

# The Clarion Mirror

"A Reflection of Life In Our Hometown"  
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**FREE**

## Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry Annual Awards

Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry recently held their Annual Awards Dinner to honor members.

### 5-year members are:

Clarion County Airport  
Dunham Consulting & Associates, Inc.  
Empower Beauty  
Hagan Business Machines  
Mechanistic Brewing Co.  
Northwest Hospital Foundation  
Northwest Tri-County IU 5  
Pine Springs Pottery  
Tre Kronor Studio

### 10-year members are:

Bison Construction, Inc.  
Early Learning Resource Center for Region 2  
Holiday Financial Services  
Hopper Corp.  
TechReady Professionals

### 15-year members are:

Deer Creek Winery, Inn B & B, and Events Center  
Molnar's Concessions  
The ARC of Clarion and Venango Counties, Inc.  
Trinity Point Church of God  
Zion Church

### 20-year members are:

All American Awards & Engraving  
Barr's Insurance  
Clarion Beverage  
Clarion Community Medicine  
*see AWARDS on page 3*

## Clarion RiverCats and Kids of Steel to Host Kids Marathon

by Coach Keith Murtha - Clarion Sports Zone



Hello running community, my name is Keith Murtha and I am the Head Cross Country and Boys Track & Field Coach. I also serve as PIAA & USATF Official. I am a USATF certified coach and race director. By day, I teach Health, Physical Education and Sports Science at Clarion Area High School. With some faithful assistants, I run the

Clarion RiverCats Running Club, a Kids of Steel site!

Kids of STEEL is P3R's award winning free training program that helps motivate kids and their families to get moving. The program is available to individuals and at more than 200 schools in western Pennsylvania. In addition to the Kids of STEEL program, P3R keeps

kids of all ages moving through races for every age, resources, opportunities and support of running clubs and teams.

The RiverCats along with P3R are so excited to bring you Race in a Box, so we can offer a kids marathon/5K up here as a northwest extension of P3R in Pittsburgh! Race in a box provides your club everything

you need to host a race with all the same amenities of the Pittsburgh Marathon weekend. Everyone who registers for the kids marathon & 5K will receive a Pittsburgh marathon race shirt, race bib and medal!

P3R will be on hand to assist with the event and will bring their inflatable arch to make crossing *see MARATHON on page 11*

## Tickets Are Now ON SALE for 12th "Clarion Cheers and Beers Walk"

The Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry is excited to announce the 12th "Clarion Cheers and Beers Walk," to be held on Friday, May 3, 2024! Sponsored by Northwest Bank, this popular event will once again take place in Downtown Clarion.

Beginning on Monday, April 1, 2023, tickets for the Cheers and Beers Walk went on sale for purchase at the Clarion Area Chamber office as well as at Northwest Bank, Clarion Branch and members of the Chamber Board of Directors.

The event will feature an Early

Bird registration at 4:00 pm with general registration beginning at 5:00 pm. Don't miss the opportunity for an extra hour of wine tasting before the crowds arrive! The prices for Early Bird tickets are \$30 for pre-sale and \$35 on the day of the event. General registration tickets are \$25 pre-sale and \$30 on the day of event, if still available. All participants MUST BE 21 to attend.

Early bird will begin at 4:00 p.m. and the main event will run from 5:00 p.m. til 8:00 p.m.

As of April 3, 2024, the

following vendors will be featured at the event:

Allegheny Cellars Winery  
Bushy Run Winery  
CJ Spirits  
Clarion River Brewing Company  
Country Hammer Moonshine  
Creekside Cellars  
Derailed Distillery  
DR Distillery  
Groundhog Winery  
Grumpy Goat Distillery  
Happy Hour Winery  
Lynchwoods Spirits  
MLH Distillery  
Starr Hill Vineyard & Winery

The Winery at Wilcox  
Twisted Vine Winery  
Two Birch Winery

This list may continue to grow as vendors who sell wine, spirits or microbrews follow up with us. If you or someone you know has a microbrewery, distillery or winery and would like to participate, please let us know.

For more information on the "Clarion Cheers and Beers Walk 2024," contact the Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry at 814-226-9161 or email [tracy@clarionpa.com](mailto:tracy@clarionpa.com).

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## When the Blackbird Sings

by Jennifer Black

We are all judgmental. Yes, even you. I certainly am, many times I think it's human nature and yet while it is in our nature to be judgmental, I don't think it's ever useful to us. Do you look down on others, as if you are so much better? Do you realize this creates division between people? Think about it for a second, we see someone, and based on their looks or actions, we pass judgement on them. Normally not good judgment, either. Usually without even knowing the person. That's it, that's usually the extent of our interaction with that person. We don't make an effort to get to know the person, or understand them, or to see whether our judgment was right or not.

Consider what happens when we pass judgment on people we do know. Do you see something they do and get angry at it, or disappointed in the person, or think worse of them? Do you judge without understanding? Once again, that's the end of it, but why don't we try to find out more, and through communication begin to understand, and through understanding we could begin to build a bridge between the two of you.

Do you think you can build a bridge with every single person you meet? Probably not. That could take time and effort. Two things we're usually short on anyways. I have found that taking that extra time, even just once a day, I can make a difference.

Why not this month try not to pass judgement and instead build a bridge between yourself and others. If you find yourself being judgmental, stop yourself. This will take all of us a great effort to do. The first step is to think about your thoughts for a few days, try to notice when you're being judgmental. This can be difficult at first, but once you keep reminding yourself to do it, it will get easier each day. Once we are more aware can we stop ourselves from being judgmental? Take this to heart. So many of us judge without having a clue what that person is going through. We look on the outside, maybe their clothes, house, cars, jewelry, I could go on and on. This month stop and take the time and think of once simple scripture. Do not judge for you shall be judge, pretty simple right?



## Member Spotlights

### St. Joseph Catholic School

St. Joseph School, at 158 years, is one of the oldest schools in the Diocese of Erie. The students at St. Joseph School receive a faith-based and academic-centered education. The dedicated staff creates a collaborative and caring learning environment for their high-achieving students.

At St. Joseph School, they love being part of a caring and supportive community. An outpouring of support from community members and businesses has blessed them.

The students at St. Joseph School grow in faith, knowledge, family and community. Their students receive individualized attention due to small class sizes and continue to receive instruction in cursive handwriting. The school has received grant funds over the past few years that have made it possible for the school to purchase innovative academic programs, supplemental materials, and updated equipment and security measures.

St. Joseph School will continue to grow their students by collaborating with families and community members. They will continue to seek out and apply for grants and funds to provide an excellent learning environment for their students. They will continue to collect data to drive their instruction and provide the best possible education for their students.

They will be celebrating their 85th year of their 4th of July Celebration. The community and surrounding communities have always supported their 4th of July Celebration through donations and participation. All proceeds from the 4th of July Celebration benefit St. Joseph School.

The students at St. Joseph

School reach out to shut-ins and other community members by sending handmade well-wishes during the holidays. The students also help with service projects throughout the year and donate the money they earn to the missions to help provide clean water to those in need.

For more information about St. Joseph School please visitstjosephlucinda.com

### The Children's Scholarship Fund of Pennsylvania dba Clarion County Adventures

Milissa Bauer and Al Lander, Esq. created The Children's Scholarship Fund of Pennsylvania (CSF) in 1998 when they became aware of the enrollment concerns at the Catholic schools in Clarion County with tuition being a big factor in student retention. They believe that "All families should have the right to choose an education for their children regardless of their income."

In 2020 Clarion County Adventures, a division within CSF, was created to assist organizations throughout Clarion County to develop, plan and fund projects that will enhance the lives of all members of our communities.

Cindy Nave is the Executive Director and is available to assist businesses and individuals interested in making an impact in their local communities by directing their Pennsylvania taxes towards education or community projects.

When you live and work in a rural town you become part of a greater community. You build connections and friendships over time. Many families appreciate the quality of life and leisure activities in a rural setting. It also provides a good work-life balance. Residents of Clarion are family oriented, support our local businesses and have pride in our community.

CSF of PA provides scholarships to students in PK through 12th grade across Pennsylvania to families who meet the income guidelines of the Educational Improvement Tax Credit programs (EITC). Since its inception, The Children's Scholarship Fund of PA has raised over \$20 million with nearly \$7 million awarded for scholarships to Clarion County students alone.

Pennsylvania's EITC programs are administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) and offers a 90% tax credit against their state tax liability to a business that makes a two-year commitment or 75% tax credit for a one-year commitment.

Clarion County Adventures is currently assisting Clarion Blueprint Community, Inc. in building the new Multi-Generational Park located on Second Ave in Clarion borough utilizing Pennsylvania Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) and assisting with state and private foundation grants.

The Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) is also

## The Clarion Mirror

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theclarionmirror@gmail.com  
www.themirrors.biz

### ATTENTION ADVERTISERS AND COPY WRITERS

The deadline for all advertisements and stories is the **5th day of the month of publication.**

Please email advertisements in a pdf format and email news stories as a Microsoft Word document to: theclarionmirror@gmail.com.

Publisher reserves the right to reject, edit or cancel any advertisement or news copy without liability at any time. Liability for any error in an advertisement shall not exceed the cost of space occupied by the error. The Clarion Mirror is not liable for errors on advertisements submitted by an outside source. If for any reason an advertisement or news story is not published, the publisher assumes no liability.

**Submitted articles do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Clarion Mirror.**

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administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED). Businesses can receive a 75% tax credit against their state tax liability when they assist to meet the challenges of funding through either a cash contribution or equipment and/or supplies contribution.

The Children's Scholarship Fund of PA will continue to seek out local businesses to participate in the EITC tax credit programs to further help families to afford the best education for their child/children.

Clarion County Adventures will continue to assist local organizations to develop, plan and fund projects that will enhance the lives of all members of our communities.

If you are a business owner who would like to learn more about Pennsylvania's EITC and/or NAP programs to support education and recreation in Clarion County please email their office at [info@csfofpa.org](mailto:info@csfofpa.org) or call (814) 226-9723 and they will gladly assist you.

For more information about Clarion County Adventures please visit [ccadventures.org](http://ccadventures.org)

## Awards

*continued from page 1*

– UPMC

Clarion County Community Bank

Clarion River Brewing Company

Community Action, Inc.

Community Medicine – UPMC

Cook Forest Vacation Bureau

Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.

NW PA Regional Planning & Development Commission

Quality Inn

Red River Roadhouse

**25-year members are:**

Janney Montgomery Scott

Keystone SMILES Community Learning Center

**35-year members are:**

Apel Electric, Inc.

Brooks & Rhoads, CPA

Brooks Medical Arts, Inc.

Car Mate Trailers, Inc.

Charles Leach

Clarion Oaks Golf Club

DE Sports, Inc.

H & R Block

Hunsberger Sanitation

Sherwin-Williams Co.

The EADS Group

**40-year members are:**

Delta Contracts & Designs, Inc.

Farmers National Bank  
The following businesses were in attendance at the dinner and recognized:

Rev. Jake Jacobson/Karl Jacobson – Tre Kronor Studio

Debbie Bottaro – Deer Creek Winery, Inn B & B, and Event Ctr.

Misty Fleming/Robert Cardamone – Community Action, Inc.

Matt Lerch – Janney

Montgomery Scott

BJ Rankin – Farmers National Bank

**THANK YOU** for your continued membership with the Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry.

The Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry had 19 business join in 2023 and continue to grow in 2024 with 6.

**New Members in 2023:**

Ace Hardware of Clarion

Beauty on Main

Cen Clear

Clarion Kindness Project

Clarion Modern Markets

Comcast Business

Community Blood Bank

Fraternal Order of Eagles

#3807

George's Barber Shop

Infusion Night Club & Grille  
Martina's Physical Therapy, Inc.

Next Step Pregnancy Help Organization

Nick's Auto Body of Clarion

No Excuses Training and Coaching

PA CareerLink

Regen RX

SAFE, Inc.

Swift Kennedy & Associates, Inc.

T-Mobile

**NEW MEMBERS IN 2024:**

AFLAC, Larry Myers Associates

Clarion Model Railroad Club

Moon Lite Drive-In Theatre

The Lucky Cup Café

Wolfe's Youth Employability Solutions

New members in attendance at the dinner were introduced.

**Ace Hardware of Clarion**

– Kevin Salandra (FYI, their Grand Opening is slated for March 22-24 on Main Street Clarion. There will be a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on March 22 at 1pm with State Representative Donna Oberlander. Kevin and his brother Mark invite you to check out the new business while enjoying some great food

being served by the "Green Egg" Representative who will be here for their event).

**Clarion Kindness Project** – Jackie Griebel (who is working with the Clarion Free Library and will be hosting a Easter Party on March 16 from 12noon to 2pm)

**Infusion Night Club & Grille** – Kirk Jacobson

**Swift Kennedy & Associates, Inc.** – Ben Aaron

Welcome to the Chamber and I encourage all of you to reach out and meet these individuals.

Courtney Herzing of Seven Mountains Media and Chairman of the Board for 2024 stated, "It is the Chamber's mission to support and promote local businesses, to sustain a positive business environment and to preserve the quality of life for businesses and residents alike. This is my goal to continue to do for our community and I have a great team by my side."

Herzing welcomed four new board members this year:

Eric Funk, Jr. – of Clarion County Economic Development Corporation

Todd Griffith – of Pennwest Homes

*see AWARDS on page 4*

# QCare CLARION WALK-IN CLINIC

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# Business & Professional SPOTLIGHT

## From the Earley Family Porch to Their Fifth Store: Blue Collar Workwear Expands, Acquires Iconic Jack's Boot Shop



It all started on the side porch of the Earley family home in 1989.

What was originally just a side project to sell outdoor apparel has now developed into a full-fledged business that now has its fifth home in Brookville. The company, Blue Collar Workwear, is now the new owner of Jack's Boot Shop in Brookville.

Brothers Brad and Dan Earley are at the helm of the company as their father's start-up business expands to its fifth location.

