

FREE

The Hampton News

March 2022

From the Neighborhoods of Hampton Township, PA

Vol. 17 No. 8

Flowers Brighten Up Residents' Day



Several local florists, which chose to remain anonymous, donated hundreds of flowers to The Village of Hampton Fields retirement home. Residents gathered, making beautiful arrangements used to decorate their home. Left to right: Deloris, Maggie, Louis and Loretta.

More Than a Random Act of Kindness

by Julie Mikus

Giving Away Gowns: Local Couple Provides Hope During Prom Season

The magic of prom season is coming! A rite of passage for students, the dance celebrates friendships and high school memories. However, some families struggle with the resources needed to pay for the expensive event. Gowns, tickets and salon visit costs can reach over \$1,000.

(Continued on page 16)

Students Compete in Art and Writing Competition

by Sandy Giannuzzi

Several Hampton High School students took place in Scholastic's longest running, most prestigious recognition program for creative teens. Teens in grades 7-12 were able to compete both nationally and regionally in 28 categories, including originality, technical skill, and emergence of a personal voice or vision, in art and writing.

There were 13 winning submissions from

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Police Information


The Hampton Township Police Department is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life of our residents and guests by providing the very best in law enforcement services. The twenty-two officers and two civilian clerks take pride in serving the community in a professional and proactive manner. Thank you to the staff for helping to keep our community safe.

A summary of noteworthy incidents that occurred are listed below. These incident statistics included, but WERE NOT LIMITED TO, the following between the dates of 12/9/2021—1/17/2022:


Hazardous Conditions/Tree Down

 On December 28, 2021 at 10:08p.m., Hampton Township police were dispatched to the area of Wildwood Road and Country Lane for a report of a large amount of water causing a hazard on the road. Upon arrival, officers observed a large pool of water covering Wildwood Road across from Country Lane. Officers notified PennDOT and lit flares to alert oncoming drivers of the road hazard. PennDOT responded to the scene to resolve the drainage issue.

 On January 10, 2022 at 9:50a.m., Hampton Township police were dispatched to the area of Anderson Drive and Pine-wood Lane for a report of a low hanging wire. Officers responded to the scene and located the low hanging wire. Officers notified Verizon to respond to the scene.

 On January 17, 2022 at 4:34p.m., Hampton Township police were dispatched to the area of Mount Royal Boulevard and Craighead Road for a report of a tree down. Upon arrival, officers located the tree blocking the northbound lane of Mount Royal Boulevard. The tree was successfully removed and cleared from the roadway.

Traffic Accident

 On January 8, 2022 at 11:07a.m., Hampton Township police were dispatched to the area of Wildwood Road and Bella Vista Drive for a report of single vehicle motor accident. The

(Continued on page 13)

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 are 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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A Place for Great Food and Spirits

The Pine Creek Public House opened in Hampton this past September, and it has been busy ever since. Located at 2412 Ferguson Road, owners Brandon and Danielle Kretzler are excited to bring this restaurant to Hampton.

This fall, the owners added a large garage door to the front of the building, bringing the outside in. Don't worry, if there is a chill in the evening, there are heaters to warm the area. The Pine Creek Public House offers a large selection of local beers and spirits. The food menu has a lot to offer including wings, flatbreads, salads, burgers, handheld sandwiches, and much more. Danielle and Brandon said, "We love being a part of Hampton! The support we have received from the community and surrounding areas has been outstanding and truly appreciated. We are looking forward to the warmer weather so we can open up the garage doors and continue serving our great guests."



Upcoming events include Bar Bingo on March 30 and a Coors Light-Penguins Game night March 31.

Follow the Pine Creek Public House on Facebook and Instagram for upcoming for such as Trivia Night and Sunday brunch. Pine-creekpublichouse.com

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Library News



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March comes in like a lion and out like a lamb! Sometimes winter weather or Covid works against us! Please call the library, check Facebook or the website to make sure we did not have to cancel a program due to Mother Nature!

It's a Wonder-ful World! Drop-in Storytime!
Why do animals hibernate? Where does snow come from? What kind of trees make pinecones? Spring is a wonder filled time! Join us as we fill our mornings with stories, songs and crafts designed to celebrate discovery as we interact with our environment. All ages and abilities welcome! Come early and stay for all the activities or come later and stay for a few; you decide!

Tuesdays and Thursdays Now thru April 7th—10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
10:00am - "Stories & Songs," 10:15am - "Investigate and Create"
10:45am - "Stories and Songs," 11:00am - "Parachute Play"
11:30am - "Stories and Songs," 11:45am - "Stay and Play"

Please note, HCL will stay with its current children's programming mask policy: Tuesdays- masks will be required, Thursdays- masks will be optional.


