

Heroes Bring the Community Together

By Julie Mikus

Since 2001, Hampton Township School District has honored United States veterans at its annual Hampton Heroes ceremony. Thus far, 200 men

and women have been inducted as Hampton Heroes, a program honoring the military.

The formal ceremony teaches HTSD

students valuable lessons related to military service. This year's program was held on November 3 at Fridley Field, with sun-

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Standing: Dr. Rebecca Cunningham, Jill Hamlin, inductee Patrick James Peavornick, Dr. Michael Loughead, Laurie Rodgers representing her brother: inductee Shawn Barber, inductee Robert Gettings, Lori Mizgorski, Dr. Marguerite Imbarlina. Sitting: guest speaker Dr. Elaine Berkowitz, Lindsay Williams, inductee Nicholas DiCaprio, and inductee John Myros. More on the inductees on page 4/5.

A Naturally Gifted Musician

By Stephanie Rizzo

A.J. Schott, a third-grader at Central Elementary School, has piano skills that are not low-key! Just ask the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, ON. Schott has earned the highest score in Pennsylvania on the Level A practice piano performance examination administered by the Royal Conservatory of Music. The nationally standardized piano examination requires students to memorize three pieces of solo piano repertoire from different time periods, play technical requirements

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Cheer Squad Shines in Multiple Competitions

By Mary-Theresa Watson

With head coach Kathy Long at the helm, the Hampton High School competitive cheer squad is collecting trophies around the region, ultimately setting their sights on the national competition in February. This year's squad began their winning ways in October when they took on rivals at the North Hills High School local competition, bringing home the first-place trophy for Small Varsity Cheer-

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Police Log & Information

Presents for Patients

The Hampton Police Department is once again teaming up with other local police departments for the Presents from Police Toy Drive. This year's donations will go to the Sunrise School in Monroeville, which provides education to students with learning disabilities.

Thank you for your consideration in donating to help make a difference for a young child during this coming holiday season! To participate, please drop off NEW UNWRAPPED toys at Community Center, Municipal Building, Police Station or State Farm (5006 Route 8) during regular business hours before Friday, December 16.

NO-SHAVE November-And So On

The Hampton Police are excited to announce they are once again participating in "NO-SHAVE NOVEMBER...and Don't Stop December, January and February"!

For those not aware, No—Shave November is a month-long journey during which participants forgo shaving and grooming in order to evoke conversation and raise cancer awareness. The goal of No-Shave November is to grow awareness by embracing our hair, which many cancer patients lose, and letting it grow wild and free. Donate the money you typically spend on shaving and grooming to educate about cancer prevention, save lives, and aid those fighting the battle. "Don't Stop December, January and February" continues the fundraising efforts beyond November.

For this year's fundraising drive, donations will be split between the Mrs. Claus Club Pittsburgh North Chapter and Aiden's Helping Hands. Like last year, the department will continue to support the Mrs. Claus Club, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing support to local women and men undergoing cancer treatments. Please see the attached link to

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A NOTE FROM THE HAMPTON NEWS

We are excited to share the **new website** www.thehamptonnews.com and email info@thehamptonnews.com

New!

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

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Production and Design: Laurie and John Rizzo

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Veteran's

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shine, blue skies and warm temperatures welcoming veterans, their families, students and guests.



Hampton Heroes inductees honored at the ceremony were: Sgt. First Class Shawn Barber (Army), Sgt. Nicholas DiCaprio (Marines), Cpl. Robert Gettings, (Marines), Petty Officer 3rd Class John E. Myros (Navy), and Sgt. Patrick James Peavornick (Marines). The inductees bring the township much pride through their service to the United States.

Students Kelly Gibson, Ben Ritz, Molly Bennett, and Marlee Rudy participated in a mail call, where the veterans re-

ceived meaningful letters. The Hampton High School wind ensemble, under the direction of band director, Mr. Chad Himmler, performed "America the Beautiful," while students Jason Andrews and Brittney Towers played "Taps," a call to remember those who gave their lives in the service of the United States.

Dr. Elaine Berkowitz, a Ross Township resident and retired Lt. Col., delivered the keynote address. Serving in the United States Army for thirty-eight years, Dr. Berkowitz retired as Lieutenant Colonel at the age of sixty-eight years. She was deployed four times, including in Iraq and Kosovo, and served in the Dental Corp. During her career, she was medevaced twice. "I always felt very safe and secure knowing the military would take good care of me," Berkowitz explained in her speech. How-



An author, Dr. Berkowitz published a book, *Live Life...Love Country*. The inspirational book takes readers on her life journey, learning from her fascinating experiences and many travels. An accomplished speaker, Berkowitz is an invited lecturer not only in the United States, but also several countries including Ukraine and Japan.



The retired Lieutenant Colonel explains that Veterans Day is a holiday to honor all veterans who have sacrificed to keep our country free. "I believe people should support veterans all year long, by shaking hands and thanking them for their service." She encourages people to approach veterans and have a conversation with them by asking questions and learning their stories. "You will make their day!" Berkowitz exclaimed.

ever, at times, danger was not far, she told the crowd. "Once in Iraq, the day before we were to return, we had to take cover...the firing was too close. You must be on alert twenty-four seven, no matter your job or rank."

Impressed with the Hampton Heroes program, Berkowitz offered, "The program teaches students respect and a way of life they may not be familiar with. It brings the community together."

To learn more about the Hampton Heroes program, visit www.ht-sd.org About Hampton Heroes. To order Dr. Berkowitz' book *Live Life...Love Country* visit Amazon.com.

(Hampton Heroes on page 4)

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★ ★ ★ 2022 Hampton Heroes Inductees ★ ★ ★

Shawn Barber of Hope Mills, N.C., serves in the U.S. Army. (photo not available)

A 1999 graduate of Hampton High School, Mr. Barber entered active-duty service in October 2002. He spent 14 of his 20 years under the U.S. Army Special Operations Command serving in various leadership positions. During his time in the army, he has deployed 13 times to Iraq, Syria, Colombia, and Honduras while conducting both combat and diplomatic missions in those countries. He received many military awards and medals including the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Meritorious Service Medals.

