

# FREE The Hampton News

February 2024

From the Neighborhoods of Hampton Township, PA

Vol. 19 No. 7

## Welcome Winter!



Sled riders at Hampton Community Park having a great time regardless of the extreme cold temperatures.

### Rob Kirsopp Fund Raiser

by Jenn Edmonds

The Hampton Police Department helps our community every day and now our community has an opportunity to help an officer and his family by enjoying an afternoon of music, food, and fun. On Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 from noon-4 pm, the It's About the Warrior Foundation (IATW) is hosting the "2<sup>nd</sup> annual Cabin Fever Concert" with all of the proceeds benefitting Sgt. Rob Kirsopp to help in his cancer battle.

(Continued on page 18)

### Band Festival

by Zach D'Amico

HTSD hosted the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Allegheny Valley Honors Band Festival on January 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024. the festival featured both a junior and senior high honors band, culminating on Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at Hampton High School auditorium.

The senior high honors band was conducted by Dr. Jason Worzbyt, Professor of Bassoon and Director of adult and community bands at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. The junior high honors band was conducted by Dr. Zach Cheeber, Assistant Professor of Music and direc-

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## Police Information

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

A summary of noteworthy incidents that occurred are listed below. These incident statistics included, but WERE NOT LIMITED TO, the following between the dates of 12/14/2023—1/12/2024:


### DUI

 On 01/11/2024, 911 dispatched HTP to the Southern area of William Flinn Hwy. for an erratic driver who was entering Hampton Township.

The vehicle was observed at the intersection of McCully Rd. and William Flinn Hwy. The vehicle was weaving within its lane, as well as failing to maintain its lane of travel. A traffic stop was initiated on the vehicle at Citizens Bank and the operator of the vehicle drove across the median to get into Citizens Bank.

After standard field sobriety tests were performed the driver was placed under arrest for suspicion of driving under the influence.

### Vehicle Accident

 On 01/05/2024, an officer observed the aftermath of a two-vehicle motor vehicle accident on Duncan Avenue at Pine Creek Golf. Both vehicles were blocking the east travel lane of Duncan Avenue.

UNIT #1 said she was traveling east on Duncan Avenue, behind UNIT #2 when UNIT #2 stopped in the lane of travel to make a left turn. She said that she took her attention off the roadway and struck the rear of UNIT #2. The officer observed the seatbelt actuator to be fired and the driver seatbelt to be locked in the extended position. Moderate damage was observed to the front bumper and hood. The operator was treated and transported to the hospital by Shaler Hampton EMS. UNIT #1 was removed from the scene by Zang Auto.

### 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 is on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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

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UNIT #2 said that he was traveling east on Duncan Avenue. He said that he stopped in the lane of travel to make a left turn into the parking lot of Pine Creek Golf when he was struck from behind by UNIT #1. No air bags were observed to be deployed and the operator said that he was wearing his safety belt at the time of the collision. Moderate damage was observed to the rear bumper area of UNIT #2. The operator denied injuries and denied medical evaluation on scene. UNIT #2 was driven from the scene under its own power.

Hampton Township Police accident forms were completed. The call was then cleared.


 On 01/05/2024, HTP were dispatched to the area of 4463 Mt Royal Boulevard for a report of a single-vehicle accident with unknown injuries. It was then updated that the vehicle was smoking, and the caller was unable to get the driver out of the vehicle.

Officers arrived with Shaler Hampton EMS and contacted the driver who was still in the vehicle but conscious and alert. Shaler Hampton EMS and Officers were able to get the operator out of the vehicle and he was able to walk to the stretcher. The driver had been wearing his seatbelt and multiple airbags had gone off from the impact. The vehicle had gone off the road, through an anchor wire for a utility pole, and into a tree.

In speaking with the driver, he was not sure what caused him to crash. He stated he may have lost control of his vehicle. The area where the crash occurred was on a hard bend in the road. The road curves to the right and the vehicle had gone straight, without turning. The driver was transported to UPMC Passavant Hospital for treatment.

Duquesne Light was notified of the damage to the pole anchor. They arrived on the scene and confirmed there was no immediate danger. Zang's Towing was notified and responded to remove the vehicle. The vehicle had sustained heavy damage to the front end and had multiple airbags deployed.

### Game Laws

 On 01/01/2024, HTP responded to Indian Spring Lane for a report of a deer that had been shot and was dead on the complainant's property. The resident advised the deer had since been retrieved and this all happened 30 minutes before calling.

