Finally 2022 has arrived!

Spring is just around the corner along with the next edition of the Hampton Magazine. It is scheduled to hit your mailbox by May 1. When the ice and snow melt and warmer weather arrives, we hope you capture photos of biking in the park or walking on the trails. Submit your photos by March 21.

Mark your calendar for upcoming spring activities, including Hues and Harmony, the HHS production of “Into the Woods” in April, our Community Litter/Clean-Up Day, and the early bird discount on your pool membership!

Extra copies of the magazine are available at the Hampton Community Center and the Hampton Community Library.

Advertising opportunities are available by calling 412-818-6491. 

Writers: Mary-Theresa Watson, Jenn Edmonds, Gail Scott and HHS writer Megan Kang

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Respectfully, Laurie & John Rizzo
Winter 2022

Hampton Magazine is the official voice of the Township of Hampton and the Hampton Township School District

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The holiday magic returned to Hampton with a hand made custom sleigh!
Article on page 5 with more photos from the celebration on pages 6-8.
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Holiday Sparkle Returns to Hampton

by Mary-Theresa Watson

Long after most of us had packed away the decorations, disposed of the wrappings, and eaten our fill of leftovers, memories of the 2021 holiday season remained in the air, visions of families and neighbors coming together—whether in person or virtually—to create and share happy moments. Sponsored in large part by Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate and Dr. Prinkey with Talley Cavey Chiropractic, the Hampton holiday event has become an annual favorite for families throughout the township. Thanks to volunteers and sponsors from around the area, Hampton Township’s holiday celebrations brought a brightness to the community, encouraging all to share the joys of the season and look to the coming year with hope.

As an official kick off to the season, all were invited to Hampton Community Center on December 2 to experience some holiday cheer. The center was beautifully decorated by members of the Community Services Department led by Melanie Martino and Director Kevin Flannery. To the delight of all in attendance, Santa Claus took time out of his very busy schedule to visit with children and smile for complimentary photos provided courtesy of Berkshire Hathaway. A mailbox with express service to the North Pole was on hand as well, which was quite helpful, Santa explained, because mail carriers in his area can really use some extra help each December. He also gave a nod to Happy the Elf who took up residence at the Community Center for the holiday season.

Visitors gathered at the soccer fields to enjoy a spectacular fireworks show, and DJ Rick Wirth from The Life of the Party Productions (djrichardwirth.com) braved the chilly weather with his outdoor set-up to entertain with favorite holiday tunes. Throughout the evening, beverage vendors and food trucks offered a range of tasty pairings, from delicious sandwiches and pastries to ice cream and even wine, beer, and vodka. Local attorney and former member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Hal English enjoyed the evening with his family and found the event to be the perfect way to start the holidays. As for his chosen dining options, Hal reports, “Bruster’s Ice Cream was fabulous on a frosty night, while Mazzotta Winery was warming and wonderful!”

Just a few weeks later, Santa graced the township with a return visit thanks to a great deal of support from the Hampton and North Hampton Volunteer Fire Departments and the Hampton Township Police Department. On Sunday, December 19, Santa and Mrs. Claus could be found cruising around Hampton neighborhoods wishing everyone a very happy holiday season. Escorted by police and firefighters with horns and sirens blazing, the couple waved to excited children enjoying a few moments of holiday magic. Sal Leo’s Tree Service provided candy for Mr. and Mrs. Claus to toss to families as they paraded through neighborhoods in a beautiful, handmade sleigh created by Hampton #1 VFD member Gary Massimino and a team of helpers.

Gary laughs as he recalls how the project began. “We were having our monthly VFD meeting when someone mentioned it would be nice to have a sled for the event. Suddenly, I was nominated and elected to build it before I even realized what had happened!”

(Continued on page 6)
Gary is the owner of Massimino Custom Remodeling, which, in the eyes of his fellow VFD members, made him the obvious choice for the project. He is quick to point to a wonderful team of volunteers who joined him on the project: Nicole and Will Lemkey, Willie Kendrick, Fiore Londino, Heather Paxton, and Mary Massimino. Everyone worked on different aspects of the sleigh, from designing and assembling to creating the bench seat and painting a beautiful look for the famous couple.

“It took about three weeks to complete,” Gary says, “because with my work schedule I could only do bits at a time. We made the design up as we went along, and it just worked out perfectly. The large curves are outlines of garbage can lids, the smaller curves are from five-gallon buckets, and the smallest are from coffee cans.”

For now, the sleigh remains in storage at the firehall. “It needs a spot to rest,” Gary explains with a chuckle, “because it had a hard day’s work!”

Special note: If you’d like a remodeling design of your own (sleighs are special order for Santa only), please reach out to Gary at 412-807-1923.

Special Thanks to all Vendors, Sponsors & Volunteers!

**Vendors**
- Boyd & Blair Potato Vodka
- Bruster’s Ice Cream Truck
- Galaxy Donuts
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- Pet Wants Cranberry
- Talley Cavey Chiropractic
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- Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate
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Waiting for Santa to come through Hampton neighborhoods
Bike Drive Raises Over $30K for Charity

by Gail Scott

This was another successful year for Al’s Bike Drive as volunteers loaded bikes into cars, trucks, and tractor trailers to deliver to the Marine Toys for Tots in December. A long caravan of fire trucks, police cars, trucks, and cars made their way south on Rt 8 from the Gibsonia Walmart parking lot to the Wildwood Country Club where the Marines accepted the bikes.

Al Todd and his volunteers successfully completed the 14th drive with donating 427 bikes and $30,000 to the Marine Toys for Tots program which supports Allegheny, Butler and Beaver Counties. They had hoped to donate more bikes this year but Covid has affected the available supply of bikes, and many bikes are still on cargo ships. Volunteers bought all the bikes they could find from every local Walmart store in recent months. Over the years, Al has donated over 6400 bikes to the Marine Toys for Tots program.

Many local businesses and organizations participate in the annual bike drive. The Gibsonia Walmart donates their time assembling the bikes and storing the bikes. Hampton VFD #164 and North Hampton VFD #165 volunteer their efforts during the bike drive and they always have a friendly competition. This year Hampton #164 Lt. Dan Lennon and North Hampton #165 Chief Mike Piovesan had a fun bike race in the Walmart parking lot riding very small pink and blue kids’ bicycles. It was a close race as all the volunteers cheered and clapped. Lt. Lennon won by a narrow margin!

Al’s Bike Drive is already starting to plan for next year and hopes to donate 1,000 bikes if supply chain issues are resolved in 2022, and more are easier to obtain. To donate, go to their website at als-bikedrive.com or email at als-bikedrive@gmail.com.
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. Geary and Mr. 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.

Chatham University’s Roy Weitzell and grad student Alexia Page-Boyd were brought in as outreach project advisors on the hydroponics project. Chatham continues to grow their relationship with surrounding communities to provide programs for students in Pittsburgh through EnvironMentors program. The University is looking to grow partnerships and increase awareness of the environment and sustainability. Weitzell and Page-Boyd met with the students as a group in person to discuss the project.

Afterward, zoom meetings were set for Thursday mornings to discuss student’s questions as the projects progressed.

The Hampton Alliance for Educational Excellence (HAEE) will fund the majority of the project with a grant designated for the project. Mr. Geary said, “We are grateful for the HAEE supporting our vision for hydroponics and with all student learning.” Geary also commented, “Anytime we run a project like this we are blown away by the results that students bring to us! As a facilitator for this project, it is amazing to watch the young active learners take a leadership role and turn their ideas into viable solutions. It is also enjoyable to watch the student’s confidence grow as they learn and present their solutions to a room full of stakeholders.”

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The four companies formed were: PA-Ponics, Water Warriors Engineering, Flow Engineering, and Three Rivers Engineering. The companies presented their hydroponics designs before a panel of stakeholders made up of members of the HAEE, Chatham University, Hampton Administration, and school instructors in January. Each was given 10 minutes for a live presentation followed by questions from the panel. After all 4 companies 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. 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.
WE WANT YOU

HAEE is a nonprofit volunteer organization enriching the education of Hampton students. It has funded nearly $1 million of innovative grants since 1992.

4 Reasons to Volunteer with HAEE
• Make Hampton Township a better place to live
• Impact the students’ learning across all Hampton schools
• Learn new skills & expand professional connections
• Create close relationships with other volunteers

Board members serve a three-year term, so HAEE is always looking for new faces! Meetings are typically held the third Thursday of each month and last roughly 90 minutes.

Contact President@hamptonalliance.org to learn more.
HUGE Thanks to the 2021 HAEE 5K Race Sponsors

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A Day in the Life at the High School Cafeteria

by Megan Kang, HHS Student Writer

The 7th period lunch rush is over. Lunch line doors have closed, students have vacated the cafeteria, and tables have been wiped down for the third and final time of the day. But the inside of the kitchen is still bustling with activity: immediately after lunch ends, the kitchen staff have already started preparing food for the next day.

Hampton’s cafeteria workers provide an essential service for us. Everyone knows that they are responsible for the school food, but there are more parts of the job than students might realize. Regardless, they deserve recognition and appreciation for their hard work.

Ms. Cindy Dunbar has been with the HHS kitchen for two years. She considers herself to be new, and it’s true that current seniors have been here longer than her. But she’s had the daily routine down for a while now and thoroughly knows the ins and outs of the job.

Concerning her responsibilities, Ms. Dunbar says, “It’s a hard job trying to keep everyone fed.” And the biggest challenge since she started working here? Everything to do with COVID, of course.

The switch from plastic to styrofoam closed the tray-washing station, but after the pandemic, the school will go back to the plastic trays. While most schools are using plastic trays right now, the HHS kitchen still needs people to fill positions.

