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THE Contownian



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New Safety Measures at CT

By Csege Szabo

Conemaugh Township Area School District has introduced new security measures to add another layer of safety for the students. Mr. Foster, an administrator at Conemaugh Township, has shared information to give more insight into the change going on in the schools.

OPENGATE is a weapons detection system that emits electromagnetic waves to find large and even small metal objects that could potentially pose a threat. Conemaugh Township wants to provide the safest and most effective way for staff and students to enter school which led to a concern of whether or not this would be a hindrance during the beginning of the school day. Fortunately, Mars Area High School located in Butler, PA utilizes OPENGATE. They get an average of 1,500 students through these detectors in around 15 minutes, eliminating that concern. Any person who has attended a concert, professional sporting event, or major collegiate sporting event has likely experienced the same procedures and processes. Mr. Foster said, "It is a simple and efficient tool to add to the already existing security layers that we have at CT." Conemaugh Township staff will go through professional training on how to operate this system as well as the protocol for different situations they could be faced with.

As a father of a former student, Mr. Foster expresses that it is really important that the parents are comfortable sending their kids off to school everyday, as well as making sure the students feel safe at Conemaugh Township. Mr. Foster states, "The Washington Post indicated that there are over 383,000 reasons to support adding this safety measure to our school. Our 500+ people within our walls are our most cherished commodity. I need them to feel the safest that we can make them feel in order for them to be the most productive that they can be." As human beings we tend to lean more towards structure and order. Keeping this in mind, change is difficult for everyone, which is the only challenge Mr. Foster said they might face.

The Washington Post actively tracks all schools that have been exposed to violence since Columbine in April of 1999. "I never want us to experience what it's like to be a statistic on this screen," from Mr. Foster.

Caven Miller's Eagle Scout Project

By Elanor Luscher

In simple terms, once a scout completes their ranks and advancements, they must complete something called an Eagle Scout Service Project. The requirements for this project are to put together a simple or complex project that could range from a table or bench to a pavilion. Scouts must fundraise money for the project itself, plan, and build, all while managing their peers and other volunteers to help. This project helps gain leadership skills and managerial skills as well. Caven Miller completed this project by building a gaga ball pit at the Quemahoning Family Recreation Area.

Caven has been a scout for six years now and this has been his biggest and best accomplishment so far. It took lots of time and work, but it got him to the point where he is on the verge of becoming an Eagle Scout. The events leading up to this major success involved various planning phases. He had to hold many board meetings for everything to be approved. Additionally, he needed money, so he began fundraisers by sending letters to small businesses and his family to ask for support. Before and during the process, Caven was eager for the end result. He enjoyed the building process and looks forward to becoming a leader. Not only that, but he is proud of the project he was able to create. The only downside, and least fun part, of this project, understandably, is paperwork.

Caven believes that becoming an Eagle Scout takes a lot of hard work and dedication. All of the time and work is worth it for the end result. Caven stated, "The path of challenge makes the reward so much sweeter." His perseverance has made a difference in his life as he continues to push himself and prove his courage.



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Daisy Welch playing the clarinet at halftime.



Noah Nagy squaring up with Charlie "The Spaniard" Brenneman.

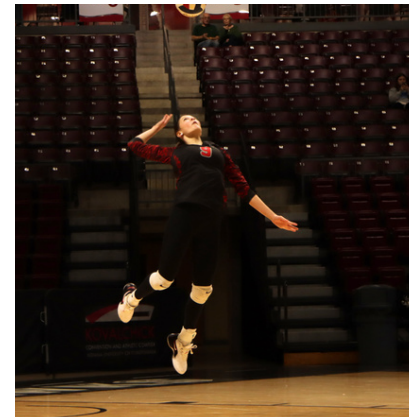


The Homecoming Court partying with Middle School at the Bonfire Dance!



Caven Miller and Ethan Matera sleeping on the job during grill team.

Sarah Swank serving it up at Heritage Championships!



Our HOCO King and Queen, Noah (Poe) Getson and Ava Byer!



Our sixth graders playing mini-golf during their field trip to Friendship Village.



Cameron Dunn breaking through the Cambria Heights defense.



Cafe 118 baking their famous cakepops!



Alexa Gardenhour working on car signs.

Clubs at CT Highschool

By Addison Lasure

Conemaugh Township offers a variety of clubs students can take part in to be more involved in their community. School clubs are a great way to express your interests and many of these clubs help you represent your school in a positive way.

