

FREE The Hampton News

January 2021

From the Neighborhoods of Hampton Township, PA

Vol. 16 No. 6

Santa Claus Still Came to Town

by Hope Walton, HHS Student Writer

On December 3rd, the skies of Hampton Community Center were lit up with sparkling green and red fireworks galore. Even though the Township couldn't continue its traditional Christmas festivities, they found a way to carry on the celebration despite COVID-19 putting a halt on some usual events. Families were able to socially distance in their vehicles and watch the fireworks show unfold above. Santa, Rudolph and both fire departments cruised around the parking lot distributing candy canes provided by Berkshire Hathaway's Hampton office.

Later on December 12th, Hampton families gathered together again to celebrate the most wonderful time of the year. Santa and Mrs. Claus made an appearance, not on their usual sleigh, but waving atop a Hampton fire department truck decked out with glimmering lights and festive decor. Even one famous reindeer with a very shiny, red nose, otherwise known as Rudolph, made an appearance to help bring holiday cheer to neighborhoods throughout Hampton. Sal Leo Tree Service helped bring this wonderful event to life with candy canes passed out to children who came

to greet Mr. Claus and his helpers.

North Hampton's Chief firefighter, Michael Piovesan, explained, "Seeing the joy and excitement that Santa brought as we passed by is what made it all worth it. It's important because it brings a sense of normalcy to everyone's lives in these challenging times."

Although the holiday celebrations may have looked different for many families this year, Santa's yearly visit to Hampton lived on. It proved to be a success that the Township will carry on in years to come. See more photos on page 16 and 19.



Business Competition for Scholarship Opportunity

My 4-Year Plan and Hampton Magazine Sponsor Hampton High School Business Competition

Hampton-based college planner My 4-Year Plan will partner with the Hampton Magazine in sponsoring Talbot Tank, a spring business competition that will culminate in a Shark Tank-style pitch of business ideas presented to a panel of Hampton business professionals, and live streamed by My 4-Year Plan, on Saturday, May 15. The winner will receive a cash prize of \$500 to be used by the student.

(Continued on page 20)

Local Physician One of the First Vaccinated

Hampton Township Council Member, Dr. Joseph Dougherty, was among the first in the area to receive a vaccination against the Covid-19 virus. Dr. Dougherty, a family medicine physician with additional training in sports medicine, received the Pfizer vaccine at Forbes Hospital in Monroeville, PA. He says, "Being a physician who also happens to be a local elected official, I want

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Police Log

The Hampton Township Police Department is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of our residents and guests by providing the very best in law enforcement services. The twenty-two 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 11/4/2020—12/21/2020:

Fraud

 On November 18, 2020 at 6:20 p.m., a resident from Apple Ridge Drive contacted Hampton Township Police Department to report a phone scam. A male caller pretended to be the resident's son and stated that he needed money to get out of jail. The resident was aware that this was a common scam and simply wanted to notify police.

 On December 1, 2020 at 6:20 p.m., Hampton Township Police took a report of a phone scam. The reporting party stated that they received a phone call from someone claiming to be their son. The caller advised that they had been arrested for DUI and needed \$5,000.00 to pay for an attorney. The caller then provided a phone number for the attorney. Upon calling the number, the supposed attorney requested the funds
(Continued on page 7)

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A NOTE FROM THE HAMPTON NEWS

As *The Hampton News* continues to strive to bring you informative and interesting stories, we also continue to welcome your ideas and input. Without the generous business owners' help, we would not be able to provide our newsletter on a monthly basis. Please support the business owners that help us provide you with this publication. Have a safe and wonderful Holiday Season!

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Haas Has Book Published While Still Attending High School

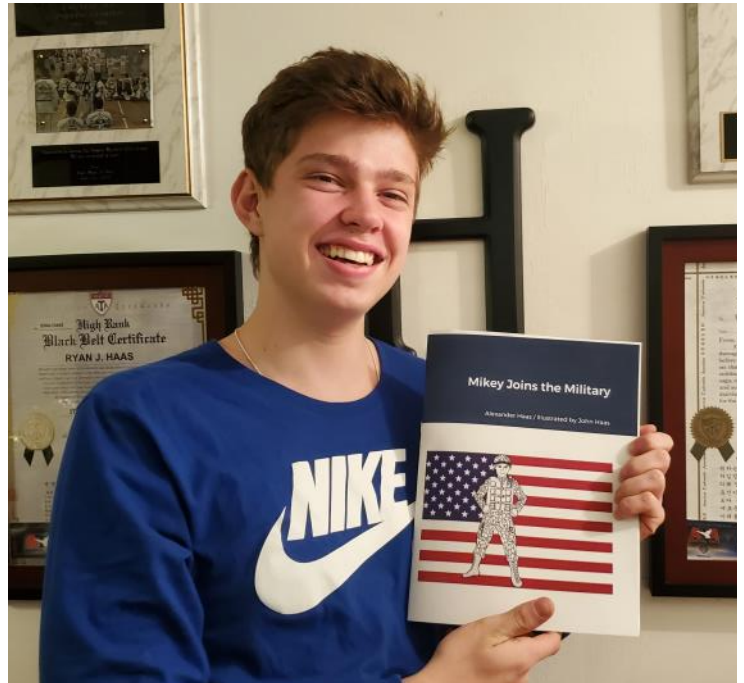
by Gail Scott

Mikey Joins the Military is the first book published by Alex Haas, who is a 11th grade student at Hampton High School. The children's book is an effort to educate young people on the valor of serving their country through the various branches of the Armed Forces. It outlines the 6 branches of the military in a way that is easy to understand

Alex worked with Cathy Lueers from **My 4-Year Plan** and she gave him the idea of writing a military book to demonstrate his devotion to the military. He thought that writing a children's book would be interesting and informative to introduce young people to a military career. They used lulu.com to create the book and Alex received the first copy of his book this week. **Mikey Joins the Military** is now officially available on lulu.com for sale. The book teaches many important life lessons in terms children will understand and also serves as a coloring book so each page can be colored and customized.