"Blue Collar Workwear was started by my father (Mike) out of our side porch about 30 years ago," Brad Earley told exploreJeffersonPA.com. "Back then, it was called Earley's Outerwear. Now, we have stores in Olean, Rochester, Jamestown, Ellicottville, and now this store in Brookville."

The Western New York-based company is expanding to its first location in Pennsylvania. Earley said the store's location and its culture influenced by the previous owner Steve Logue were the major reasons for Blue Collar Workwear's expansion to the Brookville area.

"When we came down here and saw the location and also the culture that Steve had developed

we thought it was identical to the story from our business," Earley explained. "Steve (Logue) was looking for someone to take over the store that had that same type of story. We saw it as a perfect fit."

Jack's Boot Shop was founded by Steve's father, Jack Logue, of Sligo, in 1963; the business was originally a hardware store.

While the Earley family is taking over the business, they still want to honor the history of the store and offer the same products as Jack's Boot Shop.

"We don't want people to lose the feel of Jack's Boot Shop because we bring the same thing," Earley said.

He explained that the business is just being rebranded as Blue Collar Workwear. The same products that Jack's Boot Shop

sold will continue to be sold at Blue Collar Workwear.

While the Earleys will keep the same products that Jack's supplied, they have plans to expand their camping selection and add women's Carhartt products.

"The opportunity that we see is a huge camping area," said Earley. "We have a lot of real estate over here that we can use, and we are excited to see what we can offer besides what's already here."

While the company is rebranding the store's aesthetics with new outdoor signs and doormats, they also need to hire employees, including a manager and an assistant manager.

Earley said they are looking for a manager that fits their culture, emphasizing that the customer comes first.

"It is important to continue the legacy of Jack's Boot Shop. We owe a big thank you to Steve (Logue) for the seamless transition and for giving us this opportunity," Earley noted.

Blue Collar Workwear's Brookville is currently open to the public.

Their hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. from Tuesday to Friday; 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday; and 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday.

### Awards

*continued from page 3*

- Jessica Hansford – of Clarion Psychiatric Center
- Sherri Patterson – of Primary Health Network

Also recognized were the current board of directors:

- Olivia Keltz, Chair Elect and she is with Burns & Burns Insurance
- Aaron Husted, Treasurer/Secretary and he owns Husted

- Plumbing & Heating
- Emily Bonk of Independence Health System Clarion Hospital
- Ashley Brown of The Haskell House

- Stephanie Ginnery of Clarview Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
- Karina Libecco of Holiday Inn Express & Suite Clarion
- Bo Lockwood of Red River Roadhouse
- Rhianna Reichard of Northwest Bank

- Jill Martin Rend of BC3 at Brockway
- Jess Seary of Jefferson County Development Council and last but not least our Chamber Staff, Executive Director Tracy Becker and Events Coordinator Tammy LaCross.

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## Training Schedule April 2024

**First Step: Starting a Small Business in PA**  
on Tuesday, April 2, 2024

**Withholding Basics**  
on Wednesday, April 10, 2024

**First Step: Starting a Small Business in PA**  
on Saturday, April 13, 2024

**Tax Talk with Corry**  
on Wednesday, April 17, 2024

**Marketing Momentum**  
on Thursday, April 25, 2024

**First Step: Starting a Small Business in PA**  
on Thursday, April 25, 2024

[www.clarion.edu/sbdc/training](http://www.clarion.edu/sbdc/training)

Recognized Board Member for completing her elected terms on the board of directors, was Kim Titley. Kim is with Berteotti Financial Services, Inc. and even though her elected term is complete, she has already stated that she will remain involved with the I Love Clarion Celebrations, BBQ Fest and ALF.

Thank you, Kim, for your many years of time and service as a board of director and also as an Executive Committee member.

A goal of Herzing for this year is to build a new Chamber website. “My creative team at Seven Mountains Media and I have been working diligently on just that. The new website will consist of easier navigation, interactive community and Chamber event calendars, a merchandise store and more. Other tabs will include tourism, chamber memberships and employment opportunities that our members will be able to post. Final details are underway so be sure to look for the launch announcement in the newsletter

and in the email blasts,” says Herzing.

An integral part of the Clarion Chamber is their selection of events. The Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry invites you to join and participate in the following:

Spring Legislative Breakfast with the Candidates, Job Fair, 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Cheers & Beers Event, Chamber Golf Outing, I Love Clarion Celebration, Blues/Brews/BBQ Fest, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual ALF Gala, 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Allegheny Toyota Autumn Leaf Festival, Fall Legislative Breakfast with the Candidates and the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ugly Christmas Sweater Parade.

For a complete schedule of events and more details about the events I mentioned, please visit clarionpa.com. You can also check us out on Facebook.

The goal for the chamber has remained the same—serve & promote their members, promote the community and the continued promotion of encouraging everyone to Shop & Support Local throughout the year. When

making that purchase or deciding where to go for dinner, Shop & Support Local!

Kim Titley has agreed to be the chair for the 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Allegheny Toyota Autumn Leaf Festival.

Titley shared, “As Courtney mentioned, this fall will be the 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Allegheny Toyota Autumn Leaf Festival. I have agreed to serve as the Chair of the Festival and I am excited to announce the Kelly Stroup-Beichner and John Stroup have agreed to serve as co-chairs. Kelly and John will chair the festival next year as the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation of Stroup’s to serve as chair. Their late grandfather Donald Stroup was one of the founders of the Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry and he along with two of his children, John Stroup and the late Jean Stroup were also chairs of the festival.

The festival will run from Saturday, September 28 through Sunday, October 6, 2024.

“In November we held the theme contest and the chamber received 158 theme nominations. The Board of Directors received the list of theme nominations and they voted and I am honored to announce the theme for the 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Allegheny Toyota

Autumn Leaf Festival. ‘Flavors of Fall,’ the winning theme was submitted by Lee Adams of Tionesta.

“The winning logo was submitted by Lloyd Best of Knox. The logo will be utilized on all festival marketing materials, merchandise and the Chamber’s website.

“Allegheny Toyota is excited to once again be our Platinum Sponsor for the Festival!!!

“On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff, I am pleased to announce that we will have a carnival! TDK Entertainment of Punxsutawney will be lining up the lots with mechanical amusements park rides for kids of all ages! TDK Entertainment will be coming to Clarion in the next month or so to meet with Courtney and Tracy as well as scheduling a meeting to meet with the Clarion County Commissioners and Maintenance Staff to plan and the layout for the festival.

“We will be welcoming back our Second Annual ALF Gala for Saturday, September 14.

“Board Member, Jill Rend, is collaborating to launch an ALF Cookbook to tie in with our theme, Flavors of Fall. So, I encourage you to begin collecting your favorite recipes to submit. Our goal is to collect 200 recipes.

“We are also looking for committee people and volunteers for the “Tournament of Leaves” Parade to be held on Saturday, October 5. The prior Parade Chairs stepped down last fall after volunteering for over 25 years.

“If you are interested in sponsorship, volunteering, serving as a committee chair or chairs, please reach out to the Chamber.”

**BOTY – COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Each year, the Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry honors a member business who has volunteered their time giving back to the community in ways that make a real difference in the quality of life in the Clarion area community. They typically make a significant contribution to the community in a volunteer service capacity. They participate in humanitarian activities that make a difference in the well-being of others. They have exceptional qualities and strive to improve and preserve the community, and are an inspirational role model

for the Clarion area community.

This year’s recipient is extremely community-minded and involved in many projects in Clarion County. Their Executive Vice President is a 6<sup>th</sup> generation resident of Clarion County and has a deep commitment to the betterment of the area. He and his team are involved in a variety of volunteer efforts, events and community service, with a strong focus in all things related to children.

Their community service and philanthropy is broad, however, and benefits community members and organizations in many factions of the community. They support the United Way of Clarion County 5K & 10K Race with coffee and hot chocolate. They sponsor the Rail 66 Time-Trial Bike Race. They proudly honor our Veterans and Active-Duty Military members with things such as sponsoring a tree for Christmas in the Park. They support the local Pennies from Heaven as well as the Clarion Summer Fest 11-mile Point-to-Point Biking Time Trial. They sponsor the Clarion River Valley Strikers soccer program and they donate to the Clarion Area Wrestling Program. They partner with their clients and the community to focus on helping local school children with nutrition needs and have donated to the Sawmill Center for the Arts.

They sponsor a Clarion Little League softball team, have made various donations to the National Down Syndrome Society in conjunction with the work being done by E-Z dogs, and have been a vital donor to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Park project. These are just a few of the areas this organization has supported throughout the Clarion Area, but it doesn’t stop at the organization.

Their staff is also extremely involved outside of work, coaching local sports teams, volunteering with local schools and at local churches. Clarion County is forever changed due to the impact of their contributions.

Because of their extensive community service in the Clarion and surrounding area, it is with great honor that the Clarion Area Chamber of Business and Industry recognizes Janney Montgomery Scott as the 2023 Business of the Year for Community Service. Matt Lerch *see AWARDS on page 6*

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# In the Spotlight

Chad Compton started at Beverage-Air in June of 1994 and is currently the Team Leader for the Fabrication Welding Department in The pressroom.

Chad has been with Beverage-Air for almost 30 years and has been in the welding department his entire career. Chad runs 3 shifts in his department and does a very good job overcoming different challenges for each shift.

Chad credits Bill Wolfe for all of his success as the new Team Leader, Bill has taught Chad the ins and outs of the department and what it takes to be a good leader.

When Chad is not working he is hunting or out hitting some balls on the golf course.



**Chad Compton**

They installed outdoor lighting, security cameras, and fencing. They increased parking and outdoor storage areas. They remodeled offices and added new bathrooms, a breakroom and a training facility for employees. Expanding into this new facility added twenty-four full-time employment jobs to Clarion County while improving manufacturing efficiencies, proximity to customers, and increased manufacturing and storage capacity.

This recipient also acquired an additional reload facility in Dubois. Quite a bit of work was done to this facility as well with cleaning, yard enhancement and facility upgrades with office, break room and bathrooms for employees. There were 3 workers employed when they acquired the facility and our recipient added an additional 4 jobs along with a new holtec saw and drill press.

For their continued improvement to the local economy, the Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry

has chosen UFP – Parker / UFP Factory Built - Shippenville as the 2023 Business of the Year – Economic Development Award recipient.

## YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

This year the Clarion Area Chamber of Business and Industry is once again giving away an award for the Young Professional of the Year, recognizing the career achievements and community service of a young person in the Clarion County business community, and this year's winner has proven to be someone who definitely deserves to be recognized.

This year's recipient is originally from Bradford, PA and came to Clarion for college. She graduated from Clarion University with a Master's Degree in Applied Data Analytics as well as Bachelor's Degrees in Marketing, Business Management, and Human Resource Management with a minor in Data Analytics. During

## Awards

*continued from page 5*

will you please come forward at this time to accept the award.

### BOTY – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development is the creation of wealth from which community benefits are realized. It's more than just creating jobs. It's an investment in growing your economy and enhancing the prosperity and quality of life, for all residents.

This year's recipient, once located in Parker, PA, was acquired in 1997. It operated as a diversified company that served the manufactured housing, concrete forming/heavy construction, commercial/residential site-built construction, and industrial packaging industries. To better serve their valued customers and become true experts in each field, this recipient moved towards segmentation in 2021, creating the need for additional locations. They acquired the Shippenville, PA location to improve manufacturing efficiencies, capacities, and customer proximity while increasing focus, innovation, and specialization. Today their Shippenville location serves the factory-built industry, while

the Parker facility supplies the packaging industry.

In order to expand into the newly acquired Shippenville location, there were several facility expansions and improvements that were necessary. They updated the

electric and lighting. They installed milling, assembly and dust collection equipment. They widened the garage doors. They installed and improved heating and cooling equipment for employees. They made pavement improvements to the plant yard.



**MOONLITE DRIVE-IN THEATRE**

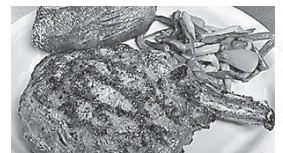
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her time at Clarion University she was an intern for Burns & Burns Insurance, was promoted shortly thereafter to Branding Specialist, and then upon completion of her undergraduate degree, was promoted to a full time position as the Marketing Specialist.

She is involved with many organizations within the community, including Vice President of Clarion Area Young Professionals where she is a staple at all meets, social and fundraising events and plans most of their activities. She serves on the Board of Directors as an Executive Committee member serving as Treasurer/Secretary. She is involved with many community events including the Autumn Leaf Festival and was the 2023 Autumn Leaf Festival logo winner. She also volunteers with other organizations, including Special Olympics.

She has worked hard to climb the ladder of success in her field. She gives tirelessly of her time and efforts and according to another member, "She is the reason Clarion Area Young Professionals has been successful." This is why the Clarion Area Chamber of

Business & Industry has chosen Olivia Keltz as the 2023 Young Professional of the Year.

In 2003 The Chamber Board of Directors and Staff created an award that recognizes an individual

or group for the volunteered time that has been given to the chamber throughout the year. The individual we are honoring tonight has done that not only in the past year but for many years.

#### "VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR SCRIPT"

It takes commitment, dedication and a giving spirit to work hard and expect little in return other than a job well done.

This year we recognize an individual who, despite her own setbacks, show this kind of service to the Clarion Area Chamber year after year and has done so since she was a child.

Our recipient is a graduate of Clarion Area High School and grew up right here in Clarion. She is a quiet, but polite and kind person who can be seen helping at events, but also helping with all sorts of prep work before events and throughout the year with clerical work and other tasks that need to be done.