Fluffy's Storytime! Sundays @ 7pm
Sundays are a good time to relax and wind down from the week-

(Continued on page 6)

Bake Sale/Easter Candy

**Epworth UM Church
1300 Burchfield Road
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Learning Pavilion is Growing

by Gail Scott

Hampton Middle School students are creating a hydroponics system for the Learning Pavilion in the Hampton Middle School where they will be able to grow vegetables. Students in the 8th grade Architecture and Construction course were given a real world problem to solve. Using what they learned in class, 4 groups of students were assigned the task of designing and creating a working hydroponics system that would complement the Learning Pavilion.

Students in the course were given the problem of food scarcity and food deserts. The groups each formed a company and brainstormed to solve the problem of food scarcity using hydroponics. Mr. Glenn Geary and Mr. Sam Flowers teach the STEAM, (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) course and explained that the project began as an idea to include with the new Learning Pavilion in the school lobby. The idea for the Pavilion was inspired by Dr. Marlynn Lux, principal, and her administrative team. There is an area dedicated for the use of hydroponics. Rather than have an outside entity come in and build a system, it was suggested to have the engineering students design and build it to provide an authentic learning experience.



The PA-Ponics winning participants: Peter Alexander, Nathan Connelly, Blake Fiscus, Tony Imbarlina, Avni Mehra, Chad Moore, Isa Moreli, Adam O'Connor, Ethan Phillips, Eli Schwarzbach, and Mario Tedeschi.

The Hampton Alliance for Educational Excellence (HAE) will fund the majority of the project with a grant designated for the project. The four companies formed were: PA-Ponics, Water Warriors Engineering, Flow Engineering, and Three Rivers Engineering. The four groups presented their hydroponics designs before a panel of stakeholders made up of members of the HAE, Chatham University, Hampton Administration, and school instructors in January. Each was given 10 minutes for a live presentation followed by

(Continued on page 15)



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Library

(Continued from page 4)

end. Join Miss Suzy and Fluffy in your pjs and with your favorite bedtime friend for bedtime stories, songs and rhymes. Posted on the Hampton Community Library Facebook on Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Card Club! Wednesdays, Now thru April 6 from 1pm – 3 pm

Join us Wednesday afternoons for a game of Euchre, Bridge, Gin Rummy, etc. Depending on the number of players we will divide up for different card games depending on what the majority decides! Come show your skill, teach someone a new game or just enjoy some time out with friends!

News and Views: The Post-Covid Edition!

Fridays March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3 11:00am–1:00pm

The longtime conversation group led by Journalist Gerry K. Smith will focus on navigating the post- pandemic panic--from health and hearth to world turmoil to the price of gas. Other topic suggestions welcome! New members welcome as well. Join in with

your biggest gripe or gratitude--or just listen.

News and Views will meet in Activity Room 1 in the Community Center.

Murder by the Book! A Mystery Book Discussion

Wednesday, March 16 @ 6:30pm

Home Before Dark, by Riley Sager.

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

Betty's Book Buzz Discussion Group.

Friday, March 18 @ 1:00pm

The Midnight Library, by Matthew Haig.

Betty's Book Group will be meeting in the library. Books will no longer be available at the circulation desk. Please call the library to request a copy of the book. Everyone who is interested in great conversations and good reads is invited to join us!

Cooks-N-Books: Soups and Breads!

Thursday, March 24, 6:30pm-8:00pm

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

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

- 1) Check out a cookbook
- 2) Cook that dish and bring it to the group the evening of the discussion. Please bring a copy of the recipe as well.
- 3) Sample all of the amazing recipes!

Please note there will be a \$2.00 fee to cover the cost of supplies.

Hampton Community Library Trivia Night

The Covid Edition! Friday, March 18, 2022.

Covid put our Trivia Night on hold for 2 years but we are back! (Knowledge of the Dewey Decimal System not required!) Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Trivia begins at 7:00 p.m. Program ends by 9:00 p.m.

Assemble your pod/team and get ready for a night of laughter and friendly competition! \$20/person, (6 -10 people/table). Test your general trivia knowledge! Perhaps **your** team will surprise them all! Please note this is an adult program. (BYOB) Space is limited; Registration required. Space/Teams will be limited. Registration now open!

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A Note from Township Council

by Carolynn Johnson and Bethany Blackburn

The Township of Hampton could not offer the services it does without the dedication of many volunteers who contribute to making our community an outstanding place to live.

The volunteer fire departments provide critical services in a time of crisis. The Township boards, including the Environmental Advisory Council, Planning Commission, and Zoning Hearing Board, are entirely comprised of volunteers, who spend hours reviewing site plans and land applications. It was a dedicated and engaged group of citizens who developed the Township's new Comprehensive Plan, which will guide the development over the next 10 years. A new group is now collaborating on a similar plan dedicated to Hampton's parks and open spaces.