He earned an associate degree in Psychology from Troy University, a bachelor's degree from the University of Charleston in Organization Leadership, and he is currently completing his master's degree in Strategic Leadership from the University of Charleston. Mr. Barber is married to Carolina of Colombia, South America, and has one daughter, Myah. Upon retirement from the Army in the spring of 2023, Mr. Barber, Carolina, and Myah will return to Pittsburgh to be closer to family. He enjoys spending time with his family, working out, coaching football, playing ice hockey, lounging on the beach, and traveling the world to learn about different cultures.

Nicholas DiCaprio of Glenshaw served as a Sergeant E-5 in the U.S. Marines. DiCaprio began boot camp at Parris Island, S.C., in June 1966 before attending IRT training camp at Camp Lejeune later that year. He completed artillery school at Camp Pendleton in February 1967. DiCaprio served in Vietnam with Charlie Battery 1st Battalion 12th Marines 3rd Marine Division from February 1967 to October 1968. While stationed in Vietnam, DiCaprio served in Camp Carroll, Gio Linh, Con Thien, Ca Lu, Cam Lo, The Rockpile, Hill 881 and LZ Torch. DiCaprio was mentioned in the book, "Impact Zone: The Battle of the DMZ in Vietnam, 1967-1968" by Jim Brown as: "The saltiest of the crew...Corporal DiCaprio and his crew had their helmets off and, using them as blankets, were running around with their gun catching spent shrapnel from the incoming as it flew through the air."



He and his wife Verlyn have been married for 51 years. They have two children, Michael (Julie) DiCaprio and Nikole (Tim) Schutzman. They have seven grandchildren who all attended Hampton Township School District: Carter, Collin, Connor, Troy, Lindsay, Leah and Zoe. Mr. DiCaprio is a life member of VFW Post 3945 and American Legion Post 785. Throughout his career, Mr. DiCaprio worked in landscaping, insurance, and the U.S. Postal Service.

(Continued on page 5)



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Presentation of bikes to the Marines will be made on Thursday, December 8th at 11:30am at Wildwood Golf Club. To volunteer to transport bikes from Walmart (Gibsonia) to Wildwood Golf Club that morning and to join us for a celebration luncheon there afterwards, please register at www.alsbikedrive.org

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2022 Hampton Heroes Inductees

Robert Gettings of Allison Park served in the U.S. Marines as a Corporal E-4. He joined the U.S. Marines in September 1970 and attended boot camp at Parris Island, S.C. Following boot camp, he went to electronics school in Twentynine Palms, Calif., for six months where he learned how to fix communications equipment. He was stationed in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, with the Second Battalion 8th Marines. He also served with the Second Reconnaissance Battalion at Camp Lejeune before he was honorably discharged. Mr. Gettings enjoyed his time in the military and said he would do it all over again. After serving as a U.S. Marine, Mr. Gettings received a two-year degree from Butler County Community College and later received a Bachelor of Science in chemistry from the University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Gettings was a bench chemist at PPG Industries for 27 years. He and his wife Karen have two children, Robert and Jessica. He enjoys hunting, fishing, shooting, and gardening.



John E. Myros of Gibsonia served in the U.S. Navy Seabees from 1967 to 1969 and attained the rank of 3rd Class Builder. Mr. Myros enlisted in the U.S. Navy and entered boot camp in Great Lakes, IL., in September 1967. He attended Class A School - Building in Port Hueneme, CA., before moving to Counter Insurgency School in Little Creek, VA. While serving in Vietnam - RVM Da Nang with the Naval Support Facilities, he was assigned to 1st Marines. He was wounded in action in July 1968 and was given retirement from the U.S. Navy the following year. He is married to Kathryn Myros. They have two sons, Daniel (Vicky) Myros and Richard (Kim) Myros, and a daughter, Susan (Tom) Gauthier. They have six grandchildren: Kayla, Tyler John, Baylee, Kasie, Daniel, and William. Myros worked for Burrell Construction, H.J.Heinz Co., and Tom Henry Chevrolet. His hobbies include fishing, hunting and cooking for Trinity Lutheran Church.



Patrick James Peavornick of Masantown served as a U.S. Marine in the 3rd Marine Division and attained the rank of Sergeant. Peavornick served with the 3rd Marine Division from 1965-1968. He was stationed in Vietnam from 1966-1967 with the Tactical Air Control Party, where he served on the front-line with the incredible responsibility of calling in air strikes and medical evacuations. He also served with division reconnaissance and received two Purple Hearts. Mr. Peavornick is married to Judy Peavornick, and they have two children, Erin Prosser (HTSD Elementary Media Specialist) and Heather Geho. Mr. Peavornick enjoys fishing, gardening, and serving his community as a volunteer firefighter.



Police Log

(Continued from page 2)

learn more about this organization <http://mrsclausclub.org/site/?>

Aiden Hanna is a 16-year old Hampton Student who is currently undergoing chemotherapy and will have surgery to remove the cancer in his leg. He and his family have set up a fund "Aiden's Helping Hands," which helps other children and their families. Please see attached link to learn more information about Aiden's Helping Hands

<https://aidenshelpinghands.com/>

All participating officers have pledged a donation and we are asking for your help as well. We would be honored if you would submit a donation of your own using the information provided. Or you can make a cash or check donation to the Hampton Police Department Charity Fund. Please contact the Hampton Police Department, 412-486-0400, if you have any questions.

The Hampton Township Police Department (HTPD) is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of our residents and guests by providing the very best in law enforcement services. The 22 officers and

two civilian clerks take pride in serving the community in a professional and proactive manner. Thank you to the staff for helping to keep our community safe.

A summary of noteworthy incidents that occurred are listed below. These incident statistics included, but WERE NOT LIMITED TO, the following between the dates of 9/28/2022—11/11/2022:

Vehicle Accident

On 10/12/2022 at 9:32 p.m., Hampton Township Police (HTP) were dispatched to the area of Wildwood Road for a report of a two-vehicle accident with unknown injuries. Upon arrival, officers located a vehicle off the roadway at the intersection of Bella Vista Dr. and Wildwood Rd. Officers contacted the driver and sole occupant of the vehicle and confirmed that there was only one vehicle involved in the collision.