Since the last school year, schools around the nation have been receiving more food for free breakfasts and lunches with support from the government. Hampton participates in the National School Lunch Program, (NSLP). As a result of the pandemic, the Seamless Summer Option based on the NSLP allows for breakfast and lunch to be free to all students without previous eligibility considerations. This measure was intended to not only lessen hunger and nutrition concerns for children but also combat the spread of COVID-19 with decreased time processing payments in lunch lines.

Ms. Dunbar welcomes the extra work as more kids are enjoying school lunches regularly. No one has to go home hungry anymore; some are even eating a free meal along with their packed lunches. Something else Ms. Dunbar doesn’t think people know is that she truly enjoys her job. For her, “being a lunch lady can be fun. I get to know the kids, interact with them, especially yell at them for causing trouble.”

Including Ms. Dunbar, just seven women cook every meal served in our cafeteria. On a regular day, work begins around 6 A.M. and ends at 3 P.M., and every job is different. Breakfast starts at 7:50 and ends at 8:20 A.M., making it a great motivator for students to get to school on time.

Afterwards, the kitchen staff focuses on lunch, and then cleans up while getting ready for the next day. Cookies for the next day begin to be frosted by hand before students with 7th period lunch are even finished eating. Fruit trays, veggie trays, sandwiches, pizzas, salad bar, cookies, etc., are made daily and coolers are restocked every day. Our food service workers try to clean as they go since with the volume of food they handle, they can’t have a messy work station.

With set duties to keep operations smooth, when even one worker is missing, the kitchen suddenly has to deal with much more stress. For this reason, there are substitute cafeteria workers, and they are frequently needed at Hampton.

Along with making them, all of the food service workers eat the lunches. As employees, they are entitled to a free meal under company policy.

And students do generally enjoy the food as well. Sophomore David Poirier “kinda” likes the lunches. Becky Zhou ’22 loves the pasta meals and eats the breakfasts every day. Her one reserve is the mandatory components of lunch: “I don’t like the milk. They only offer low-fat. And people throw away the vegetables. It’s a waste of money.”

Rumors about the beef, bacon, or eggs served in the cafeteria being fake are constantly in circulation, according to Becky. But nothing about the lunches, especially where the food comes from, is kept a secret. If you have questions, all you have to do is ask the cafeteria workers.

Everything aside from produce and milk comes from Hampton’s main distributor US Foods with the current supply chain. The truck visits HHS once a week on Wednesdays, and with changing meals, every shipment is different. Freezer items are stored in boxes and carried into a freezer while cooler and dry items go to their respective places in the kitchen.

There are also offices inside the kitchen, separate from cooking areas. Ms. Mindy Baginski works in one of the offices as the Metz food service director. Metz Culinary Management provides food service management for Hampton schools.

Ms. Baginski ensures that regulations for school food are being followed, especially with nutrition. The cafeteria offers a certain amount of sodium and whole grains, and the milk has to be 1% fat. Ms. Baginski makes the monthly breakfast and lunch menus with input from the lead cooks in each building. Her typical work day involves handling call offs, cooking, running food, serving, and doing dishes.

In regard to students throwing away their milk, fruit, or veggie without drinking or eating it, Ms. Baginski says, “It is terrible to waste the food.” The regulations that make these components mandatory are set by the NSLP, and the school has to follow them. Hampton Township School District has openings for part-time cafeteria workers. No nights, holidays or weekends. Contact Metz Culinary Management at 412-492-6390.
Matthew Zegar of Hampton earned the Boy Scouts’ highest rank when he successfully completed the Eagle Scout Board of Review on December 23, 2021. The son of Robert and Nancy Zegar, Matthew led a team of youth and adult volunteers in constructing and installing a dog agility course in Seville Park in Ross Township. The course, consisting of ramps, stairs, jumps and a tunnel will provide a place for residents to train and exercise their dogs. No dog park exists in or near the park so the addition of the agility course will be a welcome addition to the area. With more and more families becoming pet owners throughout the pandemic, having a facility like the one constructed by Zegar and his team will go a long way in keeping a happy and healthy family pet.

A sophomore at Hampton High School, Zegar has no concrete plans in place for secondary education. He does know how much Scouting has influenced his life, including following his brother’s footsteps to the rank of Eagle Scout. He credits his time and leadership opportunities in Scouting as a member of Troop 17 in the Japeechen District for his many interests in the outdoors and leadership skills. He is confident his time in Scouting has prepared him for success in life.

Anthony DiMaria of Allison Park earned the Boy Scouts’ highest rank when he successfully completed the Eagle Scout Board of Review on December 23, 2021. The son of Todd and Diana DiMaria, Anthony led a team of youth and adult volunteers in making needed improvements to the existing hiking trails in Richland Community Park in Richland Township. DiMaria’s project included adding directional blazes to the unmarked trails and bringing the trails up to standards to make them easier to navigate. To that end he also oversaw the construction and installation of easy-to-understand signs at the trailheads with detailed maps of the trails. He also led his team in making some needed trail improvements for the convenience and safety of hikers.

A senior at Hampton High School, DiMaria has his sights set on a four-year college with a focus on electrical and mechanical engineering. He credits his time and leadership opportunities in Scouting as a member of Troop 17 in the Japeechen District for his many interests in the outdoors and leadership skills, as well as his interest in engineering.

Getting a person involved in Scouting is as simple as logging on to beascout.scouting.org.
Hampton Music Students Honored with PMEA Acceptance

Hampton Township School District announced that several Hampton music students were accepted into the annual Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) Honors Band and Orchestra. The Hampton School Board recognized the students at the January board meeting. More than 600 students from five counties auditioned for this group.

Left to right: Brooks Brady, Zach Harrington, Jason Andrews, Michael Bacasa and Samantha Nicely at Duquesne University.

The PMEA is the Pennsylvania state-level affiliate of the National Association for Music Education.

For more information, visit http://district1.pmea.net.

The following students auditioned and were accepted into PMEA Honors Band and Orchestra:

**PMEA District 1 West Band**
Jason Andrews, trumpet
Michael Bacasa, tuba
*Brooks Brady, trumpet
**Zach Harrington, trumpet
Samantha Nicely, clarinet

**PMEA District 1 Orchestra**
Katherine Chapman, violin
Samantha Eaton, violin

**PMEA Jr. High Orchestra**
Aidan Casey, violin
*Selected to the PMEA Honors Band
**Selected to the PMEA District 1 Orchestra

Spence Recognized For Outstanding Volunteer Efforts by Jenn Edmonds

Every exceptional community has exceptional people and Hampton resident Liz Spence is a great example. Recognizing her intensive volunteer efforts in Hampton, Spence was nominated by members of 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, she is in the top 100 which qualified Hampton Township to receive a management module with 12 months of complimentary support services from CivicPlus, a web development business.

After retiring as a History and Gifted Ed teacher in Shaler, she started seriously volunteering around 2005. When asked how she chose where to volunteer, Spence said, “They were all things I was connected with, at least as a visitor.” Spurred by her love of reading, she was a past member and past president of the Hampton Community Library and she enjoyed walking at Beechwood Farms which led to being a volunteer naturalist, leading hikes and school programs to provide nature experiences for children.

As president of the Pine Creek Land Trust, Spence works as part of a group of volunteers to help protect the land at Crouse Run Nature Reserve. “The work at Crouse Run combines most of my interests: protecting and promoting nature, citizen science, and community involvement,” explained Spence.

A current project of the Land Trust is to protect the hemlock trees that line the valley from the insect named the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA). It has the potential to destroy the hemlock forests as the Emerald Ash Borer did to ash trees a few years ago. The Land Trust is working with guidance from state DCNR to treat the trees and to release a beetle known to attack the HWA. A few years ago, they were awarded a $130,000 grant to fix the bank at Crouse Run.

During the pandemic, Crouse Run provided a unique opportunity for Mormon missionaries to volunteer since Covid restricted the face-to-face volunteering they planned to do in countries like Portugal or Brazil. When the missionaries left for new assignments, they expressed how much they enjoyed their work at the reserve. “My favorite group to work with is young people of that age,” said Spence.

Spence’s volunteer work doesn’t end there. She is a docent at the Pittsburgh Zoo, helping with presentations and programs to connect visitors with animals, and acts on the Environmental Advisory Council for Hampton. She worked with residents and staff on writing the new Comprehensive Plan and updating oil and gas regulations for the zoning ordinance. Spence was recently appointed to North Park Friends to help promote the park and projects.

When asked about the award, Spence said, “I was pleased that I won but I don’t do this to have any recognition. I just like it. It is important to recognize volunteers.”

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

Hampton Magazine * Winter 2022
See What’s Happening

**Weaving Classes** for Adults and Teens --
**Pre-paid Registration Required at http://dlmuseum.org/upcoming. Weaving.shtml**

**Weaving on 4-harness Table Looms, for the Very Beginner**
-- Saturday, March 5, 2022, 9am - 4pm
Day-long, hands-on classes are presented by the talented weavers of the Depreciation Lands Museum and the Butler Spinners and Weavers Guild, as part of their Community Outreach program. Classes are held at the Depreciation Lands Museum. Here is the perfect opportunity to try your hand and begin weaving!
NOTE: Pre-paid registration is required for these classes, and class sizes are limited.

The fee of $45 per class covers the use of looms, tools and all materials. (Discounts available to BSWG and DLM members) Please bring your own lunch; cold beverages will be provided.

**Orientation for New Costumed Interpreters**
Sunday, March 27, 1:30 - 3:30 pm
Come learn what Sunday costumed Interpreters actually do!
-- Registration as a New Volunteer Required --
You will learn "who" you might be on a Sunday, what you wear, and basically what to do for appropriate demonstrations. You will learn about the history of the area, and take a tour of Talley Cavey Village.

