

# The Clarion Mirror

**FREE**

*"A Reflection of Life In Our Hometown"*  
Vol. 13, No. 3 • March 2024

Also available at  
[www.themirrors.biz](http://www.themirrors.biz)

## Lion Manufacturing: Student Run Manufacturing Enterprise



Lion Manufacturing is a student run manufacturing enterprise based out of Clarion-Limestone High School. They manufacture small-batch runs of low-complex parts for businesses in our area, giving students experience in all aspects of a manufacturing enterprise. Their goal is to build a future talent stream by inspiring more young people to explore and get involved in manufacturing. Their main goals are to help businesses with labor challenges and production cost, gain practical experience, and build relationships with local companies.

Core competencies include metalworking, woodworking, CNC router table for wood, CNC plasma table, welding, laser engraving and 3D printing. Students have completed the Miller Welding online certification.

Past project experience includes 150 custom cutting boards for the YMCA, custom tables for Forest Scientific, designed and welded fire pits, see *STUDENT LED* on page 9



## Lerch Wealth Management Donates to Central Clarion Wildcat Wrestling Team

*by Clarion Sports Zone*



*The Central Clarion Wildcat wrestling team receives a \$1,000 check from Kyle Cathcart, Financial Advisor at Lerch Wealth Management / the Clarion Branch of Janney Montgomery Scott LLC (Kyle is also the assistant Junior High Wrestling Coach and a two-time PIAA State Champion for Clarion Area). (Pictured left to right) Brendon Wright, Logan Powell, Kyle Cathcart, Head Coach Braun Gourley and Mason Gourley*

The Central Clarion Wildcat wrestling team recently received a \$1,000 donation from Lerch Wealth Management / the Clarion Branch of Janney Montgomery Scott LLC.

The news release from Lerch Wealth Management stated, This is the inaugural year for the Wildcat Wrestling team that joins athletes from Clarion, Clarion-Limestone, North Clarion, and Keystone High School.

The donation will go towards warm ups, singlets, a new dual meet mat, and practice room mats. The team, led by Head Coach Braun Gourley, see *DONATION* on page 11

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## When the Blackbird Sings

by Jennifer Black

Did you ever think about giving something up like many do for Lent? I have been doing it since I was a child. I have to admit, when I was young, and if my parents weren't watching, I completely cheated. I mean really, who is going to know if I gave up sweets, and snuck one here and there. Then of course I got older, and realized what it meant to give something up and stick to it. It can be really hard for some people, and once the forty days are over, we go right back to our item or vice that we gave up.

What if this year we gave up anger, hatred, jealousy, envy, and just strived to be better in our lives and the way we treat each other.

Yes, it can be easy for some to give up sweets, coffee, alcohol, the list goes on and on. But think of the impact we could create in this world without being jealous of someone or someone's business. Jealousy is a very common thing that many of us do. So many people think, for example, that business owners have it made. They make so much money, have no worries, no concerns, they are just living the life. That is so far from the truth.

Many of the business owners that I know struggle day to day. They are hoping customers come into their business and buy something, anything. They may get five customers, and then ten people coming in for donations that they just can't provide.

Many people would rather buy online or buy from big box stores, and then they wonder why the little guy goes out of business. Think about all the businesses in your little town that you've never been in before. I bet each one of you could name at least five. I am not saying you should give up buying from the big box stores, but why not give the local businesses some love and see what they have. Give them a try.

Give up anger, hatred, jealousy and envy. We all have it but we can change.

Have a blessed Easter, and please worship at your choice of church.

## The Clarion Mirror

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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.**



## Member Spotlights

### Armstrong-Indiana-Clarion Drug and Alcohol Commission

Since 1973, the Armstrong-Indiana-Clarion Drug and Alcohol Commission (AICDAC) has been the designated Single County Authority (SCA) for Armstrong and Indiana Counties. Since 2010, Clarion County was added to the counties serviced in the state of Pennsylvania by AICDAC. In the role of SCA, through AICDAC's contract with the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, AICDAC receives, administers, and allocates federal, state and local drug and alcohol funds to facilitate the provision of a comprehensive and balanced system of quality substance use prevention, treatment and case management services in the 3 county area.

AICDAC values their opportunity to offer their services to Armstrong, Indiana, and Clarion County residents, allowing them to lead the healthiest lives possible.

AICDAC offers drug and alcohol prevention, case management and recovery support services to Armstrong, Indiana, and Clarion County residents. They also offer free Naloxone at all AICDAC office locations for any agency or individual.

They are also working to expand their services with opioid settlement dollars.

AICDAC hosts many trainings and events throughout the year. Check out [www.aicdac.org](http://www.aicdac.org) or [www.facebook.com/AICDAC](http://www.facebook.com/AICDAC) for the most up to date info on upcoming events.

## Next Step Pregnancy Solutions & Services

In 1987, a handful of concerned citizens formed a group called Clarion County Life to provide the community options and alternatives to abortion. Roots were put down on 611 Main Street, registered as a non-profit 501(c)3 operating as AAA Pregnancy Center (Agency for Alternatives to Abortion). Along with providing self-administered pregnancy tests, which was a valuable tool at that time, the Center also provided information about fetal development, abortion risks, and adoption. Material assistance was later added to these services.

In 2004 the organization changed its name to AAA Life Services, then to a DBA of Next Step Pregnancy Solutions and Services in 2017. Over the last three decades, the Next Step has offered outreach to a variety of groups in the Clarion area, including Clarion University, schools, churches, community centers/organizations, and prisons.

No mother should ever feel that she is alone and without hope. The greatest thing we can offer another person is love, and this is the core value of Next Step's mission: to love others as Christ loved. Each person is unique with intrinsic value, and Next Step has the opportunity to teach that truth in practical ways, supporting

women with tangible resources while meeting each person right where they are. They know each mother desires to experience unconditional love and know that her life has meaning and purpose. No matter the circumstances that surround her, Next Step is there to support her.

Next Step's services are all free of charge. There are no county or income restrictions or insurance needed. The BrighCourse teaching platform focuses not only on pregnancy and parenting but also includes additional support for creating a birth plan and breastfeeding. Through the program, moms can earn points for baby items and maternity necessities. Mothers can be involved in a peer support group, Moms & Munchkins, that offers a time of fellowship and community. Investing in fathers is just as important; there are fatherhood mentors that invest time to encourage the fathers that are involved.

the future is hopeful and exciting. Next Step believes that the long term care and support their mothers and families need cannot happen within their four walls. This long term investment will be made with care communities who step into the Center and begin a relationship with their mothers. These care communities will serve as the bridge to a greater lifelong community of guidance and support as moms graduate from the Next Step.

For more information please visit

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## Clarion Area Chamber Welcomes Newest Members

Please welcome our newest Chamber members:

**Clarion Model Railroad Club, 515C Main St., Clarion, PA 16214**

The Clarion Model Railroad Club was started in 1983. They meet every Wednesday night at 6:00 pm. Their Business Meetings are the second Wednesday of the month. If a month has a fifth Wednesday, that night is a Clinic Night. Memberships are available in many different forms. Stop in to say hello and, if you have questions about their club or the hobby, feel free to ask. For more information, contact Rolly Miller at 814-319-6494 or email [redbankRR@gmail.com](mailto:redbankRR@gmail.com).

**Moonlite Drive-In Theatre, 5268 Rt 322, Brookville, PA 15825**

Located on US-322 just west of Brookville, Pennsylvania, Moonlite Drive-In is in their 72nd year of operation – since 1952! The drive-in now hosts its own FM radio station for convenient listening. As owner and operator of The Moonlite Drive-In, Jim Lipuma has been the subject of many nationwide newspaper articles and served as the first President of The United Drive-In Theater Owners Association. For more information contact Jim at 814-849-5580, email [jlipuma161@gmail.com](mailto:jlipuma161@gmail.com) or visit [www.moonlitedrivein.com](http://www.moonlitedrivein.com).

**Wolfe's Youth Employability Solutions, 667 S. Main St., Knox, PA 16232**

The mission of Wolfe's Youth Employability Solutions is to provide quality employment based services to ensure the success of those they serve. They have summer programs serving students in Clarion, Venango and Forest Counties under the sponsorship of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. They have a partnership with both OVR and CVS that allows students to learn about the employment opportunities available at CVS and to work within their Titusville, Oil City and Clarion Locations. They also provide the MY Work program. For more information on these programs and other information about WYES, please call 814-203-0228 or 814-512-6507, email [wolfesyes@gmail.com](mailto:wolfesyes@gmail.com) or visit [sites.google.com/view/wolfesyes/home](http://sites.google.com/view/wolfesyes/home).

## 2nd Annual Spring Eggstravaganza

The 2nd Annual Spring Eggstravaganza will be held Saturday, March 23, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 600 Wood Street, Clarion.

The crafts/vendors will be available all day. The Chinese auction will be held from 10-3. The Easter bunny will be in attendance from 11-1.

All proceeds will go to Passion for Vets.

## UPPS Announces Availability of the CALEA® Accreditation Public Comment Portal

As part of its accreditation process under CALEA® (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.), Penn State University Police and Public Safety (UPPS) is required to provide annual notice of the availability of the CALEA public access portal, which allows for public comment on the performance of the agency.

The purpose of this portal is to receive comments regarding an agency's compliance with

CALEA standards, engagement in the service community, delivery of public safety services, and overall candidacy for accredited status. It provides an opportunity for community members to provide comments, commendations, and other information regarding the agency's quality of service or other relevant information, all of which will be used to support continuous improvement and foster professional excellence.

The link to the portal may be

found on the University Police website at <https://www.police.psu.edu/university-police> and will be available through April 30, 2024.

Please Note: The portal should not be used to submit information that is of an immediate nature or requires the immediate attention of University Police. Further, the comments submitted to the portal will receive no response.

For all other communication with University Police, please contact (814) 863-1111 (University Park) or 911 in an emergency. Community members may also reach out to in-person at 30 Eisenhower Parking Garage (University Park) or submit crime reports online at [police.psu.edu/report-crime](http://police.psu.edu/report-crime).

### About University Police and Public Safety

Established in 1926 as Campus Patrol, today Penn State University Police and Public Safety is responsible for protecting and serving more than 100,000 Penn State students, employees and visitors at 22 campuses located throughout Pennsylvania.

*see UPPS on page 4*

## 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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## Business & Professional SPOTLIGHT

### Meet the new owners of Burger Daddy Food Truck

Ben & Casey Boddorf and Tyler & Olivia McKinney, are excited to announce their new adventure. Not only are they business partners, but also family; Casey and Tyler are siblings. With Ben's passion for cooking and serving great food, together they are excited to serve the community and deliver them delicious food with an experience to remember.

Burger Daddy's main focus is the smashburger; a double beef patty, cheese with all the fixin's and made to order. They will also feature other fan favorites, the burger salad, fresh cut fries, and many more delicious items. Don't forget to get their "secret burger sauce" too!

Now, entering the fourth year of business, the new owners plan to bring you the same beloved product while expanding into new communities. They will also be featuring their delicious smashburgers at many new events around the area. Burger Daddy Food Truck opened its window in 2021 when previous owner, Brandon, was laid off from his full-time job. They purchased and completely gutted the original trailer in 2020, but quickly outgrew the original. They purchased the new and improved trailer in 2023. Brandon and Janae Wagner grew



the business from the ground up and have created a fan base for the infamous smashburger.

The Boddorf and McKinney families have already begun booking for the 2024 season and they hope to see you soon. To book please call/text 814-541-0900. You can also contact via Facebook or email; burgerdaddyfoodtruck@gmail.com

## UPPS

*continued from page 3*

University Police and Public Safety provides multiple resources and services, including police services, behavioral threat management, Clery compliance, physical security, and emergency management. The department also includes a number of specialty units. To learn more, please visit police.psu.edu.

## Programs at Cook Forest State Park

**Saturday, March 16 at 9:00am  
- 'Polar Bear Float'**

Cook Forest State Park will be conducting an interpretive cold weather kayaking trip on the National Wild & Scenic Clarion River. Join the flotilla and celebrate the last days of winter on this four mile float. Bald eagles, river otter, mink, and mergansers have been known to make an appearance. Pack a lunch and a thermos with your favorite hot beverage. Cost is \$25/boat (bring your own or we'll supply you one) with check or money order made out to the *Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*. All monies raised go towards future programming at Cook Forest State Park. Participants must pre-register by 3/11/24 by contacting the Park Office at (814)744-8407. Prior kayak

training participants receive a 50% discount. Safety is of utmost importance. All participants must have the following required safety equipment or will not be permitted to attend: dry suit or dry top/bottom combination, cold weather boots, waterproof gloves, waterproof stow bag, complete change of clothes. Meet at the Park Office where we will conduct a safety check for above items, load gear, and travel to the starting point up-river. (5 hrs)

**Saturday, March 30 at 8:30am -  
'Eagle Watch'**

Please bring your binoculars and spotting scopes to the Park Office for a driving tour to eagle hotspots along the National Wild & Scenic Clarion River. This is the prime time of the year to view bald eagles on their nests and find new nesting sites. Expect a long car-pool and aggressive hike to some of the better areas, but the rewards will be worth it. Hot chocolate and coffee will be available at the Park Office to warm us up. (4 hrs)

## Cook Forest Eclipse Programming

**Tuesday, March 5 at 7:00pm -  
'Eclipse Meeting #1: Watching  
the Eclipse'**

Please join Roger Mazzarella, amateur astronomer and park volunteer, on a Zoom meeting

for hints on how to get prepared to watch the eclipse, necessary equipment, where you need to be, how to prepare for it, and safety tips. (1/2hr)

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74840192740?pwd=HzQK20k0LR0l42MvbhrTbLWiVCebb.1>

**Tuesday, March 19 at 7:00pm  
- 'Eclipse Meeting #2: The  
Science Behind the Eclipse'**

Please join Roger Mazzarella, amateur astronomer and park volunteer, on a Zoom meeting to look at the science behind the solar eclipse. Why don't we have them every month? What are some historical eclipses? If you miss the eclipse, then what? (1/2 hr)

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71204278819?pwd=iSbVZ0sG9FE2Cf4vqb4mrmFJRuIqTT.1>

**Tuesday, April 2 at 7:00pm  
- 'Eclipse Meeting #3:  
Weather, Safety and Viewing  
Possibilities'**

Please join Roger Mazzarella, amateur astronomer and park volunteer, on a Zoom meeting looking at weather forecasted for Monday, 4/8, the day of the eclipse, as well as safety reminders and viewing possibilities. (1/2 hr)

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75473049079?pwd=avBmas8jlqbwZwA8XByhHGoy6Jd9tn.1>



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on Facebook!**

**The Clarion Mirror  
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is the 5th of the month  
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## Training Schedule March 2024

**First Step: Starting a Small Business in PA**  
on Tuesday, March 5, 2024

**Sales Tax Basics**  
on Wednesday, March 13, 2024

**First Step: Starting a Small Business in PA**  
on Saturday, March 16, 2024

**Lending Resources for Agriculture**  
on Wednesday, March 20, 2024

**Tax Talk with Corry**  
on Wednesday, March 20, 2024

**First Step: Starting a Small Business in PA**  
on Thursday, March 21, 2024

**Marketing Series**  
on Thursday, March 28, 2024

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



# Planning for 2nd Annual “Kick The Stigma” Wellness Festival Begins

Local providers and businesses are thrilled to announce plans for the 2nd Annual Day of Wellness this summer! This year’s festivities will take place at the DuBois City Park. On Saturday, July 27th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. the “Kick The Stigma” Day of Wellness Festival will take place.