Based on the described location of the deer, it would have run onto the property from a back wooded area. The resident

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# Lochner Bids Farewell as Jeroski is Sworn In as Township Manager

by Mary-Theresa Watson

On Wednesday, January 24, former Hampton Township Manager Chris Lochner presided over his final Township Council meeting. The meeting was just one stop along a week-long fare-



Ryan Jeroski sworn in



Ryan Jeroski, Dr. Carolynn Johnson, & Tom Swan

well of sorts for the new retiree and his wife, Janet, whose support has been invaluable to Chris over the years. As he prepared to step away from the podium one last time after offering his thanks to the council and community members, Chris quipped, "And now, for the first time since my first Township Council meeting in 1986, I'm going to go sit with my wife."

Another highlight of the evening was the swearing in of Ryan Jeroski as Municipal Manager, who has now officially taken over the position Chris held for 38 years.

An Oakmont native with a long history of public service, Ryan stood before Judge Tom Swan as he administered the oath of office. From there, Ryan got right to work, looking to serve the Hampton community for years to come. The evening's agenda also included a number of resolutions, proclamations, and, notably, the recognition of outgoing council members Joseph Dougherty and Richard (Rock) Kernick and the promotion of Thomas Adams to full-time police officer.



Police Chief Tom Vulakovich, Thomas Adams, and Township Council President Dr. Carolynn Johnson



Chris with Nancy and Ed Graswick

The next day, Chris and Janet greeted Hampton residents, friends, and associates at Hampton Community Center. Visitors were invited to share in refreshments and conversation to reflect on the "Lochner Years," as a slideshow shuffled through photos of nearly four decades of service, developments, and adventures. Among the visitors on hand were Ed

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## Library News



3101 McCully Road Allison Park, PA  
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hamptoncommunitylibrary.org

Spring is a few months away so what do you do to keep the blues away? Stop in at the Hampton Library! We are ready to bring light and cheer throughout the winter months! See what new activities and events we have planned!

**Please note: While we do our best to be here, sometimes winter weather works against us! Please call the library, check Facebook or the website to make sure we did not have to cancel a program due to Mother Nature!**

### It's a Winter-Wonder 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 March 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

10:30 a.m.- "Stories & Songs", 10:45 a.m.-"Investigate & 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*

### A Love for Story for the Ages!

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

Join us at the Hampton Community Center to hear Deborah Leuchter Stueber recall her parents' harrowing story of love and resilience during the Holocaust.

Deborah is a volunteer at the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh in their Generations Speakers Series. She has spoken over fifty times at churches, schools, and libraries, sharing the tumultuous events that her parents endured: from surviving the Holocaust, to battling Nazis in the French Resistance, and finally to making a new life in the United States. Deborah continues her quest to educate others about the Holocaust and its relevant place in today's world. Deborah's presentation will be accompanied by a thirty-minute power point slideshow and a virtual Q&A via zoom with her parents Edith and Kurt themselves. There is no fee to attend, as mere attendance helps to unlock grant funding for the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh. Presented for you by the Department of Community Services and the Hampton Community Library.



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### 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!

### Sew Hampton!

**Wednesdays, February 7, March 6<sup>th</sup>,  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup> -6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

Do you like to sew, crochet, stitch? Join a bunch of creative friends to gather together to learn and sew! All sewing welcome (quilts, clothing, embroidery, etc.) Please bring your machine or tools for hand sewing. Pressing station and extension cords for small machines will be provided.

### Scrapbooking!

**Mondays, February 19<sup>th</sup>, March 18<sup>th</sup> @ 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. Come join us 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!

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

**Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:30 p.m.**

***Jar of Hearts*, by Jennifer Hillier.**

The Mystery Book Group will be meeting 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, February 16<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 p.m.**

***American Dirt*, by Jeanine Cummins**

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

### Cooks-N-Books: Freezer Meals!

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

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

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

- 1) Check out a cookbook 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.

### News and Views! First Fridays!

**Fridays, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>, April 5<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 p.m. in the library.**

This longtime discussion group is led by local author and journalist Gerry K. Smith--with a new format inviting members to

*(Continued on page 5)*



## Library

(Continued from page 4)

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.