She collates fliers for mailings, folds letters and stuffs envelopes for mailings, delivers posters and fliers for events. She wraps glasses to be sold in the Chamber office and the merchandise trailer. She takes deposits to the various banks, and assists with any other office duties that are asked of her. In fact just a couple weeks ago she was in the office preparing the membership recognition certificates and preparing mailings to go to Chamber members. She also helps with the parade line-up for the Tournament of Leaves Parade, helps mark the streets for Farmers and Crafters Day, has helped run the games for the Touch-a-Truck event, and can be seen helping with various other ALF-related events as needed.

Two years ago this month, she was the recipient of a new heart and that fall, she was back in the Chamber office helping the staff. We truly are grateful to her!

For her dedication, volunteerism and service to the Clarion Area Chamber, tonight we are honored to award the Douglas L. Sharrar Volunteer of the Year Award to Alexandria Sharrar.

#### CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

The Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry Citizen of the Year Award is presented to the individual who best represents the qualities each of us admire and respect among our friends, neighbors and associates. It's not given so much for achievement, but for helping others to achieve. It's not given for one outstanding single effort, but for the long-term, continuing commitment to the community. It's given for "being there" when there is a need or service called for. It's given to the one person everybody wants on the committee when there is a job to be done. It's for the person who says "Sure, I'll help. What do we need to do?" and then does it.

This year's recipient is a vital member of the downtown Clarion community and the area as a whole. He was instrumental in creating the Downtown Revitalization Group with focus on bringing the downtown Clarion business community back to the thriving and active downtown it once was. He is a key member of the Christmas committee, helping bring the Christmas Spirit back to Clarion,

including building and providing the float for Santa Claus for the parade. He was instrumental in helping put more than 20 trees in the downtown planters and in front of the Chamber office for Christmas. He goes above and beyond to help everyone and anyone he can, and he believes in and cares about the community deeply.

The Clarion Area Chamber is grateful to have this year's recipient in the community as his generosity and selflessness has reached us personally as an organization. He donated a large screen television to the Chamber to make Zoom meetings more effective. He has fixed plumbing and electrical issues at the Chamber free of charge, and also installed outdoor outlets at no cost on the Chamber front porch for more safe and convenient lighting for the holidays.

When you are looking for a volunteer for almost anything in almost any aspect of this community, this year's award winner is someone you can think to call first. Through his commitments he has helped improve the quality of life here in

*see AWARDS on page 10*

## You Have Options...

Cataracts are a normal part of aging. The older you get, the more likely you are to develop a cataract. Although cataracts may seem frightening, advancements in technology have made cataract surgery one of the safest and most successful surgeries in the United States today.

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# Programs at Cook Forest State Park

## Saturday, April 20 at 10:00am - 'Litter Pick Up'

Please join Friends of Cook Forest as we pick up litter along our designated portion of Forest Road. We'll meet at the Log Cabin Environmental Learning Classroom to give out supplies before moving to our assigned portions of the road. If attendance allows, we could also clean up other roadways in the park. (2 hrs)

## Tuesday, April 23 at 6:00pm - 'Evening Walk with Friends'

Please join Friends of Cook Forest as we hike a loop starting at the entrance to Ridge Camp on Route 36. We'll walk through portions of old growth forest and discuss characteristics and ways to recognize it. Length of the walk will depend on the weather and wishes of the attendees. People and pet-friendly leashed dogs are welcome. (2 hrs)

## Friday, April 26 at 1:00pm - 'Fire Tower/Seneca Point Historical Tour'

Please bring your binoculars and meet at the Fire Tower Parking Lot for an historical interpretive tour of the Fire Tower and Seneca Point by DCNR Conservation Volunteer, Greg Burns. Learn about local logging history, observe Indian sign, and take a breathtaking view from the top of the Fire Tower. (2 hrs)

## Saturday May 4 at 10:00am - 'Bridge Clean Up'

Please join Friends of Cook Forest as we walk various trails in the park to clean old leaves and pine needles from our trail bridges to extend their lives. We'll concentrate on the Tom's Run Valley but could hit other trails if we have sufficient attendees. Please meet at the Log Cabin Environmental Learning Classroom where we'll assign trails and distribute supplies. We have gloves, but stiff brooms or light shovels would be greatly appreciated. (2hrs)

## Saturday, May 4 at 1:00pm - 'In-Line Spinner Class'

Please meet at the Park Office Conference Room to learn how to make in-line spinners for fishing. Program conducted by Bill McClintock, camp host and in-line spinner enthusiast. Participants will make their own spinners. All materials provided. Class is free but registration required. To register, please contact the Park Office at cookforestsp@pa.gov or (814)744-8407. 15-person limit. Children must be with participating adult. (2 hrs)

# United Way of Clarion's United in the Arts Committee

Are you an artist, photographer, musician, dancer, woodworker, writer, potter, or someone involved with other types of art? We need to hear from you!

United of Clarion County has organized United in the Arts – a committee comprised of artists and art lovers from Clarion County and led by long-time United Way staff, Pam Zahoran. We are surveying community members and local artists to see what needs are most prevalent, recruiting those individuals who want to get more involved, and making short-term and long-term goals to promote and support our creative community.

Clarion County is filled with amazing talent but what we are missing is a strong, stable, easily accessible network that consistently links artists, events, opportunities, and the general public. The committee members hope to develop a database that will create connections that don't already exist and strengthen those that do.

Not an artist? Not a problem. United in the Arts wants to hear from community members, too. Tell us what you think about Clarion County art events and

performances. Are there enough opportunities to enjoy the arts locally? Can you locate talent for your own business, gatherings, and events? Are you able to connect with artists to make purchases outside vendor shows? Would you like to see more performances, displays, shows, etc.? Or maybe you have an idea we haven't even thought of yet.

The easiest way to participate is to visit the United Way of Clarion County's website at UWClarionCo.org, go to the PPA Partner in the Arts Tab, and follow the link for The Artist Survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LLW63KY>) or the Community Member Survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QVMWP7>).

Please take five minutes out of your day to help us help the local artistic community. As stated by Melissa Fulton, United Way

Executive Director, "Creative artistic entrepreneurs are an invaluable asset to communities. They lead innovation, deliver creative products and services, generate economic opportunity, and contribute to a unique community identity. We know communities thrive when the art environment is vibrant."

This may be just the jolt this community needs, but we can make it happen without you.

And one more thing; an event for artists of all kinds 'Opportunities in the Arts' will be held on Saturday, April 20th from 10:00 am to noon at the Gallery at New Bethlehem Town Center. Refreshments will be served, grant opportunities for artists will be presented, and there will be plenty of time for networking among the art community. Please RSVP at the United Way at 814-221-8760 or [info@uwclarionco.org](mailto:info@uwclarionco.org).

[www.themirrors.biz](http://www.themirrors.biz)

# Clarion Rotary and BHS Clarion Hospital Gringing Multiphasic Blood Screening June 8th

Rotarians Tom Miller, Jesse Kelley, Tracy Becker, Lisa Steiner and Clarion Hospital's Bridget Thornton and Jill Keth met to discuss the Spring Multiphasic Blood Screening to be performed June 8, 2024. The community outreach traditionally has a spring and fall blood screening, providing affordable blood tests to the community. Watch for more information as the date nears.

<https://www.clarionrotary.com/>  
<https://www.butlerhealthsystem.org/locations/clarion-hospital/>



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The Clarion Mirror advertising and article deadline is the 5th of the month of publication.

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## Clarion Rotary learns about Bostonia Dairy and Non-Homogenized Milk

On Monday March 14, Clarion Rotary met at the Clarion YMCA for their regular meeting and learned about Bostonia Dairy in Distant, PA. Owner Tiffany Blose brought in samples of their whole milk,



chocolate milk, white chocolate milk and strawberry milk. The store is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and operates on the honor system. All of their milk is non-homogenized and is all pasteurized. You must shake the milk before drinking the milk, The milk is easier to digest by those who may be negatively effected by milk as it is less processed so the fat isn't broken down in the milk.

Learn more on Bostonia Dairy's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/p/Bostonia-Dairy-LLC-100064741084162/>

Learn more about Clarion Rotary at [www.clarionrotary.com](http://www.clarionrotary.com)

**SHOP LOCAL**  
**EAT LOCAL**  
**SPEND LOCAL**  
**ENJOY LOCAL**

## Clarion Area Chamber Welcomes Newest Member

Please welcome our newest Chamber member:  
**Shaffer Evergreen Rentals, 2687 Rt. 208, Knox, PA 16232**  
Shaffer Evergreen Rentals is an event venue in Knox, Pa. They are now offering bus trips and their current trips include an Ark & Creation Museum Bus Trip and a Solar Eclipse / Niagara Falls Bus Trip. For more information, contact Vicki Miller or Kristen Shaffer at 814-797-4053 or email [shafferevergreenrentals@gmail.com](mailto:shafferevergreenrentals@gmail.com).

## Clarion Rotary hears from Anthony Mazzocchi of Pennwest Homes



On March 25th, Clarion Rotary met for their weekly meeting at the Clarion YMCA and heard a presentation from Anthony Mazzocchi of Pennwest Homes. The plant in Emlenton produces 450 modular homes a year customized to the customer's desires.

Learn more about Clarion Rotary at [www.clarionrotary.com](http://www.clarionrotary.com)  
Learn more about Pennwest Homes at [www.pennwesthomes.com](http://www.pennwesthomes.com)

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Saturday: 9AM - 3PM

# President and CEO of PCN TV Speaks at Clarion Rotary Meeting

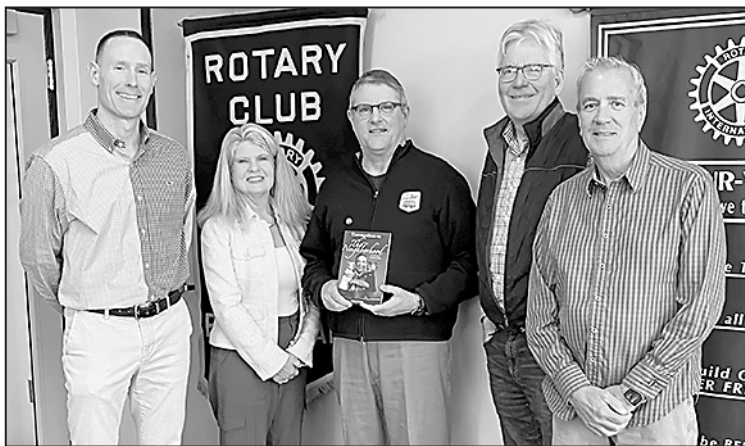


Clarion Rotary invited President and CEO of PCN TV, Debra Kohr Sheppard, to speak on March 18th at the Clarion YMCA. PCN TV is considered the C-SPAN for Pennsylvania. From live coverage of legislative proceedings to tours of Pennsylvania manufacturing facilities to live coverage of PIAA Championships, PCN TV is all about Pennsylvania. PCN TV is dedicated to educating, connecting, and celebrating Pennsylvania's past, present, and future through cable television and emerging technologies.

To learn more about PCN TV visit [www.pcntv.com](http://www.pcntv.com)

To learn more about Clarion Rotary visit [www.clarionrotary.com](http://www.clarionrotary.com)

# Clarion Rotary Greet Brookville Author John Pozza



On April 8th, author John Pozza presented a program to Clarion Rotary regarding his book, "Conversations on The Neighborhood" about Mr. Rodger's Neighborhood's creator Fred Rodgers. The book is a conglomeration of interviews of those that knew Fred Rodgers, a lasting legacy as told by his close associates. One of those interviewed in the book is Clarion's own Margy Whitmer who produced the television show for decades. Pozza's book can be purchased on Amazon.com

Learn more about Clarion Rotary at [www.clarionrotary.com](http://www.clarionrotary.com)

## Awards

*continued from page 7*

Clarion and has helped to make our community a better place to live, work and enjoy. It is for this reason that the Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry has chosen Aaron Husted as the 2023 Citizen of the Year. It is our distinct honor to present, "Aaron Husted" with the 2023 Citizen of the Year award.

The next award the Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry proudly presented is the 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award. This top award

is not awarded every year and has been presented to only 21 individuals. They were honored to bestow the 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award to someone who truly served family, friends and community in countless capacities. Every human interaction and every event was a story. Many contributions will have long lasting positive effects for the citizens of Clarion County.

This top award has been given out to 21 individuals and they are Fran Palo, Robert Kaufman, Orville Lerch, Congressman John Peterson, State Representative Fred McIlhattan, Richard Kooman II, Dr. David & Dixie Humphrey, Vic Ewy, Judge Charles Alexander, Russ Christy, Greg Wolf, Donald

Stroup, Ron Wilshire, Bill & Judy Miller, Elaine Moore, Stephanie Wilshire, Randall Stom, James &

Lydia Crooks, Barry Shein and Bill Hearst.

### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

A lifetime achievement award is given to a recipient to recognize contributions over the whole of a career, rather than or in addition to single contributions. This year the Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry has chosen someone who has been giving back to the Clarion Area for over 40 years.

This year's Lifetime Achievement award winner has always been larger than life. From the time he was a young dad, he would be stopped on the street at least once for a fifteen-to-twenty-minute conversation. You see, he

was a young small-town pastor who would be stopped frequently for what could be known as street corner confessionals. But it was always so much more and it would never need to be much, merely a simple reassuring word, a hug, a handshake and a quick goodbye, but almost without fail the person would get a calm look in their eyes and they just seemed a little lighter.

The word that comes to mind most when considering this year's award winner is "always." He is a completely selfless and overall great person. He's always been willing to interrupt a family meal to answer the phone, jot some notes down, grab his collar and go running out into the night, on his way to the hospital, to the grocery store to help deliver groceries to people in need, to lend an ear to someone in a crisis, to open his church for a weary traveler who needed a place to stay, or to offer a couple bucks to a stranger that landed on his doorstep. He was always there for whoever was on the other

end of the phone, helping the community. His ministry never stopped as he walked out the doors of his church. He's always there for everyone, and he didn't talk much about the things that he did. If you weren't directly involved with the things he did you would have no idea.

