

FREE The Hampton News

July 2024

From the Neighborhoods of Hampton Township, PA

Vol. 19 No. 12

Memorial Day Celebration Unfazed by Weather

by Julie Mikus

The rain did not keep the Hill family from attending Hampton Township's Memorial Day event, which was moved inside the Community Center for the first time in nineteen years. The Hill family are new

residents in Hampton. "It is really great to see the community rally around the armed services, but obviously on a day like this, to those who gave their lives in service of our country," Steven Hill said, who attend-

ed the event with his wife and two children.

The Hampton Daisy Troops handed out brochures as guests arrived. "There are

(Continued on page 3)



Veterans: John "Jack" Rathke, Theodore Hazlett and Nicholas DiCaprio

Summertime: A Splashing Good Time!

by Mary-Theresa Watson

Summer in Hampton means hours spent outdoors, whether at the pool, at the park, or even traversing a parking lot in search of delicious food items. Wherever your imagination takes you, rest assured that a full slate of special summertime events are underway for Summer 2024, so be sure to mark your calendars!

(Continued on page 7)

Tuck Everlasting Shines at Gene Kelly Awards

by Jenn Edmonds

Hampton audiences praised the company of *Tuck Everlasting* with standing ovations during their four performances in April. The accolades continued at the 33rd Annual Gene Kelly Awards for Excellence in High School Musical Theater ceremony on May 25 at the Benedum Center. The Hampton production won the award for Best Dance Ensemble in Budget Level 4 and was also nominated for Best Scenic Design (Budget Level

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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 5/10/2024—6/12/2024:

ACCIDENT AND DUI ARREST

On June 8, 2024, HTP were dispatched to the area of Middle Rd. and Harts Run Rd. for a single vehicle crash into a telephone pole. County dispatch advised the telephone pole was reportedly sheared off and wires were down/entangled around the vehicle. Upon arrival, officers observed numerous power lines lying across Harts Run Road near Middle Road and half of the telephone pole was ying in the roadway. A fire hydrant and a stop sign were also hit. Duquesne Light was notified to respond ASAP due to the entrapment with possible live wires. The operator was placed under arrest for suspicion of DUI.

VEHICLE ACCIDENT

On June 12, 2024, HTP were dispatched to the area of Route 8, near Craighead Road, for a report of a two-vehicle accident with no injuries. Upon arrival, they located the two involved vehicles in the southbound curb lane of Route 8 at the intersection of McCully Road. All vehicle occupants denied the need for medics.

Both involved persons were provided all pertinent driver, vehicle, and insurance information to pass along to their designated insurance companies.

SCAM ATTEMPT

On May 31, 2024, HTP were notified of a scam attempt in progress. While one resident was on the phone with the scammer the other was on the phone with the Police Department. The residents reported that they received a call from a male claiming to be Sgt. Michael McKeen, a government official. He told the resident that there were two outstanding citations that needed to be paid in the amount of \$3000.00 or they'd face a civil liability charge and do either

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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 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 15th of each month.

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

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Memorial Day

(Continued from page 1)

soldiers here whose friends did not come back," said Daisy scout Luna Smith.

The Hampton Township American Legion Post 296 hosted the event, which brings together community members together to honor the nation's fallen heroes. "We give thanks for those who laid down their lives. We remember them in our hearts," Pastor Amy Wagner of St. Paul's United Methodist Church said in her invocation.

Participants included members of the Hampton High School Marching Band, Troop 17 and 195 of the Boy Scouts, Hampton Daisy Troops, Hampton Junior Troops, and Hampton Cadette Troops.

Always strong community supporters, Pasquale's Pizzeria, owned by Hampton residents Denny and Matt Schlegel, provided pizza for the troops. Matt served in the U.S. Army in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 and 2004.



A proud veteran attended the ceremony

Abigail Melnick, a Hampton Central Elementary student, sang the 'Star Spangled Banner.' Her lovely voice filled the Community Center and not a dry eye was found after her passionate delivery.

Jason Andrews and Timothy Madden played 'Taps,' the famous bugle call to remember those who gave their lives in the service of the United States.

Hampton resident, Zachary Merritt, delivered the keynote address at the

event. "When we stand together, we are much stronger than when we stand alone. Standing together is such a powerful symbol of unity," he addressed the crowd.

Merritt served from 2004 to 2014 as an active-duty submariner in the United States Navy, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Commander. He served on two submarines, the USS Michigan SSGN 727 Blue and the USS Alexandria SSN 757. Married to Hanalore Burns Merritt for eighteen years, they have two children, Cooper and Abigail.

"My dad is amazing. He participates in so much and gives his time freely. Even though he does so much, he comes home every day happy," Cooper Merritt said of his father. He went to say, "America has given everything to the world, and more. Living in America is amazing!" Cooper's sister, Abigail, added, "My dad is selfless."