The operator stated that they were traveling downhill on Bella Vista when they engaged their brakes and slid on the wet roadway, causing their vehicle to veer off the roadway and strike a tree. The vehicle sustained moderate damage to the passenger side front bumper and was removed from the scene by Zang's Auto.


On 10/22/2022 at 12:36p.m., HTP were dispatched to the area of Route 8 at the Allison Park Industrial Complex for a report of a two-vehicle accident with possible injuries. It was then updated the

(Continued on page 6)


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vehicles were moved off the road and one occupant was complaining of head, neck and back pain. Upon the officers' arrival, all parties advised they were traveling north on Route 8 when one vehicle driver signaled to make a right turn into the northern entrance of the industrial complex. The driver of a second vehicle indicated that they looked back to make sure they could change lanes and did not see that the vehicle ahead had slowed to make their turn. The second vehicle then struck the rear of the other involved unit. Both vehicles were able to be driven from the scene.


 On 11/06/2022 at 10:07p.m., HTP were

dispatched to Route 8 for an accident involving a vehicle vs. motorcycle. Upon arrival, it was discovered that one tow truck was needed for the involved motorcycle due to sustained damages. Medics were also on scene to evaluate the operator of the motorcycle. The accident was said to have occurred when one vehicle was in the right curb lane traveling north on William Flinn Highway. That operator stated that they didn't see anyone in the left lane, so they attempted to switch over to the left lane, however, their vehicle struck the motorcycle while doing so.


 On 11/11/2022 at 4:00 p.m., HTP were

dispatched to the area of Harts Run Rd. and William Flinn Hwy. for a vehicle crash. Upon arrival, it was discovered that the location was near Dave Giel Garage Doors and it involved three vehicles. The accident was said to have occurred when one vehicle was traveling northbound on Route 8. The vehicle was traveling in the left lane, and as the operator glanced into the rearview mirror to check on their kids, they crashed into a vehicle that was in the roadway ahead of them. This forced the second vehicle to make contact with a third vehicle stopped ahead. One vehicle was towed from the scene.

Vehicle Crash/DUI Arrest

 On 11/05/2022 at 1:26a.m., HTP were dispatched to the area of Middle Rd. and Wildwood Rd. Ext. for a vehicle that had crashed into a guide rail. County dispatch advised the vehicle had multiple air-bag deployments and possible entrapment. Upon arrival, officers observed the involved vehicle crashed into a guide rail on Middle Rd. The vehicle had air bag deployment throughout the entire vehicle. The driver and sole occupant of the vehicle was not entrapped and was able to open the door to speak with officers. The driver had a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage emanating from his person and breath while speaking with officers. The driver stated that he fell asleep at the wheel while driving and didn't know he crashed his vehicle into the guide rail. The driver was subsequently arrested for suspicion of DUI. Leo's Towing was notified to remove the vehicle from the roadway.

Brush Fire

 On 11/09/2022 at 3:55p.m., HTP were dispatched to West Hardies Road for a report of leaves on fire in the yard. Upon arrival, North Hampton VFD had already stopped the fire from spreading. They brought their engine to

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Three Aquinas Academy of Pittsburgh seniors have received Letters of Commendation for their performance on the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Competition. Mary BouSamra, Samuel Buchanan, and Liam Ellis rank among approximately 34,000 Commended Students nationwide who are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Commended Students



placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.5 million students who entered the 2023 competition by taking the 2021 Preliminary SAT/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) in their junior year of high school.

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Library News



3101 McCully Road Allison Park, PA
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The Hampton Community Library would like to wish everyone a happy, peaceful holiday season! Thank you for filling this year with good reads, great food, laughter and lively conversation.

Look for a Few Good Board Members!

Hampton Community Library is looking for individuals who are willing to invest their time and talents in a *growing, dynamic, community* library. No experience is necessary, just an open mind and a desire to help shape our library for the future! Please email a letter of interest to: Erin Hasinger at hampton@hamptoncommunitylibrary.org by December 18, 2022.

Wonder-filled Mornings are over, but HCL has lots of snowy, fun events planned throughout the month of December. See below for special guest programming and special holiday-themed programs!

Brrrr! It's Cold Outside Storytime

Tuesdays, December 6th and 13th at 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Warm up with our friends from Positive Steps! We are welcoming

back our friends from Positive Steps as they bring stories, games and activities/crafts along with suggestions to support your child's growth and development at home. This free program is open to children 6 and under. Please note, this will be the same program each date.

Friends and Mittens Storytime!

Thursday, December 8th and 15th at 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Join Miss Jess and her favorite pair of mittens in this special story time filled with stories, songs and craft! The program is for babies on up to 6-years old. Please note, this will be the same program each date.

Olaf's Snow Party!

Tuesday, December 20th and Wednesday, December 21st 10:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.

Join us for Olaf's favorite time of year – Winter!! There will be stories, songs, games and crafts designed around Olaf and his friends! Costumes are encouraged! Registration is appreciated. Space is limited! Ages 3 -6 years old.

Happy "Noon" Year Party!

Tuesday, December 27th and Wednesday, December 28th 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Get ready to celebrate the New Year with us! There will be

New Year stories, crafts, games, and even a dance party to count down the New Year! Registration is appreciated. Space is limited! Ages 4 and up.

Friends and N'at!

2nd Wednesday of the month@ 11:15 a.m.

December 14th – Happy Holidays!

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

Card Club! Wednesdays from 1:00 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!

(Continued on page 22)



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Piano

(Continued from page 1)

such as scales and etudes, sight read and test ear training.

Schott has been playing the piano for four years and studying with Dr. Mary Lynne Bennett, a Hampton resident and faculty member at the Duquesne University Mary Pappert School of Music, for the past three and a half years.