From his work helping to help found SAFE to his years of service as the Chaplain for the VNA to his lifelong work with mental health organizations that goes all the way back to seminary when he worked at Westin Mental Health Services, he was always there to lend a voice to the voiceless. That work inspired him to work with Pathways, UCIP and MHMR and now as a Board member for the Liberty Hill Group, and the one group that always had a special place in his heart was the Clarion County Agency on Aging and all the subsidiaries that were attached to it. This was truly a passion project for him, giving back to the people that welcomed a fresh faced 20 something year old pastor into their community

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General Admission: Doors open at 6:15PM

After Glow at High School Cafeteria: \$10 (advance tickets only)

*The N B C Chorus is proud to help support the Redbank Valley Food Pantry. Please bring several non-perishable food items or a cash donation to the show. Help the Chorus help those in need. Thank you!*

**The Clarion Mirror**  
*A Reflection of Life in Our Hometown*

and truly making him feel at home for the first time. Those were the people that inspired him to be the selfless person he is, never wanting for anything but to lend a helping hand.

This year's award winner just never stops. He was a baseball coach for many years as he worked with Clarion Little League. He was active with the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, teaching generations not only about religion, but also how to properly dress a flesh wound as he attempted to teach groups of 10-year-old boys how to wood carve. He served on the Clarion High School Band boosters. If you went to a Friday night football game at Clarion Area in the late 90s you knew him as the Hot Dog Man. As his kids' passions diversified, you would find him at basketball games leading the parents cheer sections and at band concerts and art shows. He was also a patron and passionate supporter of the Clarion University Summer Theatre program. He worked with the Clarion Arts Council and has received numerous awards for his wood carving. Through all of this, he even found time

to open his own art studio, Tre Kronor Studio.

If there is one constant in the life journey of this recipient, it was music. He was active all through high school and college. It was with the University Choir that he was most excited to share his gifts. It was as much about sharing this gift as it was about fellowship. It was here that he was reintroduced to Phi Mu Alpha, the musical fraternity he was in while at Gettysburg. He became a mentor to many of the brothers at Clarion University, helping to shape them into a pretty special group of young men. He continues to share his gifts with the Clarion Community Choir and loves building lasting relationships with all those involved as he helps spread music throughout the community.

Our award winner has always had the ability to preach without preaching, finding a way to connect with people on a deeply personal level. He is the on call pastor for every funeral home in town. He is often seen at VFW functions offering words of reflection. His Memorial Day services were a solemn reflection on the casualty of war

and those left behind to deal with the aftermath. His YouTube and Facebook ministries offered a bright spot in the pandemic offering hope to so many in what seemed like a helpless time.

You cannot talk about this year's recipient without the word Grace. Not only is it where he has spent the last almost 42 years of his life, but it is a word that embodies his every being. It was with the open arms of the congregation that he found his true home, not only in the community of Grace but here in Clarion. It is unheard of these days for any one pastor to stay in a community for as long as he has, and that is a testament to the people of this community. He spends his days living as an example of what it is to be a member of a community. He was named as the United Way Volunteer of the Year. He holds degrees from both Gettysburg College and Gettysburg Seminary. He is the Assistant to the Bishop of the NWPA synod. He is the Director of the Evangelical Mission and the Evangelical Lutheran Church. He is the author of 3 books and a master woodworker and carver.

Besides those already listed, he has worked with PASSAGES, Food for Friends, and helped distribute food with ABATE during Covid. He was known to dress up as Santa and deliver toys and necessities to underprivileged families in the area. He sat on the boards of countless organizations and charities while being the Pastor of Grace Lutheran church for the past 42 years. Most importantly, he is the husband and partner to Deborah, the father of Karl, Kirk (AKA Frankie) and Johanna, the grandfather of 5 amazing granddaughters and now the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award. Ladies & Gentlemen, it is with great honor that the Clarion Area Chamber of Business & Industry to bestow the 2023 Lifetime Achievement award to Rev. Harold "Jake" Jacobson.

## Marathon

*continued from page 1*  
that finish line extra special! We are hoping to get a couple hundred elementary & middle schoolers to participate from around the area! This is a great family event,

walk and run together! The kids marathon is open to kids 13 and under. Parents are allowed & encouraged to run with their kids. The UPMC Sports Medicine 5K is a community event open to everyone.

The Race will be held Friday May 10th with a 5:00 p.m. start. The Race will begin and end at Clarion Area High School on Liberty Street

At the Clarion Area schools, elementary & middle schoolers will be preparing for the marathon by completing 25 miles of training through their physical education classes, sports practices and other activities. We have all you need to prepare, be active and be part of the nation's largest kids marathon. Lots of resources available at our RiverCats website <https://sites.google.com/clarion-schools.com/clarion-rivercats-running-club/home>

Get in on the ground level! If you have any questions not answered below please reach out to me at [kmurtha@clarion-schools.com](mailto:kmurtha@clarion-schools.com)

(Register Now for This Big Race! Thanks to Coach Murtha for this article!!)

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# Central Clarion's Josh Beal's Stellar Career Ends at PIAA 2A State Wrestling Championships

by Clarion Sports Zone

Central Clarion Wildcat Josh Beal, a senior from Keystone High School, concluded a fine scholastic mat career, at the Pennsylvania State Athletic Association (PIAA) 2A State Wrestling Championships, held Thursday, March 7th through Saturday March 9th, at the Giant Center in Hershey.

Josh, competing at 285, was injured in a technical fall loss to eventual third place winner Mark Effendian from Faith Christian Academy, in Championship Round 1. The injury prevented Josh from continuing in the competition.

Though Josh's career ended on a down note, his career was one that he'll look back on with fond memories, a career that is one for the Clarion Bobcats/Central Clarion Wildcats record books, as this is the inaugural season in which the co-op of Clarion Area,

Keystone and Clarion-Limestone have wrestled under the Wildcats moniker.

Josh finished the 2023-24 season with a 39-13 record. The 39 wins are believed to be a new season record for both, surpassing the previous record of 38. He had 30 pins this season, eclipsing the old mark of 29.

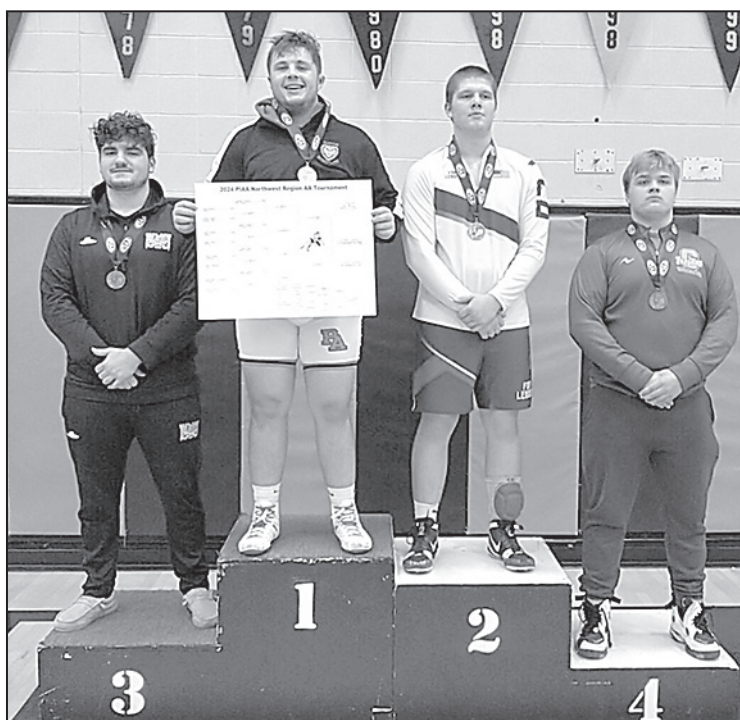
Josh's career record is 81-31, including 49 wins by fall.

A yearly breakdown includes:

Freshman/2020-2021: 3-3 (1 Pin); Sophomore/2021-22: 21-10 (8 pins); Junior/2022-23: 18-5 (10 pins); Senior/2023-24: 39-13 (30 pins).

Josh had an 11-3 dual meet record this season and he helped the team to first place finish at the Mercer VFW Tournament. He finished 3rd in the Northwest Regional 2A Tournament.

Wildcats' head coach Braun Gourley had these fine words to



Josh Beal (Central Clarion) 3rd, Carson Neely (Port Allegany) 1st, John Duran (Fort LeBoeuf) 2nd, Joey Peterson (Greenville) 4th, At Northwest Regional Tournament, in Sharon, as Josh qualified for States. (photo courtesy of Central Clarion Wildcats Wrestling)

say about Josh, "Overall it was a very successful year for Josh and the Central Wildcat wrestling team. Josh set the bar high for future generations. We hope to carry that success on next year."

"Thank you to Josh and all the seniors. Good luck."

(Congratulations to Josh and the other seniors on your Bobcats/Wildcats careers!)

## Devon Lauer, Taylor Alston Named to 2024 YDL Sports Network All-District 9 Basketball Team

by Clarion Sports Zone

The YDL Network has announced their 2024 All-District Nine Basketball Team. They announced the Girls' Team on Friday, April 5th and the Boys Team on Saturday, April 6th.

## Bobcats Fine Season Comes to an End with Loss to Imani Christian in Basketball PIAA 1A State Playoffs 2nd Round

by Clarion Sports Zone

The Clarion Area Bobcats fell to the Imani Christian Saints, 79-46, in the second round of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) Boys Basketball 1A State Playoffs second round at Armstrong High School, on Tuesday, March 12th.

Imani Christian, the District

7 (WPIAL) champion, is the defending state champion.

Imani led 20-7 the first period, 42-17 at the half and 68-31 after the third.

Bryce Brinkley and Devon Lauer led Clarion, which finished at 18-10, with nine points each. Bryce's points came on three

treys, while Devon had a pair from behind the arc.

Gabe Simko and Jameson McIlwain each had eight points. Dawson Smail had 6 points, Derek Smail scored 4 points and Owen Kriebel followed with two points.

Nat Brazil led the Saints with

a game high nineteen points (3 treys). RJ Sledge had 12 points (2 treys) and Avery Wesley followed with ten points (2 treys).

## Moonlite Drive-In Theatre Kicks Off Season!

Get ready for a double dose of nostalgia and blockbuster action under the stars! The beloved Moonlite Drive-In Theatre kicked off its 2024 season on Friday, March 29th, with both screens showing the best in new movies.

Box Office opens at 7:00 p.m. see *DRIVE-IN* on page 26

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Included on this year's team are two Clarion Area Bobcats, Devon Lauer who made the Boys' Third Team and Taylor Alston who was given a nod on the Girls' Third Team.

There were other Keystone Shortway Athletic Conference players who also were selected.

Clarion-Limestone's Jase Ferguson and Karns City's Tate Beighley were named to the Boys' First Team. Catherine Kelly from Moniteau, Lily Homan from North Clarion and Mylee Harmon from Redbank Valley were each named to the Girls' First Team.

Redbank Valley had three Second Team selectees. Mason Clouse and Owen Clouse for the Boys and Addy Bond for the Girls.

Joining Devon on the Boys Third Team were Chason Delarosa-Rugg and Andrew Zepeda from Moniteau, Kieran Fricko from Redbank Valley, and Dawson Camper from Union.

In addition, two individuals from KSAC Schools came

away with Top Boys' Awards. Keystone's Eli Nellis was named Boys' Rookie of the Year, while Moniteau head coach Mike Jewart was named Boys' Chuck Daly Coach of the Year.

**2024 YDL SPORTS NETWORK ALL-DISTRICT NINE BASKETBALL TEAMS 2024 YDL Sports Network Boys' First Team All-District 9**

Jack Pete – Brookville, Josh Smith – Cameron County, Jase Ferguson – Clarion-Limestone, Wil Wortman – Elk County Catholic, Taite Beighley – Karns City, Landon Francis – Otto-Eldred

**2024 YDL Sports Network Boys' Second Team All-District 9**

Braison Patrick – Clearfield, Davis Fleming, Jr., Curwensville, Tyson Kennis – DuBois, Jordan Wasko – Elk County Catholic, Manning Spalin – Otto-Eldred, Mason Clouse – Redbank Valley, Owen Clouse – Redbank Valley

**2024 YDL Sports Network Boys' Third Team All-District 9**

Devon Lauer –

Clarion, Andrew Green – DuBois Central Catholic, Isaiah Jackson Johnsonburg, Chason Delarosa-Rugg – Moniteau, Andrew Zepeda – Moniteau, Kieran Fricko – Redbank Valley, Dawson Camper – Union

Landon Francis – Otto Eldred: YDL Sports Network District 9 Boys' Basketball Player of the Year Eli Nellis – Keystone: YDL Sports Network District 9 Boys' Basketball Rookie of the Year Zane Mike Jewart – Moniteau (Head Coach): YDL Sports Network District 9 Boys' Basketball (Chuck Daly Coach of the Year)

**2024 YDL Sports Network Girls' First Team All-District 9**

Catherine Kelly – Moniteau, Lily Homan – North Clarion, Danielle Griebel – Punxsutawney, Mylee Harmon – Redbank Valley, Jenna Kasmierski – Ridgway, Jayssa Snelick – St. Marys:

**2024 YDL Sports Network Girls' Second Team All-District 9**

Eden Wonderling – Brookville, Mia Helsel – Clearfield, Sonny Diehl – Clearfield, Sydney Alexander – Elk County Catholic, Maya Smith – Kane, Addy Bond – Redbank Valley, Maura Caskey – St. Marys.

**2024 YDL Sports Network Girls' Third Team All-District 9**

Taylor Alston – Clarion, Kayley Risser – DuBois Central Catholic, Lucy Klawuhn – Elk County Catholic, Emily Mourer – Elk County Catholic, Sami Straub – Elk County Catholic, Ella Moses – Port Allegany, Elizabeth Hungiville – Smethport.

