



## City agency to deal with tax-delinquent property

By Erin Beck

Shinnston City Council is moving forward with creating a land bank, also known as a land reuse agency, in an effort to alleviate the problem of abandoned and dilapidated properties in the city.

Council members unanimously approved board members for the land bank at the Dec. 12 meeting. Those members are Chris Drain, Duane Blackwell, Andrew Minigh, Julia Currey, Connie Wolfe, and Jeffrey Chalfant.

During the 2022 legislative session at the start of last year, lawmakers approved a bill, Senate Bill 552, that was requested by the executive branch and heavily promoted by State Auditor J.B. McCuskey.

Among other provisions, the bill removed the responsibility of county sheriffs' offices to sell properties delinquent on taxes at public auction, transferring that function to the state treasurer, at one annual auction instead of two. The law also creates a fund for local governments, including those with land banks, to remediate or demolish properties. Those governments receive the right of first refusal if the property isn't sold by the auditor.

At the Dec. 12, meeting, Mayor Rodney Strait said the bank would track tax liens and abandoned properties.

"They would determine whether that we will tear

those buildings down or sell them to somebody for rehab," he said. "We're looking at that as a way to combat abandoned houses which also will eliminate people that are vagrants living in these buildings, causing other problems."

He added that tearing down the buildings would benefit nearby homes' property values.

In an interview, City Clerk Kathleen Panek, who attended a conference on the new law, said the bank "will have the authority to take possession of properties."

"And they will have the discretionary powers to decide if somebody has the bona fides that they can trust, an idea that is doable. They can decide to take this piece of property and sell it to them for \$1, rather than trying to get thousands of dollars out of it... And it will be in the contract time period that this has to be accomplished, or the property comes back to the land bank. So there won't be any more of the Murphy buildings sitting there doing nothing."

She said the bank would have to consider whether investment in rehabbing the property would generate a return, or if demolition would be more economically-sound.

Panek said that while sheriffs' offices have tried to work out payment plans to keep people in homes, they've ended up doubling fines as delinquency grows.

## Woman's Club meets at Bice-Ferguson Memorial Museum



Woman's Club members gather at the Bice-Ferguson Memorial Museum for a covered-dish luncheon on Monday, Dec. 19.

Submitted by Debra Herndon

The Shinnston Woman's Club met at the Bice-Ferguson Memorial Museum for a covered-dish luncheon on Monday, Dec. 19. Chad Edwards said grace and the group said the pledge to the flag in unison. Several tasty casseroles and salads were enjoyed topped off with brownies and maple cookies. While the group ate, they enjoyed watching a film of Shinnston in 1938 with many images of the downtown area.

Commencing with the business section of the meeting, Co-President Debra Herndon read a proclamation from the Shinnston City Council which was presented in honor of the club's 100th anniversary. The members then shared many stories of their favorite Christmas traditions and memories.

Those present not previously mentioned were Willa Jean Greene, Kathleen Panek, Debbie Starkey, Connie Leuliette, Viviane Spagnuolo, Judy Wilson, and guests Tori Drainer and Loretta Kinsella.

## Local Legend: Christie Lambert

Submitted by Nick Kellar,  
Lincoln High School

Despite being a small town, Shinnston is home to many extremely talented people. Those who excel in this community are more than just talented. They are legends. They are the people that parents tell their kids about and grandparents tell their grandkids about. There are a number of people who fit this category, and one of these people is none other than local legend, Christie Lambert.

Lambert is arguably the most decorated athlete to go through Lincoln High School. Firstly, she is the all-time leading scorer in Lincoln basketball with 1,802 points. She made First Team All-State her sophomore, junior, and senior years. Throughout those three years, she also led her team to three straight Big Ten championships. Notably, she never lost a game to a Harrison County opponent. During Lambert's senior year, she won Harrison County Player of the Year.

She was notorious for her shooting, hitting over 175 three-pointers in her career. Standing at 5 feet 10 inches tall, Lambert also grabbed over 500 rebounds. She led her team to the state tournament on two separate occasions, the first being her sophomore year. That year, she led the team to the state semi-finals, where the Lady Cougars lost by three points. The second time Lambert went to the state tournament was her senior year, losing in the semi-finals once again, this time on a buzzer-beater.

After high school, Lambert took her basketball career to West Virginia University. She saw much playing time her freshman year, where she put up a career-high 474 points in 28 games. She won

various honors that year, including Atlantic 10 Freshman of the Week (two times) and the All-Freshmen Atlantic 10 team. Additionally, she made two All-Tournament teams in 1995: the Georgia Southern/Hampton Inn Classic All-Tournament Team, and the Lady Raider Classic All-Tournament Team.

"Not only was she a great high school player, but she had a fantastic career at WVU," said her former high school coach, Dennis Hutson. "That's something you don't get to see from a lot of players from this area."

During her exceptional career at WVU, she went on to accumulate 1,282 points in her collegiate career. Not only did she put up over 1000 points, but she broke records that are still held to this day, cementing her name in WVU history. In a historic 1998 game against Providence, Lambert broke two records. One record she broke was the most 3-pointers made in a game, with 9. The second record she broke was the most points scored in a game, with 38 points. Both of these records are still standing at West Virginia University.

Hutson gave Lambert a lot of praise. "She was an overall joy to coach," he said. "She was unique because she was almost six feet tall as a guard, so she could rebound and shoot. It made her a dangerous player."

"[Lambert] was the best stationary 3-point shooter I ever coached, boys and girls," said Hutson.

Lambert's jersey is retired at Lincoln High School, being the only girls' basketball player at Lincoln with a retired jersey and one of just four players in all of Lincoln athletics. Few people have had such an incredible career as Christie Lambert.



**BUILDING  
AMAZING CITIES**

By **JIM HUNT**  
*author, speaker, consultant*

## Why me?

A common refrain from people going through challenging times is to ask the question, "Why me?" And it might be logical to inquire why a particular illness or stretch of bad luck has befallen us. After all, when we are down and out, it is always easy to look around and see others who are laughing and playing and seemingly without a care in the world. Why me, indeed!

I like to look at that question in another way. When I reflect on my life, I ask the question from a different perspective. Why am I living in such an amazing time? Why is my life so blessed and full of love? Why do I live in one of the most beautiful places in the world and why have I been so fortunate to be able to travel throughout the world and experience such wonderment? While I have had my share of challenges and defeats, I have never felt like I was living under a dark cloud or that somehow, the universe was picking me out to torment. One of my favorite authors, Dr. Wayne Dyer would say that on the day we are born, we are winners and each day we live, we are enjoying a blessing that is denied to many. When we have clean water to drink and food on our table, we are more fortunate than the vast majority of the world. And, for those who fear death, it is as much a part of life as our birth and we should celebrate this gift and enjoy the journey, no matter how long it is.

See "Hunt" on Pg 3.



On Jan. 11, 1893, U.S. Senator Harley Martin Kilgore was born in rural Harrison County. He graduated from Mannington High School in 1910.