"My goal is to help learners become increasingly self-sufficient and help them reach goals in their development as artists," Bennett said. "It was clear from the beginning that A.J. has the talent and drive to be amazing, and we enjoy choosing pieces that allow him to explore many different styles and time periods of music written for the instrument."

Not only is Schott a musician, but he also takes pride in his schoolwork and his spot on the Hampton swim team. "When I'm not practicing the piano, I like to play games with my sister, Sam, who also plays the pi-

ano," Schott says. "I also like to go to school to see my friends. The best is when my teacher doesn't give us homework so I have more time to play and practice the piano."

Schott will receive a certificate of excellence from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto for earning the highest score in the state of Pennsylvania for his level. In the meantime, he has submitted his entry for the Music Lights the Way Piano Festival and continues practicing for the next exam.

For more information on the award and the Royal Conservatory of Music, visit their website at



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Tikka Taco Offers an Eclectic Variety of Cuisine

by Stephanie Rizzo

Consider yourself a foodie? Then Tikka Taco, a new local restaurant serving Indian, Mexican and American fusion cuisine, has your tastebuds written all over it! Even if you don't consider yourself a foodie, this new concept has something that's sure to spark your interest; the three-prong menu allows guests the option to enjoy either American, Indian or Mexican dishes.

This is not only the first restaurant Hussain Sheikh, owner of Tikka Taco, has opened, but it is his first time step in the restaurant industry in general. "I've always had a love and passion for food," he said. "I learned to cook traditional Indian cuisine from my mom and continued to carry on the tradition ever since. It's been a

dream of mine for over 20 years, so when an opportunity arose, I knew I had to see it through."

Since he is a first-time restaurant owner, finding a reliable, talented team able to help manage the restaurant was mandatory. Multiple chefs cook menu items within the three-prong cuisine categories based on their culinary expertise, ensuring all dishes are authentic and high quality. Tikka Taco is a B.Y.O.B. establishment located in the newly remodeled space formerly occupied by Sciallo's 910 Deli, but don't worry, you don't have to say goodbye to the fabled deli just yet, as some of the favorites can be found in the American cuisine section on the Tikka Taco menu.

Tikka Taco offers third-party delivery services through UberEats, Doordash and Grubhub. Tikka Taco: Online Menu www.toasttab.com/tikkataco - 4358 Gibsonia Road West Deer Township, PA. Order now! For more information, follow Tikka Taco on social media at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/143134762411590> adveritorial





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Local Business Welcomes All

by Jackie Smith

Right off the corner of Middle Road and Harts Run Road, you will find Three Little Birds Café & Juice Bar and So Me Artisan Wares & Jewelry Studio – family owned businesses that provide a welcoming environment for all!

Owned by Barney and Amy McGinley, Three Little Birds has been in the family for over 10 years. According to Amy, “We joined forces with other family members, and when they stepped down, Three Little Birds represented our 3 young kids. The Cafe has been in the current location for a little over 2 years, and So Me has been here for 3 years. We feel very fortunate and grateful to have found a place where we could create our businesses under one roof.”

According to Frank McGuire, who has worked for the McGinleys for a few months now, “Barney and Amy are great people, the customers are so friendly, and it is such a welcoming environment!”

Serving healthy eats and sweet treats, as well as a full coffee bar and smoothies, Three Little Birds Cafe has several different areas for relaxing. On most Saturdays from 8:00 – 12:00, The GOATS, an acoustic guitar duet, are playing outdoors on the porch or inside during the winter months. McGinley advised, “The GOATS have been with us for years; they have become wonderful friends, and a great addition!” Stephanie Shepard has been working at the Café for about a year. Stephanie stated, “I love coffee, and I truly enjoy my coworkers; everyone gets along. It’s a great place to work.”

While enjoying your coffee, So Me is not to be missed! An idea that formed when Amy was a high school student, her career in the jewelry industry began by apprenticing with several high end jewelers in



The GOATS performing on a beautiful fall morning on the porch

the city. After losing her father in 2008, Amy said, “Life can change quickly; I opened So Me in 2009, and I haven’t looked back. I love working with my family, meeting new people and artists and just creating! Some of the artists I have worked with since we opened. It’s the relationships that matter,” stated McGinley.”

Stop by and visit the McGinleys Tuesday through Saturday, and don’t forget to say hello to Bella, one of the family’s dogs, who is a regular at So Me. Customers are also welcome to have their dogs join them at the cafe, as well!

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Making a Difference



Hampton High School junior McKenna Andrews was looking for a way to make a difference this holiday season. She stepped up to organize and implement a community food drive for Inspired Hearts & Hands, based in Mars. McKenna wants to thank all the residents that donated to make this fund raiser a success. She delivered a truck full of non-perishable food items and over \$400 in gift cards!

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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 |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| 2183 Grandeur Drive | \$1,185,000 | \$1,060,000 | 40 |
| 2678 Oak Hill Drive | \$735,000 | \$695,000 | 45 |
| 4055 Jupiter Drive | \$685,000 | \$685,000 | 5 |
| 3914 Ash Drive | \$675,000 | \$667,500 | 40 |
| 4215 Yarmouth Drive | \$539,000 | \$508,000 | 21 |
| 5112 Bronwyn Court | \$467,500 | \$467,500 | 5 |
| 4907 Ottawa Court | \$429,000 | \$429,000 | 9 |
| 2242 Ferguson Road | \$449,900 | \$422,500 | 77 |
| 3871 Mount Royal Blvd | \$395,000 | \$397,000 | 4 |
| 4123 Surrey Drive | \$339,900 | \$330,000 | 49 |
| 3263 Antler | \$299,900 | \$299,900 | 3 |
| 4205 Oakridge Drive | \$299,900 | \$285,000 | 191 |
| 4333 Hemlock Circle | \$228,000 | \$235,200 | 4 |
| 4434 Laurel Oak Drive | \$225,000 | \$221,000 | 64 |
| 3006 Bardona Circle | \$275,000 | \$220,000 | 47 |
| 3941 Mount Royal Blvd | \$149,900 | \$158,008 | 3 |

TIP OF THE MONTH:

Be sure to remove hoses and turn off all outdoor faucets so they don't freeze and are ready for next spring!