The highlight of the Day’s Activities will be the “Kick The Stigma” Kickball Tournament. There will also be other activities like food trucks, musicians, speakers, goat yoga, art contest, animal stage show, a rock wall, petting zoo, and so much more.

“Through this event, we aim to offer valuable insights into new and impactful ways to raise awareness and effectively care for each other’s mental health.” shared event organizer, Aaron Beatty. “We also hope to have a little fun while we are there!”

The committee is in need of volunteers and committee members to make this a successful event. They are also asking that your business please consider sponsorship. Details can be found on their website: [www.kickthestigma.info](http://www.kickthestigma.info)

If you would like to support, donate, or volunteer, please contact via email [info@wpal.org](mailto:info@wpal.org) or call 814.299.7640. Sponsorship or donation checks can be made out to WPAL DuBois 37 E Long Ave, DuBois, PA 15801. All proceeds from this event will stay in our community to be used for causes that promote and support wellness and better mental health.

*Kick The Stigma  
A Day of Wellness  
37 East Long Avenue  
DuBois, PA 15801*

*“Kick The Stigma”  
[info@wpal.org](mailto:info@wpal.org) / [www.kickthestigma.org](http://www.kickthestigma.org)  
(814)299-7640*

# The Best in Boxing Return to DuBois, PA this May

The Western Pennsylvania Police Athletic League (WPAL) and TEAM 814 are thrilled to announce Boxing’s return to the DuBois Country Club for Mayhem in May.

This year’s event will feature local prospects from TEAM 814 who have been training at the WPAL Fitness Center on East Long Avenue. In addition to local competitors, the event will host young talent from across the Northeastern Region. Boxers from across Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, Virginia, and Ohio have all been invited to compete.

DuBois Country Club, located at 10 Lakeside Ave, DuBois, PA will host the boxing card on Saturday, May 4, 2024. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.; boxing begins at 7:00. WPAL Executive Director Aaron Beatty said, “All winners of their fight will win a customized belt for their efforts. We expect some of the best boxers from our area and the east coast to compete once again at the DuBois Country Club.”



*(photo by Wisor Photography)*

Tickets for the DuBois Event are \$30 for general admission and are available now. VIP Gold Ringside, which includes a complimentary pre-party, are \$100 each and go on sale soon. Buy online at [www.team814.org](http://www.team814.org)

More information on sponsorship opportunities is available by emailing [info@wpal.org](mailto:info@wpal.org), or by calling us at 814.299.7640. Please “LIKE” our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/team814](http://www.facebook.com/team814) for a chance to win a VIP Package for Two. Proceeds from this event benefit

TEAM 814 which trains at the WPAL DuBois Fitness Center. TEAM 814 and The Western Pennsylvania Police Athletic League, are both 501c3 nonprofit organizations helping youth through sport in the DuBois Area.

**Western Pennsylvania Police Athletic League**  
WPAL Fitness Center  
37 East Long Avenue  
DuBois, PA 15801  
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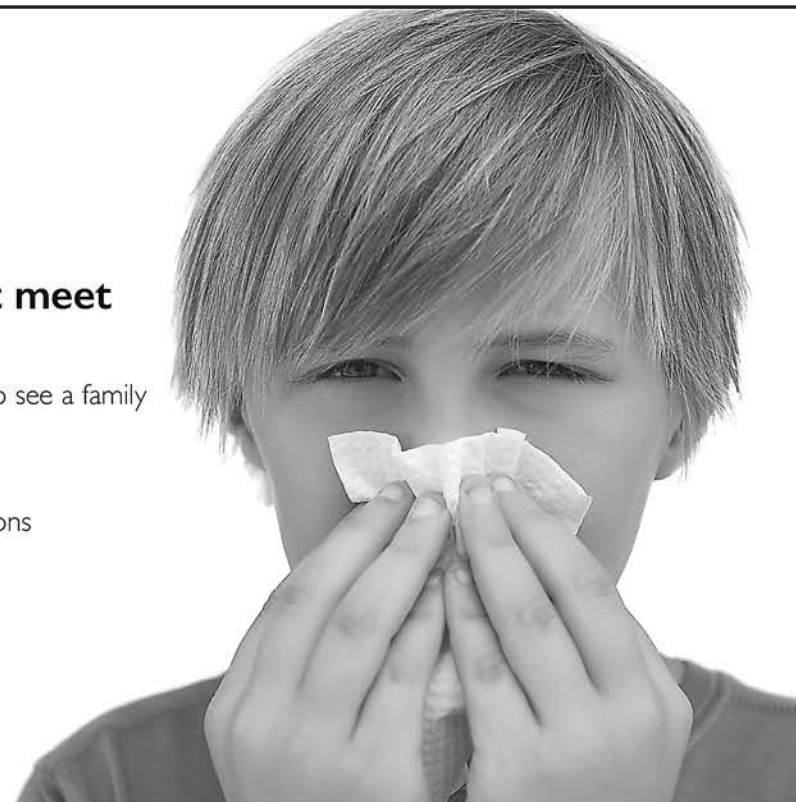
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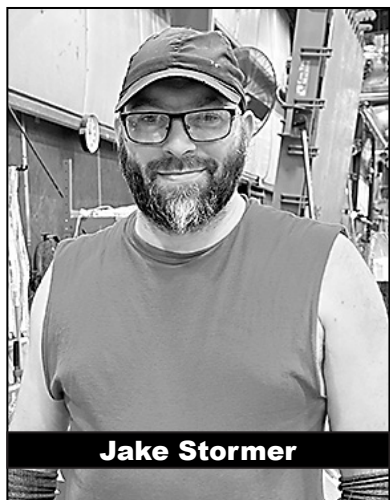
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# BEVERAGE-AIR.

## In the Spotlight



**Jake Stormer**

This month we would like to recognize Jake Stormer. Jake's position is Line 5. He has been an employee of Beverage-Air since May 15, 2017.

Jake is always willing to help train new employees and routinely shows up and does whatever is asked of him. He is very pleasant to work with. Jake credits Jeremy Mills and Ricky Cruz for helping him on a daily basis, as well as all of his line-mates.

When not at work, Jake enjoys spending time with his family, wife Kelly and three children.



## The Wildcat Regiment— Come Meet Your Ancestors!

by Ken Burkett, JCHS Board Member

The JCHC new exhibit on the 105<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry regiment (The Wildcats) opened in the museum's Grand Hall Gallery during the annual Charles Bowdish Birthday celebration on February 24<sup>th</sup>. The 105th was raised mainly in the counties of Jefferson, Clarion, and Clearfield. The regiment was mustered



at Pittsburgh in September 1861. Brookville resident Amor A. McKnight was the first Colonel and founder of the 105<sup>th</sup> PA Infantry. Even young boys, like Thomas Templeton, wanted to join and fight. He joined the Wildcats at age 17 and was appointed Secretary to Colonel McKnight, his half-brother, so McKnight could keep him out of the midst of the battles.

This exhibit consists of 64 individual portraits of members of the regiment most taken as "CDV" photographs between 1861 and 1865. *Carte de visite* (French for "visiting card") is the format of small paper photographs developed in 1854. Each photograph was the size of a modern baseball card and the process permitted multiple copies to be made. These inexpensive pictures were widely taken of Civil War soldiers and sent home. Each photograph was a "visiting card, commonly traded among officers and friends. Albums for the collection and display of cards became common in Victorian parlors, including family and visitors.

The photographs in this exhibit are from the personal collection of Ken Burkett. Many have never before been publically displayed

or published. A selection of associated artifacts associated with the portraits will also accompany the exhibit.

### A little history:

The 105th distinguished itself during its first action at Fair Oaks setting a precedent for the regiment as hard fighters. At the Battle of Chancellorsville in May 1863, many won the Kearny Medal of Honor, however, Colonel Amor McKnight was killed during this battle while leading a charge of the Wildcats against the Confederates.

At the Battle of Gettysburg, only ~ 250 men were left of the regiment and the regiment lost ~50%, and after the return to Virginia, many engagements followed through November. At the end of that campaign, the regiment returned to winter camp at Brandy Station and on December 28, 1863, nearly the entire unit re-enlisted.

The regiment fought at the battles of the Wilderness and Spotsylvania, VA. First Lieutenant Alexander H. Mitchell of Company A, 105th received the unit's only Medal of Honor at Spotsylvania on May 12, 1864 for the capture of flag of 18th North Carolina Infantry (C.S.A.), in a personal encounter with the

color bearer.

The regiment then moved to Petersburg, where it took part in the operations of the 10<sup>th</sup> Army Corps in August and the movements upon the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad in October and December. On September 5, the remainder of the 63rd Pennsylvania was added to the regiment.

On February 20, 1865, the 105th absorbed Company C of the 2nd United States Sharpshooters, and in March 1865, about 300 new recruits were received. At Sailor's Creek, the regiment was actively engaged, after which it returned to Alexandria. It participated in the Grand Review at Washington and was mustered out in that city on July 11, 1865.

Out of a total enrollment of 2,040 with new recruitments over 3 years' time, the regiment lost

309 men by death from wounds or disease, and 199 soldiers were reported as missing.

Many families of Jefferson and surrounding counties have ancestors in this hard fought Civil War regiment and the exhibit provides an opportunity to put a face to the name and meet your ancestors, many of whom did not survive the conflict.

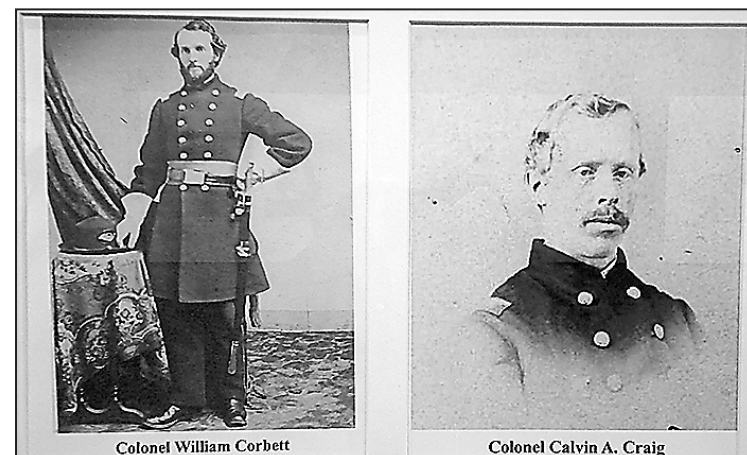
COME MEET YOUR CIVIL WAR ANCESTORS AT THIS SPECIAL EXHIBIT!

Admission by Donation. 172 Main St., Brookville. 814-849-0077.

New exhibits presented in February will remain until December 2024.

Open Tuesdays-Fridays 10AM – 4PM. Open Saturdays 11AM – 4PM.

jchconline.org / facebook/jchconline



Colonel William Corbett

Colonel Calvin A. Craig

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Ice Age: *This exhibit garnered the PA Museum's coveted 2020 Institutional Award! Don't Miss it!*

**KIDSPACE ILLUSION GALLERY:** Imagine, Create, Play & Learn. *2024 Re-Design! Illusions & Perceptions! Illusion Toys, Gadgets, Pictures & Paintings.*

**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.

**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???

**Jefferson County History Center Presents:**

**KidSpace Illusion Gallery**

by Kat Lyons, JCHC Staff

You don't have to travel outside of Brookville to get in on the newly revived "Op Art" - or Optical Illusion craze which emerged in the early 1960s. JCHC re-designed the KidSpace Gallery for the Bowdish Birthday Bash into the KidSpace Illusion Gallery. If you missed the Bowdish Bashcome on by Tuesdays through Fridays 10-4 and Saturdays 11-4 to immerse yourself and the kids in this exciting, interactive hands-on "Kids' Room."

Illusion Art are artworks that create an optical illusion, the viewer seeing the image as real or 3D. These works are created using various techniques, such as perspective, shading, and color, to create a sense of depth. It is found in various mediums from painting to sculpture, and even street art.

Op Art has a long and fascinating history spanning many centuries and artistic styles. During the Renaissance period, Illusion and 3D art was prominent in ceiling paintings. Techniques that emerged during the Renaissance period



## March 2024 Exhibits at the Jefferson County History Center

### NEW EXHIBITS:

**2024 Re-Design! KIDSPACE ILLUSION GALLERY:** Illusions and Perceptions – Is What You See or What You Think You See Real Or Not? *Illusions & Perceptions! Illusion*

*Toys, Gadgets, Pictures & Paintings. Interactive Hands-On for Kids!*

**GRANDE HALL: THE 105<sup>th</sup> WILDCAT REGIMENT – Come Meet Your Ancestors !**

A Civil War photograph & artifacts exhibit – 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!

**SPECIAL FRONT WINDOW WINTER EXHIBITS:**

**WINTER VILLAGE SCENE**  
Winter Wonderland:  
Sledding, Skating and Skiing!

**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:** Brookville Wagon, Winter Sleigh, Purl McCracken's Saddle, Murphy Buggy, Wicker Baby Buggy, Twyford replica - 1<sup>st</sup> 4WD Motorcar built here in Brookville.