### It's the "Soup"er Bowl Cook-Off!

**Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> 1:00 p.m. -3:00 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 Cook-off and gain bragging rights for a year! Registration is closed. Come and vote for your favorite soup! It's only \$12.00 to taste all the fabulous soups, Children under 5 it's \$5. Spend the afternoon catching up with friends and family as you decide what's **your** favorite soup!

### Hampton Community Library Trivia Night!

**Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Trivia begins at 7:00 p.m. Program ends by 9:30 p.m.

Assemble your team and get ready for a night of laughter and friendly competition!

(Knowledge of the Dewey Decimal System not required!) \$20/person, (6 -10 people/table). Test your general trivia knowledge! Perhaps **your** team will surprise them all! Please note this is an adult program. (BYOB) Space is limited; Registration required. Space/teams will be limited. No Walk-ins. Registration already open!

## Aquinas Academy Swimmers Continued Success

by Michael Burchill

Aquinas Academy's two independent swimmers continued their strong season at the Mars vs. Seneca Valley meet. Sara Sokolski earned her third WPIAL Swimming Championship cut, qualifying in the 100 Butterfly. Clara Yuo also swam the 100 Fly, setting a personal best time.



Left: Clara Yuo and Sara Sokolski

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## HAEE New Board Members

by Kate McKelvey



The Hampton Alliance for Educational Excellence (HAEE) welcomed 5 new members to their board in December. The new members bring a wide variety of community volunteer roles, lived experiences, and professional expertise to the board. Past president, Tom McKelvey, credits the hard work of all HAEE members in growing the board to the largest it's been in recent years. "Everyone pitched in to update bylaws that helped to revitalize our recruitment process ensuring that we are bringing in exceptional community members," he stated.

Along with new members, the board also held their annual election for executive board members. Newly elected president, Lissa Geiger Shulman looks forward to another year of successful fundraising while exploring a potential new event for the spring of 2025. "With excellent and motivated fellow board members, we have the potential to grow our base of supporters beyond race enthusiasts and encourage all members of the community to find ways to support our schools and their "Tradition of Excellence."

Other executive board members elected were Jedd Cordisco, Vice President; Kristine Armstrong, Treasurer; Veronica Tirpak, Corresponding Secretary; and Dan Simone, Recording Secretary.

*(Continued on page 17)*



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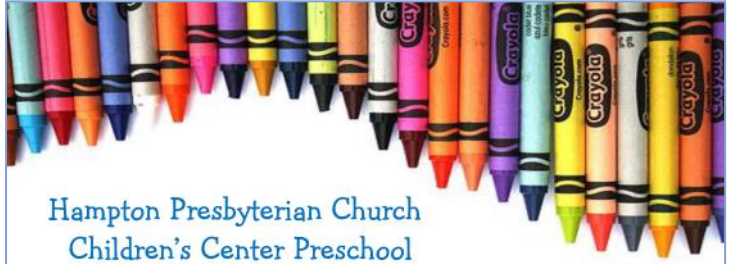
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**FALL 2024**

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## Retired But Not Forgotten

by Tracy Weigel

After forty-five years of service, Dorothy (Dot) Sharp retired from McDonald's this past January. Through the years she has held nearly all the positions at the two Gibsonia locations, including spearheading birthdays parties and other social events as well as manager. Her favorite position was working the drive-thru taking orders "because of her amazing customers," said Dot, who went on to say that she loved working with the public rather than being locked up in an office setting.

Dot reminisces, remembering all the fun people she has come to know over the years both customers and employees.

Just as she came to be employed from "being there all the time" dropping off and picking up

*(Continued on page 8)*



*Pictured left to right: Granddaughter Dotti Woomer and third generation McDonald's employee, long time McDonalds employee Dot Sharp, retired at the age of 84, and McDonald's owner Meghan Sweeney at the Allison Park restaurant.*

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2256 Walters Road	\$725,000	\$705,000	3
4908 Wickloe Drive	\$350,000	\$355,000	4
4055 Circle Drive	\$240,000	\$240,000	26
2309 Linwood Drive	\$195,000	\$200,000	4
4324 Hemlock Circle	\$179,900	\$180,000	4

## TIP OF THE MONTH:

In regions where cold weather keeps you inside your home more, this is a perfect month to do indoor touch ups to your home. Whether aesthetic or mechanical, repairs and refinishing will help your home retain its value, plus save you the cost of services in the months where they may be in higher demand.

**Painting:** Whether you do it yourself or hire professional painters, now is the time to patch up any inside or outside spots that need refreshing, or to repaint the interior room(s) of your home.