Alex is planning to attend college and participate in a NROTC program after high school graduation. After college, he is interested in becoming a JAG officer in the Marines. Alex said, "The military was not always on my radar. I never was really exposed to the military until I got older. That's part of the reason why I felt the obligation to make a children's book. Kids need to view the military as a possible career option." Alex's uncle illustrated the book and was a member of the Navy during Vietnam. Both of his grandfathers served during WWII and another uncle served in Vietnam. Alex is a 3rd de-

gree blackbelt and instructor at Kaminski's ATA Blackbelt Academy. This Taekwondo background has been a key to teaching him skills and words like perseverance and determination. Alex's favorite quote from the book is " Even when it became REALLY, REALLY, REALLY hard, Mikey had perseverance. That is like when you struggle in a class, but you work harder and study more to do better." **Mikey Joins the Military** can be found on lulu.com now.





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Library News



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Happy New Year! As with many things in the past year things are ever-changing. At the end of 2020 the library had to close due to new mitigation mandates. As you are reading this, hopefully the library is open, but please **call first** as once again things could change! What won't change will be our efforts to bring you programming throughout the winter season. See below for our scheduled programs. All programs will begin the week of January 11th!

On the Road: A Family Adventure— Wednesday Mornings @ 8am

We care about the important learning that happens through reading, writing, singing & playing. Tune in to a new adventure each week with Ms. Annie & get ready to go places, make things, think about stuff & share ideas. This will be posted on the Hampton Community Library Facebook, Instagram & Blog pages on Wednesday mornings at 8:00 a.m. January through March.

ABC Storytime—Thursdays @ 1pm

Miss Suzy is still traveling down alphabet lane. Each week will star a different letter of the alphabet with stories, songs & smiles! Posted on the Hampton Community Library Facebook, Instagram & Blog pages on Thursday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. January through March.

Listen Up—Friday Afternoons @ 1pm

Somewhere between book club, podcast & digital workshop lives an opportunity for children & youth to get inspired by a story. Each week, listen to the first chapter of a book guaranteed to light a fire in the brain. Explore discussion questions, a journal prompt & pro-

ject extension, or just check out the entire story using your library card (eBook, print book & audiobooks available.) Posted on the Hampton Community Library Facebook, Instagram & Blog pages on Friday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. January through March.

Good Night – Sleep Tight! Sundays @ 7pm

Sundays are a good time to relax and wind down from the weekend. Join Miss Suzy and Fluffy in your pjs and with your favorite bedtime friend for bedtime stories, songs and rhymes. Posted on the Hampton Community Library Facebook, Instagram & Blog pages on Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. January through March.

Murder by the Book!

A Mystery Book Discussion
Wednesday, January 20th at 6:30 pm
The Chain, By Adrian McKinty

The Mystery Book Group will be meeting by ZOOM. Books will no longer be available at the circulation desk. Please call the library to request a copy of the book. Everyone who is interested in great reads is invited to join us!

(Continued on page 5)

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20328 R6-20

Library

(Continued from page 4)

Betty's Book Buzz Discussion Group

Friday, January 22nd at 1:00 pm

Betty's Book Group will be meeting in the library, after the library closes. This will only happen weather permitting and that we are actually open! This will be a planning meeting and a chance to discuss last month's book, **The Spymistress**, by Jennifer Chiaverini. Everyone who is interested in great conversations and good reads is invited to join us!

Cooks- n-Books: A Zoom Reunion

Thursday, January 28th at 6:30 pm

Who knew that it would be almost a year before we would chat about food again?!?! I'm sure all who were involved have been cooking up some great foods and I'm eager to hear about them! Make a comfort food dish or just bring recipe as we get together to find out who's been cooking what! Please email hampton@einetwork.net if you are interested in attending this new virtual cooks-n-books! The link will be sent out at the beginning of the week.



Mikey Solomon is in 7th grade at Hampton Middle School and built this 6' 2" snowman on the first snow day!



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New Role for Longtime Board Member

Hampton Township resident Robert DeMichiei was voted as incoming board chair of United Way of Southwestern PA in mid-December. DeMichiei begins his two-year term in the role on January 1, 2021.



As board chair, DeMichiei will serve as the organization's Chief Volunteer Officer. "This is a role I am excited to step into," DeMichiei added. "By connecting the region and convening stakeholders – corporate leaders, unions, government, individual donors and other non-profits – United Way maximizes the impact and benefits to those most in need.

The pandemic helped to shed light on the true value United Way brings to our community. The organization's response has been – and continues to be – truly remarkable. As a community, we have a long road ahead of us and I'm looking forward to the work that lies ahead in my new role."

In addition to DeMichiei's strategic work during the pandemic, he has displayed impressive leadership as a member of United Way's board of directors and has served on their finance and administration committees.



Scholar Awards for AP Exam Success

Six Aquinas Academy of Pittsburgh seniors and alumni were awarded AP Scholar awards for their success in taking College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) Exams.