**Top Award Recipients**  
Jayssa Snelick – St.

Marys: YDL Sports Network District 9 Girls' Basketball Player of the Year Sonny Diehl – Clearfield: YDL Sports Network District 9 Girls' Basketball Rookie of the Year Zane Adiyeh – St. Marys (Head Coach): YDL Sports Network District 9 Girls' Basketball (Chuck Daly Coach of the Year)

(Congratulations to Taylor, Devon and all this year's selectees!!!!)

**Link To Complete YDL Article**

**on 2024 Boys' Team**  
<https://d9and10sports.com/francis-nellis-jewart-headline-2024-ydl-sports-network-boys-d9-bball-awards-powered-by-tapnpay/>  
**Link To Complete YDL Article on 2024 Girls' Team**

<https://d9and10sports.com/snelick-diehl-adiyeh-headline-2024-ydl-sports-network-girls-d9-bball-awards-powered-by-tapnpay/>

## Baseball: Bobcats Down Dutch and Chucks

by Clarion Sports Zone



*Bobcat teammates greet Hayden Weber as he comes around to score on his grand slam against St. Marys. (Photo by Nate Girvan)*

The Clarion Area Bobcats won two road games in the last several days, downing the St. Marys Flying Dutchmen 11-5 on Saturday (April 6th) and the Punxsutawney Chucks 8-2 on Monday (April 8th).

Clarion 11 – St. Marys 5  
The Dutch scored three runs in the bottom of the first. With

two runs by the Bobcats in the top second and another in the third, the score was knotted at 3-all.

St. Marys scored one in their half of the third and another in the fourth for a 5-3 lead.

Neither team scored in the fifth. But the Bobcats came back for the win, by plating eight runs in the sixth, including four on a grand slam by Hayden Weber. The Dutch scored none in the bottom of the sixth and neither team scored in the seventh.

For the Bobcats:

Weber also had another RBI. Noah Harrison doubled and scored a run. Devon Lauer singled, doubled and scored twice. Derek Smail had two hits, an RBI and a run scored.

Bryce Brinkley singled and scored a run. Tanner Miller scored once and drove in a run. Matt Alston scored twice, and Dylan Smail and Ethan Rex each crossed the plate once.

Miller was the winning pitcher  
*see BASEBALL on page 17*



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# Bobcats' Boys Basketball Coach Tom Lewis' Shares Words of Wisdom as He Rides Off into the Sunset, or to the Golf Course

by Clarion Sports Zone

Before getting into this article proper, I'd like to share a brief bio on Coach Lewis' records and achievements from his long basketball career. Here goes... Well, was that brief enough? At the risk of this sounding a bit like an obituary, as per Tom's request no bio will be shared. More on the reason as the article progresses.

This article will take more than one rabbit trail, but it is absolutely necessary, as I try to share some classic "Tom Lewis."

As so often happens, things

take turns you don't expect and that is how this article came about. I was at the Clarion Area gym, on Tuesday, March 8th, to cover the Bobcats' PIAA State Championship Playoff opener against Southern Fulton, which would be Tom's and his seniors' last game ever on their home court, regardless of the outcome. The Cats did win the game to advance, to a neutral site.

Prior to the contest, I was chewing the fat with Clarion News Editor and Sportswriter Ryan Pugh next to the Clarion

Student Section stands, just below where Mike Kalinowski, Lexis Twentier and others on the

EYT broadcast crew were setting up. Tom came over and got the

practice ball cart out of the storage room and began talking with us. With a big Cheshire Cat



Coach Lewis instructing his players. (photo courtesy of Stephanie Brinkley)

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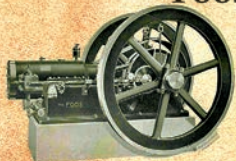
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smile, that we've all come to love Tom said, "It's a wonderful life!" And was sharing how he loved the movie starring Jimmy Stewart and started to mention analogies to his own life.

Midstream, I stopped him, realizing this was too good to pass up on, saying something

like, "Tom, stop right there, I'm going to get my recorder out and make you repeat this." As I have gotten older, it is difficult for me to record and transcribe, so I usually get quotes sent on email. But, as I said this was too good to pass up on, so I made an exception.

Tom began doing the best he could, on the "second take," but barely into it, he noticed someone at the entrance of the gym. "Hang on. I got to go tell that fella 'Hi.' He was on my first team." It was Clarion-Limestone Athletic Director, Brad Frazier. *see LEWIS on page 17*

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"Absolutley not. I'd try to locate d the person it belongs to." -Penny Kay



"No. Don't want any bad karma.." -Travis Pickett

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# Callie Snodgrass “Flies” to Win Two YMCA States Championships and Qualify for Nationals; Other Riversharks also Have Other Big Performances

by Dan Clark - Clarion Sports Zone

The Clarion County YMCA Riversharks State Swim Team comprised of Callie Snodgrass, Maggie Snodgrass, Lila Gourley, Ashlyn Clark, and Declan Kelley competed at the 2024 Pennsylvania YMCA State Championships in The Aquatic Center at Mylan Park, at Morgantown, West Virginia, March 22nd-24th.

These swimmers earned their tickets to States by placing in the top six of their age group events at the Western District Championships or were among the fastest swimmers across all three districts (West, Central, and East). The meet had a preliminary/finals format for individual events, where the top eight swimmers from the preliminary heats of twenty-four swimmers competed in the finals to be crowned among best swimmers from across the entire state.

Callie Snodgrass had an extraordinary meet where she swept the butterfly events on her way to two State Championship titles in both the 100-yard butterfly and the 200-yard butterfly! Her time in the 100-yard butterfly represented an improvement to her team record and will improve her seed time at YMCA National Championships. Callie also earned a spot on the podium in the 100-yard backstroke where she secured a 4th place finish and improved upon her team record.

Maggie Snodgrass also turned in two impressive individual medal performances and improved upon her team record in each one. She earned 5th place in the 200-yard breaststroke and placed 6th in the 400-yard individual medley.

Callie Snodgrass, Maggie Snodgrass, Lila Gourley, and Ashlyn Clark teamed up for three different relays and reached the podium and improved upon their team record times in each one! This squad has had an amazing season and proudly capped it off to earn 3rd place finishes in both the 200-yard medley relay and the 200-yard freestyle relay. This foursome also earned a 4th place finish



Callie Snodgrass (photo by Wendy Snodgrass)

in the 400-yard freestyle relay where lead-off swimmer Ashlyn Clark improved upon her team record time in the 100-yard free.

These Riversharks also competed in the preliminaries of other individual events where Ashlyn Clark notably placed 9th to improve upon her team record time in the 50-yard



Maggie Snodgrass (photo by Wendy Snodgrass)



Lila Gourley, Maggie Snodgrass, Callie Snodgrass and Ashlyn Clark. (photo by Wendy Snodgrass)

freestyle and Declan Kelley, in his first trip to states, placed 21st in the 100-yard backstroke.

With the completion of States, most of the Riversharks have concluded their season but Callie Snodgrass will be the first Clarion Rivershark to compete at Nationals. She will be competing in the 100-yard butterfly at the 2024 YMCA Short Course National Swimming Championship in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The Riversharks swimmers and coaches (Aidan Mohren, Mason Irwin, and Wendy Snodgrass) should be very proud of their excellent performances.

### RESULTS SUMMARY: Event: Swimmer Prelims or Finals (Time, and Overall Place Finish)

NAT signifies a National Qualifying time; and CR signifies



Declan Kelley (photo by Wendy Snodgrass)

a new Clarion County YMCA Riversharks Record.

### 10 & Under Boys

100 Back: Declan Kelley Prelims (1:23.58, 21st)

### 13-14 Age Group Girls

50 Free: Ashlyn Clark Prelims (25.50, 9th) CR

100 Free: Ashlyn Clark Prelims (57.23, 17th)

100 Back: Callie Snodgrass Prelims (1:02.41, 8th), Finals (1:00.80, 4th) CR

100 Breast: Maggie Snodgrass Prelims (1:10.53, 11th)

200 Breast: Maggie Snodgrass Prelims (2:34.51, 5th), Finals (2:32.79, 5th) CR

100 Fly: Callie Snodgrass Prelims (59.22, 1st), Finals (58.40, 1st) NAT, CR

200 Fly: Callie Snodgrass Prelims (2:14.24, 1st), Finals (2:13.18, 1st)

200 IM: Maggie Snodgrass Prelims (2:20.58, 14th)

400 IM: Maggie Snodgrass Prelims (4:59.15, 5th), Finals (4:57.64, 6th) CR

200 Free Relay: Clark, Gourley, M. Snodgrass, and C. Snodgrass (1:42.67, 3rd) CR

400 Free Relay: Clark\*, C. Snodgrass, M. Snodgrass, and L. Gourley Finals (3:46.95, 4th) CR [\*100 Free Lead Off Split: Ashlyn Clark (56:22) CR]

200 Medley Relay: Clark, M. Snodgrass, C. Snodgrass, and Gourley (1:53.30, 3rd) CR

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# Wildcats Softball Team Wins Inaugural Season Opener

by Clarion Sports Zone

The Central Clarion Wildcats Softball Team began their inaugural season, as the new team comprised of players from Clarion-Limestone and Clarion Area, downed the Union/A-C Valley Falcon-Knights 21-7, in five innings), at Heindl Field in DuBois, on Wednesday, March 27th.

During this historic year for Wildcats softball there will be many firsts, just as there were for the Wildcats Football Team several years ago, the Wildcats Band, which began last summer and the Wildcats Wrestling Team this past season.

Some of the things for the girls to remember, such as this being the first win and first road win, in the first game of the season, will see *SOFTBALL* on page 19

## Baseball *continued from page 13*

pitcher. Lucas Bauer singled, doubled, drove in a run and scored once, and Ben Reynolds singled, doubled and scored a pair of runs for the Dutch.

Clarion 8 – Punxsutawney 2  
The Chucks scored their two runs in the bottom of the first inning, for a 2-0 lead which would hold through the fourth. The Bobcats scored 5 in the fifth, 1 in the sixth and two more in the seventh to set the final.

Noah Harrison had a single and a double for the Bobcats. He scored twice and had a pair of RBIs. Bryce Brinkley had a hit, drove in a run and scored once. Dauntae Girvan and Matt Alston each singled and drove in a run.

Dawson Smail had a hit and scored a run. he was also the winning pitcher, going three innings, registering two strikeouts, while giving up just one hit.

Tanner Miller had a hit and an RBI. Devon Lauer, Derek Smail and Dylan Smail each scored once.

Maddox Hetrick had three hits and scored a run for Punxsy.

## Lewis *continued from page 15*

So we “cut” for a bit. After Tom came back, we finished the interview.

“Truly, I feel I’m the luckiest guy. It’s been a wonderful life. It’s still going on. I mean, I’m retired, coaching till I’m seventy-seven. My wife and I have been married fifty-seven years. We’ve got three wonderful children, five grandchildren, five great grandchildren. What more could you ask for in life?”

“It’s been great! And continues to be great. And the older you get, you realize that each day is not going to come back and you are going to need to make something positive happen out of that day.”

As to the Jimmy Stewart – It’s a Wonderful Life analogy, “I always liked that movie. He found how it’s; it’s a wonderful life!

“You got to enjoy it. You’re not going to get another one. At least I don’t believe in that. So let’s make the best of this one. And that’s what we try to do. Everybody’s the same. You treat people with respect and you hope to get respect in return.”

Tom continued, “I believe in

building bridges and not burning bridges. And that’s just the way I try to do.

“We’ll quit coaching. It’s time.

“And I may pick up the golf clubs again. It’s been since 2016 since I played golf. Hey, my wife told me ‘I could buy a new set.’ (Laugh’s) You can’t beat it right. So if my knees will hold up, I’ll do it.”

It hit me as Tom mentioned not golfing since 2016, that would have been when we would travel together, and Tom would scout and I’d record. Hard to believe it was eight years ago. One thing Tom could talk your ear off with, was his great golf stories: absolutely entertaining, listening to them.

He continued, “I know everybody doesn’t have that outlook and when I was younger, I didn’t either. But as you get older... I don’t want to use the word wiser, but you realize, the good Lord’s going to decide when. So you might as well make the best out of each day.” Tom also mentioned that when he was younger, the ego came into play, but that, that all leaves as you get older, that it’s not about wins and losses. It’s about developing the players and more so, developing (along with parents, teachers etc.) upstanding adults and the lasting friendships developed with others along the way.

Another rabbit trail: As I was sitting in the stands, I noticed that Tom was on the other side of the basketball court, “Holding Court” with the Southern Fulton players, just reveling in and soaking in every minute of this wonderful evening. I never remember seeing anything like that. I asked a couple of fans near me, both who have attended a multitude of Clarion Area sporting events over the years, if they’d ever seen that. Neither could remember.

I got up and lumbered down the stands and went over to try to get a good photo, hoping everything wouldn’t conclude before I got there. But no worry there. The session went on quite a while after I headed back to the bleachers.

I asked the players if they had ever had an opposing coach come over and talk to them like this. The young man on the left, with his arms crossed, looked at me, with a kind of puzzled look and asked,

“Is this he the coach?!” I guess unassuming Coach Lewis, never formally introduced himself and to that point they didn’t have a clue who he was. The players all agreed that this never happened to them before. Tom could have been a game manager, AD, parent, grandparent, fan. Who knows?

Final rabbit trail:

I was in the chair getting my hair cut at Craig’s Barber Place on Main Street Clarion on Thursday, March 14th and who should wander in to get his haircut, but Tom. After the usual, “You don’t care who you let in here’s,” I asked Tom if Imani Christian, the team the Bobcats lost to, two nights earlier were as advertised. He said they were and just admitted that the defending State Champs who could very likely repeat this year, were. He made no excuses, just mentioned that they were the better team and shared about some of their strengths etc.

The two of us, along with the two barber/stylists had a good time discussing basketball.

Tom mentioned that he stopped in to get his haircut, before officially turning in his official resignation at the high school. I told him to make sure to get a photo for me. A comparison photo above and the one below with Clarion Area Superintendent Dr. Joe Carrico below, is a testament to the fine work done by the staff at Craig’s.