While attending the class does not obligate you to join our volunteer staff, we hope you will be enthused and want to become a part of the Depreciation Lands Museum!

New Volunteers are always welcome! If you have an interest in joining the Museum as a Costumed Interpreter, please join us to learn more about it! All training will be provided and 18th century dress is available for new interpreters to borrow. Volunteers typically work two days each month, as fits their schedule.

For more information about Volunteering, e-mail the Museum Volunteer Coordinator ( dlmuseum.volunteer@gmail.com ) or call 412-486-0563 and leave a message.

UPCOMING 2022

**Township of Hampton Community Events & Activities at a Glance**

**Township’s Litter Clean Up Day**
Saturday, April 2nd
Hampton Community Center Registration begins at 8 am

**Easter Egg Hunt**
Saturday, April 9th
Hampton Community Park, 1-3 pm

**Recycle Rama**
Saturday, May 14th, 9am-12 pm
Hampton Community Park

**Pool Season Begins**
Saturday, May 28th
Outdoor Pool Complex Opens 11 am

**American Legion’s Memorial Day Service**
Monday, May 30th at Veterans War Memorial (Community Center) 10 am

**Farmer’s Market Opening Day**
Wednesday, June 1st, 1-3 pm
Community Center parking lot

**Hampton Community Day**
Sunday, July 3rd at Community Park
1 pm — Fireworks at dusk

**National Hot Dog Day**
Wednesday, July 20th, 1-3 pm
Hampton Community Pool

**Christmas In July**
Wednesday, July 27th, 1-3 pm
Hampton Community Pool

**Dog Swim Day**
Saturday, September 10th
Hampton Community Pool
12-3:15 pm

**Halloween Parade**
Saturday, October 22nd, 1-3 pm
Hampton Community Park

**Holiday Event**
Thursday, December 1st, 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!

**YOU Can Help!**

Residents with a fire hydrant on their property or even in their neighborhood are asked by firefighters to clear a 3-foot diameter around the hydrant to give first responders ample room to operate the hydrant. All snow and ice should be removed from the hydrant, and a clear path from the hydrant to the road is also needed.
Shaler Hampton EMS

Year End Update and 2022 Subscription Program

by Executive Director Eric Schmidt, EMT-P, CMTE

To say that 2021 was a challenging year for Shaler Hampton EMS would certainly be an understatement, but it was also an amazing year for so many reasons.

We took delivery of several new vehicles including:

- 2 state of the art ambulances, custom designed by our staff.
- A new supervisors’ vehicle that continues to allow a high-level support to our field staff, while enhancing our ability to support the 9 volunteer fire departments in the communities that we serve and enhanced incident command functions.
- A new UTV that is patient transport capable for special events and difficult access situations.
- One of the ambulances and the UTV were 100% grant funded, the ambulance by an Assistance to Firefighters federal grant, and the UTV by a grant from Highmark Health.

We were also fortunate in receiving several other grants that stabilized our supply of PPE for our staff, helped us purchase new radios, and realize other operational and fiscal benefits.

But as important as each of the items above are, they all pale in comparison to the commitment of our stellar staff. 55 people who are paramedics, advanced EMT’s and EMT’s, paid and volunteer, that staffed more than 52,000 hours in 2021. All through nearly 2 years of a pandemic, creating challenges for them, for EMS, and for the health care system overall, which never have been experienced before. As 2021 ended we were unfortunately in the midst of a new COVID variant that was more transmissible. But still they showed up every day and provided care to thousands of patients during the year that was both clinically excellent and compassionate.

We are also fortunate due to the support of the people and communities that we serve. Etna, Hampton, Shaler, the people who live there, and the municipal officials who believe in and provide support so that we are well staffed. Because of the high level of support, we are not experiencing staffing issues that are challenging many other ambulance services in the region.

Our 2022 subscription campaign will arrive in mailboxes in early March, please keep a look out for it. It will look different this year, because believe it or not – there’s an envelope shortage! And although it will look different, the annual subscription costs are not increasing and last year our subscribers had more than $250,000 forgiven from their out-of-pocket expense due to being subscribers. You can also subscribe online TODAY, and your subscription will be immediately active and cover you through March of 2023!

In closing, we love a good party! So if you are planning a block party, neighborhood party, church picnic, or any large get together, let us know please; we’d love to stop by, get a chance to show everyone our capabilities, and get to know each other a bit, at a time less critical than usual.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update and please know how seriously we take the responsibility of being here and ready when you need us.
There were enough presents to fill two police vehicles. The presents were delivered before Christmas to the Children’s Institute in Shadyside and the Sunrise School in Monroeville.

Hampton Police and staff participated in No-Shave November. The goal of No-Shave November is to grow awareness of cancer by embracing hair, which many cancer patients lose. The fundraiser gave everyone the opportunity to talk about cancer since the department has been directly impacted by the disease. The department presented a check for $3,700 to the Mrs. Claus Club, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing support and comfort baskets to local women and men undergoing cancer treatments. For more information regarding the Mrs. Claus Club visit www.mrsclausclub.org or to make a donation: Mrs. Claus Club, PO Box 621, Allison Park, PA 15101.
Hampton Community Library Trivia Night: The Covid Edition!

Covid put our Trivia Night on hold for 2 years but we are back! Knowledge of the Dewey Decimal System not required!

Assemble your pod/team and get ready for a night of laughter and a 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).

Friday, March 18th, 2022. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Trivia begins at 7:00 p.m. Program ends by 9:30 p.m. Space is limited; Registration required. Space/Teams will be limited.
There is a NATIONAL BLOOD SHORTAGE and Hampton High School wanted to help. A blood drive was held on January 26. It is never too late to help save a life by donating. Visit vitalant.org or call 877-25-VITAL (877-258-4825)

THANK YOU HAMPTON!
Vitalant is a nonprofit organization that collects blood from volunteer donors and provides blood, blood products and services across the united states. It was founded in 1943 as the Salt River Valley Blood Bank in Phoenix, Arizona.
Collecting Names of Service Members for Gulf War Memorial Plaque

Hampton Township, The Hampton Community Association and Hampton American Legion Post 296 are collecting the names of service members who previously lived in Hampton Township or currently live in Hampton Township and served on active duty during the Gulf War beginning on August 2, 1990 through the current date. We wish to recognize their service to our country and create an additional plaque to be added to the Hampton Township Veterans’ Memorial. This list will be closed for submission of names and information no later than November 10, 2022 so that preparation and presentation of the plaque can occur on Memorial Day 2023.

We encourage current or past active duty Hampton Gulf War Veterans to submit their information for coordination and review of eligibility. The period of Gulf War wartime service continues through a future date to be set by law or Presidential Proclamation.

In order to verify and confirm accuracy of residency and eligibility, we encourage early submission of information to:

www.hampton-pa.org/HamptonGulfWarVeteran

Are you a past or current resident of Hampton Township Gulf War Veteran that:
1. Served in the military on Active Duty; or a Member of the National Guard and Reserves who was called to active duty and served on active duty from August 2, 1990 through the present;
2. Awarded an Honorable or General Discharge from Active Duty for military service August 2, 1990 through the present;
3. Received a National Defense Service Medal?

Who is considered a Gulf War-era veteran?

For the purposes of benefits eligibility as per the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Gulf War period is still in effect-meaning anyone who served on active duty (in theatre or stateside) from August 2, 1990 through the present is considered a Gulf War-era veteran.
Families come in many shapes and sizes, but one thing is clear. Children benefit when both parents are fully engaged in the lives of their children. Approximately 35% of children are raised in single-parent households, many without access to their fathers and the financial and emotional support they can provide. When a child has access to both parents, the child is more likely to exhibit healthy behaviors, excel in school and achieve emotional well-being.

A father’s absence can have a negative impact on a child’s life from birth forward. Studies have shown that children who grow up without their father’s involvement are more likely to live in poverty, have higher odds of drug and alcohol use, are twice as likely to drop out of high school and experience increased odds of being incarcerated. They also have a higher risk of physical and emotional neglect.

Building on the work of The Strong Families Commission, fatherhood advocacy initiatives and former State Representative and current Mayor of Pittsburgh, Ed Gainey, I introduced House Bill 1731 establishing the Pennsylvania Advisory Committee on Greater Father Involvement within the Joint State Government Commission. The Joint State Government Commission (JSCG) is the primary non-partisan research organization that serves the General Assembly. It provides the legislature with a readily available mechanism for conducting interdisciplinary studies and is comprised of a diverse research staff experienced in statistical analysis, survey methods, report writing, making policy recommendations and drafting legislation.

HB 1731 provides the framework by which a collaborative committee of individuals dedicated to the advancement of fatherhood initiatives can research, evaluate and recommend policy and program changes to remove barriers and promote greater father involvement across all levels of government. The bill has been assigned to the House Children and Youth Committee, and work on the language is ongoing.

As a Commonwealth we need to address the public policies that impede fathers in developing meaningful and supportive connections with their children, as well as create support mechanisms that enhance the ability of fathers to assume their parenting roles. It is my hope that the introduction of HB 1731 will promote and advance the goal of greater father involvement across Pennsylvania.
Hampton Township Municipal Update

2022 Budget Adopted – NO Tax Increase

The primary objective of the Township’s 2022 budget is to continue providing the highest quality services to Hampton residents at the lowest, most responsible cost. In conjunction with this budget, the Township’s millage rate has been set at 2.92, the same as last year. It is anticipated that the budget carry-over as of January 1st will total $775,291. Revenues are estimated at $16,677,291. Expenditures have been set at $15,901,590, distributed as follows:

General Government ........................................... 3,827,630
Public Safety ............................................................ 2,984,768
Community Development/Planning ....................... 464,234
Community Services (Public Works/Recreation) ...... 4,019,191
Environmental Services ..................................... 2,082,772
Debt Service ......................................................... 1,462,000
Transfers/Miscellaneous ..................................... 1,060,995
TOTAL ............................................................... $15,901,590

Should you desire to review the Township’s budget in its entirety, a copy can be found on our website at www.hampton-pa.org under the Township Services & Departments/Finance Department link beginning Tuesday, March 1st.