Genevieve Archer (2021), Helen Rothfus (2020), Macrina Vollmer (2021) earned the AP Scholar award "granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams."

Benjamin Stalder (2021) was awarded the AP Scholar with Honor award "granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams." Anna Plazek (2020) and Samuel Schirra (2020) earned the AP Scholar with Distinction award "granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams."



L to R: Anna Plazek, Samuel Schirra, Helen Rothfus



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Hampton Home Sales: 11/16/2020 – 12/15/2020

Information is sourced from the West Penn Multi-List. It is deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

Address	Sold Price	Address	Sold Price	Address	Sold Price
5194 Hampton Place Dr	\$822,500	4084 Circle Dr	\$325,000	2961 Harts Run Rd	\$215,000
4056 Little Spring Dr	\$562,000	5002 Meadow Crest	\$300,500	3299 Antler	\$210,000
2818 Indian Spring Ln	\$535,000	4549 Sylvan Dr	\$299,000	2790 Drake Ct	\$210,000
4250 Old New England	\$479,000	3172 Haberlein Rd	\$264,850	5174 Polo Fields Dr	\$209,900
3035 Apache Ct	\$425,000	5133 Polo Fields Dr	\$242,000	4302 Hemlock	\$153,000
4948 Cheyenne Ct	\$395,000	2579 Wickline Rd	\$220,000	2695 Ginger Ln	\$129,000
4353 Winchester	\$340,500				



107 Daisy Ln, Marshall

322 McKinley Ave, Avalon

85 Chapel Dr, Ross

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283 Elmtree Rd, New Kensington

June Gravitte, Buyer Specialist

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Listed above are just some of our current listings -
Call us for more info on all of our offerings!



Police Log

(Continued from page 2)

be paid in virtual currency. It eventually became apparent that this was a common phone scam.

On December 21, 2020 at 2:35 p.m., a resident from AuSable Drive contacted Hampton Township Police to report an attempted phone scam. The resident advised that they received a text message from a phone number that accused them of participating in illegal acts. The unknown person that sent the text requested that the resident pay a fine or else they would be in trouble. The unknown actor sent graphic photographs of what appeared to be dead bodies and threatened harm upon the resident's family if they refused to pay the fine. This is a common phone scam that is used to

frighten people into sending money. The resident was aware that the messages were a scam but wanted to file a police report of the concerning incident.

DUI Arrest

On November 6, 2020 at 4:19 p.m., a Hampton Township officer initiated a traffic stop on Route 8 after observing a speeding violation and a moving violation. Upon contact with the vehicle operator, the odor of an alcoholic beverage was detected emanating from the vehicle. The operator was unable to complete field sobriety tests as had been instructed and demonstrated and was placed under arrest for suspicion of DUI.

On November 28, 2020 at 9:51 p.m., a Hampton Township officer observed a

vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed on Route 8. The vehicle was also observed to be following another vehicle too closely. The officer initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle. Upon contact with the vehicle operator, the officer detected the odor of an alcoholic beverage emanating from the vehicle. The operator showed visible signs of impairment and was requested to submit to field sobriety tests. The operator failed to complete the tests as had been explained and demonstrated and was subsequently placed under arrest for suspicion of DUI.

Vehicle Accident/DUI Arrest

On December 4, 2020 at 12:56 p.m., Hampton Township Police were dispatched to the intersection of Middle

(Continued on page 11)

Aquinas' Boys Soccer Dramatic Turn-Around From a Year Ago

by June Gravitte

Aquinas Academy's Boys Varsity Soccer Team ended their season with five goals in their first round playoff game against #1 seeded Greensburg Central Catholic. Although the five goals were not enough for the win, qualifying for the playoffs and getting multiple goals against the top-seeded team marked a moral victory for a team that posted only one win during the 2019 season.

Mat Anselmino, second season head coach, shares his thoughts on the season and how the team made such significant improvements:

"The Aquinas Academy's Boys Varsity Soccer Team concluded their regular season with a record of 5 wins and 8 losses. The five games in the win column were the most dating back to the fantastic 2016 team, which lost in the WPIAL quarterfinals. This year's effort proved to be a stark contrast to last season based upon record but also continued the positive change initiated by last year's seniors.

The 2020 team continued to stress the importance of defense and reduced the average goals against to 2.1 per game (2018= 8.3, 2019 = 4.1), with most outcomes hanging in the balance until the final whistle. The players' discipline, effort and belief in one another earned the first playoff birth for the boys' program since the 2016 team.

Despite being down 7-0 with 30 minutes remaining in the game, the team fought and earned five goals by the conclusion of the first-round playoff game against #1 seeded Greensburg Central Catholic (eventual WPIAL Champions) with a final score of 7-5. The Aquinas team earned the respect of their opponent and peers throughout single A.

There were several keys to the dramatic improvement of the program. First, the boys' commitment to training and team philosophy. Diligence, aggressiveness, and discipline are the fundamental expectations for each player who contributes to the team on the training ground and during competition. Additionally, the recent influx of young talent continues to blend well with the leadership of older players who have weathered even more challenging times on the field, resulting in a team that relies and trusts in the process. The team believes in one another, challenges each other during training and seek opportunities to further their understanding of tactics and techniques, which are essential for success. Finally, the support of Aquinas Academy Administration, including Mr. Richhammer (Athletic Director), Mr. Deschamps, (Assistant Athletic Director) and Mrs. Mitros (Head of School), not to mention Mr. Flynn (High School Co-Director) the ultimate team supporter, have provided the team with the necessary resources of a winning program.