Student Council is a great club for students who want to represent their school on behalf of the students. It offers opportunities to show appreciation to school staff, help out your fellow students and community, and help spread school spirit around the town. The Student Council has recently participated in helping to prepare for Homecoming festivities and plans to head down to the CT

Elementary School in December to help with their Christmas festivities. Ms. DeBarto and Mrs. Sanderson are the Student Council advisors.

Alumni of the Month



Lindy (Wyar) Mishler is a CT graduate of the class of 1998. While a student, she was involved in cheerleading, ski club, art club, and student council. She was also a class officer, matmaid, baseball statistician, and public address announcer. Some of her favorite memories include prom, winning states for cheerleading, and being on the homecoming court. She admits that high school was not always the easiest for her, but she had, in particular, two teachers who really helped build her confidence and she credits them for where she is now. They taught her how to persevere and follow her passions.

After high school, she attended the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, initially intending to pursue a career as an art major. But after some time, she realized that working with people fascinated her much greater than art. So, after this, she swapped majors over to sociology and graduated with a bachelor's degree. She later received a master's degree in psychology with a concentration in applied behavioral analysis from Capella University.

Today, Lindy trains people all over the state and helps lead two state programs for adults with autism through her work at the Department of Human Resources. She works within the Office of Developmental Programs in the Bureau of Supports for Autism and Special Populations as a behavioral analyst. Recently, she was a part of the team that developed the first prison unit in the country for individuals with autism.

Lindy still lives in Davidsville, the same place that raised her. She is married to Jared Mishler, another CT graduate, and they have two nine-year-old twins who are in 3rd grade. Over this long journey, she has learned that she can excel in areas she thought she couldn't and also the importance of perseverance and following her passions. Lindy stated, "If you are feeling lost, remember it's never too late to find what excites you. Keep pushing forward, and you might actually surprise yourself, too!" She is a huge inspiration to everyone in her life and to her hometown community. Congratulations on all of your achievements, Lindy!



Scholastic Quiz is a great club for students with academic and trivia-based knowledge. Members of this club can compete in trivial competitions with other schools in tournaments. The club plans to compete in a virtual competition called 3-2-1 Challenge this December. All members are eligible to participate in this competition. Mr. Rising is the advisor for Scholastic Quiz.

Rotary Interact focuses on providing services to the community volunteering their time to help others. Anna Hunsberger, a member of Rotary Interact, says, "Rotary Interact has given me the opportunity to volunteer my time to help others and be more involved in my community." Earlier this month, they spent the morning cleaning up the streets of Davidsville. Mrs. Grove and Ms. Lingenfelter are the advisors for Rotary.

The SADD club is a club that focuses on promoting a drug, tobacco, and alcohol-free lifestyle. This November, SADD is holding the annual Volleyball Marathon with the theme "Serving Up Support" to help raise money for Trinity Mendes to help make her home more handicap accessible after a recent accident. The Marathon will be held on November 21st. Mrs. Feathers and Mrs. Buckham are the advisors for SADD club.

Participating in a school club is a great way to be more involved in your school and unite with students with similar interests and goals as you. These are just a few clubs that can help you be more active in your community! The diversity of clubs that Conemaugh Township provides ensures that everyone has the chance to find something that they enjoy.

Homecoming Festivities

By Amelia Mitchell

The 2024 homecoming extravaganza this year was one for the memory books. The annual homecoming parade started at St. David's Church and worked its way down Main Street, where the homecoming football game started at 7:00. The game was Conemaugh Township against Cambria Heights. It was a long, hard fight, but in the end the Indians lost to the Highlanders with a score of 43 to 6.

This year's homecoming court couples consisted of Sam Shaffer and Izzy Slezak, Noah Getson and Ava Byer, Haiden Henry and Briar Berkey, Dylan Hovanac and Carson Harbart, Grant Dombrosky and Marly Teeter, Dane Rouser and Jema Calasara, and Jackson Sotosky and Jordyn Snyder. The king and queen who won this year were Ava Byer and Noah Getson. Ava Byer said, "I am so happy and grateful I won. This was such a great opportunity and I want to thank everyone that was apart of this amazing night."

In the end, homecoming is an intricate event to put together. Thanks to Ms. DeBarto and her amazing Student Council kids, all of the staff, and the custodial team for working so hard to make it a successful night. With the addition of amazing weather for the entirety of the night, all of the hard work and time put into everything truly showed through on this incredible night.