**Doors (including garage):** Repaint and restrain any doors in your home that have seen better days, including your garage door. Oil door hinges, locks and handles to keep them working smoothly.

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## Sharp

*(Continued from page 7)*

her daughters who were employed there before her, she will spend her years in retirement continuing to be there by stopping in often to visit her work family. And maybe she'll even see some of her wonderful customers.



Photo submitted



Photo submitted

*Above: Dot Sharp with corporate employees when they won the McDonald's All American game in 2000.*

*Left: Dot in the early 90s at an awards dinner*



## Hampton's Unified Bocce Keeps Growing!

by Jackie Smith

In the 7<sup>th</sup> year of the program, participation in the Hampton Unified Bocce program continues to be strong.

"Last year, we had seven graduates," said first year coach, Christine Larson, a paraprofessional at Hampton High School, "and we had plenty of students ready to take those positions; five new Partners and two new Athletes." The Athletes are the students with special needs.

When asked what motivated her to be involved with bocce, Larson responded, "When the opportunity to coach the team came available, I knew this would give me the chance to create memories for our team while at the same time, provide an environment where our Partners and Athletes could learn from one another. Although I have only been involved with this team for a short time, I believe we have learned a lot from each other;

we are a cohesive group, and we will be bonded through our friendships and fond memories of this time spent together."

The team ended their season with senior recognition on Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, Hampton High School.



Front kneeling: Sydney Loebig, Molly Bernett, Tyler Schmitt, Danny Kenst, Morgan Lowther, Dom Johanson. Standing: Aiden Hanna, Coach Christine Larson, Christian Rihn, Doug Hannan, Adanna Smith, Nicole Lichtenfels. Back row: Ryan Winter, Aidan Kimmell, Alivia Butler, Brady Smith. Missing from photo: Justine Sullivan.

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20328 R4-23



# Drama Club's "Puffs" Nominated for Numerous Awards

by Jenn Edmonds

For the first time, the Hampton High School Drama Club entered the Prime Stage Drama Awards. On January 29, 2024 the students saw their hard work pay off at the awards ceremony as they performed a scene at the Hazlett Theater. The completely student-run fall production of "Puffs, or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic" was nominated for a remarkable 15 awards out of 16 categories; more than any of the 12 participating high schools. The awards honor excellence by students in non-musical plays.

In her 2<sup>nd</sup> year as drama advisor, HHS English teacher Hannah Dunlap tasked the student directors Andrew Kaehly and Kiley Vande Geest, both seniors, with choosing a play that would widen the cast and broaden the drama club. Not only did they embrace that challenge, they took it a step further. "Kiley and Andrew did an excellent job of creating a sense of community among the cast members. That really came across to the audience and showed in the nominations," said Dunlap.

"Puffs!" was nominated for the following awards:

- Best Actor: Nathan Connelly
- Best Actress: Echo Schomaeker
- Best Supporting Actress: Ashley Kimmell
- Best Student Directors: Andrew Kaehly & Kiley Vande Geest
- Best Student Stage Manager: Margaret Sager
- Best Student Scenic Design:  
Jacob Baker, Margaret Sager & Lily Stalewski

- Best Student Lighting Design:  
Jacob Baker, Michael Petrucci & Garret Vasil
- Best Student Prop Design: Samantha Nicely
- Best Student Costume Design Team
- Best Student Makeup Design: Shane Noone
- Best Student Use Of Creative Special Effects: Jacob Baker
- Best Student Sound Design: Melanie Roth & Claire Topper
- Best Student Backstage Run Crew Team
- Best Student Program/Poster Design: Kiley Vande Geest
- Best Overall Production

(Continued on page 11)



Student Directors Kiley and Andrew were invited to appear on KDKA's Pittsburgh Today Live on January 30<sup>th</sup> to discuss the awards and their experience as directors this year.



Hampton High School presents the Fall 2023 production of  
**"Puffs" or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years**  
at a Certain School of Magic and Magic

Madia  
PHOTOGRAPHY



**Puffs**

*(Continued from page 10)*

"It was pretty incredible when she (Dunlap) was listing off the nominations. It was indescribable in the moment to see everyone being recognized and our hard work being recognized," said Kaehly.