**EARL SANDT** - Brookville's "Birdman" pilot and 1<sup>st</sup> International pilot flying the Curtiss Biplane.

**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.

**MEDICAL PRACTICE:** Dr. Wm McKinley's office.

**ABBIE NEAL**, Local Country Western Star from Baxter.

**BILL MCCracken**, WWII Uniform /B-27 And B-29 Engineer. (Temporary Exhibit on Loan)

**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

**BOWDISH MODEL RAILROAD & MINIATURE**

**DIORAMA:** The miniature creations of Brookville's own Charlie Bowdish and those of the Bowdish Crew and the "O" Gauge Model Railroad & Trains.

**"STONES N' BONES:"** Our award-winning 2-gallery exhibit showcasing Jefferson County Paleontology and the



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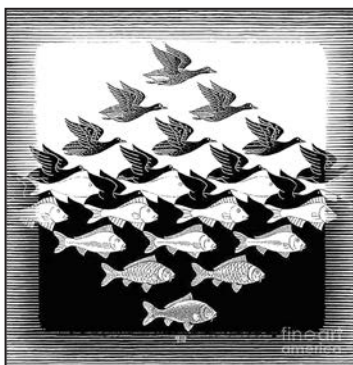


were *trompe l'oeil*, which is a French term meaning to “deceive the eye.” This concept is a key part of Illusion paintings in that it is used to portray three-dimensionality on flat surfaces. Renaissance artists such as Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo, spanning the mid-1400s to mid-1500s, are among the most famous.

In the modern period of visual arts, Surrealism was prevalent during the early 1900s. One of its famous painters, Salvador Dalí, created many illusion paintings that touched on deeper aspects of human consciousness.

**As hyper realistic as his paintings appeared, the subject matter itself was not realistic, which was the case for many of the true-to-life paint Salvador Dalí Swans Reflecting Elephants 1937**

M.C. Escher earned that distinction in the 20th century. **The Op Art movement of the 1950s- 1960s is another example of 3D Illusion art at its finest.** The intention was to create optical illusions from geometric shapes that were “non-representational”, with colors (often black and white), forms, and patterns arranged in such a

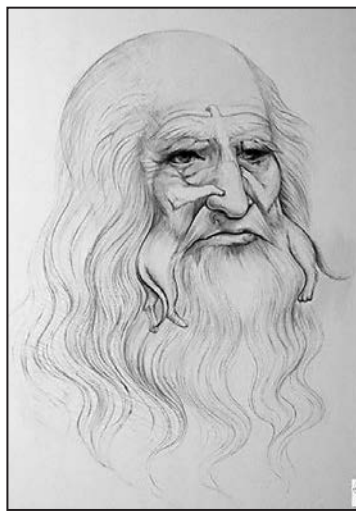


MC Escher. Sky and Water 1938

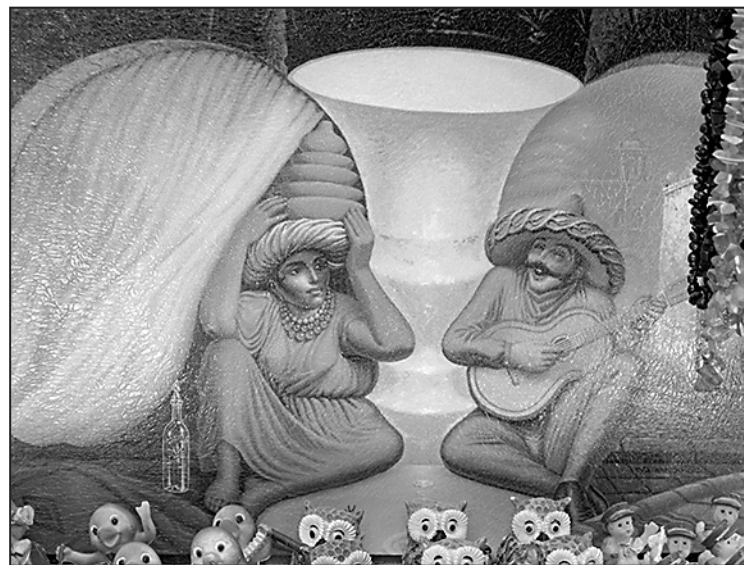
way that trick the brain and eyes, making it appear like it is moving or more dynamic than it really is.

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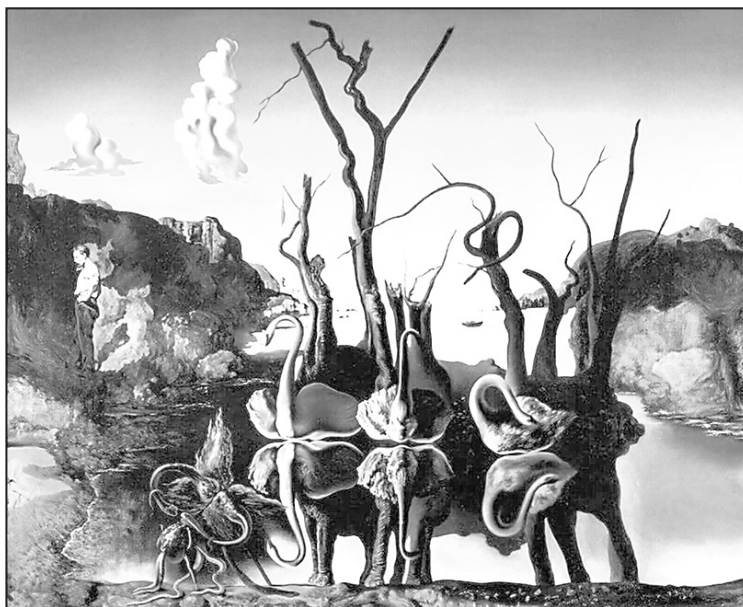
Jefferson County History Center, 172 Main St. Brookville. 814-849-0077. jchconline.org; facebook/jchconline. Tuesdays through Fridays 10AM – 4PM and Saturdays 11AM – 4PM.



Da Vinci Self Portrait Illusion Art



Anamorphic Art (aka “Shape-Shifter” Art)



Salvador Dalí Swans Reflecting Elephants 1937.



Crowd of kids at the Bowditch Model Railroad and Animated Miniatures Show.



3D glasses and illusion rug “Bottomless Pit.”



Illusion toys



The Wildcat Blacklight Tunnel!

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*A crowded KidSpace.*

*This young man enjoyed the pin art board while visiting KidSpace at the Jefferson County Historical Society in Brookville, PA.*



## PIAA Must Comply with Right-to-Know Law by Posting Contracts to e-Library

**PA Supreme Court upholds Commonwealth Court, OOR rulings**

Following a strong decision from the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, Treasurer Stacy Garrity called on the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) to immediately comply with the Right-to-Know Law (RTKL)



by posting its contracts to Treasury's Contracts e-Library.

"For the past 15 years, the PIAA has violated the Right-to-Know Law by not posting a single contract to the Contracts e-Library," Treasurer Garrity said. "That changes now."

Treasurer Garrity sent a letter to the PIAA today, notifying the agency that Treasury is prepared to work with them to get its contracts posted online promptly, and that she believes a reasonable timeline would have its contracts posted no later than March 29.

"The General Assembly wisely chose to make the PIAA subject to the Right-to-Know Law in 2008," Treasurer Garrity said. "Our student athletes and their parents deserve transparency from the agency that regulates middle school

and high school athletics across our state."

The Supreme Court's majority decision in *PIAA v. Campbell*, authored by Justice Sallie Updyke Mundy, found that the RTKL clearly and appropriately lists the PIAA as a "state-affiliated entity." Justice Mundy noted that the "PIAA plays a vital role in managing an important aspect of the education of middle- and high-school students in Pennsylvania" and concluded that "PIAA's records are therefore public records to the extent they are not exempt" under the RTKL.

In a concurring opinion, Justice David N. Wecht listed some of the many aspects of a student athlete's life regulated by the PIAA. He concluded that the "PIAA has become the functional equivalent of a government regulatory agency performing the public function of controlling or affecting nearly every aspect of athletics in public schools."

More than 100 state agencies have posted more than 500,000 contracts, purchase orders and amendments to the Contracts e-Library since it was created by the RTKL in 2008.

This Supreme Court decision followed decisions by the Office of Open Records and the Commonwealth Court, both of which also found that the PIAA is subject to the RTKL.

## Student Led

*continued from page 1*

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## Wildcats Do Well at 1st Dave Ciafre Elementary Wrestling Tournament in Sharon

*by Clarion Sports Zone*

The Central Clarion Wildcat Elementary Wrestlers had a strong outing at the 1st Annual Dave Ciafre Elementary Wrestling Tournament at Sharon High School on Saturday, February 10th.

The tournament is named after Coach Ciafre, who passed away, at 75, this past October. He was the head wrestling coach for the Tigers for thirty-one years, as well as a guidance counselor. He also was the wrestling coach for Riverview High School in Oakmont, for three seasons. Coach Ciafre was a member of the Pennsylvania Wrestling Coaches Association (PWCA) Hall of Fame. He also was the Clarion University camp coach (1983-2016) and team camps coach (1999-2006) and the Clarion team camps administrator (2006-16).

The Wildcats had seven medalists.

Two Wildcats finished in second place, Cooper Macormic (80 pounds) and Owen Bohlander (190 pounds). Owen had recorded one win by pin and another by major decision.

Five Central Clarion wrestlers finished third. Taking Bronze were: Nate McDonnell (87 pounds), with one win via pin and two minor decisions; Mason Best-Whitmer (115 pounds), with a pin by fall, a technical fall and a major decision; Tate Allison (122 pounds), with two major decisions and a minor decision; Ben Naser (155) one win via minor decision; and Dylan Albertine (210) with three wins by fall.

Central Clarion Coach Mike LeFay had some nice words about his wrestlers, "I am incredibly proud of the Central Clarion Wildcats Junior High wrestling team's display at the Sharon Tournament. Their tenacity, skill,

*see ELEMENTARY on page 19*



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## Clarion Rotary has \$6,000 in Scholarships to Award for 2024



*Clarion Rotary members, District 7280 District Governor John Marshall 4th from left.*

The Clarion Chapter of Rotary International will be accepting applications for \$6,000 worth of scholarships through March 31, 2024.

Two (2) \$1,000 Amy Davis Scholarships will be awarded to Clarion County high school seniors based on academic, extracurricular school activities and civic/community volunteerism.

One (1) \$1,000 Trueman Mills RYLA Scholarship will be awarded to a Clarion County high school senior based on academic, extracurricular school activities and civic/community

volunteerism. The student must also have been a graduate of District 7280's RYLA Program

One (1) \$1,000 Orville H Lerch 4-H Scholarship will be awarded to a Clarion County high school senior based on academic, extracurricular school activities and civic/community volunteerism.

Scholarship candidates shall be Clarion County 4-H members for a minimum of three (3) years.

One (1) \$1,000 Clarion University Scholarship will be awarded to a Clarion County high school senior based on academic, extracurricular school

activities and civic/community volunteerism. Scholarship candidates must also have been accepted to Clarion University.

One (1) \$1,000 Thomas Burkhardt Award will be awarded for the Outstanding Vocational Cooperative Education student in 2024.

For more information and applications please contact your high school Guidance Counselor and/or visit [www.clarionrotary.com](http://www.clarionrotary.com).

## Clarion Rotary Learns about Brady's Bend Furnace Project



Clarion Rotary listened to a program by Bastian Harris, administrator of the Facebook website Brady's Bend Furnace Project. Harris provided information on the large operation starting in 1839 and ending in 1873, smelting pig iron. The rolling mill was integrated using the product from the furnaces. Harris also provided information on the history and settlement of the Ohio Valley and settlement and industry along the Allegheny

River.

More can be learned about Brady's Bend Furnace Project at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/974234775992560/>

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

Read The Clarion Mirror online!  
[www.themirrors.biz](http://www.themirrors.biz)

## President and CEO of Pennsylvania Cable Network to speak to Clarion Rotary

For the first time in over a decade Clarion Rotary will be hosting the President and CEO of Pennsylvania Cable Network (PCN), Debra Kohr Sheppard, to present to local Rotarians and guests on March 18th at the Clarion YMCA. PCN's previous President and CEO, Brian Lockman, presented to Clarion Rotary in 2008.

Sheppard began her career with PCN in 1993 as a director and producer. She was Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for over ten years. She managed the Operations and Engineering departments and provided executive oversight of the Marketing and Programming departments. She also spearheaded technology updates, oversaw the Camp Hill facility's expansion, and led the network's conversion to High Definition. Sheppard has served as PCN's President and CEO since 2020.

A Pennsylvania native, Sheppard attended Susquehanna Township High School in Harrisburg. She is an alumna of Kutztown University of Pennsylvania. Sheppard is a member of SBE (Society of Broadcast Engineers), NAPAN (National Association of Public Affairs Networks), and NSDAR (National Society Daughters of the American Revolution).



*Debra Kohr Sheppard*



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# Clarion Rotary hosts the Pennsylvania State Police Troop C - Crime Investigative Unit with Community Services Unit



Clarion Rotary hosted a program led by the Criminal Investigation Section Commander Lieutenant Scott Bauer and Trooper First Class Vaughn Norbert. This program encompassed a wide range of topics to include origins of the Pennsylvania State Police, current challenges in law enforcement, and criminal and patrol related statistics in connection with Troop C and the Clarion Station. If anyone is interested in any community outreach presentations, please contact Trooper Vaughn Norbert at (814)938-0510.

# Thirty-One Wildcats Named to The 2024 PAFootballNews.com All-Academic Team

by Clarion Sports Zone

The Pennsylvania Football News (PAFootballNews.com) has announced their 2024 All-Academic Team, with thirty-one Central Clarion Wildcats being named.

Two players made the Gold Team, fifteen were selected to the Silver Team and fourteen were named to the Bronze Team.

## Gold Team

Selected to the Gold Team, which includes athletes who competed in the 2023 season with a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 4.0 and up, were junior Offensive Lineman/Defensive Lineman Matt Alston and sophomore Wide Receiver/Linebacker Charley Hepfl.

