I hope to be a Division I diver someday," she said. And with her talent, her work ethic, and her skills, it is possible to predict this dream turning to a reality.

A Rare Opportunity!

Would you like your part of Talbot history? Have you ever wanted to frame your uniform jersey or wear it again? Well, wait no more! Come to the Hampton High School Auxiliary Gym on Thursday, June 1st, from 6p-8p. You can purchase various uniform items from multiple teams and general Hampton athletic gear. We will be accepting cash and check only.



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Police Log

(Continued from page 2)

trict was notified due to the buses having routes at that time of day. Officers assisted with traffic control. A towing company with the equipment needed to move the truck responded and was able to place the truck back in operation.

The truck did cause minor turf damage, approximately 3 feet by 2 feet in size, to one homeowner's front yard.

Hazardous Conditions

 On 02/16/2023, the HTPD were dispatched to the area of Talley Cavey Rd. for a report of a possible transformer explosion with a wire causing the nearby vegetation to smoke. Upon arrival, a high-tension wire was located that had burnt off the top of a telephone pole. ACES notify Duquesne Light to be dispatched to fix the issue.

While on scene, HTP received multiple reports of the traffic signals either being out or on flash along the Rt 8 corridor. Officers assisted with traffic control at Wildwood Rd. and William Flinn Hwy until Hampton DPW could get a generator connected to the traffic signals. The lights for McNeal Rd. were out and also the lights at Shoppers Plaza were on flash. The lights at Shoppers Plaza were reset and an officer assisted with traffic control at McNeal Rd. until Hampton DPW connected a generator at those traffic signals.

Haus Promoted to the Rank of Police Sergeant

On Wednesday evening, March 22, 2023, Hampton Township Council promoted Officer Jeff Haus to the rank of Sergeant.

Sergeant Haus has 8 years of full-time and 8 years of part-time experience within the Hampton Police Department. He also has 4 years in the Marine Corps, (Continued on page 17)

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Clean-Up Day

The Hampton Community Litter/Clean-Up Day was held on Saturday, March 25. Despite the weather conditions, the 148 volunteers, along with the fire police, police, public works and sewer departments, managed to collect over 400 bags of garbage and eight tires. The community wide program covered fifteen roads, the community park, all the Hampton schools, Duncan Avenue/Route 8 Walking Trail & Park 'N Ride, and Hartwood Acres!

Hope you consider to help next year!



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The Brilliant Teams of Odyssey of the Mind

The Hampton Township Odyssey of the Mind program had six teams participate in the March 4, 2023 Western PA Regional Odyssey of the Mind tournament. Two teams were primary grades K-2 in a non-competitive division. Two teams were elementary grades 3-5. One elementary team placed 9th in the Division I Moving Vehicle problem where they built a vehicle that held at least one team member and had the theme of a pirate ship. One elementary team placed 2nd in the Division I Technical problem where they built a Rube-Goldberg device. That team will advance to the PA state tournament on April 1, 2023 at Lock Haven University. One middle school team placed 5th in the Division II Classics category where they created a biographical musical about a historic figure. One combined middle school and high school team placed 1st in the Division III Balsa structure category where the team built Matryoshka nesting structures made of only balsa wood and glue that held over 100 pounds. That team will also advance to the PA state tournament on April 1.



Elementary team members: Emma Osborn, Charles Lamb, Josephine Kurasch, Joshua Pearl, Ethan Barley, Edward Sager, Lincoln Verbofsky



Middle school/high school team members: Olivia Dietz, Ashlee Marte, Lu Santos, Marli Dankmyer, Ashley Rothenberg, Megan Troup, Teagan Turcsanyi

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Rep. Arvind Venkat

30th District

Allegheny County

Great to Meet You and Putting People First in the North Hills

by State Rep. Arvind Venkat

Hello Hampton residents! I am proud to represent the 30th District, which includes part of Hampton Township, along with McCandless, Franklin Park, Ohio, Kilbuck, Ben Avon, Ben Avon Heights, and Emsworth as the first physician in the General Assembly in 60 years. I am committed to working in a bipartisan fashion to move Pennsylvania forward and enact smart policies and laws to address the many issues facing our state.

My legislative priorities include investing in first responders, strengthening our schools and local businesses, protecting reproductive rights, addressing gun safety, and expanding access to the ballot box for all voters.

