

# FREE The Hampton News

June 2024

From the Neighborhoods of Hampton Township, PA

Vol. 19 No. 11

## And They're Off! To The Kentucky Derby

by Mary-Theresa Watson

Every year, HHS Band Director Chad Himmler and his team of fellow teachers and parent volunteers lead the high school's marching band students on a trip to participate in a parade and explore the region. For just the second time in HHS marching band history, this year's group

boarded buses bound for Louisville, Kentucky, to march in the Pegasus Parade, the cornerstone event of the Kentucky Derby Festival. The parade was held on Sunday, April 28, with the theme of *Celebrating Derby 150*.

In selecting parades to consider for

the annual trips, Chad and his team take great care to avoid conflicts with events such as the spring musical, prom, AP testing, Keystone testing, the Gene Kelly Awards, and color guard competitions. They also search for opportunities that

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Photo by Joe Suyama



## Quartet Soars to Champs

by Stephanie Rizzo

Hampton Township is celebrating the success of one of its own, Allison Hengelsberg, whose a cappella quartet, Daybreak, recently clinched the top spot at the Great Lakes Harmony Regional quartet competition over the weekend of May 10<sup>th</sup> in Cleveland, Ohio.

Their outstanding performance earned them the highest score ever achieved by a regional quartet. This scored the group a

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## Blue Light Police Week

by Jenn Edmonds

The idea started with changing the bulb on a lamppost. It quickly became a symbol of the Hampton community coming together to honor and remember Sgt. Robert Kirsopp for his 25 years of dedicated service to Hampton Township. National Police Week was May 12-18<sup>th</sup> so it was a perfect time to light up Hampton in blue.

Hampton resident Kim Stern's husband, Sgt. Mike Stern, works for the West View Police

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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 4/21/2024—5/10/2024:

### SCAM

On May 10, HTP were notified of a "CATFISHING" type scam. A resident reported that he decided to purchase a vehicle that he found on Facebook Marketplace, and he messaged the seller who requested a deposit of \$150.00 to come see the vehicle. After sending the deposit via Chime he went to the address provided and the people who lived there were not selling any vehicles.

The resident was advised to contact CHIME and try to retrieve his \$150. It was explained that the suspects did not use their true names and how "CATFISHING" scams work.

### DUI ARREST

On May 5, a HTP officer was dispatched to the area of Ferguson Road and Wyland Avenue for a report of a single vehicle accident with unknown injuries. The officer arrived on scene and located a single vehicle off the roadway of Ferguson Road against a guardrail and tree. Contact was made with the operator who denied injury. While speaking with the operator outside of the vehicle, the officer smelled the odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the operator's person. Based on the field sobriety tests the operator

was placed under arrest for suspicion of DUI. The vehicle was towed by Leo's Towing.

### VEHICLE ACCIDENT

On April 1, HTP were dispatched to the intersection of Route 8 and Craighead Road, for a vehicle accident. Upon arrival, a rear end collision was observed. The accident was said to have happened when Unit 1 was traveling behind Unit 2 northbound on Route 8 and Unit 2 stopped to turn left onto Craighead Road. Unit 1 stated that when both vehicles were in transit, another vehicle in front of him switched into the right lane. At that time, he saw Unit 2 waiting to turn left onto Craighead Road and was unable to stop in time and crashed into Unit 2. Shaler Hampton EMS was on scene and evaluated one driver. Hampton Fire units arrived on the scene and cleaned up the MS4 portion of this accident. Both vehicles were towed to Zang's Towing.

On April 28, HTP were dispatched to the intersection of Cedar Ridge Rd. and Middle Rd. for the report of an accident involving a motorcycle. Upon arrival, contact was made with both occupants of the motorcycle and confirmed that the female passenger was injured. The motorcycle operator stated that he was travelling north on Middle Rd and as he made the right hand turn onto Cedar Ridge

*(Continued on page 11)*



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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 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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

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**Proofreading:** Deb Brady  
**Writers:** Mary-Theresa Watson, Jenn Edmonds, and Steph Rizzo

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## HHS Band

(Continued from page 1)

have not been offered for at least three years, and, once they've created a list of possibilities, Chad completes applications and sends audition videos of the band's most recent field shows and parade performances. In assessing possible parades for 2024, the team identified the Pegasus Parade as the ideal location for this year, confident that the students would find the itinerary enjoyable.

Stretching for 17 blocks down a spectator-lined street in the heart of Louisville, the parade stepped off under sunny skies, ushering in Derby Week to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> Run for the Roses. "The audience was very large and enthusiastic, which was very nice," Chad reports. "The Pegasus Parade is a little longer than most parades," he continues, "with a length of 1.7 miles plus the distance in the staging area; when it was over, we had marched about 2.3 miles after playing our parade song 27 times. This parade," he adds, applauding the perseverance of his students, "included many notable people involved in the Kentucky Derby in addition to floats and some stand-still celebrity performances; consequently, it was a long parade. Combine that with the 84-degree temperature, and it was definitely a test of endurance."

