



### ***Conemaugh Township Foundation***

*By Noah Nagy*

The Conemaugh Township Area School District Foundation has recently become active again after an eight-year-long hiatus. The CT Foundation started in 2012 as a way to provide scholarship opportunities and supplement educational and extracurricular activities. The foundation, which is run by volunteers who truly love the community, uses donations accumulated through fundraisers to give back to students in the school district. One of their most recent projects was the construction of the school's golf room in 2018.

Christine Troxell, a board member of the foundation and one of the main proponents of getting it running again, said, "We want everyone to know how great our students and staff are," highlighting the main goal of the foundation: to promote and support the community. To achieve this, the foundation has recently started multiple projects and promotions, such as creating new bylaws, designing a new flyer, and providing the school with four new ViewSonic projectors.

With the foundation's return, students can expect to see more opportunities and activities around the school district. To make their goal achievable, the foundation is accepting donations from community members and appreciates any aid they receive. The return of the CT Foundation marks the start of more opportunities and prosperity for Conemaugh Township students and teachers alike.

### ***New Conemaugh Township Police Chief***

*By Noah Nagy*

Russel Miller, a Conemaugh Township native, has recently become the Chief of Police at the Conemaugh Township police department. The department patrols CT neighborhoods and its school district. Miller was officially named chief of police on January 26, 2026, and many are optimistic about his leadership.

Miller's new position comes with lots of responsibilities, such as managing officers, creating community goals, and ensuring that neighborhoods are safe. Such responsibilities require someone with lots of experience, and Miller fits the mold. Ever since Miller was a child, he had always wanted to be a police officer, showing that when he puts his mind to something, he can achieve it. Michael Buncich, a former state trooper and active school police officer, stated, "We think he's going to be a good fit." Buncich's confidence in Miller is just another reason many people across the community are excited for what Miller's leadership has to offer.

Miller grew up and was raised in Conemaugh Township, giving him a true understanding of the ins and outs of the community. Many residents see Miller as a recognizable face and a good choice for the position, making them eager to see what his guidance brings. With almost three decades of prior experience before becoming police chief, it is clear that Miller is knowledgeable and capable enough to keep the community safe.

# Contownian News Magazine

## News

- Page 1 - Conemaugh Township Foundation
- Page 1 - New Conemaugh Township Police Chief
- Page 12 - Anti-ICE Protests
- Page 12 - Greenland Controversy

## Society

- Page 4 - Conemaugh Township Musical Update
- Page 4 - Alumni of the Month: Kylee Doyle
- Page 5 - New Random Acts of Kindness Club
- Page 5 - Vocal Evolutions and Modern Rock Band

## Editorial

- Page 6 - Chocolate vs. Flowers
- Page 6 - Heritage Conference Move: Good or Bad
- Page 6 - Spring vs. Winter

## Features

- Page 7 - The History of St. Patrick's Day
- Page 7 - Do's and Don'ts of Ice Fishing

## Sports

- Page 8 - Boys Basketball Captures the Sweep
- Page 8 - NFL Super Bowl Results
- Page 8 - Girls Basketball Closes on a Win
- Page 9 - Athletes of the Month - Gracie McCall and Stephen Stango

## Pop Culture

- Page 10 - Harry Styles Comeback
- Page 10 - Catherine O'Hara's Death
- Page 10 - Controversy in the Super Bowl LX Halftime Show
- Page 11 - TikTok Ownership Changes

## Little Contownian

- Page 13 - The 6th Grade Boys Basketball Team
- Page 13 - Where They're at Now

# Contownian News Magazine

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Advisor: Diane Feathers



Emma King shows her impressive artwork.



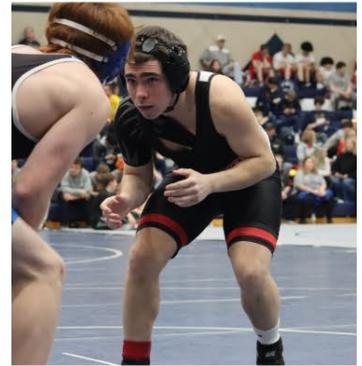
Arabella Seibert with the free throw.



Katrina McCann and Makenzie Miller dissecting in Anatomy Lab.



Mrs. Sanderson and Mr. Phillippi enjoying their teachers' breakfast from Thomas Automotive.



Gavin Davis at the Burgettstown Tournament.



Stephen Stango going for a layup.



Skylar Prior cheering on the basketball team.



Eleanor Luscher painting props for the musical!



Brandon Petrilli is all smiles on his senior night!



Peyton Lasure sinks it at the line.