William English (Navy)

Merritt has continued his legacy of service by coaching his kids sports teams and volunteering for local organizations. "Most young people want to serve. Young people can direct energy to serve and think about ways to serve in their community, profession, or even by joining the military," Merritt said.

The Hampton band played, 'Marches of the Armed Forces,' where veterans are recognized as they march forward when their branch is played. Mr. William English, a Hampton resident who served in the Navy during the Korean War, said, "I love everything about my country, but we need to work harder as a people."

More photos by Julie Mikus on page 17

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Library News



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412-684-1098
hamptoncommunitylibrary.org

Adventure Begins at the Hampton Community Library's Summer Reading Program!

Whether you like to read books, listen to them on E-audio, read a book in graphic form, listen to one on a Playaway, follow along on a Wonderbook or watch on a Launchpad - there's something for you at the library this summer! Babies, Preschoolers, Readers, Adults – we have a summer program to fit you! We are excited to roll out some new programming geared to pre-k through early elementary! There's still time to sign-up!

Please note:

There will be no Children's Programs 4th of July Week!

2nd Saturday Storytime!

Saturday, July 13th @ 11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

We asked what you wanted to see in the summer and the number one answer was a Saturday Storytime! So join us for a more a "traditional" storytime filled with stories, rhymes and songs! Geared to ages 3 and up, but all are welcome!

Happy Birthday Harry!

Tuesday, July 30th @ 1:30 p.m. -2:30 p.m.

July 31st is Harry Potter's Birthday! Come join us a day early and some birthday fun the Hogwarts way!
Registration Required, Ages 5 -10.

Celebrate the Dog Days of Summer with Dog- Man!

Tuesday, August 6th @ 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Can good deeds outdo evil doers? Of course it can with Dog-Man and Cat-Kid on their tails!

Registration required, Ages 5 -8.

Dragons Bring Adventure!

Thursdays @ 1:30 p.m. -2:30 p.m.

Each month will feature a different dragon theme as we explore new and old dragon worlds! Registration Appreciated, Ages 7 -11.

July 11th, 18th, and 25th: Wings of Fire

August 1st and 8th: How to Train Your Dragon

Check Mate! A Summer Chess Club!

Mondays, now through August 5th @ 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Join us for a fun, instructive, interactive play. Whether you are a beginner or have been playing for years...there's always something new to learn! All skill levels welcomed!
Please register when you come to play. Ages 5-12.

Adventures in Storytime!

Tuesdays, now through August 6th @ 10:30 a.m.

Thursdays, now through August 8th @ 10:30 a.m.

Jump on the adventure train as we sing, rhyme and listen to stories all summer long! This program is for families and abilities of all ages. Please note: this will be same program each day.

(Continued on page 5)

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Library

(Continued from page 4)

Party at the Pavilion! Stories and Play Time!

Tuesdays, now through August 6th. @ 11:30 a.m.

Thursdays, now through August 8th @ 11:30 a.m.

Get ready to stretch your arms, touch your toes and wiggle your nose with this interactive storytime, filled with stories, songs, music, bubbles and even parachute! Rain or shine, we will meet outdoors at the Grubbs Pavilion (this is the pavilion above/behind the pool). Registration not necessary, the storytime is designed for families and abilities of all ages. Program will run approximately ½ hour to 45 minutes. Please note: this will be same program each day. In case of thunderous weather please call the library to see whether a similar program will be held inside without the parachute.

All Abilities Club!

Friday, July 12th @ 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Tuesday, July 23rd @ 1:30 p.m. -2:15 p.m.

For our adult friends with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their caregivers. Join us for literacy activities, crafts and much more!

Adventures in Scrapbooking!

Monday, July 15th @ 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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

This is the day for you. If you are a seasoned scrapbooker looking for like-minded friends, come join us for a morning of scrap-

booking! 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!

Adventures in Origami!

Tuesday, July 16th @ 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m. or

Tuesday, August 20th @ 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Origami is the art of paper folding and is enjoyed around the world as an expressive art/craft and can be used for decorative and ceremonial purposes. Join Mary Garnett as she teaches one-on-one instruction on how to create a butterfly—a symbol of change. This program is for adults 16 years and older; **registration is limited!** Stop in and see the beautiful examples of origami that Mary created!

Card Club!

Wednesdays @ 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Join us Wednesday afternoons for a game of 500 Bid or something new! Come out and show your skills or just enjoy some time out with friends, both new and old!

Murder by the Book!

A Mystery Book Discussion Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

The Mystery Book Group meets at the Grubbs Pavilion in the summer, (this is the pavilion above/behind the pool, parking is available).

Please call the library to request a copy of the book. Everyone who is interested in great reads is invited to join us!

July 17th: *The Name of the Rose*, by Umberto Eco

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Library

(Continued from page 5)

Betty's Book Buzz Discussion Group.

Fridays, 1:00 p.m.