In addition to the parade, the students enjoyed a range of other activities while on the trip, including attending a performance of the musical "Six" in Cincinnati as well as a day at Kings Island amusement park. They also visited the Churchill Downs museum and were able to see the racetrack from the front row of seats.

A particular highlight from the trip occurred on the first day, when the group stopped for lunch. Chad shares, "The students enjoyed a surprise flash mob performance from an Ohio State University pep band prior to lunch on our first day. Michael

Bacasa, a 2022 Hampton graduate and current member of the OSU marching band, put together a group of about 25 band members to surprise our students. In fact," he adds, "the lunch at Ohio State was received so well, we've decided to stop at Notre Dame next year for dinner as we travel to Chicago for the St. Patrick's Day parade."

As the school year winds down and the marching season officially comes to a close, Chad is quite pleased to have experienced his second trip to the Pegasus Parade with this particular group: "We had 123 students out of 139 who chose to participate on the trip," he reports, "and they did a great job both in and out of performance. They conducted themselves well and represented Hampton High School with aplomb, and," he adds with pride, "they were a pleasure to travel with."



Band photos by Joe Suyama—see more photos at [www.thehamptonnews.com](http://www.thehamptonnews.com)

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## Library News



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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! Our Summer Reading Program begins with signups starting June 1<sup>st</sup> and ends Saturday, August 10, 2024.

**Children** ages birth-12 are invited to register for the **in-person** program at the library starting June 1, 2024. Take home your swag bag & start reading to earn raffle tickets. Return each week for raffle tickets for a chance to win one of our awesome prizes!

**Youth and Adults** ages 13 and up can participate in the summer reading challenge too. Read books, get raffle tickets, win prizes--it's that simple! Register at the library starting June 1, 2024.

Check out our programs to keep you busy all summer long!

#### ***Please note:***

***There will be no Children's Programs 4<sup>th</sup> of July Week!***

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Storytime!**

**Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> @ 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" story time filled with stories, rhymes and songs! Geared to ages 3 and up, but all are welcome!

#### **Pigeons Under Cover – Heroes of the World!**

**Thurs., June 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. and Sat., June 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am**

Join us as learn about how pigeons can find their way home from great distances and places that they have never been before. We will learn how pigeons were used during the world wars and helped saved thousands of lives! This unique program is an introduction to the Pigeon Heroes Summer Camp that will be offered by retired school teacher Ken Haselrig of Dovecote Missions. Children going into 3<sup>rd</sup> grade through middle school are welcome to attend. Registration Appreciated.

#### **Olaf's Summer Party!**

**Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30 p.m. -2:30 p.m.**

Join us for fun and games as we celebrate Olaf's favorite time: SUMMER! Registration Required, Ages 4-8.

#### **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.

**June 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>: Dungeons and Dragons.**

#### **Check Mate! A Summer Chess Club!**

**Mons, June 17<sup>th</sup> through Aug. 5<sup>th</sup> @ 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, starting June 11<sup>th</sup> through August 6<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 a.m.**

**Thursdays, starting June 13<sup>th</sup> through August 8<sup>th</sup> @ 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.

#### **Party at the Pavilion! Stories and Play Time!**

**Tuesdays, starting June 18<sup>th</sup> through August 6<sup>th</sup>. @ 11:30 a.m.**

**Thursdays, starting June 20<sup>th</sup> through August 8<sup>th</sup> @ 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 story time 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, June 14<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.**

**Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> @ 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, June 17<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

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

This is the day for you. If you are a seasoned scrapbooker looking for like-minded friends, come join us for a morning of scrapbooking! 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 16<sup>th</sup> @ 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!

#### **Cooks-n-Books Potluck Picnic!**

**Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.**

We have spent a year baking, sautéing, burning, and tasting some yummy recipes! Now it's time to create your own favor-

*(Continued on page 5)*



## Library

(Continued from page 4)

ite dish and bring it to share! Get together with old friends or come out and make new ones! The picnic will be held outside at the Rotary Pavilion at Hampton Community Park (this is the pavilion closest to the police station/municipal building/soccer fields).

## 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!

**June 19<sup>th</sup>: *Strange Sally Diamond*, by Liz Nugent**

**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!

**June 21<sup>st</sup>: *Mad Honey*, by Jodi Picoult**

## Summer Hours!

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

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

**Tuesday and Thursday:** 9:30 a.m. -7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday:** 11:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. \*starting June 12<sup>th</sup>!