Band Department Activities

By Maya Denault

On November 20th, students in 10th-12th grade concert band will be auditioning for District Band, while on November 27th students in 9th-12th grade concert band will have their auditions for District VI Jazz. Mrs. Grove, our school's band director, said, "Festivals are a great experience for any student in music. It allows them to build their skills, and meet friends and fellow musicians from across Blair, Bedford, Cambria, and Somerset County. They have the opportunity to work with high level conductors and professors from college bands."

Students who are planning to attend district band have had their music since May 5th and have been working with instructors over the summer into the fall. This year's district band will be held at Bellwood-Antis High School. After the students audition, they receive their scores and feedback from the judges. Then they will be given chair placements and be assigned parts for the festival. Whenever the schools come together, they know their music and get ready to put a concert on within two days. When auditioning, if they score high enough, they can be accepted into region, state, all-east, and national level in these competitions.

District VI Jazz is very similar to District Band, but includes modern band ensembles (rock band), traditional jazz bands, and a vocal acapella group. With district jazz, musicians are judged by a team of band directors who studied their instrument in college. Their auditions are ranked and rated based on their tone, intonation, rhythm/note accuracy, interpretation, and technique on their specific instrument. The music that they are preparing for the concert is more difficult than what Conemaugh Township concert band members are used to, so it brings a great challenge to enjoy the work they put in.

Coming Soon...

Kopp's Korner and Garman's Gang

Our students in Conemaugh Township's Lifeskills Room and MDS Room will be sharing their experiences, trips, and fun stories with us here monthly! Tune back in next month for the first article!

Should We Change the Trick or Treat Date?

By Maya Denault

In Conemaugh Township, our trick or treat night is on October 31st. For the past few years on the night of trick or treat, our varsity soccer players have to miss out on the fun event to go play in the playoffs. If we moved our trick or treat night either a day before or after, it would lead to more participation in the community and bring up the morale of the students, as it would allow them to bond and involve themselves in their community.

If we moved our trick or treat night to Wednesday, October 30th, students would be able to participate after the soccer activities, which usually last from 3-5pm, while trick or treat goes from 6-8pm. The downside to it being on a Wednesday night would be that the students participating in trick or treat would have to stay up a bit later and still have a game the next day. Additionally, all of our elementary students who would likely be staying up past their bedtimes and not be as academically prepared for the next day of school. If the trick or treat night would be moved to Friday, November 1st, there would be no after school practices and no school the next day. It would make the decision easier to participate in the event, along with being able to stay the whole time without compromising any sleep or academics the next day.

To sum up everything, I believe that we should move our trick or treat night to the day before or after, Wednesday October 30th or Friday November 1st. We should do this to boost the morale of the students and have a better outcome for the event in the community. This would also allow players and parents who have to be there to play or support on the 31st for our varsity playoff games.

Should We Give Alternatives on Halloween?

By Conner Hawkins

As everybody knows, on trick or treat, people hand out candy to all the kids and trick or treaters that pass by. There is an argument that people should maybe hand out alternatives to candy, such as pencils, pens, glow sticks, or even something else instead. Some people think we should just hand out healthier foods. Whether we hand out candy or other stuff, I think we can all agree that we should still give them something.

People prefer getting candy on Halloween for a multitude of reasons. A common argument for just getting candy on Halloween is that it is a tradition. While this is a correct assertion, there is nothing wrong with breaking a silly tradition such as this.

A second reason is that kids love candy. This is a very good argument and it is typically a true assertion, but kids would likely also appreciate some glow sticks or a little note pad. An argument that can't really be debunked is that candy is basically a staple of Halloween. It really does add to the Halloween spirit and fulfills the kids' child-like wonder.

People might prefer getting a healthier alternative or even a non-food alternative. A common argument is that it would cut back on sugar and cavities. This is a good idea, but the issue of sugar and cavities could be heavily reduced by brushing your teeth efficiently and moderating the amount of candy in one setting. Another argument is that it cuts back on allergies. This point doesn't exactly work because people are allergic to healthy foods. It is a good point for a non-food alternative. At the end of the day, I believe we should do a mix of both.

To summarize, both sides of the argument have great points, but a mix of both would probably be the best solution for this problem. Regardless of what people believe, they should still attempt to give the trick or treaters something on Halloween.

Trick or Treating: How Old is Too Old?

By Marly Teeter

When you're a little kid, something you normally most looked forward to during fall was definitely trick or treating. Dressing up as your favorite character and walking around to get candy all night with your friends. There are so many movies about kids trick or treating that show just how much it's loved, but how often are those kids growing up and still going out for Halloween?