Volunteers with the Hampton Community Association fundraise for projects such as the new community playground. The Depreciation Lands Museum, Hampton's living history museum, is entirely run by volunteers, who develop programming and events and monitor the maintenance of the museum. The local library is supported by volunteers, both in the stacks and on the Board. Volunteers with the Pine Creek Land Conservation Trust serve as stewards for our natural spaces.

Local scout troops contribute to our community with projects such as the museum's new wigwam, which was an Eagle Scout project, and the park's new Gaga Pit, which was a Girl Scout Silver Award project. Parent volunteers serve as coaches for our kids' recreation leagues, making it possible to offer a variety of activities at an affordable cost. The annual Memorial

Day ceremony is organized by volunteers, and Recycle Rama, which is an enormously popular event, was started by a dedicated group of volunteers.

It is impossible to list all of the contributions being made by our local volunteers in this short space, but Township Council and Staff would like to recognize and thank all of the volunteers whose efforts enhance our community.

If you would like to get involved, please reach out to Susan Bernet, Assistant Township Manager, 412.486.0400 x1303. An easy place to start is with Clean Up Day on April 2, in which volunteers team-up across the Township to help keep our community clean!



Front L to R: Julie Fritsch, President Carolynn Johnson, Vice President Bethany Blackburn Back: Rock Kernick, Joe Dougherty, Controller Jerry Speakman and Legal Counsel Vince Tucceri

Spence Recognized by Council

by Jenn Edmonds


Liz Spence was nominated by members of Hampton Council and awarded the "Small Town America Civic Volunteer Award (STACVA)." The STACVA is an annual program that honors 100 extraordinary public service volunteers in localities with populations of under 25,000. Though she did not place in the top 3, Liz's status in the top 100 honorees qualified Hampton Township to receive a management module with 12 months of complimentary support services from CivicPlus, a web development business.



Township Council President Carolynn Johnson, on left, presenting Liz Spence an award for countless volunteer work.

After retiring, Spence started seriously volunteering in the Hampton Community Library, Beechwood Farms, Pine Creek Land Trust, Crouse Run Nature Reserve, Pittsburgh Zoo, and North Park Friends. She also acts on the Environmental Advisory Council for Hampton.


Spence encourages those interested in volunteering with the Pine Creek Land Trust to email pclctrust@gmail.com.



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North Hills Community Outreach

Congratulations to five members of North Hills Community Outreach's staff, volunteers and board members for being recognized as 2021 Community Champions by The Pittsburgh North Regional Chamber. Chamber President Jim Botz and NHCO Executive Director Tom Baker presented the awards.



Left to right with certificates: David Barkovich, NHCO Volunteer; Brittany E. Tonet, Director of Finance and Administration; Abby Kelly, North Boroughs Service Coordinator; Melissa Fann, NHCO Board Member; Dr. Eric Kofmehl, NHCO Board Member.

Art and Writing

(Continued from page 1)

Hampton Township School students. Five students won honorable mention and 8 students won awards. The award winners are Anna Cutuli, Camryn Ferderbar, Madison Hurst, Fannie Ketler, Sierra Linke-Kohan, Paula Ott, Katie Pham, and Ben Mikus.

Senior Katie Pham won the Gold Key Award with her lovely watercolor piece labeled "Hong Kong Streets," and Ben Mikus, another senior, was one of two students who won the Silver Key Award for his incredible chalk drawing labeled "Vino Splash." Ben's mother, Julie Mikus, couldn't be prouder of her son and said, "Ben's creativity from a young age took my breath away. He is a very detailed, thoughtful artist. It is my hope that he will use his gift not only as an outlet for his own creativity, but also to inspire others."

Some of the artwork that these extremely talented students created will be displayed at the Seneca Valley art gallery show on March 19, 2022. Ben and another Hampton High School student, Marisa Vizzoca, will have their artwork featured at the Ketchup City Gallery in Sharpsburg on May 21.



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Talbots Wrapping Up Season 5 of Unified Bocce

by Jackie Smith

When the Hampton Talbots Unified Bocce team steps on the court, you feel a sense of camaraderie, sportsmanship, and friendship. These are just a few of the benefits of participating on the team. Unified Bocce is sponsored by Special Olympics, and combines people with and without disabilities on sports teams for training and competition. Hampton High School has offered the program for five years now.

"We currently have 2 teams with 16 total players," second year coach Addeline (Addie) Devlin said. Ms. Devlin is a paraeducator at Hampton High School, and she works in the Special Education Department. Addie heard about the opening for a bocce coach, and "didn't want to pass up an opportunity to work with such a great group of students."

Bocce Ball, as it is formally known, originated in ancient Rome in 5200 BC; the game moved into California in the late 1980's, and is still being played today. According to Special Olympics, next to soccer and golf, bocce is a sport with the third highest participation in the world.