I especially want to focus on making health care affordable and accessible. As a physician, I've cared for many patients who are draining their life savings just to receive quality health care and are constantly falling behind. This is why I've proposed medical debt relief legislation that would target the medical debt of Pennsylvanians who are low-income or have overwhelming amounts of medical debt to alleviate that burden.

Finally, I always enjoy meeting my constituents to learn about what they would like me to focus on in Harrisburg. I look forward to hearing from you at **my first Town Hall on April 17, 7:00-8:00 at Beattie Career Center, 9600 Babcock Blvd, Allison Park, PA 15101.**

My staff and I are available to help you with state government-related issues, questions and concerns. You can reach us at 412-348-8028 or RepVenkat@pahouse.net. Or stop by our office at 9800B McKnight Road, Suite 130, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Hello and Happy Spring to the Hampton Community



State Representative
Rob Mercuri
28th Legislative District of Pennsylvania



Rob Mercuri

The state legislature has begun work evaluating Gov. Josh Shapiro's first budget proposal to the General Assembly this month. The governor presented a nearly \$46 billion spending plan that would increase state spending by about 6%.

Throughout this budget proposal there are several commonsense initiatives that I support. This includes commensurate funding for education, mental health services and health care, as well as keeping taxes low. However, simple fact is this governor's budget proposal structurally overspends, meaning it creates a deficit scenario beginning the following budget year. Importantly, our PA Constitution requires a balanced budget and unchecked spending of this magnitude sets us up for a turbulent and risky path ahead.

While I can appreciate some of the proposals, there is still concern when it comes to creating a larger structural deficit that may set us back for years to come. Stay tuned as we continue to work with the governor on this year's funding. Stay in touch with me anytime at my Gibsonia or Wexford offices or by visiting www.reprobrmercuri.com for more information.



State Senator
LINDSEY M. WILLIAMS
38th Senatorial District



Lindsey Williams

It's the season for spring cleaning, and my office will be hosting a free shredding event this month to help you get your paper files in order!

Free Shredding Event

April 15, 2023
9:00 am – noon

Goodwill

160 52nd Street, Pittsburgh PA 15201

Shredding is limited to two boxes per car so that we can serve as many residents as possible. Please no binding (other than staples) or binder clips. Paper only, please!

In March, I had the opportunity to meet with the members of the Hampton Rotary Club. We had a chance to talk about what's going on in Harrisburg and here in Hampton. It was a great opportunity to hear about upcoming projects in the community and the school district and to give an update on the upcoming Pennsylvania budget season. I always appreciate getting to meet with community members to hear what's most important to them!

I also had a chance to attend the ribbon cutting for the amazing new Hampton High School Library Media Center. This state of the art, innovative, collaborative space will be a great place for students to learn and grow for years to come! Congratulations to the educators, the school board members, administrators, contractors, and students who made this addition possible.

If you'd like to keep up with events and news from my office in between issues of The Hampton News, you can subscribe to my weekly e-newsletter at SenatorLindseyWilliams.com/subscribe. We welcome your phone calls at 412-364-0469, your emails at

SenatorLindseyWilliams@pasenate.com, or you stopping by the office at 5000 McKnight Road, Suite 405 (right next to Half Price Books). We look forward to seeing you soon!

Current Events

The Ingomar Garden Club's April Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. at Northmont Church, 8169 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. The business meeting will be followed by a light luncheon and presentation on gardening tools by guest speaker Steve Piskor, a Penn State Master Gardener and PA-certified Horticulturist. Prospective members are invited. Visit www.ingomar-garden-club.com for information.

Pittsburgh Civil War Round Table

Monday, April 17, 7 pm. Michael Rupert will present, "Osborn's Artillery at Gettysburg."

Lecture is free and open to the public. Please call Marge at 724-625-2329 for the location.

Interested in Other Cultures? Invite an Exchange Student Into Your Home

Hampton Rotary is seeking Hampton school district families to host an international exchange student in the fall 2023 and spring 2024 semesters. The host family would have the student reside in their home and be a part of their family for one half of the school year. Interested families may contact Hampton Rotary President Hal English at 412-486-1923 or henglish@nb.net for more information. Background screening is required and the application process requires time. Please apply at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

HAMPTON SOCIAL SERVICES

SPRING CLEANING EVENT

These donations will be distributed at
at North Hills Community Outreach to
individuals & families in need.