Everybody has their own opinion on holiday traditions. If you and your friends are big fans of trick or treating, why not go out and do it still? Once you grow older and have kids, you may even want to dress up as something and walk around with them. It would still be acceptable to go out with your grandparents. Trick or treating and Halloween are times where it doesn't matter how old you are, anybody can wear a costume. I don't think age matters when it comes to it, everybody has fun with trick or treating.

Trick or treat has been around for a long time and everyone tends to get excited about it, even people that are just handing out the candy. If you want to go out and have fun with your friends for one night, I don't see why you shouldn't. Who would pass up the opportunity for a bunch of free candy for a night?!

Best Halloween Candy

By Hannah James

One of the most controversial conversations that come up during Halloween is the question of what the best Halloween candy is. Everybody has different opinions and preferences when it comes to candy, so deciding on the best Halloween candy is very difficult. Here are the top 10 best Halloween candies according to PureWow.com:

1. Reese's Peanut Butter Cup
2. Twix
3. Reese's Take Five Bars
4. Sour Patch Kids
5. Candy Corn
6. Butterfingers
7. Pink Starbursts
8. Hershey's Cookies and Cream Bars
9. Reese's Fast Break Bars
10. Kit Kats

Many of these candies have been around for years so understandably they're in the top 10 best candy for Halloween. I'm sure a lot of you see many of these different types of candy being sold in the stores and handed out on Halloween night. The question is, what is your favorite Halloween candy, and do you agree with this list?

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

By Izzy Slezak

October is the designated Breast Cancer Awareness month. The month-long campaign aims to offer support to those affected by breast cancer and to promote early detection through regular screenings and self examinations.

According to the National Cancer Institute, approximately 310,720 women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2024. The tradition of celebrating in October started in 1985 and has grown into an international health campaign. People host various activities and events organized to educate people and support those who know people battling, or are currently battling. The goal is to ultimately increase awareness, raise funds for research, prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and the cure.

To conclude, October is the national awareness month of breast cancer. It is continually supported in October as it dated back to the first ever in 1985. It is a great time to bring communities together to support one another.



Best Activities in October

By Regan Maldet

Some people might say that October marks the start of fall. This is when the leaves start falling, the temperature drops, and pumpkin patches and apple orchards are ripe for picking. October can feel like it goes by really fast with all of the upcoming holidays, so finding activities to do can make the month go by a little slower.

Before the season of winter is truly here, enjoying the month of October and how truly gorgeous it can be is something I recommend you should do before it gets too cold. A few things you can do are pumpkin picking, exploring the fall foliage, apple picking, going to a fall festival, watching football, exploring spooky places, haunted houses, carving pumpkins, and more. These few things can be a key part in making your October more enjoyable and festive.

In conclusion, finding fun things to do can make your day just a little better. Especially with fall and Halloween coming up soon, I feel there are more opportunities to find things to do. Even if you don't want to go anywhere, it is still easy and fun to do fall activities from your own home!



Soccer Fest 2024

By Gentry Sotosky

This year's annual Soccer Fest event was held on Saturday, October 12th, 2024 at Conemaugh Township Memorial Stadium. Both junior high teams played Cambria Heights, and both varsity teams played Central Cambria. It was a long and exciting day, as all of the Township teams came out victorious.

For the past couple of years, Conemaugh Township has been dominant throughout all of the games that happen over Soccer Fest. This makes it a lot of fun for the fans to enjoy. It also makes it enjoyable for all of the players who competed in all of the games throughout the day. During this event, there can be lots of memories made for these young athletes.

Overall, the Indians were very successful over this year's Soccer Fest and made lots of people very excited to watch them play. It was a great showing of all the hard work that each of these teams put in, and a great display of the culture that the sport of soccer has at CT. Hopefully the same will happen next year.

Varsity Volleyball vs. United

By Averie Seibert

The Conemaugh Township volleyball team wrapped up the final week of their regular season by capturing a win against the United Lions. On October 15th, 2024, the girls traveled to United and were able to increase their record on the season to 15-3.

The team defeated the Lions in three sets, with scores of 25-19, 25-14, and 25-20. Freshman Sarah Swank led the team with 9 kills and 4 aces and junior Madee Roman followed closely behind her, tallying 8 kills and 7 aces. Ava Byer added 7 kills and 9 digs. Brianna Shetler led the defense with 10 digs, and setters Ava Byer and Mary Matera created the offense with 13 and 11 assists respectively. Senior Brianna Shetler quoted, "We fought hard as a team and managed to pull out a 3 set win." The JV team beat United in two sets with scores of 25-8 and 25-23.

