



# ROCKWOOD SENIORS

## VOL. 2024





# Meet the Seniors



Tyler Ansell  
Auto Body/Collision



Jake Barkman  
Film Director



Savana Bittner  
Film/Animation



Dylan Coho  
Machine Technology



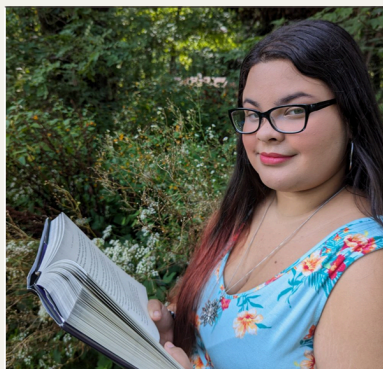
Kyle Cramer  
Carpentry



Kylie Cramer  
Air Force



Dustin Dran  
Nurse Anesthetist



Lily Edwards  
Veterinary Technician



Journey Escontrias  
Korean Interpreter





# Meet the Seniors



Andrew Farkosh  
Manufacturing



Miranda Fieg  
Nursing



Chloe Gary  
Cosmetology



Olivia Goulding  
Speech Pathology



Elizabeth Haer  
Physical Therapist



Makayla Hay  
Elementary Education



Michael Hay  
Welding



Anna Hinzy  
Medical Imaging



Christian Hoover  
HVAC





# Meet the Seniors



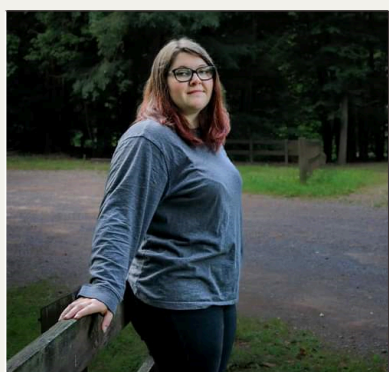
Cole Hostetter  
Marines



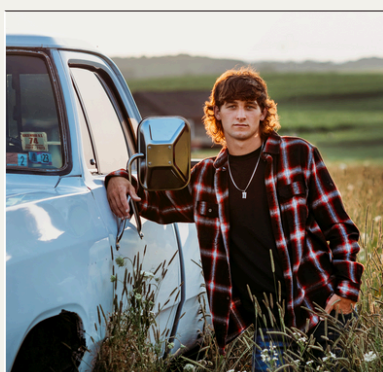
Makenna Hoyman  
Law Enforcement



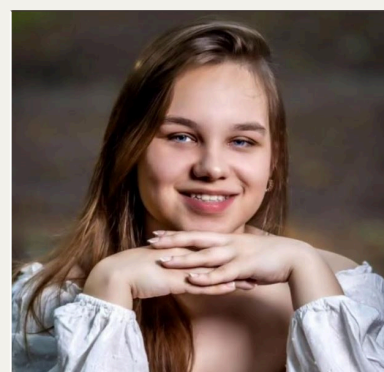
Emily Hutchison  
Agriculture Teacher



Sara Judy  
Event Planner



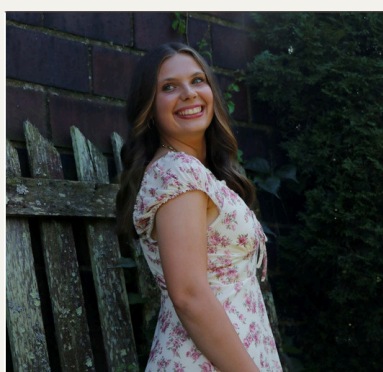
Cody Kimmel  
Early Childhood Ed.