SUGGESTED ITEMS TO DONATE:

- dish and/or laundry soap
- multipurpose cleaners
- toilet paper and/or paper towels
- shampoo and/or conditioner
- body wash, razors, and/or shaving cream
- deodorant, chapstick, and/or lotion
- toothbrushes, floss, and/or toothpaste
- gloves and/or cleaning rags

Items can be collected
at the following locations:

Hampton Police Department
Hampton Community Center
Hampton Municipal Building

Contact Hampton Social Services with any questions:
angela.kenbok@hampton-pa.org

Collection ends Friday, April 7

Rain Barrel Drawing

Spring is just around the corner and what can you do with some of that rain water runoff from your gutters and downspouts? It can be used for watering gardens, washing cars, or for other multitude of needs for water outside the home. See the township website on the benefits of using a rain barrel.

There are two ways to register for one of two free rain barrels: stop by the Hampton Community Center to see one of the rain barrels and fill out a registration form, or register online at www.hampton-pa.org.

You must be a Hampton resident and only one registration per family. Deadline for registration is Monday, April 17; winner will be notified April 18. Good luck!

Opening Day for Baseball and Softball

McCully baseball and softball fields are scheduled to open on Saturday, April 22nd. The annual parade starts at 10 am at the outdoor



swimming pool parking lot and will head over to the fields to kick off the ball games! The concession stand will be open selling hot and cold treats!

Pine Creek Clean-Up

Saturday, April 8

8 am thru 12 noon

Meet at the ballfield opposite St. Ursula Church off Duncan Avenue in Allison Park

Lunch will be served at noon for all volunteers.

Sponsored by Allison Park Sportsmen

Thanks to Shaler and Hampton Townships

For additional information contact

Rich Simmen 412-487-2873.

Save the date:

Hampton High
School

Wednesday,
April 5 from
9 am to 7 pm



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Something Rotten! Is Sure To Be a Hit

by Jenn Edmonds

Hampton High School students have been hard at work since October auditioning, rehearsing, and building sets for this year's musical *Something Rotten!* and are looking forward to performing for all of you.

Over 80 students are involved with the musical, doing everything including performing, playing in the orchestra, running the lights, and helping to build costumes from scratch.



Something Rotten! is a contemporary musical comedy that garnered nine Tony nominations in 2015. It takes place in Elizabethan England and follows the story of two playwrights, the Bottom brothers. Desperate for a hit play and tired of living in the shadow of the Renaissance rock star Bard, William Shakespeare, Nick Bottom pays a soothsayer to tell him what the next big thing in theatre will be. When the seer explains that the future of theatre combines acting, singing and dancing at the same time, the Bottom brothers set out to write the world's first musical.

"We welcome you to join us in supporting the performing arts in education at Hampton," said Hampton High School Musical Director Dan Franklin.

Performances are April 21, 22, 28 & 29 and all begin at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$12 each and can be purchased either online at www.Hamptoncats.org or at the door on show night.

Come join us for a night of musical theatre, a night of laughs, a night of *Something Rotten!*

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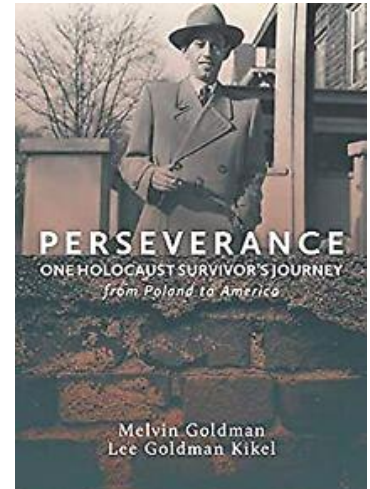
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www.ConcordiaRebeccaResidence.com

More Current Events

Local Author's Book Adapted to Play; Performances Set for Mid-April

Hampton resident Lee Goldman Kikel, whose book *Perseverance: One Holocaust Survivor's Journey from Poland to America* chronicles her father's horrifying experience as a young Jewish man during World War II, has been making the rounds on the local speaking circuit. Lee

has shared her family's history with students at area schools and universities, and she has held numerous speaking engagements at regional libraries. Next up for Lee is a collaboration with Prime Stage Theatre and the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh, who have been working on a stage adaptation of *Perseverance*. Live performances are scheduled for



April 15 and 16 at New Hazlett Theater, with tickets currently for sale at www.primestage.com. In addition, the performance will be recorded and streamed for the public and students from April 24th to May 7th; streaming tickets will go on sale in mid-April.