When the Truman Committee examined World War II expenditures, Kilgore, a Democrat, headed up a number of the investigations, which led to exposure of fraud and incompetence, the West Virginia Encyclopedia reports. As chairman of a military subcommittee on war mobilization, Kilgore led an investigation of the scientific and organizational weaknesses in the war effort. This led to the establishment of the Office of War Mobilization. Kilgore



investigated international cartels and how foreign companies used their business relations, before, during, and after World War II to advance their cause to

the detriment of the U.S. national interest. Despite attempts to link him to communism, Kilgore was easily reelected in 1952, the first West Virginian elected to a third term in the U.S. Senate.

After the war, Kilgore supported Truman's Fair Deal and foreign policies, influenced the appointment of Clarksburg native Louis A. Johnson as secretary of defense, authored the liberalized Displaced Persons Act and Youth Corrections Act, and continued to examine the problem of monopolies.

For more of "This Week in WV History", turn to page 2.





OPINION

By Senate President Craig Blair, R-Berkeley

Freedom of the Press still matters to some of us

There's an old saying that goes, "with great freedom comes great responsibility." In my mind, one of the best examples of that phrase is the relationship between the government and the media.

You don't have to like what the media reports. I'll be honest - I often don't. However, there's a very clear difference between not liking what the media reports and actively working to silence them.

The actions last month by the Department of Health and Human Resources and the management of West Virginia Public Broadcasting went too far, and it appears our executive branch has gone from largely refusing to cooperate with the media to actively undermining it.

A government that serves its people must respect the critical role a free press plays in the process. With that critical role comes responsibility on behalf of the media to be accurate and to leave political bias at the door.

While I cannot say that every reporter I have interacted with has been able to do that - and some have been downright dishonest in their reporting - I can say with confidence that was not the case here. In this case, a reporter did her job, did it fairly, told the truth, and seemed to pay a hefty price.

West Virginia Public Broadcasting reporter Amelia Knisely wrote about my letter to Governor Jim Justice calling for an investigation into DHHR's policies and management of treatment for patients with disabilities in their care.

If those priorities sound a bit off to you, they are. West Virginia's most vulnerable citizens are suffering, and they need our help. After what I've seen as this story unfolds, I continue to have the strong belief that the help they desperately need cannot come from the DHHR in its current form.

Transparency and accountability are critical to democracy. Our citizens deserve to know how their government operates, and I am proud of the Senate for the tools we have in place to keep our citizens informed. We live stream and video archive every meeting.

We also communicate with the press, even when it makes us uncomfortable. Our staff fields numerous requests every week, sometimes taking hours to walk reporters through routine and complicated processes, explain bills, and help the media tell a fuller, more accurate story.

The job of the media isn't to make us comfortable. It's to make us accountable. In turn, it's not the job of the media to be opponents to everything we do, either. Respect is a two-way street, and we strive to be respectful above all things.

Senate President Craig Blair, R-Berkeley, represents the 15th Senatorial District, which includes part of Berkeley County, and Hampshire and Morgan counties.

WHAT IN THE WHAT?

- ACROSS 1 "Pet" annoyances 7 Dance click 13 Extreme right-wing doctrine 20 Polio vaccine developer 21 2008 presidential campaign coinage 22 Caine/Ustinov adventure film 23 SKILgIintLET 25 Scorn 26 Poem with six stanzas 27 PUsmackSS 29 Boob tubes 31 Born, to Luc 32 Arab ruler 33 COsimianRE 44 "Certainly" 45 Open with a click 46 "Star Trek" crew woman 47 43rd U.S. pres. 49 Prairie preyer 50 FORchildEST 57 Pursues prey 58 ISP with a butterfly logo 59 Be in the hole 60 Like wickerwork 61 Hobbit enemy 62 Actress Lupino 64 Tabriz native 68 Thin iPod 69 LAcobraWN 73 - California (Mexican peninsula) 76 The Jordan River flows into it 77 CPR expert 78 Pas' counterparts 81 Kafka or Liszt 83 Freezer cubes 84 "I'm freezing!" 86 Fully grown 88 TUbIazeMMY 93 Napoli's land 94 Retrovirus material 95 On - to nowhere 96 Member of a sorority 97 Kenan's sitcom mate 100 DEVspiritICE 105 - "to laugh!" 107 German cry of vexation 108 Column's counterpart 109 NlblastGHT 116 Caribbean island nation 122 Afternoon show 123 GRcreaseIT 125 One going in 126 "Hakuna -" ("The Lion King" song) 127 Vindicate 128 Little puzzles 129 Stage whispers 130 Neatens up 13 Went without food 14 Novelist Sholem 15 Oxford, e.g. 16 - latte (espresso variety) 17 Extreme disrepute 18 Doll who is Barbie's 96-Across 19 Bishops' headwear 24 Peaceful "Avatar" race 28 Outlaw Kelly 30 Gives the cold shoulder 33 Many, informally 34 "Time is -" side 35 "Girlfriend" boy band 36 Lace snarl 37 Has dinner at home 38 Less - stellar 39 Central area 40 Prior to, in poetry 41 - tai 42 Size above med. 43 "How icky!" 48 Helpful things 51 Nada 52 Little branch 53 One listening 54 Reproductive gametes 55 Wildcat's lair 56 Lead-in to cone or Caps 58 Reach a goal 63 Pappy 64 Elected group 65 U.S. Hwy., e.g. 66 "Caught you!" 67 "Rambo" setting, for short 69 More reasonable 70 Per person 71 Concept, in Cannes 72 Crackling radio noise 73 Very close pal, for short 74 Onassis or Fleischer 75 Jam holder 78 Prefix with task 79 Non-earthling 80 Gawk rudely 82 Pizazz 84 Unexciting 85 Winona of "Stranger Things" 87 Quick sprint 89 Casual refusal 90 "Anna and the King" actress - Ling 91 Suffix with southeast 92 Fate 93 "Caught you!" 97 Fate 98 Gas in fuel 99 Ray of "GoodFellas" 101 Westerns, in old slang 102 Univ., e.g. 103 Louise's film cohort 104 Over 50% 106 Hogs' homes 110 Concerning 111 - -do-well 112 "Buenos -" ("Good day," in Granada) 113 Prefix with tank 114 Enjoy a novel 115 Toy flown on a windy day 117 - Strauss 118 Exercised 119 Child's plea 120 "Bus Stop" playwright William 121 Fruit-flavored drinks 124 "One Mic" rapper

19x19 crossword grid with numbers 1-130 indicating starting points for words.

FIND THE SUPER CROSSWORD ANSWERS ON PAGE 7!

THIS WEEK IN West Virginia History

The following events happened on these dates in West Virginia history. To read more, go to e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia at www.wvencyclopedia.org.

Jan. 5, 1887: Governor Emanuel W. Wilson hosted a ball and banquet to formally open the new capitol in Charleston. The so-called Victorian capitol, the second one in Charleston, incorporated the 1870 capitol.

Jan. 6, 1828: Ward Hill Lamon was born in Jefferson County. Lamon was friend, law partner and unofficial bodyguard to President Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln sent Lamon to Richmond on business, and the president was assassinated while his bodyguard was away.