## Conemaugh Township Musical Update

By Madee Roman

This February has been filled with intense preparation and dedication, as the Conemaugh Township musical cast was hard at work getting ready for *Matilda the Musical*. Rehearsals have increased significantly, with long hours spent practicing choreography, music, and lines. Nearly every day after school has been devoted to rehearsals, and Saturdays have been especially demanding, with full rehearsals running from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. These practices have helped the cast grow more confident and polished as the performance dates approach.

### Alumni of the Month



Kylee Doyle, a former student at Conemaugh Township, graduated high school in 2016. Furthering her education, she attended Penn Highlands Community College for a year, then transferred to Lock Haven University. By taking advantage of college credits for courses she took throughout her years at CT, Doyle was able to graduate early from university and received a Bachelor's degree in Communications after two years.

While reflecting on her high school experience, Doyle noted that she had many fond memories of her classes and athletic career. She mentioned that her favorite teacher was Mrs. Santa, stating, "Although I had a lot of very good teachers at Conemaugh Township, Mrs. Santa was my favorite. The reason she stood out to me the most was because she took the time to get to know me personally, and she genuinely cared about my life outside of school as well." According to Doyle, Mrs. Santa allowed her to be herself in class and was always a source of encouragement during her high school years. Additionally, some of Doyle's favorite moments were spent with her volleyball team. She showed great appreciation for her inspiring coach, stating, "Coach Gearheart taught me so much and helped my love for volleyball grow. I didn't know it back then, but now as a coach myself, she was, and still is, the perfect example of how I want to lead others in my position. Volleyball instantly became my 'thing.' I had an incredibly fun team, and I will never forget hanging out and making food before each game. I am very fortunate to have had these experiences, and I want to help others feel the same way about volleyball as I do."

Doyle now resides in Boswell, PA feeling a bit like a foreigner, as it is rival North Star Cougar territory, but she enjoys living there. Doyle continues to spread her passion for volleyball by serving as the assistant coach for Somerset's junior high volleyball team. She currently works full time as the Student Ministry Associate at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Somerset. The youth group consists of about 90 junior high and high school students that meet for Crossroads gatherings every Sunday night and Bible study on Wednesday nights. Doyle expressed deep love and appreciation for the youth group's mission to "be a community of students, staff, and volunteers radiating Christian joy and sharing that with others (3 John 1:4)." She is extremely grateful for the opportunity to get to know the students on a deeper level, and she hopes that more students will jump on the chance to be a part of a positive community with more kids their age.

One exciting aspect of this production is the double-cast role of Matilda. The role is shared between Anna Hunsberger (11th grade) and Abbey Shropshire (7th grade), allowing both performers the opportunity to bring their own interpretation and energy to the character. Matilda's best friend, Lavender, is also a double-cast role played by Charlotte Worst (11th grade) and Kyle Rowe (8th grade). This role being double-cast requires extra coordination during rehearsals, but it has also strengthened the cast's teamwork and flexibility. Another major character, the intimidating head principal, Agatha Trunchbull, is portrayed by Daniel Turley (12th grade), who has been working hard to capture the character's larger-than-life presence and strict personality.

The musical *Matilda* is based on the novel *Matilda* by Roald Dahl and was adapted for the stage with music and lyrics by Tim Minchin and a book by Dennis Kelly. The story follows Matilda Wormwood, a brilliant young girl with a love for reading and learning despite growing up in a neglectful household. When she attends Crunchem Hall Primary School, she encounters the cruel and unfair Trunchbull, but she also finds kindness and encouragement from her teacher, Miss Honey, played by Addison Lasure (11th grade). The musical highlights themes of intelligence, courage, imagination, and standing up for what is right, all while incorporating energetic songs and choreography.

Conemaugh Township's musical performance of *Matilda the Musical* will take place from March 12 through March 15. With each rehearsal, the cast continues to improve and bring the story to life on stage. The hard work and commitment shown throughout January and February have laid a strong foundation for a successful production. As

opening night draws closer, the excitement continues to build, and the cast is eager to share this powerful and entertaining musical with the audience.

## ***New Random Acts of Kindness Club***

*By Lyla Mauzy*

Recently, a new club has been introduced to students and is set on instilling kindness within every individual at the Conemaugh Township Middle and Senior High School. Led by Ms. Mientus, Ms. Holsopple, and high school mentors, the club is centered around middle school students and serves as a way to connect with them during this point in their lives.

The Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) Club is an organization centered around being a selfless person and doing kind volunteer acts for the benefit of others. The club's overall goal is to help younger students get more involved, allow them to connect with high school mentors, and teach them the importance of community service. RAK began when Ms. Robin Holsopple and CT Guidance came up with the idea to start the program, which has been in development for some time. On January 23, 2026, the organization was finally implemented, and became free for all students in grades 6-12 to join. The RAK club hopes that by completing projects with younger students, they will help them understand that the differences they make, no matter how small, can have a tremendous impact on student life here at Conemaugh Township. According to Jaeden Holsopple, a high school senior and avid participant in the organization, "The Random Acts of Kindness club is a great time, and the kids have very much enjoyed our first show. Our upperclassmen wished they had something like this in middle school."