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

July 19th: *The Broken Girls*, by Simone St. James

Summer Hours!

Summer hours will begin Memorial Day and extend through Labor Day.

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

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday: **11:30 a.m.** - 7:30 p.m.

Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

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

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Holiday Hours:

Please note:

There will be no Children's Programs 4th of July Week!

The Library will be closed:

Community Day/4th of July:

Wednesday, July 3rd - Thursday, July 4th.

Labor Day Weekend:

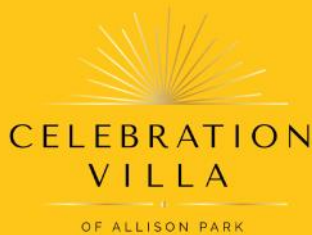
Saturday, August 31st - Monday, Sept. 2nd.



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Summer Fun

(Continued from page 1)

Farmers Market: Every Wednesday (with the exception of July 3) through October 9th, from 3 to 7 p.m. in the Community Center parking lot. Vendors and food trucks will be on hand offering fresh produce, homemade goods, and delicious meals. A full list of vendors can be found at the Events section of the township's website (www.hampton-pa.org)

• **Community Day Celebration:** Wednesday, July 3, from 4 p.m. until the conclusion of fireworks. The pool will be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and attractions will be held on the soccer fields. Bands will entertain visitors, with No Bad JuJu performing from 4 to 6 p.m. and Sail On (Beach Boys Tribute Band) performing from 7 to 9:30 p.m.

• **Free Pool Admission for past & present military:** Thursday, July 4.

• **Peach Truck:** Thursday, July 11, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Hampton Community Park.

• **National Hot Dog Day:** Wednesday, July 17. Celebrate with 25¢ hot dogs at the Hampton Community Pool concession stand, from 1 to 3 p.m. only.

• **Christmas in July:** Wednesday, July 24, at the outdoor pool complex from 4 to 6 p.m. Santa will be taking a well-earned summer vacation by hanging out at the Hampton pool! Children also can participate in a free snowball toss.

• **Pints in the Park:** On select Fridays at Hampton Community Park, from 5 to 9 p.m. Each evening will feature food trucks, local vendors, and a live music

performance. Upcoming dates are July 26, August 23, and September 27.

• **Pool Member Appreciation Day:** Wednesday, August 14. Anyone over age 18 who enters the pool complex using their valid 2024 pool membership will be entered to win a free pool membership for the 2025 pool season. From 4 to 6 p.m., DJ Rick Worth will provide music while Ariel, the Little Mermaid, splashes in the pool for photos with the little ones.

• **Dog Swim Day:** Saturday, September 7, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for 2024 pool members. Fee: \$15 per dog, and all participants must pre-register; registration will not be available the day of the event. **Please note: Proof of current rabies and distemperment shots are required to be shown at check-in on this day.** No exceptions. *During this time the pool is open for dog swimming only. For the safety and enjoyment of all dogs and owners, no people are permitted in the pool on this day. Shoes must be worn at all times. Owners are responsible for their dogs at all times.*



Also please note that the tennis courts are undergoing a full resurfacing project, which began in late June. The courts will be closed during construction, but the updated facility will include a Pickleball court in addition to the tennis courts. The courts will open as soon as possible, though much depends on the weather.

As always, visit the township website to stay up-to-date on all the happenings in our community.

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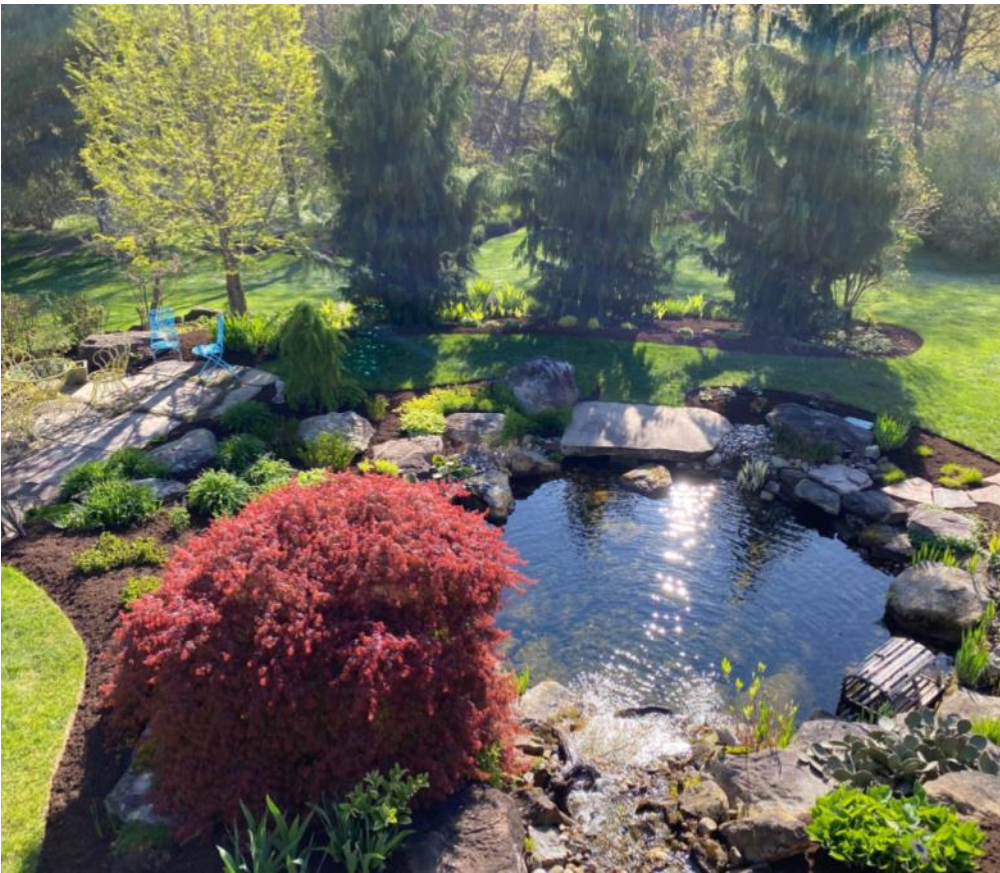
20328 R4-23