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Middle School Abundant with Talent

by Jenn Edmonds, Photos by Madia Photography

even when they were difficult,” explained Hampton High School senior and show choreographer Giulia Mauro. “In the end, their practice paid off and I couldn’t be more proud!”



Jordan Schafer
“Jack Kelly”

Extra! Extra! Read all about it! Hampton Middle School’s production of Disney Newsies Jr. was a resounding success! For the first time since 2019, Hampton Middle School Drama Club was able to stage a full-fledged musical. About 100 sixth through eighth graders were involved in various capacities in the cast, crew, and orchestra for four performances November 17-19.

Led by seventh grader Jordan Schafer, who played the role of Jack, and eighth grader Rosha Kazemi, who played the role of Katherine, the large cast performed over 15 songs with accompanying dance numbers; the culmination of which was a spectacular tap dance that featured most of the cast on stage at the same time dancing in unison. “It took a lot of hard work and cooperation! What made it possible was the kids’ dedication and excitement. They were determined to learn the steps,



Haylie Manuel
“Les”



Logan Brady
“Crutchie aka: Casey”



Peter Blackburn
“Davey”



Matthew Lancaster
“Oscar Delancey”



Owen Jay
“Morris Delancey”

Rehearsals began in early September. In mid-October, the students ramped it up with late rehearsals, four days a week until 7 or 8 pm, including Saturdays. There was a learning curve because none of these students had the opportunity to do a full HMS musical in the last two years due to Covid but the cast, crew and musicians rose to the challenge.

Last year HMS presented “The Above-Average Award Show” which was essentially a musical review of the last 15 years of shows and the students were still wearing masks to perform. “This musical was different from last year’s because it was a full show where we also had to memorize lines and block scenes,” explained eighth grader Logan Brady who played the part of Crutchie/Casey. Being part of the musical enables students to meet and get to know other students they wouldn’t necessarily know and to work collaboratively.



Rachel Kirsopp
“Medda Larkin”



Thi Malesky
“Joseph Pulitzer”



Rosha Kazemi
“Katherine Plumber”



Max Cieply
“Wiesel”

Hampton's Football Program Rebuilding with New Coach

by Garrett Gess

Hampton football's final game of the season ended in major disappointment, but the season as a whole had plenty of triumphs.

It's true that every playoff team except for the state champions will end their season in a disappointing loss, but the Talbot's loss may have been the most disappointing of all. Hampton finished with a 5-5 regular season record, being the No. 9 seed, and squeezed into the playoffs with an away game against No. 8 Montour.

The game started with the Talbots and the Spartans trading blows on the offense. At halftime, the contest was tied 21-21. Hampton got out in front in the third quarter, going up 27-21. With roughly 10 minutes to go, Montour scored on a rushing touchdown. The Talbots quickly countered with a passing touchdown to take back the lead. The Talbots went for the two point conversion but failed, still with a 33-28 lead.

Hampton forced Montour to surrender the ball on the ensuing possession. With the lead and in the waning moments, Hampton was driving down the field with ease and was looking to finish the job. But then, Montour recovered a fumble at the 1-yard-line, preventing Hampton's near victory. The fumble seemed to have similarities to Jerome Bettis's historic fumble in the 2005 AFC Divisional playoff game against the Colts, a play all Pittsburgh sports fans will remember. Unfortunately for Hampton, the game didn't quite have the happy ending that it did for the Steelers. Montour drove 99 yards down the field and won on a Hail Mary. The game was arguably Hampton's most disappointing playoff loss in the history of the program.

As far as game stats: quarterback Adrian Midgley (Jr) went 11/18 for 292 yards

with four touchdowns and two interceptions. Receiver Benny Haselrig (Sr) had 146 yards on three receptions and three touchdowns. Joey Mayer (Sr) had 104 rushing yards on five attempts and one touchdown. Joey Mayer has been a vocal leader for the Talbots this season. When reflecting on the overall finish of the season, Mayer remarked, "I feel like we had bigger goals starting the season off, but with all the adversity we went through throughout the season, I'm happy with what we accomplished. For all of us seniors we were upset because it was our last game and we didn't want it to be over." Mayer's favorite Hampton football memory was "spending 5 years with my quarterback coach [Scott] Breen. He taught me a ton about the position, most importantly staying composed while in the game." Mayer was included with five other seniors who stayed with the Hampton football team for all four

years along with Aidan Lewis, Michael Santerello, Benny Haselrig, and Michael Morgano. Even as the final gun blew in Hampton's defeat, there was plenty to be proud of.



THE HARLEM WIZARDS ARE COMING TO TOWN!

SAVE THE DATE

HAMPTON TEACHERS vs HARLEM WIZARDS BASKETBALL GAME

Presented by Hampton Boys' Basketball Booster Club

WHEN: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7th 7:00-9:00 PM

WHERE: HAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL GYM (2929 McCully Rd)

For Ticket Information:
Go to HARLEMWIZARDS.COM & click "GET TICKETS"

Operation Troop Appreciation Veterans Day 5K 2022

The 17th annual Operation Troop Appreciation Veterans Day 5K was held on Sunday, November 6th in Hampton Community Park. Organizers say the event attracted 190 registrants who took advantage of the unseasonably warm weather and many amenities to raise funds to send Holiday Care Packages to active-duty troops.

The race attracted participants from all over western Pennsylvania and Ohio; virtual runners shared the fun from points as far as Texas. Families, veterans, Boy Scouts and running enthusiasts were among the field vying for the many available prizes.

Winners enjoyed unique awards, hand crafted by Hampton Middle School teacher Glenn Geary, as well as gift certificates donated by Second Sole Running Store. Young runners stole the spotlight, as the first place male and female finishers were 13 year old Colton Ginsburg of Venetia, PA and 11 year old Miri Shaw of Pittsburgh, with times of 18:38 and 22:03 respectively. Hampton High School Senior Teresa Grimm finished as third place overall female. Masters' Category winners were Tom McLaughlin and Stacey Sahr-Herman.