The RAK club will help to greatly improve the student experience at Conemaugh Township. Mentors and participants will meet weekly on Fridays during the enrichment period, and no experience is required. Students who wish to join may sign up in the main office or the guidance office.



## ***Vocal Evolutions and Modern Rock Band***

*By Conner Hawkins*

Modern Rock Band and Vocal Evolutions are two separate ensembles that students have to audition for, and the selection process usually only takes the best of the best. The festival typically takes place over the course of two days around the month of January. This year, the festival took place at Johnstown High School, and we had Daniel Turley representing us in Modern Band and Addison Lasure representing us in Vocal Evolutions.

By entering the festival with an exceptional audition, Daniel was given the opportunity to choose between performing with the Modern Rock Band or District Jazz Band. In the end, he chose to go with the Modern Rock Band ensemble. To quote Daniel himself, "Modern Rock is always my favorite festival. Sometimes classical stuff gets so tiring, but being able to just play some music that's more about having fun, well, it's more fun." Some of the pieces they played include "Sledgehammer," "I'm Still Standing," "Don't You Worry 'Bout a Thing," and "Rock With You."

Moving further, Addison chose to audition for Vocal Evolutions and got in as a soprano. Despite this being her first year, she accomplished a lot at the festival, even getting a solo in the song "This is Me," from The Greatest Showman. Addison had a great experience at the festival, saying "I was so grateful for the wonderful opportunity to participate in Vocal Evolutions. All of the people I met there were so wonderful, and I truly believe the festival helped me grow and improve as a vocalist. I can't wait to audition again next year!" Some other songs that were played during this portion include "Landslide," "Carry On My Wayward Son," and "Walking in Memphis."

To summarize simply, The Modern Rock Band/Vocal Evolutions Festival is a great opportunity for musicians who are looking for a way to showcase their special talents on their instruments in a more relaxed environment. To make it into a festival like this, the musician needs integrity, skill, and a sense of rhythm to succeed.



## ***Chocolate vs Flowers***

*By Madee Roman*

When Valentine's Day rolls around, the classic debate resurfaces: chocolate or flowers? While flowers are undeniably pretty, chocolate is the more meaningful and practical gift. Flowers may look nice for a few days, but chocolate delivers instant joy and doesn't end up wilted in the trash by the end of the week.

Chocolate has a universal appeal that flowers simply cannot match. It's comforting, shareable, and tied to emotion in a way that even science backs up. Chocolate is scientifically proven to boost a person's mood and reduce stress. Whether it's a fancy box, a favorite candy bar, or homemade treats, chocolate shows thoughtfulness because it considers what the recipient will actually enjoy. Flowers, on the other hand, often feel like a default choice—safe, predictable, and, sometimes, impersonal.

That's not to say flowers are meaningless, but when choosing between the two, chocolate wins for lasting impact. Valentine's Day is about making someone feel appreciated and happy, not just giving something that looks good in a photo. Chocolate creates a moment—something to savor, remember, and maybe even laugh about together. In the end, love isn't about petals and stems; it's about the connection that chocolate delivers sweetly every time.

### ***Heritage Conference Move: Good or Bad?***

*By Sarah Swank*

Moving to the Heritage Conference for sports was a bad idea because of the long-distance traveling required for games. It also negatively affects students, both academically and personally. While playing sports is important, the time spent traveling takes away from schoolwork, sleep, and overall well-being.

One of the major problems with being in the Heritage Conference is how far away the games are. Students have to go long distances just to compete, which means leaving early and getting back late at night. After hours on a bus and at games, students are exhausted. Getting home late makes it hard to unwind and get enough sleep before the next day of school. These late nights often cause students to miss their homework. Many students don't have the time or energy to complete their homework after returning home

from games. When we get home late, homework is either rushed, done improperly, or not done at all. This creates unnecessary stress and it can lead to falling behind in classes. Balancing schoolwork and academics is already challenging, and the travel demands for the Heritage Conference makes it even harder.

While the Heritage Conference may offer stronger competition, the long-distance traveling creates more problems than benefits. The late nights, lack of sleep, and negative impact on schoolwork show that this move to the Heritage Conference was not a good idea. Student-athletes should not have to choose between their education and their sport, however, the Heritage Conference makes it difficult to balance the two.