Dr. Carrico had some fine praise for this fine Pillar of the Community. “We are very grateful for Tom’s commitment to our students and basketball program over the past few years. He was instrumental in keeping the team operating at a very high level during the time period of our coaching transition when Coach Fox resigned.

“Tom has spent decades dedicating his time and efforts to the local communities and districts. He has always done so with integrity and strength of character.

“We wish Tom, his wife and their family nothing but the best on their next adventure!”

Ditto that, Dr. Carrico!!

So just what are some of Coach Lewis’ records and achievements? Who knows, who cares? Tom sure doesn’t. To him it’s all about the kids!!

(Congratulations and Happy Trails To You, Tom and family!)



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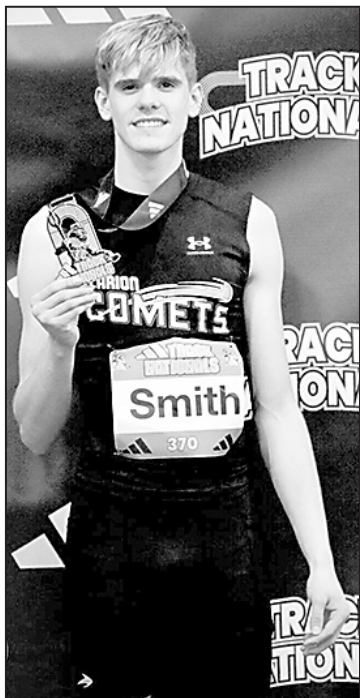
# Clarion Comets' Hayden Smith Wins High Jump at Adidas Indoor National Track and Field Championship

by Matt Lerch - Clarion Sports Zone

The Pennsylvania State AA High Jump Champion, Hayden Smith, has added another feather to his cap. On Saturday, March 16th he became the National Champion in the High Jump at Adidas Indoor National Track and Field Championship held at Virginia Beach, Virginia. Smith could have attended the meet unattached, however he decided to represent his Clarion Comets Indoor Track and Field Team with Tammy Lerch as his coach.

Hayden won the event with a jump of 6' 7.75", far below his personal record of 6' 11" achieved, on Sunday, February 25th, at the Pennsylvania Track and Field Coaches Association's Indoor Track and Field Championships at Penn State University.

Hayden is ranked 5th in the nation for indoor high jumping during the 2023-2024 indoor track and field season. One of the top competitors who he anticipated jumping against did not make the event. Hayden, who thrives on competition said, "I was disappointed when the 6' 11" jumper didn't show up." After winning the event he chose to break his own record by setting the bar at 6' 11.75". After three missed attempts the meet



Hayden proudly displaying his First Place Award. (photo by Matt Lerch)

was over.

Hayden continued, "within seconds I reevaluated my next goal for the competition since I had already won the meet and I chose to go for my PR." Hayden went on to say "I know I can do it, everything just has to come together. I think my goal of 7' is reachable."



Hayden clears 6' 7.75 to win High Jump at Adidas Indoor National Track and Field Championship. (photo by Matt Lerch)

(Congratulations to Hayden and the Comets on this great achievement!! Thanks to Matt Lerch for this article and photos!)

# Clarion Area Boys' Basketball Boosters Host Team Banquet

by Clarion Sports Zone

The Clarion Area Boys' Basketball Boosters treated the team, with their 2023-24 Banquet, at the Main Street Center in downtown Clarion, on Sunday, March 24th.

The event took place in a low key, relaxed atmosphere (kind of like a back porch barbeque). And you could tell that the attendees absolutely enjoyed it that way.

The festivities began with Boys' Basketball Booster Chairman, Dave Smail welcoming everyone to the festivities, who then turned it over to Brian Burford, who gave the blessing for the meal.

The meal was catered by Daddy's Main Street, in Clarion and parents and others who also provided a number of tasty items.

Volunteer assistant coach Greg Larson took the podium. He thanked the folks for attending. He then mentioned that when head coach Tom Lewis asked him to come on board. He wasn't sure he could make the big commitment. But after weighing

the pros and cons, and with his wife Samantha's encouragement, he jumped in with both feet, and never looked back. (Note: check out Samantha's Facebook post describing how everything unfolded and her pride in Greg's see *BANQUET* on page 20

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# Central Clarion Wildcats Wrestling Holds Inaugural Team Banquet

by Clarion Sports Zone

The Central Clarion Wildcats Wrestling Boosters hosted the wrestlers, coaches and parents in their Inaugural Team Banquet, on Wednesday, March 20th, at the Haskell House at the corner of Main Street and South Fifth Avenue in Clarion. The team which is open to wrestlers from Clarion, Clarion-Limestone, Keystone and North Clarion school districts as well as home, charter and cyber schoolers from within those areas, formed this past year from the former Clarion Area team, made up of those districts.

Central Clarion head coach, Braun Gourley began the festivities with opening remarks,

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including a welcome to all in attendance. Jill Henry followed with the Invocation and Blessing of the meal.

Then the attendees enjoyed the spread which included pizza, chips and many other delicious items.

Following dinner, Elementary Coach Bryan Kiskadden was the first to introduce his team. He thanked everyone who attended and especially thanked the wrestlers and the parents who sacrifice to get them to practice, tournaments etc. coach Kiskadden mentioned that their were roughly forty to fifty wrestlers showing up throughout the year for various practices, matches and so-forth.

He introduced his assistant coaches, who helped present the youngsters in attendance with their certificates. He shared his confidence that these wrestlers would "make some noise," in the future.

Next up was Junior High Head Coach Mike LeFay, who mentioned that this was a time to "honor and reflect" on the team's fine accomplishments, work ethic... He mentioned that the squad exceeded all expectations.

There were several Individual Award winners for the Junior see *INAUGURAL* on page 22



Alexa Kitchen being congratulated by Abby Knapp-Greeley after scoring in season opener against Falcon-Knights. (photo by Di Smith)

## Softball

*continued from page 17*

be things the girls will want to tell their children and grandchildren. Who had the first hit?... who drove in the first run?... who scored the first run?... who was the winning pitcher?... who hit the first, double?... triple?... homerun?... who started?... who saw the field?... etc. There will be program firsts throughout the season and years to come, to record for posterity.

The Wildcats were the visitors for this contest, which was part of a big softball/baseball day at

Heindl and Showers Fields.

The Wildcats scored four runs in the top of the first. Union/A-CV answered with two runs in the bottom of the frame. Central moved their lead to 11-2 in the top of the second. The Falcon-Knights scored three in their next at-bat, making the score 11-5.

A 3-2 Central advantage in the third inning had the Wildcats up 14-7.

Three unanswered runs in the fourth and four more unanswered runs in the fifth, by the Wildcats set the final.

Sam Simpson had a huge game for the Wildcats, just missing



Coach Jason Craig fist bumping Jenna Dunn after a hit. (photo by Bryan Kiskadden from BK Media)



Centerfielder, Emileigh Mahle, awaiting a hit. (photo by Bryan Kiskadden from BK Media)

hitting for the cycle, as she recorded a double, a triple and a home run. She drove in seven runs and scored three times. Alyssa Wiant had three hits, including a double, three RBIs and four runs scored. Jenna Dunn had a single and a double, drove in 2 runs and scored five runs.

Abby Knapp-Greeley doubled and tripled, and drove in a pair of runs. Kaylee Smith singled and tripled, scored twice and had two RBIs.

Alexa Kitchen and Brinley Kiskadden each had a hit, a pair of RBIs and scored a run. Emileigh Mahle doubled and scored a run.

Jenna Dunn went the whole

five innings in the circle, with 7 strikeouts, while giving up just 4 hits and walking two batters.

For Union/A-CV, Kya Wetzel doubled and scored a run, Bella Ielase scored twice, Ava Schreckengost singled and scored twice and Maddy Dehart scored two runs.

Wildcats coach Joe Lopez had this to say about his team, "Really proud of this team for buying in and working hard. It's nice to see that hard work pay off on a gameday.

"The bats were hot, and Jenna pitched a great game in the circle. The focus for us is getting a little bit better each day."



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The Clarion Mirror advertising and article deadline is the 5th of the month of publication.

# 2024 Brookville Laurel Festival

The Brookville Laurel Festival Board is hard at work planning another event filled festival for 2024! Our first activity of the year will be our annual Murder Myster Dinner Fundraiser taking place on May 11th at the Heritage House at 6 p.m.

C'mon down and join Brookville Laurel Festival and Pittsburgh's #1 interactive dinner theater company at the Horny Toad Saloon in the frontier town of Camel Rock. Catch an eyeful as a saloon girl, bandito, deputy, and singing cowboy try to figure out who gunned down the toughest and hairiest sheriff in the old West! With the show "Montana Marie Gets Gunned Down at Three." Tickets can be purchased in person at the Brookville Area Chamber of Commerce Office or via the Chamber's website.

The Brookville Laurel Festival will be held on June 8-15, 2024.

The 2023's festival brought a large crowd despite all the rain that we had most of the week. Another big thank you to our many generous sponsors that helped make it possible. Miller Fabrication Solutions helped in a big way! Art in the Park kicked off with bag pipes at noon and was a fun filled afternoon with bands, magic, dancing, music, and crafts! The car show was one of the biggest yet with over 100 entries. The rain did not stop the sound of children's laughter echoing down main street on Family Fun Night. Jefferson County Relay for Life hosted another moving event honoring those who have battled cancer while the history center highlighted our town in their annual historic tour. S&T Bank sponsored a dinner on Hometown Hero night for those who served while a local acapella group, Special K, filled the air with their melodious renditions of classic Americana tunes. The sidewalks of Main St were filled with shoppers and vendors while the smell of the Pinecreek Volunteer Fire Company's annual Chicken BBQ filled the air. Our 100-unit parade was supported in a big way by Brookville Equipment, with the favorite floats from Rhines Farms, Roseville Independent Chapel, and Berry Global. The festival ended with a bang with the fireworks display by our local talent at Boomville Fireworks, sponsored by FOE 983. Bringing back favorites for 2024 is in the works to continue showcasing local talent and trying new adventures.

We hope to bring another large crowd to enjoy our beautiful town! Planning a festival takes many hands and there are volunteer opportunities available if you would like to help with the festival! The festival would also not be possible without sponsors. If you would be interested in joining the board or seeing how you or your business could sponsor the festival, email us at [brookvillelaurelfestival@gmail.com](mailto:brookvillelaurelfestival@gmail.com).

## Could you be the next Brookville Laurel Festival Queen?

The Brookville Laurel Festival Board is excited to announce they are now accepting applications for the 2024 Brookville Laurel Festival Scholarship Pageant. With this pageant the Brookville Laurel Festival Board aims to provide the opportunity for young ladies to build leadership and public speaking skills, showcase their talents, and give them the opportunity to earn a scholarship towards their future goals.

A \$1,500 Scholarship is awarded to the Queen with additional scholarships available for 1st and 2nd Runners up. Contestants must be between the ages of 16-20, single, never married, without children and remain so throughout their reign,

as well as a legal resident of Pennsylvania.

The 2024 Scholarship Pageant is set to take place at 7 p.m. on June 1, 2024, in the Brookville Jr/Sr High School Auditorium.

Application forms must be submitted to Sandra Young at [brookvillelaurelfestival+pageant@gmail.com](mailto:brookvillelaurelfestival+pageant@gmail.com) or postmarked and mailed to Attn: Sandra Young – Brookville Laurel Festival, PO BOX 394, Brookville, PA, 15825 by no later than April 15, 2024.

For the application forms and more information, email [brookvillelaurelfestival+pageant@gmail.com](mailto:brookvillelaurelfestival+pageant@gmail.com)

The Clarion Mirror advertising and article deadline is the 5th of the month of publication.

[nt@gmail.com](mailto:nt@gmail.com) or visit [www.brookvillelaurelfestival.com](http://www.brookvillelaurelfestival.com)

## Banquet

*continued from page 18*

decision and commitment.)



Coach Larson

He developed a special bond with the players and vice versa. He also mentioned that coach Lewis was "a leader like no other." He shared good words about Junior Varsity coach Ryan Radaker. He thanked the parents and grandparents, who along with the coaches, helped the players to develop character on and off the court. Coach Larson

then welcomed the seniors to the Bobcat Alumni Fellowship, saying this was something they would cherish for years to come. He closed with a big "Go Bobcats!"

Coach Radaker introduced members of his Junior Varsity squad.

He shared a number of stats, including the fact that the team went 18-1 during the campaign and ran off seventeen straight victories to finish out the season, their only loss coming in week two.

Coach Radaker mentioned the team's theme, which is summed up in two sets of three words: "E" – Energy, Effort and Enthusiasm; and "C" – Cool, Calm and Collected. He mentioned how the boys really caught on and took the theme seriously.

Devon Lauer and Dawson Smail were presented with their All-KSAC certificates.

Coach Lewis' spent his time at the podium sharing some fond memories about his decades long career, which ended with the banquet. He said he was happy to go out with the nine seniors, Bryce Brinkley, Dauntae Girvan, Owen Kriebel, Devon Lauer, Jameson McIlwain, Kam Merrell, Tanner Miller, Gabe

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**Bobcat Seniors (L-R) Jameson McIlwain, Dawson Smail, Devon Lauer, Bryce Brinkley, Tanner Miller, Gabe Simko, Kam Merrell and Owen Kriebel (Missing Dauntae Girvan) (photo by Stephanie Brinkley)**

Simko and Dawson Smail, who have been with him for the past four years, introducing them in groups of threes. There was a special reason, for coach Lewis that each group of three was set up as it was.

He mentioned the valuable asset coach Radaker has been to him, making special note of Ryan's IT skills, which made things much easier for him in studying opponents to prepare for games.