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Available for speaking events and church functions. Please email me at sdzvonick@comcast.net.

Brownies Warmed the Hearts of Seniors

by Stephanie Rizzo

Girl Scouts are to regularly recite and demonstrate the Girl Scout Law to help people at all times and make the world a better place. Brownies from Troop 50094 did just that by donating 104 boxes of Girl Scout cookies to the independent senior living facility, Hampton Fields Village.



Two years ago, Brielle Connelly took it upon herself to phone the manager at Hampton Fields to plan a day she can visit the facility so she could donate and deliver a box of Girl Scout cookies to each resident. The residents and their families showed their appreciation for the act of kindness, and seeing their smiles warmed Brielle's heart, so she decided to execute this initiative again this year!



Brielle and two of her friends in Troop 50094, Molly Curren and Claire Lennon, collected and donated 104 boxes of

cookies to Hampton Fields Village including 13 sugar-free boxes accommodating dietary restrictions. Brielle said, "Seeing how happy small acts can make someone makes me love being a Girl Scout so much more!" The Brownies look forward to activating this initiative again next year and taking part in other activities and events their troop has planned in the spring.

Police Log

(Continued from page 11)

part of which was in a leadership role. Sergeant Haus is also a leader on the North Hills SRT Team. Congratulations Sergeant Jeff Haus!



Chief Tom Vulakovich, Council President Carolynn Johnson and Sergeant Jeff Haus



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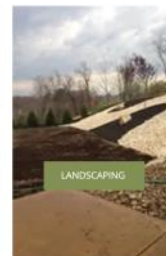
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Local Couple Honor Son By Helping Others

by Jenn Edmonds

Melanie Finnigan and her husband Chris, a Hampton Township police officer for the last 17 years, spent three months in the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) at UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital when their son Liam was born prematurely on Nov. 21, 2008. That experience became the catalyst for the Liam Finnigan Music Program, a way to honor their son.

At birth, weighing 1 lb, 9 oz., Liam's lungs were not fully developed and he breathed with the assistance of a ventilator. A developmental therapist at Magee suggested playing music for Liam since it has been shown to have positive effects on healing. Melanie brought a CD player to the hospital and would play classical music for him; especially when they stepped out of the room to sleep or shower so he wouldn't feel alone. "Liam loved it. It made him feel better, his numbers got better," said Melanie. Over the course of his three months of life, Liam fought his way up to six pounds but was not able to breathe unassisted before he

passed away.

After a couple of years, Melanie and Chris wanted to do something in Liam's honor and to help other babies. "We refocused the pain and heartache to try to do something positive," said Melanie.

They started buying CD players informally for Magee's NICU but wanted to do something more permanent. What began as a letter writing campaign to family and friends, The Liam Finnigan Music Program was established and approved by the board at Magee. They now provide soothers shaped like whales to babies in the Magee NICU that project lights onto the ceiling, play music, and record voices. Parents can take the soothers home if they choose to.



The soothers were especially important during Covid. Only one adult was allowed in the hospital room, so other family members could not visit. Siblings recorded their voices talking or reading stories and parents recorded messages to be played when they were not able to be there in person. After the babies went home, they recognized the voices of their family members that they hadn't met.

"That just touched my heart so much," explained Melanie. She reached out to V-tech, the maker of the soother, in search of a partnership. V-tech came on board and provides the Liam Finnigan Music Program with an ongoing discount.

"Those doctors and nurses at Magee are so fabulous and gave us as much time as we had with Liam," said Melanie. Some of them still reach out to her each year on Liam's birthday.

To donate to the Liam Finnigan Music Program and to help more babies in Magee's NICU, visit the link <https://donorbox.org/liam>.

To be added to the Liam Finnigan Music Program mailing list, please email sheesleyml@mwri.magee.edu.