Jan. 6, 1931: An underground gas explosion killed eight men at the Glen Rogers coal mine in Wyoming County.

Jan. 6, 1948: Bob Wise was born in Washington D.C. He served in Congress and was the state's 33rd governor.

Jan. 7, 1955: The Cedar Lakes Conference Center officially opened, though it was not named until 1957. The name was chosen for its two lakes and an abundance of native cedar trees.

Jan. 8, 1866: William Gustavus Conley was born near Kingwood in Preston County. Conley was the 18th governor of West Virginia, serving from 1929 to 1933.

Jan. 8, 1919: The West Virginia Legislature ratified the U.S. Constitution's 18th Amendment by a Senate vote of 26-0 and a House vote of 81-3. West Virginia became the 21st state to ratify the prohibition amendment. National prohibition became effective under the Volstead Act on January

16, 1920.

Jan. 8, 1926: Comedian Soupy Sales was born Milton Supman. Raised in Huntington and graduating from Marshall College (now Marshall University), he achieved fame as a wacky television personality.

Jan. 9, 1911: Louise McNeill was born on the family farm in Pocahontas County. She was appointed poet laureate by Governor Jay Rockefeller in 1979, holding that title until her death in 1993.

Jan. 9, 2014: Hazardous chemicals were discovered leaking into the Elk River, contaminating the water supply for a nine-county region.

Jan. 10, 1925: Judge Elizabeth Virginia Hallanan was born in Charleston. She was West Virginia's

See "History" on Pg 3.

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## N&J Briefs

**FROM AROUND HARRISON COUNTY**  
The Shinnston News provides a calendar of events free of charge to churches and nonprofit organizations. Please submit your listing two weeks prior to the event. Send via email to [newsandjournal@yahoo.com](mailto:newsandjournal@yahoo.com)



### “History” From Pg 1.

first female federal court judge.

Jan. 10, 1928: Gov. Howard Gore appointed Minnie Buckingham Harper to fill the unexpired term of her husband, E. Howard Harper. She was the first African American woman to serve as a member of a state legislative body in the United States.

Jan. 10, 1940: The Pond Creek No. 1 mine at Bartley in McDowell County exploded. The blast killed 91 miners, with another 47 escaping. Rescue teams worked five days to retrieve the bodies, but found no additional miners alive.

Jan. 11, 1873: Dwight W. Morrow was born in Huntington. Morrow was a financier, diplomat and a U.S. senator, representing New Jersey. His daughter, Anne, was married to Charles Lindbergh.

Jan. 11, 1893: U.S. Senator Harley Martin Kilgore was born in rural Harrison County. Kilgore served as a U.S. senator from West Virginia from 1940 until his death in 1952.

e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia is a project of the West Virginia Humanities Council. For more information contact the West Virginia Humanities Council, 1310 Kanawha Blvd. E., Charleston, WV 25301; 304-346-8500; or visit e-WV at [www.wvencyclopedia.org](http://www.wvencyclopedia.org).

### “Hunt” From Pg 1.

Throughout my life, I have had some amazing experiences. I have seen sadness and bitterness in some of the most luxurious places in the world and I have also seen unparalleled joy and happiness in some of the poorest and desolate places on earth. I can remember a trip to South Africa and visiting the slums of Soweto. We met a group of children, who were part of a youth group and toured their modest school and were honored with a performance of native dances. When they finished, many in our group approached the group leader and asked if we could make a donation to assist the school. The director told us that they did

not accept donations but that we could purchase some t-shirts and crafts that the children had made. Proudly, the children opened the “store” and we bought an assortment of items.

One of the children asked if we wanted to visit her home and meet her parents. We walked on a muddy path to a row of tin shacks and entered a tiny area with a single lightbulb on the ceiling. The floor had some tattered rugs covering the dirt and you could see light peaking in from the breaks in the tin. I will never forget the smiles on the faces of this family. They were proud of their modest home and looked with hope to the future.

Likewise, I have been in some of the finest hotels in the world and have seen anger explode when a waitress forgot a pad of butter or a maid missed a smudge on the bathroom mirror.

I am reminded of the story of the wise man in the village who brought the people together to pray for rain, after a long drought. The following morning, he looked over the crowd and noted, “We all prayed for rain last night and I have heard much grumbling this morning but as I look around, only one little girl brought her umbrella!” Why us? Why not?

Have an Amazing New Year!

# Donation to YCF honors Billy Coffindaffer and others

Your Community Foundation of North Central West Virginia, Inc. (YCF) is pleased to announce the creation of a new fund as part of its \$1 Million Match Campaign to help build the IMPACT Fund for greater regional grantmaking.

The YCF Volunteer Leadership Fund has been established with a \$25,000 donation from a former YCF board member and his wife, who wish to remain anonymous, according to a news release. The fund honors all past, current, and future volunteer leaders of YCF and its two predecessor organizations, the Greater Morgantown Community Trust and the Community Foundation of North Central West Virginia, Inc.

The new fund gives special honor to Billy Coffindaffer, whom the donor describes as “an inspiration and mentor who exemplified what a volunteer leader should be.” Dr. Coffindaffer served as the first executive director of the Greater Morgantown

Community Trust from 2002 to 2005. In 2005, he transitioned to the board of directors and assisted with the merger which formed YCF in 2011. In 2015, he became the first emeritus member of the YCF board of directors.

Dr. Coffindaffer and his wife, Norma, also volunteered their time with many other community organizations including the Morgantown Area Chamber of Commerce, several Riverfront Development groups, Drummond Chapel United Methodist Church, Goodwill, Rotary, Kiwanis, the WVU Alumni Association and the Community Living Initiatives Corporation which helped create The Village at Heritage Point.

“It’s inspiring to see former board members continue to be involved, connected and passionate about the community,” said Martin Howe, YCF current board chair. “We thank the donors who established this fund, Dr. Coffindaffer for his service, and all the past and

current volunteer leaders who contribute time and talent to YCF’s success. This new fund creates a permanent way to recognize our volunteer leaders while supporting charitable needs in the community.”

The annual earnings from the YCF Volunteer Leadership Fund will be distributed by YCF for charitable needs in Harrison, Marion, Monongalia, Preston and Taylor counties. The fund is unrestricted, meaning YCF has flexibility when awarding distributions to provide for community needs as they evolve over time.

As part of YCF’s \$1 Million Match Campaign, the \$25,000 donation is being matched 100% by an anonymous donor to the YCF IMPACT Fund, an unrestricted grantmaking fund benefiting YCF’s five-county region in North Central West Virginia.

Individuals, businesses, and foundations are encouraged to support the \$1 Million Match Campaign. Learn more at [ycfww.org/match](http://ycfww.org/match) or by calling 304-296-3433.

# Oscar winner “Chicago” to screen at the Robinson Grand

The Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center is planning a prohibition era party when they screen the Oscar-winning film “Chicago” (2002) on Sunday, Jan. 22, at 4 p.m. in downtown Clarksburg at the historic Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center located at 444 W. Pike St. in Clarksburg.