Two seniors were named to the Silver Team, which includes players who carried a 3.5-3.99 GPA during the 2023 season, Wide Receiver/Safety Brady Quinn; Offensive Lineman/Defensive Lineman Colby Wright.

## Silver Team

Three juniors made the Silver Team, Wide Receiver/Defensive Back Jesse Siwiecki, Kicker Thomas Uckert and Offensive Lineman/Defensive Lineman Peyton Ward.

Seven sophomores were Silver Team selections, Wide Receiver/Linebacker Briggs Beckwith, Wide Receiver/Defensive Back Mason Burford, Running Back/Linebacker Brady McKinley, Tight End/Defensive Lineman Parker Brant, Wide Receiver/Defensive Back Thalen Allison, Wide Receiver/Defensive Back Brady Guth and Tight End/Defensive Lineman Hayden Hindman.

Three freshmen were selected on the Silver Team, Running Back/Linebacker Treyven Hooks, Running Back/Linebacker Alex Love and Running Back/Linebacker Billy Kahle.

## Bronze Team

Five seniors, four juniors, three sophomores and two freshmen were named to the Bronze Team, which includes athletes with a GPA of 3.0-3.49, for the Wildcats.

The seniors named to the Bronze Team are Running Back/Linebacker Noah Naser, Wide Receiver/Linebacker Tommy Smith, Wide Receiver/Cornerback Dawson Smail, Offensive Lineman/Defensive Lineman Coleman Slater and Offensive Lineman/Linebacker Jake Smith.

The Wildcat juniors named to the Bronze Team include Quarterback/Safety Jase Ferguson, Running Back/Linebacker Braylon Beckwith, Offensive Lineman/Defensive Lineman Joshua Duncan and Wide Receiver/Defensive Back Kohen Kemmer.

Sophomores named to the Bronze Team include Running Back/Linebacker Hunter Lechner, Offensive Lineman/Defensive Lineman Gabriel Anderson and Offensive Lineman/Defensive Lineman Jacob Naser.

The two Wildcat freshmen named to the Bronze Team are Wide Receiver Reagan Parker and Offensive Lineman/Defensive Lineman Conner Eberhardt.

Wildcats' Head Coach Dave Eggleton shared his pride his players who made the Pennsylvania 2024 Football News All-Academic Team, "I am very proud of the work our young men put in on and off the field. This academic success is a testament to their character and dedication. We have a great group of young men for our youth to look up to."

(Congratulations to all the Wildcats named to the Pennsylvania Football News 2024 All-Academic Team!!!!)

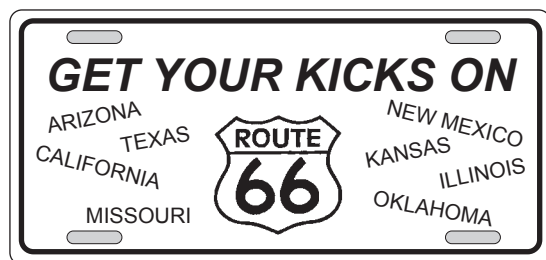
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After Glow at High School Cafeteria: \$10 (advance tickets only)

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!

## Donation

continued from page 1

Gourley, is having a phenomenal season holding an 11-3 record heading into the District 9 Championships at Clarion University.

The Clarion Office is located at 162 S. 2nd Avenue, Applewood Center, Clarion, PA 16214.

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# Clarion Comets Compete at Youngstown State High School Meet #3

The Clarion Comets Track Club continued their successful run through the winter months at Eastern Ohio's best indoor track meets. Seven members of the club participated and were coached by Assistant Coach Lee Weber on Saturday February 10th.

Hannah Ithen started the running and jumping for the Comets by taking 39th place in the 60-meter dash with a time of 8.7 seconds, a new personal record (PR). Her long jump qualified her for the finals, and she placed 9th with a jump of 16'1.25" also a PR. Gianna Louise made her debut race for the Comets count as she came in 67th place in the 60m with a time of 9:18. Aiden Fox also participated in the long jump

for the Comets. He placed 8th in the long jump finals jumping 19'8.5" setting a new PR. Isaac Lerch placed 15th in the long jump with an 18'4" performance.

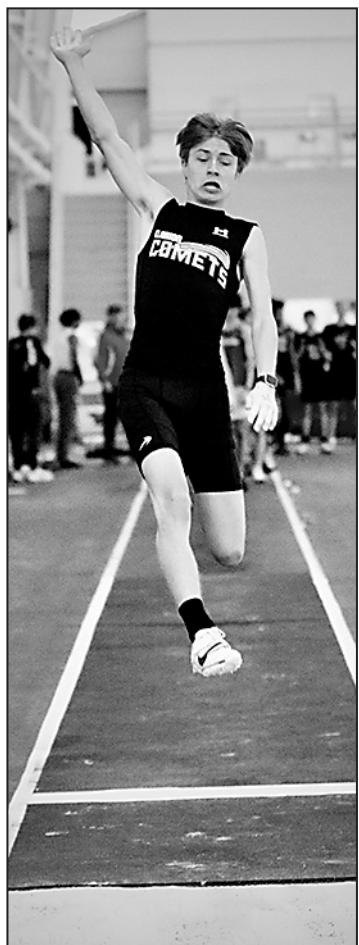
The mid-distance runners were represented by Comet girls Adisen Jackson and Bryn Anderson. Jackson continued her stellar indoor season in 31st place with a time of 5:45 in the 1600 meters. Anderson, a sixth grader, ran a gutsy race with a time in the 1600m of 6:31 coming in 69th place overall and 1st place for all 6th graders. Josh Turner ran for the Comet boys competing in the 1600m with a 77th place finish just missing his personal record with a time of 5:23.

Fox also competed in the

triple jump for the Comet boys, finishing in a remarkable 7th place with a jump of 39'4.25". Soon after, the 800 runners lined up with Anderson the lone girl Comet competitor finishing in 3:00.17 in 73rd place, one second off her best performance at SPIRE. Turner competed for the Comet boys in the 800m, coming in 77th place in 2:30.42.

Two Comets competed in the 200 meters with Lerch coming in 41st place in a time of 25:88 for the boys. On the girls side, Louise finished in 55th place, with a time of 30:45.

The Clarion Comets returned to Youngstown for their season finale at the Youngstown State High School Meet #4 on February 17th.



Isaac Lerch in the Long Jump



Adi Jackson leads the pack in the 1600m.



Josh Turner in the 800m

## Clarion Comets' Smith Sets New High School High Jump Facility Record at Youngstown State University

by Matt Leach / Clarion Sports Zone

The Clarion Comets wrapped up their indoor track and field season at Youngstown State University High School Meet #4 on Saturday, February 17th. With over 700 competitors, Head Coach Tammy Lerch knew

this would be the last chance to set new personal records (PRs). "It was my hope to allow many of my athletes the opportunity to advance their skills over the winter months, whether it be running, jumping or throwing.

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The sheer dedication it takes for these Clarion County athletes to compete during the winter without an indoor training facility truly astounds me."

Lerch continued, "Several of the Clarion Comets making finals and setting new PRs was expected. Watching Hayden Smith dominate the competition in the high jump was icing on the cake."

Smith won 3 of 3 competitions this winter with his performance on Saturday being the final highlight when he set a new high school facility record at Youngstown State University jumping a height of 6'8.25".

The sprinters started the competition with Isaac Lerch setting a new PR in the 60 meter dash with a 59th place finish of 7.85. Hannah Ithen tied her PR with a time of 8.70, landing a 40th place finish. Megan Powell also competed in the 60m finishing in a time of 9.5 in 74th place.

The long jumpers were dominant on both the girls



**Hayden Smith setting YSU Facility High School High Jump record.**  
(photo by Matt Lerch)

and boys sides. Comet Aiden Fox shattered his PR by over 4 inches with a jump of 20'.75" landing a 4th place finish in a very competitive field. Lerch followed Fox with a jump of

18'5" making a 14th place finish. Ithen jumped for the girls, landing a 7th place finish and a PR of 16'3.25" increasing her PR distance by 2 inches. Powell jumped 11'6.25" finishing in 26th place.

Fox continued jumping competing in the triple jump, also a 4th place finish and



**Jonas Wilshire on lap 1 of 10 in the 3200m.** (photo by Matt Lerch)



**Coach Tammy Lerch reviews long jump video with Hannah Ithen.**  
(photo by Matt Lerch)

jumping over 1 foot longer than his previous PR by jumping 40'4.75". Powell hit a new PR by triple jumping 25'10" landing in 13th place.

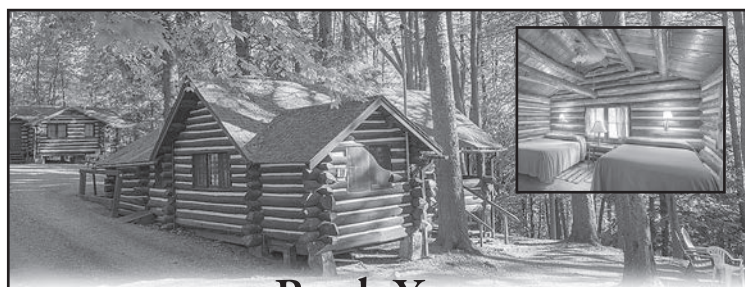
Distance runner Adi Jackson ran 6:02 in the 1600 meters landing a 38th place finish. Soon after, Jonas Wilshire came with in 2/10 of a second of his PR in the 800 by running 2:11 finishing in 28th place. Ben Aaron also ran the 800m, finishing with a time of 2:44 in 73rd place. Jackson then ran the 800m for the girls, finishing with a 2:38 in 35th place. Eliza Datko ran the 800m too, finishing in 2:50 in 52nd place. Bryn Anderson broke her PR by 3 seconds in the 800m finishing in 54th place running a time of 2:55.

Clarion brought throwers as well. Brenna Armstrong threw

the shot put 32'.5" landing a 12th place finish. Zander Laughlin threw shot for the boys 38'2.5", see COMETS on page 14



**Isaac Lerch Accelerates out of the turn in the 200m.** (photo by Matt Lerch)



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# Northwest donated \$30,000 to Clarion County Adventures



Northwest donated \$30,000 to Clarion County Adventures to assist in funding Phase 3 of the Clarion Blueprint Multi-Generational Community Park project along Second Avenue in Clarion Borough. Clarion Blueprint plans for the park to provide multipurpose courts, for basketball, pickleball and volleyball, a splash pad and water features, a multi-function area, pavilion, and seating areas, fully ADA restroom & locker room facilities, playground, outdoor ice skating and/hockey rink, and green space for passive recreation. Pictured are Rhianna Reichard, Manager at Clarion 166, District Manager Craig Mullen, President Tom McConnell and Vice President Dr. Brenda Dede of Clarion Blueprint Community, Inc. Picture is taken in front of the newly construction playground at the park is planned to be open this Summer.

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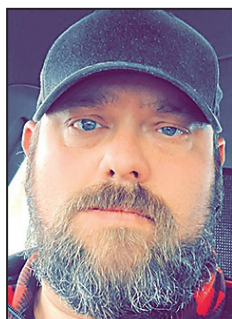
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"Not having enough time with my mama. I miss her!" -Angel Hepler



"Taking more pictures with my dad." -Jay Shoffstall



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## Comets

*continued from page 13*

a new PR, and finishing in 13th place.

The sprinters still had one last race for the day, the 200 meter dash. Lerch finished in 50th place running a 25:32, just shy of his PR. The distance runners

closed out the day for the Comets with Anderson running 14:18 in the 3200m coming in 19th place. Wilshire ran for the boys finishing with a new PR in the 3200m of 10:52 in 34th place.

The Clarion Comets' last track meet proved successful as the season began to wind down for

the athletes. With the outdoor season fast approaching for high school track and field, these special athletes will already be conditioned to help their respective Clarion County high school track and field teams.

(Way to go, Comets!!!! Thanks to Matt Lerch for this article and photos!!)

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# Three Wildcats Medal in District Nine Junior High Class-AA Wrestling Tournament

by Clarion Sports Zone

Three Central Clarion Wildcats medaled in the District Nine Junior High Class-AA Wrestling Championships at Brockway on

Saturday, February 17th. This was the Wildcats last scheduled tournament for the season. Placing for the Wildcats were

Nathaniel McDonnell, Demetrius Peace and Owen Bohlander. Nathan finished second in the 87-pound class. He had a minor

decision win.

Demetrius finished fourth at 170 pounds. He had a win via pin.

Owen claimed fourth place at 190 pounds, registering two pins along the way.

Other Wildcats who competed were Cooper Macormac (80 pounds); with one win by minor decision; Ben Naser (155 pounds), with one minor decision win; Tate Allison (122 pounds), with a win by fall and another by minor decision; and Dylan Albertine (210 pounds, with one win by pin.

Central Clarion Junior High Head Coach had this to say about the three medalists, "I want to extend my sincere congratulations

to Nathaniel McDonnell for his outstanding 2nd-place finish and to Demetrius Peace and Owen Bohlander for their impressive 4th-place finishes in the D9 J High AA Tournament. Your hard work and determination have truly paid off.

And about the whole team's effort, "I also want to commend each member of the team, including those who didn't place. Your dedication and growth throughout the season have been remarkable, and I'm proud of the effort you've all put forth on the mat."

(Congratulations on a nice season, Wildcat Junior High!!!! Thanks to Coach LeFay for the information for this article!)

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## Clarion County YMCA Riversharks Make Waves at CENKEY Championships

by Dan Clark / Clarion Sports Zone

The Clarion County YMCA Riversharks swim team closed out the regular season with new Meet Records, Club Records, Personal Bests, and additional District Qualifying times at the 2024 CENKEY League Championships for swimmers from ten teams across the central keystone region held on February 10-11 at the Zimmerli Natatorium at Lock Haven University. The Riversharks team placed 6th overall in combined points with four 1st place, seven 2nd place, and five 3rd place podium winners.