## ***Spring or Winter***

*By Elanor Luscher*

When comparing winter vs. spring, spring is better considering its aspects. While winter is great, it also has its downsides. Spring has many downsides as well, but ultimately it is better, especially for students and teachers.

The roads are awful during the winter, making roads icy and unpleasant for many drivers. It can be dangerous or just stressful to travel. This also means that often schools are cancelled or delayed for students and teachers, which is a major plus for them, but not great for some parents if their child is too young to be home alone. Another downside is that if your job requires you to come into work despite the weather, the roads are more accident-prone due to the conditions. You are more likely to experience better weather conditions for driving or being outside in general in the spring. The spring is best for going on walks in the nice air. It isn't too hot, but compared to just getting away from winter, it almost feels like summer. Not to mention, spring means spring break and vacations. People enjoy taking beach trips or going to amusement parks during spring break since the weather is getting nicer. Spring is the time for having fun outside in nature, which keeps both adults and children away from screens. Some other spring activities include hikes, sports, or anything else outdoors.

All in all, thanks to the lovely tradition of Punxsutawney Phil, winter is said to be lasting six more weeks this year, but, hopefully our beloved groundhog will be wrong and it will warm up as soon as spring finally comes around.

## ***History of St. Patrick's Day***

*By Makenzie Miller*

St. Patrick's Day is a holiday that revolves around Irish culture. It honors the death of Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland who brought Christianity to the nation. This celebration takes place on March 17th every year and is celebrated by many.

While people today often view this holiday as fun with all of its traditions, there is more to this day due to the historical impact it had on the world. Saint Patrick was born in Britain in the fourth century and was captured and brought to Ireland at the age of sixteen. He eventually escaped and went back to Ireland as a missionary, spreading the word of Christianity. Saint Patrick then became an important religious leader during this time. It became an official holiday in the early seventeenth century with a Christian feast by the Catholic Church. One of the most important and well-known symbols of this holiday, the shamrock, was used to explain the Holy Trinity and bring people together. From this idea came symbols like leprechauns and pots of gold, which many associate with St. Patrick's Day today.

Although this holiday originated in Ireland, it became more popular in other parts of the world over time. Celebrations like parades, wearing green, and the dyeing of the Chicago River green are celebrated by many. These celebrations became more modern as the years progressed, but still hold the importance of their cultural and religious beliefs.



## ***Do's and Don'ts of Ice Fishing***

*By Halen McKool*

Ice fishing may seem simple, cut a hole, drop a line, and wait. However, there is much more to it. From unstable ice and gear mistakes that can be deadly, to simple tactics that help ensure you catch a fish. When ice fishing, preparation is just as important as patience. Below are some do's and don'ts of ice fishing to help you prepare for an exciting day on the ice:

### **Do's**

1. Check ice thickness. Four inches is the minimum for light foot traffic, and you'll need more if you plan on bringing a sled or heavy gear.
2. Wear clothes suitable for the weather. Staying dry is just as important as staying warm.
3. Bring safety equipment. The right gear, and even a friend, can save your life if something goes wrong.
4. Keep holes marked. This can help prevent accidents.
5. Stay aware of the weather. Swings in temperature can weaken the ice.

### **Don'ts**

1. Don't assume the ice is safe. Even if others are on the ice, you should always check yourself.
2. Don't go alone. Solo trips are much riskier if you fall through or get hurt.
3. Don't ignore sounds from the ice. Loud cracking or shifting can be indicators that it's time to leave.
4. Don't overload an area. Spread out gear and people to reduce strain on the ice.
5. Don't drill holes too close together. Clustering holes weakens the ice.

Ice fishing is one of the best ways to fish, but it can also be one of the most unforgiving. It's important to respect the environment around you and remember to be cautious. Following these rules can make sure your experience is both safe and fun. At the end of the day, the best ice fishermen are not just patient, but also prepared and cautious.



## ***Boys Basketball Captures the Sweep***

*By Liam Richardson*

On January 30th, the Conemaugh Township Indians pulled through with an overtime win against the Conemaugh Valley Blue Jays. The final score was 54 to 51, and the win carried the Indians to the playoffs.

On January 30th, the Indians pulled through in a must-win game against the Blue Jays. Colin Dinyar led the team with 21 points for the Indians. Stephen Stango added another 13 points for the team. Center Eric McClemens led the team with 12 rebounds, and Dinyar added another 11. McClemens and Stango added three steals each as well. With Brennan Lohr out permanently for the season, the Indians looked for another game plan to succeed with. “We picked it up in the second half for sure. We hope to pursue championships in the Heritage Conference and Districts,” said senior power forward Jacob Bartis after the overtime thriller.

The Indians look to add another championship under their name, despite having a season of injuries. As of February 24, the boys have won themselves a place in both the District V Championship, and state playoffs.