The student directors were responsible for selecting the show, holding auditions, casting the show, and directing the cast. They worked closely with stage crew to communicate their vision regarding the set, sound, lighting, costumes, and promoted the show. "The amount of creative liberty that Andrew and I had was truly remarkable. With the help and support of everyone involved, we were able to make our vision become a reality!" said Vande Geest.

The directors transferred that creative freedom to the cast and crew, which made the disconnect between cast and crew nonexistent. "Kiley and I, from the beginning, wanted to give them as much freedom as possible and the ability to shine," said Kaehly. He com-

mended Jacob Baker who managed an unheard of 300 lighting cues and Lily Stalewski who led the design and building of an elaborate set.

"It's such a success because students make it a success. They take great pride in what they do," said Dunlap.

**And the winners are....**

**Best Student Scenic Design:**

Jacob Baker, Margaret Sager, and Lily Stalewski

**Best Student Directors:**

Andrew Kaehly and Kiley Vande Geest



Photos by Hannah Dunlap



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**Lochner**

*(Continued from page 3)*

and Nancy Graswick, owners of the Schoolhouse Salon, who smiled as they reminisced about the ups and downs of life on Duncan Avenue. Hampton resident Jim Davis also has gotten to know Chris well over the years, and he made a point of stopping by to thank Chris for his service and wish him well on his retirement.

Perhaps the crowning moment on an eventful week for Chris and Janet was an honor to which few can aspire: On Friday evening, January 26, Council President Dr. Carolyn Johnson shared a few words during a gathering, lauding the gentleman who has done so much for this community.

Smiling, Carolyn explained that during his tenure, “[Chris] has had one primary goal: the betterment of the Township of Hampton. [He]

likes to point out that the Hampton council members are Hamptonites first. Not Democrats, not Republicans, but Hamptonites first and foremost...He has led by example and treated his position the same way: Hampton first. Always. That’s the ‘Lochner Way.’”



*Michael, Alex and Erin presented Chris with Lochner Way signs.  
Missing from photo: Erin’s husband Bryant Williams*

Moments later, the Lochners’ children, Michael, Alex, and Erin, walked into the room carrying the Township’s newest street sign: *Lochner Way*. For years to come, as Hamptonites drive through the township park or walk into the community center—now officially located at 3200 Lochner Way—they will be reminded of a man who dedicated his career to making Hampton a happy, welcoming, thriving community that has become a jewel in the North Hills of Pittsburgh.

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Jonathan Klemens presents:

*"The Story of The Depreciation Lands  
Celebrating 240 Years of History"*

Learn how the Depreciation Lands was established and how it developed. Growth in the Depreciation Lands was not rapid. It was Western Pennsylvania wilderness and villages and towns slowly developed north and west of Pittsburgh.

When: Thursday, February 22, 2024

Where: 4743 S. Pioneer Road (Deacon's Tavern)

Allison Park, PA 15101

412-486-0563

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Prepaid admission required:

\$10 for members and \$12 for non-members

For adults and teens

Website: [www.dlmuseum.org](http://www.dlmuseum.org)

Become a member of the Depreciation Lands Museum Association. Help support the programs and events here at the museum, and receive great benefits as well! See website for details: [dlmuseum.org](http://dlmuseum.org)

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(Continued from page 2)

was advised this is not an abnormal thing and that deer often run a short distance before they die. Another neighbor came by and advised the neighboring property (65 acres) allows people to hunt the property. The call was then cleared.

#### Wires and Poles

 On 01/12/2024, HTP were dispatched to the area of 4445 Greengrove Drive for a tree that had fallen on wires and was across the roadway. Upon arrival, officers observed the tree across the roadway, with multiple wires, including high-tension wires, down on multiple properties at that location. Duquesne Light was notified and asked for a priority response.

HTP brought barricades to the scene, and members of the fire department responded as well. A short time later, a worker for Duquesne Light arrived on scene and shut off power for the affected area. He said that it would be a few hours before a crew could respond for repairs/removal. Once the scene was safe and barricades were in place, HTP cleared.

