



# THE CITY OF *Clarksburg*

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## From the Mayor

Welcome to the City of Clarksburg newsletter! We are excited to have this dialogue with you and we anticipate fruitful discussions about the varying topics and issues facing our community. One of the top priorities for our Council is to strengthen the lines of communication between residents and Council. City matters affect our everyday lives, and this newsletter is part of the efforts of our Council to ensure that information is available to all community members.



We will strive to deliver timely information related to ongoing projects, community-based initiatives, open house events, current events and decision-making by the Council and staff. You can also find the City of Clarksburg on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Instagram. As well, we encourage community members to contact Council or staff with any and all inquiries, concerns or comments. We are here to assist you.



# SPRING IS COMING!

It's Official. French Creek Freddy made his prediction and Spring is coming early this year. I think we all are ready for it. If you are like most people, when you think about warmer weather, your thoughts drift to activities outside of the house.

## Robinson Grand Events

We are starting to see announcements about great opportunities to get us out of the house this year. Things are heating up at the Robinson Grand Performing Arts Center. March is going to be packed with diverse options. The Fleetwood Mac Experience on March 14, Turn to Stone: a Tribute to ELO March 15, Jay and the Americans on March 17 The Piano Men March 22, the Born & Bred Concert Series on March 23, and TAKE3 on Mar 28.

A recent announcement included a huge one; a well-loved band who has already sold out the Robinson Grand before. The Oak Ridge Boys will return one final time to Clarksburg for their "American Made: Farewell

Tour" coming on April 26th. Remaining tickets for this show as well as the many others are available on their website:

**[TheRobinsonGrand.com](http://TheRobinsonGrand.com)**

## Clarksburg City Parks

Outdoor entertainment options are being announced in Clarksburg. The Clarksburg Amphitheater announced their season opener, "America's Van Halen Experience: Jump" a FREE public concert coming on May 24th followed by Queen City Funk and Soul on Memorial Day weekend May 26th. They have also started making their summer series announcements. Keep up with those announcements on their Clarksburg Amphitheater Facebook page.

The Parks Department has also started hiring positions for the Splash Zone water park as well as Summer Maintenance workers. You can find out more about those offerings on their City Parks of Clarksburg Facebook page.



# From the Code Enforcement Department

## What is the Building Code?

Building codes serve as a crucial framework for ensuring the safety, integrity, and functionality of structures within a municipality. These codes, crafted by experts in the construction industry and endorsed by local authorities, carry legal weight once adopted. In regions like West Virginia, the State Building and Fire Codes outline these standards comprehensively.

The significance of adhering to building codes cannot be overstated. Firstly, they safeguard public health, safety, and welfare by mitigating potential hazards inherent in

construction. Additionally, adherence to codes reduces risks, subsequently lowering both construction and insurance costs for property owners. Moreover, by establishing a uniform standard of construction, these codes ensure consistency and quality across all structures, contributing to the overall well-being of the community.

Essentially, building codes benefit everyone who interacts with structures, from residents to business owners. They provide peace of mind, assuring occupants that their environment meets essential safety criteria, ultimately fostering a safer and more livable community.

**C**larksburg's Building Code is comprised of the following International Code Council (ICC) Codes: The International Building Code, The International Plumbing Code, The International Fuel Gas Code, The International Property Maintenance Code, The International Energy Conservation Code, The International Residential Code Standards for Accessibility and Usable Buildings and Facilities, The International Existing Building Code, and The NFPA 101 Life Safety Code.



## From City Parks of Clarksburg

Close to 400 patrons attended the inaugural USA Boxing event "Boxing in the Burg" making it a sellout crowd who attended. With over 18-bouts on the card for the February 24th event, fans were treated to over 4-hours of boxing here at the John Romano Youth Indoor Facility located at Clarksburg City Park.



A sellout crowd at City Parks' John Romano Youth Indoor Facility to watch a USA Boxing sanctioned event.