The team accomplished their preseason goals of multiple team wins and a playoff appearance and now have their sights set on competing for the section title in 2021!"

Three Aquinas soccer players earned high athletic honors. John Bence, a freshman center midfielder, earned All Section Finest Fifteen for WPIAL Single A, Section 3, Player of the Year for Single A, Section 3, and All-WPIAL for single A. John is the first Aquinas Academy player to earn the POY award in the school's history and is one of only a handful of freshmen to ever be awarded POY honors within Class Single A Section 3.

Joining him in earning honors is Tommy Quinn, sophomore center midfielder and co-captain, who earned All Section Honorable Mention and Alex Hycza, senior striker and co-captain, who earned All Section Finest Fifteen.



Many Levels of Development for Ice Hockey

by June Gravitte

"Many Hampton girls are playing ice hockey for Hampton's school club teams and other community organizations," explains ice hockey coach and player, Marcie Warner. Hampton's middle school and high school competitive hockey teams have several female players. The high school team is a club sport and belongs to the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League (PIHL). Hampton also has an elementary "developmental" (not associated with an official league) team that was formed just about four years ago. The team is mostly focused on skill development through practices that occur every 2 weeks along with a few scrimmage games a year against other elementary developmental teams. The team has played against Shaler, Deer Lakes, Avonworth, and Moon over the last few years. The elementary team has not played any games yet this year due to a combination of COVID and many of the players from last season aging up to the middle school team. They are still trying to figure out where this much younger group of players fits in skill wise in order to schedule some balanced competition. This team is meant as a "feeder" team for the middle and high school teams and typically acts as a supplement to other community teams. Coach Warner has helped to coach this team for the past few years and both her daughters have played.

Aside from the school club teams, there are also "community" nonprofit youth sports teams that play in a league called PAHL - the Pittsburgh Amateur Hockey League. They have teams for kids from age 5 through 18 (19 for girls) broken down by age and skill level. There are female players in the Hampton school district who play for multiple community PAHL teams.

Coach Warner's youngest daughter, Colleen, and her elementary classmates Morgan Fogle and Abby Carlin play for the

Pittsburgh Yeti out of Frozen Pond arena in Valencia; they are in the 10U age group (also known as "Squirt" age group). Abby remarked, "It means a lot to me to be able to play hockey. I'm so happy about how welcoming the boys are to have me on their teams. Plus, my best friends play and we love to talk about hockey!" Morgan also commented, "I like hockey because I love to skate and there's a lot of action. I get pumped up when I score a goal or make a good pass; it makes me want to go do it again. It's a little bit scary at times with how aggressive the boys can be, but it's a physical sport and it's so much fun!" Colleen added, "Hockey is great because I get to hang out with my friends while playing an exciting sport! Celebrating wins and goals is even better with my friends there; and having both of my parents as coaches is great because they challenge me to improve and support me through wins and losses."

Warner's older daughter, Theresa, plays for the Arctic Foxes out of RMU Island Sports Center on Neville Island. Theresa commented, "I love playing hockey because it's always a challenge, it's rewarding when you do well, and it's just fun!" Dani and Erica Gynn also play there and their dad, Dan, is the president of that organization. They have a large and thriving girls hockey program.

Anna Hutton plays for the Steel City Ice Renegades out of Alpha Ice Complex in Harmarville. (Theresa, Dani, and Anna are all in the 12U age group or "PeeWee"; Erica is in the 14U age group now.) Some of these girls play on teams with only girls, but most play on coed teams and the players come from many

(Continued on page 10)



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Ice Hockey

different school districts.

Marley Dankmeyer plays for the North Pittsburgh Wildcats girls' 12U team out of Baiertl Ice Complex in Warrendale. Her dad, Dale Dankmeyer, is the head coach of that team.

The Hampton teams all play/practice out of Frozen Pond in Valencia. Costs for playing on the club teams are approximately \$2,000. The elementary developmental team is \$300 as they only practice once every 2 weeks and play a handful of games that usually run October to March with practice typically starting in early August.

The head coach of the elementary team is Brian Fogle. Coach Warner and her husband Ryan are assistant coaches. Coach Fogle comments, "I'm proud of how hard these girls work in prac-

Continued from page 9)

tice and in games. They've proven their skills and the boys accept them as true teammates. There is an impressive group of young ladies from Hampton playing. They're a joy to coach, always have a positive attitude and really contribute to their teams."



Left to right, Colleen Warner, Abby Carlin, Morgan Fogle, Theresa Warner

Coach Warner explains, "The Hampton elementary team is not specifically for girls. Girls are still very much the minority, but girls' participation in hockey is growing right now (34% increase in participation in the last 10 years). And it is an anomaly to have 3 girls in the same grade at one tiny elementary school all playing on the same teams. And they are best friends which makes it even more fun. The team has about 12 players and only 3 of them are girls. Warner further comments, "I've never been a big fan of sports that change the rules or the level of intensity for girls' leagues. With the exception of checking in the older age groups, girls play hockey by the same set of rules (and

often on the same teams) as the boys. It's a great life lesson for them to see that they're able to compete, thrive, and contribute without someone artificially lowering the bar for them. The girls love playing on the Hampton hockey teams in particular. As you can see, they play for a wide variety of organizations outside of Hampton. This team gives them a chance to play the sport they love right alongside the kids in their neighborhood and helps deepen their friendships and Hampton pride."



Andrew Ubinger and his dad built this snowman while selling Christmas trees during the holiday season. The scouts sold over half the trees in the first week in the parking lot at Wagner's Market! Andrew became an Eagle Scout last October on the same day as his older brother DJ. The scouts thank the community for their continued support!