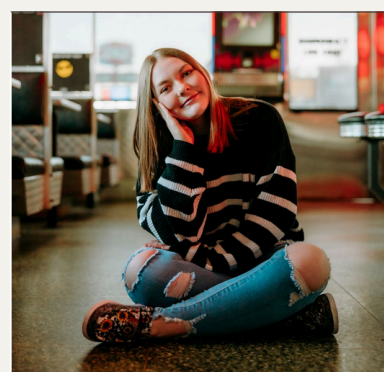
Jocelyn Kreger  
Arts & Graphic Design



Rachel Lambert  
Accounting



Alexa Lintz  
Doctor of Psychology



Sarah May  
Chef





# Meet the Seniors



Brayden Miller  
Machine Technology



Gavin Miller  
Machine Technology



Giada Missiroli  
Police Officer



Logan Mitchell  
Carpentry



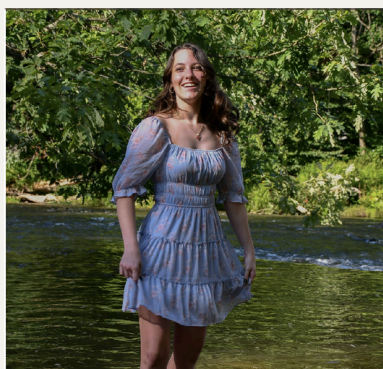
Brayden Nealon  
Automotive Technician



Walter O'Neill  
Masonry



Brayden Peck  
State Police



Hannah Peck  
Psychiatry



Makayla Peck  
Nursing





# Meet the Seniors



Abby Phillipi  
Radiology Technician



Emma Pletcher  
Nursing



Mariam Poghosyan  
Political Science



Rachael Polak  
Barber



Jordan Pyle  
Medical Stenography



Madelyn Raley  
Interior Design



Aidan Ream  
Chiropractor



Elwood Ream  
Video Game Design



Ian Reilly  
Attorney





# Meet the Seniors



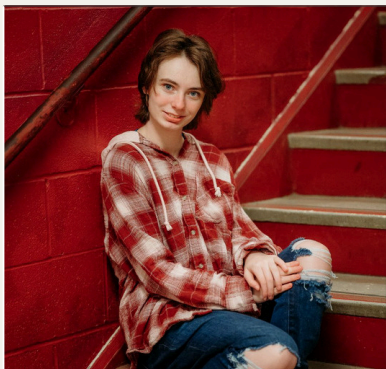
Benjamin Romesburg  
Cook



Aliyah Ross  
Travel Nurse



Harlie Sanner  
Computer Programming



Reylyne Savage  
Mortuary Science



Travis Saylor  
Agriculture Mechanic



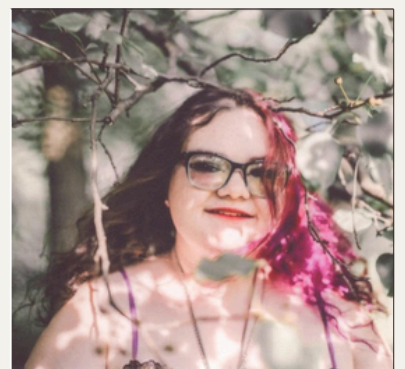
Christian Schrock  
Carpentry



Tyler Shearer  
Train Conductor (CSX)



Harleigh Shipley  
Canine Game Warden



Shelby Shipley  
Mortuary Science





# Meet the Seniors



Aaron Show  
Data & Computer Science



Brooke Snyder  
Realtor



Violet Strait  
Investigator



Chloe Streczywik  
Air Force



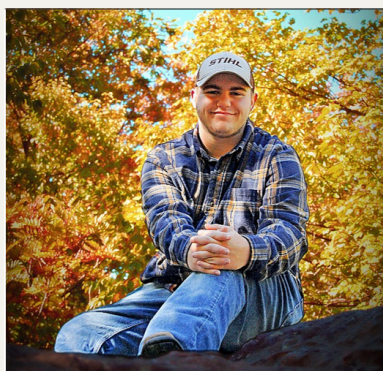
Robert Struckoff  
Welding



Joshua Wagner  
Actuary Science



Jonathan Walden  
Truck Stop Attendant



Connor Weimer  
Auto Body/Collision



Riley Weimer  
Automotive Technician





# Meet the Seniors



Evan Wentz  
Trauma Nurse



Mollie Wheatley  
Veterinarian



Hunter Whipkey  
Financial Anaylist



Roger Wilson  
Forensic Psychologist



Tristan Wright  
Telecommunications



# Class of

# 2024



# PROM

*Let the Light In*



This year's Prom "Let the Light In" was held on Saturday, April 27th at the Heritage Barn in Rockwood and was presented by the Class of 2025. Grand March began at 5pm, followed by dinner catered by The Chuckwagon and music provided by After Hours Entertainment. At the end of the evening, the Prom Court was recognized.

The Prom Queen court included Rachael Polak, Alexa Lintz, Giada Missioli, and Mollie Wheatley. Prom King Court included Jake Barkman, Aidan Ream, Aaron Show, and Jonathan Walden.

Prom King and Queen:  
Jonathan Walden and  
Rachael Polak





# ROCKWOOD SPORTS

## VARSIITY SOFTBALL

By: Addie Barkman

The school year coming to an end also means that spring sports are wrapping up. The weather conditions this spring have not worked in favor of the girls, but they have managed to record some games in the book. With a record of 3-5, things are going steady for the Lady Rockets.