Steve Cross, an employee of the Parks Department, was the producer of the event and recruited boxing clubs and teams from the tri-state area to come and participate. Boxers from Ohio and Pittsburgh as well as Glenville and WVU team boxing participated in the event and all fights did not disappoint.

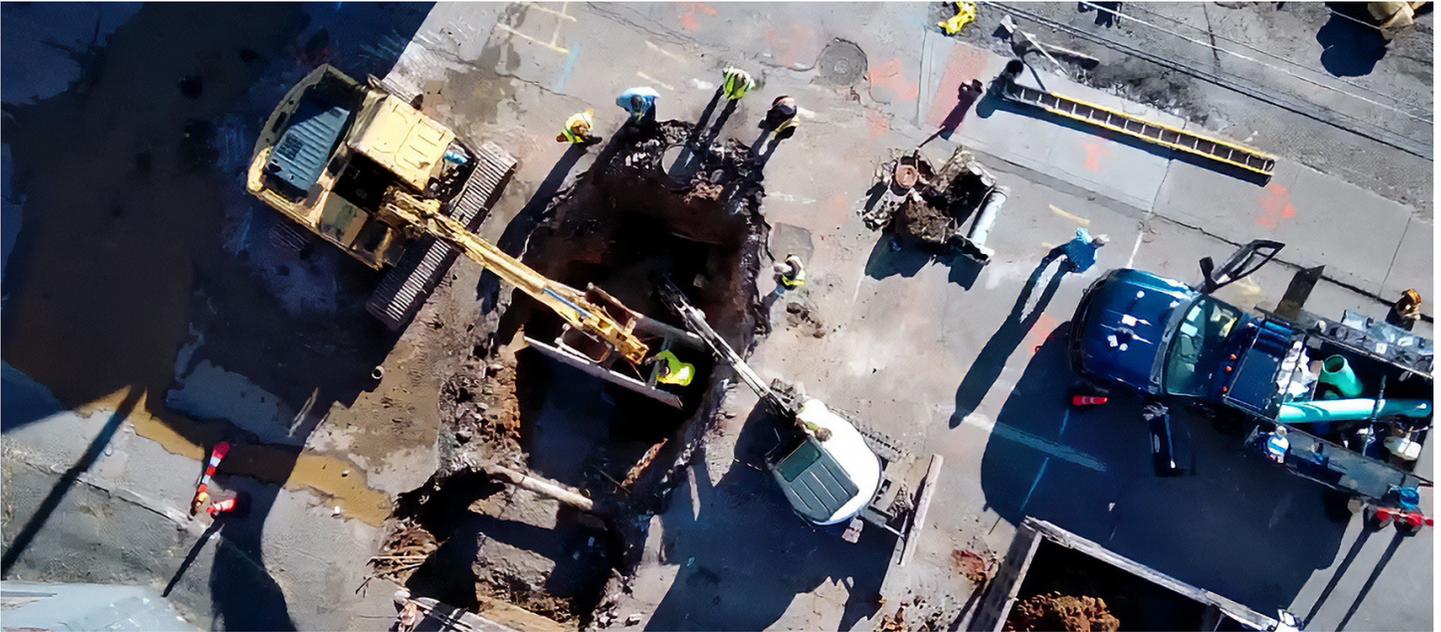
"This was a tremendous event for Clarksburg as USA Boxing brings the true sport of the

game to the area," said Parks Director Doug Comer. "To see the support from the community who helped with sponsoring, volunteering and all other tasks was great to see. Even though we pre-sold tickets a month prior to the event, we had demand at the door and that enabled us to sell more tickets at standing room only. Overall, this is a big win for the area."

Cross wanted to make sure that this event honored one of the greats to don the gloves in the area. Tommy Thomas, professional boxer as well as city police officer, has done so many good things for the kids in the community. Whether he was talking to kids in the park about safety and life lessons to giving tips to a young up-and-comer boxer, he took time to make sure that he made a difference.