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Gibsonia, PA 15044
earlyedgepreschool.com
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My Quest For Hannah's Tranquil Retreat

by Heather Shuker

Beyond excited to announce Hannah will be turning 20 on April 5th! A milestone that defies the odds.

A bit about Hannah

If you know Hannah and have followed her journey, you know that every single day is a blessing. [#onedayonehourone-minuteatatime](#) is how we roll ~ it's a must to learn how to live this way when you have intractable epilepsy. Hannah has had over 100,000 seizures in her 20 years and currently has anywhere between 20 to 70 seizures a month.

To say she is my hero is grossly understated.

Hannah has a diagnosis of Lennox Gastaut Syndrome, a severe form of epilepsy. Her primary disease-causing diagnosis is unknown but I will never give up searching.

She has slowed down considerably over the years, perhaps due to the unknown diagnosis that is causing her cerebellum to shrink, daily life-threatening seizures and an overload of seizure medications. Because of this, we spend most of our time at home resting and recovering. I have always made our home perfectly cozy for Hannah and my goal is to create her an outdoor tranquil retreat of sorts so she can enjoy a bit of the outdoors safely.

So why am I telling you all of this?

I'm hoping by creating this Milk Chocolate Pretzel Rod fundraiser, it will help me in my quest to create Hannah's outdoor tranquil retreat as quickly as possible. Although I would love to accomplish this goal quickly, I know that all good things come with time. I'm typically not one to ask for help but thought that by giving something in return such as yummy chocolate covered pretzel rods, it's a win-win!

Last year something really cool happened. A friend from my old high school, who is a landscape architect, reached out after seeing our quest & offered pro-bono services to create the drawings based off of our ideas! Amazingly cool and kind! So we began the process at the end of last year and removed 2 trees. Not the time to be doing a project like this with the increased cost of everything right?!

My goal is to build Hannah's porch this year. Shade is a must as prolonged direct heat wipes her out and increases seizure potential.

Epilepsy has stolen her voice, her smile, her laughter, her silliness, her ability to eat & drink, her heart-warming hugs, her stability, her independence & her excitement for life but it will never ever steal her love for her family, her ability to tell you she loves you through her eyes & her passion to be at home cuddled-up and cozy with her mom.

If you would like to be a part of helping me create this Cozy Tranquil Retreat for Hannahbanarama, please reach out to me to purchase Pollak's Candies Milk Chocolate Pretzel Rods. (2 pack for \$3)

Email: hannahppallas@gmail.com

Thank you for your help in celebrating Hannah's 20th Birthday and helping us conquer our quest!



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FREE Shred-It Event!

Event Schedule:

Sat. Apr 15 11am-2pm Ross Twp., Monroeville Haymaker Rd, Pleasant Hills, Cranberry, Fox Chapel, Robinson

Sat. Apr 22 11am-2pm Bridgeville, Washington, North Huntingdon, Hampton, Bethel Park

Sat. May 6 11am-2pm Monroeville Rt. 22, Shadyside, Waterfront, North Strabane, Seven Fields

Please Note:

- We are kindly asking participants to provide a voluntary cash or school supply donation to benefit The Education Partnership- a nonprofit that provides critical school supplies to local children in need.
- There is a limit of 5 file boxes per person. We will gladly shred more during the last hour of the event if there is space in the truck.
- Remove any binder clips. Paper clips, staples, and window envelopes **can** be shredded.

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Horseback Riding Therapy Program



by Jackie Smith

Riding for the Handicapped of Western PA (RHWPA) was one of the first programs of its kind in the United States, and it's right in our community!

The program offers a therapeutic horseback riding program for children

and young adults with disabilities -- free of cost to all participants.

Heading into their 45th year, the program is staffed entirely by volunteers and funded exclusively by donations, fundraising and grants. Over 100 riders, with a wide range of disabilities, can participate each year. The goal of the program is to supplement traditional physical therapy and educational development by improving muscle tone, balance, posture, coordination, motor skills, self-esteem and general well-being.

RHWPA is looking for volunteers. Do you like animals? Enjoy giving back? This may be the place for you! Volunteer orientation will be held on May 20th at 11:00 am - Parkview Stables, 9950 Grubbs Road, Wexford, Pennsylvania 15090 (at the edge of North Park). The orientation is a great opportunity to meet other volunteers, and see what the program is all about! RHWPA is inclusive; they welcome all potential volunteers aged 14 and older. As a 501(c) nonprofit, RHWPA can fulfill community service requirements.