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Police Log

(Continued from page 7)

Road and East Hardies Road for a two-vehicle accident. The accident was said to have occurred when one vehicle was attempting to turn left from Middle Road onto East Hardies Road. Another vehicle was traveling on East Hardies Road, approaching the intersection, when the vehicle that was turning left cut the turn too short and the two vehicles collided. One driver showed visible signs of impairment and was subsequently placed under arrest for suspicion of DUI.

On December 23, 2020 at 10:39 p.m., Hampton Township Police responded to Route 8, at Harts Run Road, for a two-vehicle accident. The accident occurred when one vehicle was stopped in the southbound turning lane of Route 8, waiting to turn left onto Harts Run Road, when the vehicle was struck from behind. While speaking to the operator of one vehicle, the officer observed indications of impairment. The operator submitted to field sobriety tests, which they failed to complete as had been explained and demonstrated. The operator was subsequently placed under arrest for suspicion

of DUI. One vehicle had to be towed from the scene due to extensive damage.

Vehicle Accident

On November 11, 2020 at 3:35 p.m., Hampton Township Police responded to Route 8, at South Pioneer Road, for a two-vehicle accident. The accident was said to have occurred when the operator of one vehicle was traveling north in the passing lane of Route 8. They attempted to turn left onto South Pioneer Road when another vehicle was traveling south in the curb lane of Route 8 and the vehicles collided. Both vehicles had to be towed from the scene due to sustained damage.

On November 16, 2020 at 7:55 a.m., Hampton Township Police responded to Royal View Drive and Sample Road for a utility pole that had been struck by a tractor trailer. Upon the officer's arrival, they located a utility pole that was sheared in half and was hanging by electrical lines. There were also utility wires that had fallen on nearby vehicles. The tractor trailer had reportedly fled the scene. Duquesne Light Company responded to the scene to fix the damaged utility pole and associat-

ed wires. The operator and vehicle in question were located a short distance away from the accident scene.

On November 16, 2020 at 9:04 p.m., Hampton Township Police responded to Bryant Road for a single vehicle accident. Upon the officer's arrival, a vehicle was located off of the roadway, in a wooded section of property. The accident occurred when the vehicle was traveling at unsafe speeds and hit a bump in the roadway, causing the vehicle to launch into the woods. The vehicle had to be towed from the scene.

On November 21, 2020 at 1:05 p.m., Hampton Township officers responded to Route 8, at Wildwood Road, for a three-vehicle accident. The accident was said to have occurred when one vehicle was northbound on Route 8, in the left turning lane, and proceeded to make their turn when the traffic signal turned green. They stated that another vehicle, which was traveling south on Route 8, traveled through a steady red signal and collided with their vehicle. The impact caused one vehicle to strike a third vehicle. None of

(Continued on page 18)



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PharmD, CDCES
Owner

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Aquinas Student's Eagle Scout Project

Aquinas Academy's John Griffith (11th grade) built a Marian grotto for Aquinas Academy of Pittsburgh as part of his Eagle Scout project. Griffith describes his project:

"I had looked at the possibility of doing something at North Park but decided that I really wanted to build something for my school. My mom suggested the Marian grotto idea. I thought it would fit well at Aquinas. Although most Marian grottos seen at parishes are made of stone, I decided to build this one with wood. The structure is no less robust, however, as the posts are solidified in concrete. I found the statue online and purchased it from Rochelle Okon from Oakdale, PA. It had been her father's, so she was very excited to know that it would be used for the grotto. Thanks to Maria Figucia (Aquinas 11th grade), who gave her a beautiful finish, the statue stands conspicuously against the background of Dolan Field. The grotto took



John Griffith with two of his 11th grade classmates, Sam Everson, and Sabrina Knox, who helped to carry the statue to its current location (from left to right: Sam Everson, Sabrina Knox, and John Griffith).

about a month and a half to build. Construction began in late August and ended in early October. About 30 people helped me along the way, between mem-

bers of Troop 171, Aquinas faculty/students, and family. I am grateful for all who helped, especially Al Monteverde, who was my project coach, Mrs. Mitros, Head of School, who approved of the project, and my parents, who financially supported the project and spent a lot of time helping me see it through its completion."



John Griffith building the grotto with his project coach, Al Monteverde



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2020 Bike Drive

by Gail Scott

Al Todd and his dedicated group of volunteers have done it again by donating 400 bicycles and a check for \$30,000 to the Marines Toys For Tots Program. This was the 13th year for Al's Bike Drive, but the daunting challenge

of the bicycle shortage due to Covid-19 could not stop the generosity and enthusiasm of this group. Each year, Al Todd and his colleagues at Thrivent Financial raise money to buy bicycles to donate to The Marines Toys For Tots Program. The big event took place on December 3rd in the Gibsonsia Walmart parking lot. Even

though masks were worn by all, big smiles could be seen on everyone's faces. Al Todd said, "I am once again overwhelmed in witnessing the generosity toward others who are in need. Thank you to Walmart, the Walmart Foundation, my staff and office mates, local leaders, and the hundreds of volunteers and donors."



A Look On The Brighter Side

by Janie Aronson, HHS Student Writer

2020 has been an extremely tough year. Within months, our whole world has experienced wildfires, protests, and worst of all, a pandemic. During these hard times, it is important to look at the good that is happening around us. It may sound crazy to say that these events have brought up some positive things, however, it has done just that in the life of Hampton resident, Meghan Mihalko.