## ***NFL Super Bowl Results***

*By DJ Bambino*

On February 8, 2026 the 2025-26 National Football League season came to an end with the finishing of Super Bowl LX. The New England Patriots played the Seattle Seahawks in Levi Stadium located in Santa Clara, California. The final score of the game was 29-13 favoring the Seattle Seahawks. This is the franchise’s second ever Super Bowl victory.

The Seahawks dominated the scoring column, despite having a slow first half, scoring just nine points. All nine of these points came from their kicker Jason Myers. Myers ended up scoring 17 of the team's points kicking five field goals and two extra points. The team also excelled on the ground allowing Super Bowl MVP Kenneth Walker to rush for 135 yards on just 27 carries. Tight end A.J. Barner caught the team's only touchdown while adding 54 yards on just four receptions. Defensively, the team dominated, as they had all year long. They recorded six sacks, eight tackles for loss, and two

interceptions. The Patriots were led by quarterback Drake Maye who threw for 295 yards completing 27 of 43 passes. He also threw for two touchdowns and two interceptions. Mack Hollins caught four of those passes for 78 yards and a touchdown. On the other side of the ball, the Patriots recorded just one sack and seven tackles for loss.

Both the Seahawks and the Patriots finished the year 14-3, and had very successful campaigns this year. Although the Seahawks came out on top, both teams have strong futures, and will look to repeat their success next season.

## ***Girls Basketball Closes on a Win***

*By Peyton Lasure*

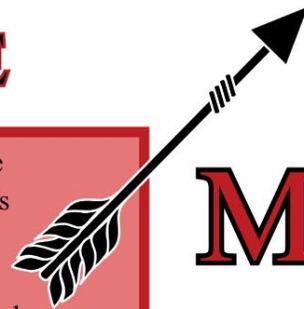
On Wednesday February 11th, the Conemaugh Township girls varsity basketball team competed in their last game of the season against the Conemaugh Valley Blue Jays. The Indians improved their record, coming out with a 58-43 victory. The girls brought a great amount of intensity with them to the game, and finished their season on a high note.

The Lady Indians finished their regular season with a dominating win. Senior Katrina McCann and junior Mayce Kordell led a balanced scoring attack with 14 points each. The Lady Indians had nine players hit the scoring column. The JV also won by a 23-4 score. Peyton Lasure led the way with 14 points and Leah Kordell added seven.

Ultimately, the Conemaugh Township Lady Indians finished their season with a record of 8-14. Head coach Paul Bear led the girls to a successful season in his first year as head coach. The Lady Indians will continue to put in the work in the off-season, in preparation for the 2026-2027 season, when they introduce a promising class coming up from junior high to the varsity level.



# ATHLETES OF THE



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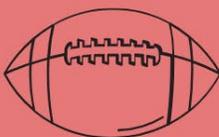


Gracie McCall is the daughter of Marc and Kelly McCall. She currently lives with both in Westmont, Pennsylvania. McCall is involved in many extracurricular activities, including golf and the CT Musical. She has had many successes throughout her career at Conemaugh Township, and has received many accolades along the way. McCall was a senior member and three-year letterman of our golf team this past season. She has played for 13 years and has been a member of the Conemaugh Township golf team for four of those.

This past season, the team won the District V Championship, and finished with a record of 14-1. On a personal level, McCall was four strokes off of making it to states. Additionally, McCall is involved at the Legacy Performing Arts studio, and has been dancing for 12 years, while also helping teach classes to the five and six year old age group. Outside of sports, Gracie has been a part of CT Musical for six years. She is president of the student council, treasurer of the National Honors Society, and is a member of both the Rotary Interact and Students Against Destructive Decisions clubs. McCall is a senior editor for the Contownian, and also participates in filling bags for the backpack program. McCall, additionally, works part time in the pro shop at the Sunnehanna Country Club. In her free time, she enjoys hanging out with her family, playing with her dog, Charlie, and going out to eat and shopping with her friends. McCall also loves hanging out with her friends in, her favorite teacher, Ms. Debarato's room.



# O



# N



Stephen Stango is the son of Amy Stango who he lives with in Davidsville, Pennsylvania. Stango has played both basketball and football his entire life. He has lettered in both sports for all four years of his varsity career. Stephen has also recently been named the MVP of the UPJ Mountain Cat tournament. Besides being an MVP on the court, he is also an MVP in the classroom. Throughout high school, Stango has maintained a very impressive all A's and B's transcript. In his free time, Stango can be seen hard at work behind the counters at the

Go Moore Store in Hollsopple, Pennsylvania. He also enjoys playing pick-up basketball, hanging out with his friends, competing in intense spikeball games, and spending quality time with his girlfriend. After high school, Stango plans to enter the workforce and join the local Plumbers and Pipefitters Union. Stango lives by this quote from Babe Ruth, "It is hard to beat a person who never gives up."



