

DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



ANGEL TREES

The Conemaugh Township National Honor Society will undertake the Salvation Army Angel Tree Tags project. This is a task that involves obtaining a tag with a person's gender, age, wants, and needs, and submitting it, so it can be taken to the people who filled out the tag with their request. This is a great way to give back to those around you who may be less fortunate in this Christmas season.

"The NHS Salvation Army Angel Tree Tags project is an event that we participate in every year! As an organization, we believe this is a great way to reach out to people who have been struggling to give them a Christmas that we all know and love. We also think it is a great way to reach out to different parts of the community that many don't recognize. We love to help others and give out a helping hand to someone in need." -Vice President, Madee Roman.

CHRISTMAS DANCE

This year's Conemaugh Township Christmas Dance will take place on Saturday, December 6th, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. The theme is Classical Christmas and will be held in the Holiday Inn in Downtown Johnstown. Students in 10-12 grades have the chance to buy tickets for this fun night during their lunches from November 17th through the 25th.

"Why not go? Let off some stress from school and just dance. There will be plenty of refreshments, good music, and new memories. Come out to Johnstown and have fun!"
-Sophomore Class President, Izzy Bihun

"The Christmas dance is an exciting experience. Being able to dress up and be with my friends is such a privilege."
-Addison Lasure, Junior Class Treasurer



Clubs

SANTA'S STUDENT HELPERS

On December 19th, student council members will be hosting a teacher breakfast. The food will include donuts, muffins, scones, and coffee. This is a time for the teachers to relax before Christmas break along with allowing our students to show our appreciation for everything our teachers do for us.

"We do a special holiday breakfast on the last day before Christmas break for our teachers and staff every year to show our appreciation for them and all they do for us daily. We truly wouldn't be anywhere without them and we want to thank them in a special way. All student council members write a handwritten Christmas card to every teacher and staff member to show how much they are appreciated."

-Gracie McCall



WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS

Conemaugh Township Rotary President, Jaeden Holsopple, and Vice President, Maya Denault, will be catching a ride on Santa's Sleigh down to the radio station mid-December. Maya and Jaeden will then read some of the Christmas wishes people have sent in. For example, one of the wishes could be, "My sister's heater is broken, and this winter has already been so cold for her and her kids." Then the Rotary will give them some money to grant their Christmas wishes. The Rotary will be granting a wish every day for 12 days.

"It is such a nice experience to get to go down to the radio station and help people fulfill their Christmas wishes."

-Maya Denault

SPANISH CLUB BRINGS THE SPIRIT

The Spanish Club is excited to return to the elementary school for its Christmas festivities. Their last trip for Dia de los Muertos involved playing music, participating in crafts, and watching informational videos. There were about 20 members who participated from grades 10-12. The members are ready to teach the students about all of the festivities around a Spanish Christmas!

The Spanish Club will also be selling candy-cane grams during lunches for students to buy. This is a way to send your friends a small message and a sweet treat. They will be available to all students a few weeks before Christmas and will be delivered closer to the holiday.



Clubs

SADD BRINGS SANTA TO THE ELEMENTARY



The SADD club will be taking on the Santa Shop at the elementary school this year on December 2nd and 3rd. Santa shop is a way for kids to buy presents for their family and friends during the school day for a small price. This includes ornaments, soaps, toys, and keychains, along with many more small gifts. This will be the 4th year of our SADD club helping in this fun experience.

"Being able to help kids get gifts for their loved ones is very special. It truly opens your eyes to all the joy we have and the selfless things we do around the holidays. Teaching kids to care for others and learn the true reason for Christmas is very special and rewarding. Seeing their smiling faces is a very heartwarming scene."

-Danika Black, Junior member

MATH IS COUNTING DOWN THE DAYS TO CHRISTMAS

The Conemaugh Township MathCounts will hold its school competition on December 15 from 3-5 pm in Mr. Rising's classroom. The top 14 students advance to the Johnstown Chapter Competition at UPJ, where the top four will compete as a team the same day. This event will be held on February 21 from 8:30 am to 2 pm, against schools from Cambria, Fulton, Bedford, and Indiana counties.

The top four individuals and the top team will have the chance to perform at states in March.