Meghan has been spending her quarantine with her husband, their two young daughters, and their lab puppy. For Meghan, one of the best things that came from the pandemic was the forced slowing of everyday life. "Before the March shutdown I felt pulled in 20 different directions at all times ... Life went from rush, rush, rush, try to fit 30 hours of tasks in a 24 hour day, to let's smell the roses." Meghan's family has been fortunate during these last few months. As a result of this, it's been a bit easier for Meghan to find the positive in her life. Despite that, Meghan did have a piece of advice on how to remain looking at the good side of life right now. Meghan suggested keeping a "daily or weekly stock of the positives in your life so one isn't just seeing the negative all the time. Make a list if you have to."

It's important to be optimistic in a year like 2020. Potentially try to take Meghan's advice and think: what good things has this pandemic brought to me?

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The guests of honor were escorted by a fleet of Hampton police and firefighters.



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A Collaboration of Emergency Services Helps make 911 System Successful

by Jocelyn Behr, HHS Writer

When a Hampton resident has an emergency, thankfully they are able to call 911 and get an immediate response. This can be attributed to the dedication of the members of the two Volunteer Fire Departments in Hampton, the Hampton Police Department, and the Shaler Hampton EMS. Michael Piovesan, the North Hampton Volunteer Fire Department Chief, who has been involved in the organization for 18 years, provided some insight on the reality of the work that the 37 volunteers perform. With responding to about 500 incidents a year, it is truly a calling to help others that drives these volunteers to continue helping and serving those in crisis within the community. Two years ago the two Volunteer Fire Departments decided to form a committee to begin discussing the merger.

The committee has continued to progress since first evaluating the fire service needs for the community. As of now, there is no set date for when the merge would occur, but they are continuing to work together to create an organizational structure that works the best for the needs of Hampton Township. The department will continue to serve the community in a way that ensures the highest level of care and compassion when responding to a call. They want to emphasize that education, safety, and rescue skills are taught to those that are involved in any way with the fire department. Having enough volunteers is critical to a quick call response time, and this means that any community member can get involved in the action. The department is always looking for new members to drive vehicles, direct traffic, help in the office, or be part of the firefighting team.

If interested and able to help the department in any way please visit <http://www.northhamptonvfd.org/> to complete and submit an application.

Monthly Incident Summary:

Commercial Fire Alarm	5
Odor / Smell of Burning	2
Public Service Detail	1
Residential Fire Alarm	6
Residential Structure Fire	3
Vehicle Accident No Entrapment	9
Vehicle Fire	2
Wires down or on Fire	7
Total Incidents for the Month	35
Total Incidents for 2020	396

Noteworthy incidents and events:

- NHVFD responded to Cramlington Drive for a residential structure fire. NHVFD crews arrived to find a split-level house with heavy smoke and fire showing. Crews were able to contain the fire to the house of origin and spent several hours on scene conducting salvage and overhaul.
- NHVFD responded as mutual aid into Richland Township for a chimney fire on Gibsonia Road. NHVFD crews assisted with overhaul.
- NHVFD responded to McNeal Road for the report of a vehicle fire. Crews arrived on scene to find a van on fire in the middle of the roadway. The occupants of the van were not injured and crews were able to quickly extinguish the fire.


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 11)


the involved vehicles were able to be driven from the scene and all were towed due to the damage that they sustained.

 On December 1, 2020 at 5:18 p.m., Hampton Township Police responded to West Hardies Road for a vehicle that had driven off the roadway and into a yard. Upon their arrival, they located the vehicle in question hung up on a retaining wall. The operator lost control of the vehicle due to hazardous road conditions caused by ice. The

vehicle had to be removed from the wall by a tow truck but was able to be driven from the scene.

 On December 1, 2020 at 6:44 p.m., Hampton Twp. Police were dispatched to Hardt Road, at Wildwood Road, for a single vehicle rollover accident. Upon the officer's arrival, they located a vehicle that had rolled off of the roadway and into a creek. The operator was able to self-extricate from the vehicle and was not injured. The operator stated that they were traveling south on Hardt Road when they hit a patch of ice. The vehicle struck rocks on the side of the roadway, causing the vehicle to overturn and fall into the creek. The vehicle had to be removed from the scene by a tow truck.

p.m., a Hampton Township officer was on patrol when they came upon a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Middle Road and East Hardies Road. The accident was said to have occurred when one driver was traveling on East Hardies Road, and as they came to the intersection, they did not ensure that both lanes of travel on Middle Road were clear before proceeding into the intersection. The vehicle struck an oncoming vehicle that was traveling south on Middle Road. Both vehicles were able to be driven from the scene.

 On December 12, 2020 at 12:31 p.m., Hampton Twp. officers responded to a three-vehicle accident on Route 8 and East Bar-donner Road. Upon the officers

(Continued on page 21)


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Current Events

County Parks Offer Christmas Tree Recycling Program

The Allegheny County Parks Departments offer their annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program this holiday season. Residents may drop off Christmas trees through January 14, 2021, at nine county parks from 8:00 a.m. until dusk.

All lights, decorations, tinsel and stand must be removed from trees prior to drop-off. Trees will be mulched and used in the county parks.

Hartwood Acres Park in the mansion parking lot, North Park in the swimming pool parking lot and Deer Lakes park in the veterans shelter parking lot.

The entire list of drop-off locations is available online: www.alleghenycounty.us/parks/christmas-tree-recycling-program.aspx.