Stormwater Management Fee

In 2020, the Township of Hampton initiated a stormwater management fee to offset the costs of new Federal and State mandates regarding stormwater management. This fee, which equates out to $115 per residential dwelling unit, is used to offset the costs associated with the maintenance of stormwater detention ponds, stream channel restoration and stabilization projects, and to offset the costs associated with infrastructure (storm drains and catch basins) maintenance and improvements throughout the township. This fee is due in February of each year and you should look for a bill from Jordan Tax Service in early February.

Retirees Recognized

In 2021, the Township saw two employees with approximately 50 years combined experience retire from Township service. Darin Witherup, Police Sergeant, and Dennis Weismann, Community Services Laborer, celebrated their retirement from the Township and at this time we wish to thank them and extend our sincerest best wishes for a healthy and happy retirement.

Community Litter/Clean-Up Day Scheduled

Seeking Volunteers!

Mark your calendars...the Township will again be sponsoring a community-wide program to help clean up township roadside areas from debris on Saturday, April 2, 2022, from 8 am to 12 noon. Each volunteer will receive a t-shirt as a small token of appreciation for their service.

Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by at least one (1) parent/guardian who can drive the children to the clean-up locations. All volunteers/volunteer groups must have a driver. Should you be interested in volunteering, registration is required in order to schedule clean-up locations as well as provide t-shirt sizes. You can register on the Township’s website at www.hampton-pa.org/2022cleanupday. Volunteers will meet at the Hampton Community Center. Gloves, safety vests and trash bags will be provided at that time. Please wear the appropriate work clothes and shoes. Bring your ball team, book club, neighbors, family and friends to help. For more information, please call Assistant Township Manager Susan Bernet at 412-486-0400 ext. 1303.

2021 Clean-Up Day was a huge success with approximately 135 volunteers...let’s see if we can surpass that this year!

Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste Materials/Waste

As part of the residential solid waste and recycling contract with Waste Management, you have a convenient opportunity to dispose of your household generated special materials- safely, easily and responsibly...at no additional charge. Examples of acceptable materials include, but not limited to, automotive products (i.e. antifreeze, hydraulic fluid, motor oil, polishes), garden chemicals (i.e. insect sprays, weed killers, fertilizers), paint (i.e. latex, oil-based, thinners), household cleaners (i.e. bleach, drain cleaner, tile cleaners, rust remover), swimming pool chemicals, mercury, miscellaneous household items (i.e. hobby glue, drive-way sealers), vehicle batteries, fluorescent tubes and CFL’s, televisions, computers, VCR’s, phones, CD players.

To participate, you must set up a collection appointment with Waste Management, by one of the following ways: 1) go to www.WMAtYourDoor.com, 2) 1-800-449-7587, or 3) e-mail at AtYourDoor@WM.com.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Township office at 412-486-0400 ext. 1303.
REGISTRATION INFORMATION

SPRING & SUMMER PROGRAMMING

Program Registration periods vary. Please refer to program information for their registration periods for both Residents and Non-Residents. For further questions on registration dates please call the Community Center Service Desk at 412-487-7870 ext. 1370.

- Hampton Residents will be given priority.
- Classes do fill quickly and registration is on a first come, first serve basis starting the first day of registration.
- First fee listed is for Hampton Residents / second fee listed is for Non-Residents.
- Fees subject to change without notice.
- We try our best to accommodate everyone; however, please do not ask us to exceed class size limits or to put your child in the wrong age, skill level, or class. Programs are designed according to age levels and instructor to student ratios that will benefit the students.
- Cash refunds are NOT given. However, credits to Department of Community Service online accounts will be issued.
- Registrations for memberships or programs can be done online at www.hampton-pa.org or in person at the Community Center Service Desk or kiosk.
- All participants must create an online account in order to register for programs or memberships online or in person.
- Online transactions must be paid by credit card only. In person transactions can be paid by cash, check, or credit card.
- All credit card transactions online and in person will be subject to a 2.95% convenience fee.
- If a class becomes full, we will not be permitted to accept any additional participants. No exceptions.
- For the most up to date information on Department of Community Service programs and events visit our website at www.hampton-pa.org!
- In addition to the Hampton Highlights, the Township of Hampton electronically distributes a monthly e-newsletter highlighting different activities and events going on each month! Would you like to receive our monthly newsletter direct to your inbox? Register by going to www.hampton-pa.org and clicking the Recreational Registration button to create an account today!
COMMUNITY CENTER
WINTER HOURS OF OPERATION

Dates: January 3rd - May 28th
Sunday: 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Monday & Friday: 6:00 am - 9:00 pm
Tuesday - Thursday: 6:00 am - 10:00 pm
Saturday: 8:00 am - 8:00 pm

*Hours are subject to change without notice.*
*Hours may be adjusted due to holidays.*
*Administrative hours are 8:00 am - 5:00 pm; Monday - Friday.*

INDOOR TRACK
The three-lane walking and jogging track is open during normal Community Center hours unless otherwise posted. Thirteen laps around the track equals one mile. Appropriate footwear is required while using the track. Please follow the direction signs located above the track area.

Use of the indoor track is included with your Community Center or Fitness membership. If you do not have a current membership and would like to use the track a daily guest fee of $6 can be paid at the Service Desk.

COMMUNITY CENTER FOOD MARKET
A self-serve, self-pay food market is located on the lower level of the Hampton Community Center! Patrons can enjoy a vast assortment of beverages; both hot and cold, as well as a great variety of snacks and food items. Enjoy a light healthy snack to wind down after your workout or a fresh espresso to start off your day! It’s a great option for an after school snack spot for children using the basketball courts or the perfect breakfast place before going to the Library for story time.

Food items will be replenished weekly so all items are guaranteed to be fresh! The market is a self-pay area which is monitored closely by cameras. Simply select the items you desire to purchase and scan them at the pay station as you would at any other self-check-out kiosk. After your payment has been processed your transaction is complete. Payments accepted include credit or debit card and VIBE cards (which can be picked up at the Community Center Service Desk).

COMMUNITY CENTER MEMBERSHIPS
Yearly Membership Includes Use of Track & Gymnasium Courts
Adult Memberships: $327 / $63
Youth Memberships: $19 / $38

COMMUNITY CENTER INFORMATION

COMMUNITY CENTER
FACILITY RULES
All members and guests must enter through the main doors of the Community Center. All members should scan their membership ID card at the Service Desk. All guests must check in at the Service Desk for assistance.

Any child under 10 years of age must be accompanied, at all times, by an adult (18 +) in the building, this includes the gymnasium.

Any person(s) using the amenities such as the track, fitness area, gymnasium, or lounges must either have a current membership or pay the daily admission rate. No exceptions.

No smoking inside the building. No loitering inside or outside of the building, and no skateboards or similar items are permitted to be used inside the building. Parking is not permitted around the area located in front of the Community Center; this area is a fire zone.
COMMUNITY PARK PAVILIONS

Hampton Community Park Pavilion reservations are now available to rent online! Pavilions are also available to rent, in person, by visiting the Community Center Service Desk during regular hours of operation. Payment must be made, in full, at time of reservation. Pavilion fees can be paid by cash, check, or credit card in person and by credit card only online. For additional information on pavilion amenities and locations, as well as date availability please visit our website at www.hampton-pa.org.

HAMPTON COMMUNITY PARK PAVILION RATES

Pavilion rate includes choice of pavilion and ABC Permit. First fee is for Residents / second fee is for Non-Residents.

Pavilion Choices:
Alcoa, Drake, Grubbs, Hardt, Kraus, Orchard - Ling, & Rotary

Pavilion Rates:
Monday-Friday $100 / $150
Saturday & Sunday $100 / $150
Holidays $114 (Residents Only)

Tent Site Permit - $25    Permit Change or Replacement Fee - $25

Hampton Community Park offers seven different park pavilions located throughout the park area that are available to rent. Each pavilion includes six picnic tables, a water pump, overhead lighting, electrical outlets & a charcoal grill. All pavilions have four electrical outlets except Kraus, which has three.

D.J.’s or live bands are not permitted in the Community Park.

Roasting fires are prohibited in the Community Park.

Tents or structures that need to be secured in the ground require a Tent Site Permit and permission is required prior to the rental date.
WE ARE HIRING

CERTIFIED LIFEGUARDS
CONCESSION & MAINTENANCE STAFF
PLAY CAMP COUNSELORS
COMMUNITY CENTER DESK STAFF
& FACILITY MANAGERS

APPLY ONLINE AT
WWW.HAMPTON-PA.ORG
FITNESS MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

FITNESS AREA HOURS OF OPERATION

Sunday: CLOSED
Monday & Friday: 6:00 am - 9:00 pm
Tuesday - Thursday: 6:00 am - 10:00 pm
Saturday: 8:00 am - 8:00 pm

The main Fitness Area is located on the upper level of the Community Center as well as a smaller room, with cardio equipment, that is on the main level of the center. This area is open during regular Community Center hours unless otherwise posted. Currently there are twenty-one pieces of fitness equipment available; eleven cardio and ten weight training pieces including free weights with varying weights.

The Fitness Area does not have direct supervision. The on-duty Facility Manager will provide routine monitoring. However, if at any time you should have any questions, or require assistance, do not hesitate to speak with the Service Desk staff.