This musical treat about murder, celebrity, adultery, flashy lawyers, stary-eyed chronics and all that jazz won best picture at the Academy Awards (and five other awards). Renee Zellweger and Catherine Zeta-Jones (best supporting actress) do their own singing and dancing, while Richard

Gere hoofs and croons as shady mouthpiece Billy Flynn. Chita Rivera, who starred in the original 1975 Broadway production, appears as a cameo as Nickie.

“In January we are going to party like it’s 1923,” said Jason A. Young, the Robinson Grand’s Program Manager. “When “Chicago” came out 20 years ago, it won an Academy Award and ignited a new generation of movie musicals.”

The Robinson Grand is planning some special features for the Sunday matinee. Guests are encouraged to dress in their best 1920s costumes. The foxiest couple will win two free tickets to “Anthony Nunziata: Love Songs from Broadway to

Italy” on Friday, Feb. 3. The Grand’s in-house bartender Sam will be preparing their specialty “Razzle Dazzle” for patrons to enjoy before the film.

“Lots of places show lots of films,” said Young. “But when someone comes to the Robinson Grand for a movie, we work to craft more of an experience for our awesome patrons.”

Tickets for “Chicago” are free to “Friends of the Robinson Grand” and \$7 to the general public. All tickets can be purchased online at [tickets.therobinsongrand.com](http://tickets.therobinsongrand.com) or by calling the Robinson Grand ticketing center at 855-773-6283.

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## OBITUARIES

### Roger Dale Sears



Roger Dale "Joe" Sears, 75, was born on Jan. 7, 1947, in Webster County, West Virginia. Joe was the son of the late Oma and Tony Rose. His residence at the time of death was Shinnston, West Virginia.

Joe is survived by his wife, Sharon Sears (70), of 52 years; his brother, Nick Sears (79); daughter, Melissa Benson (50) and her husband, Bill (53); daughter, Christy Sears (48) and her beloved dogs, Chipper, Elphie, and Louie; grandkids, Jessica (32), Austin (25), Wesley (19), and Emma (19); and great grandchild, River Dawn (5). Joe was preceded in death by his brother, Charlie.

Joe served his country in the Marine Corps from 1964 to 1968, serving in the Vietnam War during his time of service.

Joe worked for 33 years as a boss at Consol-Loveridge Coal Mines. His favorite pastimes included golfing and lending a helping hand at DeMarco's Meat Market making sausage. Joe was an active member at St. Ann's Catholic Church, serving as an usher for many years. He served his community delivering Meals on Wheels weekly to local residence in need.

A public viewing was held at Harmer Funeral Home on Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2022 from 2 to 8 p.m. A Christian Prayer Service was held at 7:30 p.m. the same day. A mass in his honor took place at 10:30 a.m. at St. Ann's Catholic Church on Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2022. Burial followed at the Shinnston Memorial Cemetery.

A service of Harmer Funeral Home, Shinnston.

### Ruby Jean Vincent



Ruby Jean Vincent, 90, of Pine Bluff Road and formerly of the Grassy Run Community, went to celebrate Christmas with her Lord and Savior on Sunday, Dec. 25, 2022. She was born Nov. 6, 1932, in Fairmont, the daughter of Samuel Earl and Mary Jo (Jenkins) Vincent.

She is survived by her brother-in-law Wellman Robey; sisters-in-law Sandra Vincent (Bob) and Anna Vincent (Kenneth), as well as many nieces and nephews, and great-nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers Kenneth and Bob Vincent; sisters Delores Livingston, Aleda Vincent, and Nola Robey, as well as a nephew, Charles Livingston.

Ruby was a homemaker and was a caretaker to her parents for many years. She enjoyed search-a-word books and spending time outside.

She was a Methodist by faith and a member of the First United Methodist Church of Shinnston.

Friends were received at Harmer Funeral Home on Friday, Dec. 30, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A funeral service immediately followed at 2 p.m. with Buzzy Holbert officiating. Interment followed at Vincent Cemetery.

A service of Harmer Funeral Home, Shinnston.

### Sandra Lee Gemondo



Sandra Lee Gemondo, 79, of Clarksburg, formerly of Shinnston, passed away peacefully on Dec. 26, 2022.

Sandy was born May 11, 1943, in Riverdale (Shinnston), WV. She attended Shinnston High School, graduating in 1961.

She is survived by her daughter, Tracey Woods and her favorite son-in-law Ron Woods; son, Jonathan Barr and her favorite daughter-in-law Erin Barr; three grandchildren: Cheyenne McHenry (Landon), Ben Woods (Jacy), and Tucker Avery Barr; two great-grandchildren: Millie Margaret Woods and Derek Chase Woods; brother, Jimmy Gemondo of Shinnston; sisters, Judy and Marchie Girod of Dayton, Maryland and Gwen Goff of Elliott City, Maryland; Aunt Mildred Gemondo of Lumberport; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Lelia Gemondo; sisters, Toni Meredith, Linda Gemondo, and Kathy Piccalo; brother-in-law, Richard Piccalo; and grandson Les Woods.

Sandy worked in food service at various places, most recently at T&L Hot Dogs in Shinnston. She enjoyed playing bingo, watching Westerns, detective shows, game shows, putting together puzzles, and most of all, spending time with her family.

Friends were received at Harmer Funeral Home on Thursday, Dec. 29, 2022, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A funeral service followed at 1 p.m. with Pastor Kelly Clevenger officiating. Interment followed at Shinnston Memorial Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Harrison County Humane Society at 2450 Saltwell Road, Shinnston, WV 26431.

A service of Harmer Funeral Home, Shinnston.

### Richard Lee "Spanky" Reitkovich



Richard Lee "Spanky" Reitkovich, 64, passed away peacefully at his home on Taylor School Road, on

Thursday, Dec. 22, 2022.

He was born July 9, 1958, in Clarksburg, WV, son of the late George and Marian Cutright Reitkovich.

Rick was united in marriage with his wife, Cathy Jo Loeffelbein, on June 26, 1980, and they shared 42 wonderful years together.

Rick was a graduate of Shinnston High School with the Class of 1976 and supported his family as a coal miner, retiring from Robinson Run Mine in August 2021, after 17 years of service.

Rick enjoyed spending his retirement with Cathy, riding their Harley, traveling, and spending time with his beloved grandchildren. One of his greatest loves in life was being Papu to his grandkids. Rick enjoyed being with his family and friends. He truly lived his life to the fullest and could make anyone laugh with his outgoing and ornery personality.

In addition to his wife, Rick is survived by three daughters: Lori Toothman, Janie Skinner (Derrick), and Stacy Ridenour (Kenneth); and five grandchildren: Lily, Allie and Kaylee Toothman and Matthias and Penny Skinner, as well as his sister, Susie Dayton (Jay).

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one brother, George Michael "Mike" Reitkovich and father-in-law, George Loeffelbein, Jr.

Friends and family called at Harmer Funeral Home, 300 Pike Street, Shinnston, WV 26431, on Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2022, from 4 to 8 p.m. A funeral service was held at the funeral home on Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2022, at 11 a.m., with Pastor David Meyer officiating.

Rick was interred in Enterprise Cemetery following the service.

A service of Harmer Funeral Home, Shinnston.