During the 2019-2020 program, approximately 3,500 trees were received and recycled, resulting mulch used for various purposes throughout the park system's 12,000+ acres!

Hampton's Celebration on December 3rd with Fireworks & Santa Cruising in the fire truck around the Community Center.



Contest

(Continued from page 1)

dent in kick-starting their business idea and a feature article with their picture in the August issue of the Hampton Magazine. The winner and the runners-up will also be invited to a morning of free professional business coaching provided by Hampton professionals.

The contest runs from February 1-May 10, when contestants must submit a PowerPoint presentation to My 4-Year Plan. Contestants will compete in May before a panel of local business professionals, at which time the winner will be announced.

"The goal of the contest is to encourage young entrepreneurship," says Cathy Lueers, owner of My 4-Year Plan. "Hampton students are creative achievers and being able to both kick-start a business while in high school and enhance their positioning to competitive colleges through their entry in a contest at this level has the potential to serve a dynamic two-fold purpose."

Business ideas will include a description of the product or service and how it meets the needs of future users, a timeline for implementation, and a marketing outline.

For full contest rules, contestants should visit: www.my4yearplan.com.

Hampton Business Competition Coaches and Judges Needed for High School Competition

Business owners and professionals from a variety of industries are

being sought to serve as coaches and judges for the Talbot Tank high school business competition. Judges will serve in an online panel for the contest in May. Coaches are business owners who have experience starting and growing their own company and can provide business coaching to high school students. The time commitment for coaches is a single Saturday morning in June. For more information or to be considered, please visit the contest co-sponsor, My 4-Year Plan, at www.my4yearplan.com (Click on Talbot Tank at the top of the home page). You may also call My 4-Year Plan at 412.720.9802.

Hampton Township School District Seeks Guest Substitute Teachers

Orientation Slated for January 12, 2021

Great schools need great teachers. If you are thinking about a career in education, returning to the workforce, or looking to work with children, the Hampton Township School District invites you to apply for the new Guest Substitute Teacher program.

A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university is required; experience working in schools or with children is preferred. Schedules are flexible based on your availability.

Interested applicants should follow these steps:

- Complete a short online application through [Applitrack](#)
- Attend an Orientation Session on January 12, 2021. Additional details and information about the Guest Substitute Teacher Program will be provided.
- Complete Orientation Session homework.
- Obtain required clearances (see our Employment page for detailed information and links), a physical, and a TB test.
- Attend a Training Session at Hampton Township School District.

Guest Substitute Teachers will be paid \$90 per day for the first 20 days of substitute work, and \$100 per day for each day afterwards.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Rebecca Cunningham at (412) 492-6305 or email cunningham@ht-sd.org.

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Photo by Carolyn Doyle

Police Log

(Continued from page 18)

arrival, they located the three vehicles in the roadway. The accident was said to have occurred when one vehicle was stopped in the southbound lane of Route 8 in the passing lane waiting to turn left onto East Bardonner Road. The operator of a second vehicle attempted to go around the vehicle by merging into the right lane. The vehicle operator failed to see a third vehicle traveling in the right lane, resulting in a collision between the three vehicles. All vehicles had to be towed from the scene due to sustained damage.

 On December 13, 2020 at 1:09 p.m., Hampton Township


Vaccine *(Continued from page 1)*

to take this opportunity to assure our neighbors that the vaccine is safe, effective (95% for the Pfizer version), and crucial to getting our lives back to normal. We will likely have to keep masking and socially distancing until herd immunity is reached, but that will be much faster with the vaccine than without it." Dr. Dougherty will receive the second dose of his vaccine in early January. For more information on the Pfizer vaccine, go to <https://www.fda.gov/media/144414/download> and <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2034577>




Dr. Joseph Dougherty received his vaccine on 12/20/2020

Police responded to Wildwood Road for a report of a vehicle that had driven into a residence. Upon arrival, responding officers observed a vehicle that had struck the front porch of a residence. There were no injuries resulting from the accident. The porch sustained heavy damage due to the collision, and People's Gas was notified to respond to the scene as there was a small gas leak detected at the house from the damage that was sustained.

 On December 14, 2020 at

10:36 a.m., Hampton Township Police responded to Route 8, at Mount Royal Boulevard, for a two-vehicle accident. Upon their arrival officers located the two involved vehicles, a sedan and a dump truck. The accident was said to have occurred when the operator of one vehicle was traveling south in the passing lane of Route 8. The operator then attempted to cross into the curb lane to then turn right onto Mount Royal Boulevard from the left lane, failing to see the second vehicle traveling straight in

the curb lane. This resulted in a collision, which caused disabling damage to one vehicle. One vehicle was able to be driven from the scene and the other was towed due to damage.

 On December 16, 2020 at 12:49 p.m., Hampton Township Police responded to West Hardies Road for a two-vehicle accident. Upon the officers arrival, they found that one involved vehicle had been parked in a driveway and was not occupied at the

(Continued on page 22)

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Residential Street Parking Reminder

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

Police Log

(Continued from page 21)

time of the collision. The second vehicle was found to be turned over on its side. No injuries were reported at the time of the crash. The operator advised that the vehicle slid on ice while attempting to come to a stop for a vehicle that was stopped ahead in the roadway. The vehicle was sliding on ice, so in an attempt to avoid striking that vehicle, the operator went into the yard of a property and ultimately struck a parked, unoccupied vehicle in the process. The overturned vehicle was towed from the scene.