Susan Thomas, Tommy Thomas' wife and current County Commission President here in Harrison County, stepped into the ring to thank all those who attended the event and to speak on how proud Tommy would have been if he were here to see this event happen. The legendary boxer passed away in November 2021. During a 9-year career, he was 34-8 and ranked as high as 6th in the heavyweight division.

With Park Board approval, Cross hopes to stage another exhibition in the near future.



# The Major Repair on W. Main St.

During a recent infrastructure inspection, Clarksburg's Public Works and Thrasher Engineering uncovered a large void beneath a section of W. Main Street, signaling the immediate need for repairs. This void resulted from a structural failure in aging terracotta piping, leading to a collapse that created a substantial void, measuring up to twelve feet deep and fourteen feet wide.

To minimize the inconvenience caused by road closures and detours, Public Works swiftly formulated a plan to excavate and repair the damage, collaborating with the West Virginia Department of Transportation to close the road and provide detours.

Public Works demonstrated a remarkable effort, repairing the drainpipes and backfilling the void with 85 tons of packed gravel and 20 cubic yards of concrete, working late into the night to ensure road resurfacing could be completed and the road reopened the following day. This incident emphasizes the urgent need

to continue identifying and promptly addressing aging infrastructure to prevent further potential hazards and safeguard lives and property.

## Clarksburg's Future Challenges

As we navigate the challenges of upgrading Clarksburg's century-old infrastructure, it is crucial to acknowledge that more inconveniences will inevitably arise from significant upcoming work along Pike and Main Streets and the Clarksburg Water Board's \$85 million lead line replacement and supply line upgrades.

We might blame the past for failing to deal with our current problems, but at some point, someone must suffer with the costs, inconveniences and criticisms required to proactively fix the problems. Federal funding, available through recent economic stimulus programs, is making it possible for us to take action, but progress will not be easy or convenient.

# Local Business Updates

## Lowe's Recognized by Council



The Clarksburg Lowe's opened in April 1987 and has been transitioned through three different locations along Emily Drive. The Clarksburg store employs approximately 150 people on average and offers approximately 75 full-time jobs.

Always continually striving to provide for the community, Lowe's proudly donates to area schools focusing on the importance of education and youth. Lowe's also works alongside United Way and the Red Cross to provide community assistance and local support.

Lowe's offers over 45,000 different types of merchandise ranging from lawn and garden supplies to designing and building your next dream home!

Thank you to Lowe's for being a part of our community and proudly serving our area businesses and residents.

## West End Wendy's Gets Some Fresh Updates

Fresh looks continue to come to Clarksburg's West End. McDonald's did a full remodel a year ago and this year, Wendy's has followed suit with a refresh of their location with a modern facade and an updated sign. It wasn't just outside changes, the refresh included an interior update as well.



Together with other local businesses, like the recent addition of O'Reilly's Auto Parts in the former West End Kroger location, the West End of Clarksburg continues to see positive modern changes that help make the city a better place to visit and live.

## New Indoor Playground Coming to Eastpointe

A new massive indoor playground is opening in Clarksburg at Eastpointe, hopefully in March! It will be located at the former Hometown Marketplace location near Tractor Supply. You can follow them on their Facebook page for more info: **Ella's Playtown**





# City Board Vacancies

If you would like to be more active in your city, one excellent way to do that is to contribute your time as a member of a city board or commission. Currently, the following boards are looking for new members:

## Urban Renewal Authority

Five commissioners appointed by the City Manager with the advice and consent of the City Council serve a five year term.

**Meetings:** 2nd Thursday of each month at 8:15 AM

**Requirements:** There are no special requirements to serve as a commissioner, any interested Clarksburg citizen is welcome to apply.

**Application deadline: March 29, 2024**

## Code Appeals Board

Five members approved by City Council serve a five year term.

**Meetings:** As needed when quorum is available.

**Requirements:** Per Section 113.3 of the BOCA National Building Code/2012, the board of appeals shall consist of members who are qualified by experience and training to pass on matters pertaining to building construction and are not employees of the city.

**Application deadline: Open deadline until all positions are filled.**

## Municipal Building Commission

Five members approved by City Council serve a five year term.