The Saturday morning session was for the 8 & Under age group. Dylan Space led the way for the boys on the podium with 2nd place finishes in the 100-yard Individual Medley and 25-yard Breaststroke, with a Personal Best time, and a 3rd place finish in the 50-yard Freestyle. Addison Space led the way for the girls with



8 & under participants. (photo by Maribeth Chesterfield)

see RIVERSHARKS on page 16

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**Bobcats Boys Junior High A-Team (Front Row l-r) Hunter Wiencek, Gavin Jones, Billy Kahle, Martin Ormeno, Jondell Jones. (Back row l-r) Blake Weckerly, Anthony Bartley, Patrick Durish, Marlin Lewis, Ian Hoke. (photo courtesy of Tracy Durish)**

## Clarion Area Junior High Boys 'A' Basketball Team Closes Out a Solid Season

by Clarion Sports Zone

The Clarion Area Junior High Boys 'A' Basketball Team is just coming off of a big season. Bobcats Head Coach Keith Murtha shared this summary:

Starting out with a redemption game against Cranberry, who handed the young Bobcats their worst loss of the season, first game of the year. Clarion looked like they were on fire and came out in the first quarter with a 11-6 lead. They replicated that to go into halftime 22-12. The third quarter showed an even exchange with Cranberry winning the quarter 11-10. The final quarter was not kind to the Bobcats as they were outscored 18-4 with Cranberry hitting 8 of their 12 free throws and Clarion 2 for 4. The Bobcats eventually succumbed to the undefeated Berries 41-36.

Cross town rivals rematched as Clarion traveled to Strattanville to take on the Clarion-Limestone Lions.

Both teams started slow on the offensive end, with Clarion leading the quarter 6-5. The second quarter saw the offense come alive with the combination of Hunter Wiencek and Patrick Durish chipping 13 of the 19 points in the quarter to lead at the half 25-9. The 3rd quarter C-L showed signs of life, leading the quarter 9-8, but still in a deficit 34-18. The final frame showed another even exchange, C-L leading 8-7 but Clarion with a significant win 42-25.

Clarion and C-L have played a number of competitive, close games over the years, but this is the first time Clarion has won both home and away in three years.

Chris Kim had a strong game on both ends of the floor, scoring eight points.

Next up was the Panthers, where the teams played to a 3-point decision in favor of Keystone to kickoff hoops for hoop. The game got off to a fast start with Keystone leading 14-10 but with a defensive change for the Bobcats it was their quarter on 14-2 run for a halftime score of 24-16. The teams played evenly through the second half, Clarion leading 6-4 in the 3rd quarter and 5-6 run for a final score of 35-26 and a Bobcat win!

Patrick Durish had a dominant scoring 14 points inside and putbacks!

The Bobcats traveled to Karns City where they got in a hole early trailing 16-6 after the first quarter. With adjustment on both halves of the court, the Bobcats took the second quarter 11-8 but still losing 24-17 at half. In the third quarter the Bobcats continued the trend again winning the quarter 11-7 to bring the score 31-28 in favor of the  
*see A TEAM on page 19*

## Bobcats Land Four Players on 2024 KSAC All-Conference Basketball Team

by Clarion Sports Zone

The Clarion Area Bobcats had Four players named to the 2024 Keystone Shortway Athletic Conference All-Conference Basketball Team.

Devon Lauer was named to the Boys First Team, with Taylor Alston being selected to the Girls First Team. Sophie Babington made the Girls Second Team and Dawson Smail was named to the Boys Third Team.

Karns City's Taite Beighley was selected as the Boys MVP, with Redbank Valley's Mylee Harmon being chosen Girls MVP.

### 2024 KSAC ALL-CONFERENCE BASKETBALL TEAM

#### Boys First Team selections:

Devon Lauer – Clarion; Tate Beighley – Karns City; Jase Ferguson – Clarion Limestone; Owen Clouse – Redbank Valley; and Jay Clover – A-C Valley.

#### Boys Second Team selections:

Dawson Camper – Union; Mason Clouse – Redbank Valley; Jack Craig – Clarion-Limestone; Kieran Fricko – Redbank Valley; and Chason Delarosa-Rugg – Moniteau.

#### Boys Third Team selections:

Dawson Smail – Clarion; Ethan Merryman – Cranberry; Andrew Zepeda – Moniteau; Trey Fleming – Union; and Shane Peters – Karns City.

#### Girls First Team selections:

Taylor Alston – Clarion; Mylee Harmon – Redbank Valley; Catherine Kelly – Moniteau; Lily Homan – North Clarion; and Addy Bond – Redbank Valley.

#### Girls Second Team selections:

Sophie Babington – Clarion; Brooklynn Taylor – Karns City; Kendall Sankey – Moniteau; Naomi Venesky – Karns City; and Ashlee Albright – Keystone.

#### Girls Third Team selections:

Ainsley Hartle – North Clarion; Brooke Steinman – North Clarion; Kira Bonnano – Redbank; Izzy Bond – Redbank Valley; and Jenna Dunn – Clarion-Limestone.

Congratulations Taylor, Devon, Sophie and Dawson, and all the rest of the 2024 KSAC Basketball All-Conference selectees!

## Riversharks

*continued from page 15*

a 2nd place finish in the 25-yard Breaststroke, and a Personal Best time in the 100-yard individual medley.

The Saturday afternoon session featured the 9-10 and 11-12 age groups where, Declan Kelley led the 9-10 boys with a 3rd place finish in the 50-yard Backstroke while securing both District Qualifying and Personal Best times in the 50-yard Backstroke and 50-yard Freestyle and a Personal Best time in the 100-yard Individual Medley. Jocelyn Parkinson led the way for the 9-10 girls with a District Qualifying time in both the 50-yard Freestyle and 100-yard Breaststroke and achieving Personal Best times in the 50-yard Freestyle, 100-yard Freestyle, and 50-yard Backstroke. The 11-12 girls were led by Samantha Lewis who won 1st place in the 200-yard Breaststroke, secured a 3rd place finish in the 50-yard Backstroke with a District Qualifying and Personal Best time, and achieved a Personal Best time in the 100-yard Individual Medley.

The Sunday morning session capped off the meet with the 13-14 and 15 & Over age groups. The 13-14 girls had an impressive showing overall while being highlighted by the performance of Callie Snodgrass who earned District Qualifying times in each of her events while winning 1st place in the 100-yard Backstroke with a Personal Best time and

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1st place the 100-yard Butterfly, setting a CENKEY meet record with a time of 1:01.33. Callie also had a 2nd place finish in the 200-yard Individual Medley. Additionally, she was part of the CENKEY Championships meet record setting 400-yard Freestyle Relay along with Ashlyn Clark, Maggie Snodgrass, and Lila Gourley for a District Qualifying time of 3:56.05.

The 15 & Over group was led by Kylan Clark who earned 5th place in the 200-yard Freestyle and having Personal Best times in the 100- and 200-yard Freestyle and 100-yard Breaststroke.

The next action for the Riversharks will be at the Pennsylvania West District swim



9-12 participants. (photo by Kristine Lewis)

meet held at the SPIRE Institute in Geneva, OH March 7-10.

#### RESULTS SUMMARY

Event (distance & stroke: Freestyle, Breaststroke, Butterfly, Backstroke, or Individual Medley)- Swimmer; & Overall

Place for award winners (1st-12th).

DIST signifies a District Qualifying time; MR signifies a CENKEY Champs Meet Record; and CR signifies a new Clarion County YMCA Riversharks



13 & Over participants. (photo by Susanne Fenske)

Record.

#### 8 & UNDER AGE GROUP

##### Girls

##### 25 Free

Hannah Lawrence (11th)

##### 50 Free

Addyson Space (6th)

##### 25 Back

Leona Renninger (6th);

Hannah Lawrence (12th)

##### 25 Breast

Addyson Space (2nd)

##### 25 Fly

Addyson Space (4th); Hannah Lawrence (11th)

##### 100 IM

Addyson Space (5th)

#### 8 & UNDER AGE GROUP

##### Boys

##### 25 Free

Connor Chesterfield (4th)

##### 50 Free

Dylan Space (2nd); Connor Chesterfield (9th)

##### 25 Back

Dylan Space (3rd); Connor Chesterfield (9th)

##### 25 Breast

Dylan Space (2nd)

##### 100 IM

Dylan Space (2nd); Conner Chesterfield (6th)

#### 9-10 AGE GROUP

##### Girls

##### 50 Free

Jocelyn Parkinson (9th) DIST

##### 100 Free

Jocelyn Parkinson (7th)

##### 50 Back

Jocelyn Parkinson (10th)

##### 100 Breast

Jocelyn Parkinson (6th) DIST

#### 9-10 AGE GROUP

##### Boys

##### 50 Free

Declan Kelley (4th) DIST

##### 50 Back

Declan Kelley (3rd) DIST

##### 50 Breast

Declan Kelley (12nd)

##### 100 IM

Declan Kelley (4th)

#### 11-12 AGE GROUP

##### Girls

##### 50 Back

Samantha Lewis (3rd) DIST

##### 100 Back

Audrey Oakes (12th)

#### 100 Breast

Brylie Glenn (12th)

#### 200 Breast

Samantha Lewis (1st)

#### 50 Fly

Lillian Shifflet (8th); Addison Lechner (12th)

#### 100 Fly

Lillian Shifflet (3rd)

#### 100 IM

Samantha Lewis (4th); Lillian Shifflet (9th)

#### 200 Medley Relay

Lillian Shifflet, Samantha Lewis, Addison Lechner, and Destiny Towner (5th) DIST

#### 13-14 Age Group

##### Girls

##### 50 Free

Ashlyn Clark (3rd) DIST CR

##### 100 Free

Lila Gourley (6th) DIST; Ashlyn Clark (7th) DIST; Megan Fenske (12th) DIST

##### 200 Free

Lila Gourley (2nd) DIST; Megan Fenske (5th) DIST

##### 100 Back

Callie Snodgrass (1st) DIST CR; Lila Gourley (6th) DIST; Ashlyn Clark (7th) DIST

##### 200 Breast

Maggie Snodgrass (2nd) DIST

##### 100 Fly

Callie Snodgrass (1st) DIST MR

##### 200 IM

Callie Snodgrass (2nd) DIST

##### 400 IM

Maggie Snodgrass (2nd) DIST

##### 400 Free Relay

Ashlyn Clark, Lila Gourley, Maggie Snodgrass, and Callie Snodgrass (1st) DIST MR CR

#### 15 & Over Age Group

##### Boys

##### 200 Free

Kylan Clark (5th); Theodore Sweet (8th)

##### 100 Breast

Kylan Clark (8th); Theodore Sweet (10th)

(Congratulations Riversharks!!!! Thanks to Dan Clark for this article and to Maribeth Chesterfield, Kristine Lewis and Susanne Fenske for their photos!!)

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# Logan Powell, Josh Beal Finish Second, Jacob Henry Fourth to Punch Tickets to Regionals as Wildcats Finish 7th in District Nine Class-AA Wrestling Tournament

by Clarion Sports Zone

A pair of Central Clarion Wildcats claimed second place at the District Nine Class-AA Wrestling Championships, held Friday and Saturday, February 23rd and 24th, at PennWest Clarion's Tippin Gymnasium. Logan Powell claimed Silver at 133 pounds, with Josh Beal garnering second at 285. Jake Henry finished fourth at 160.

With their place finishes, they earned spots in the Northwest Class-AA Regional Championships on Friday and Saturday, March 1st and 2nd at Sharon High School.

Logan received an opening bound bye. He scored a technical 15-0 in 4:10 over Owen Adams of Redbank Valley, followed by a 9-1 major decision over Cranberry's Alex McLaughlin in their semifinal bout, before dropping a 10-4 decision to Colton Ryan in the championship bout.

Josh pinned Daniel Drake of Brookville in 5:20 in their first-round match up. He followed that with a win by fall at 2:47 in the quarterfinals, over Curwensville's Brooks Hendershot. It was another win by pin for Josh in the



Logan Powell



Josh Beal

semis as he downed Brockway's Jonathan Winnings in 5:10, before dropping the championship match



Jake Henry

on a fall at 1:47 to Carson Neely of Port Allegany. Jake won a 9-8 first round decision over Redbank Valley's Nolan Barnett and followed that by pinning Brockway's Blake Pisarchick at 4:56 of their quarterfinal match. He dropped a 13-11 sudden victory decision to Mason Gordon of Port Allegany. Jacob came back in the consolation semis with a win by fall at 2:16 over Coudersport's Owen Deutschlander, before falling 7-4 to Clearfield's Will Domico in the third-place match.

Grayson Aaron went 2-and-2 at 127, advancing as far as the consolation semifinals, finishing in sixth place. His wins were by technical fall and pin. Ethan Rex went 2-and-2 at 172, with his wins coming by fall and major decision. Brendon Wright was 1-and-2 at 139 with his win coming by fall.

Others competing for the Wildcats were Cody Heller (107), Kayden Ferguson (114),

Rudy Schettler (189) and Matt Alston (215).

The Wildcats finished seventh in the sixteen-team field. Clearfield was the Team Champion.

Central Clarion head coach Braun Gourley said, "Overall we wrestled well. We lost a few close matches in the wrestle back. Three regional qualifiers is an improvement. Our goal is to advance to states this week. The top 4 will move on and as you know all the wrestlers are good this time of year."

(Congratulations to Logan, Josh and Jake! Fine season to the rest of the Wildcats! Thank you to John Beal, Andrew Henry and the C-L Adult Booster Club for photos!)

## Josh Beal Punches Ticket to States with Third Place Finish at Northwest Regional Wrestling Tournament

by Clarion Sports Zone

The Central Clarion Wildcats competed in the PIAA Northwest Regional Class-AA Wrestling Tournament held at Sharon High School, held on Friday and Saturday, March 1st and 2nd.

In this historic first season for the Wildcats, three wrestlers made history as their first three regional participants, Logan Powell at 133, Jake Henry at 160



Josh Beal (Central Clarion) 3rd, Carson Neely (Port Allegany) 1st, John Duran (Fort LeBoeuf) 2nd, Joey Peterson (Greenville) 4th. (photo courtesy of Central Clarion Wildcats Wrestling)

and Josh Beal at 285. Josh made further history as he placed third, becoming the Wildcats' first regional place winner and also becomes the first Central Clarion wrestler to advance to the Pennsylvania State Athletic Association (PIAA) State Championships, at the Giant Center in Hershey, Thursday,

March 7th through Saturday, March 9th.

Josh opened the competition by pinning Greenville's Joey Peterson at 3:46, in the Championship Quarterfinals.

