



GRC wins back-to-back games in televised showcase. **Page 1B**

TUESDAY, FEB. 10, 2026 | VOL. 148 ISSUE 10

WWW.WINCHESTERSUN.COM

# The Winchester Sun

Serving Winchester and Clark County for over 140 years

## Community supports Hospice East despite winter weather

By John Chaney  
Freelance writer for the Winchester Sun

WINCHESTER — Despite a fresh layer of snow from the night before, a steady stream of supporters filled the Winchester Elks Lodge #2816 on Saturday, February 7, 2026, for its monthly charity breakfast fundraiser benefiting Hospice East.

From 7 a.m. to 11 a.m., the lodge at 255 Shoppers Dr. served up an all-you-can-eat buffet for \$12 per person, featuring scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy, potatoes, pancakes with syrup, and beverages including coffee, milk, or juice. The event was open to the public, and early arrivals were already lined up before the doors officially opened.

Christina Johnson, Breakfast Chairman and trustee at the Winchester Elks Lodge #2816, was pleased with the turnout. “We had people lined up at the door about 6:45 this morning to get in,” she said. “The weather didn’t impact attendance at all.”

The Elks Lodge hosts various buffet breakfasts on the first Saturday of each month from September through March, with all proceeds going to a selected local charity. A committee chooses the beneficiaries each year based on the lodge’s mission to support veterans, children, and community needs.

“Hospice does so much good for grieving families and it’s a great organization to give back to,” Johnson said of this month’s recipient. Hospice East provides physical, social, psychological, and spiritual care to individuals with incurable illnesses and their families in Clark and Powell counties. The organization was also supported last year and remains a priority for the group.

Approximately 15 volunteers



JOHN CHANEY

A community member serves himself a hearty portion of pancakes and breakfast favorites at the buffet during the Winchester Elks Lodge’s charity breakfast fundraiser for Hospice East on Saturday, February 7, 2026.

helped prepare and serve the meal, working toward the lodge’s typical goal of raising about \$3,500 per event. Final totals were still being tallied at the close of the morning.

Johnson emphasized the events’ role in building community connections. “It brings the community together for the good of an organization,” she said. “It’s always good to see everyone come out and support an organization and just bond together over that. We just want to give back to give to other people.”

A lifelong Winchester resi-

dent and 30-year healthcare veteran, Johnson finds personal meaning in supporting Hospice East. “I am big on community. I’ve grown up in Winchester, so I love giving back to the community,” she explained. “Hospice, I’ve also worked in health care for 30 years, so it’s something near and dear to my heart. It’s taking care of patients and their families, so I think it’s a great opportunity to give back.”

Recent breakfasts have benefited the Veterans Council,

See **COMMUNITY**, 2A



WINCHESTER SUN FILE PHOTO

At City Hall, a discussion centered around Fifth Street took place during the most recent City Commissioners meeting.

## Fifth Street culvert talk, zoning ordinance change highlight commission meeting

Winchester City  
Commission Wrap-Up

The City of Winchester is exploring proposed changes to a culvert adjacent to Fifth Street aimed at improving water quality and reducing flooding in the area.

John Pike, water resources project manager at Palmer Engineering, presented information about the proposed improvements during a public hearing held as part of the Winchester Board of Commissioners 4:30 p.m. meeting

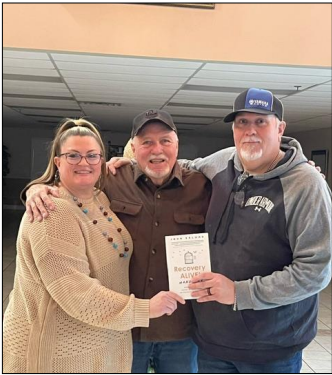
See **FIFTH**, 2A

## Faith-based recovery program grows at local church

By John Chaney  
Freelance writer for the Winchester Sun

WINCHESTER — Every Wednesday at Ark of Mercy Church of God on Winn Avenue, the Recovery Alive program provides a faith-centered space for healing from addiction, emotional pain, abuse, and other hurts. Led by Matthew and Emily Gibson through Appalachian Anointing Oil Ministries, the gatherings include a shared meal, testimonies, and Bible-based support.

Founded by John Eklund in the Carolinas, Recovery Alive adapts traditional 12-step-recovery with biblical roots. “This is very much a faith-based, 12-step program,” Emily Gibson said. “He took everything that he knew from



JOHN CHANEY

Pictured (left to right): Emily Gibson, Rev. Don Claypoole, and Matthew Gibson pose together at a recent Recovery Alive gathering, holding a copy of founder John Eklund’s book Recovery Alive.

all the 12 steps... and he wrote this based out of the Bible.”

The program addresses a wide range of issues. “It’s centered around anything that

See **FAITH**, 2A

### INDEX

|             |    |        |    |
|-------------|----|--------|----|
| Classifieds | 5A | Sports | 1B |
| Crossword   | 3A | Sudoku | 3B |
| Deaths      | 3A |        |    |



62° | 33°  
Showers

### OBITS

HAIRL "PEAN" HARRIS, 93

Winchester, Kentucky  
\$1 Newsstand



Choose Care.  
Choose Community.

CHOOSE **WELL**

Clark Regional  
MEDICAL CENTER

See what makes us the right choice for you at  
**ClarkRegional.org**