**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 4<sup>th</sup> of July Week!***

*The Library will be closed:*

*Community Day/4<sup>th</sup> of July: Wed., July 3<sup>rd</sup> – Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup>.*

*Labor Day Weekend: Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup> – Monday, Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>.*



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## Middle School Students Go for a Ride in *Phantom Tollbooth*

Aquinas Academy of Pittsburgh middle school students performed *Phantom Tollbooth*, a play by Susan Nanus, closely based on the book of the same name by Norton Juster. The cast of sixty-one students performed the evenings of March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Rhodora J. Donahue Multipurpose Building on the campus of Aquinas Academy.

*The Phantom Tollbooth* marks director Mike Flynn's thirty-ninth drama production since joining Aquinas Academy in 2003. *The Phantom Tollbooth* presents the adventure of Milo (8<sup>th</sup>, Annette Bentivegna), a bored child, who is led by Tock (8<sup>th</sup>, Sam Ennis), a clock wearing dog, and the vain Humbug (8<sup>th</sup>, Sarah Hoerster) to the Kingdom of Wisdom to rescue the princesses Rhyme and Reason.

Flynn's production team included both students and teachers: Felicity Koble (10<sup>th</sup>, Accompanist, Musical Director, and Sound Effects); Benjamin Stalder (alum '22, Music Consultant); Grace Mlecko and Noemi Labate (8<sup>th</sup>, Stage Manager/Sound); Alaina McWilliams, Anna Ravotti, and River Knox (7<sup>th</sup> grade, Lights); Lara Hainan (10<sup>th</sup>, Head of Stage Crew); Caitlyn Abbett (10<sup>th</sup>), Leah Anthony (10<sup>th</sup>), Genevieve Mercer (6<sup>th</sup>), Kian Miller (8<sup>th</sup>), Marek Paull (6<sup>th</sup>), and Aurora Predis (9<sup>th</sup>) (Stage Crew); Brady Buchanan and Jenny Fetchko (Art Teachers, Set Design, Construction, and Painting); Rosemary Meland (Religion Teacher, Costumes), Julia Meland (alum '23, Costumes), and Nadine Hokaj (11<sup>th</sup>, Costumes); Juliana Gruber (7<sup>th</sup>) and Aurora Predis (9<sup>th</sup>) (Hair Styling).



L to R: Maggie Koenig (Spelling Bee), Hadley Rouse (Merchant #2), Sarah Hoerster (Humbug), River Knox (Officer Shrift), Teresa Ravotti (Merchant #3)



Gabriela Keverline (1/2 Child)



Sam Ennis (Tock)



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## Quartet

(Continued from page 1)

spot in the international competition slated for the fall of 2024 in Kansas City, MO. Daybreak is affiliated with Sweet Adelines International, the world's largest women's singing organization, boasting almost 30,000 members globally.

In their latest competition, Daybreak performed "Let's Do It, Let's Fall in Love" by Cole Porter, which the group noted as their favorite to perform as they've personalized the lyrics to great acclaim. They also performed "When You Look in the Heart of a Rose" by Florence Methven this weekend. Day-

break has a diverse repertoire spanning multiple genres; Ed Sheeran's "Thinking Out Loud" is another one of their favorites to perform.

With a 29-year tenure as a Sweet Adeline, Hengelsberg has sung in various quartets over the years, but Daybreak has been her musical home since September 2022. The group has a vibrant presence on Facebook, where fans can follow their journey and performances.

The quartet's members hail from Pittsburgh, specifically Mars, Zelienople, Ambridge and Allison Park. Three of four members are also part of the Greater Harmony Chorus, Pittsburgh's premier women's barbershop chorus.

Hengelsberg has deep roots in the Hampton community. It's where she grew up and met her husband, Michael. The couple's love story is intertwined with their shared passion for music. They met in the Hampton High School marching band, where their mutual love for music blossomed into a love for each other. Michael graduated in 1988 and Allison in 1990. Today, Michael is more than a supportive spouse; he coaches the quartet, contributing to their harmonious success.

As Daybreak prepares for the international stage, they carry the support and best wishes from the Hampton community!



Nancy Conway, Allison Hengelsberg, Sara Clevenger and Margie Manuel



Allison and Michael Hengelsberg

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20328 R4-23

## 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 Cerveris 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.

## Police Week

(Continued from page 1)

Department and served on the North Hills SRT (Special Response Team) with Kirsopp for nine years. Kim knew she wanted to do something to help Sgt. Kirsopp's family, but wasn't sure what to do.

Kim approached her CEO of True Cellular Formulas and asked about sponsoring blue light bulbs to benefit the Kirsopp family. The CEO readily agreed and donated 1,000 blue light bulbs. Local businesses Wagner's Market, Hampton Beer Outlet, and Williams Wesco all graciously agreed to be light bulb pick up locations and \$4,277 was raised by the community to be given to the Kirsopp family from generous free-will donations.