Bocce is played on any level surface by anyone who is willing to try. It is a game for all ages, genders and athletic ability. Second year participant Adanna Smith stated, "I love playing Bocce. I have learned so much. This year, I'm kneeling down to throw the ball, and I get better aim. I think I could teach others to play."

The game begins by throwing the pallino (the small ball), and then taking turns throwing the bigger balls to get your ball closer to the pallino than your opponents. Each ball that is closer than the opponent's scores one point. Senior Liana Suski has played Bocce the past two years; she joined the team when she heard a few of her friends had signed up. "The team is extremely friendly. I would highly suggest other students join. My teammates are great, and it's a pleasure to get to know new people."

Practices are held weekly December through February, and each team participates in four to five matches per season. Aaron Bennett's daughter Molly is a junior in her third year of playing. Mr. Bennett says, "Bocce provides an opportunity for all kids to build friendships and interact, as well as work together as a team for a common goal."

Hampton's Bocce team participated in the Polar Plunge to help raise funds for Special Olympics and Unified Sports. Hampton's team has raised \$680 and has 10 students and staff who took the plunge at Heinz Field! Team member Molly Bennett commented prior to the event, "Yes, I will be taking the plunge! My friends will be there to cheer me on." When asked if she was concerned about the water being cold, Molly confidently responded, "Not at all; I am a swimmer, and I don't mind the cold water at all!"

Hampton High School also has a Best Buddies Program which encourages one-on-one friendships between individuals with and without disabilities. During the last Best Buddies meeting, posters were made to hang throughout the gym during the bocce matches. Special posters were also made for Sydney Loebig and Liam Wallace in honor of their senior years.

Liam's father, Bob Wallace, said, "Bocce is another opportunity for Liam to be out there socializing and participating in sports with his peers. I am glad Hampton offers unified sports. It's good for all of the kids." Liam is also an avid bowler, and loves to participate in both activities!

Senior Sydney Loebig is joined on the team by her sister,



Wallace family

(Continued on page 10)

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Gail Scott Presents: Recent Hampton Home Sales

Hampton Home Sales 12/19/2021 - 1/19/2022

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

Address	Sold Price	Address	Sold Price
2951 Woodland Court	\$739,986	3771 Coventry Court	\$378,500
2967 Chautauqua Drive	\$599,000	2564 Red Oak Court	\$370,000
4246 Hermitage Court	\$596,000	2554 Red Oak Court	\$367,000
2937 Ridge Drive	\$529,900	2777 McCully Road	\$345,000
3078 Swansea Crescent W	\$477,500	3154 Morningside Drive	\$325,000
3896 Ash Drive	\$470,000	5158 Amleth Drive	\$315,000
3139 Seneca Court	\$465,000	3051 Camberly Court	\$299,000
2149 Coventry Drive	\$438,000	3824 Mount Royal Blvd	\$209,000
2884 Clearview Road	\$433,795		

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Bocce

(Continued from page 9)

Laynie, a junior this year. Sydney is the team captain, and although she said she will miss playing bocce next year, and "I am glad I got to be captain for my senior year; I will definitely come back to cheer

for my sister and friends." For the past two years, both Sydney and Laynie have enjoyed playing bocce and cheering together. When Laynie joined the bocce team, she said, "I felt the group was so welcoming and non-judgmental. We have a great time joking and laughing together. It is a non-stress activity that is so much fun; I look forward to playing again next year."

The Northeast Division Playoff will be held at Deer Lakes High School on March 1st. The Talbots will be competing against Avonworth, Deer Lakes and Norwin. Although the goal of playing any sport is to win games, what happens on the Talbot Bocce court is about so much more

than winning. According to Coach Devlin, "it's truly amazing what can happen when a team comes together and completely supports one another! It is so rewarding for everyone."



Above: Loebig sisters, Laynie (left) and team captain Sydney (right) at Senior recognition

Right Left to right: Molly Bernett, Nicole Litchenfels, Liana Suski, Adanna Smith and Sydney Loebig



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Respectable Season for Boys Wrestling

by Garrett Gess

The Talbots have battled to fill the void left by last year's senior class. Justin Hart, the 2021 WPIAL Class 3A champion and PIAA runner-up at 182 pounds is now a freshman at VMI. Hart is the second-winningest wrestler in program history by compiling a 136-28 career record. Also departing was heavyweight Dawson Dietz, who went 113-32 and had 84 pins for a school record. The Hampton wrestling team has experienced an increase in overall roster size to fill the gap left by Hart and Dietz.

The Talbots still had strong wrestlers returning. The top returning wrestlers were senior WPIAL qualifier Jayden Resch (20-15 last season; 172 lbs), and sophomore Caleb Rihn (14-14; 126 lbs). The three other seniors returning were Alex Haas, Jon Maguire, and Alan Wolfe.