Hampton Home Will Dazzle You

How is it luck to move into a new house and be confounded by a desperate need for curb appeal? Hampton residents Tom and Janet Lyon found themselves in this predicament forty years ago and subsequently embraced a hobby that surpassed their wildest imagination. Their half acre of gardens encompasses various mounds that wrap around the house, each with a unique personality of planting. Where once a pool dominated the backyard, there is now a haven for Koi fish, frogs, butterflies and other pond loving insects. Together the waterfall and pond provide a serene escape and an element of the unexpected. From the Lyon's covered porch and upper deck, visitors can spot some of their favorite trees and plants: Golden Dawn redwood and Bald Cypress, along with many varieties of iris. Luckily, something blooms at all times of the growing season.

Delight all your senses with a walk through spectacular gardens bursting with colorful blooms, ponds, pathways and creative ideas. Join us for this 16th annual Shaler Garden Club's Great Gardens Tour on Sunday, July 14, 2024, from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Proceeds benefit the Shaler North Hills Library. Tickets for the tour can be purchased at the library, located at 1822 Mt. Royal Blvd., Glenshaw, PA 15116, for \$20 in advance of the tour, or \$25 the day of the tour.

Your ticket for the Shaler Great Gardens Tour includes hosted visits to six amazing gardens and a chance to win a lovely gift basket. The event is held rain or shine. For more information, visit www.shalergardenclub.com or www.shalerlibrary.org or call (412) 486-0211 for more information. Shaler Garden Club celebrates 103 years of serving the Shaler community with their green thumbs.



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This information is supplied from the West Penn Multi-List. It is deemed reliable but not guaranteed.

ADDRESS	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
4338 Muirfield Drive	\$980,000	\$960,000	306
2430 Willow Oak Drive	\$629,900	\$705,000	14
2519 Willow Oak Drive	\$650,000	\$675,000	2
2611 Middle Road	\$589,000	\$595,000	2
2737 Bristol Court	\$539,900	\$580,762	6
2890 Clearview Road	\$539,900	\$565,000	43
4625 Hidden Pond Drive	\$559,000	\$559,000	0
2744 Shadowrock Court	\$535,000	\$535,000	4
3213 Fox Run Road	\$525,000	\$526,700	3
3156 Sundance Court	\$465,000	\$465,000	9
5058 Meadowridge Lane	\$449,900	\$461,500	5
5079 Cashlie Court	\$409,000	\$451,123	4
5170 Lakeview Drive	\$359,900	\$431,000	3
3178 Harts Run Road	\$425,000	\$400,000	28
2442 Trotter Drive	\$394,900	\$400,000	4
4569 Bucktail Drive	\$379,000	\$360,000	48
2949 Manorview Circle	\$345,000	\$345,000	3
2465 Tanglewood Drive	\$337,500	\$331,000	33
5104 Polo Fields Drive	\$317,500	\$317,500	26
5140 Polo Fields Drive	\$327,500	\$315,000	8
3055 Bardona Circle	\$299,900	\$299,900	7
4325 Hemlock Circle	\$249,900	\$265,003	2
3073 Raintree Drive	\$237,500	\$257,500	4
4405 Laurel Oak Drive	\$250,000	\$245,000	5
3035 Talley Cavey Circle	\$235,000	\$225,000	29
5172 Hardt Road	\$200,000	\$200,000	4
4465 Laurel Oak Drive	\$189,000	\$170,000	56

TIP OF THE MONTH:

July tends to be a reliably hot and humid month. Making sure your home is able to utilize energy efficiently to keep you cool—and prevent mold and moisture build-up—is essential for the health of both you and your home.