### Mary Guarascio Arco



Mary Guarascio Arco, of Charleston, formerly of Shinnston, died peacefully at Charleston Area Medical Center, General Division, on Dec. 17, 2022, at the age of 98 years. Mary was born on April 10, 1924, the daughter of the late Salvatore and Rose Guarascio.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her very young daughter, Agnes Rose; her loving husband, John; her sister, Chiara Marra, and her brother, Tony Guarascio.

She is survived by her beloved son, Samuel Anthony Arco and his wife, Christina Belcastro Arco of Charleston; one granddaughter, Andrea Nicole Arco-Mastromichalis and her husband Michael of St. Louis; one grandson, Lee John Arco and his wife Elizabeth of Charleston; three great grandchildren: Max Arco Mastromichalis, Mason Arco Mastromichalis, and Cecilia Gray Arco. She also leaves behind several nieces and nephews and great nieces and great nephews who were so important in her life.

Mary was born in Wyatt, WV but then resided in San Giovanni, Italy until she was twelve years old when her father arranged for her return with her mother and brother to America. She often recounted the story of the plans that her father had made including touring New York City before moving to Carolina, WV. She lived most of her life in Shinnston until moving to Charleston eight years ago.

Mary had a very vibrant personality and enjoyed spending time in the company of others. She was well known for her expertise in Italian cuisine, and she loved serving her specialty dishes and baked goods to everyone.

She had a wonderful sense of humor, and her grandchildren remember her telling her beloved husband: "Johnny, take a picture" because she wanted to capture all of the moments when her family was together. She was very proud of her Italian heritage, and she relished opportunities to tell stories of her past. She loved laughing and singing, and her joy in those moments was contagious.

Throughout her life, she endured situations that most of us can never imagine immigration to the United States, joining an English-speaking school without knowing the language, and losing her very young daughter. Yet, through it all, she maintained a strong determination to persevere.

She cared very deeply about her family; she was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. She was extremely proud of her family and of their accomplishments. She was always available for advice-giving: her short tidbits of

advice became affectionately known as "nunnyisms" (e.g., when you have a good day, take it!).

Mary was a devout Catholic and was a member of St. Ann Catholic Church in Shinnston for many years. She was a member of the St. Ann Altar Society and devoted much of her time cooking for and serving others within her church community.

Family will receive friends at St. Ann Catholic Church, 610 Pike St., Shinnston, on Friday, Dec. 30, 2022, from noon until the time of service, 1:30 p.m., with Father Chris Turner officiating. Interment followed at Shinnston Memorial Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to:

WV Health Right  
1520 Washington St.  
Charleston, WV 25311

where Mary's son, Sammy, has been a long-term board member and volunteer.

Dorsey Funeral Home is honored to be handling the arrangements for the Arco family.

### Crystal Ann Lewis-Butcher



Crystal Ann Lewis-Butcher, 50, of Shinnston, passed away Dec. 13, 2022. She was born Feb. 7, 1972, in Grafton, to the late Kenneth Lewis and Betty Shaw-Lewis,

She is survived by her husband, Michael Butcher, whom she married Oct. 11, 2022. Also surviving are her brothers, Ron Lewis (Sherri) of Clarksburg, John Lewis of Shinnston, Tom Lewis of NC; son, Aaron Michael Husted of Shinnston; stepchildren: Austin Butcher (Gabbey) of Shinnston, Alivia Butcher and companion Karl Webb of Clarksburg, Luiz Butcher and companion Johnna Deberry of Shinnston; special Aunt Freda who Crystal thought of as her second mother; uncle, Boyd Shaw; her partner in crime and beloved dog, Barney; grand dog, Scooby; and several nieces, nephews, aunts, and uncles.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Harmer Funeral Home on Saturday, Jan. 14, 2022, at 3 p.m.

A service of Harmer Funeral Home, Shinnston.

## Out of the Past

Memorable photographs from around Harrison County



Unknown man in the Ferguson & Holbert Contracting Company. Taken in an upstairs office of the current Powelson Eye Care building. Photo courtesy of Bobby Bice.

# BUSINESS MATTERS



Among a multitude of activities last year, Lincoln High School's DECA Club participated in Adopt A Highway. From left to right in the front row are Alexis Herndon, Farrah Gerard, Dez Hatchett, Rachel Miller, Trinity Eldridge, Liam Gallagher (floor), Sierra Menendez, and Brayden Owen. From left to right, in the back row are Dez Hatchett, Alexis Efaw, Kylee McCray, Corbin Ayers, Levi Vincent, Carlie Lanham, Rylee Trickett and Mrs. Julie Yearego (advisor).

## Lincoln business students 2022 look-back

Submitted by Julie Yearego, business education teacher and DECA advisor

Lincoln High School's DECA Club has been busy giving back the fall 2022 semester and has participated in the following community service projects: Adopt A Highway, Lincoln Trunk or Treat, One Night Without A Home, Operation Christmas Child, Teacher/Staff Appreciation Packets, Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign and Angel Luv.

DECA's goal is to prepare emerging leaders and entrepreneurs to be career and college ready. To learn more about the Career Technical Student Organization DECA, please visit [www.deca.org](http://www.deca.org).

In addition, Lincoln High School's Business Department is proud to report students' industry-recognized professional Microsoft Office certifications earned in the Fall 2022 semester:

Access 2019 Expert: Avery Cumberledge, Brooklyn Davisson, Aurora Dejonghe, Olivia Hayes, Abby Jones, Kasey Ketterman, and Cade Riley.

Excel 2019 Associate: AJ Bart, Cheyenne Batton, Ava Belcastro, Gracie Book, Avery Cumberledge, Brooklyn Davisson, Aurora Dejonghe, Liam Gallagher, Olivia Hayes, Christopher "CJ" Hayes,

Olivia Hoops, Kaylee Hyre, Abby Jones, Kasey Ketterman, Patrick Kovach, and Cade Riley.

Microsoft Office Specialist – Associate (Office 2019): AJ Bart, Cheyenne Batton, Ava Belcastro, Gracie Book, Avery Cumberledge, Brooklyn Davisson, Aurora Dejonghe, Brayden Faber, Liam Gallagher, Olivia Hayes, Christopher "CJ" Hayes, Kaylee Hyre, Abby Jones, Kasey Ketterman, Patrick Kovach, Madison Lanham, and Cade Riley.

Outlook 2019 Associate: Cheyenne Batton, Gracie Book, Avery Cumberledge, Aurora Dejonghe, Brayden Faber, Liam Gallagher, Alex Gandy, Olivia Hayes, Christopher "CJ" Hayes, Kaylee Hyre, Abby Jones, Patrick Kovach, Madison Lanham, Rachel Miller and Cade Riley.

PowerPoint 2019 Associate: AJ Bart, Cheyenne Batton, Ava Belcastro, Gracie Book,

David Burdette, Avery Cumberledge, Klayton Cummings, Brooklyn Davisson, Aurora Dejonghe, Bailee Dragoo, Alexis Efaw, Brayden Faber, Liam Gallagher, Olivia Hayes\*, Christopher "CJ" Hayes, Kaylee Hyre, Abby Jones, Gabriel Kellar, Kasey Ketterman, Kadee Kisamore, Patrick Kovach, Madison Lanham, Landon Riegel, Cade Riley, Molly Snider, and Olivia Swiger.