For the health and safety of our patrons two Automatic Electric Defibrillator (AED) Units are located in the Community Center. Should a circumstance ever arise that these life sustaining devices need use, they can only be used by a trained Community Center staff member or patron.

Fitness Members should scan their membership ID card at the Service Desk upon entering the center.

YEARLY FITNESS MEMBERSHIP FEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Annual Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Membership*</td>
<td>$217 / $427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married Couple</td>
<td>$117 / $222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult (18 +)</td>
<td>$67 / $134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Student**</td>
<td>$37 / $74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth (ages 10 - 17)</td>
<td>$56 / $111</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Family Membership pricing is for up to four persons. Each additional family member will be billed for the individual rate.

**College Students must provide valid college ID during initial membership and renewing of membership to receive the discounted college rate.

If you do not have a current Fitness Membership or you are a Fitness Member and you have a guest with you, a $6 daily pass may be purchased at the Community Center Service Desk. Any patrons using the Fitness Area for the first time (daily guest or member) will need to have a brief Fitness Area Orientation at the Service Desk prior to using the equipment.

Fitness Area information packets are available at the Community Center Service Desk as well as on our website at www.hampton-pa.org.

HAMPTON HIGHLIGHTS
**ADULT PICKLEBALL**

Pickleball is an easy game for all ages to learn. The game is a combination of tennis, badminton, and ping pong. The sport is played on a badminton court, with the net a little lower than a tennis net, and played with a hard paddle and a smaller version of a wiffleball. All levels are welcome to walk in and play pickleball. Bring your own racquet.

- **AGES:** 18 & up
- **DAY:** Mondays & Wednesdays
- **DATES & TIME:** January 3rd - May 25th
  12 - 2:30 pm
- **LOCATION:** Community Center Gymnasium
  Courts C & D
- **FEE:** $5 per person; daily

**ADULT BADMINTON**

This is a walk-in program for those of all skill levels who enjoy the finer points of the game.

- **AGES:** 18 & up
- **DAY:** Tuesdays
- **DATES & TIME:** January 4th - May 24th
  8:00 - 10:00 pm
- **LOCATION:** Community Center Gymnasium
  Courts C & D
- **FEE:** $5 per person; daily

**ADULT VOLLEYBALL**

This is a walk-in program for the beginner to intermediate skill level players. Teams are formed each night and players rotate into games throughout the program.

- **AGES:** 18 & up
- **DAY:** Thursdays
- **DATES & TIME:** January 6th - May 26th
  8:00 - 10:00 pm
- **LOCATION:** Community Center Gymnasium
  Courts C & D
- **FEE:** $5 per person; daily
FOOD TRUCK DAYS

Food Trucks will be in the Community Park once again this summer! Come out to enjoy great food and fun with your neighbors and friends!

A great idea for your next date night or a fun dinner idea for the whole family! A variety of Food Trucks will be stationed in the Outdoor Pool Side Parking lot from 3 - 7 pm on Wednesday, June 1st, Wednesday, June 15th, Wednesday, June 29th, Wednesday July 13th & Wednesday, July 27th.

Some food items that will be available include tacos, meatballs, barbeque, sandwiches, and much more!

Information on specific Food Trucks that will be in attendance each day will be posted to our Facebook page and website prior to the events!

FARMER’S MARKET

Returning Summer 2022!

Hampton Township will once again have a Farmer’s Market in the Hampton Community Park every Wednesday beginning June 1st from 3 - 7 pm.

If you would like information on becoming a Market vendor please contact Bill Ryder at bill.ryder@hampton-pa.org or at 412-487-7870 ext. 1316.

The most up to date information regarding the Farmer’s Market will be available on our website at www.hampton-pa.org and in the next edition of the Hampton Magazine.

TOWNSHIP OF HAMPTON EASTER EGG HUNT

We are pleased to announce that after two years, the Easter Bunny is coming BACK to Hampton along with the Township’s traditional egg hunt festivities!

Join us on Saturday, April 9th from 1 - 3 pm in the Hampton Community Park for an Easter egg hunt for children 10 years of age and under! In addition to our egg hunt there will be child friendly activities, delicious refreshments and an opportunity to meet the Easter Bunny! Please feel free to bring your own Easter basket for collecting eggs!

Registration for this event will be available on our website beginning in March! Detailed event information will be available on our Township website as well as in the March Hampton Happenings monthly newsletter!

Please note this event will be held entirely outdoors; rain or shine.

OPEN GYM

Hampton Community Center
$3 Admission

Days and times vary
Please visit our website to view the open gym calendar.
SUMMER PROGRAMS

SUMMER PLAY CAMP (311101)
The Summer Play Camp Program includes arts & crafts, afternoon swimming, daily organized sports games and special events. Morning and afternoon snacks are provided daily and included in the cost of camp. Detailed Program Information including daily schedules, program policies, as well as enrollment forms are available at the Community Center Service Desk as of April 1st. Resident registration begins April 1st and Non-Resident Registration begins May 1st. All program enrollments must be done in person and all enrollment forms must be filled out in entirety and be accompanied by the required enrollment fee.

**The Hampton Township Summer Play Camp program will be following all state and county orders, rules and regulations in effect at the time the program will run.**

PROGRAM REGISTRATION INFORMATION
Enrolling your child for the program will guarantee your child a place in the program. However, it is required that you register your child ahead of time for each week that they will attend the Play Camp program. Please keep in mind you will not be able to register your child for weekly attendance until you have turned in all enrollment forms and enrollment fee at the Community Center. Weekly registrations for Play Camp will require your full weekly payment to be made at time of registration. For your convenience you can register your child online or in person for the weeks that you wish to attend Play Camp. It is the participant’s responsibility to register for the correct weeks of Play Camp. Weekly registrations must be done at least 5 DAYS PRIOR to the start of the week you wish to attend. Play Camp will not accept participants until they are registered and paid in full for the weeks they are attending.

POOL PASS REQUIREMENT
Play Camp participants are required to purchase a season Pool Pass for the Community Park Outdoor Pool since we do go to the pool every afternoon. Please visit our website at [www.hampton-pa.org](http://www.hampton-pa.org) to obtain a pool pass. Pool passes must be purchased PRIOR to your child attending Play Camp. Proof of pool pass purchase may be required at initial drop off to Play Camp.

Participants only pay for the weeks that they register their child for. The week of July 4th will be pro-rated due to Play Camp only being available four days that week. Payment is based off the number of children per family as well as residency.

AGES:
*6 – 12 yrs. Old
*Must be entering 1st grade Fall 2022

DATES:
June 13th – August 19th
*No program on July 4th

DAYS:
Monday – Friday

TIMES:
7:30 am – 5:30 pm

*Attendance fees will be available in the Parent Manual which is available on April 1st.

PROGRAM ENROLLMENT FEE INFORMATION
When your child’s completed enrollment paperwork is accepted at the Service Desk you will be required to pay an enrollment fee. This fee is not a deposit and does not count towards your child’s attendance. Enrollment fee structure is noted below. Please note that new this year along with the “Regular Enrollment Fee” there is a “Late Enrollment Fee” and a “Mid Program Enrollment Fee”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regular Enrollment Fee (April 1st – May 31st)</th>
<th>Late Enrollment Fee (June 1st – June 12th)</th>
<th>Mid Program Enrollment Fee (After Program has begun)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 child: $50.00</td>
<td>$75.00</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 children: $75.00</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>$125.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 children: $100.00</td>
<td>$125.00</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 2022 Pool Membership Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Early</th>
<th>Regular</th>
<th>Non-Resident</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAMILY</td>
<td>$225</td>
<td>$275</td>
<td>$450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARRIED COUPLE</td>
<td>$175</td>
<td>$225</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADULT (18 - 59)</td>
<td>$135</td>
<td>$175</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOUTH (3 - 17)</td>
<td>$95</td>
<td>$125</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFANT (0 - 2)</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SENIOR (60 +)</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2ND SENIOR (same household)</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Guest Passes Early Discount (Now - March 31st)**: $5
**Guest Passes**: $7

*Guest passes are only available with a valid pool membership. A limit of three passes per membership applies.*

## Pool Membership Policies & Procedures

- **Family Pool Memberships** may only be purchased for immediate family members on tax list, or living in the same household. Babysitters, neighbors, nieces / nephews, and visiting relatives are not eligible to be included on your family pool pass.
- **Pool Membership / ID Cards** are non-transferable and may not be borrowed or loaned. Non-compliance will result in the loss of your Pool Membership.
- **Guest Passes LIMIT OF 3 PASSES PER MEMBERSHIP**. Available for purchase online or in-person at the Community Center and outdoor pool complex admission gate.

## Daily Admission Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ages 0 - 2</td>
<td>FREE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 3 - 17</td>
<td>$7 / $10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 18 - 59</td>
<td>$8 / $15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 60 +</td>
<td>$5 / $8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Special Swim Session Rates

- **Open Swim**
  - Monday - Sunday: 4 - 7:00 pm
  - $5 / $8 (Ages 3 and Up)

## Outdoor Pool Sunscreen Policy

The use of spray sunscreen has been banned from the pool’s interior fence area due to respiratory risks to patrons & staff and the negative effects spray sunscreen has on the pool circulation/filter system. Lotions are permitted inside the pool complex. A designated area beyond the interior fence is provided for sunscreen spraying.
COMMUNITY CENTER RENTALS

Hampton Community Center offers various rooms and rental packages to fit every renter’s needs! We accommodate parties such as birthdays, bridal or baby showers, themed parties, and weddings! Reservations can be made as early as two years in advance (Hampton Residents) or eighteen months in advance (Non-Residents). Below is pricing information for each room that we offer for rent. Don’t see what you are looking for? Our on-site Rental Coordinator is happy to meet with you to discuss your desires and help create a wonderful experience for you! Our Rental Coordinator is available by appointment only. Any questions you have in regards to rental facilities, or date availability, please call our Rental Coordinator at 412-487-7870 ext. 1357.