"On behalf of True Cellular Formulas and myself, I want to sincerely express my gratitude to the community members of Hampton Township for participating in 'Light Up Hampton Township.' Your support for Sergeant Robert Kirsopp, his

family, and National Police Week is truly appreciated," said Kim, the Director of Operations for True Cellular Formulas.

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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
2197 South Villa	\$1,125,000	\$1,100,000	192
4406 S Meadow Drive	\$925,000	\$950,000	33
4072 Letort Lane	\$699,900	\$699,900	3
2706 Marra Drive Unit #1A	\$627,990	\$617,990	116
4406 Birchwood Lane	\$620,000	\$550,000	52
4113 Lee Manor	\$412,000	\$410,000	45
2532 Red Oak Court	\$409,900	\$400,000	6
3191 Meadowridge Court	\$385,000	\$390,000	26
4009 Tall Timber Drive	\$325,000	\$375,000	3
3956 Auld Avenue	\$399,900	\$370,000	67
4953 Field Acres Drive	\$350,000	\$345,000	13
5097 Lakeview Drive	\$325,000	\$325,000	11
2866 Grandview Drive	\$329,000	\$320,000	16
4284-4286 Sample Court	\$285,000	\$311,000	1
2374 Duncan Avenue	\$289,000	\$305,000	13
2936 E Hardies Road	\$297,000	\$290,000	46
5141 Polo Fields Drive	\$299,900	\$285,000	105
3077 Meadow Brook Court	\$229,900	\$225,000	42
2105 Duncan Avenue	\$225,000	\$221,000	14
3143 E Hardies Road	\$224,900	\$190,000	38
4043 Old Route 8	\$165,000	\$150,000	105

## TIP OF THE MONTH:

Pest-proofing your home indoors and out is important not only for your health and happiness, but also to prevent lasting damage to your home. From day-ruining insects like a backyard bog of mosquitoes to a hive of hornets, unwanted rodents or termites gnawing through your floors and walls, preventing them from sharing your home will be an expense well-worth budgeting for.

Schedule professional pest maintenance or an exterminator to evaluate potential pest problems and prevent future ones.

Check for leaky pipes or stagnant water around your home.

Fence maintenance: Fix any holes or loose nails; paint or stain if necessary to prevent weathering.

Driveway maintenance: Fill holes or cracks in concrete.

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## Band Proud to Play Anthem at PNC Park

The force was with the Hampton Middle School Band as they performed the National Anthem to a crowd of 24,149 before the "May the 4<sup>th</sup> Be With You" Pirates vs. Rockies game at PNC Park. The band arrived on the field to the Star Wars theme and were passed by Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia, Darth Vader, Chewbacca and Darth Maul. The 180 students had their turn on the Jumbotron as they made Hampton proud playing the Star-Spangled Banner. After their performance, the students had a fun but rainy afternoon of food and baseball and brought home a 1-0 win. "It was so cool to be out on the field performing and we can't wait to do it again next year," said sixth-grade band member Chloe Edmonds.





## Lady Bulldogs Bring Home Another Championship

The Lady Bulldog Varsity Track and Field team from Blessed Trinity Academy were thrilled to bring home another Diocesan Championship title in the class A division at the final meet of the season on May 11<sup>th</sup> at RMU. Coming off of a big victory last year, the ladies had the intention of repeating their success again this year. Leading the team to their big win included Alana Eiler, who

came in 1<sup>st</sup> in the 100m, 1<sup>st</sup> in the 200m, 1<sup>st</sup> in the long jump, and 7<sup>th</sup> in the 400m, Callie Kandravy, who placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the 100m, 4<sup>th</sup> in the long jump, and 1<sup>st</sup> in the triple jump, Avery Straub, who placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the triple jump, Cayden Ferguson who placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the javelin, and the 4x100 team (Alana, Callie, Cayden Ferguson, and Claire Bandurski) which placed 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Other members of the team included Jillian Jones, Macy Thiel, Morgan Long, Emily Stevens, Alaina Long, and Madelyn Prata.



## Passionately Running Through Retirement

by Jenn Edmonds

Long-time Hampton resident Ron Verdi is running his way into his 70<sup>th</sup> year. Verdi competed in the 2024 Pittsburgh full Marathon, his 35<sup>th</sup>, and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 65-69 age bracket. "Some young kid that was 66 beat me," joked Verdi. His love of running began when he went into the service, the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, where they ran every morning.

Verdi continues to run 3-4 times a week, either at North Park or at the new running trail in Hampton. He completed every Hampton Park survey to get a running trail in Hampton and former Municipal Manager Chris Lochner told him it would be the last thing he did so he didn't have to move it or change it. Lochner delivered on his promise.