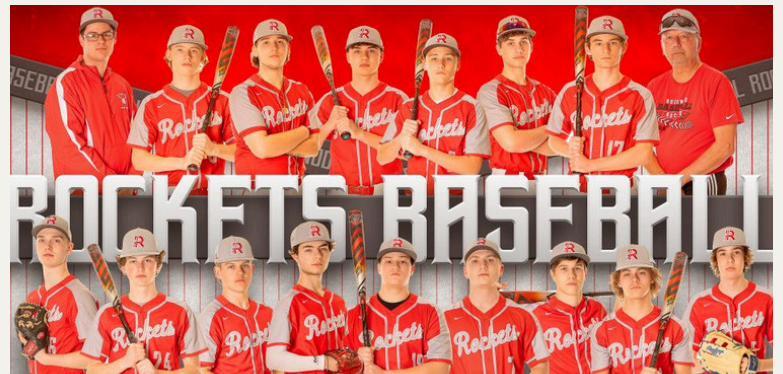
The team, collectively, boasts some incredible stats with a .354 batting average, 54 runs, 57 hits, and 33 RBIs. The girls have a packed schedule ahead of them with the season coming to a close in just a few short weeks. At this point, their goal is to get prepared for playoffs and make the most out of what is left. Don't forget to come support your Rockwood Lady Rockets!

## VARSIITY BASEBALL

By: Aaron Show

As the Spring sports season is wrapping up, the baseball team is hoping to finish out the season strong. The team currently has three wins against Moshannon Valley, Ferndale, and Blacklick. The team unfortunately has five losses as well. The team as a whole has a batting average of .324 and a total of 57 hits. The team has two home runs courtesy of Max Trimpey and Aaron Show. The pitchers have an average ERA of 7.55.

This year in the ICC the team's main opponents are North Star, Berlin, and Meyersdale because these are the teams that are in a sub-conference with the Rockets. The team still has twelve regular season games left to play which they hope to win to earn a solid spot in both the district and conference playoffs.



## ROCKWOOD/MEYERSDALE TRACK

By: Hannah Nedrow-Galway

The Rockwood/Meyersdale Track and Field co-op is in full swing. Rockwood has two seniors on the team this year: Alexa Lintz and Dustin Dran. The Boys team has a record of 7 wins and 0 losses and the Girls' division is at 2 wins and 5 losses. Coach Tom Miller says, "The Rockwood athletes have been an awesome addition to our team. They are a great group with a strong work ethic and good character. It has been a real pleasure getting to know them this year!"



# Rockwood Events

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## Courthouse and County Jail Field Trip

On April 4th and April 11th of 2024, the senior class took a trip with Mr. Wagner to the Somerset County courthouse and jail. On April 4th, students who attended SCTC were taken on the field trip, while other students attended the trip on the 11th. The senior class left the school during 1st period where they took a bus to the county jail.

By: Jake Barkman

Upon arrival, the county jail looked very plain and casual, much like an office building, however, when we entered the first room, we were met with multiple doors that had to be unlocked by the guards from the security room, as well as a metal detector. Soon everyone was crammed into a small security room with two guards who explained their daily duties and how their security monitors worked



Our last tour would take place in the old county jail. The building has been out of use for decades now, however, it's still incredibly well maintained by the workers there. The building is primarily used for storage and tours now, however, in its prime, it received constant use. The jail was complete with multiple sections of main jail cells and blocks, along with a "sweat box" and a solitary confinement cell. It was interesting to see all of the different carvings on the doors and walls made by inmates, as well as the old levers that the jailers would use to manually open all the doors in a hallway at once.

## Vietnam Presentation

By: Mariam Poghosyan



On April 26th, Mr. Formica invited Mr. Miller, a Vietnam Veteran, to speak and share his experience with the class. In the days prior, students wrote questions that they were interested in asking him. Students went to the auditorium during fourth period where Mr. Miller was waiting for them. He talked about his experience and how things were at that time. Mr. Miller also showed some pictures he had from the time he was in Vietnam. He prepared answers for the questions students asked and described everything in great detail. He spoke about his childhood and what led him to join the war as a volunteer, he talked about his motivation and things he was distracting himself from during that difficult period, and he talked about the period after he returned from war. Mr. Miller also gave advice to students who might want to join the Armed Forces.