For more information, visit the website at www.rhwpa.org or call Toots Abbot at 724-443-4485.

Depreciation Lands Museum

Welcome to Friendship Day and our 50th Anniversary

May 21, 2023

The Covenanter Church Building
Continuous picture slide show 1-4 PM
"The History of the Covenanters"

Matt Shipley
2:30 PM

The Deacon's Tavern
Poster & Special Item Displays
Original 1792 Newspaper
"Name This Item" Table

"The Depreciation Lands Museum"

Christopher Lochner, Manager Township of Hampton
1:30 PM

The Barn

Original Conestoga Style Kramer Wagon Display
DLM Cemetery Tours
Self-Guided Tours 1-4 PM

The Armstrong Log House, School House, Herb Garden, Black Smith, Mercantile, Wood Shoppe, and Wigwam, are all open for you to experience.

Venders are scattered throughout the DLM grounds
dlmuseum.org

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Toppings are extra

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DAN WAGNER MEMORIAL KIDS' FISHING DAY

AGES 2 - 12

ROCHESTER GROVE, NORTH PARK
SATURDAY MAY 6, 7:00 AM TO NOON
REGISTRATION 7:30 TILL 10:30
FISH MEASURING 9:00 TO NOON

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VICE PRESIDENT	BILL GRUBBS	412-992-0279
SECRETARY	GARY FRANCESCHINA	412-364-2436
TREASURER	ERIC NORBERG	724-272-2205

N. Hampton Vol. Fire Dept.

Chief Michael Piovesan Monthly Report
February 2023

Monthly Incident Summary:

Assist EMS	2
Brush Fire	2
Commercial Fire Alarm	3
CO Alarm	2
Dumpster Fire	1
Natural Gas Leak	4
Residential Fire Alarm	4
Residential Structure Fire	7
Smoke outside	1
Transformer Fire/Wires Down	1
Vehicle Accident No Entrapment	13
Vehicle Accident with Entrapment	3

Total Incidents for the Month 43
Total Incidents for 2023 88

Noteworthy incidents and events:

- NHVFD was dispatched to Route 8 at McNeal Road for a reported motor vehicle accident with entrapment. First arriving crews found a 2-vehicle head on accident with one occupant still inside the vehicle. Crews were able to quickly gain access to the patient and EMS transported to the hospital.
- NHVFD responded as mutual aid to a residential structure fire on Woods Run Road in Indiana Township. The first arriving crews were able to quickly knock down the fire and NHVFD members assisted with salvage and overhaul.
- NHVFD responded to Stone Chip Drive for a reported residential structure fire. First arriving crews arrived to find a light haze and smell of plastic burning. Crews quickly found the source to be an electrical outlet that had shorted out and melted. Crews secured the power and confirmed there was no extension outside of the electrical box.

New Membership:

We can always use new members who are interested in firefighting, 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.



Chief Michael Piovesan

Mark Your Calendar:

Township of
Hampton Recycle Rama
Saturday, May 13
from 9 am—12 pm



Upcoming Events

"Spruce Up Your Garden at Shaler Garden Club's Plant Sale"

Add some fresh flowers and plants to spruce up your garden affordably this spring at the Shaler Garden Club's 69th annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 6, 2023 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon at Kiwanis Park on Wetzell Road, Glenshaw. A variety of hardy perennials from members' gardens will be offered at bargain prices, along with herbs, vegetables, houseplants, bulbs, and potted arrangements for perfect Mother's Day gifts. A basket raffle and a bake sale will add to the fun. Come rain or shine. Proceeds benefit community projects and philanthropic donations of the Shaler Garden Club. For more information, go to www.shalergardenclub.com.

Flea Market & Bake Sale

Epworth United Methodist Church is hosting a Flea Market and Bake Sale!

When: Friday and Saturday May 5 and 6

Time: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Where: 1300 Burchfield Road

Allison Park, PA 15101

Any questions call 412-486-1454

NHCO's Annual Neighborhood Block Party

Saturday, May 13, 1-4pm

St. Paul's Parking Lot (Next to NHCO's Main Office)
1965 Ferguson Road, Allison Park, PA 15110

Early Bird pricing through April 15 - \$40. After April 15 - \$45
Kids under seven admitted for free.