"I'm excited about October, when I turn 70, to run on

the week of my birthday," said Verdi. He will run the marathon in Emerald Isle, NC or in Nashville, TN and will be able to say he ran marathons in four decades; his 40's, 50's, 60's and 70's. "It has a lot to do with attitude. It's good for the mind, the body and the soul," said Verdi. He typically clocks 35 miles a week but when marathon training, he runs about 50 miles a week. "I listen to my body and just put one foot in front of the other."



Verdi enjoys running with his running group, City of Bridges Run Club, and new members are welcome. Interested runners can find them online at <https://www.cityofbridgesrunclub.com> or on Facebook. When asked his favorite part of running, he said it is all of the great people he has met over the years. Verdi has been running with some friends for 20 years, spent time running with his son when he was younger, and completed the Niagara Falls marathon with his daughter where they started in the US and ran over the border to Canada.

Verdi is retired from the Post Office and works 4 hours a night at the North Branch of CCAC. He loves spending time with his family; his wife Cindy, son Brian, daughter-in-law Katie, granddaughters Sylvia and Hazel, daughter and son-in law Lisa and Ryan McHugh, and his granddaughter Eleanor, who all live in Hampton.

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## Where Are They Now?

### 2017 Grad Making a Mark on the Local Music Scene

by Mary-Theresa Watson

In 2010, when then-fifth grader Ann Hodos took to the stage for the first time in the Wyland Elementary talent show, she revealed a secret: she could sing! Fast forward to today, and the 2017 HHS alum is the lead singer of the band The Altered Egos, a group that's quickly gaining a following in the region as they regularly play venues like The Hard Rock Cafe and Jerge's. The lead guitarist and founder of the band just so happens to be Ann's dad, Eric, a former financial executive who left corporate America to explore entrepreneurial dreams; aside from the band, Eric is opening a coffee shop and he recently published the first in a series of children's books titled *The Evening Before the Morning of the Kitty Kat Parade*. Together, Ann and Eric are a literal dynamic duo who chase their dreams with fierce determination.



Ann's music aspirations began as a youngster when she took piano lessons and, soon after that, voice lessons. The joy she found in singing led Ann to explore opportunities for performing, beginning with the stages in Hampton's schools. She credits the district's music and theatre departments with supporting her love of music, both vocal and instrumental.

Ann explains, "I was in band all through elementary, middle, and high school, playing the clarinet and bass clarinet. I started voice lessons and realized singing is really fun. Of all the performance opportunities I found in school," she continues, "the talent shows had a huge impact on me. These experiences helped give me the courage to get up on stage."

In addition to the talent shows, Ann performed in every school musical from middle school through high school, with the single exception of her freshman year when she worked with the make-up crew.

"The musicals really helped me a lot," Ann shares, "because they taught me that you just have to keep going, no matter what. And sometimes," she adds with a laugh, "there were moments on stage when things got messed up and we had to pretend like

nothing happened. It was all just so much fun!"

For now, Ann feels immensely grateful, explaining, "I realize this is not something a lot of people get to do: first, to be in a band, and second, to be in a band with your dad. I'd love someday to play at the July 3<sup>rd</sup> celebration at Hampton Community Park—to go back to my old high school and play there, or even Hartwood Acres? I would love to do that! It's a little dream of mine, I guess," she continues, "to go back to my roots. You know, you grow up in these places and you always imagine yourself on those stages, and when it becomes within your grasp, it's fun to think about."

As for now, The Altered Egos have a packed schedule of shows, and they recently completed work with Sunset Place Recording Studio on their first album of original songs. Available on all of the major music streaming services, the album will also be celebrated at a vinyl-release party at Hard Rock Cafe on August 30<sup>th</sup>.

To find out more about The Altered Egos, including their concert schedule and ticket information, visit

[www.thealterdegos.com](http://www.thealterdegos.com). For information on Eric's book, which celebrates animal rescue, search for Eric Hodos at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

### Police Log

(Continued from page 2)

Rd. the bike hit gravel that was all over the roadway causing him to lose control. Shaler Hampton EMS arrived on scene and transported the passenger to the hospital for further treatment. Hampton Fire 329 arrived on scene and assisted with traffic control. ACES notified Allegheny County DPW for the gravel in the intersection of Middle Rd. and Cedar Ridge Rd. Hampton officers cleared off as much gravel as possible prior to clearing the scene.

end

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## Hampton Senior Recognized For Outstanding Work at Career Center

by Shawn Annarelli

Hampton High School senior Eden Mattiuz was named the Senior of the Year in A.W. Beattie's Surgical Sciences program. "I feel honored to be recognized as the Surgical Sciences Senior of the Year!" Eden said. "I have worked so hard throughout my three years here and plan to continue my hard work at Carlow. Being recognized for my hard work is an accomplishment I will never forget!"