He then lost by a close 3-0 decision, in the Championship Semifinals to John Duran from Fort LeBoeuf, the eventual

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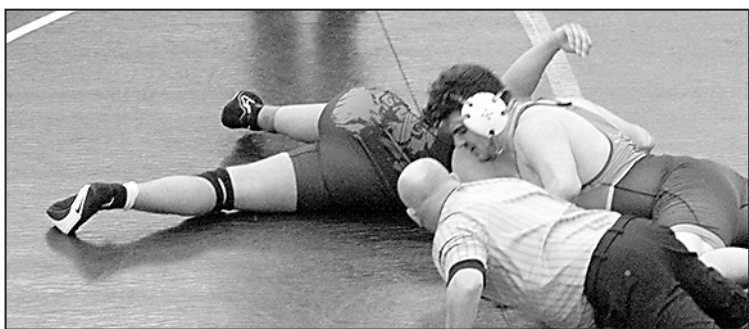
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*The pin that secured State berth for Josh. (Photo by Jon Beal)*

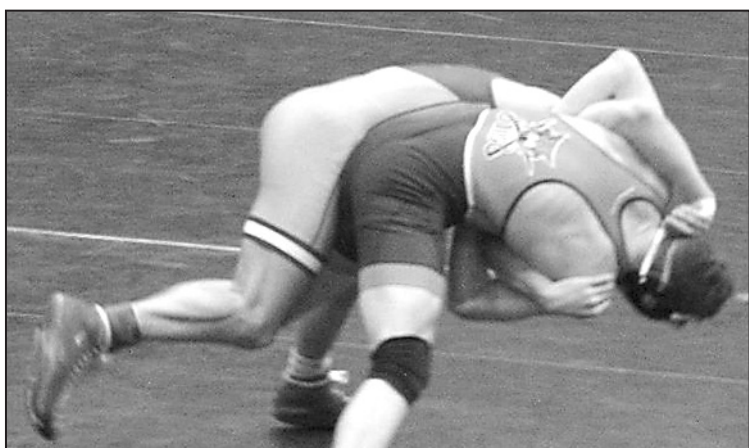
second place winner.

Josh bounced back in the Consolation Semifinals, with a win by fall over Northwestern's Greg Gruda at 3:45. With that victory, Josh secured his place in the State Tournament.

Josh then won the Third

Place Match with a hard fought 3-2 decision over Joey Peterson from Greenville.

Josh said, "I absolutely loved the atmosphere in the room, being there with my teammates, coaches and family. The support I have had this year on all of



*Jake in action at regionals. (photo by Jon Beal)*

those fronts, I can never be thankful enough for.

"I can't actually describe the feeling I got after winning that blood round match knowing I was going to states. Everything seemed to finally fall together, and I was Hershey bound."

Logan dropped a major decision to eventual champion Hudson Hohman from Grove City, in the Championship Quarterfinals.

He came back with a 7-3 decision over Ethan Springer from Sharpsville in Consolation Round 1. Logan dropped a 7-3 decision to Nate Sterns from Titusville in Consolation Round 2.

Jake lost by fall to Reynolds' Vito Gentile in Championship Round 1 and lost by technical fall to Cash Morrell from Cochran in Consolation Round 1.

Coach Braun Gourley shared these fine words, "We discussed all week the importance of this event and difficulty of what it takes to get there. All three qualifiers represented the Wildcats with pride.

"Although Jake and Logan's season came to an end the coaches were extremely proud

*see REGIONAL on page 21*

## A Team

*continued from page 16*

Gremlins. The final chapter was problematic for the Bobcats with foul trouble and the Gremlins scoring half their 9 points from the free throw line. Karns City closed out the quarter 9-2 for a 40-30 win.

Billy Kahle and Jondell Jones led the scoring with 8 points each.

Next the Bobcats hosted North Clarion who they played to a tight game in the first half of the season and this time was no different.

The teams tied 6-6 in both quarters for a 12-12 tie at intermission. Clarion did enough to win the second half 8-6 and 9-7 for a solid win 29-25. Patrick Durish had a strong afternoon from the free throw line, going 5 for 7 and leading the team with 9 points.

The Union Knights came into Clarion but couldn't get much going with Clarion getting off

to a fast start 16-4 in the first quarter, the second quarter was more of the same for a 12-4 run and a half time lead of 28-8. The second half was more even but the Bobcats won both quarters 6-4 and 7-4 for a final score of 41-12.

Jondell Jones had a big day leading the squad with 15 points.

The Bobcats closed out the season at A-C Valley where they led the first half 12-10, played to a 6-2 third quarter and a 8-7 deficit in the final frame for a final victory 27-20.

Patrick Durish led all scorers with 13 points from the block. This team will be fun to watch as they progress to Junior Varsity and Varsity. They finish with a record of 11-4 but 3 of the 4 losses were by 4 points or less!

(Congratulations on a fine season Bobcat Boys Junior High Basketball 'A' Team!!!! Thanks to Coach Murtha for this summary and to Tracy Durish for her photos!!)



*1st Annual Dave Ciafre Tournament in Sharon - (l-r) Front row: Cooper Macormac, Nathaniel McDonnell, Mason Lewis. Middle row: Ben Naser, Mason Best-Whitmer. Back row: Owen Bohlander, Tate Allison, Mason Lewis. (photo provided by Central Clarion Wildcat Wrestling)*



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## Elementary

*continued from page 9*

and the camaraderie shared in every match fills me with a deep sense of joy and gratitude for this remarkable group of athletes."



# 13-14 Age Group Girls Make a Big Splash at 2024 Pennsylvania YMCA West District Championships Swim Meet; Callie Snodgrass Qualifies for Nationals; 13-14 Relays Sweep Events

by Dan Clark / Clarion Sports Zone

The Clarion County YMCA Riversharks took fifteen competitors to the three-day 2024 Pennsylvania YMCA West District Championships swim meet held at the SPIRE Institute, in Geneva, Ohio, over the weekend of March 7-9.

This District Swim team comprised those athletes who achieved age group qualifying times to compete in specific individual events during the regular season.

Rivershark qualifiers as follows: **Declan Kelley** (50 and 100 yard freestyle; and 50 and 100 yard backstroke); **Jocelyn Parkinson** (50 yard free; and 100 yard breaststroke); **Addyson Space** (50 yard freestyle); **Samantha Lewis** (50 yard freestyle; 50 yard backstroke; 50, 100, and 200 yard breaststroke); **Ashlyn Clark** (50, 100, and 200 yard freestyle; 100 yard backstroke; and 100 yard butterfly); **Megan Fenske** (50, 100, and 200 yard freestyle; and 100 yard backstroke); **Lila Gourley** (50, 100, 200, and 500 yard freestyle; and 100 yard butterfly); **Callie Snodgrass** (100 yard backstroke; 100 and 200 yard butterfly; and 200 yard individual medley); **Maggie Snodgrass** (100 and 200 yard breaststroke; and 200 and 400 yard individual medley); and **Kathryn Fenske** (500 yard freestyle).

In addition, the Riversharks sent the following five relay teams: 11-12 Year Old Girls 200 Yard Medley Relay Team of **Mya Coradi, Samantha Lewis, Lillian Shifflet, and Aubree Conticelli**; 11-12 Year Old Girls 200 Yard Freestyle Relay Team of **Addison Lechner, Piper Hoover, Aubree Conticelli, and Samantha Lewis**; 13-14 Year Old Girls 200 Yard Medley Relay Team of **Ashlyn Clark, Lila Gourley, Maggie Snodgrass, and Callie Snodgrass**; 13-14 Year Old Girls 200 Yard Freestyle Relay Team of **Ashlyn Clark, Callie Snodgrass, Maggie Snodgrass, and Lila Gourley**; and 13-14 Year Old Girls 400 Yard Freestyle Relay



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

Callie Snodgrass earned the most outstanding achievement of the weekend by achieving a qualifying time for the 2024 YMCA Short Course National Swimming Championship by winning the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 58:95 while setting a new West District Championships meet record! In addition, Callie had individual event podium finishes as the West District Champion in the 200-

yard butterfly, placed 2nd in the 100 yard backstroke, and placed 4th in the 200 yard individual medley to pace the Riversharks in earned points for the meet.

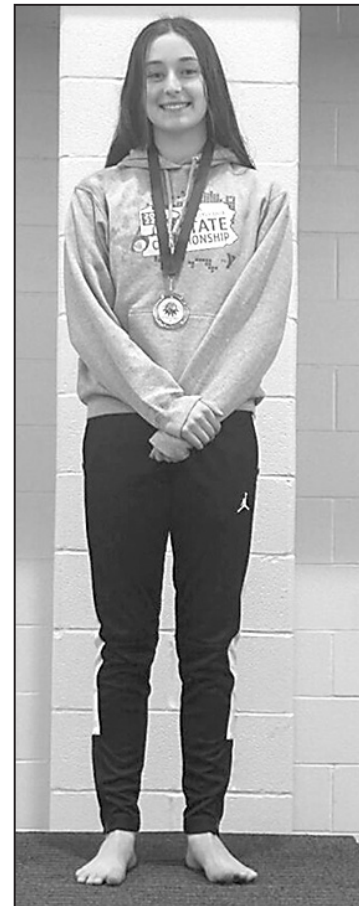
Maggie Snodgrass was the next highest point leader for the Riversharks as the West District Champion in the 400-yard individual medley and placing 2nd in the 100-yard breaststroke, 3rd in the 200-yard individual medley, and 3rd in the 200-yard breaststroke. Ashlyn Clark reached the podium in 5th place for the 50-yard freestyle and 6th place in the 100-yard freestyle.

Other individual award winners (1st-12th place) were Declan Kelley for 7th place in the 100-yard backstroke, Megan Fenske for 9th place in the 100-yard backstroke and 11th place in the 50-yard freestyle, and Samantha Lewis for 10th place in the 50-yard breaststroke and 12th place in the 200-yard breaststroke.

Another amazing achievement of the weekend was that Clarion's 13-14-year-old girls relay teams comprised of Ashlyn Clark, Lila Gourley, Maggie Snodgrass, and Callie Snodgrass swept all three of the relays to become triple West District Champions in the 200- and 400-yard freestyle relays and the 200-yard medley relay.

Additionally, all of the 13-14-year-old girls combined to earn enough points to place 2nd across the District.

Over and above having the honor to compete at the District level, swimmers who place in the top six of each district (West, Central, and East) or were among the fastest swimmers



*Maggie Snodgrass (photo by Wendy Snodgrass)*

of each event across all three districts qualify to swim in the Pennsylvania YMCA State Championship meet starting March 22-24 in Morgantown, West Virginia. The Riversharks combined to qualify to compete in fourteen different events as follows: Callie Snodgrass qualified in four individual events (100 back, 100 and 200 fly, and 200 IM); Maggie Snodgrass qualified in four individual events (100 and 200 breast, and 200 and 400 IM); Ashlyn Clark qualified in two individual events (50 and 100 free); and Declan Kelley qualified in one individual event (100 back).

Also, the 200-yard medley, 200-yard free, and 400 -yard free relay teams of Clark, Callie Snodgrass, Maggie Snodgrass, and Gourley qualified for States.

In addition to qualifying for States, Callie Snodgrass will also be competing at 2024 YMCA Short Course National Swimming Championship in Greensboro, North Carolina in the 100-yard butterfly.

see **BIG SPLASH** on page 23

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## Regional

*continued from page 19*

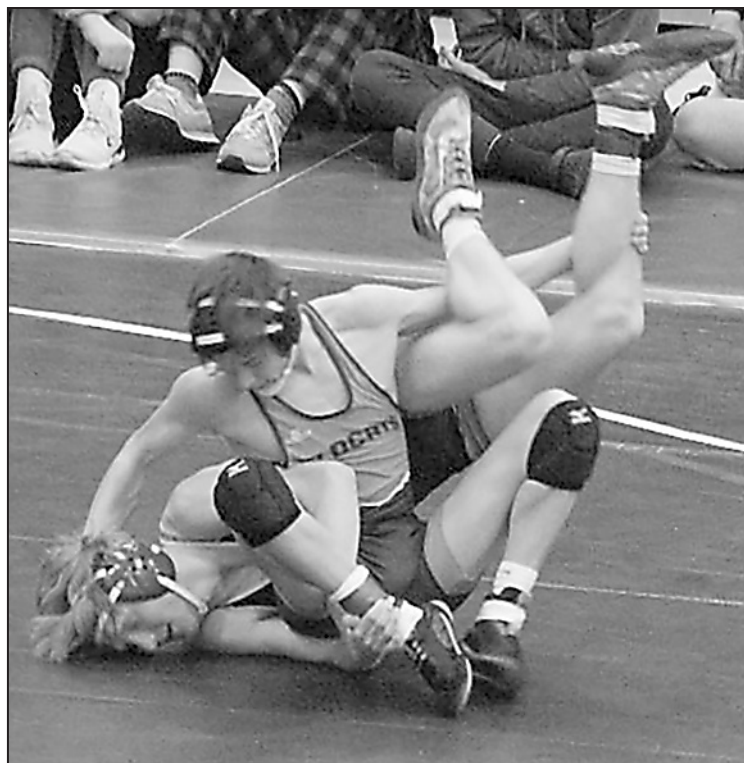
of the effort and hard work they put in to get to Regionals. I am excited to watch these young men grow as wrestlers next year."

And summarizing Josh's tournament action, "Josh had a great tournament as evident with his third-place result. He opened the tournament with a fall over his opponent from Greenville. Josh wrestled very well that match.

On day two Josh had a rematch with the District 10 champion. We wrestled him at Hickory in the beginning of the year, losing 3-1 in sudden victory. Josh lost this semifinal match 3-0. This put Josh in what we call the "blood round." Winner moves on to states, the loser stays home.

"Josh fell behind in this match 9-2 but remained calm and eventually pinned his opponent punching his ticket to states.

"This set up a rematch for third place with the wrestler from Greenville. Josh prevailed 3-2 earning third place at the Northwest Regional tournament.



*Logan in action at regionals. (Photo by Jon Beal)*

"Great tournament for Josh!"

Reynolds was the Team Champion. Clearfield and Grove City tied for second, with Cranberry and Brookville rounding out the Top 5.

