



Lady Cards win 40th District Crown.
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HEALTH

Centerpoint Health-Winchester recognizes American Heart Month

Numerous endeavors raise cardiac health awareness

By **MATT CIZEK**
Winchester Sun

It's a good plan to raise cardiovascular awareness year-round. However, as many are aware, February is particularly recognized as American Heart Month. In Clark County, Centerpoint Health-Winchester has taken steps to recognize this throughout the month. A post on the company's Facebook page at 11:00 a.m. on February 2nd was the first indication.

"February is American Heart Month, and we're kicking off Kentucky Hearts Matter in collaboration with the @UK Gill Heart & Vascular Institute Affiliate Network," it stated. "This month, we'll share tips, recipes, and inspiring stories to help keep Kentucky hearts strong. From practical steps for healthy living to heart-smart versions of your favorite recipes,



Numerous students entered the 4th Annual Community heART Show at Centerpoint Health-Winchester.

and even spotlighting our Heart Heroes, this month is all about YOU and your heart health. Follow along each week and join the conversation! Start now by sharing

your heart-healthy habits and tag someone who inspires you to live well."

Among other actions, staff throughout the hospital decided on

Thursday, February 5th, to wear red, as the day was National Wear Red Day to support American

See **CENTERPOINT**, 2A

EDUCATION

Strode Station students make big impact

Outreach efforts lead to collections for those struggling

By **MATT CIZEK**
Winchester Sun

Youngsters might be tempted to think they have to wait until they become adults to make a positive impact.

For a trio of Strode Station Elementary School students, age was only a number.

Efforts by third graders Carter Proffitt, Liam Mullins, and Kyran Dorsey Norton of Strode Station Elementary School ultimately led to a large collection of items that has been donated to Winchester's Kingdom Mission Outreach ministry, where it will be given to help others who feel forgotten or are going through a

See **STRODE**, 2A

Winchester Housing Authority holds February meeting

Meeting focuses on reset, excellence, and prioritizing tenant safety

By **John Chaney**
Freelance writer for the Winchester Sun

WINCHESTER — The Housing Authority of Winchester Board of Commissioners met Monday, Feb. 23, 2026, at 4 p.m., where Interim Executive Director Dr. Robert Hayes outlined an ambitious "reset" aimed at improving operations, financial stewardship, unit turnovers, and resident safety across the agency's properties. Chairman Michael Smith

called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. After roll call and approval of the Oct. 27, 2025, minutes, Hayes delivered his report, describing the agency as in "crisis mode" due to accumulated maintenance backlogs, cold-weather challenges, and the need to elevate performance under HUD's NSPIRE inspection standards.

Hayes highlighted recent winter-weather response efforts—salting, sanding, and tractor work—and thanked residents for their patience. Looking ahead, he said the agency is prioritizing "scorable" and life-threatening items such as windows, water leaks, pest control, dryer vents (a leading fire risk), and exposed wiring.



MATT CIZEK / THE WINCHESTER SUN

February's meeting of the Winchester Housing Authority took place at 200 Canewood Drive.

"Our big thing... is the focus on safety issues as defined by HUD and NSPIRE," Hayes stated.

Financial reporting drew caution. Vicki Case presented November and December figures, but January reports were delayed due to software

provider issues and staff illness. Hayes expressed discomfort with detailed approval amid questions about utility coding, capital funds, and subsidies. The board voted to acknowledge receipt pending further review rather than approve outright.

See **WINCHESTER**, 3A

"I'm not comfortable with the financials at this point to give great detail," Hayes said.

Resolution No. 623 updated authorized bank signers—including Hayes—to strengthen checks and balances in response to prior audit recommendations. The board also approved extending Hayes's interim role on a month-to-month basis at \$8,000 and granted him full access to financial records.

Occupancy hovered around 96%, but Hayes flagged significant turnover delays—585 days at one property, 319 at another—stressing teamwork to reach "ground zero" and reduce

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