Eden plans to attend Carlow University to become a Surgical Technologist while also working for UPMC. Carlow University offers a work-flex program that will allow her to work for UPMC, attend school with a full scholarship and be paid full-time with benefits. She also plans to continue her education to become a Surgical First Assistant.

"The opportunity Carlow offers is too good to pass up," Eden said. "I can pursue what I want to do and be debt free." Eden is a third-year student in A.W. Beattie's Surgical Sciences program. "When I think of Beattie, I think of the relationships you build," Eden said. "I think of my relationship with my instructor Mrs. Olszewski, the Dental instructor Mrs. Gibson, and Mr. Thayer, and so many instructors and staff who I've built relationships with because they are great teach-

ers. I also think about all of the opportunities I've had because of Beattie like touring hospitals and different colleges and going to conferences and lectures with my instructor."

Vincenzina Olszewski, A.W. Beattie's Surgical Sciences instructor, recalled meeting Eden four years ago when they discussed Eden's goal of becoming a Surgical Technologist. Eden was drawn to the Surgical Sciences program and the vision for it - an academic foundation for students wanting to pursue a career pathway in the surgical field coupled with lifelike, hands-on experiences that simulate procedures in an operating room. "Eden has worked in this program with a tenacity and focus well beyond her years," Mrs. Olszewski said. "She is hungry for knowledge and is an advocate for herself and her education, which has started her on a journey that will make her aspirations a reality. Eden has a passion for our field, and I have no doubt that she will continue to excel through post-secondary education, as well as her future career in the operating room. I am proud to call her a graduate, and I am eager to see the impact she makes on her peers, patients, and the surgical community. I have no doubt it will reflect her dedication and hard work."

Eden said graduating from high school will be bittersweet because she will miss Mrs. Olszewski. "I've loved Surgical Sciences so much because of her and how much she prepares us for life after high school," Eden said. "I've learned from my friends in college how much being in this program has helped them in post-secondary education and a lot of that is because of Mrs. Olszewski being a great teacher and mentor to us."

# 2024

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### SIXTH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

**DATE:** Monday, June 10, 2024

**REGISTRATION:** 7:30am - 8:45am

**TEE OFF:** 9:00 AM Shotgun Start

**PLACE:** Pittsburgh National Golf Club

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**DINNER:** Immediately Following Golf

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## Hampton Township Rotary Club

Congratulations to the 2024 Hampton Township Rotary Club Scholarship Winners! The Rotary Club awarded five students scholarship money towards their continuing education after Hampton High School. These students were chosen for their scholastic and civic accomplishments during their high school years.



Left to right: Sarah Shook, Josue Clark-Espinosa, Ellieana Myros, Taylor Frankel, and Tiffany Habib

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## Kernick and Vasko Awarded Prestigious Honor

Hampton Rotary Club members Rock Kernick and Larry Vasko received a Paul Harris Fellowship (PHF) Award during a Rotary Club meeting in May. This is the first award for Rock and Larry's 5<sup>th</sup> time receiving the PHF. The PHF is the highest honor that a Rotarian can bestow on an individual.

If you are interested in becoming a member or have questions on becoming a member of Hampton Rotary Club, contact President Tom Baker at 412-608-8842. You can help make a difference!



Left: Larry Vasko with President Tom Baker  
Right: Rock Kernick with Tom Baker

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## Current Events

**2024 Farmer's Market**— Every Wednesday starting on June 5<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> (except July 3<sup>rd</sup>)

The opening day of the Farmer's Market is Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, from 3 - 7 pm in the Community Center Lot.

The list of vendors has grown: Mazzotta Winery, Russelton Bee Works, Gabriel's Gardens, Carlos Aviles Farms, Hugh's Heirloom Herbs & Sew Cute, Pittsburgh Artisanal Soap Company, Bloomview Farm, Syrian Aroma Mediterranean Cuisine, Modish Makes, Biscuit Bites, The Greengrowers, Pittsburgh Pastures, Sips Mobile Bar, Travelin' Tom's Coffee Truck, Shivers Shaved Ice, and Renewal by Andersen. For more updates and details on how you can apply for a vendor's application, visit:

<https://www.hampton-pa.org/316/Farmers-Market>

### Evening Swim at the Outdoor Pool

Saturday June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7:30 pm - 10:00 pm.

All past and present township employees will receive discounted admission at the pool gates.

### Summer Discount Park Tickets

In partnership with the PA Recreation & Park Society, the Township of Hampton will be offering discounted theme park tickets this summer season!

Save time and money by purchasing your tickets to local attractions at the Hampton Community Center, for 2024! Tickets are available for Idlewild & Soak Zone, Kennywood and Sandcastle.

Tickets are available now through early September and may be purchased at the Community Center Service Desk on a first-paid basis and while supplies last.

All tickets must be used during the current season! Prices are the same for both residents and non-residents.