Bathroom:

Eliminate any signs of mold. Repair and clean grout, replace caulk and seal where necessary. Clean faucet aerators and showerheads. Check water softener and salt levels.

Wash windows and door screens.

Check drainage to make sure summer storm water runs away from the foundation of your home.

HVAC and furnace filters need to be changed every three months (average; more if you have pets, use fireplace, allergen sensitivities, etc), so doing this quarterly will help set a schedule.

FOR A COMPLIMENTARY MARKET ANALYSIS OF YOUR HOME, GIVE US A CALL!



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Police Log

(Continued from page 2)

120 days in jail and/ or 50 hours community service time. The male said there was a gag order, and they could not talk about what was going on with anyone. They were instructed to go to the bank to withdraw the money, then go to the kiosk at a local Get-Go Gas Station. A Hampton officer responded to the Get-Go to meet them and to make sure that no money was lost to the scammer.

No government agency would call and tell someone they were under a gag order and that they had to go to their bank and withdraw money. It was explained that they were being scammed and advised to call their creditors and have their accounts locked.

TRAFFIC ALERT

Mt. Royal Blvd. (Between Duncan and Toner Avenues) Closure began on June 10, 2024

PennDOT has contracted with A. Liberoni Construction to provide slide repair and road resurfacing services for this season along Mt. Royal Boulevard.

Mt. Royal Blvd. between Duncan Avenue and Toner Avenue is closed for slide repairs. This section of Mt. Royal is expected to remain closed for approximately 50 days. (Sample Road will re-open prior to this closure.) The detour plan for this closure is Duncan Avenue, Route 8, and Mt. Royal Boulevard.

Route 910 Closure & Middle Rd./Cedar Ridge Rd. Detour Route

PennDOT has announced that replacement work on the Route 910 bridge over Deer Creek in West Deer Township. To allow this work to occur, Route 910 will be closed in this area through August 21st. All traffic will be detoured. The posted detour is as follows:

(Continued on page 12)

Where Are They Now?

Liebro Releases First Music EP

by Jenn Edmonds

She started writing songs in the 2nd grade to work through her feelings and is now pursuing her life-long dream as an indie pop singer-songwriter. Nineteen-year-



Lindsay Liebro
Photo: Courtney Lay Stout

old Lindsay Liebro graduated from Hampton High School in 2022, and is happy to announce the release of her first EP. Liebro is currently pursuing a 4-year degree at Belmont University in Nashville, TN as a commercial voice major with a song writing emphasis. It will help in becoming a well-rounded musician. Her new EP, "taller," released by Dance Cry Dance Records is completely self-written. "Songwriting for me is therapy. I just love to write," said Liebro. Some of the five songs on the EP were written starting in middle school but she decided to release them now. They are about growing up, dealing with emotional turmoil in relationships, friendships, and inter-

nal self-doubt. "I like being specific in my songs. It makes them more relatable," explained Liebro. "When I write a clever line, it makes it for me." Liebro teamed up with Steve Stout (Lifehouse/Ozward) who produced the music for the EP, and Stout's wife Courtney who took the promotional pictures. "They are two amazingly talented people," said Liebro. She is spending her summer back in Hampton with her mom Patty, her dad Jim, and her dachshund Pepper, writing, promoting her EP, and doing occasional gigs. You can listen to "taller" including the opening track "hard time" on linktree <https://linktr.ee/lindsayliebro>, onesheet <https://go.onesheet.club/s/tjq0el>, or major streaming services like Spotify. You may have heard Liebro's viral song "Wasted Potential" from 2021 which has earned over 2.6 million streams. Being the youngest winner of WYEP's Singer-Songwriter Competition in 2020 was just the start to her music career!

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Rotary Scholarship Awardees

Hampton resident and member of the North Boroughs Rotary Club, Stuart Benson awarded the following AW Beattie students pictured left to right:

John Brown (Robotics) was awarded \$1,450 towards attending Penn West CALU; Braden Scott (HVAC) was awarded \$400 towards a tool scholarship for the union; Dylan Durler (Auto Tech.) was awarded \$400 for a tool scholarship for employment; Malea O'Neill (Ad Design) was awarded \$1,450 towards attending Geneva College; Victoria Scariot (Veterinary Sciences) was awarded \$1,450 towards attending Penn West CALU; Alexis Svidron (Early Childhood Education) was awarded \$1,450 towards Seton Hill University; and Michael Bartz was awarded a \$400 scholarship for tools for HVAC employment.