"We have had several students qualify for states in the past, and we are equally hopeful this year."-Mr. Rising



ART CLUB IS PAINTING AWAY

Members of the Conemaugh Township Art Club showcased their artistic talents to the community by transforming a building in Hooversville with a mural. This building was owned by an organization that benefits from helping children with disabilities join the workforce by setting up simulations of the situations they would encounter in the workplace. They painted a mural on the side of a shipping container of a kid in a wheelchair painting puzzle pieces. They were thrilled to have this opportunity to contribute to such a great cause.

"I really hope that this business will be successful because I know it is beneficial to our society, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to have painted the mural."-Ellie Luscher.



Around CT

PUBLIC SPEAKING

IS HO HO HOSTING INTERVIEWS



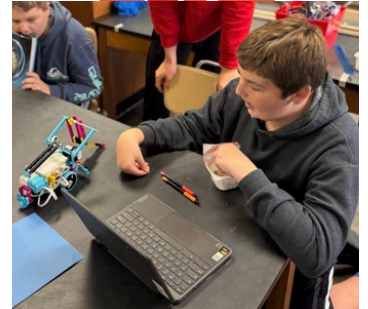
Mrs. Feathers's 6th period public speaking class has been learning skills to use during an interview. This is Mrs. Feathers's 5th semester bringing in professionals from our community to help educate our students. The mock interviews help our students learn how to more confidently interact with a business professional when attending a high pressure job interview.

"It helped build my courage and give me a chance to see a real life example of what to expect in the future."

-Willow Mallet

MERRY BOLTS AND BRIGHT MINDS

Mr. Rising has his class following the Carnegie Mellon coding for computational thinking through the first and second quarters. For the first six weeks of the course, students built the Taco Bot, using a kit to accomplish this. Recently, his students have been making new projects and obstacle courses on their own, using the skills taught to them at the beginning of the semester. This class brings together the love of math and programming in the best of ways.



SAWDUST AND SNOWFLAKES

The students in woodshop are making wooden reindeer to decorate their homes for the holidays. They take about three to four days to make and are super cute when they're done. These reindeer can be given as gifts to family and friends to kick off the Christmas season. They're a great decorative piece that presents Christmas spirit and brightens up the holidays.



VOLLEYBALL MARATHON RESULTS

Conemaugh Township SADD club held the tenth annual volleyball marathon last month, fundraising for Ethan Matera, a Conemaugh Township senior who is battling T-cell lymphoblastic lymphoma back in May. The SADD club is proud to announce that they raised \$8,600 to give to the Mathera family! Some of the highlights of the event included 12 staff members and 9 students who participated in the Save It or Shave It, a huge basket raffle ran by our local Girl Scout troop, a Duck Toss and 50/50 winning that went back to the Matheras, and another thrilling day of volleyball matches all for a fantastic cause. This is a thrilling event each year highlighted by the knowledge that our students, faculty, and staff who are all working together to make life better for one of our own!

Sports

TARGETS AND TINSEL



"I am truly so excited for the season ahead of us. Our team this year consists of eight returning members and 10 new members. The new members are already so excited and are putting in the work to be an important member of our rifle team. The other captains and I are also all prepared to help our newer and younger members beat out our competition so we can have a great season!"

-Maya Denault

HOOPS AND HOLLY

"This year, we are coming back with most of our starting roster from the previous year, putting us in a great place to start the season off. Although we have such a great team already, we are still going to be putting in the work during practices and making sure our new members are ready to bring home some titles."

-Carson Brotz

"I am really excited for this season and this group of girls I get to play with this year! The team is looking really promising this year, and we're hoping to do even better than we did last year!"

-Katrina McCann



DECK THE MATS



"I think it's going to go pretty well. The first match is probably going to be tough, but I think overall we're gonna do well as a whole team, and I'm excited to see what's going to come."

-Gavin Davis

"A couple of good seniors are gone, but there are still lots of good players. We're gonna put a lot of hard work in, and as long as we're doing our best, I think it's going to go great."

-Julian Thorne

Music

JINGLE JAMS AND MERRY MELODIES

The jazz band will be bringing the Christmas spirit to retirement homes in Westmont, Jerome, and finishing off at LaurelView. After that, they are venturing to the Galleria Mall to play some festive tunes.

"It is really nice to be able to bring the Christmas spirit with our instruments, along with being able to bring back memories to residents in the retirement homes that had a musical past."