(Congratulations to Josh

and have a great State Tournament!!!! Congratulations to Logan and Jake on your fine seasons!!!!)

(Thanks to Jon Beal and Central Clarion Wildcat Wrestling for their photos!)

## Beal Finishes Career After First Trip to State Tournament

Central Clarion Bobcats senior heavyweight Josh Beal finished up his varsity wrestling career at the PIAA Class 2A Championships at Hershey's Giant Center March 7-9, going 0-2.

Beal opened with a loss to Faith Christian Academy's Mark Effendian, who won a 16-1 technical fall. Beal did not take the mat in his consolation round bout against Owen Hutchinson of Big Spring due to an injury.

While Hutchinson did not medal, Effendian went on to finish third, decisioning Mount Pleasant's Dylan Pitzer, 4-0. While Port Allegany's D9 champion Carson Neely medaled with a fifth-place finish at heavyweight, Central Valley's Brennan Morgan won the weight class with Berks Catholic's Brody Kline finishing second, Burgettstown's Joey Baronick sixth, Towanda's Sawyer Robinson seventh and Tyrone's Braden Ewing eighth.

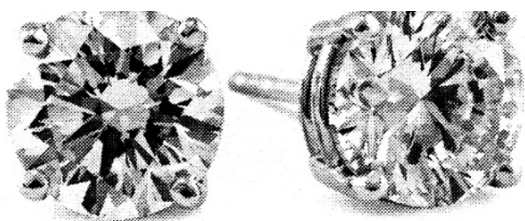
The season ended at 39-13

for Beal, who finished second at districts and third at regionals to earn his first trip to the state tournament. His career record finished up at 81-31.

District 9 medaled seven (top-eight finishes) in the tournament while crowning a state champion in the first-ever girls' tournament as Punxsutawney's Jael Miller won the championship at 170 pounds.

Miller finished her state run with a 4-0 record with two pins and a major decision to reach the finals against Bensalem's Maya Krieger. Miller pinned Krieger in 3:02.

The Class 2A boys' medalists were Clearfield's Brady Collins (3rd at 152 pounds), Brookville's Cole Householder (5th at 145), Neely (5th at heavyweight), Cranberry's Dalton Wenner (6th at 114), Brockway's Weston Pisarchick (6th at 127), Clearfield's Carter Chamberlain (6th at 189) and Brookville's Gavin Hannah (6th at 215).



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## Bobcats Down Southern Fulton in PIAA Basketball Boys 1A First Round

by Clarion Sports Zone

The homestanding Clarion Area Bobcats downed the Southern Fulton Indians 75-50, in their Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association Boys 1A Opening Round matchup on Friday (March 8th), in Coach Tom Lewis' and the seniors last home game.

The Bobcats (18-9) next face District 7 (WPIAL) and defending state champion Imani Christian on March 12th at Armstrong High School. Imani advanced with an 88-65 win over Union.

The Bobcats led 15-8 after one. With a 16-12 second period advantage, the Cats led 31-20 going into halftime.

Both teams had big offensive outputs in the third, with Southern Fulton having 21-20 edge. Devon Lauer scored 9 points in the frame, with Derek Smail adding 6 and Dawson Smail recording five points, as Clarion led 51-41 heading to the final stanza.

The Bobcats put the game away in the fourth with a 24-9 advantage. Ten Bobcats scored in the game.

Lauer scored a game high twenty-two points, including two treys. Also scoring in double-figures were Dawson Smail with 16, including a three-point bucket and Derek Smail with eleven.

Tanner Miller and Gabe Simko had eight points each, with Miller recording two long range baskets.

Jameson McIlwain recorded a trey, for his 3 points, with Bryce Brinkley also scoring three points. Mason Burford and Nathan Frederick had two points each and Owen Kriebel scored one.

Gary Mellot led Southern Fulton with 13 points, Hunter Ward had 11 and Jeff Burger scored ten.

## Lady Cats Finish 4th in D9; Season Ends with Loss to Berlin in PIAA Playoffs

by Clarion Sports Zone

The Clarion Area Girls basketball team dropped the District Nine Girls Basketball Class-A 3rd Place game, 39-28 to the DuBois Central Catholic Cardinals, at Brookville High School on Friday, March 1st.

DCC led 10-7 after one period, 23-15 at the half and 29-20 after three.

Taylor Alston led Clarion with eleven points. Marley Kline followed with 7 points, while Gia Babington scored six points. Natalie Durish had 2 points, and Lacey Lauer and Alivia Diehl each scored one point.

Kayley Risser led the Cardinals with a game-high thirteen points.

Central Clarion moved on to the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) State Championship First Round, on Saturday, March 9th, taking on District 5 champion Berlin Brothersvalley at the University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown. The Lady Cats lost 52-29, finishing their season with a 14-13 record.

## Clarion Area High School Science Olympiad and Robotics Teams Realize Major Accomplishments

by Clarion Sports Zone

The Clarion Area Science Olympiad Team and Robotics Teams have some achieved major accomplishments recently.

Coach Brian Burford shared information on the history of the Clarion Area Teams, information on this season's competition and so see *TEAMS* on page 25

## Nearly 175,000 More Pennsylvanians Now Eligible for Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program: Apply Today

by State Treasurer Stacy Garrity

Pennsylvania's Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program helps some of our most vulnerable Pennsylvanians. And here's some great news – nearly 175,000 more people will be eligible for rebates this year thanks to a big expansion of the program.

Last year, Treasury processed about 405,000 payments totaling more than \$190 million. This year, those numbers will go up thanks to great work by the General Assembly and the Governor. The income limit for homeowners and renters is increasing to \$45,000 – and half of Social Security income is excluded from that calculation.

The maximum standard rebate has increased to \$1,000.

These rebate payments make

a big difference, especially for seniors and other eligible Pennsylvanians on fixed budgets who may be struggling to make ends meet. Pennsylvanians 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and older who meet the income limitations are eligible for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program.

I encourage anyone who is eligible to apply, and to do so early – especially first-time filers. Applications are thoroughly reviewed by the Department of Revenue before being approved for payment, and applications from first-time filers will take longer to process.

Because the program is expanding so much, there will

be many more applications for the Department of Revenue to review this year – so again, apply as soon as possible. The deadline to apply is June 30, 2024.

Treasury is planning ahead to make a large number of rebate payments on the first possible payment date, which is July 1. We're already working closely with the Department of Revenue to make sure payments go as smoothly as possible. My goal is to make sure every eligible rebate applicant receives their money as quickly as possible.

After we send those initial payments on July 1, Treasury will continue making rebate payments on a rolling basis as applications are processed and approved by the Department of Revenue. In the vast majority of cases, approved applications are paid within a week of Treasury being notified by Revenue.

Eligible Pennsylvanians can learn more about the program by visiting Revenue's website, [revenue.pa.gov](http://revenue.pa.gov), calling 888-222-9190, or by contacting



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their local legislators.

Applications can be filed online through Revenue's myPATH system at mypath.pa.gov, where applicants can also check the status of their rebate by clicking "Where's My Rebate."

Since the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program started in 1971, more than \$8 billion in rebates have been paid. Starting next year, the income limit will be adjusted annually by the Department of Revenue to follow the Consumer Price Index – more great news for the future of the program.

## Big Splash

*continued from page 20*

Congratulations to the swimmers and coaches (Aidan Mohren, Mason Irwin, and Wendy Snodgrass) for their

excellent performances.

Good luck at the States meet! (Congratulations and Keep It Going, Riversharks! Thanks to Dan Clark for this article and Wendy Snodgrass for her photos!)

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

NAT signifies a National Qualifying time; STATES signifies a State Qualifying Finish; MR signifies a West District Championships Meet Record; and CR signifies a new Clarion County YMCA Riversharks Record.

#### 10 & Under Girls

##### 50 Free

Jocelyn Parkinson (34.14, 45th)

Addyson Space (35.41, 64th)

##### 100 Breast

Jocelyn Parkinson (1:40.67,

22nd)

#### 10 & Under Boys

##### 50 Free

Declan Kelley (32.71, 16th)

##### 100 Free

Declan Kelley (1:16.20, 20th)

##### 50 Back

Declan Kelley (39.59, 17th)

##### 100 Back

Declan Kelley (1:21.39, 7th)

STATES, CR

#### 11-12 Age Group Girls

##### 50 Free

Samantha Lewis (30.34, 39th)

##### 50 Back

Samantha Lewis (34.45, 27th)

##### 50 Breast

Samantha Lewis (37.56, 10th)

##### 100 Breast

Samantha Lewis (1:23.79, 13th)

##### 200 Breast

Samantha Lewis (3:00.95, 12th)

##### 200 Medley Relay

Mya Coradi, Samantha Lewis, Lillian Shifflet, and Aubree Conticelli (2:23:30, 15th)

##### 200 Free Relay

Addison Lechner, Piper Hoover, Aubree Conticelli, and Samantha Lewis (2:07.80, 18th)

#### 13-14 Age Group Girls

##### 50 Free

Ashlyn Clark (25.51, 5th) STATES, CR

Megan Fenske (26.66, 11th)

Lila Gourley (26.95, 20th)

##### 100 Free

Ashlyn Clark (57.00, 6th)

STATES, CR

Lila Gourley (57.92, 13th)

Megan Fenske (1:06.81, 49th)

##### 200 Free

Lila Gourley (2:06.33, 15th) CR

Ashlyn Clark (2:09.11, 20th)

Megan Fenske (2:11.38, 22nd)

##### 500 Free

Lila Gourley (5:59.50, 17th) CR

##### 100 Back

Callie Snodgrass (1:01.40, 2nd) STATES, CR

Megan Fenske (1:05.27, 9th)

Ashlyn Clark (1:08.58, 19th)

##### 100 Breast

Maggie Snodgrass (1:09.44, 2nd) STATES, CR

##### 200 Breast

Maggie Snodgrass (2:35.53, 3rd) STATES, CR

#### 100 Fly

Callie Snodgrass (58.95, 1st) NAT, STATES, MR, CR

Ashlyn Clark (1:08.24, 13th)

Lila Gourley (1:10.94, 19th)

#### 200 Fly

Callie Snodgrass (2:12.18, 1st) STATES, CR

#### 200 IM

Maggie Snodgrass (2:20.57, 3rd) STATES, CR

Callie Snodgrass (2:20.64, 4th) STATES

#### 400 IM

Maggie Snodgrass (4:59.05, 1st) STATES, CR

#### 200 Free Relay

Ashlyn Clark, Lila Gourley, Maggie Snodgrass, and Callie Snodgrass (1:43.75, 1st) STATES, CR

#### 400 Free Relay

Ashlyn Clark, Callie Snodgrass, Maggie Snodgrass, and Lila Gourley (3:47.52, 1st) STATES, CR

#### 200 Medley Relay


Ashlyn Clark, Maggie Snodgrass, Callie Snodgrass, and Lila Gourley (1:54.04, 1st) STATES, CR

#### 15 & Over

##### Girls


##### 500 Free

Kathryn Fenske (6:08.36, 42nd) CR



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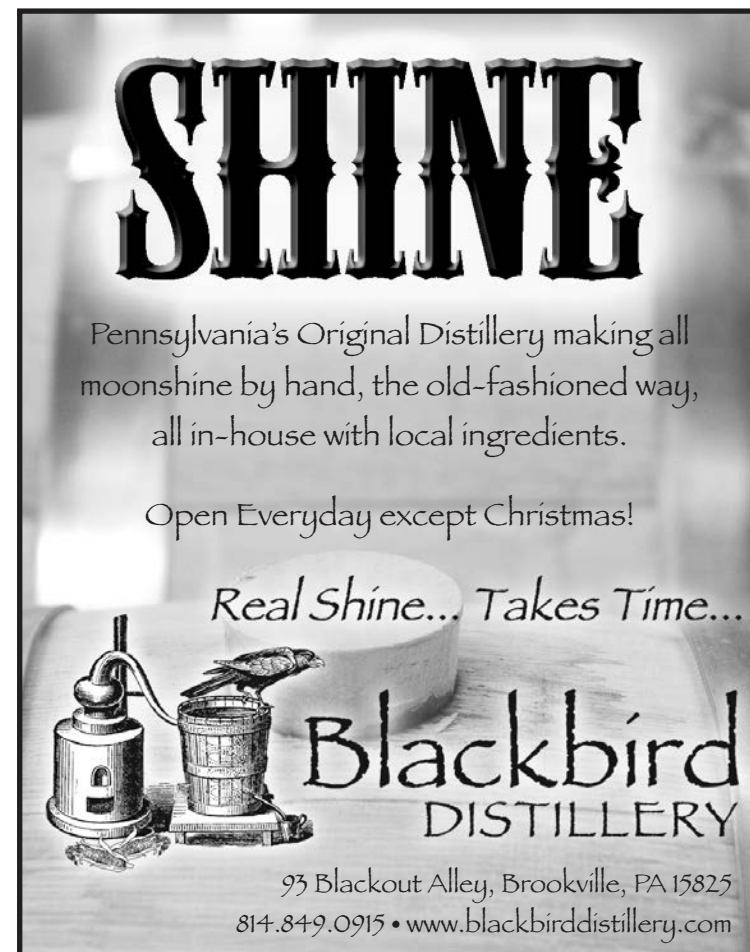
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# Treasurer Garrity Announces \$25 Million Investment in Ullico Infrastructure Fund

Fund will seek to invest at least \$50 million in PA infrastructure projects over four years

Pennsylvania Treasurer Stacy Garrity announced a \$25 million investment in the Ullico Infrastructure Fund, which invests in infrastructure projects principally in the United States and Canada. The fund announced that it intends to invest at least twice that much – \$50 million – in Pennsylvania over the next four years.

“This investment is a huge win for Pennsylvania taxpayers,” Treasurer Garrity said. “We’ll get a strong return on our investment, and we will benefit tremendously from Ullico’s investments in our state, which will create good-paying jobs and strengthen communities. I’m proud to partner with Ullico, which has a proven track record of successful infrastructure investments across the United States and Canada, including existing investments in Pennsylvania.”

“In our experience, infrastructure investments are commitments to the community where those assets live, to the people who build, maintain, and operate them,” said Brian Hale, CEO and President of Ullico Inc. “We’re eager to help strengthen Pennsylvania communities with good-paying union jobs that responsible infrastructure investments create.”