At the Allegheny County Championships in the middle of January, Hampton placed 15th out of 34 wrestling programs. Individually, Caleb Rihn, Alan Wolfe, and Nate Glock made it to the Championship Quarterfinals. Jayden Resch made it further to the Championship Semifinals.

The Talbots had a 6-11 overall record and won

their last two matches against Mars (40-28) and North Hills (33-31).

Jayden Resch had an exceptional 23-6 record this season to put his overall varsity win total at 63.

For next season, Hampton will head down to 2A after playing in 3A during their recent history. The Talbots are hoping that competing against teams with similar enrollments will bring more success moving forward.



Seniors pictured L to R: Jon Maguire, Alan Wolfe, Alex Haas, and Jayden Resch

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Girls Basketball Reached Playoffs

by Garrett Gess

The Lady Talbots have had a strong regular-season finish to the 2021-22 basketball season. They were 9-3 in section play and 18-4 overall. Despite not winning the Section Title for a chance at going back-to-back, Hampton still qualified for the playoffs. The Lady Talbots had a strong senior class returning, and most of their players are still on the roster from last season.

The Lady Talbots continued to have big wins in section play by rallying victories with tall margins. Hampton had an 8-0 start where they defeated all eight teams by ten points or more. Last season, Hampton went 15-6

and were the lone Section 2-5A champions. The Lady Talbots were the 3-seed in the WPIAL playoffs but lost to Latrobe 53-48 in the WPIAL Class 5A quarterfinals at home. Hampton came into 2022 with unfinished business and big expectations from last year.

The Lady Talbots finished 2nd in their section and defeated the team ahead of them, Indiana. Hampton has used game-situation and live simulations by utilizing the gym's scoreboard during prac-

tices. They have made an effort to bring a lot of competition to practices and thus translate it to the court. Head coach Tony Howard remarked, "We've been able to focus on some of the smaller details in practice, and they are really responding to that."

Hampton has handled big expectations for decades, making the WPIAL playoffs every year from 1993 to 2018. The Lady Talbots had two rebuilding years where they missed the playoffs before last season. Hampton had an 11-32 combined record in those two seasons. Although the WPIAL has very tough competition in 5A, Hampton's stood among some of the top teams.

Hampton had four of their starters returning and a strong

group of girls coming off the bench. Kayla Hoehler, Sophia Kelly, Meghan Murray, Claire Rodgers, and Kat Milon were among the top scorers in the majority of Hampton's games.

In a similar fashion to last season, the Lady Talbots were defeated at home in the playoffs. Hampton was the 8-seed and fell to Oakland Catholic 42-35. Although the playoff finish was very disappointing, Hampton had a successful season as a whole and left plenty of great memories for the departing seniors.



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18 Straight Playoff Berth for Boys Basketball

by Garrett Gess

The Talbots boys basketball team has clinched a playoff spot for the 18th-straight season. The feat ranks in the Top 10 out of the longest WPIAL boys basketball playoff streaks. Hampton is experiencing vast improvements from last season as they finished with a 7-5 conference record and were 13-10 overall.

Last season, Hampton had a very young roster in addition to several quarantine-related issues, causing Hampton to play at less strength. The Talbots had a 3-9 conference record and were 4-16 overall. The playoff streak continued in 2021 as the WPIAL had an open playoff bracket due to COVID-19. Hampton was seeded No. 16 in 5A and would've missed the playoffs if it were a typical 12-team WPIAL playoff bracket. Hampton hosted No. 17 McKeesport in the playoffs, losing 73-49.

This year, Hampton ranked at No. 24 in Max-Preps AAAAA Pennsylvania High School Basketball Rankings. The Talbots' win/loss record is above average, but Hampton faces some of the toughest competition in the state by playing in the WPIAL. Besides the challenges in Class 5A Section 4, Hampton scheduled tough non-conference matchups against Fox

Chapel, North Hills, and Butler.

The Talbots built some late-season momentum with 4-straight wins over Armstrong, Fairview, Shaler, and Indiana. Before the winning streak, Hampton lost a heartbreaker to Deer Lakes in the 4th quarter by blowing a 44-32 lead. Hampton came into this year's playoffs with a more experienced roster and has much higher expectations than last season. The Talbots have three seniors: Matt DeMatteo, Bobby Oliver, and Zander Plizga, with a strong group of juniors having starting roles. Senior guard Matt DeMatteo said, "We've had some guys grow into some bigger shoes and step up in a big way that contributes to the team."

The Talbots regular season concluded with a loss to the Butler Tornado by a score of 72-65. In the playoffs, Hampton ranked as the No. 8 seed in the WPIAL bracket and hosted No. 9 Kiski.

Hampton defeated Kiski 66-60 but fell in the next round at No. 1 Laurel Highlands 52-44. Hampton had a 2nd quarter lead over Laurel Highlands and showed great fight, but came up short of the big upset.