-Christopher Yoder



CELEBRATION OF SOUND: SENIOR HIGH WINTER CONCERT

The senior high chorus and band members have started practicing their Christmas music back in September, and are ready to present it to the community on December 16th. The choir will start the night with "The Message of the Holly," "The First Noel / Pachelbel's Canon," "A Winter Warning," "Mary Did You Know?," and "A One Horse Open Sleigh." After a short intermission, the band will follow up with some winter jams: "Sleigh Ride," "Ferdinand," "Home Alone," and "Peregrin."

The concert will be held on December 16th at 7 pm, with free entrance and a night full of Christmas fun.



SLEIGH BELLS AND SYMPHONIES: JUNIOR HIGH WINTER CONCERT

The middle school choir and band will be performing their annual winter concert on December 9th at 7 pm. They will be singing "Minka" (Russian folk song), "Angels Among Us," "December Nights," "Like It's Christmas," and "A Marshmallow World." After that, the 6th-grade band will take the stage and play "Good King Wenceslas," "Song of the Fjord," "Jolly Old St. Nicholas," and "Jingle Bells."

Then, the 7th and 8th grade band will be presenting "Alpine Adventure," "Jingle Bell Rock," "Fireside Christmas," "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," and "Angel Mix." A combined 6th through 8th-grade band will be performing "Christmas Cheer."



OUR BRIGHT LIGHTS

Middle School Students of the Month



"Roman Volocko is always ready to lend a hand and loves to volunteer. He's got a fantastic attitude and is so polite."

"Zoe Thomas is kind, intellectual, and thoughtful. She's super sweet, hard working, and is always willing to lend a helping hand."



"Gemma Studer is immensely helpful and respectful. She puts others first and is a great friend to her peers."

Senior High Students of the Month



"Noah Nagy is a very hard worker with a polite and sweet attitude. He always gives his best and treats everyone with kindness."

"Lyla Mauzy is one of the most thoughtful and considerate students. She is always exceptionally respectful and her work is always of the highest caliber."



"Anna Hunsberger exemplifies consideration and hard work. She is trusted by peers and is a great leader."

"Madee Roman helps to make CT a better place. She is the first to volunteer to help. She's a fantastic friend and student."



THE BEST PRESENT: Mr. Mainhart

Whenever school climate is discussed, certain teachers are often brought up as being “pillars” for those institutions. Mr. Frederick Mainhart is one such essential component to our CT family. For the past 20 years, Mr. Mainhart has been a dedicated and influential member of the Conemaugh Township community, serving as a Civics 9, Government, and Economics Teacher. Born in Johnstown, he spent much of his childhood going to school within CT, forming a deep connection to the district that would later become his professional home. A proud graduate of Conemaugh Township’s Class of 1994, Mr. Mainhart continued his education by earning a Bachelor’s degree in Marketing and Education, later gaining valuable teaching experience in Wicomico County Schools in Maryland before returning to CT. He officially joined the Conemaugh Township staff in 2006, bringing passion, experience, and a strong commitment to his students.

Mr. Mainhart is not only a dedicated educator but also a devoted family man. He and his spouse have two children — Declan (20), Keelan (12), and a Beagle dog named Gus. Family remains an important part of his life, and he balances the demands of teaching with the joys of fatherhood and home life. Whether in the classroom or at home, he leads with reliability, patience, and genuine care for the people around him. Mr. Mainhart’s genuine and goodhearted nature has gifted him with the ability to command a classroom with innate skill.

Outside of school, Mr. Mainhart enjoys hunting, fishing, and coaching, hobbies that reflect his love for the outdoors and community involvement. Mr. Mainhart currently coaches boys varsity soccer and has been showing us some very successful seasons for the past few years, leading them to a District title in 2023. He also coaches the varsity boys basketball team alongside Mr. Byer and Mr. Lesko, leading them to multiple Westpac and District titles. He is the unofficial muse and most featured individual on the *Contownian Network* Friday productions. His dedication, authenticity, and positive influence continue to make a meaningful impact on both his students and his colleagues. Mr. Mainhart is what truly makes CT home to so many of us.

“I thoroughly enjoy my time at CT and working with our wonderful students and staff.”

-Mr. Mainhart

“Mr. Mainhart is an outstanding teacher; I can think of no one more who deserves this honor. He has a special talent of combining excellent teaching ability with his sarcastic humor. Classes with Mr. Mainhart are a unique experience which always end with a laugh and new knowledge. He is one of the biggest reasons I wanted to become an educator. His commitment to coaching the sport he loves and guiding the youth are inspiring for a young teacher like myself. I am happy to see him be bestowed this honor.”