Hampton Twp. Department of Public Works was made aware of the tree if there is further clean-up required. end

#### Residents and guests of the Hampton Community Park:

*The Hampton Police Department has received increasing complaints about dogs being off-leash while visiting the Township Park, particularly along the Rachel Carson Trail. We would kindly ask that all visitors adhere to the leash law which requires dogs to be always on leash as regulated by Ordinance #453. This provides a safe and enjoyable environment for all who are visiting the park. Thank you!*

## Pro Life Campaign Raises Over 4K

by Michael Burchill

Vivat Vita, the Pro Life club at Aquinas Academy, held a Baby Bottle campaign to raise money for Birthright of Pittsburgh. Junior Alice Rothfus, student leader of the Pro Life club at Aquinas Academy, led the campaign by distributing bottles to each family at Aquinas. After weeks of counting and rolling the loose change that was returned by families in the bottles, Rothfus was able to make a deposit of \$4,566.35, which was donated to Birthright.



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**Band Festival**

*(Continued from page 1)*

tor of athletic bands at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he directs the symphony band and marching band.

The senior high honors band consisted of 100 students in grades 10-12, and the junior high honors band consisted of 108 students in grades 7-9. The Allegheny Valley Band Association includes the following schools: Avonworth, Northgate, North Hills, North Allegheny, Pine-Richland, Shaler, Hampton, Fox Chapel and Riverview.

HTSD is very proud of the following 35 students who earned positions in the group as a result of a competitive audition in November!

**The Hampton students in the AV Junior High Honors Band:**


*Mabel Buben; flute, Catie Parker; clarinet, Grace Girard; clarinet,*



*Celia Vitiello; bass clarinet, Gab Duarte; bass clarinet, Richard Ma; alto saxophone, James Parker; trumpet, Jinwon So; trumpet, Oliver Clark; trumpet, Liam Webb; horn, Jordyn Moyer; horn, Aiden Rauso; trombone, Sydney Osborne; trombone, Joy Dakin; tuba, Licijan Huckle; percussion, Meredith Wallace; percussion, and Logan Brady; percussion.*


**The Hampton students in the AV Senior High Honors Band:**

*Molly Ehman; flute, Samantha Nicely; clarinet, Jinho So; clarinet, Nolan Smith; clarinet, Meghan Armstrong; clarinet, John Bianco; bari saxophone, Aidan Casey; trumpet, Tim Madden; trumpet, Jason Andrews; trumpet, Peleh Shaltes; trumpet, Braylee Himmler; trombone, Paul Dakin; trombone, Brady Fanuele; tuba, Tanner Paczan; tuba, David Poirier; tuba, Drew Girard; percussion, and Branson Himmler; percussion.*


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## Current Events

### Call Me Crazy Cookie Lady

The Department of Community Services are excited to host cookie decorating classes taught by Call Me Crazy Cookie Lady!

If you are new to cookie decorating and want to learn the basics, or if you are simply curious about the craft, then this is the class for you! Participants will learn the proper technique for decorating and will be able to brush up on their piping skills. It is also a great opportunity to spend quality time with friends and family while engaging in a fun and creative activity! Monthly classes will run through the first week of May. Kid and adult classes are available at \$30 and \$65 per participant, respectively! Visit [www.hampton-pa.org](http://www.hampton-pa.org) for more details and to sign up.

### 2024 Pool Memberships

Pool memberships are available for purchase for residents at the early bird rate and for non-residents at the regular rate.

Visit [www.hampton-pa.org](http://www.hampton-pa.org) to purchase your 2024 membership! Please note, if you are registering online for a pool membership and you do not have a membership ID card from previous years, then you will need to visit the Community Center Service Desk to have your photo taken for your ID card.

### Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Roundtable

"Before Mother and God, They Cry Out for a Surgeon." Civil War Medicine presented by Fran Feyock & Rick Schroeder.

Monday, February 19 at 7 pm.  
Hampton Township Community Center, 1301 McCully Road, Allison Park. Lecture is free and open to the public.



### A.W. Beattie Produces

Hampton Township senior Jacqui Deah (pictured right) and North Hills senior Haley Miller (pictured left) earned first place in SkillsUSA's Emergency Medical Technician competition. Jacqui and Haley are third-year students in A.W. Beattie's Emergency Response Technology program.



*The Kryz Family Project by artyna (8) and Adam (5)*



*A winter wonderland walk at the Hampton Community Park*

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## Upcoming Events

### Township of Hampton Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 23rd from 11 a.m.

### Litter Clean Up Day in Hampton Township

Saturday, April 6th at 8 am

### Recycle Rama

Saturday, May 11, 9 am—12 noon

### Pints in The Park

May 17<sup>th</sup>, June 28<sup>th</sup>, July 26<sup>th</sup>, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, and September 27<sup>th</sup>

### Night At The Races

Join the Hampton High School musical family for their 4<sup>th</sup> annual Night at the Races FUNdraiser!