Family Fun & Games, including Prizes & a Bounce House
Live Music Featuring The Variety Pack
Delicious Food from Wheelfish
BBQ

Candy Pull, Kid's Auction, Face
Painting, Balloon Artists &
Caricaturists, Dunk Tank
Purchase tickets at <https://www.nhco.org/block>



The Rotary Club of Hampton Township Presents The Firecracker 5K Tuesday, July 4, 2023

An annual family fun run for the past 17 years.

Register for this fun 5K on-line at
<https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/AllisonPark/2022HamptonRotaryClubFirecracker5K>

The 5K run takes place at the Hampton Community Center.
We hope to see you there!



Rachel Carson Trail

(Continued from page 1)

them gain a deeper appreciation for our community,” Eyerman said.

The Rachel Carson Trails Conservancy (RCTS) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization where volunteers dedicate themselves to the protection and development of the trail, while also promoting activities. The Conservancy's goals help community members to “experience the beauty of the natural world” according to Kathleen Ganster, a volunteer for the organization.



As it promotes uniting communities, the Rachel Carson Trails Conservancy seeks public help to connect individual neighborhoods to the trail via spur trails, providing residents access to the trail system. Building new trails is a time consuming, multi-year process.

The conservancy seeks homeowners to provide easements through private land to reach public roads. Studies indicate nearby trail access and greenways not only improve property values, but increase outdoor recreation.

RCTS will assume the expense of procuring the easements and trail construction. Neighborhoods closest to the Rachel Carson Trail would be the easiest to connect, however communities further away have opportunities to connect via the ‘Many Trails One Community Program,’ a collaborative effort to build a network of trails throughout Western Pennsylvania.



SATURDAY APRIL 15TH 10AM-12PM VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION DAY AT ELLIOTT ACRES

We will be having a volunteer orientation day for new and current volunteers! **Anyone 14 Years of age or older** is welcome to attend! For more information you can check out our website www.elliottacrestherapyriding.org or contact us at 724-991-2477 or email us at dechorsesr1@gmail.com or EATRvolunteering@gmail.com. Please let us know if you plan to come and remember to bring the appropriate volunteer paperwork which you can find on our website. We hope to see you there!



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For Eyerman, the adventure of discovery first attracted him to the Rachel Carson Trail. “I love my time on the trail, but I am jealous of those who are first experiencing their adventure of discovery,” he said.

Residents in Hampton have a special opportunity to learn more about the trail that passes through their township. “So often we travel great distances to experience natural beauty, but there is incredible beauty in our backyards, if we care to look. The Rachel Carson Trail is a window to that beauty and that wonder,” adds Eyerman.

Committee members are needed to help organize neighborhoods to a trail connection, as well as participate in advocacy efforts. For more information, visit <https://www.rachelcarsontrails.org/>

Help Wanted/Classified

The Township of Hampton Department of Community Services is accepting applications for a **Part-time Facility Manager** for the Community Center.

This is a year-round position and depending on the season, weekly hours can be between 15-25 hours a week. Generally, the Community Center operates seven days/week, Monday-Saturday. Actual operating hours vary by season.

Will be assigned to work a rotating shift schedule which includes weekends, certain holidays, and school breaks. Duties include but are not limited to: overall facility supervision, rental host, rental set-up/tear-down, light custodial duties, service desk operation, and administrative paperwork. Abilities: interpersonal communication, computer skills a must, follow written / verbal guidelines, pass drug test, secure/submit required background clearances.

Seeking a mature, dependable, industrious, and responsible team member. Must be 18 years or older. Progressive hourly pay rate – starting payrate is \$12.00/hour.

Township Seeks Vendors & Entertainers

The Township of Hampton is accepting applications from vendors for the Farmers Market which is scheduled to begin June 7, 2023. The market, which will take place at the community park in Hampton Township, will operate weekly on Wednesdays from 3 to 7 pm. The market is a rain or shine event that continues through October 11, 2023.

Interested vendors can obtain an application on the website www.hampton-pa.org (Farmers Market page) or by emailing Bill Ryder at bill.ryder@hampton-pa.org. Entertainers interested in participating at the market may also contact Bill Ryder.



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