Word 2019 Associate: AJ Bart, Cheyenne Batton, Ava Belcastro, Gracie Book, David Burdette, Avery Cumberledge, Klayton Cummings, Brooklyn Davisson, Aurora Dejonghe, Alexis Efaw, Brayden Faber, Liam Gallagher, Olivia Hayes, Christopher "CJ" Hayes, Kaylee Hyre, Abby Jones, Gabriel Kellar, Kasey Ketterman, Kadee Kisamore, Patrick Kovach, Madison Lanham, and Cade Riley.

\* Indicates a perfect 1000/1000 score

## UScellular surprises Friends Feeding Friends with donation

The holidays are about connecting with friends and family, and UScellular is nourishing these connections by enabling communities to share a meal with the ones they love. In a surprise visit on Dec. 1, UScellular delivered a truckload full of holiday cheer to Friends Feeding Friends at the Harrison County Family Support Center at 665 Locust Avenue in Clarksburg, according to a news release. Friends Feeding Friends is a charity that feeds the homeless and families that are struggling to make ends meet.

UScellular donated food, hygiene products and everyday living items to stock pantry shelves at the charity to help with weekly

food distributions and dinners. UScellular also purchased office equipment, desks, chairs and couches to provide an updated working environment for the volunteers and created a new lounge area for charity visitors.

There to unpack the truck was another special surprise, WVU Athletes

Dante Stills (football) and Catherine Wassick (tennis) gathered and worked alongside UScellular leaders and associates to share in the magic of the day.

"Friends Feeding Friends does so much for our community, so we wanted to help them deliver the much-needed support they

provide throughout the Clarksburg area and beyond," said Hunter Sprinkles, area sales manager for UScellular. "Food has the power to connect people, and we believe every family deserves to come together, strengthen ties and make memories, especially at this time of year."



City officials thanked Wesley Benson for creating this temporary fix to the city's electronic sign while they look for a replacement. They also thanked the Lincoln Business Department for assisting with printing.



UScellular surprises Friends Feeding Friends with a \$5,000 donation of food and supplies. UScellular Leaders from left to right are Linda Bane, agent development manager and Hunter Sprinkles, area sales manager; WVU tennis player Catherine Wassick and WVU football player Dante Stills; and from UScellular Valerie Chunkala, agent distribution support specialist and Michelle Bennett, senior manager of local marketing. The group helped deliver and unload the truckload of items to the Harrison Family Support Center Dec. 1.

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## The Mountaineers turn a promising page



### The Bottom Line

By Bill Nestor  
Sports Editor

West Virginia University's men's basketball team put an end to the 2022 season portion of their schedule on New Year's Eve by opening up Big 12 conference play at Kansas State. The Wildcats were 11-1 and off to one of their best starts in recent history.

The Mountaineers clamped down on defense early which limited the hosts to three points in the first seven minutes of play. WVU went on to grab a double-digit halftime lead (32-21).

Momentum shifted out of the break and it was the Mountaineer offense that sputtered early on because the 'Eers mustered a mere five points in the first five minutes of the second half. Kansas State kept their foot on the gas and by the midway point of the second half, they had outscored WVU 31-12.

The effort was there for Bob Huggins and his squad after falling behind at the 12:49 mark of the second half and never seeing the lead again in regulation. This group battled all the way until the final buzzer when Kedrian Johnson chilled a three pointer to force overtime.

In extra play, the Wildcats wore down Huggins and company to garner the 82-76 win. WVU battled hard and fought 8,199 fans (roughly 75% capacity) along with a talented K-State team.

The Mountaineers had three players in double digits. Tre Mitchell recorded a double-double with 16 points and 13 rebounds (both were team highs). Emmitt Matthews, Jr. found his way back onto the hardwood after missing several games due to

injury. Mohamed Wague came up big off of the bench recording a double-double of his own with 10 points and 10 rebounds. The 6'10" hoopster from the Bronx also rejected a game-high three shots. Huggins had to be pleased with the inside efforts of Wague. However, if you are going to win in this conference on the road, another post presence is needed. Jimmy Bell Jr. is typically that guy for the Mountaineers. On this evening, Bell was limited to just 18 minutes with eight points and three rebounds.

The positives to take away from this setback are the quick start and the rising level of play from various players making this an even deeper and dangerous squad. Every year, teams must learn how to win on the road. Huggins did an excellent job of having his players ready to play. The proof in the pudding is the 11-point halftime lead.

The one thing that Huggins and his staff could not emulate in practice was the intense pressure that comes with life on the road in the Big 12. It is everything from the exhausting lengthy travel to the passionate fan bases that nearly every member possesses that make road victories so hard to come by. Throw in the comfort of waking up in your own bed and shooting at hoops that you have been shooting on since day one, and then you have a true home court advantage.

If you really want to impress the NCAA Selection Committee, start racking up conference road wins. This year's edition looks like it has what it takes to gain more than its fair share. K-State should consider themselves lucky that WVU came to town when they did and not later in the season because the outcome might have been different.

I want to wish you all a Happy New Year. It is a fresh start and an opportunity to make this year what you want it to be—do yourself a favor and don't squander this chance. That will do it for now. Until next week...take care and God Bless!

## Harrison County EMS



## Athletes of the Week

It's that time once again to acknowledge the efforts of Harrison County's student-athletes. Each week we review the performances of the athletes from the six schools (Bridgeport, Liberty, Lincoln, Notre Dame, Robert C. Byrd, and South Harrison) in our county.

The Shinnston News & Harrison County Journal's Athlete of the Week award is an avenue to promote the youth of our county while bringing attention to their athletic accomplishments.

The winners of this week's Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal Athletes of the Week award are South Harrison's Reagan Rudder and Notre Dame's Conner Sandreth.

Hawk basketball player Reagan Rudder helped her team to a win over Notre Dame this past Thursday. Against the Fighting Irish, Rudder netted a game-high 21 points, including five three-pointers. She also dished out a game-high six assists in the affair.

Fighting Irish hoopster Conner Sandreth had an impressive outing in a loss to Liberty last Thursday. Sandreth hit for a game-high 24 points, including three three-pointers. He turned in an impressive overall effort with four rebounds, four assists, a pair of steals, and a blocked shot.

Congratulations to South Harrison's Reagan Rudder and Notre Dame's Conner Sandreth for being named the Shinnston News and Harrison County Journal Athletes of the Week!

## Lincoln boys basketball preview

By Bill Nestor, Sports Editor

The Lincoln boys' basketball team heads into a new year with an inexperienced, yet talented, team. Cougar Head Coach Jordan Toth only has a couple players that saw action a year ago. Junior Brayden Edgell was a part-time starter and will be called upon to run the offense from his point guard position. Jayce Brooks will be the shooting guard. He had a taste of varsity time and will be this year's lone senior starter.