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Aquinas Academy's Mock Trial Team Has Continued Success

Aquinas Academy of Pittsburgh's Mock Trial Team Advanced to State Finals for Second Consecutive Year

The Aquinas Academy of Pittsburgh's High School Mock Trial team advanced to the State Finals competition for the second consecutive year, which took place March 22 – 23 at the Dauphin County Courthouse in Harrisburg. The Pennsylvania Mock Trial Competition is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Bar Association Young Lawyers Division. "One of the largest in the nation, the PBA/YLD Mock Trial Competition gives over 290 high school

student teams from across the state the opportunity to act as lawyers and witnesses in simulated civil trials before actual judges and panels of juries. Lawyers volunteer to assist students as team advisors, scorekeepers and regional coordinators."

Aquinas Academy were again the local co-champions after winning four rounds of competitions against Fox Chapel, Mt. Lebanon, Allerdice, and Montour high schools; and qualifying as one of fourteen teams for the State Finals.

Aquinas Academy's Mock Trial team included seniors Isabel Giancola and Elizabeth Swift, juniors Anne Dolan, John Ortiz, Vincenzo Flati, Lucy Fowler, Samuel McGowan, Clara Yuo, and sophomore Alexander Beaven. Timothy Waxenfelter has coached Aquinas Academy's Mock Trial team for four seasons.



Mock Trial team at the Dauphin County Courthouse. Left to right: Vincenzo Flati, Samuel McGowan, Clara Yuo, Isabel Giancola, Elizabeth Swift, Anne Dolan, Lucy Fowler, John Ortiz, Alexander Beaven, Mr. Timothy Waxenfelter

Police Log

(Continued from page 9)

East of the Closure:

From Route 910, turn onto Cedar Ridge Road. Turn right onto Middle Road. Follow Middle Road back to Route 910
End detour.

West of the Closure:

Same detour in the oppose direction.

This will bring a lot of traffic to already extremely busy intersections along Middle Road at Cedar Ridge and East Hardies. The Township's Police Department will be monitoring these intersections at the beginning of the detour and working with PennDOT to determine if additional traffic control is needed.

Please consider using alternate routes and leaving at earlier times to help alleviate congestion in these areas.

Most importantly, please bring your patience and understanding for those who travel through this area this summer.

Clearview Road Bridge Closure

The Township is replacing the Clearview Road Bridge, which crosses Gourhead Run and connects to Route 8. This project involves the replacing of the existing span and relocation of electrical, water, sewer and gas lines in the vicinity of the bridge. As a result, there will be a substantial impact to com-

muters who use the Clearview Road Bridge.

The initial phase of the project involved the aforementioned utility work, which will include intermittent lane restrictions across the Clearview Road Bridge.

THE SHUTDOWN OF THE BRIDGE AND DETOUR BEGAN IN EARLY JUNE. It is anticipated that the bridge will remain closed through September 2024. Please consider using Route 8 to Harts Run Road to Clearview Road for your detour. All work on this project is weather-dependent. *end*

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This event will include:

- Informative talks on the history of tea gardens
- Demonstrations on planting and caring for tea herbs
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Whether you're an avid gardener or just curious about tea, this event offers something for everyone. Come and enjoy a delightful day of learning and tea tasting in our beautiful garden setting!



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Gene Kelly Award

(Continued from page 1)

4), Best Costume Design (Budget Level 4), Best Vocal Ensemble (Budget Level 4), and Best Student Orchestra. "We have proudly been participating in the Gene Kelly awards since 2006 and feel that it is wonderful that there is a program that shines a spotlight on and recognizes the importance of the performing arts in public education," said Dan Franklin, the director of Tuck Everlasting. "We are very proud of Hampton's students for working so incredibly hard, and for devoting so much of themselves to this year's musical. They truly deserved the Best Dance Ensemble award that they received and then some!" HHS class of 2023 graduate, Brooks Brady, had the honor of presenting the award for this year's Best Supporting Actor on the Benedum stage. Brady was the 2023 Best Supporting Actor award winner for his role as Thomas Nostradamus in Hampton's *Something Rotten*.



"Being invited to come back and present at the 2024 Gene Kelly Awards was such an honor", Brady humbly stated. "The staff working the event did an amazing job making the other presenters and me feel welcome. Of course, I wouldn't have been in this position if it weren't for the fantastic theatre program at Hampton and the hard work that goes into every production." He continued, "It was wonderful, but not surprising

to see Hampton represented in five categories this year, and I'm happy knowing that they show no signs of slowing down."

Above: Brooks Brady with his co-presenter, Ashley Caldwell, the 2023 Best Supporting Actress

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Current Events

Hartwood Acres Concert Series

- **July 7**

The Bar-Kays, a funk band whose studio work backing Stax Records recording artists including Otis Redding, carved their place in music history. Pittsburgh's own Clinton Clegg will open the show with help from the Norside Organ Trio.

- **July 14**

Patty Griffin, two-time Grammy-winner.

- **July 21**

Paula Cole, Grammy-winner whose hit "I Don't Want to Wait" became iconic through its use on the popular television series "Dawson's Creek."