When: Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Hampton Community Center  
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.  
Races start at 7:00 p.m.



Admission \$30, Adults ages 21 and over only!  
Purchase tables, tickets, and horses at [hamptoncats.org](http://hamptoncats.org)

### Residential Street Parking

As a reminder to all township residents and guests, please do not park on residential streets during the winter months. The Department of Public Works does an exceptional job keeping the township roads treated during inclement weather. Keeping cars off the residential streets will assist in maintaining cleaner and safer roads for everyone.

### All Welcome to Attend Hues & Harmony

Coinciding with Music in our Schools Month and Youth Art Month, Hues & Harmony will showcase and promote the district's fine arts programming in a two-day exhibition!

Place: Hampton High School  
4591 School Drive Allison Park 15101  
When: March 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Check [www.ht-sd.org](http://www.ht-sd.org) for scheduled events

Mark Your Calendar:  
**HHS Blood Drive**  
April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024



**Night at the Races**  
SAT | MAR 2 | 2024

A Night of Races,  
Games, Raffles, Paint Sticks,  
Baskets, Wine Pull, 50/50

Tickets \$30 / Horse Names \$10  
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### Help Wanted:

**Hampton Township School  
District part-time cafeteria openings!  
Contact Metz Culinary Management  
412-492-6390**

### Exercise Instructors Wanted

The Department of Community Services is looking to expand upon their current exercise programs for 2024. If you or someone you know is a fitness instructor and is interested in learning more about employment opportunities, please contact Bill Ryder at [bill.ryder@hampton-pa.org](mailto:bill.ryder@hampton-pa.org).

All fitness instructors must possess a valid group exercise certification or specialty certification in order to be considered for the position. Evening and weekend availability is preferred.

### "Give Your Garden a Face-lift at Shaler Garden Club's Plant Sale"

Give your garden a face-lift this spring by shopping at the Shaler Garden Club's 70th annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 4, 2024 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon at Kiwanis Park, Wetzel Road, Glenshaw. A variety of hardy perennials from members' yards will be offered at bargain prices, along with herbs, vegetables, houseplants, bulbs, potted arrangements and hanging baskets, perfect for Mother's Day gifts. A basket raffle and bake sale will add to the festivities. Come rain or shine. Proceeds benefit community projects and philanthropic donations of the Shaler Garden Club. For more information, go to [www.shalergardenclub.com](http://www.shalergardenclub.com).



### HAEE

*(Continued from page 6)*

HAEE recruits board members annually to fill vacancies created by trustees whose 3-year terms are ending with elections held in December. Interested

in joining HAEE? Resumes and letters of interest can be sent to [nominating@hampton.alliance.org](mailto:nominating@hampton.alliance.org) for consideration.

## Kirsopp

(Continued from page 1)

Jergel's Rhythm Grill in Warrendale, PA graciously donated both the venue and the food. Christian Beck (country), Morgan Gruber (former American Idol contestant), The Alt Rocks (80's & 90's), and emcee Chad Tyson from WDVE, have donated their time and talent to perform in this spectacular concert. The IATW Foundation is a post 9/11 veterans organization benefitting veterans in the tri-state area, and is led by Air Force Veteran Steve Monteleone, who resides in Allison Park and is the President and founder.

Sgt. Kirsopp elected to retire after a long career with the Hampton Police Department. He was very involved in the SRT (Special Response Team), which most civilians recognize as SWAT, and was in charge of training. "That man is a true warrior. The courage and fortitude he showed on the job, he shows in his battle with cancer," explained Hampton Police Chief Tom Vulakovich. "He will be really missed on the job, not only as a co-worker, but as a friend."

Kirsopp is a former army ranger and is part of the IATW foundation. When Monteleone found out that Kirsopp's cancer returned, he wanted to help and decided to help financially with the Cabin Fever concert. The IATW foundation offers no cost therapeutic programs for both physical and mental health, outreach activities which include an ice hockey and softball teams, outdoor activities like hunting and fishing, and special events to raise money for veterans in the area that are struggling. Monteleone is the only paid employee of the foundation and 72 cents of every dollar goes directly to help veterans.

"I hope the community comes out and supports Rob and his family," said Monteleone. Ten thousand dollars were raised at last year's concert and Monteleone is hoping to double that number this year.