The remainder of the rotation is extremely talented but not experienced. The great news for fans of the Shinnston-based school is that Toth is very skilled at developing talent, and his ability to develop a team's identity based on its current talents is one of the reasons he is one of the top coaches in North Central West Virginia. Year after year, Toth's teams are consistently better late in the campaign because of his player and team development. This year's edition will grow as team chemistry is established.

A pair of juniors, David Burdette and Noah Sears, are multi-talented players that bring versatility to the starting lineup. Sophomore Aiden Rice is a post player that will patrol the paint for Lincoln.

Toth has the ability to go deep on his bench with six additional players that could see time.

A trio of seniors, Nick Kellar, Lance Hostutler, and Antwan Hilliard, join juniors, Riley Lanham, Maddox Perine, and Nate Swiger, as upperclassmen that are ready to contribute.

Kellar is a perimeter player, Lanham is a shooting guard, and Hilliard and Swiger can play inside or outside depending on the need. Hostutler and Perine provide post presence and allow the Cougars to go big when needed.

This team's strength is its athleticism, and it will be maximized on both sides of the court.

"We want to push the ball more this year to utilize our speed and quickness to get into the paint, making it hard on teams to guard us," Toth explained.

On the defensive end, Toth plans on turning up the heat, "We are going to use multiple presses, both full and half court, to get teams out of what they want to do," he said.

This group will start out the season with the mindset that it will grow and peak at the right time. "We want to improve game by game and week by week," Toth concluded.

If all of the pieces fall into place, this team could make March Madness really fun for its fans this year.

See "Boys Roster" on Pg 7.

## Christmas movie classics—what is your favorite?



### From The World of Parks & Recreation

By Doug Comer

Baseball with Cracker Jacks. Summer festivals with funnel cakes. The Italian Festival with frittis. See where I am going with this? They all seem to be the first thing that pops in our heads when we hear the first words. Well, at least that is what I think of for baseball, summer festivals, and the Italian Festival. During the holiday break, besides all the basic answers, when Christmas is mentioned, movies are my answer.

I am not going down into the rabbit hole and debate on whether "Die Hard" is a holiday movie or not, and I do not plan to give an opinion about it. It is good and yes there are some Christmas songs that are played during the movie...I'll stop there. However, I do enjoy the one-hour specials like Rudolph and Frosty, and I cannot imagine how long it took them to create the stop motion animation features. Watching those shows with the family and soaking in every minute of the films is a childhood memory of mine.

As I grew older, I was always a fan of "A Christmas Story." The character of Ralphie, played by Peter Billingsley, was so over the top, that it was a must see every year. Later in the years, TBS Network would air 24 hours of the movie, which I got to see more than one time and still laughed at all the good parts. It drove my parents crazy when this movie came on because one time was enough for them. In fact, HBO aired a new version of the movie where Ralphie is grown up with kids living in Chicago and goes home to visit. It has some

corny parts but worth it for those who are true fans of the original.

With Costa, his favorite movie so far is the "How the Grinch Stole Christmas." I do not know why he has a fondness for the movie, but that is the one he calls his own. I asked him what he likes most about it and his answer is how the town of Whoville still has the spirit of Christmas in them even though the Grinch takes all their presents. Wow! Coming from a 7-year-old who asked for everything in the Amazon Catalog, that was a great answer.

To Jeovanna, if it has the Hallmark logo in the bottom right-hand corner, then it is a great Christmas movie. No matter the plot, the scripts are always pretty consistent. A girl comes home to help the family out, sees an old friend from back in the day, they have a connection and later have an argument over a miscommunication. Then, all works out in the long run when they get together and have that final kiss before the credits run. They are all feel good classics, and she cannot wait until July for the mid-season run.

If I had to pick a classic, it would be "It's a Wonderful Life" with Jimmy Stewart. The movie reminds me of my childhood when I would watch it with my grandparents and enjoy the holidays as a kid. Besides "A Christmas Story," some of the recent movies we enjoyed this year were "8-Bit Christmas" with Neil Patrick Harris and "Feast of the Seven Fishes" which was filmed in Marion County about an Italian Family preparing the meal for Christmas Eve. Both movies are worth a watch and a feel good for a couple's night while the kids are in bed.

As we move into the New Year and we take all the decorations down for another 11 months, please remember this: you can always stream the holiday classics on your smart devices if you are missing some holiday cheer, and don't forget to make sure your checks are dated for 2023 moving forward!

## Lincoln girls basketball preview

By Bill Nestor, Sports Editor

The Lincoln girls' basketball program has flourished under the tutelage of veteran mentor Rob Hawkins. He has been coaching at his alma mater for nearly two and a half decades showing a rare type of commitment that explains why his teams have always been successful.

Last year's early exit from the postseason helped to motivate this year's returners. They put in extra work in the off season in hopes of getting back to making a deep playoff push this year.

"We have a fairly good tradition, and the girls were disappointed with our early exit," Hawkins

explained.

Most coaches would choose to bring their younger players along slowly and give them a chance to settle into varsity basketball. Hawkins has been forced to play several players earlier in their careers than he would have liked which created some growing pains that were culprits in last year's setbacks.

"We have matured and shown improvement from last year. Our juniors and seniors have had to play a lot of minutes the past couple of years, maybe before they were ready, but now it looks like it is paying off," Hawkins added.

This year's edition shows an eight-player rotation that is loaded with talented guards. Junior

Brooklyn Davison will run the show as the returning point guard. As a matter of fact, there are a few returners that will be major factors this year: junior Ashlyn Riley as shooting guard, senior Megan Tucker and junior Aliyah Elder as forwards, and sophomore

See "Girls" on Pg 7.

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## Boys Basketball Roster

#	Pos.	Name	Gr	Ht	Wt
0	G	David Burdette	11	5'9	170
1	F	Antwan Hilliard	12	5'11	145
2	G	Brayden Edgell	11	5'11	155
3	G	Noah Sears	11	6'2	157
4	F	Riley Lanham	11	6'	195
5	G	Nick Kellar	12	5'7	150
10	F	Jayce Brooks	12	6'1	165
11	F	Lance Hostuttler	12	6'1	185
12	G	Landon Swiger	10	5'11	145
14	G	Levi Belcastro	10	5'11	155
20	F	Maddox Perine	11	6'1	192
22	C	Aidan Rice	10	6'2	170
23	F	Jason Cawthon	12	6'1	190

#	Pos.	Name	Gr	Ht	Wt
24	F	Nathan Swiger	11	5'10	170
30	G	Wyatt Finch	10	6'1	165
32	F	Kaden Carder	10	6'	155
34	C	Klayton Cummings	10	6'4	160
42	C	Zachary Cottrill	10	6'3	260

### “Girls” From Pg 6.

Hope Blackwell as center. A pair of freshmen, Sadie Adams and Gracey Fortney, round out the rotation and will provide perimeter depth. Adams is a shooting guard, and Fortney will back up Davisson at the point guard spot.

A grueling Big Ten schedule coupled with several non-conference tests will provide a measuring stick throughout the regular season and should help prepare the Cougars for postseason play.