The race also provided a team category which featured prizes of Pittsburgh Penguins game tickets as well as day passes to Climb North. Boy Scout Troop 195 fielded a team of "Speedy Scouts" whose finishing score qualified as fastest team.

Before the race began, the Speedy Scouts team and their fellow scouts were busy helping organizers set up the course and awards pavilion. Race Director Alice McLaughlin noted that the Scouts of Troop 195 have been instrumental in race day efforts since its inception.

Additionally, McLaughlin said, Township staff provided critical support in planning and in race day implementation. "Department of Community Services, our Hampton Township Police Department, our Fire Police, Shaler-Hampton EMS and the volunteers from North Hampton and Richland Fire Companies all contributed important elements to our efforts," she said. "This race would not happen without the gifts provided by these people and our hardworking volunteers."

The race featured many amenities. Winners in each of 13



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age groups (male and female) took home apple pies. First through third place finishers in each age group won medals. Door prizes were awarded based on unique criteria. The Hampton High School Pep Band provided inspiration along the course; more entertainment was provided by Life of The Party Productions at the registration pavilion. The course was decorated in patriotic fashion, and participants enjoyed an All-American post-race buffet.

Funds raised by the race will be used by Operation Troop Appreciation to send holiday care packages to active-duty troops serving around the world. McLaughlin encourages anyone interested in learning more about this effort to visit the website www.OperationTroopAppreciation.Org.



Two Local Athletes Commit on National Signing Day

Two Aquinas Academy of Pittsburgh seniors, Isabella Hite and Vincent Cugini, signed their Letters of Intent on National Signing Day, Wednesday, November 9, in a ceremony held in the Rhodora J. Donahue Building in front of classmates, high school coaches, and family.

Hite signed her Letter of Intent to play for Belmont Abbey's Division II field hockey program. Hite, a four-sport athlete at Aquinas, recently completed her high school field hockey career at the WPIAL Championships where the Crusaders were Runner-up. While the 2022 field hockey awards have not yet been announced, Hite was named a WPIAL Field Hockey All-Star in 2021 and All-WPIAL (Honorable Mention) in 2020. Aquinas Academy's Varsity Field Hockey coach, Jen Dewitt, says that "Bella has been a joy to coach on the field. Bella is not only a well rounded player on the field who demonstrated hard work, dedication, leadership and skills,



but she is also a leader off the field in her academics as well."

Vinnie Cugini signed his Letter of Intent to play basketball for Pitt-Johnstown. Cugini, who has led all of WPIAL in scoring for the past three seasons, has compiled a singular resume of accomplishments including a 37.1 career points per game, the fastest player in WPIAL history to reach both 1,000 and 2,000 career points, and a three time Class A All-State Selection. Additional awards include WPIAL All-Section selection the past two seasons and the Post-Gazette 1A Fab Five selection for each of his first three high school seasons. During the signing ceremony, George Yokitis, the Aquinas Boys' Varsity Basketball coach, commended both athletes for caring for their fellow students, for being leaders, and for their high character. "Vinnie did it the old fashioned way, he worked hard, he was dedicated, he was committed ... he should be taken as an inspiration to all of us." With Cugini's senior year season starting in a few weeks, the Crusader's basketball team is eager for a deeper run in the WPIAL playoffs.

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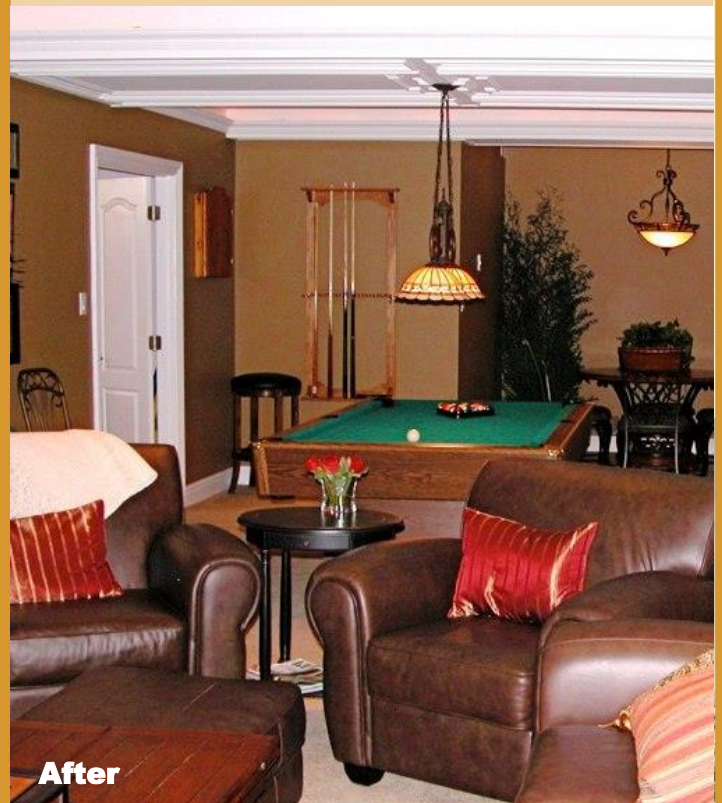


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Police Log


(Continued from page 6)

the scene to ensure the fire was fully out. The homeowner advised that he was mowing the lawn when leaves caught on fire due to getting stuck in the mower.

Water Main Break

On 10/21/2022 at 10:39p.m., HTP were dispatched to the area of Mt. Royal Blvd. and Route 8 for a possible water main break. Upon arrival, it was discovered that the water main break was near Craighead Rd. and Mt. Royal Blvd. Officers notified Hampton-Shaler Water Authority and they responded to the scene.