On December 16, 2020 at 1:28 p.m., Hampton Township Police responded to East Hardies Road for a single vehicle accident involving a utility pole. Upon arrival, the officer located the vehicle resting against a cracked utility pole. Duquesne Light Company was notified to

respond to the scene. The accident occurred as a result of poor road conditions caused by heavy snow. The vehicle sustained heavy front-end damage and was stuck in the snow, so it was towed from the scene.



On December 16, 2020 at 7:02 p.m., Hampton Township Police responded to Route 8, at McCully Road, for a two-vehicle accident. Upon arrival, one of the involved vehicles was observed to be partially off of the roadway, hung up on a curb. The accident was said to have occurred when one vehicle was stopped in the southbound passing lane of Route 8, waiting to turn left onto McCully Road. The second involved vehicle observed the stopped vehicle ahead and attempted to stop, but poor road conditions caused by heavy snow and ice resulted in the vehi-

(Continued on page 23)

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Police Log

(Continued from page 22)

cle sliding. The operator attempted to swerve into the curb lane but slid into the rear of the other vehicle and then continued across the right lane and up onto the curb. One vehicle had to be towed from the scene due to disabling damage.



On December 16, 2020 at 8:24 p.m., HTP responded to West Hardies Road for a single vehicle accident. Upon their arrival, officers located one vehicle laying on its side, blocking one lane of travel. The operator was found to be out of the vehicle and no injuries were reported as a result of the crash. The vehicle had multiple airbags deployed and had to be towed from the scene. The accident occurred due to icy road conditions as the vehicle attempted to navigate a bend in the roadway.



On December 21, 2020 at 11:00 a.m., HTP were dispatched to West Hardies Road for a report of a two-vehicle accident involving a Postal Service vehicle. Upon arrival, officers observed a USPS Truck that was in the front yard of a residence. A damaged mailbox was observed, and the second involved vehicle had pulled off of the road into a driveway. The accident occurred when the USPS vehicle was struck from behind while the operator was delivering mail into mailboxes. The operator of the second vehicle, which was traveling behind the USPS vehicle, attempted to pass the mail truck, and upon entering the oncoming lane observed an oncoming vehicle, which resulted in them swerving back into their lane of travel and striking the rear of the USPS vehicle. The operator of one involved vehicle sustained injuries as a result of the crash and was transported to the hospital. Both vehicles were able to be driven from the scene.

Hazardous Conditions



On November 30, 2020 at 11:19 p.m., HTP responded to Isabella Avenue for a power line that was down, which was reported to be arcing. Upon the responding officer's arrival, they located the fallen wire, along with a brush fire. Duquesne Light Co. was requested to expedite to the scene, as the brush fire was growing quickly in size. Once Duquesne Light Co. arrived on scene, the fire was able to be extinguished.



On December 17, 2020 at 2:59 a.m.,

HTP were dispatched to Oakhill Road for a report of a wire down. Upon arrival, the responding officer observed a power line and cable line laying across the roadway. Duquesne Light Company was notified and requested to respond to the scene. The roadway was blocked until Duquesne Light Company responded and fixed the issue. *end*

2020 Presents From Police



Thank you to the residents that donated a gift for this special cause. The Police Association of North Hills delivered presents to North Hills Community Outreach, Sunrise School in Monroeville, and a Hampton family. Pictured are Officers Bill Gealey, Ben Colosimo, Jaycie Malesky and Carl Good.



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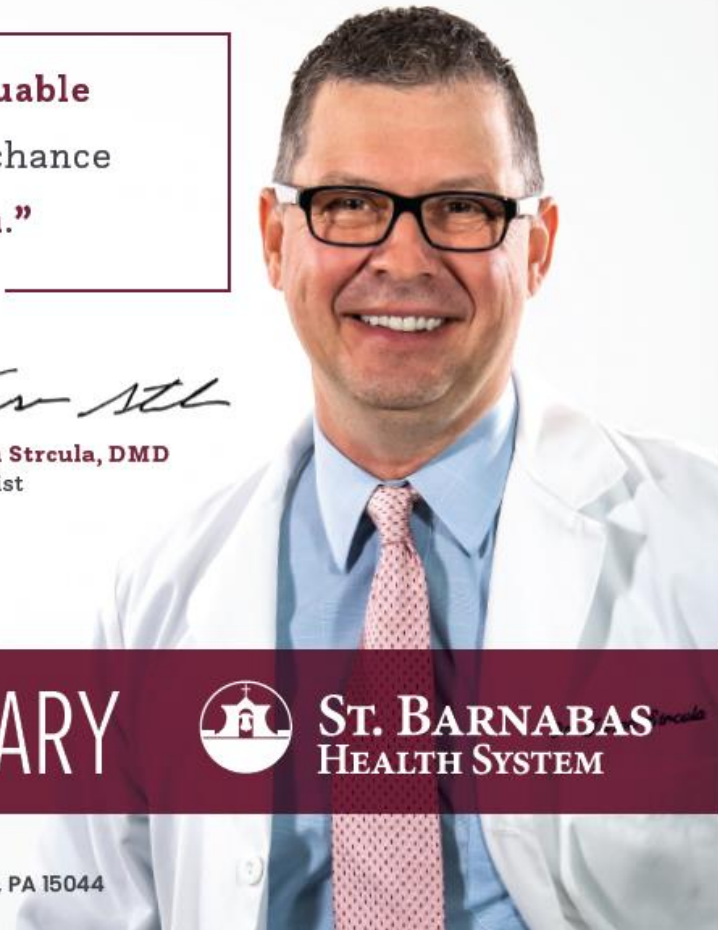


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