After this final week of games, the girls look very promising heading into conference and district playoffs in the upcoming weeks ahead. The girls will be competing in the KCAC Heritage Conference Championships on October 19th. Those results will appear in next month's edition of the Contownian Magazine.

Varsity Golf Districts

By Ava Byer

The Conemaugh Township Varsity golf team competed in the District V golf tournament at the Iron Masters Country Club on October 8th, 2024. They placed second, losing to Bedford with a score of 333-351. The Tribe came away as the individual girls and boys champions, with Alex Boring winning the girls, and Ben Steinbeck winning the boys.

With Alex Boring winning the girls championship this year, it makes her a four-time District Champion for Conemaugh Township varsity golf. She shot a 91, which led her to win by 14 strokes. Ben Steinbeck shot an impressive one under-par with a 71, which led him to win by 8 strokes. Both Alex and Ben will be competing in the PIAA State Championship at Penn State on October 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. Senior Noah Getson, who also competed in the District V Championship, says about the match, "It was a tough match and we knew that going into it, that we would be able to walk away with a silver, if not a gold. Even though most of us didn't play our best rounds, I can't think of a much better way to finish my senior golf season."

The Conemaugh Township varsity golf team has worked hard all year and had a great season. The two golfers that will be advancing to state playoffs are working hard to get the best outcome they can.



ATHLETES OF THE



Taylor Jarvis is the daughter of Nate Jarvis and Ashley Pollino of Johnstown and Ebensburg. Taylor is a member of many activities at our school, and is part of this year's graduating class. Taylor Jarvis is a member of the Conemaugh Township soccer and softball team. She has lettered for soccer three of her years on the team, and has been playing for 13 years. She has lettered all four years for softball, and also has been playing softball for 13 years. In 2022, as well as 2023, she was selected as a member of the 1st Team All West-Pac Conference. Also, in 2022

and 2023, she was a part of the 1st Team All Somerset County. She was a part of the Spring 1st team in 2024 as well as the All-Heritage Conference team. Aside from school sports, Taylor is a member of Rotary, volunteers with the youth softball league, volunteers at Saint Anne's Church, and participates in indoor soccer. In her free time, Taylor enjoys spending time with family, and friends. After high school, Taylor plans to attend Conemaugh Nursing School. A quote that she likes to live by is "If it doesn't challenge you, it doesn't change you."



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Noah Getson is the son of Sandy Baker and Roy Getson. Noah lives with both of his parents in Jerome, PA. Noah is a senior member of the varsity golf team where he is a captain. He has lettered in golf all four years and helped his team finish their season with a record of 14-4 and rank 2nd in the division. Noah will also be a senior member of the baseball team this upcoming season. During his time on varsity baseball so far, Noah captured one district title in his first three years with the team. Noah also received the Walter Goch Bosiak Award for being the top player off the field. Noah's skills go further than just on the golf

course and baseball field. Noah has achieved the honor roll and he was selected as student of the month in April of last year. This fall, Noah was nominated by his peers to be on the homecoming court and was then selected as the class of 2024 Homecoming King. Noah is a current volunteer for the Jerome Fire Hall, but right after high school he wants to go straight into the workforce. Noah wants to work at a paid fire hall as his lifetime career. His current work and future plans led Noah to start CT's annual "Heroes Benefit" Dodgeball Tournament, as the event is sponsored by Jerome Fire Department, which he is involved with. In his free time, Noah enjoys woodworking, firefighting, dirt bike riding, hunting, and fishing.



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Short n' Sweet Tour

By Izzy Gundy

Sabrina Carpenter's tour debuted in Columbus, Ohio on September 23rd, 2024. She opens the tour by coming out dressed in a towel covered in glitter, which reveals a sparkly bodysuit underneath. After revealing the bodysuit, she sings her hit song "Taste." This is Carpenter sixth studio album but her first stadium tour.

All of Carpenter's outfits include a fun sparkly theme, most outfits being cute, pastel colors, with kiss marks on her tights. The tour has three main acts: "Sabrina Carpenter, Short n' Sweet", "Sabrina after Dark," and "Don't Touch That Dial." Halfway through the concert, Carpenter and her dancers sit in a heart shaped conversation pit where they gossip about Carpenter's performance. After gossiping, Carpenter spins a bottle which lands on a number one through four. She then plays a surprise song based on what number the bottle lands on. Later in the show, Carpenter has a segment dedicated to the song "Juno." During this segment, Carpenter talks to the crowd and chooses a person from the audience to give a pair of pink fluffy handcuffs, where she says, "You are under arrest for being too hot!"