# Rockwood Events

## HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTIONS

By: Natalie Gary and Joshua Wagner

The annual honor society induction ceremony took place on April 17th, 2024, at 6:30 in the High School Auditorium. Eligible students were inducted into National Honor Society (NHS), Spanish Honor Society (SHS), and French Honor Society (FHS). The students inducted into NHS were the following: Amelia Beener, Kaitlyn Lishia, Tyler Stahl, Nick Strait, Addison Barto, Taylor Demchak, Faith Foy, Seth Kimmel, Autumn Mowry, Kasie Sanner, Nathan Show, Fredricka Sutton, Annah Tylka, and Avri Wareham. NHS members must be selected by teachers upon enrollment, maintain a 3.5 cumulative GPA, complete ten hours of community service each year, and attend the majority of meetings.

Requirements for French and Spanish Honor Society are as follows: must maintain an A average in Spanish or French, have at least a 3.0 GPA, and complete 5 hours of community service every school year. Students inducted into Spanish Honor Society were Lily Edwards, Brooke Snyder, Faith Foy, Nathan Show, Annah Tylka, and Avri Wareham. The inducted French students were Autumn Mowry, McKenzie Bowers, and Maxwell Kemp. French and Spanish Honor Society participate in numerous community service projects to help students meet their requirements.





# Senior Events

By: Emily Hutchison

The end of the year for Rockwood Junior/Senior High School is rapidly approaching, and there are numerous events that the seniors of the school district will be able to partake in. The seniors will indulge in activities that will create lasting memories for their last year at Rockwood such as Senior Class Trip, Senior Picnic, and Graduation.

The Senior Breakfast took place on April 25th, where the seniors could talk and mingle amongst their peers, over a delicious breakfast prepared by Betsy and the wonderful cafeteria staff.



## CLASS OF 2024 EVENTS

Senior Trip - May 24th-27th  
Award Ceremony - May 30th  
Senior Picnic - May 30th  
Graduation - May 31st

*We wish the class of 2024 the best of luck in their future endeavors!*





# ROCKWOOD FFA

By: Emma Pletcher

*Every year, FFA goes to a Public Speaking competition as part of their Career Development Events. This year's competition was held on April 4th in Berlin.*

*Emily Hutchison got 3rd place in the county for extemporaneous speaking and attended the regional public speaking on April 23rd at Enon Valley.*

*FFA also goes to Spring Skills competition every year. Joey Sechler got 2nd place in Dairy Judging, Amelia Beener got 2nd place in Aquatics, and Emily Hutchison got 3rd place in Interview.*



## ENVIROTHON

*The Envirothon was held on April 30th at Laurel Hill State Park. Students competed in the following five categories: Soil and Land Use, Aquatic Ecology, Forestry, Wildlife, and Environmental Issues.*

*Schools within the area make teams to compete against one another. Rockwood Team 1 consisted of Riley Weimer, Connor Weimer, Mollie Wheatley, Aiden Ream, and Tessa Smith. Team 2 contained Audrey Marko, Lily Edwards, Shelby Shipley, Glenn Millin, and Jonathan May.*

*Team 2 placed 2nd in the competition.*



## TROUT DAY

*FFA also participated in Trout Day, which was held on May 1st. Wagner Hatchery provided us with trout to release. The Salisbury Rod and Gun Club allowed us to fish throughout the day, with the help of Don Anderson, the director. Food was also made and provided by the members of the club.*





# ROCKWOOD FBLA



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State Leadership Conference

By: Chloe Weaver

On Sunday, April 7th, the FBLA chapter reported to the school at seven in the morning to depart for the State Leadership Conference in Hershey, PA. The first day was all about having fun at Hershey Park, and Monday consisted of testing and performance sessions. This year two groups decided to do a performance event. The first group was composed of Elika Pletcher and Devin McCauley. Their topic was making a sales pitch to a panel of judges. The other group was composed of Alexa Lintz and Chloe Weaver. Their topic was to create a video broadcast highlighting different activities held at Rockwood. On Tuesday, the top fifteen from every performance event category competed for a chance to go to the National Leadership Conference (NLC). Paul Sembower competed in digital video production and placed in the top fifteen. Brooke Snyder competed in hospitality and event management and placed tenth in the state. Rockwood's FBLA chapter also added members to the National Business Honors Society. These members include Adeline Barkman, Chloe Weaver, Alexa Lintz, and Brooke Snyder.

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FBLA Business Day

By: Julianne Barto

On April 5, 2024, Rockwood's FBLA chapter was invited to attend Business Day at Saint Francis University. At Business Day, Rockwood had two teams that competed in three different competitions all of which had to do with business and leadership. The three categories for teams were Business Ethics, Marketing in a Minute, and International trade and finance. The Rockwood teams competed against a variety of teams from several different schools. After teams completed all three events, their scores were tallied to see which teams would advance into the Championship trivia.