“We have a challenging season coming up, but it doesn't count until you get to sectionals. Hopefully, we can improve this year, and once we get to the postseason, give ourselves a chance

to advance,” Hawkins said. This year's edition is bound to improve based on the bond that is shared and the work ethic the players possess.

“The girls have great chemistry, and I am extremely happy with the way they have worked in practice,” Hawkins concluded.

Hawkins is happy that his players will continue to improve, and by the time the games really matter, they will be ready. It looks like there are great things ahead for this team, and time will tell just how far they will go when the second season begins.

## Girls Basketball Roster

#	Pos.	Name	Gr	Ht
2	G	Gracey Fortney	9	5'3
3	G	Sylvie Salerno	10	5'2
10	F	Aliyah Elder	11	5'8
11	G	Sadie Adams	9	5'4
14	G	Brooklyn Davisson	11	5'3
15	F	Megan Tucker	12	5'4
22	C	Hope Blackwell	10	5'7
23	G	Alexis Williams	11	5'4
24	G	Ashlyn Riley	11	5'7
25	C	Myah Riley	10	5'9
42	C	Phoenix Gauldin	9	6'



### Super Crossword

#### Answers

P	E	E	V	E	S	T	O	E	T	A	P	F	A	S	C	I	S	M	
D	R	S	A	L	K	N	O	B	A	M	A	A	S	H	A	N	T	I	
F	L	A	S	H	I	N	T	H	E	P	A	N	S	C	O	F	F	A	T
S	E	S	T	I	N	A	S	L	A	P	I	N	T	H	E	F	A	C	E
M	O	N	K	E	Y	I	N	T	H	E	M	I	D	D	L	E	Y	E	S
U	N	S	N	A	P	U	H	U	R	A	G	W	B						
C	O	Y	O	T	E	B	A	B	E	I	N	T	H	E	W	O	O	D	S
H	U	N	T	S	M	S	N	O	W	E	W	O	V	E	N				
O	R	C	I	D	A	I	R	A	N	I	A	N	N	A	N	O			
B	A	J	A	D	E	A	D	S	E	A	E	M	T	M	A	S			
F	R	A	N	Z	I	C	E	B	R	R	A	D	U	L	T				
F	I	R	E	I	N	T	H	E	B	E	L	L	I	I	T	A	L	I	A
K	E	L	G	H	O	S	T	I	N	T	H	E	M	A	C	H	I	N	E
I	T	I	S	A	C	H	R	O	W										
S	H	O	T	I	N	T	H	E	D	A	R	K	S	T	L	U	C	I	A
M	A	T	I	N	E	L	I	N	E	I	N	T	H	E	S	A	N	D	
E	N	T	E	R	E	R	M	A	T	A	T	A	A	V	E	N	G	E	
T	E	A	S	E	R	S	A	S	I	D	E	S	T	I	D	I	E	S	





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# DEADLINE 01/31/2023



## Acclaimed singer and songwriter coming to Clarksburg



"I'm in the business of making people feel good, making people happy, moving people in some way," said Anthony Nunziata, who will perform at the Robinson Grand on Feb. 3.

The Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center is excited to welcome Anthony Nunziata to downtown Clarksburg on Friday, Feb. 3, at the historic Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center located at 444 W. Pike St. in Clarksburg.

Tenor Anthony Nunziata is the Brooklyn-born, Nashville-based singer and songwriter who brings his soulful voice to classic jazz, pop standards, classical crossover, and his timeless original music, according to a news release.

"We are all on this life's journey in search of that feeling of being moved, to feel alive," said Nunziata. "If I can have a small part in moving someone in some way during my live concerts

or through my music, this is the greatest gift I can give."

Anthony has brought his fresh take on classic and contemporary songs as well as his movie-bound original tunes across the United States and around the world to performing arts centers, theaters, and private events, as well as intimate jazz clubs, and symphony concerts with orchestras such as the New York Pops, Detroit Symphony, Cleveland Pops, Colorado Symphony, Lancaster Symphony, Kravis Pops, Annapolis Symphony, Plymouth Symphony, Cape Cod Symphony, Toledo Symphony, Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Corning Pops Orchestra, South Florida Symphony, and more.

"Anthony seems to be the very best of the next generation of crooners," said Jason A. Young, the Robinson Grand's program manager. "From the same mold as Josh Groban and Michael Bubl , Anthony's charm oozes off the stage as he effortlessly flows between styles and genres."

Joining Nunziata on Friday, Feb. 3 for his show titled "Love Songs from Broadway to Italy" are talented local vocalists Marissa Bailey and Benjamin DeFazio and the crowd-pleasing show band AMICI.

Tickets start at \$25. All tickets can be purchased online at tickets.therobinsongrand.com or by calling the Robinson Grand ticketing center at 855-773-6283.

## Lincoln High names November Students of the Month



### Nicholas Frank Kellar

Nicholas Frank Kellar is the son of Christopher and Shannon Kellar of Shinnston, and the grandson of Darlene Singleton of Lumberport and the late Clyde Singleton, and the late Judy and Mike Kellar.

Throughout his four years at Lincoln, Nicholas has earned a spot on the perfect honor roll due to his exceptional grades. He is in the top 10 of his class and has qualified as a PROMISE scholar. Nicholas was inducted into the National Honor Society his junior year, has taken many college-level classes throughout high school, and is a two-time Top Scholar. Also noteworthy is the fact that Nicholas serves as the president of his entire student body this year.

Nicholas also excels athletically and has been quite an asset for many teams at Lincoln. A four-year member of the football team, Nicholas has earned All-County and Big 10 awards, as well as served as quarterback his senior year. Also a four-year member of the track team, Nicholas made his mark on that sport, as well. He was a state finalist in three events. He is currently in his fourth year of basketball where he and his team are paving the way for a very successful season, and plans to play baseball in the spring, as well.

Nicholas has been a member of the Student Council, Drug Free Club, and the Key Club, where he serves as senior board member. He has spent countless hours volunteering in his community. Some of these include

Angel Luv, Feed-a-Family, Big Elm Fall Fest, and Shinnston Little League.

Nicholas plans to attend the University of Notre Dame to study marketing.



### Anna Homba Hayhurst

Anna Homba Hayhurst is the daughter of Leslie and Shiho Hayhurst of Lumberport, and the granddaughter of James and Nancy Hayhurst of Fairmont, and Haruhiro Homba and Katsuko Homba of Tokyo.

Throughout her four years at Lincoln, Anna has earned a spot on the perfect honor roll due to her exceptional grades. She is ranked 3 in her class and has been the recipient of several Top Scholar awards. Anna was inducted into the National Honor Society her junior year, where she now serves as treasurer, and was also a member of Student Council. Also noteworthy is the fact that Anna is the top PSAT scorer and SAT scorer in the school.

Anna is a four-year member of the cross country team, where she served as captain, and a two-year member of the track and field team. She is also a section leader for alto saxophones in both the marching and concert bands. Anna impressively attends a Japanese school in Pittsburgh every Sunday, which has made her fluent in the Japanese language.

Anna has plans to study pharmacy or actuarial science at either West Virginia University or the University of Pittsburgh.

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