Some of those coach Lewis thanked and recognized included: his wife Nancy for her love and support, the Boosters; Anna Kriebel for her work on the



**Coach Radaker with some of the JVs**

scorebook over the years, who along with her husband Shane, has been an integral part of Bobcat Basketball for a number of years; coach Larson (mentioning the respect the players had for him and his falling in love with coaching).

Coach Lewis mentioned his being pleased with the team's 18-10 record. And mentioned that in the dozen or so years he has been back with the program, as an assistant and head coach, the Bobcats reached the District Nine championship game three times.

He made mention of Devon's reaching 1,000 points this season, highlighting that he was only the twelfth Bobcat to do so and the seventh that he had coached. Devon was presented with his commemorative, keepsake basketball, recognizing this achievement.

Addressing the whole gathering, coach Lewis said, "Thank you all for everything."

Mason Burford presented coach Lewis with a framed "Elvis Has Left the Building" memento recognizing one of coach's favorite sayings.

Dave Smail presented gifts to



**Coach Lewis**

the coaches from the boosters. He had special thanks for a number of people. Some of those included: Laura Burford for all her hard work in putting the banquet together, the boosters, players and parents. He said, "From the bottom of my heart, I love you all."

He then mentioned that Devon and Dawson would be playing in the YMCA All-Star Game on Sunday, April 7th and encouraged folks to attend the game and support them.

(Congratulations to all the Bobcats on a fine season and to all involved in this great banquet!!!! Thank you to Stephanie for her photo!!)

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# The Band 814 Holding Free Concert in Brookville

The Band 814 is an amazing contemporary Christian band out of Erie, PA. They will be performing in the area twice in 2024. The first concert will be held May 25 at Brookville Church of God. The concert is free to attend. A love offering will be collected to benefit HOPE Summerville's 3rd Music Festival which will be held August 23 and 24. The Band 814 will also be performing at HOPE.

The Band 814 is led by Dave Lefebre, Dave fishes professionally on the Major League Fishing Bass Pro Tour.

Lately, I find myself going through some intense struggles in my 20-year fishing career. I believe it is a spiritual battle and that God is trying to move a sometimes stubborn me closer toward Him and his calling on my life.

## Dave explains how the ministry began:

In the final tournament of 2021 in Detroit, MI, on my home waters of Lake Erie, I bombed. I caught zero fish on day one. The chances of winning the lottery are better than that.

This event was so important in many ways, my entire season and point standings were on the line. To secure a championship berth, a large check, and several bonuses, all I needed was a 32nd place finish in this final tournament. This should have been automatic. My prayer was simple, God please show me what it is you want me to focus on, the 814 ministry, or fishing? Fishing for bass, or men? I begged for a miracle and that is exactly what I got in Detroit. I finished second to last out of the top 79 fishermen in the world, lost around \$75,000, and the potential for much more. I was devastated.

It was not until I began driving home, crushed in spirit, when I realized what had just happened was the miracle I had been praying for. It hit me like a ton of bricks, and at that moment I finally got what God was trying to tell me. It wasn't pleasant, or the miracle I wanted, but it was the one I needed. And since that day, my desire to be an open vessel, to focus on ministry, and to start an outreach rooted in my local community, has never been stronger.

Now, 20 years later... I've had a great career. I was blessed to be able to travel the country for 15 years with my family, thanks to Anne's homeschooling skills, unbelievable family work ethic and commitment. Needless to say, we wouldn't have made it without her. It is now 2023 and I'm in my 21st year of professional bass fishing.

We, the team I am marching with, is an amazing group of people. It is not just the band members, but also the helpers and a solid foundation of passionate prayer warriors we have assembled. The story of how everyone on the 814 crew came together is a miracle, and we are excited to watch it grow, as more people latch on to our vision and want to be involved. Each individual story is incredible, this just happens to be mine.

We look forward to the opportunity to play music May 25th at the Brookville Church of God, 201 Freedom Lane, Brookville. Doors open at 6. We will also be at the Hope, 3rd annual Christian Music Festival in Summerville August 23rd and 24th.

-Dave Lefebre

You can find more information about The Band 814 on their Facebook page (search 814). Look them up on YouTube!

# Wild Laurel Cloggers Class

The Wild Laurel Cloggers' next beginner clogging class begins on Monday, April 15, with a free intro workshop, and we'd love for you to join us! Please feel free to forward this message to anyone you know who may be interested.

The workshop is a free one-hour introduction to the fundamentals of clogging, and it will be held at 5:45 p.m. at the Clarion Center for the Arts, which is at 15506 Route 322, Clarion, PA 16214. We'll be in the dance studio in the back left corner of the building. No dance experience is necessary, all ages are invited to participate, and no registration is required. This event is open to the public.

see CLOGGERS on page 26

# Inaugural

*continued from page 19*

High: Benjamin Naser – “Hardest Worker,” Nate McDonnell – “Outstanding Sportsmanship,” Tate Allison – “Most Improved,” Dylan Albertine – “Leadership Excellence,” Nate McDonnell

– “Outstanding Sportsmanship” and Cooper Macormac – “Grinder.”

Varsity Head Coach Braun Gourley then took the podium. He gave some special shoutouts: Bryn Kiskadden (BK Media) for the wonderful programs she does for the wrestling and other teams;

Jon Beal, who for a number of years, has been the wrestling scorekeeper; Clarion Area Superintendent Dr. Joe Carrico for his work procuring the new Wildcat gear, and new Wildcat competition mats which will be used beginning next season; local media (Kenn Staub who



**Individual Award winners and Coaches: Front (L-R) Junior High: Benjamin Naser, Nate McDonnell, Tate Allison and Dylan Albertine. Back (L-R) Varsity and Coaches: Cameron Slike – Varsity Assistant Coach, Braun Gourley – Varsity Head Coach, Matt Alston, Josh Beal, Rudy Shetler, Kyle Cathcart – Junior High Assistant Coach and Mike LeFay – Junior High Head Coach.**

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Junior High Head Coach Mike LeFay flanked by Nate McDonnell and Dylan Albertine.



Photo by Tori Amsler – Elementary Coach Bryan Kiskadden (Back Right) with assistant coaches (l-r) with the elementary wrestlers proudly displaying their certificates: Front (L-R) is Nolan Burns, Mathew Cyphert, Beckett Kiskadden, Lexan Burns, Bronson Luton, Karsen Wolff, Caden Cyphert, Nico Niederhiser, Brock McClain, and Ryker Seitz; remaining wrestlers (l-r) Coleson Amsler, Lincoln Maxwell, Kasen Cathcart, Zeke Fesco, Hunter Niederhiser, Dominik Sheffer, Jaxon Sheffer, Case Hughes, and Everett Neely. (Two other coaches that were huge help this year but did not make the photo were Kyle Cathcart and Randy Cathcart.)

writes for a number of outlets, Sara Smerker and Clarion Sports Zone); and the Wildcats

Family – Clarion Area, Clarion-Limestone, Keystone and North Clarion School Districts, families and athletes.

He mentioned some of the team's highlights, such as defeating Brookville for the first time in many years, and some of the disappointments, such as wrestlers who could have excelled more except for injuries and illness.

Coach Gourley shared the "Varsity Season By The Numbers," with some pretty impressive stats: 11 wins (the second year in a row reaching double digit victories); 490 total

matches; 259 wins; 53% winning percentage; 159 pins; 61% wins by pin; 168.5 points scored in the squad's first place win at the Mercer VFW Tournament; 5 wrestlers with 20 or more wins; 18 number of wrestlers on Varsity at the end of the year.

He then shared numbers pertaining to senior Josh Beal, whose fine career ended with a trip to the PIAA State Wrestling Championships at Hershey: 39 wins this past season and 36 wins by fall in 2023-2024, both team records.

The last of the "Numbers" see INAUGURAL on page 26

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## JCHC Spotlight on Our Interns

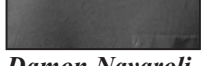
### Winter –Spring Interns working on our PA Historic Museum Commission (PHMC) Archives Grant

Two of our PennWest Clarion interns - Hannah Zacherl & Damon Navaroli are working in our new Parker Archives on the County Records we inherited from the Courthouse, fulfilling the requirements of our PHMC Archives Grant for 2023-2025. The project is to inventory and re-house into archival boxes and poly sleeves the volumes of county records and creating a "Finding Aid" database enabling the searches of visiting researchers. They also just completed



Hannah Zacherl

the enormous task of creating a new database for the County Tax Records Books. Then they will re-inventory a variety of County Record Books – from massive Land Sales Volumes to Treasurer's Volumes, and everything in between. Finally, when we receive the Naturalization Records from the Prothonotary's Office, they will rehouse these records and create another database Finding Aid. They will also work at the Prothonotary's office copying index cards of applicants' names and the Naturalization Record Volumes they can be found in.



Damon Navaroli

The Prothonotary's office, under the direction of Tonya Geist, are helping to rehouse

these volumes, including all pages, some of which are greatly over-used and damaged, in archival poly sleeves and then into bound notebooks. Her office is also making us a duplicate copy of the digitized microfilm/microfiche of the Naturalization Records so we may better assist requests for Naturalization Records. I might mention here that her office donated their prior microfilm/microfiche reader to us in 2021, when they were able to procure an upgraded system. The older one works just fine for our purposes!

### Other Archival Work

Our other PennWest Clarion intern this semester is Faith Pahoundis is assisting with miscellaneous archival work, from helping with scanning photographs to rehousing artwork into appropriate archival packaging, assisting our Archives Pathstones Crew with many tasks. Faith is interested in becoming an Archivist, so she will also be learning our museum database used to accession (categorize and record) artifacts into our Archives.



Faith Pahoundis

### Interns Working on Jefferson County History Videos

Community Digital History Storytelling Class is a Heinz History Center (Pittsburgh) project originated at the prior California University of PA and now expanded to the three Penn Western Universities of Clarion, Edinboro, and California, PA. Many small museums in Western PA, including JCHC, are assisting students with their class projects.

Hannah has completed a video entitled "The Legacy of a Brookville Renaissance Man," on Jefferson County Gunsmiths'

Longrifles & Violins, featuring Anthony Bonnett, a well-known artisan. Bonnet (1835-1907) did a bit of everything, making violins, mandolins and guitars, doing bicycle repairs, blacksmithing, gunsmithing, teaching art and calligraphy and writing poetry. Hannah completed the video Fall Semester 2023.

Zachary Van Cise did his video, entitled "Why Are There No Dinosaurs in Western Pennsylvania" on our JCHC Paleontology Exhibit, which was also completed Fall Semester 2023. He covers why we don't find fossil dinosaur bones in PA, and then all the fossilized critters and plants we DO find in PA.

You can find these videos on our JCHS You Tube Channel, <https://www.youtube.com/@JeffersonCountyHistoryCenter>, and both were also posted on our facebook page, facebook/jchconline on January 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> of this year.

Three more students have signed up to create videos of Jefferson County history. All are in progress to be completed Winter-Spring Semester 2024. Watch for them on our You Tube Channel ! The students are:

Lydia Dickson & Maddy Weyandt will produce a video on Kate Scott, Jefferson County historian, newspaper writer and editor under her father, and Civil War nurse. She helped establish the Women's Relief Corps and the Memorial Home in Brookville to care for Civil War Veterans and orphans, among others. She was active in the Grande Army of the Republic and the National Association of Army Nurses.

James Miller chose pre-historic Native American petroglyphs and mythology for his production, based on Ken Burkett's petroglyph research along the Allegheny River at Parker's Landing.

JayLynn Nugent will produce a video on the Pittsburg &

Shawmut Railroad (P&SRR) in Brookville and Jefferson County, using our current exhibit and histories in our Research Library.

### PA Humanities New "Wingspan" Grant Update



The work these students are doing parallels with our own upcoming Community Storytelling: Video-Interviews of various residents county-wide that will also incorporate associated old photographs & artifacts that we have in our Archives. This project is funded by a new 2-year grant called "Wingspan" from PA Humanities and is a restricted grant to be used for this project only. We have purchased the equipment needed and will start filming in the next week or two. Our very first video will feature Bill McCracken with the story of the Twyford Motor Car Company and building the

replica Twyford 4WD. Funding for Wingspan is made possible with the generous support from Spring Point Partners, and additional funding from PA Humanities, individual donors and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

### National Park Trust & USDA Forest Service – "Every Kid Outdoors" Grant.



This grant, awarded March 7<sup>th</sup>, funds Elementary Environmental & Cultural Heritage Education for 4<sup>th</sup> Graders at our JCHS Park in May - Our 4th Year!!!! The first 3 years, we hosted Brookville's Hickory Grove 4<sup>th</sup> Grade classes. This year we expanded our reach to other schools and we will be hosting Clarion-Limestone School District 4<sup>th</sup> Grade. Many of the students living along the border of Clarion & Jefferson counties attend this school.



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This grant funds bussing of the students from their school to the park, students' and teachers' lunches, and teaching materials (Jr. Ranger and Pollinator booklets). JCHC will cover Presenters' lunches. Please see associated press release from National Park Service and USDA Forest Service in this issue for more information.

Presenters are professionals in their field of expertise, ranging from Pollinator -Pond habitat, Lumbering/Forestry/Conservation Practices (also including any Birds & Mammals of the Park observed that day), Native American Rockshelter/Archaeology, and a Tour of the Rocks: The story of the engraved boulders and the engraver, Douglas Stahlman. The latter program is part of the cultural history of the Park. There is also a fun activity for the kids where they all receive a "Trail Name," based on the names of Forest Animals, and associated stickers they can either wear or post in their Booklets.

It will be a fun filed trip day for the students, and also a day focused on nature, cultural heritage and stewardship.

*This project was made possible by USDA Forest Service and National Park Trust's Every Kid Outdoors Small Grants Program.*



**National Park Trust & USDA Forest Service Announce Jefferson County Historical Society as a 2024 Every Kid Outdoors Small Grant Awardee**

**41 Grants Awarded Will Get More Than 31,000 Kids Outside**

National Park Trust is pleased to announce the 2024 grantees of the Every Kid Outdoors Small Grants Program, developed in partnership with the USDA Forest Service, This Program supports schools and mom-profit organizations focused on connecting elementary school-aged youth to public parks, lands, and waters.