**Meetings:** As needed when quorum is available.

**Requirements:** There are no special requirements to participate on this board. Any interested Clarksburg citizen is welcome to apply.

**Application deadline: Open deadline until all positions are filled.**

## Parking Authority

Five members appointed by City Council serve a three year term

**Meetings:** As needed when quorum is available.

**Requirements:** There are no special requirements to participate on this board. Any interested Clarksburg citizen is welcome to apply.

**Application deadline: Open deadline until all positions are filled.**

*Some boards may require specific qualifications. For more information check out the links to the boards and commissions above or contact the City Clerk 304-624-1673 [awright@cityofclarksburgwv.com](mailto:awright@cityofclarksburgwv.com)*



# From the Clarksburg Police

## BEWARE OF PHONE SCAMS

In today's digital age, scammers have become remarkably adept at impersonating legitimate entities, such as businesses or government authorities, with the aim of deceiving individuals into divulging personal information or making unauthorized payments. It is imperative to exercise caution when engaging with unsolicited phone calls, as these can often be attempts at fraudulent activity. Here are key steps to safeguard yourself:

- 1. Guard Your Information:** Refrain from disclosing sensitive details or initiating financial transactions over the phone unless you can verify the caller's authenticity beyond doubt.
- 2. Stay Alert to Red Flags:** Be wary of unexpected calls pressuring you into immediate action or offering deals that seem too good to be true. These are common tactics employed by scammers to exploit unsuspecting individuals.
- 3. Verify Caller Identity:** If you have any doubts about the legitimacy of a caller, independently verify their identity through official channels. Do not rely solely on the information provided during the call.

Below are descriptions of two prevalent phone scams:

**Grandparent Scams:** In this scheme, scammers impersonate a family member, often posing as a distressed grandchild or someone claiming to represent them, such as a lawyer or law enforcement officer. They fabricate urgent financial needs and request the victim to wire money for bail, medical expenses, or other fictitious emergencies.

**Government Impersonation Scams:** Scammers pretend to be government officials from agencies like the Social Security Administration, IRS, or FBI, threatening victims with arrest or legal action unless immediate payment is made. They often coerce individuals into purchasing gift cards and providing the card details as payment to avoid purported consequences.

By familiarizing yourself with these common scams and adopting vigilant practices, you can better protect yourself and your loved ones from falling victim to fraudulent schemes perpetrated over the phone.

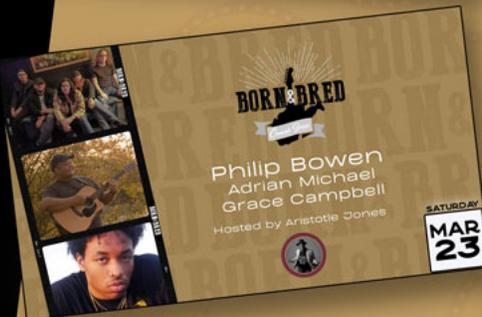
***If you think you are being scammed, feel free to contact Clarksburg Police on their non-emergency number: 304-626-4900 and they will be happy to help address your concerns.***

# It's Happening in Clarksburg

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE ROBINSON GRAND?



MARCH 2024



TICKETS:  
[THEROBINSONGRAND.COM](http://therobinsongrand.com)  
 (855) 773-6263

## First Fridays Downtown Clarksburg

First Fridays is a monthly all-weather event that takes place on the first Friday of each month. It's a community event aimed at promoting local businesses, arts, and culture in the downtown area.

During First Fridays, participating shops, galleries, and restaurants often stay open later than usual, and there may be special promotions, discounts, or events happening at various locations. This can include live music performances, art exhibitions, food tastings, and more.

The event typically aims to create a lively and vibrant atmosphere in the downtown area, encouraging residents and visitors alike to explore what Clarksburg has to offer and to support local businesses and artists. It's often a great opportunity for people to socialize, enjoy some entertainment, and experience the unique character of the community.