Tickets can be purchased at e-tix.com for \$15/adult and \$10/kids 12 and under. Tickets at the door day-of are \$20/adult, \$10/kids 12 and under.

<https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/30858137/2nd-annual-cabin-fever-concert-warrendale-jergels-rhythm-grille>



Left: Rob's wife Rosalyn, daughter Rachel, two sons Robbie and Ray, and Sgt. Rob Kirsopp

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**Rep. Arvind Venkat**

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

## Updates for Hampton Township Residents

In 2024, I am continuing to advocate for legislation that alleviates medical debt, prevents gun violence, preserves reproductive rights, invests in our first responders and public schools, and ensures every eligible voter has access to the ballot box.

While the House passed the Medical Debt Relief Act that I prime sponsored, there is still work to do to get this vital legislation enacted into law. I continue to work with bipartisan colleagues and Gov. Josh Shapiro to pass this bill that will help thousands of Pennsylvanians.

To prevent gun violence, we must pass legislation requiring background checks and providing for extreme risk protection orders. Both bills addressing these issues have passed the House with my support and await a vote in the Senate. Preserving reproductive rights is critical to protecting individual liberty and bodily autonomy. We are seeing the dire health consequences for women in other states when these rights are reversed. I remain committed to passing legislation to protect abortion rights and reproductive health care.

In 2023, I voted for a state budget that made historic investments in public education and advocated successfully for grants for the Hampton Police Department. This year, I will continue to work with my fellow legislators to ensure our first responders and public schools receive the resources they need.

Finally, by expanding access to the ballot box, we allow all eligible citizens to make their voices heard. I will continue to advocate for the protection of mail-in voting and am a prime sponsor of legislation to enact early in-person voting, as well.

If you would like me to consider other issues, I invite you to speak with me directly on Thurs., Feb. 15 during my telephone town hall from 7 to 8 p.m. And as always, you can contact my district office at 412-348-8028 or

[RepVenkat@pahouse.net](mailto:RepVenkat@pahouse.net).



State Representative  
**Rob Mercuri**  
28<sup>th</sup> Legislative District of Pennsylvania

## Regulating AI Technology



With the rise of artificial intelligence (AI) we begin living in a new era of revolutionary technology involving the science of giving machines the capability to be able to think and perform like a human being. The use of these technologies can certainly be beneficial, but it brings with it new societal challenges which need to be addressed. I am proud to take part in bipartisan efforts in Harrisburg aimed at regulating these technologies to monitor and guide the growth within appropriate confines while minimizing the risks they are associated with through proper actions.

One piece of legislation would create a registry to stockpile information of any firm that has or intends to create

software containing algorithmic logic. Creating this AI registry would give law enforcement and citizens the ability to counter the outcomes of fraudulent usage of these technologies.

One field that needs regulatory action regarding AI is the health insurance field. AI is rapidly being implemented in their utilization review processes. It is essential for all Pennsylvanians to be in the know regarding what involvement AI had in the approval or denial of their claims.

Finally, a third piece of legislation would act against AI being used to create content to be used for fraudulent misrepresentation of a political candidate. Voters deserve accurate information on political candidates to make informed decisions for their best interests, protecting Pennsylvanians against deception is an important part of making a safer world for all.

Placing guardrails on artificial intelligence throughout Pennsylvania is a step forward in protecting our communities and vulnerable citizens. As the world wanders into a new technological frontier our state Legislature must take appropriate actions.

As in the past, my offices have partnered with AARP for tax preparation assistance. Please call my Wexford office at 412-369-2230 for further details.



State Senator  
**LINDSEY M. WILLIAMS**  
38<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District



Senator Lindsey Williams' office is partnering with the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program again this year to help schedule tax preparation appointments at the Shaler Undercliff Fire Department and Ross Township Community Center. Appointments begin the first week in February and run through early April at both locations.

This program provides free, in-person tax preparation by IRS-certified

tax preparers who understand the needs of older adults. Tax preparation is open to taxpayers of all ages. AARP membership is not required. Volunteers are trained and IRS-certified every year. Your taxes will be electronically filed with the IRS.

To schedule your free tax preparation appointment with the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program, please call our office at 412-364-0469.

Please call or email our office with any questions. Our phone number is 412-364-0469. Our email address is [SenatorLindseyWilliams@pasenate.com](mailto:SenatorLindseyWilliams@pasenate.com).

We look forward to helping you in the new year!



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