**HOURLY RATES FOR FACILITY RENTALS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Great Room A or B</td>
<td>$85 / $100 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Room A &amp; B</td>
<td>$175 / $198 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gathering Area (after hours)</td>
<td>$48 / $60 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Room 1</td>
<td>$42 / $55 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Room 2</td>
<td>$48 / $60 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gymnasium (full)</td>
<td>$88 / $100 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gymnasium (half)</td>
<td>$48 / $60 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gymnasium (quarter)</td>
<td>$25 / $40 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance &amp; Aerobics Room</td>
<td>$42 / $55 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heat &amp; Serve Kitchen</td>
<td>$220 per day</td>
</tr>
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**PACKAGE RATES FOR FACILITY RENTALS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Great Room A or B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Hour Rate: $230 / $290</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Hour Rate: $465 / $560</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Hour Rate: $585 / $760</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Room A &amp; B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Hour Rate: $465 / $585</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Hour Rate: $700 / $865</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Hour Rate: $815 / $1,050</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gathering Area (after hours)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Hour Rate: $115 / $160</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Hour Rate: $205 / $240</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Hour Rate: $290 / $330</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Activity Room 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Hour Rate: $110 / $145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Hour Rate: $175 / $210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Hour Rate: $260 / $300</td>
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**Activity Room 2**

<table>
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<th>Rate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Hour Rate: $115 / $160</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Hour Rate: $205 / $240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Hour Rate: $290 / $330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Birthday Party Packages includes 1/4 of the gym and either Activity Room 1 or Activity Room 2 for three hours.

Activity Room 1 Birthday Package: $90 / $140
Activity Room 2 Birthday Package: $135 / $190

Alcohol Beverage Consumption (ABC) Permit is also available for $32

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TOWNSHIP & GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

State Representatives:
State Senator Lindsey Williams
(38th District)
5000 McKnight Road
Suite 405
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
412-364-0469

State Representative Lori Mizgorski
(30th District)
4284 Wm. Flynn Hwy. Suite 105
Allison Park, PA 15101
412-487-6605

County Representatives:
Rich Fitzgerald, Chief Executive
101 Allegheny County
Court House
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-350-6500

Anita Prizio
(District 3)
Allegheny County Court House
436 Grant Street - Rm 119
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-350-6490

District Magistrate:
Tom Swan
724-265-2380

Local Taxes:
Jordan Tax Service
(Property & Stormwater Mgmt.)
102 Rahway Road
McMurray, PA 15317
724-731-2300
412-835-5243
custsvs@jordantax.com

Keystone Collections (Wages & LST)
546 Wendell Road
Irwin, PA 15642
888-328-0558

Township Council:
Carolynn Johnson, Council President
Bethany Blackburn, Vice President
Joe Dougherty
Julie Fritsch
Rock Kernick

Controller:
Jerry Speakman

Monthly Meeting Dates:
Township Council
7:30 pm on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday*
*Unless otherwise noted.

Water Authority
7 pm on the 4th Monday

Zoning Hearing Board
7:30 pm on the 4th Tuesday

Hampton Community Association
6 pm on the 3rd Tuesday

Environmental Advisory Council
7 pm on the 2nd Tuesday

Planning Commission
7 pm on the 2nd Monday

Federal Representatives:
Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.
310 Grant Street, Suite 2415
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-803-7370

Senator Pat Toomey
310 Grant Street, Suite 1440
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-803-3501

Congressman Conor Lamb
504 Washington Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15228
412-344-5583

Police & Emergencies:
Hampton Police, Fire &
E.M.S. Emergencies: Call 911

Hampton Police Non-Emergencies:
412-486-0400

Township Offices:
Municipal Building
3101 McCully Road
Allison Park, PA 15101
412-486-0400
412-486-5019 (fax)

Hampton Community Center
3101 McCully Road
Allison Park, PA 15101
412-487-7870
412-487-7871 (fax)

Township Employees:
Manager
W. Christopher Lochner...Ext. 1306
chris.lochner@hampton-pa.org

Assistant Manager
Susan A. Bernet...Ext. 1303
susan.bernet@hampton-pa.org

Police Chief
Tom Vulakovich...Ext. 1317
tom.vulakovich@hampton-pa.org

Dept. of Community Svs. Director
Kevin M. Flannery...Ext. 1315
kevin.flannery@hampton-pa.org

Dept. of Environmental Svs. Director
James Degnan...Ext. 3312
jim.degnan@hampton-pa.org

Land Use Administrator
Amanda Gold-Lukas...Ext. 1307
amanda.gold-lukas@hampton-pa.org

Water Authority
April Winklemann...412-486-4867
april.winklemann@hswa-pa.org
Through Waste Management (same day as trash collection – green & yellow containers):

All Paper, newsprint, telephone books, etc.

Plastic bottles, jars, jugs & tubs (Containers labeled #1 and #2)

Food & beverage cans

Plastic grocery bags clog conveyor belts at recycling plants. Please do not place any recyclables in grocery bags. The best way to recycle grocery bags is to take them back to your local grocery store.

***ALL RECYCLABLES MUST FIT IN RECYCLING CONTAINER OTHERWISE WILL BE PICKED UP AS TRASH. CARDBOARD ONLY RECYCLING

Yard Waste (same day as trash collection)

Yard waste such as leaves in biodegradable bags, garden residue, shrubbery, trimmings, limbs, twigs, brush & tree trimmings are collected the 3rd full week of each month from April through November by Waste Management.

During peak leaf season (in the fall only), Township crews will pick up leaf bags only during the weeks that Waste Management does not pick up yard waste. Leave bags at the curb on the same day as your garbage/recycling day. This service will be provided through the end of November, or until weather permits.

Glass Recycling

A permanent glass recycling drop-off station can be found behind the salt storage building at the municipal complex. Place glass only (bottles, jars and jugs) in collection bin. Bags and boxes used to deliver glass must be discarded off-site.

Any questions regarding the Township’s recycling program can be address by calling 412-486-0400 ext. 1303.
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A Letter from the Superintendent: Giving Back

Dear Hampton Township Community,

In my years as Hampton Township School District’s Superintendent of Schools, I have come to learn that tough times can test even the strongest communities. Fortunately, the tight-knit Hampton Township community is remarkably resilient, as we have witnessed since the very outset of the coronavirus pandemic. Our students and staff have shown resolve to overcome the educational challenges of the pandemic and have successfully returned to full in-person learning during the 2021-2022 school year.

But then in late October, the Hampton Township community was hit with another unexpected challenge when a tornado with mighty wind speeds caused damage to homes throughout the region. Local TV news stations showed images of uprooted trees, damaged roofs, and the trail of debris left by the tornado. At that time, I was reminded of a quote from Fred Rogers: “When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, ‘Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.’”

In Hampton Township, one does not need to look far to find people who are always helping. You can imagine the enormous pride I felt when I learned that about 30 members of the Hampton football team showed up early Saturday morning on October 23 to help residents of a particularly hard-hit neighborhood clean up after the tornado brought down dozens of trees. I am tremendously grateful and appreciative of head coach Jacque DeMatteo and his football team for helping their neighbors clean up after the devastating storm. Their actions speak volumes to the kind of selflessness and care that our school community has for one another.

The football team’s response was just one of many examples during the 2021-22 school year of how our students and staff have helped our community. In this issue, you will also read about the many ways our elementary schools, middle school, and high school have given back to their community — through an array of fundraisers, drives, and volunteer work.

I also would like to highlight the success of this year’s especially powerful and moving Hampton Heroes program. In November, Hampton Middle School worked together to honor our local veterans through hosting the 20th annual Hampton Heroes program. This year, we inducted nine local veterans into the program, which for the first time was held outdoors at Fridley Field. Our middle school band, chorus and orchestra performed during the ceremony. The High School marching band also performed its inspirational show, “Thank You,” which beautifully remembered, honored, and showed gratitude towards veterans, active-duty military, and their families.

Being a smaller district compared to our neighbors, the Hampton Township community rallied in numbers around our student athletes to show support during an unprecedented and successful fall sports season. I would like to recognize and congratulate the Hampton boys soccer team for capturing the WPIAL and state championship, in addition to the Hampton girls volleyball team for finishing WPIAL and state runner-up.

In summary, our students and staff have given the Hampton Township community a lot to be proud of over the course of the 2021-22 school year. I look forward to witnessing our students continue to excel in academics, athletics, and the arts!

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Loughead
Superintendent of Schools

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The District Dispatch is published four times annually as part of the Hampton Magazine.
Hampton Schools Bring Comfort Through Array of Holiday Giving Initiatives

Hampton schools participated in an array of holiday giving initiatives this year, all intended to bring support and comfort to others.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
There was hardly any snow in Hampton to prove it, but the weather in December was chilly — cold enough to make you want to cozy up with a nice blanket.

The chilly weather, and the spirit of giving, inspired fifth-grade students from Central Elementary School to make and distribute fleece blankets to patients receiving care at Concordia at Rebecca Residence.

“The Central 5th grade team wanted to experience how it is better to give gifts than receive them,” said Central Elementary School teacher Mrs. Joell McMonigal. “It was a joyful time watching the students singing carols, making blankets, and designing ‘Thinking of You’ cards to brighten a resident’s day.”

Each student donated $5 or more to help cover the cost of materials. Their teachers hoped that the money earned was from completing a chore to make life easier for parents and others during this busy holiday season.

After making and wrapping the blankets, the fifth graders designed cards with inspirational and cheerful messages for the patients at Rebecca Residence.

At Poff Elementary School, first grade students organized a school-wide food drive for the North Hills Community Food Pantry.