# T

# H

## ***Harry Styles Comeback***

*By Sarah Swank*

After a period of silence, after the success of *Harry's House* and his record-breaking *Love on Tour*, Harry Styles' comeback has been one of the most anticipated moments in the music industry. Rather than disappearing from relevance, Styles used his time to solidify his comeback and make it feel intentional, rather than rushed. His comeback represents more than new music, it signals an evolution of an artist who continues to reshape the meaning of a pop star.

One reason as to why Harry Styles's return has been so impactful is his ability to balance mystery with familiarity. During his temporary disappearance, he avoided oversaturation, allowing fans to miss him while still being present through past performances and media discussion. When he returned, fans were not excited for new songs, but curious about how he had changed. This anticipation transformed his comeback into an event, proving that absence can be as powerful as constant visibility. Musically, Harry Styles's comeback highlights maturity and confidence. With his blending pop, rock, folk, and funk influences, his return emphasizes emotional honesty and artistic risk. Beyond music, Harry Styles's comeback also reinforces his cultural influence. His fearless approach to fashion and self-expression encourages younger audiences that it's okay to be different. By embracing vulnerability, Styles has become a symbol of self-acceptance, making his return meaningful.

Harry Styles's comeback is successful because it feels earned. Instead of relying on fame alone, he returned with purpose and growth. His reappearance reminds audiences that true impact is not measured by constant output, but the ability to stay true to oneself. As Styles continues this journey, his comeback stands as an example of how stepping away can make a return stronger.

## ***Catherine O'Hara's Death***

*By Renata Savignone*

Catherine Anne O'Hara was a Canadian-American actress, comedian and screenwriter, best known for her roles of Moira Rose in *Schitt's Creek*, Kate McCallister in *Home Alone*, and Delia Deets in *Beetlejuice* and *Beetlejuice Beetlejuice*. She won several awards, like the

Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series and more.

On January 30, 2026, at 71 years old, it was announced that O'Hara died at her home in Los Angeles. The exact cause of death was recently revealed: O'Hara died because of a pulmonary embolism, which is when a blood clot travels to the lungs and blocks a pulmonary artery. Rectal cancer was also listed as an underlying cause. Macaulay Culkin, Kevin McCallister in *Home Alone*, wrote on Instagram: "Mama. I thought we had time. I wanted more."

Catherine O'Hara left a legacy during her five decades of career doing what she loved, making people laugh with her improvisation skills and eccentric characters. Her passing is a tremendous loss to the entertainment industry, but she will be forever remembered.

## ***Super Bowl LX Halftime Show Controversy***

*By Emily Purdy*

In Super Bowl LX, the halftime show featured Puerto Rican singer Bad Bunny performing alongside Lady Gaga and Ricky Martin. This show sparked controversy from President Donald Trump and several Republican lawmakers who criticized Bad Bunny's perceived "anti-American" stance, as it was a fully Spanish performance.

Many critics were upset by the artist selection due to Bad Bunny's past criticism of ICE and immigration policies. Others were also angered by the use of Spanish in the show, since, as a primarily English-speaking country, many couldn't understand the lyrics of the music. Turning Point USA, an organization devoted to training students to promote freedom and limited government, formed a halftime show of their own, performed by Kid Rock. On the other side of the debate, many were excited to hear Bad Bunny perform, no matter the language. Some thought that even though they could not understand, they still could enjoy the music. As Bad Bunny is from Puerto Rico, many also thought it was unreasonable to call him "anti-American," as Puerto Rico is a United States territory.

In the end, both sides of the argument had their own halftime shows as a result of the controversy. Some even watched both to experience both sides of the debate.

## TikTok Ownership Changes

By Mary Matera

Popular social media app *TikTok* has changed ownership. As of January 2026, *TikTok's* U.S. operations have shifted to a new entity. It is now majority-owned by several American investors. These investors include Oracle, Silver Lake, and MGX. There is also a 19.9% minority stake owned by a Chinese company known as ByteDance.

The new company, which is owned by American investors, is in charge of the recommendation algorithm, content moderation, and data security for U.S. consumers. ByteDance maintains ownership of the underlying property rights, even if the joint venture has a license for the recommendation algorithm's use in the United States. Oracle's U.S.-based cloud houses user data from the United States. Users reported early technological problems, including outages and missing advertising options, as well as new terms of service after the transfer in late January 2026. Adam Presser has assumed the role of CEO for the new U.S. division of the joint venture, which is overseen by a seven-member board.