Fire

 On 10/19/2022 at 7:51p.m., HTP were dispatched to Royalview Drive for a strong odor within a residence. Upon the responding officer's arrival, members of the fire department were on scene beginning to assess the residence. The reporting party advised that their mother, who is the homeowner, had advised that she started smelling something strange in the home at approximately 4:00 p.m. The reporting party responded to the residence to try and locate the source of the issue and stated that the smell continued to get stronger, so they called 911. While evaluating the scene, members of the fire department located a hamper of clothing that was smoldering within the home. The hamper was smoking, and small flames were observed. The fire department extinguished the clothing in the

(Continued on page 20)

Current Events

Fireworks, Food & Festive Fun for All Ages!

Santa Claus will be coming to our Township on Thursday, December 1st at 7—9 pm with the help of the Hampton & North Hampton Volunteer Fire Departments! Fireworks will begin at 7:00 pm and Santa and Rudolph will arrive to the community center after the fireworks!

Join us this evening at the Hampton Community Center & Park for festive fun with your family, neighbors and friends! Complimentary photos with Santa, compliments of Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate, and a festive fireworks display are just a few of this year's event activities! Food trucks will be available before the event, beginning at 6:30 pm. If you or someone you know operates a food truck and would like to be part of this year's event email Melanie Martino at melanie.martino@hampton-pa.org.

Elf on the Shelf Search:

Happy the Elf will be joining us once again at the community center for the holiday season! Happy the Elf will be hiding in different places throughout the community center November 28th - December 23rd.

Elf on the Shelf Search papers will be available at the community center service desk beginning on November 28th. The dates that Happy will be changing his hiding spot are noted on the search paper. After you have found Happy, the community center desk staff will stamp your search paper. Be sure to keep your paper for each visit to the community center and collect all four stamps! Participants with all four stamps will be entered to win a prize.

Santa's Mailbox at the Community Center:

Santa's Mailbox is at the community center just in time for our holiday event! Please feel free to stop by with your children to "mail" their letter to the North Pole! This year our mailbox is located at the entrance of the community center, across from the library, in front of the administrative offices.

Al's Bike Drive

Al's Bike Drive is underway! The annual event is spearheaded by Al Todd, his family, and an army of volunteers. The bike drive supports the United States Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program. The goal for this year's bike drive is 1000 bicycles, including ten adaptive bikes for children with disabilities. Community members can help support the program by purchasing a bike, making a monetary donation or volunteering, all of which can be done at www.alsbikedrive.com. Volunteers are needed to help load, transport and distribute bikes. The delivery date for the bikes is Thursday, December 8th at 9 am at the Walmart in Richland.

Neighborhood Santa Tour

Santa Claus is coming to your neighborhood on December 17th beginning at 9:00 am! Santa will begin his neighborhood tour at the Hampton Community Park and then travel throughout the township compliments of the Hampton & North Hampton Fire Departments! For everyone's convenience we have a Santa Tracker for people to view the tentative time Santa will be in or around your neighborhood.

Everyone will be able to view where Santa has already traveled! Follow the Santa Tracker on December 17th to check where Santa is on his route. **Please understand that these times are TENTATIVE times and may not be exact.**

We would like to extend a very special THANK YOU to the Hampton & North Hampton Volunteer Fire Departments for providing Santa his transportation and helping coordinate this event! We would also like to thank Sal Leo's Tree Services for their generous contribution of candy canes, which will be handed out throughout Santa's tour!

While Santa wishes he could visit every township street we have done our very best to try to include as many streets and areas throughout the Township as possible. If you are visiting an area where Santa will be in, please make sure that your vehicle is not parked in any turn around areas such as cul-de-sacs or anywhere that would prohibit a firetruck from driving by.

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Cheer

(Continued from page 1)

leading Team. In early November, the team travelled to Slippery Rock University for the Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) Allegheny Regional Championship, where they placed 10th out of 19 in the Small Varsity category. This stellar finish earned the team a bid to the UCA National High School Cheerleading Championship to be held in February at Walt Disney World Resort.

Aiming to add to their trophy haul for the season, the team next headed to the 37th Annual Pennsylvania State Cheerleading Championships, which were held just before Thanksgiving on the IUP campus. Taking fourth in the Small Varsity division,

the ladies all felt proud for hitting a solid, fall-free routine that had Hampton supporters jumping to their feet. That night, after a long day of competing, the team headed back to the gym to work some more difficult elements into their routine as they prepare for the WPIAL PIAA States Qualifier at Hempfield High School in January. If they place in the top 8 in their division, the team will compete later that month at Hershey Park at WPIAL "states."

The team has logged thousands of miles since its inception in 2013, with eight trips to Orlando already in the history books. The current squad is comprised of four seniors, six juniors, three sophomores, and two freshmen, all working together under the careful guidance of Coach Long. The dedicated squad practices at least twice every week, splitting their time between the high school and Fire & Ice cheer and tumbling facility, taking extra care to hone and evolve their tumbling skills.

Before booking their tickets to Orlando, the group aims to raise funds by participating in one of Hampton Township's favorite

holiday events, The Hampton Bands' Holiday Extravaganza on December 3rd. This year, the team is offering a holiday photo booth of sorts, inviting families (and pets!) to have a holiday photo taken with a vintage Volkswagen van, which will be outfitted in its finest, coziest holiday decorations. For \$20, Santa's elves will take family photos and provide three digital images via email. Cash, Venmo, and checks (made out to HHSCCB) will be accepted at the time of the photo shoot.

For now, the ladies will continue training hard as they prepare to head south for the biggest event of them all, where, at "The Most Magical Place on Earth," they hope to make more dreams come true. Next stop: Disney World!



Photo Opportunity Fund Raiser for Competitive Cheer Team on December 3rd at Hampton High School at the Band Extravaganza.



Left to Right:


1st row - Hailey Meyer, Gabby Imbarlina, Laynie Loebig, Emily Wenger, Maria Coleman, Brianna DeSabato, Jessi Lange, Olivia Mayor, Ashley Rupert


2nd row - Anna Stroud, Emma Clarke, Ellie Myros, Justyce Fink, Lillie Bill, Keira Palmer

Police Log *(Continued from page 17)*

front yard and assessed the remainder of the residence.