Hampton will be heading down to 4A next season to compete against smaller schools. With already a strong junior class who will age next season into seniors, Hampton has a great chance of making a deep run in next year's 4A WPIAL playoffs.



Police Log

(Continued from page 2)

accident occurred when the vehicle was traveling in the east-bound lane of travel on Wildwood Road and slid off the roadway into a creek bed. The vehicle sustained moderate damage and was removed from the creek utilizing a tow vehicle.

On January 8, 2022 at 6:26p.m., Hampton Township police were dispatched to the area of Duncan Avenue and Mount Royal Boulevard for a report of a two vehicle accident. Upon arrival, officers found both vehicles off of the roadway and confirmed there were no injuries and no tows needed. The accident occurred at the intersection of Duncan Avenue and Mount Royal Boulevard as both vehicles proceeded through the intersection at the same time causing them to strike each other. Both vehicles had moderate damage but were able to be driven from the scene.

On January 13, 2022 at 2:59p.m., Hampton Township police were dispatched to the area of William Flinn Highway and Wildwood Road for a report of a two vehicle accident. Upon arrival, officers located both vehicles in the north-bound left turning lane. Officers were able to get both vehi-

(Continued on page 19)

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THON Is Back at HHS!

Hampton High School students will participate in THON on March 25 at the high school. Because of Covid, THON has not taken place since 2019.

THON is a student run fundraiser that raises money for children with cancer. There will be various activities for the high school students to participate in which will help raise funds.

The public can get involved to support this wonderful cause. On March 25, you can bring your family to the community hour from 6-7pm at the high school and see what is happening with THON. There will be food trucks where you can order snacks or dinner. Trucks will be: Los Chicos, Oakmont BBQ, and D and L's Handcrafted Deli.

Please participate in the restaurant sponsored days. There will be several upcoming days that local restaurants are giving part of their proceeds to Thon. So, don't cook dinner; order and pick it up on your way home!

Amazing Glaze Donuts – March 3-5

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AARP #595 – Tuesday, April 5 at Noon

Welcome members and guests to our April meeting with David Hall and his stimulating "Team Trivia" program featuring history and fun facts of Pittsburgh. Meetings are 1st Tuesdays at Hampton Presbyterian Church, 2842 E Hardies Rd, Gibsonia 15044. Annual membership is just \$7 a person. Come join us for fun, friendship, and great trips.



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Five SSA Seniors Named National Merit Scholarship Finalists

Five members of the Shady Side Academy Class of 2022 have been named finalists in the 67th annual National Merit Scholarship Program by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). These academically talented seniors continue will in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarship awards worth more than \$30 million, which will be offered this spring. The SSA finalists are: Braden Crow (Irwin), Grace Greeno (Pittsburgh-Oakland), Jamila Snyder (Aspinwall), Prayag Vemulapalli (Hampton), and Anker Zhao (Indiana Township)



Prayag Vemulapalli

Approximately 15,000 finalists advanced out of a nationwide pool of 16,000 semifinalists who were chosen in September and represented the highest-scoring entrants in each state on the 2020 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). To become a finalist, semifinalists had to submit a scholarship application, have an outstanding academic record, be recommended by a school official, write an essay, and earn SAT or ACT scores confirming their PSAT/NMSQT performance.

Approximately 7,500 finalists will win one of three types of National Merit Scholarships. Every finalist will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit® \$2500 Scholarships that will be awarded on a state-representational basis. About 1,000 Corporate-Sponsored Merit Scholarship awards will be provided by 220 organizations for finalists who meet specified criteria, such as children of employees or residents of communities where the organization does business. About 4,000 College-Sponsored Merit Scholarship awards will be given by 180 colleges for finalists who attend their institution. Winners will be announced by NMSC in four nationwide news releases between April and July 2022.

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation is a not-for-profit organization established in 1955. Learn more at www.nationalmerit.org.

Middle School

(Continued from page 5)

questions from the panel. After all 4 groups presented, the stakeholders conversed and voted on which company would be awarded the grant money to build their design and maintain it in the Learning Pavilion. The PA-Ponics company was awarded the grant and will begin building their design. All participating students are Jake Adamczyk, Cayden Brown, Drew Bucci, Shaeleigh Choma, Emma Christy, Luke Claus, Jonas Cupps, Sydney Dunn, Anthony Gropelli, William Haselrig, Nicholas Johnston, Brody Junker, Caden Kaforey, Gavin Kneppshield, Kaylen Kuskie, Draven Malcolm, Will Martinoski, Josh Marvill, Madison McCay, Cayden McCracken, Hunter Richardson, Matteo Sciulli, Mikey Solomon, Caroline Sullivan, William Venture, and Alice Wagner. Future students will maintain the hydroponics structure and continue to grow vegetables such as lettuce and basil. The HMS Gardening Club run by Mr. Geary and Mr. Flowers will maintain the project.