Since 2009, National Park Trust has been a leader in youth outdoor programming and has been actively addressing the lack of transportation to outdoor spaces – one of the most significant barriers to kids getting outside and experiencing nature. This grant supports the Every Kid Outdoors Program, a federal youth initiative designed to provide every 4th grader the opportunity to visit public lands and waters for free with their families. Taking advantage of the great outdoors as an excellent classroom, the Park Trust and USDA Forest Service provide experiences that will help kids establish lifelong connections with nature and become the next

generation of park stewards.

Jefferson County Historical Society has received an award to support our work to engage elementary students at the JCHS Heritage Park, locally known as "Scripture Rocks" Park. History Center Staff and Board Members, as well as professional educators in their field of expertise, will present environmental and cultural heritage programming this year to Clarion – Limestone 4th grade classes. This outdoor educational experience includes Pollinator-Pond Habitat, Lumbering/Forestry, Birds & Mammals of the Park, Native American Rockshelter, a Tour of the Engraved Boulders and story of the Engraver, Douglas Stahlman. The focus throughout the day will be on stewardship and conservation.

"We are happy to receive this important mini-grant to introduce students at a vulnerable learning age to nature and the cultural heritage of our local park. This grant provides for school bus transportation, students' and

teachers' lunches, and booklets designed by staff and interns that are used as teaching materials. Our goal is to get students interested in their environment, learn the past history (lumbering, quarrying, coal mine exploration) of the park and appreciate today's conservation measures within the park and the county. This is the fourth year presenting this program - the first three years we hosted Brookville's Hickory Grove 4th grade. We are pleased to host Clarion-Limestone 4th Grade this year," said Operations Director, Kat Lyons.

This program was open to 501(c)3 non-profit organizations and schools seeking resources to connect their community's elementary school-aged kids with local parks, public lands, and waters. For 2024, the Park Trust and USDA Forest Service awarded 41 grants to qualified applicants – totaling almost \$155,000. To see the full list of 2024 grantees, please visit <https://parktrust.org/2024-every-kid-outdoors-grantees/>.

This project was made possible by USDA Forest Service and National Park Trust's Every Kid Outdoors Small Grants Program.

**ABOUT NATIONAL PARK TRUST**

Celebrating its 41st anniversary in 2024, National Park Trust's mission is to preserve parks today and create park stewards for tomorrow. Since 1983, the Park Trust has acquired many of the missing pieces of our national parks, benefiting 51 national park sites. Our national youth education and family initiatives, including our Buddy Bison Programs and National Kids to Parks Day, serve 300 Title I schools annually and cultivate future park stewards. We believe that our public parks, lands, and waters should be cared for, enjoyed by, and preserved by all for current and future generations. Find out more at [parktrust.org](http://parktrust.org). Their media contact is Ivan Levin at [ivan@parktrust.org](mailto:ivan@parktrust.org).

**ABOUT JCHS**

JCHS operates the Jefferson County History Center and the JCHS Heritage Park. We invite other schools and organizations, both within Jefferson county and outside of the county, to visit the park and take advantage of the educational opportunities we have to offer. Contact Kat Lyons

see HISTORY on page 27

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April is National Volunteer Month...the Red Cross relies on volunteer donors to ensure blood is available to patients all year long. Only 3 out of 100 people give blood so this is the perfect time to become a donor!

**Thursday, April 18, 11am-4:30pm**

PennWest Clarion, Gemmel Student Center

**Thursday, April 18, 12-5:30pm**

Callensburg-Licking Twp Fire Department

**Tuesday, April 23, 12-5pm**

American Legion, DuBois

**Thursday, April 25, 1-5:30pm**

Clarion Mall

**Friday, April 26, 11:30am-5pm**

New Bethlehem Fire Hall

**Monday, April 29, 12-5:30pm**

Clarion Mall

**Friday, May 3, 11:30am-5pm**

DuBois Mall



## Inaugural

*continued from page 23*

that Coach Gourley shared was 15 (November 15th) the first official day of practice. He also mentioned various wrestling opportunities available to the athletes throughout the off-season. He also mentioned that each member of the Varsity earned a letter.

Three Varsity wrestlers received individual awards: Matt Alston – "Coaches Award," Josh Beal – "Most Valuable Wrestler" and Rudy Shetler – "Most Improved."

Booster Secretary/Fundraising

Chairman Dave Smail shared about the Booster Club's work and fundraising activities. He asked for those who aren't involved with the Boosters to consider getting involved. The club raises monies to spend on the wrestlers at all levels of the program.

The Operating Budget is structured to cover the program where the school district doesn't.

Some of the upcoming fundraisers include: the Start of the Season Raffle; Program Ad Sales – Fall 2024; Junior High Tournament – December 14, 2024 (biggest fundraiser); and Super Bowl Squares.



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## Cloggers

*continued from page 22*

The workshop also serves as the first night of our 10-week beginner class, which will run from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. on Monday nights from April 15 to June 24, skipping May 27 for Memorial Day. The free workshop is the first class, and you're welcome to attend this first-night intro and decide afterward if you'd like to keep dancing with us. The fee for the 10-week class is \$75/dancer, but again, the first class is free to attend and there's no obligation to return if you just want to try it out or decide clogging isn't for you.

For more information on the workshop and class, visit our Facebook event page.

## Drive-In

*continued from page 12*

each weekend, with the movies starting at dusk. Admission remains extra affordable at \$20.00 per vehicle, including up to six passengers. Each additional guest is just \$10.00.

Tickets may be purchased now via our online ticket page on our website or Facebook.

### Moonlite Drive-In – Where Memories are Made

For 72 years, the Moonlite Drive-In has offered a unique and nostalgic movie experience for people from all over the multi-county area. Pack up your family and friends, grab your favorite blankets and chairs, and enjoy a

night of entertainment under the stars.

Come out and enjoy "Watching the Stars, while sitting Under the Stars" at the Moonlite.

For more information and to learn what is now showing, please visit the Moonlite Drive-In website: [www.moonlitedrivein.com](http://www.moonlitedrivein.com)

The Moonlite Drive-In Theatre is located on Route 322 just west of Brookville.

### DO YOU HAVE ITEMS TO SELL?

Advertise in our Classified Section. Email: [theclarionmirror@gmail.com](mailto:theclarionmirror@gmail.com) or call 814-648-0986 for details.

# GRAND OPENING



April 13<sup>th</sup>

10 a.m-5 p.m.

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# WHERE YOU GET READY FOR WORK

# History

*continued from page 25*

at klyons-jchc@windstream.net or Ken Burkett, kburkett-jchc@windstream.net to arrange a special tour or program, or call us at 814-849-0077.

#NationalParkTrust  
#EveryKidOutdoors

## April 2024 Exhibits At The Jefferson County History Center

### NEW EXHIBITS:

**KIDSPACE ILLUSION GALLERY:** 2024 Re-Design! "Illusions and Perceptions – Is What You See or What You Think You See Real or Not?" *Illusion Toys, Gadgets, Pictures & Paintings. Interactive Hands-On for Kids!*

**GRANDE THE 105<sup>th</sup> WILDCAT REGIMENT** – **HALL: COME**

### MEET YOUR ANCESTORS !

A Civil War photograph & artifacts exhibit – Ken Burkett's private collection of some never before seen photos of our Jefferson County Civil War Ancestors of the 105<sup>th</sup> PA Infantry ("Wildcat Regiment"). *Also meet "Bob The Bobcat" – The Wildcat Regiment's Mascot!*

**FRONT WINDOW EXHIBITS:** In transition, as we change out Winter exhibits for Spring!

### 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR LIVING ON THE LAND IN THE PARKER GALLERY:

**FIRST PEOPLE: NATIVE AMERICAN LIFEWAYS:** Bring your own arrowheads and implements to identify using our diagnostic Indian Artifacts display. *Accompanying Front Window Exhibit: Paleo-Indian and His Wolf-Dog, Hunting with the Atlatl*

**MID-1800S – EARLY 1900S TRANSPORTATION:** Twyford

replica - 1<sup>st</sup> 4WD Motorcar built here in Brookville. Brookville Wagon, Winter Sleigh, Purl McCracken's Decorative "Housing" Saddle, Murphy Buggy, Wicker Baby Buggy, **EARL SANDT** - Brookville's "Birdman" pilot and 1<sup>st</sup> International pilot flying over Lake Erie to Canada in the Curtiss Biplane. Biplane replica and original wooden propeller blades on display with a video showing Earle in his biplane surrounded by Brookville friends and family.

**HORSE-RACING:** This Jefferson County Surry saw action at Brookville's Horse Racing Track and at The Jefferson County Fair when it was held at Memorial Park.

**EARLY PIONEER LIFE TO LEISURE SPORTS CAMP:** Log Cabin, Wainwright Shop, Lumbering and Rafting, Model Oil Rig, 1950s Hunting Camp. A recently acquired Winchester Rifle circa 1873 used for hunting and owned by John R. Burgoon, a Rose Township farmer, and inherited and donated to JCHS by his grandson August Burgoon, is now on display.

**MEDICAL PRACTICE:** Dr. Wm McKinley's office and antique medical devices.

**ABBIE NEAL:** Local Country Western Star from Baxter. From family band to having

her own band, she started out on Pittsburgh Radio and TV Stations, the nationwide WV Jamboree, and hit the big-time in Reno! *Lou Christie of 1950s-60s fame helped promote her. Come meet a local CW Star!*

**BILL MCCRACKEN:** Our own local Richardsville Renaissance Man! WWII Uniform & 1943 Photo of Bill in full uniform. B-27 And B-29 Bomber Engineer. (Temporary Exhibit on Loan).

*Bill is also the creator of the Twyford 4WD replica!*

### 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR GALLERIES:

**GRANDE HALL: THE 105<sup>th</sup> WILDCAT REGIMENT – COME MEET YOUR ANCESTORS!** A Civil War photograph & artifacts exhibit, personal collection. *Don't Miss It!*

**KIDSPACE ILLUSION GALLERY:** Imagine, Create, Play & Learn. *2024 Re-Design! Illusions & Perceptions! Illusion Toys, Gadgets, Pictures & Paintings. Come on in with the Kids and Explore!*

**BOWDISH MODEL RAILROAD & MINIATURE DIORAMA:** March of this year is the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bowdish Exhibit Opening in 2004 at JCHC that coincided with the Bicentennial of the founding of our County!

Featuring the miniature creations of Brookville's own Charlie Bowdish and those of the Bowdish Crew and the "O" Gauge Model Railroad & Trains. *Please Note: No Bowdish Show in March due to Show Day falling on Easter weekend. We will celebrate this 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in April, last Saturday of the month*

**"STONES N' BONES:"** Our award-winning 2-gallery exhibit showcasing Jefferson County Paleontology and the Ice Age: *This exhibit garnered the PA Museum's coveted 2020 Special Institutional Award! Don't Miss it!*

**ARTIFACT OF THE MONTH: Bob the Bobcat, 105<sup>th</sup> PA Infantry Regiment (The Wildcats) Mascot!**

**THE VICTORIAN PARLOR:** Showcasing Victorian Parlor Life. A video recording takes you on a self-guided tour of the Prominent Portraits in the Parlor. *Also, Come and meet our GHOSTS of the Parlor! We have several !!!*

**THE PITTSBURG & SHAWMUT RAILROAD: STEAM TO DIESEL** Showcasing Steam Locomotive Bell #200 from the 1<sup>st</sup> steam locomotive acquired by the P&S. "The P&S didn't go to Shawmut and it didn't go to Pittsburgh." *Then where DID it go???*

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## Classifieds

### EMPLOYMENT

Red River Roadhouse is hiring: **HOST** (weekends only), **BAR-TENDERS, KITCHEN STAFF, and SERVERS.** Call 814-590-5895 with questions, apply within the restaurant or go to www.redriverroadhouse.com to download the application.

WRC has the following career openings:  
**Resident Aide's:** Brookville, Clarion  
**Home Health Aide's:** Brookville, New Bethlehem, Rimersburg and Punxy  
**Certified Nursing Assistants, Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Nurses,** all 3 for: Brookville  
**Home Health Registered Nurses/Clinical Managers Home Health/Hospice:** Brookville/Clarion  
**Dietary Aide's:** Brookville  
Call WRC or stop out for an application.

**NOW HIRING ALL POSITIONS full-time and part-time** at The Courthouse Grille on Main Street in Brookville. Apply in person.

**Apprenticeship Opportunity Available** At Brookville Equipment Corporation. Brookville Equipment Corporation is offering an opportunity for individuals that would like to learn a skill. This position will allow you to rotate through our Paint Shop and Final Assembly Departments to develop skills in each area and ultimately find a position within the company that is a great fit for you and for Brookville Equipment. We are seeking individuals that are soon to graduate from High School or recent graduates or individuals with a strong work history that want to develop new skills to establish a career in the transportation industry. You will have the opportunity to learn about sandblasting, painting and body work, mechanical assembly, and electrical assembly. We can offer flexible hours to students that are currently in school. Must be 18 years old or

older to apply.  
Pay rate: \$11/hour  
EOE of Women/Minorities/Disabled/Veterans  
Requirements:  
Must be reliable, committed to learning, punctual, and must be able to read a tape measure. Blueprint reading skills are a bonus, but not necessary.

### FOR SALE

**2 cemetery lots** for sale in Cedarview Memorial Park, Stratenville PA. Call Mary Ann at 814-388-9039.

### SERVICES AVAILABLE

**Basement Waterproofing** - Do you have a wet basement? Call **AquaPROOF** at 724-332-1020 for interior or exterior basement waterproofing. Serving Western PA for over 40 years. 100% life of structure guarantee. (Transferable if property is sold.) Fully Insured. A+ rating with BBB.

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