The U.S. restructuring of *TikTok* represents a significant change in ownership and operational management, with ByteDance retaining a minority interest and underlying intellectual property rights while American investors like Oracle, Silver Lake, and MGX assume majority ownership. The new leadership and governance structure seek to improve data security, regulatory compliance, and user trust in the United States, despite the early technical difficulties and revised terms of service brought about by the shift.



## Artist of the Month



The Conemaugh Township art program gives so many opportunities for students to be openly creative and express themselves and their inspirations. Izzy Gunby is an Art III student whose creativity and appreciation for art make her stand out above her peers. Gunby is the daughter of Jen and Tony Gunby. They currently live in Davidsville, Pennsylvania. Gunby is an excellent student who is involved in many activities, but specifically is very involved in art.

Gunby is a junior and her favorite art styles include graphic design and marker art. Gunby is very inspired by realism and by the people around her, especially her classmates. She looks up to her classmates, who inspire her to work harder. Gunby loves to see how people's art work and inspirations can look like real photos.

After high school, Gunby would like to go into interior design or real estate. If Gunby doesn't go to college, she would like to go somewhere down South along the East coast for business or finance. When asked for a quote, Gunby said, "People change and things go wrong, but life goes on" by Mac Miller.

## Musician of the Month



Isaac Marsh, a senior here at Conemaugh Township, was selected to be musician of the month. Isaac lives with his parents, Shelly and Adam Marsh, in Davidsville. He plans to attend a four year college to get his Bachelor of Science in Computer Science. He then wants to continue on to get his Master's degree in Cyber Security.

Marsh plays many roles in the school musicals here at Conemaugh Township. So far, he has been in *Mama Mia!*, *Music Man*, *Footloose*, *Mary Poppins*, and *High School Musical*. He will also be in this year's musical, *Matilda*. He has attended County Choir in 10th, 11th, and 12th grade. Although he is not in band, he can still play the piano. One of Marsh's favorite quotes is: "Music has been my outlet to express myself and be with likeminded individuals. Performing in musicals has been a way for me to share my passion with the public." His dedication to the music industry and form of self expression is impressive, and plays a large role in our music department at Conemaugh Township.

Isaac Marsh is a great pick for Musician of the Month due to his dedication and many accomplishments. Conemaugh Township is lucky to have seen the effort Marsh puts in for a great performance!

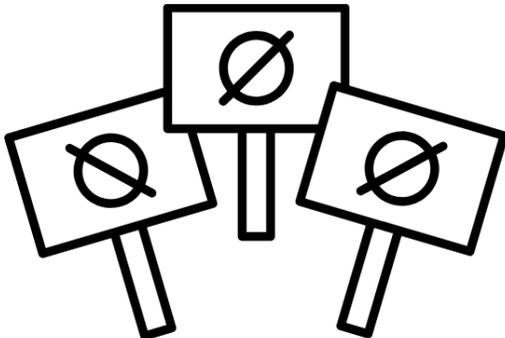
## ***Anti-ICE Protests***

*By Savannah Stutzman*

In early 2026, anti-ICE protests started to take place around the United States. The first protests began when there was a notable increase in federal immigration enforcement. Many U.S. citizens believe that it is immoral for ICE agents to be in local communities.

Protests have been happening against ICE since 2018, but have recently reached a new level, and can no longer be ignored. A few of the most prominent demonstrations took place in Minneapolis, Los Angeles, and Washington D.C. The new uprisings in Minneapolis were the result of two individuals being shot and killed by federal agents. One of the main slogans of these protests is “Ice Out,” or the longer version, “Ice Out of Everywhere.” The demonstrators have been blocking federal buildings with containers and organizing walk outs. Many of these demonstrators include high school and college students whom have been performing walkouts during school. Students are currently playing one of the biggest roles in these protests, as they have had the largest numbers as a group. Even though the majority of these events seem civil, law enforcement has had to get involved countless times, causing there to be arrests and the use of non-lethal munitions. Recently, in the beginning of February, these protests have even begun to happen internationally, especially in Italy, where U.S. immigration agents were present at the Winter Olympic Games.

Due to the declaration of an increased presence of ICE agents, many United States citizens have taken a stand, saying that this agency is unjust and unfair.



## ***Greenland Controversy***

*By Savannah Stutzman*

Recently, President Donald Trump has made it known that he would like to take control of Greenland. He is seeking negotiations, and hopes to acquire Greenland for national security reasons. However, his plan isn't necessarily new, as the United States has been putting efforts in to take over Greenland since before 1946.