The new Hydroponics area will be an asset to all future students in Hampton for years to come.



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Current Events

Musical Fundraiser Showcases Performing and Visual Arts

by Aja Lynn

The community continues to come back to life after nearly two years of uncertainty and cancellations, and Hampton High School's spring musical and Showcase Club are teaming up to reintroduce excitement for the arts in Hampton Township. On March 11th in Hampton High School's Auditorium and Freedom Shrine, Showcase Club and the Hampton CATS (Creative Arts and Theater Supporters) booster group will be holding HEART (Hampton Evening of Art) to fundraise for the spring musical *Into the Woods*. Students are given the opportunity to display their artistic talents, which include painting, drawing, digital art, 3D art, instrumental and vocal performance, spoken word poetry, and more! This cafe and cabaret-style event will be held from 6PM to 9PM with baked goods, raffles and a relaxed environment. All are welcome to attend, and there is no cost for admission, though donations are encouraged! Most of all, students are eager to be able to share their creative abilities with the community while also supporting theatre at the high school!

Tickets for High School Musical

by Aja Lynn

Looking ahead, tickets for the Hampton High School spring musical *Into The Woods* will be available for purchase starting Tuesday, March 29th online at <https://www.hamptoncats.org/tickets>. Whether you choose to purchase online or at the door, tickets will cost \$12.

This show will transport audience members into mystifying fairy tales, and they will encounter some of their favorite storybook characters. However, there's a twist. . . and the stories might not play out exactly as you remember. A beloved Sondheim classic, *Into the Woods* is a show you don't want to miss!



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Prom Dresses

(Continued from page 1)

Some students skip the event because it's financially impossible.

A Gibsonia couple is making a difference for girls who need prom dresses. They believe girls can be blessed with a dress and make their prom dreams come true.

When Don and Michelle Simon attended an event called "Bless A Dress," they discovered an important mission. "My husband encountered a dad whose wife just died of cancer." His daughter needed a prom dress. "I don't know how to do this," the widower said. When Don said there wasn't a cost, the man broke down in tears and was filled with gratitude.

The couple now spearhead Bless a Dress, along with an army of volunteers. Seamstress Kati Grimes of Dormont says, "Being involved means a lot to me because I get to help kids have a full prom experience, no matter who they are...." Kati volunteers with her best friend and both enjoy cultivating positive energy at the event.

Erica Tachoir of Paparazzi Jewelry donates thousands of accessories.

"Giving to Bless a Dress means I am bringing joy to young women...giving in this way is being the hands and feet of Jesus," Erica said. Her jewelry donations allow girls to feel extra special with a complete look.

The event will be held at the Pittsburgh Indoor Sports Arena in Cheswick, with a goal to provide at least 1,000 gowns. "Our goal is to leave the event with no gowns," Michelle says.



Don and Michelle Simon



When prom goes express gratitude, Michelle tells them, "Take the kindness you received today and do random acts of kindness for others." She adds, "Prom gowns are not a need like food or shelter; however, making memories is something students cherish. Giving away gowns is priceless."

"We ask the Hampton community to please reach out if they know a girl who needs help," Michelle implores.

Bless a Dress is held at the Pittsburgh Indoor Sports Arena in Cheswick on April 7, 8, 9th. There are no pre-qualifiers. For more information, text Michelle at 412-760-0350 or email blessadress@yahoo.com.

Dress collections end on March 5. Collection site near Hampton Township: The Hair Doctors 5475 William Flynn Highway Gibsonia, 15044.



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Upcoming Events

2022 Township of Hampton Community Events & Activities

Township's Litter Clean Up Day

Saturday, April 2

Hampton Community Center

Registration begins at 8 am

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 9

Hampton Community Park, 1-3 pm

Recycle Rama

Saturday, May 14, 9am-12 pm

Hampton Community Park

Pool Season Begins

Saturday, May 28

Outdoor Pool Complex Opens 11 am

American Legion's

Memorial Day Service

Monday, May 30 at Veterans War

Memorial (Community Center) 10 am

Farmer's Market Opening Day

Wednesday, June 1, 1-3 pm

Community Center parking lot

Hampton Community Day

Sunday, July 3 at

Community Park

1 pm—Fireworks at dusk

National Hot Dog Day

Wednesday, July 20, 1-3 pm

Hampton Community Pool

Christmas In July

Wednesday, July 27, 1-3 pm

Hampton Community Pool

Dog Swim Day

Saturday, September 10

Hampton Community Pool

12-3:15 pm

Halloween Parade

Saturday, October 22, 1-3 pm

Hampton Community Park

Holiday Event

Thursday, December 1, 7-9 pm

Community Center & Park

For additional information on these events and more, please visit the township website: www.hampton-pa.org for the most up to date information!