-Trent Troxell



“Coach Mainhart is a great man. He is a great role model due to his ability to calm down every situation when things get tough. He knows how to make each individual he comes in contact with feel special due to his attention to detail and the care he shows when communicating with them. He is such a funny character, being able to make anybody laugh. He helps you grow not just in school, but as an individual as well.”

-Rocco Hagan

“Mr. Mainhart is one of the kindest and most caring people I know. He also has the best sense of humor. When he comes into the room, there are always smiles filling the room. He cares so deeply about his students and is always pushing us to do our best. THANK YOU!”

-Vayda Korenoski



“Mr. Mainhart has a deep and genuine love for Conemaugh Township and its students. This can not be more evident than in his willingness to make learning fun for his classes but for also volunteering for many roles with student organizations. His humor and light-heartedness bring a relaxed and fun attitude to the hallways of CT. During my time teaching and coaching with Mr. Mainhart, a majority of the most comical and funniest moments were in his presence. He is a true joy to work with.”

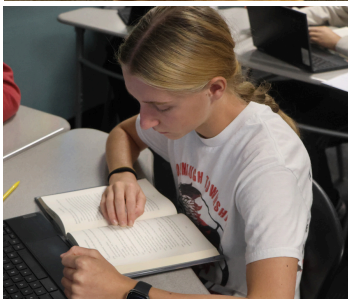
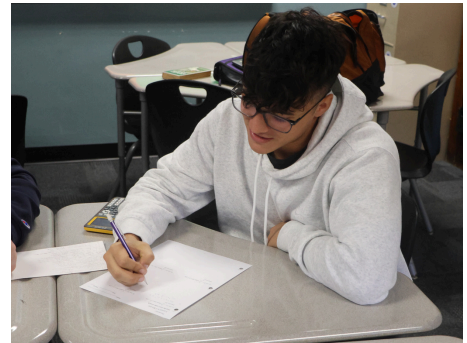
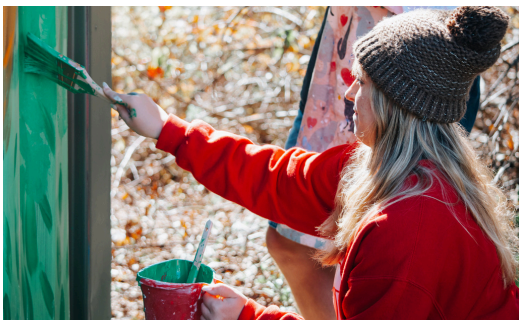
-Mr. Lesko

UPCOMING

12 - 1 | No School

12 - 12 | Act 80 Dismissal

12 - 19 | One Hour Early
Dismissal



EVENTS

12 /22 → 1 /2 | Christmas

And New Year Break

MERRY CHRISTMAS



Who is in charge?



Jr. Editor
Emily Purdy

Emily Louise Purdy is from Davidsville, PA. She participates in soccer, golf, hockey, bocce ball, basketball, track, softball, and is a cheer captain. She also has been a part of four musicals. Emily has participated in District Choir for one year and is a part of numerous clubs including Rotary, NHS, Student Council, and SADD. Her interests include singing, reading, writing, traveling, ice skating, and volunteering. Emily is also an active member at Camp Parc and is an Adapted Music teacher.

Sr. Editor
Maya Denault

Maya Lynn Denault is from Hollsopple, PA. She is the captain of the Rifle Team, a dedicated dancer both recreationally and competitively, and has also participated in many musical productions. Maya has lettered twice in Rifle, competed at Nationals twice for dance, and is actively involved in leadership and service as the runner / editor of two newsletters, a member of the National Honor Society, and Vice President of Rotary. Her interests include photography, volunteering, crafting, reading, gardening, and, of course, dancing.

Jr. Editor
Hannah James

Hannah Grace James is from Jerome, PA, where she is actively contributes to her community through involvement in organizations such as Rotary Interact, Spanish Club, and Tribe Time. Beyond her community contributions, Hannah has a passion for playing piano and singing. She also likes to spend time with her friends during her free time. Additionally, Hannah is eager to explore new experiences, always striving to learn and grow both personally and academically.