Kennywood	\$42 per person, age 4 and over
Idlewild & Soak Zone	\$40 per person, age 3 and over
Sandcastle	\$35 per person, age 4 and over

Payment may be made with either exact cash, check, or credit card (Visa, Mastercard, Discover).

Credit card convenience fees of 3% will be added to the total of the ticket (s) purchased.

No refunds or exchanges. All sales are final.

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### Pints in the Park - Friday June 28<sup>th</sup>

Event is from 5 - 9 pm in the Community Center Lot. Below are the potential vendors and entertainment for that evening, though more might be added.

*Vendors - Strange Roots Experimental Ales / Pittsburgh Smokehouse / Pita My Shawarma / PGH Crepes / Kona Ice*

*Live Music - The Felt Like*

*Kids Activities - O'Ryan the Omazing / Face Painting*

### Organ Recital

Hampton Presbyterian Church is thrilled to host a Summer Organ Recital showcasing some of our local musical talent on the King of the Instruments. The recitals will be on Sunday morning at 10:00 am between the two worship services. The public is encouraged to come! The program will highlight works from the organ masters and contemporary composers. Any child who has a fascination with the talent and skill of amazing people will find these organ concerts worth their time. Any adult who appreciates the splendor of music's complexity and beauty will want to come.

The concerts are free! Four local organists will play seven concerts through the summer from 10:00 am until 10:25 am on June 9, 16, 23; July 7, 14; August 11, 18. Come and discover the majesty of the organ under the capable musicianship of Phil Graebing, Calista Brunett, Derek Wright and Bob Kardasz.

Call the church office for more details (724-443-3201) or visit our website: [www.hamptonpresbyterian.net](http://www.hamptonpresbyterian.net)

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## The Depreciation Lands Museum

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### Adventures in Pioneer Living at Depreciation Lands Museum: June 17<sup>th</sup>- 21<sup>st</sup>

A camp for children who enjoy the slower pace of an 18<sup>th</sup> century lifestyle, making by hand the necessities of life, and learning about how our forebears lived here at the Depreciation Lands. For children 8-12 years. Children must be 8 years old prior to the start of camp.

Registration is required for this event. Please visit [dlmuseum.org](http://dlmuseum.org) for more information.

#### Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Roundtable

*"The Battle of Cedar Mountain" presented by Chris Bryan*

Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. Hampton Township Community Center, 3101 McCully Road, Allison Park. Presentation is free and open to the public.

Advertise Your Business in The Hampton News

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## Upcoming Events

### Hampton Community Day at the Community Park

Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

Park opens at 7am and closes at 11pm.

\*no overnight occupancy in the park\*

11am—4pm—Outdoor Pool Open

(fees: \$3 resident / \$7 non-resident)

4pm—community booths, food vendors, inflatable attractions and live music will be located on the soccer field.

4pm-6pm—No Bad Juju

7pm-9:30pm—Sail On (The Beach Boys Tribute band)

Approximately 9:40pm—Fireworks!

### Military Appreciation Day at the outdoor pool

On Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, All active, retired military personnel and Veterans receive FREE pool admission. Pool opens at 11am-7pm. (regular rates apply).

### Firecracker 5K Hosted by Hampton Rotary

Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup>—Sign up on [www.thehamptonnews.com](http://www.thehamptonnews.com).

### Christmas in July at the outdoor pool

Wednesday, July 24<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

### Pool Member Appreciation Day

Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

### Movie Night at the outdoor pool

Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:45 p.m. (after Pints In The Park)



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## Help Wanted

### Facility Manager Staff

The Township of Hampton Department of Community Services is accepting applications for Part-time Facility Manager staff.

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

Will be assigned to work a rotating shift schedule which includes weekends, certain holidays, and school breaks. Work shifts may extend beyond operating hours as needed. Duties include but not limited to: overall facility supervision, rental host, rental set-up/tear-down, light custodial duties, service desk operation, and administrative paperwork. Abilities: interpersonal communication, computer skills a must, follow written / verbal guidelines, pass drug test, secure/submit required background clearances. Seeking a mature, dependable, industrious, and responsible team member. Must be 18 years or older. Progressive hourly pay rate – **starting payrate is \$16.00/hour**. Employment applications available at the Community Center or online the Township website.

### Help Wanted—Rental Time—724-444-7200

#### Help Wanted: Hampton Township School District

Part-time cafeteria openings!

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## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Gardens Tour

The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Shaler Garden Club's Great Gardens Tour on Sunday, July 14, 2024, from 11 am to 3 pm. Proceeds from the tour 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. Tickets are also available online at the library's website. Your ticket includes hosted visits to the 5 beautiful gardens and a chance to win a lovely gift basket. The event is held rain or shine. For more information, visit [www.shalergardenclub.com](http://www.shalergardenclub.com) or [www.shalerlibrary.org](http://www.shalerlibrary.org) or call (412) 486-0211 for more information. Shaler Garden Club celebrates 103 years of serving the Shaler Community.