Hampton Girl Scouts Invite You To Register For An:

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Dates: Monday, June 13 — Friday, June 17, 2022

Times: 9am-3pm

(drop off begins at 8:45am)

Location: Hampton Community Park

Cost: \$120

(plus online fees for Eventbrite service provider)

Optional Thursday Night Event:

Stargazing & S'mores

Cost: \$15 per person

(family members are welcome to attend)

Brownie Scouts and older are invited to tent camp

overnight following the event. Daisy Scouts may

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Online registration link:

<https://hamptongsdayscamp2022.eventbrite.com>

Registration is open until May 23, 2022.

Please address any questions to:

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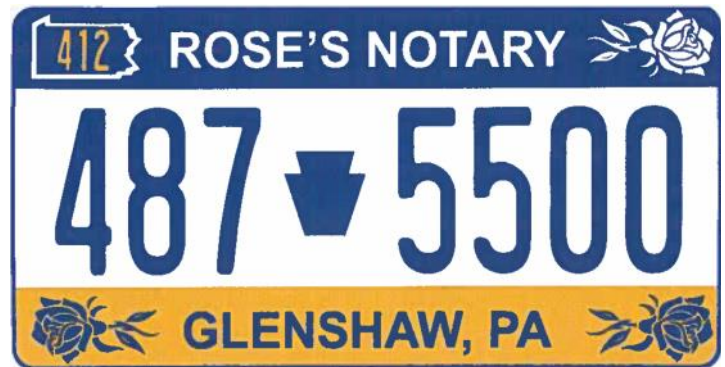
(Continued from page 13)

cles off of the roadway. The accident occurred when one vehicle was stopped waiting for a traffic light when it was rear-ended by the other vehicle. One vehicle had minor damage and was able to be driven from the scene. The second vehicle had disabling damage and needed to be towed from the scene.



On January 17, 2022 at 10:58a.m., Hampton Township police were dispatched to intersection of Middle Road and Morningside Drive for a vehicle over a hillside. Upon arrival, officers located a vehicle in a yard on Hampton Oaks Drive. The accident occurred as the vehicle was traveling on Morningside Drive when they started to slid down a hill and were unable to come to a stop. The vehicle did not cause any property damage and was removed from the hillside by a tow vehicle.

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TICKETS ON SALE NOW Enjoy An Energizing Evening with Herschel Walker, April 28

Enjoy an energizing and inspiring evening as St. Barnabas Charities honors Herschel Walker at the 121st St. Barnabas Founder's Day Celebration to be held Thursday, April 28, 2022 at the Pittsburgh Marriott North in Cranberry Twp. Founder's Day tickets are on sale now and event proceeds support residents and patients who rely upon the Free Care Fund at St. Barnabas.

Herschel Walker will receive the 2022 St. Barnabas Hance Award. The Hance Award was named in honor of St. Barnabas founder Gouverneur Hance, who was inspired to provide medical care for poverty stricken and chronically ill and injured men and boys in 1900. The Hance Award is presented to a person of national acclaim who exemplifies Hance's ideals of benevolence, patriotism and service to others. Previous Hance awardees include President Gerald Ford, First Lady Barbara Bush, Elsie Hillman, Fred Rogers, Dr. Patch Adams, Rocky Bleier, Debbie Reynolds and many others.

Herschel Walker is nationally known for his 15-year NFL career and his outstanding collegiate performance at the University of Georgia, where Walker carved out an equally successful business career. To this he adds the role of mental health awareness advocate. His compassionate, enlightened leadership has earned him the St. Barnabas Hance Award in memory of Gouverneur Hance, whose compassionate leadership led to the founding of St. Barnabas in 1900.

In his business endeavors he is President and CEO of H. Walker Enterprises and Renaissance Man Food Services, a certified minority enterprise that supplies poultry, pork and bakery products to the marketplace, custom bedding, solar blinds and draperies to the hospitality industry as well as promotional products.

Walker's book, *Breaking Free*, tells of the joys and hardships of his childhood leading to his remarkable college and professional career. He is living testimony of the strength of the human spirit and the ability to overcome challenges.

The St. Barnabas Founder's Day Celebration will bring together corporate sponsors, prominent business people and community leaders to honor Herschel Walker for his contributions. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. with a cocktail reception, auction and raffles – followed by a dinner celebration. A VIP photo pass is also available to guests. Following the Hance Award presentation, Herschel Walker will deliver a speech inspired by his career.

Tickets range from \$300 – \$475. For event tickets or to purchase books or raffle tickets, call 724-625-3770 or visit stbarnabashealthsystem.com/founders-day. Proceeds benefit the St. Barnabas Free Care Fund, which supports elderly patients and residents who cannot afford their care.