Pennsylvania labor leaders praised the investment.

“This is a significant investment that will help move Pennsylvania forward,” said Philip Ameris, President of the Pennsylvania Laborer’s Union Executive Board. “Strong investments in infrastructure are critical to our state’s economy and to promoting blue-collar job creation. I support Treasurer Garrity’s decision to make this investment, and I thank her for supporting Pennsylvania workers.”

“This investment will help us rebuild our state’s infrastructure, and it will bring great jobs to Pennsylvania,” said Paul Mullen, Business Manager of IBEW Local 654. “We’re well-positioned to be a national leader in infrastructure projects, and this is a huge step in the right

direction. Treasurer Garrity deserves a lot of credit for making a very smart decision.”

Under the agreement, which Treasury and Ullico began negotiating last fall, Ullico will endeavor to identify and secure an investment in one or more investment opportunities involving a partnership of at least \$50 million in Pennsylvania infrastructure development projects – such as utilities, communications, transportation, and renewable energy – within four years of Treasury’s investment.

“Partnering with Ullico is a continuation of my ongoing commitment to make investments that are not only smart for Pennsylvania but also drive economic activity in the Commonwealth,” Treasurer Garrity said. “Over the past three years, we’ve worked hard to increase our use of Pennsylvania-based firms and to find prudent investments which have the added benefit of directly benefiting Pennsylvania’s hardworking families. We’ve increased assets under management with Pennsylvania-based firms from approximately \$1.5 billion to nearly \$4 billion. We’ve also significantly increased our use of diverse and veteran-owned financial firms – and on top of that, we’ve reduced fees to create an ongoing benefit to taxpayers of \$1.9 million per year.”

The Pennsylvania Treasury Department and the Ullico Infrastructure Fund have signed the agreement. It will now be reviewed by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General for form and legality.

## About Ullico

The Ullico Inc. family of companies provides insurance and investment solutions for labor organizations, union employers, institutional investors and union members. Founded 95 years ago, the company takes a proactive approach to anticipating labor’s needs, developing innovative financial and risk solutions and delivering value to its clients. Ullico’s products are tailored to promote financial security and stability for American workers.

Ullico Infrastructure Fund, founded in 2010, was established to assist in the construction, maintenance, and refurbishment of America’s infrastructure. UIF provides institutional investors with access to core and core+ infrastructure investments that are structured to deliver long-dated, low-volatility, and inflation-linked cash flows. As an open-ended fund with no terminal date, UIF makes long-term investments in U.S. and Canada-based infrastructure businesses that provide essential services to communities, governments, and corporations. As of September 30, 2023, UIF currently has approximately \$5 billion in investor commitments on behalf of over 275 investors, with 23 portfolio investments across power, utilities, energy, transportation and digital infrastructure sub-sectors.

The Ullico Inc. family of companies includes The Union Labor Life Insurance Company; Ullico Casualty Group, LLC.; Ullico Investment Company, LLC.; and Ullico Investment Advisors, Inc. For additional information, visit [www.ullico.com](http://www.ullico.com).

# Shapiro Administration Awards \$444,000 in Wild Resource Conservation Program Grants

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn announced that \$444,364 has been awarded to 12 projects aimed at protecting Pennsylvania’s native biodiversity.

The grants add to a budget commitment to maintain and improve Pennsylvania’s natural places.

Governor Josh Shapiro’s 2024-25 budget proposal includes another strong investment in the stewardship of Pennsylvania’s natural resources, with new funding to build trails and expand the Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps program.

“The Shapiro Administration proudly supports these projects, which will protect and conserve the Commonwealth’s native wildlife resources for future generations,” Dunn said. “Protecting Pennsylvania’s vulnerable wildlife species from the impacts of climate change, human impacts, and other threats is the driving principle of the Wild Resource Conservation Program and is central to DCNR’s core mission.”

Overseen by DCNR, the Wild Resource Conservation Program safeguards Pennsylvania’s non-game animals, native plants and their habitat.

Grants are awarded in three areas:

- Species surveys
- Conservation
- Management

Visit DCNR’s website for more information on the specific projects ([https://elibrary.dcnr.pa.gov/GetDocument?docId=8098253&DocName=WRCP\\_2023\\_Approved\\_Projects.pdf](https://elibrary.dcnr.pa.gov/GetDocument?docId=8098253&DocName=WRCP_2023_Approved_Projects.pdf)).

Launched in 1982, Wild Resource Conservation Program encourages and supports research and protection efforts to conserve Pennsylvania’s diverse native wildlife resources, including bird and mammal species, amphibians, reptiles, insects, and wild plants.

Pennsylvanians can support the program through the new Eastern hellbender or river otter license plates, or contributions to the fund through a tax check-off program.

Learn more about the Wild Resource Conservation Program. Check out DCNR’s Calendar of Events for events on public lands. <https://events.dcnr.pa.gov>

## The Mirrors

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# Trinity Point Church of God 12th Annual Golf Scramble

The Trinity Point Church of God 12th Annual Golf Scramble will be held June 15, 2024. Shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. at Hi Level Golf Course.

This is a four-person scramble. \$60 per person or \$240 per team. Price includes: greens fee, cart, refreshments and meal. There will be prizes for lowest score and skills games. There will also be door prizes and chinese auction.

Event sponsors are also needed at \$25 per sponsor.

All proceeds benefit Rise Up Ministries Missions.

Contact Dave Martin at 814-221-2273 to register or to become a sponsor.

## Pennsylvania State Police Launches Ad Campaign to Attract More Recruits

Ads Will Air During March Madness And NHL Game Between Penguins And Flyers

The Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) announced the launch of an advertising campaign focused on attracting more people to a career as a state trooper. The recruitment initiative utilizes various media channels, including a television commercial. The campaign opens in a new window set to debut during Sunday's 3:30PM NHL game between the Philadelphia Flyers

and the Pittsburgh Penguins, and commercials during March Madness.

"The PSP provides a unique foundation for troopers to experience a variety of unique job opportunities with the department, and this advertising campaign highlights just a few of the many specialized positions available," said Colonel

Christopher Paris, Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police. "From canines and computer crimes to forensics and fire investigations, whether you're tactically minded or tech-savvy, dozens of challenging but rewarding job opportunities are waiting for you."

The recruitment campaign includes ads on billboards,

streaming services, radio, digital and social media. PSP plans to secure airtime for the TV commercial during other televised sports events. The advertising campaign comes on the heels of substantive increases in cadet applications to PSP since Governor Shapiro waived the college requirement for applicants last August. In 2023, PSP saw a 258% increase in the number of applicants taking the test to become a state trooper. The Governor's 2024-25 budget proposal calls for an additional four new classes of cadets, to ensure the PSP can have the tools, the flexibility, and the personnel to continue keeping Pennsylvanians safe.

PSP applicants who meet eligibility requirements must pass a qualifying written examination, background check, physical readiness test, medical screening, and psychological screening before they can become a cadet and begin training at the Pennsylvania State Police Academy.

Applicants must possess a high school diploma or GED certificate, a valid driver's license from any state, and be at least 20 years old at the time of application. They must be at least 21 years old and cannot have reached age 40 upon entry into the training academy. At the time of graduation, cadets must be a Pennsylvania resident and possess a valid Pennsylvania driver's license. No prior law enforcement experience is required. The current cadet application cycle opened on February 12.

Cadet training lasts approximately 27 weeks and is paramilitary in nature. The comprehensive and rigorous training includes coursework in Pennsylvania's crimes and vehicle codes, law enforcement principles and practices, firearms and special equipment training, and physical fitness activities.

Upon completion of the training academy, cadets are promoted to trooper and receive an increase in salary, currently set at \$66,911 annually.

For more information on becoming a Pennsylvania state trooper or to speak with a recruiter, visit [patrooper.com](http://patrooper.com)

For more information on the Pennsylvania State Police, visit [psp.pa.gov](http://psp.pa.gov).

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## Teams

*continued from page 22*

much more. (Note at the bottom of the article is information from VEX ROBOTICS and Science Olympiad websites explaining competitions etc. and a list of team members' accomplishments.)

After Della retired Mrs. Tracy Craig and I expanded our robotics competitions to VEX Robotics in 2019. With covid and other factors we took the next several years off of the VEX completion. Last year we continued with VEX.

We had 3 teams compete at the North Clarion, DuBois, and Franklin competitions. Two of the teams qualified for states at Pennwest Clarion. After the competition last March, my returning members said that their goal was to make it to worlds. They had finished toward the bottom of the 54 teams competing.

*see TEAMS on page 26*



# DCNR Urges Forest Landowners and Managers Seeking to Treat for Spooky Moth Caterpillars to Act Now

The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is urging forest managers and woodlot owners who are seeking to treat for spongy moth (lymantria dispar) caterpillars this spring to begin planning treatment operations now.

With approximately 70 percent of all forest lands in the Commonwealth privately owned, their participation is essential in helping to protect trees and forests from spongy moth caterpillar feeding.

Spongy moth populations have been observed at outbreak levels the past three years and foresters are encouraging those who own or manage private forests to book aerial spraying while there is still availability.

Spongy moth egg mass surveys are the most effective way to determine the need for treatment.

“Private forest landowners play a critical role in assuring the overall health of forests in Pennsylvania,” State Forester Seth Cassell said. “By opting to treat for spongy moth caterpillars, where necessary, forest stewards across the state can help in the fight against these harmful insects.”

DCNR offers a list of aerial applicators (PDF) on its website, as well as a guide for conducting spongy moth suppression on private lands (PDF), and service foresters in each county (PDF) to advise on spongy moth suppression efforts.

Maximum treatment effectiveness is achieved by targeting caterpillars at a specific developmental stage, a period known as the treatment window, which generally occurs in May.

The finite number of available applicators coupled with a relatively short period of treatment effectiveness makes early planning crucial to securing treatment services in the spring.

Product formulations, *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (Btk) and



Mimic, used on state lands are effective and safe.

DCNR conducted major spongy moth suppression treatments last year, treating more than 290,000 acres of state forest and state park lands.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission joined DCNR in the effort to control spongy moths by treating over 100,000 acres of state game lands in 2023.

DCNR has planned another large suppression treatment program for 2024 at roughly 228,000 acres.

For more information, please see the spongy moth page on DCNR’s website.

## Teams

*continued from page 25*

Several of the members took supplies home over the summer to start the robot. When they came back to school this fall, we had the start of 2 robots. We competed in BEST Robotics from the start of school until late October. We then started engineering and building 3 robots. Two of the teams were led by two of our returning seniors Prakhar Sing and Blaise Cunningham.

Our first competition was January 10 at Cranberry High School. Team Green Machine, Prakhar Sing, Prathmesh Singh, Theo Sweet, and Seth Weckerly finished 5th in the preliminary rounds, 4th in the skills competition with a score of 170, and ended their day in the semi-final round.

Their 4th place finish in skills qualified them for the state competition at Pennwest Clarion.

Team Robo Rangers, Blaise Cunningham, Wyatt Boyden, and Jonas Wilshire, scored 30



**Senior High Science Olympiad Team: Front Row (l-r): Chris Kim, Ethan Robert’s, Zoe Ketterer, Natalie Durish, Sean Roberts, Carson Bills, Victor Treose. Adults in the back row from left Dave Moyer – State Science Olympiad director, Brian Burford- coach, Tracy Durish – coach, Erin Fox – coach. Students Back row L – R: Blaise Cunningham, Delaney McNamara, Prather Singh, Lindsay Shmader, Prathmesh Singh. Not pictured: Alicyn Burford, Billy Kahle, Theo Sweet. (photo courtesy Clarion Area Robotics and Science Olympiad Teams)**

points in skills, and made it to the quarterfinal round of the competition. Our third team, Team Robocops, consist of two newcomers to robotics Jacob Gulnac and Wes Breniman. They enjoyed learning while competing in six matches.

Our second competition was scheduled for February 10th.

All three teams did major changes to their robots. They looked like 3 entirely new robots. Team Green machine, knowing that they had already qualified for states, tried several new strategies. They finished 6th in skills with a score of 130 and made it to the quarterfinals of the competition. Team Robo Rangers ranked 16th after the qualifying rounds, made it to the round of sixteen and won 3rd place in skills with a score of 167. This qualified them for the state tournament.

Our new team, Robocops, improved greatly by finishing the qualifying rounds in 25th place and going 3-3 on the day. They also made it to the round of 16.

With 2 teams qualifying for states, we had about a month to improve our two robots.

At states our two teams did an outstanding job. After the first several rounds of skill we were in 2nd and 3rd place out of the 59 qualifying teams. With one chance left, both teams needed a big score to overtake

the outstanding North Clarion team. Team Geen machine was in second place with one driver round left. They scored 160 points to to end with a score of 278. Team Robo Rangers and North Clarion each had one more chance to compete. North Clarion fell 3 points short finishing with a score of 275. While our Team Robo Rangers ended up with a third place finish of 250 points.

The first place finish in skills qualified team Green Machine for the VEX World Championships in Dallas Texas. Both teams made it to the playoff rounds with a chance to move on. Team Robo Rangers made it to the Quarter Finals losing to the eventual finalist. Team Green Machine made it to the semifinals losing to the eventual champions.

I am very proud of these young men. I am amazed at how much they have learned through this entire process. This completion has been a great experience for them. It has taught them so many good lessons, from engineering, problem solving, team work, good sportsmanship and so much more.

Congratulations to our Senior High and Junior High Science Olympiad Teams for both placing 2nd in their division at regionals. Both teams have qualified for the state competition at the end of April.

(From Vex Robotics Website:

The Game: VEX Robotics Competition Over Under is played on a 12' x 12' square field configured as seen above. Two (2) Alliances – one (1) “red” and one (1) “blue” – composed of two (2) Teams each, compete in matches consisting of a fifteen (15) second Autonomous Period, followed by a one minute and forty-five second (1:45) Driver Controlled Period.

The object of the game is to attain a higher score than the opposing Alliance by Scoring Triballs in Goals, and by Elevating at the end of the Match.

There are sixty (60) Triballs on a VRC Over Under Field.

There are two netted Goals on opposite sides of the field. A 2” PVC Barrier divides the field into a Red Offensive Zone and a Blue Offensive Zone.

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