The Trump administration has shared that taking control of Greenland is important for tactical gain. According to CNN, Greenland, an island that consists of 836,000 square miles, would be a strategic acquisition for the United States due to where it is located. Greenland sits between the United States and Europe. Another reason the government is so determined to take control is because Greenland has a plethora of natural resources, including gas, oils, and a few rare earth minerals. The Trump administration also believes that by taking control of Greenland, it will eliminate any Russian threat. On the other side of this ordeal, Denmark and Greenland's leaders have made it very clear they have no intentions of ever letting Greenland be in the hands of the United States. They have a very negative opinion on the force and determination that Trump has shown in trying to take over their land.

The United States has been trying to claim Greenland for decades now. While in the past it was originally desired for strategic positions in any state of war, it is now being sought after for resources and acquisition of more land.



# Little Contownian

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## *The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Team*

*By: Hudson Ott*

I am Hudson Ott and I play 6th grade basketball for Conemaugh Township. Our basketball team's current record as of right now is 5-3. Our head coach is Mr. Mainhart and our assistant coach is senior basketball player Jacob Bartis.

There are a total of 11 kids on the team including Brantley Moyer, Hudson Ott, Ian Gardenhour, Peyton Zahorchak, Keelan Mainhart, Gaige Yourich, Kolton Kozielec, Zach Shaffer, Ryan Keith, Jr., Mason Kring, and Lance Duffy. Everyone is having a great season, with every team member having scored at least one basket. Here is everyone's thoughts on how they think the season is going:

Peyton Zahorchak: "I think the season is going well!"

Brantley Moyer: "Even though we have a lot of first year players, we are 5-3."

Zachary Shaffer: "I think we are doing very well."

Gaige Yourich: "We are GOATED."

Kolton Kozielec: "Pretty good. I think we are doing a lot better than at the start of the season."

Ian Gardenhour: "It's going pretty solid. Better than last year."

Keelan Mainhart: "It's going good. We are about to make our record 6 and 3."

Lance Duffy: "Good!"

Hudson Ott: "Very well!"

Mason Kring: "Awesome!"

Ryan Keith, Jr. is cyber, but I know he loves it!



## *Where They're at Now*

*By: Evelyn Mock*

Jackson Sotosky and Izzy Slezak are two outstanding athletes who graduated from Conemaugh Township and now compete in track and field for Shippensburg University, an NCAA Division II school.

Izzy Slezak specializes in sprints. During her time at Conemaugh Township, she was a record-setting member of the varsity soccer team and competed in the 100 and 200 meter dashes. At Shippensburg, she runs the 200-meter and the 60-meter dash. Izzy has achieved impressive personal records: her best time in the 200-meter dash is 25.04 seconds and she has an incredible PR of 7.81 seconds in the 60-yard dash. At one of her meets, she placed 9th in the 60-yard dash and 2nd in the 200-meter.

Jackson Sotosky was not only a member of the Conemaugh Township track and field team, but also the leading kicker for the varsity football team and a standout star on the varsity soccer team. He specializes in high jump and long jump at the collegiate level, but he also competes in pole vault. Jackson has set impressive personal records in college, with heights of 6 feet 4.75 inches in the high jump and a distance of 23 feet 1.75 inches in the long jump.

Both of these talented athletes are definitely making their mark at Shippensburg, and Conemaugh Township fans can't wait to see what they do next. Their accomplishments are a reflection of their hard work, commitment, and the support system they have built over the years. It's exciting to witness the journey of these talented athletes as they continue to break barriers and reach new heights in their college careers. Whether it's personal records, championship titles, or even just pushing their own boundaries, the future looks bright for both Izzy Slezak and Jackson Sotosky.



## Academic Calendar/ Upcoming Events

March 16.....Act 80 Early Dismissal  
 12:00 Middle/High School  
 12:30 Elementary

March 25.....End of Nine Weeks



### Telephone Numbers

#### Administrative Numbers

Superintendent.....Nicole Dull.....479-7575  
 Business Manager.....Brandon Studer.....479-7431  
 Food Service Director.....Randy Walker.....479-2328  
 Director of Curriculum....Stacy Dabbs.....479-7575

#### Middle/High School

Principal.....James Foster.....479-4014  
 Vice Principal/Athletic Director.....Jarod Feathers.....479-4014  
 HS Guidance Counselor....Kara Duplin.....479-7886  
 MS Guidance Counselor.....Kellie Hankinson.....479-7886  
 School Nurse.....Cassey DeBiase.....479-2324

### Yearbook

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 Visit: [YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM](http://YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM)  
 Use the following codes:  
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 HS CODE:13159

### Would like to see your business in our newspaper or yearbook?

#### Contact

Mrs. Diane Feathers.....[diane.feathers@ctasd.org](mailto:diane.feathers@ctasd.org)  
 479-4014 Extension 3822

# THE CONTOWNIAN NETWORK



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