Additionally, the Poff Elementary School Jam Be the Kind Kid Club organized a holiday toy drive for Cuddles for Kids in early December, collecting 184 toys. Students also sold handmade ornaments for $1 each to raise money for the same organization and were able to donate $194. Conner Hagins, a paraeducator at Poff Elementary, founded Cuddles for Kids (CFK) in 2006 at the age of 9. Since its inception, CFK has donated more than $750,000 worth of items to hospitals and children’s agencies in western Pennsylvania and around the world.

The Wyland PTO continued its holiday tradition of supporting families through the Adopt-a-Family program. This program provides a way for members of the Wyland community to support Wyland families facing hardships during the holiday season.

HAMPTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
HMS collected over $1,000 for the It’s About the Warrior Foundation, founded in 2012 to assist and empower post 9/11 veterans locally. Hampton Middle School, along with the HMS PTO, raised these funds over the course of the 2021 Talbot Dog Contest.

Also, the HMS Student Council led a food drive before Thanksgiving entitled the “Fight for Families in Need.” Founded in 2012, Inspired Hearts and Hands (IH2) works to serve those who are less fortunate in Allegheny and Butler counties, namely families who are designated as financially and circumsstantially disadvantaged. HMS collected over $120 in cash, over $100 in Aldi gift cards and a “ton of food” to help families in need.

In November, many HMS students donated $1 to wear pajamas to raise money for North Hills Community Outreach, which addresses the needs of people in crisis, hardship, and poverty in northern Allegheny County. Students raised $322.55 for NHCO prior to the Thanksgiving holiday.

HAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL
The Busy Bean, a student-run school cafe managed by the High School special education program, held a fundraiser this past fall to raise money for the Howell family. Darlene Howell passed away in November. Her husband Don Howell is the head custodian at Wyland Elementary School. Darlene served as the administrative assistant to the Hampton Township School District Special Education Department for 22 years.

The Hampton Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) participated in a holiday gift drive for Family Links Youth Center in Pittsburgh. Forty FBLA members participated in donating over 50 gifts to be distributed to youths in the Family Links downtown shelters.
Two years ago, when the coronavirus pandemic caused schools to undergo an unprecedented shift to all-virtual instruction, many parents suddenly found themselves supporting their child’s education in new and different ways. As parents were helping their child adjust to online learning, the desire for them to engage with teachers also increased.

Starting this school year, a new collaborative project called “Parents as Allies” is aiming to drive parent-teacher engagement and foster the development of the whole child — including their mental and physical health, in addition to social, emotional, cognitive, and academic development.

Dr. Colleen Hannagan, Principal of Poff Elementary School, has taken the reins of the Parents as Allies project, a collaboration between Kidsburgh, IDEO, and the Grable Foundation. The project began in early spring of 2020.

Together, those entities worked with the District on a grant that included 20 other western Pennsylvania and international school districts, with a focus on generating ideas for parent engagement in education.

Dr. Hannagan said the Parents as Allies project poses the question: “How can we drive demand for an education that develops the whole student?”

Through interviews that were conducted last spring, the committee learned that teachers and parents are particularly interested in the social and emotional side of a child’s education.

Kidsburgh, a media partner of NEXTpittsburgh that focuses on making Pittsburgh a better place to raise kids, offered Hampton’s Parents as Allies committee $3,000 to come up with a way to build school-family and parent-teacher partnerships. During the Talbot Tailgate in September, Dr. Hannagan solicited input from parents to determine the best ways to allocate this funding.

“I think the Parents as Allies committee is a more informal way for any parent, guardian, or caregiver to have a voice in the District and to talk about things that matter to them to make sure that we are meeting the needs of our community,” Dr. Hannagan said.

Through initial meetings that were held this fall, the committee became interested in using the funding to explore tools that would help improve District-wide communication.

With a core of roughly a dozen committee members, Dr. Hannagan encourages more parents of middle and high school students to become involved. Her ultimate goal for the Parents as Allies committee is to continue driving school-family and parent-teacher engagement.

“The shift to remote learning during the pandemic reinforced the idea that educators need to place more focus on a child’s physical and mental health and safety, in addition to their emotional well-being,” Dr. Hannagan said. “I think that the Parents as Allies committee is an opportunity to capture all of that.”
Despite pandemic-related challenges, the District’s music department has remained nimble and adapted, with music teachers continuing to offer a high level of instruction to enthusiastic students.

Sean Desguin, elementary music teacher, reflected on how the elementary students began learning their instruments during hybrid instruction. “Not having that one-on-one in-person instruction to help them through their early stages, we were worried that it would make it difficult for our students to learn and grow, but they have really done a great job,” Mr. Desguin said. “We’ve adapted the way we do things, and the kids have been so great at accepting the circumstances and trying to make the best of everything throughout the pandemic.”

Band, chorus, and orchestra concerts were held virtually at the end of 2020, then in larger venues with a limited capacity this past spring. In December, for the first time in nearly two years, students in grades four through twelve who participated in band, chorus, and orchestra performed the 2021 Winter Concert series in front of normal-sized audiences.

Mr. Desguin was delighted that his students were once again able to perform live on stage and inside the auditorium.

“We’ve had such a great reaction over these last few weeks of the winter concerts from students, parents, faculty members, administrators, and the community,” Mr. Desguin said. “I don’t think live performances were ever taken for granted, especially in this District, but you don’t know how much you are going to miss it until it’s gone for a while.”

In January 2022, students in grades four through twelve began working on their concert repertoire for the spring “Hues and Harmony” program, the public spring concert series and art show. Students are continuing to develop their abilities as musicians while learning the various concepts and skills that comprise the concert repertoire.

“We try to choose concert repertoire that is interesting and enjoyable for the students and also meets our curricular goals in their development as musicians,” Mr. Desguin said.

Hues and Harmony will take place from May 10 to 26, 2022 and will also feature artwork created by students in middle and high school.

Mrs. Lisa Woods, Middle School Art Teacher, said the artwork that will be featured includes a blend of two-dimensional and three-dimensional pieces, including ceramics, paintings, drawings, prints, and more.

“It is going to be a kind of a reflection of things that have been created throughout the year,” Mrs. Woods added.

Typically, the Hues and Harmony event takes place over a two-day period, but this year’s event is being spread across the duration of the spring concert series.

“We’re just really glad that we have a way to bring some of our students’ artwork together and celebrate it,” Mrs. Woods said. “We love having our large K-12 Hues and Harmony event, but obviously with times being what they are now, this seems like a good way to make sure our community gets to see the great artwork that the kids are creating.”

With the District placing an emphasis on promoting arts education this year, the Hues and Harmony event will be a welcomed look into the abilities of Hampton’s creative and talented students. Numerous studies have shown that when arts education is provided as part of a well-rounded curriculum, students benefit from increased creative thinking, problem-solving, and reasoning. Art education can also help foster a positive culture and climate in schools.

Mr. Desguin encourages students with musical interests to become involved in the arts.

“Not only are they going to have the opportunity to express themselves creatively through either playing an instrument or singing, but they are also going to learn many skills in non-musical areas such as time management, working together as a team, and learning to persevere,” he said.

Likewise, Mrs. Woods said that Hampton’s art program offers something for all students.

“We give the kids a variety of experiences,” Mrs. Woods said. “They learn to use different materials and they also build a lot of problem-solving skills.”

Over the next few months, the District will be making more specific plans for Hues and Harmony and is looking forward to inviting the community to celebrate this spring.
Traffic, Parking Improvements Coming to Hampton High School

If you have traveled along Topnick Drive this school year — whether in a vehicle or on foot — you would have likely noticed major road construction at Hampton High School.

This road construction is part of the renovations and improvements currently underway at Hampton High School. When complete, the renovations and improvements will include new roofing, a redesigned entrance, improved traffic flow around the building, expanded parking, and a new flexible and collaborative media center for the students.

Chris Brown, a registered architect and principal at DRAW Collective Architecture (formerly VEBH Architects), said the traffic and parking improvements will enhance safety, convenience, and access, in addition to improving traffic flow, increasing parking capacity, and upgrading lighting.

Vehicular circulation will be expanded as the parking lots and access road to Hampton High School will undergo a major redesign. The current entry to the high school off Topnick Drive will be reconfigured into a four-way intersection that will align with the entrance to Hampton Community Park, improving convenience, access, and safety. Currently, those access roads are offset by about 50 feet.

Additionally, two new entry points to the high school will be installed off Topnick Drive that provide access in and out of the campus.

Right now, buses, teachers, parents, and student drivers all utilize the same lane when entering the school. The redesign would bring more ease and convenience for dropping off and picking up students, as buses, cars, and pedestrian traffic would be separated.

“The circulation through the site is designed to be separated,” Mr. Brown said. “We created one route where buses travel and drop students off at the front entrance and in the rear entrance.”

Also, there will be a separate parking and drop-off area for students, utilizing the new entry point off Topnick Drive. Parents will be able to drop off students in their own lane.

“We created space in that parking area so that all of that queuing will happen on the high school site and not up on Topnick Drive,” Mr. Brown said.

The District and DRAW Architects also saw the need to address the current lighting situation at the high school.

“The current site is very dark right now, and we were all very aware of that,” Mr. Brown said. “We are significantly adding to the lighting that is out there and locating it strategically so it will fully light all areas and the paths leading into the building.”

A series of new sidewalks and raised crosswalks with lighting are also being installed to create a safe path for everyone to enter the building. Mr. Brown said lighting will be installed on all sides of the building to keep parking spaces evenly lit.

Paving is slated to be completed by the start of the 2022-2023 school year.

HMS Once Again Earns Prestigious ‘Schools to Watch’ Honor

When Hampton Middle School unveiled its flexible and interactive Learning Pavilion this summer, it underscored the school’s continued efforts to engage students in innovative ways.