- **August 4**

Anees, whose hit song "Sun and Moon" led the way to more than 40 million streams and over seven million followers on social media.

- **August 11**

Matthew Whitaker, a renowned jazz pianist who is no stranger to Pittsburgh thanks to his work as musical director on Pittsburgh Public Theater's production of "Billy Strayhorn: Something to Live For."

- **August 18**

MAGIC!, reggae/pop powerhouse whose song "Rude" held the No. 1 spot on Billboard's Top 100 chart for six weeks and hit number one in 41 countries.

The 2024 Summer Concert Series will conclude with the 24th Annual Allegheny County Music Festival. This year, the event will feature two-time Tony Award-winner Michael Cer-veris singing the songs of David Bowie backed by a Pittsburgh All-Star band with special guests Scott Blasey and Rob James of the Clarks.

A \$20 per vehicle requested donation supports requests made through the county Department of Human Services or the Juvenile Section of the Family Division of the Court of Common Pleas.

Since 2000, the County Music Festival has raised nearly \$550,000 for the Allegheny County Music Festival Fund.

Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Roundtable

"Hood's Defeat Near Fox's Gap" presented by Curtis Older. Monday, July 17 at 7 pm. Hampton Township Community Center, 3101 McCully Road, Allison Park. Presentation is free and open to the public.

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SHOP 'n SAVE Announces Name Change and New Ownership

Third-Generation Grocers Bradley Zupancic and Kevin Verikas Unveil Richland SHOP 'n SAVE Bringing Fresh Vision and Local Commitment

SHOP 'n SAVE, an independently owned and operated grocery chain announced that the Route 8 SHOP 'n SAVE will be operating under a change in ownership and new name. Effective June 22, 2024, the store was named Richland SHOP 'n SAVE, owned and operated by third-generation grocers and cousins, Bradley Zupancic and Kevin Verikas. Zupancic, a 1996 graduate of Hampton High School, is excited to continue his family's legacy and serve the community where he was raised. "We are proud to be locally owned and operated, and we've been blessed with the opportunity to work alongside our friends and neighbors," said Zupancic. "Kevin and I were both introduced to the grocery industry at a young age by our Grandfather who taught us the value of hard work and customer service. My father later mentored us by showing us what it takes to run a business and treat employees right while Kevin's mother taught us the importance of paperwork and office administration." Under their ownership, the Richland SHOP 'n SAVE will offer an expanded grocery selection, frozen food and dairy departments, a hot-foods section, a meat department complete with professional butchers, a full-service deli and seafood department and in-house bakery. The store will carry a wide selection of natural and organic products, gluten-free options, national brands and Essential Everyday and

Wild Harvest private label offerings. Additionally, the new owners are dedicated to supporting local producers by stocking as many local products as possible including items from local restaurants, farms, bakeries and more. "Our family's unofficial mantra has long been a quote from my father and reflects our business philosophy: "Everyone has to eat. They don't have to buy it from us, but at least we're in the right game. If you treat your customers right and you treat your employees right, both will come back," said Zupancic.

The Richland SHOP 'n SAVE will continue to provide customers with countless opportunities for convenience and savings. Through the SHOP 'n SAVE Perks Card program, participants will receive personalized discounts and Pump Perks redeemable at over 140 participating Sunoco gas locations. Shoppers can download SHOP 'n SAVE mobile app to check their Pump Perks balance, download digital coupons, view weekly ads, order groceries through Instacart, search for recipes and more.

A grand opening celebration is being planned and details will be announced soon. The community is invited to come and experience the newly owned Richland SHOP 'n SAVE, where familiar faces and fresh new products await. The former owners, the Mihelic family, would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the community for their wonderful years of support and patronage. The Mihelic family will continue their operations in Pines Plaza, Rochester Rd. and Glenshaw. The Richland SHOP 'n SAVE is located at 5375 William Flinn Hwy., Gibsonia, Pa., and will be open daily from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. For information on the location and job opportunities, visit www.shopsnavefood.com. *advertorial*



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Inspired Women Paying it Forward

A Garden Party on Thursday, July 11th will present the quarterly meeting for this Philanthropic networking event accepting Global Nominations of Non-profits benefiting women and girls. For only a \$100 donation and a \$25.00 food and beverage fee you can join this lovely summer party with great purpose. Marching toward one million dollars collectively donated to local and global charities. Check out any of the 7 locations meeting in July. To RSVP call Debra at 724-935-6100 or more details at www.InspiredWomen.com



Cajoli Closing Hartwood Towne Centre Location

After 29 years in business and 18 years at Hartwood Towne Centre (Allison Park/Fox Chapel area), Cajoli, a women's boutique and gift store, is closing the doors on this location when its lease is up at the end of July 2024. The last day will be Weds. July 24 - SALE begins mid -June. All merchandise will be 20 – 80% Off.