Rockwood Team 1 consisted of Hunter Berkey, Chloe Weaver, Alexa Lintz, Addison Barto, and Jaden Gross. Rockwood Team 2 members were Autumn Mowry, Kalyne Ohler, Sydney Beals, Julianne Barto, and Taylor Demchak. Rockwood Team 2 advanced into trivia tied for number 1. They persevered through trivia, but did not advance into the finals. Business Day was a great success and gave many new opportunities to the Rockwood Chapter of FBLA!





# ROCKWOOD'S MUSIC PROGRAM

By: Tyler Stahl

## *Chorus Concert*

The chorus concert, held on May 7th, included students from 5th through 12th grade. The junior high performed songs that included “Seize the Day” from Newsies, “Aya Ngena,” and “Didn’t My Lord Deliver Daniel,” a combined piece with the 5th and 6th grade chorus members. The senior high concert choir’s portion of the concert included

The senior chorus members are Lily Edwards, Anna Hinzy, Rachel Lambert, Alexa Lintz, Makayla Peck, Jordan Pyle, Journey Escontrias, Olivia Goulding, Elizabeth Haer, Emily Hutchison, Jocelyn Kreger, Hannah Peck, Abby Phillippi, Emma Pletcher, Aliyah Ross, and Chloe Streczywilk.

## *Band Concert*

The spring band concert was held on April 25 and included band members in 5th through 12th grade. The junior high band performed “Whiplash,” “Attack of the Garden Gnomes,” and “Fortress of Stone.”

The senior high portion of the concert consisted of five pieces, including an arrangement from “Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix” and “Schindler’s List,” an arrangement from the film, which featured Devin McCauley and Chloe Streczywilk as solists.

This concert was the last performance for graduating seniors Jocelyn Kreger, Chloe Streczywilk, and Josh Wagner.







# Maple Festival 2024

By: Brooke Snyder

Meyersdale celebrated its 150th year this spring, along with the 77th annual Maple Festival. This year, the Maple Festival was held on April 20th & 21st, and April 24th to-28th. Various events took place throughout the town, including a truck and car show, the Maple Race Run/Walk, the quilt show, and the parade. People from all over Somerset County and beyond visited Meyersdale to celebrate the short maple season and recognize the hard work of the local producers. Fun fact: Pennsylvania is fifth in the United States for maple syrup production, and Somerset County produces the most throughout the state! Although the days may have been cold, the festival ended strong with a warm, sunny day and the smell of maple!



*Maple Queen Pageant Contestants*



# Science Feature

## Scientists Have Finally Discovered How Pluto Got Its Heart

By: Shelby Shipley

Since Pluto's heart was discovered in 2015, scientists have studied the baffling mystery of how Pluto got its giant heart-shaped design. A team of international astrophysicists has finally found the answer through a countless number of tests. The team was led by the University of Bern and members of the National Center of Competence in Research (the NCCR Planets) They began using numerical sequences to study the composition and origin of Sputnik Planitia or the western teardrop shape of Pluto's heart.

The heart, also known as the Tombaugh Regio, is covered in a high-albedo material that allows the heart to reflect more light creating its whitish color. According to Dr. Harry Ballantyne, "The bright appearance of Sputnik Planitia is due to it being predominantly filled with white nitrogen ice that moves and connects to constantly smooth out the surface."

Scientists throughout their studies determined that Pluto had a collision with another planetary body (roughly the size of Switzerland). They found that this oblique collision (slanting collision Pluto was not hit head-on) is what caused the formation of the heart. Due to Pluto's core being so cold instead of the rocks and debris melting upon impact, they froze forming the heart.



# Poetry Corner

## Green Ocean

By: Delaney Gould

There is a warm breeze  
Sifting through the trees  
Allotting sunlight to pour through the cracks  
Amidst the throes of the canopy  
As the trees sway rhythmically  
To the ebb and flow of the earth  
Creating an ocean of green

Where the fish sing the songs of dawn and dusk  
Welcoming and dismissing the sun  
Where the coral sprawls towards the heavens  
Spreading their branches far and wide  
Where there are mermaids with legs  
That run and play for all of their days

Where the waters are never as they seem  
As mountains preternaturally grow  
And reach to scrape the heavenly firmament  
Where the ocean floor is marred and striped  
With yellow and white lines on black bands  
That works to bind the tides

A great paradoxical place  
From one part to the next  
Always the same and yet always changing  
Always frozen in time, yet never still  
Always apart and yet always together