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## CEMETERY PLOTS FOR SALE

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## Rep. Arvind Venkat

30<sup>th</sup> District  
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cial stability of essential health care workers and their families, but patients are also left completely in the dark as to the sudden disappearance of their doctors and are forced into what could turn into a long and arduous process in finding a new physician.

That's why I've collaborated with state Rep. Dan Frankel, majority chair of the [PA House Health Committee](#), on [H.B. 1633](#), which would ban non-competes in Pennsylvania. The bill passed the House 150-50 and now heads to the state Senate for consideration.

As a physician-legislator, I know that non-competes unnecessarily restrict patient access to the clinician of their choice and make our state a less-desirable place

for health professionals to practice. Pennsylvania is also one of only a handful of states without a law on the books to deter non-competes. I call upon the members of the state Senate to do what's best for both health care workers and their patients and move H.B. 1633 a step closer to becoming law.

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](mailto:RepVenkat@pahouse.net).

My staff and I are always available to address your concerns.



## State Senator LINDSEY M. WILLIAMS

38th Senatorial District



Increasingly, I hear from pharmacies (especially our small, local pharmacies) that reimbursements no longer cover what it costs them to purchase drugs, let alone what it costs them to dispense prescriptions to their customers. These challenges mean that pharmacies run the risk of not being able to stay open—and for those independent, local pharmacies that our families have relied on for generations, the risks are even higher.

To help protect our small businesses, I've joined my colleagues Senator Judy Ward and Senator Tina Tartaglione in co-sponsoring Senate Bill 1000, which would regulate

Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs).

SB 1000 would create more oversight for PBMs on a state level in several ways:

- Developing a process for hearing and resolving complaints against PBMs by pharmacies.
- Requiring PBMs to report the amounts of rebates and payments that they receive from drug manufacturers and how they distribute those rebates and payments to pharmacies.
- Limiting or banning practices including patient steering, spread pricing and retroactive recoupment of money paid by the PBM to the pharmacy.

Corporate greed should not stand between Pennsylvanians and their prescriptions. PBMs currently act as an unchecked, unregulated middleman in the pharmaceutical industry. We need to act now before more pharmacies go out of business. Our local pharmacists know their regular patients extremely well and are a key member of their health care team. Supporting these small businesses and protecting these health care relationships is a priority for me.



## State Representative Rob Mercuri

28<sup>th</sup> Legislative District of Pennsylvania



### Rep. Rob Mercuri: Returning Surplus Funds to Taxpayers Promotes Growth & Fiscal Responsibility

Pennsylvania's state Legislature finds itself in a unique situation as we prepare for the annual budget. Led by House Republicans' fiscally responsible approach and the hard working taxpayers across PA, the Commonwealth's Rainy Day Fund and General Fund surplus have grown into a record sum, totaling more than \$12 billion. By the end of the 2023-24 fiscal year, the balance of the Rainy Day fund alone is projected to be at least \$6.4 billion, well over 10% of annual tax revenues.

In moments of surplus, it is often tempting for government officials to come up with new ways to spend and new programs to establish in order to project sense of accomplishment to voters and constituents. However, the flaw in this argument and line of thinking is what often plagues expensive governments – the recurring cost of maintenance for new programs and in efficiency of government in providing goods and services to the public. Rather than allowing offi-

cials to exploit these funds as it so often done, leading to unsustainable, future expenditures, I have introduced legislation to directly refund more of the taxpayers' hard-earned money.

House Bill 2282 would establish the 2024 Taxpayer Dividend Program, which provides a one-time dividend to taxpayers who filed their 2023 Personal Income Tax returns in a timely manner. The dividend would come from a portion of the surplus and could return up to \$1,000 per taxpayer. This initiative can be achieved while protecting the statutory goal of keeping 6% of the General Fund revenues in the Rainy Day Fund to keep fiscal responsibility at the forefront, while supporting taxpayers instead of more inefficient government overhead.

This rebate would go a long way in helping our families combat rising costs on essentials, groceries and gas. Our families know best how to spend their money, and their investment will drive economic growth. This is a significant but responsible action we can take to help our taxpayers and is a win-win for Pennsylvanians. I look forward to working to keep our state budget fiscally responsible and delivering this win for the taxpayers of our Commonwealth.



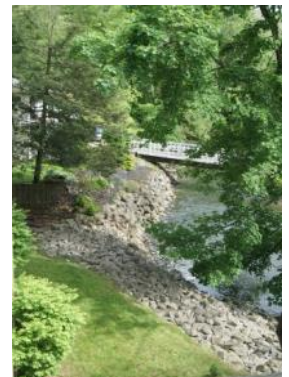


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