Cajoli first opened in 1995 in Aspinwall on First Street. In 2000, the boutique moved to Ellsworth Ave. in Shadyside and then moved to its current location in 2006.

Owner Lisa Gloninger says "It has been a wonderful ride." Her customers, many of whom became close friends, have supported her business for all these years. Unfortunately, re-

tail has changed, especially in this area. Lisa is re-locating and re-inventing the business in the Strip District. The new store, NOW, will be a more concise version of Cajoli featuring clothing, accessories and home goods. Please keep your ears and eyes open for more information.

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Rep. Arvind Venkat

30th District
Allegheny County

Life-saving Resources and Proper Health Care Reimbursement

A Franklin Park mother and father lost their daughter to an opioid overdose, but they have turned their tragedy into advocacy through the establishment of the Stop the Judgment Project, an initiative focused on removing the stigma of addiction and providing resources to help stem the tide of this public health crisis.

Their story is a major driving factor for H.B. 1783, my legislation that would require Pennsylvania’s Department of Health to develop and distribute posters in public and private settings

detailing the signs of an opioid-related overdose, the steps to respond, how to locate an agent that reverses opioid effects, and additional resources. The bill would also authorize the creation of a Lifetime Recovery from Substance Use Grant Program under the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs to assist in the development, expansion, or improvement of recovery support services delivery statewide.

The bill passed the House 187-14 and moves a step closer to not only becoming law, but also saving countless lives and empowering Pennsylvanians in the prevention of future opioid overdoses.

Additionally, H.B. 1867, my legislation that would allow health care providers to choose the insurance reimbursement option that best suits to their needs for services rendered, also moved to the Senate for consideration. Hard-working doctors, nurses and other health professionals deserve full compensation for the care they provide day in and day out.

For more information about legislation I’ve introduced and additional questions you have, please call my office at **412-348-8028** or email me at RepVenkat@pahouse.net. My staff and I are always available to address your concerns.



State Senator LINDSEY M. WILLIAMS

38th Senatorial District



Thanks to the recent All in Allegheny Community Survey, we’re able to put local data to something that labor advocates been talking about for years: the importance of access to affordable childcare and pre-K programs. This survey was the largest, most diverse, and most inclusive community engagement survey ever conducted in the County. And across all ages, races, genders, and income levels, access to affordable childcare was named as one of the biggest workforce and youth development issues facing Allegheny County residents. Childcare and childcare workers are the backbone of our economy. They allow every other working family to be able to go to work, confident that their children are safe and secure while getting a head start on their education. Childcare jobs are not easy, and they are incredibly important. Their pay

should reflect that.

But right now, childcare workers’ wages are not reflecting how much we need them. When you add these low wages to the ongoing teacher shortage, you get the resulting childcare shortages that we see across Allegheny County and the state. That’s why we need to work to prioritize funding to help the early learning sector attract and retain workforce.

As the Minority Chair of the Education Committee, I’ve been working on legislation and other programs that will help grow our teacher pipeline and get more caring adults into all of our school buildings, including early learning centers. I’m also advocating for an additional \$284 million in new and recurring state funding in this year’s budget to implement a childcare teacher recruitment and retention initiative. I’m also advocating to increase childcare subsidy rates to the 75th percentile of the current price that families pay.

The bottom line is that childcare is a huge issue for working families, no matter where you live, and I’m dedicated to ensuring that every family has access to quality, affordable childcare. If you’d like to read more about the results of the All In Allegheny survey, you can view them at www.alleghenyforall.com.



State Representative Rob Mercuri

28th Legislative District of Pennsylvania



Summer is well underway in Western Pennsylvania; I hope our students and teachers are enjoying their well-deserved break. It is hard to imagine, but as you are reading this, we are already halfway through 2024. It has already been quite the year. From our student athletes shining, to events across the district, I wanted to take the chance to highlight all the good things happening in the 28th Legislative District.

Our student athletes represented their schools and our community with the utmost class and respect for their sports. I was thrilled to be able to host several local high school teams and individuals in Harrisburg at the state Capitol to recognize their accomplishments. Our students represent our future, I am grateful for the opportunity to work with our young people and show them our Commonwealth’s Capitol.

I am very fortunate to have been able to host two Hampton sports teams this spring. Hampton’s girls’ volleyball team and boys’ cross-country team were recognized in the House chamber. The boys won the state title, while the girls placed second. I want to extend my congratulations to all our student athletes on their successes.

I am beyond grateful to serve our community. I am proud to have hosted a variety of events to help constituents in the first half of the year. At a recent shredding event, my office and I were able to see 28 bins worth of paper, at about 200 pounds per bin, get recycled to protect constituents from identity theft and malicious activity. I look forward to more events this fall to support and help citizens across our area.

As we turn to the second half of the year, I hope we are renewed with a new sense of civility as we continue to improve our community together.



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