Fraud

 On 10/10/2022 at 12:15p.m., HTP received a report concerning identity theft. The reporting party stated that they use Nerd Wallet to monitor their credit information. Over the weekend, they had received two alerts for hard credit inquiries. The reporting party stated that they went onto Nerd Wallet and saw that someone had attempted to open two credit cards with their personal information, to include name and social security number. The resident then went into their Transunion credit report and saw that the unknown individual applied for a Capital One card and a First Premier Bank Mastercard. The reporting party said that the actor(s) used their name and social security number to do so. The reporting party contacted both credit card companies and had the applications canceled. After talking to the credit companies, they then contacted the credit bureau to file a report.

 On 10/14/2022 at 10:09 a.m., a resident contacted HTP to report a scam phone call they had received.

(Continued on page 22)

An Unlikely Reunion

Roger “Buck” Lough and his daughter Bonita Freeman were heading home to Maryland from a baseball game in Cleveland and detoured off the turnpike for dinner.

Little did they know Stacey Hopkins, manager of the Eat’N Park restaurant in Hampton would make such an impact on their trip. Hopkins noticed Bucks veteran hat, “Bronze Star Heroism” and he immediately turned to him and thanked him for his service. “I am extremely grateful to our guests that have served in

the military”, said Hopkins.

Buck was sincerely humbled by the interest Stacey took in his past baseball scouting career, military experience serving in Vietnam, receiving a purple heart, and the Bronze Star Medal”. Bonita said, “My father was touched by the kindness and interest Stacey showed him, that we made a trip back to Hampton to show our sincere appreciation”. The two men spent several minutes sharing their interests then parted ways.



Roger “Buck” Lough with Eat’N Park manager Stacy Hopkins

2022 Annual Medallion Ball

The Medallion Ball was held on November, 25, 2022 at the Wyndham Grand in downtown Pittsburgh. Giulia Mauro and Tess Restori were escorted by Brooks Brady and Paul Oliveira.



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N. Hampton Vol. Fire Dept.

October 2022 Monthly Report, Chief Michael Piovesan

Monthly Incident Summary:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Brush Fire | 2 |
| Commercial Fire Alarm | 3 |
| Commercial Structure Fire | 3 |
| CO Alarm | 3 |
| Natural Gas Leak | 2 |
| Residential Fire Alarm | 4 |
| Residential Structure Fire | 3 |
| Vehicle Accident No Entrapment | 14 |
| Vehicle Accident with Entrapment | 1 |
| Vehicle Fire | 2 |
| Water Condition/Pumping Detail | 1 |
| Total Incidents for the Month | 38 |
| Total Incidents for 2022 | 323 |

Noteworthy incidents and events:

- NHVFD responded to I76 Westbound for a reported vehicle accident with entrapment. Crews arrived on scene to find a two-vehicle accident with one patient still in the vehicle. Crews assisted with gaining access and removal of the patient into the care of EMS.
- NHVFD responded to Royalview Drive for a chemical odor in a residence. 164 Assistant arrived on scene and upgraded the call to a Residential Structure Fire. Crews were able to locate a laundry hamper of clothes smoking and quickly removed it from the residence and confirmed the fire was contained to the hamper.

- NHVFD responded to Sample Road for the report of a three-vehicle accident. Crews assisted with containment of fluids from the vehicles and closed down Sample Road for an hour while the tow company removed the vehicles from the roadway.

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.

Police Log

(Continued from page 20)

The reporting party stated that a male called their cell phone to inform them that they had won 2.5 million dollars and a brand-new Mercedes-Benz. The unknown caller advised that all the resident had to do was pay \$199.00 for the delivery of the vehicle and money. The resident immediately knew this was a scam and refused to give any sensitive information. The unknown male then called the home phone of the resident and stated that he knew their address and date of birth. The resident did not provide any information and was not out of any money as a result.

End

Library

(Continued from page 8)

Betty's Book Buzz Discussion Group.

Friday, December 16th @ 1:00 p.m.

Faithful Place, by Tanya French.

Betty's Book Group meets in the library. 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!

Murder by the Book! A Mystery Book Discussion

Wednesday, December 21st @ 6:30 p.m. *Lost Hills*, by Lee Goldberg.

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!

Holiday Hours: Thursday, December 22nd the Library will close at 5:00 p.m. The Library will be closed Friday, December 23rd through Monday December 26th. Thursday, December 29th the Library will close at 5:00 p.m. The Library will be closed Friday, December 30th through Monday January 2, 2023. When in doubt please check our website hamptoncommunitylibrary.org; please do not rely on Google! The website will always have the most up to date information!

Save the Date! It's a "Soup"er Bowl Challenge!

Saturday, February 11, 2023 1:00 p.m. -4:00 p.m.

Calling all home cooks to stir up their favorite homemade soups! Chicken noodle, French onion, beer cheese or salmon chowder-what is your claim to fame? Enter your soup in our "Soup" er Bowl Challenge and gain bragging rights for a year! Entry fee is \$10. Registration begins January 3, 2023. Don't want to cook? Come taste (\$10) and vote for your favorite soup!

Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATE: Concert

FREE newly established Saints Martha and Mary Parish concert will foster a deeper appreciation of sacred music through high quality concerts that are accessible and free to all attendees.

Epiphany Concert on Sunday, January 8, 2023 at 4:00 pm St. Richard Church—May we be “guided to thy perfect light” as we listen to the wonderfully talented soloists and musical ensembles of Saints Martha and Mary Parish Music Ministry. Celebrate the joy and peace of this wonderful season with this cherished parish tradition.

Depreciation Lands Museum

Sunday, January 22, 2023—Children’s Doll Tea at 2 pm, for children ages 5-11 accompanied by their favorite doll (pre-paid reservation required)

A Night at the Races

February 11, 2023 “A Night at the Races” to benefit the Hampton High School Talbot Players’ 2023 Musical.
www.hamptoncats.org



Golf Outing

Sunday, April 23, 2023—
Birdsfoot Golf Course for Aiden’s
Helping Hands Golf Outing—
email:
info@aidenshelpinghands.com
www.aidensHelpingHands.com

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