Then, in November, Hampton Middle School received news that these efforts were further affirmed, as HMS was once again named a PA Don Eichhorn Schools: “Schools to Watch” from the Pennsylvania Association of Middle Level Education (PAMLE).

“The Schools to Watch re-designation award confirms the high level of excellence of our entire school community,” said HMS Principal Dr. Marlynn Lux. “Our teachers and staff are committed to putting our students’ needs first and learning new and innovative ways to engage students. We are so proud to work with our teachers, counselors, and staff members — all of whom are always looking for ways to grow and encourage our students.”

Hampton Middle School earned this prestigious designation three years ago and was up for re-designation this year. As part of the re-designation process, a team of educators visited HMS on October 26, 2021 to observe all classrooms and to speak with stakeholder groups.

The visiting team looked for evidence for each of the 37 criteria on the Schools to Watch Evaluation Rubric. The criteria are categorized into four domains: Academic Excellence, Developmental Responsiveness, Social Equity, and Organizational Processes and Structures, as defined below:

- **Academic Excellence** - High-performing schools with middle grades are academically excellent. They challenge all students to use their minds well.
- **Developmental Responsiveness** - High-performing schools with middle grades are sensitive to the unique developmental challenges of early adolescence.
- **Social Equity** - High-performing schools with middle grades are socially equitable, democratic, and fair. They provide every student with high-quality teachers, resources, learning opportunities, and support. They keep positive options open for all students.
- **Organizational Structures and Processes** - High-performing schools with middle grades are learning organizations that establish norms, structures,
and organizational arrangements to support and sustain their trajectory toward excellence.

The visiting team cited evidence from classroom observations and reviewed school day processes and school artifacts. Additional evidence came from interviews with students, parents, teachers, and staff members. Additionally, all HMS staff completed an online evaluation of Hampton Middle School using the Schools to Watch rubric.

Sixteen HMS staff members volunteered to serve on the Schools to Watch Application Committee. Using the feedback from the initial designation in 2018-2019 coupled with District Goals, the team highlighted changes and improvements that occurred at HMS over the past three years. Subcommittees worked to write narratives providing evidence of growth in the four Schools to Watch domains. Additional application work included data analysis for academic achievement and growth, future initiatives, highlights of awards and special recognition, and recent changes.

Earning the “Schools to Watch” designation is a testament to the exceptional teaching and learning opportunities that are happening each day at HMS, but also to the committed student body and supportive community.

HMS will be recognized at the virtual State PAMLE conference in February and at the AMLE National Conference in Washington, D.C.
HMS Wellness Studio Helping Students Cope with Stress, Anxiety

Hula hoops and yoga mats are items you might find students using in a physical education class. But in Hampton Middle School’s newly opened Wellness Studio, students are also using them — among other calming elements — to help cope with stress and anxiety and to improve their emotional well-being.

Middle school can, at times, be a source of stress and anxiety for some students. Perhaps they are worried about an upcoming test, or they got into a disagreement with a friend. Whatever the source may be, the Wellness Studio, located in the HMS School Counseling office, offers ways to meet students’ social and emotional needs.

Danielle Wike, HMS School Counselor, has been instrumental in turning the concept of the Wellness Studio into a reality. Wike got the idea for a wellness center while listening to presentations during a conference in June of 2019 when Hampton Middle School received its initial “School to Watch” designation.

Dr. Marlynn Lux, Principal of Hampton Middle School, recognized the need for a Wellness Studio for the middle school students. “We know our students need the space and tools to help process some of their emotional and social concerns, especially as a result of the pandemic,” Dr. Lux said. “Mrs. Wike was passionate about taking the lead on this project and investigating different options, and for that I am very grateful.”

Mrs. Wike began researching different ways that wellness centers are created and what various schools offer. She visited local schools such as Mt. Lebanon Senior High School and Marshall Middle School to explore and investigate similar programs. She also consulted with schools across the country and spoke with representatives of the Chill Project by AHN — a program designed to help members of a school’s community cope with pressure and anxiety.

“Everybody was doing something a little bit different, and it was more about ‘What can we do here?’” she said.

Soon, a committee was formed composed of administrators Dr. Marlynn Lux and Dr. Michael Silbaugh, School Counselor Jill Kampmeyer, School Nurse Amy Baxter, and Physical Education Teacher Megan Brower. After applying for and receiving a $3,000 grant from the Highmark Foundation, the committee determined how it would use the funding to create a calming space for students based on research and HMS student needs.

The room’s inviting light-blue walls and dim lighting create a welcoming environment for students to decompress and refocus. Equipped with removable dividers, the room can be divided into four stations.

The “Movement Station” contains a wobble chair, a yoga mat, and exercise equipment. Soothing sounds and relaxing music are incorporated into breathing and stretching exercises.

Dim lighting is employed in the “Calming Station” where students may choose from drawing, coloring, or playing with fidget toys. This station includes an iPad, a large bean bag chair, and various art supplies.

“I think our students use that space the most, because that’s what they need to relax, chill, and de-stress a little,” Mrs. Wike said.

In the “Reflection Station,” there are workbooks and prompts for students to reflect on their situation, helping them to cope with whatever emotion they are experiencing.

The final station is called the “Reading Nook,” which is equipped with short stories, magazines, and books for students to read in a calming and quiet space while sitting in a cozy, free-standing hanging chair.

The Wellness Studio’s doors are open to all students at any point during the school day. Wike says the goal is for students to return to the classroom within 15 minutes using whatever coping strategy works best for them. Students are required to sign in and are given timers as a visual reminder of how long they have been away from the classroom.

“We’ve all been there when you can’t get something off your mind and focus on the task at hand,” Mrs. Wike said. “You might think, ‘I need to take a break and deal with this emotion.’ This is a safe space to come and do that.”
Hampton’s Fall Sports Season Sees Unprecedented Success

Athletic Director Bill Cardone is a familiar face at Hampton athletic events, but the unprecedented success of Hampton’s fall athletics surprised even him.

“It’s been here for a long time and I have never ever experienced a fall season like that,” Mr. Cardone said.

Hampton’s remarkable fall season included two WPIAL team titles, a team with an undefeated regular season, a state championship winning team, a state team runner up, multiple individual achievements, and more.

The Hampton boys soccer team stood out among the bunch, finishing with a 23-1 record and claiming its first WPIAL championship since 2011. The Talbots capped off their impressive campaign in Hershey, winning the state title for the first time since 2010.

After the season, head coach Matt McAwley was honored as the Pennsylvania Soccer Coaches Association Coach of the Year in Class 3A.

“This season had so many great moments. There is a strong sense of family when it comes to this team,” McAwley said. “This group was together competing and improving as a group from August 16 to November 22. You create a lot of memories in that time and create a bond that will last forever. I will always look back and be proud of what we accomplished this season.”

On the same day when the boys soccer team scored a 1-0 victory against Archbishop Wood to capture the state title, the Hampton girls volleyball team was also competing in the PIAAL finals.

As the two teams departed for Chocolate Town, they received a send off from the Hampton Township Fire Department, as community members lined the streets and along Route 8, holding signs that collectively wished the Talbots “Good luck!”

On the bus, Mr. Cardone caught the student-athletes’ attention and told them, “Enjoy this experience and the moment, because it doesn’t happen often.”

“I was just totally impressed with the community,” he said. “That was pretty special.”

The Talbots girls volleyball team ended up making their community proud, finishing as the state runner-up after a 3-1 loss against Spring Grove. Earlier in the season, the girls fell in the WPIAL championship game against Freeport.

Simply put, head coach Annie Bozzo said “the girls” made this season so memorable.

“We have a great team with such great personalities and the girls get along with each other so well,” she said. “We loved going to practice which made it that much easier to work hard and get better every day in season.”

The girls volleyball team reached the state playoffs for the first time in 2016 but lost in the first round. This year’s group was the first to reach the state finals — a major accomplishment for the program.

“I’m most proud of the girls’ hard work,” Bozzo said. “Making that far of a run in the playoffs is not easy physically or mentally, and the team pushed through every adversity and worked hard every day.”

Joining the boys soccer team in winning the WPIAL title was the Hampton boys cross country team.

For head coach Dean Longwell, seeing his runners capture the program’s first-ever WPIAL title was the highlight of the season.

“This is a process that started in mid-June so watching the kids put in the time and dedication to fulfill their goals was extremely rewarding,” he said.

The Talbots also achieved their best-ever finish at the PIAA championships, placing seventh. Individually, sophomore Nathan Garrett finished 19th at states.

Additionally, Ava Vitiello, of the girls cross country team, achieved a top-10 finish at the WPIAL championships, while Kevyn Fish placed 57th at states.

The Hampton football team ended the regular season with a perfect 10-0 record in the WPIAL Class 5A Greater Allegheny Conference. The Talbots opened the season with 11 consecutive wins, including a 41-38 overtime thriller against Shaler, and advanced to the quarterfinal round of the district playoffs after a 14-13 playoff win versus Plum. The team also set a program record for most wins in a season.

For head coach Jacque DeMatteo, the season was made memorable by “seeing all of the fall teams have such huge success and watching them support each other by attending each other’s games.”

“The school atmosphere was a balance of academics and athletics that made it feel special,” he added. “The football team had a great group of senior leaders and a strong bond between them.”

Another team reaching the WPIAL playoffs was the Hampton girls soccer team. The Talbots went 12-4-3, and finished runner-up in WPIAL Class 3A, Section 1, reaching the district quarterfinals following a 4-1 win over Thomas Jefferson.

The girls tennis team saw improvements over the previous season, and the boys golf team sent junior Dan Venture to the WPIAL individual championships.

“That was a season to remember,” Cardone said.
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