Sabrina Carpenter closes the show by performing her song "Espresso." She comes up holding a coffee cup that says, "That's me espresso." She walks around the stage waking up her dancers saying, "There is one more song left. Do you need some espresso?" Carpenter's tour is planned to end March 26th, 2025 in Milan, Italy.

Menendez Brothers Documentary on Netflix

By Marly Teeter

Erik and Lyle Menendez are two brothers that in 1989, shot and killed both of their parents. They didn't do this just because they wanted to, and there are a lot of conspiracies about why they really did it. Since then, they've both sat in prison and waited for justice. Netflix now has 2 different documentaries about them and their stories.

At ages 21 and 18, Lyle and Erik admitted to shooting their parents in defense of their father, who they claim sexually abused Erik for years and was going to kill them to keep it a secret. When put on trial, they were charged

with first degree murder and life in prison. When the first documentary was made about their story, the brothers saw it and felt that it didn't tell their story very truthfully. The new documentary, *The Menendez Brothers*, will include interviews with both of the brothers and their cousin, Diane Vander Molen. Compared to the older documentary, the new one coming out October 7th aims to provide more information about the whole case and get more into your head about the brothers' feelings towards their parents.

Hopefully the new documentary will portray the Menendez brothers' stories correctly and satisfy the way they're portrayed. Everyone feels differently about their story and this new show will possibly affect people's thoughts.

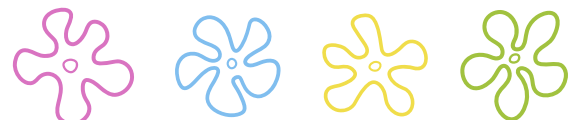
Wendy's Spongebob Meal Collab

By Marly Teeter

In honor of the 25th anniversary of the show *Spongebob Squarepants*, Wendy's is having a "Krabby Patty Kollab" for a limited time. The meal includes a special cheeseburger, or a krabby patty, a "Pineapple Under the Sea" Frosty, and french fries. The collaboration will begin October 8th and will only be available for a certain amount of time.

The special cheeseburger is recreated as the fictional burger in "Spongebob Squarepants." It's served with a slice of cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickles, onion and a "top-secret" sauce on a crispy, toasted bun. The new Frosty is inspired by Spongebob's home, which is a pineapple. It's made with vanilla ice cream and a swirl of pineapple and mango flavored puree. Sounds pretty appetizing for anybody that constantly watched all the characters eat this everyday down in Bikini Bottom.

This meal will only last a limited amount of time and will be gone by November 11th, so make sure you get to Wendy's before it's gone. Spongebob is an iconic show that has been around since the first episode aired on May 1st, 1999. Since the beginning, spongebob has been a staple to some adults' childhoods today, and maybe this meal will bring back some of those tasteful memories.



Daniel Kaluuya's Statue

By Kaydence Forish

Have you ever seen the movie *Get Out*? If you have not seen this movie, it is one of the most talked about horror films directed by Jordan Peele. Daniel Kaluuya will be honored for his performance in *Get Out* with a statue in London.

The statue will be located within the pedestrian square, which is known for its other pop culture statues such as Laurel and Hardy, Mr. Bean, Paddington, and many others. The character, Chris Washington, earned one-fifth of the vote for the next statue to be built. The statue will depict a trippy scene from the movie and will be revealed sometime in October.

After Daniel has received the news that his character was chosen to become a statue, he has shared his accomplishment among social media with his fans. Be sure to check out *Get Out* and keep an eye out for Daniel's statue!

Billie Eilish on Tour

By Kaydence Forish

Are you a fan of concerts and screaming your lungs out to your favorite songs by your favorite artists? Well, if that's the case, then it's probably a good thing to know that Billie Eilish is on tour!

Billie just recently came to Pittsburgh on Sunday the 13th. She performed lots of her new songs such as "Chihiro," "Lunch," "The Diner," and more from her newest album *Hit Me Hard and Soft*. Billie also sang some of her old songs as well such as "ilomilo," "When the Party's Over," and even one of her most popular older songs, "Ocean Eyes." Almost 20,000 people showed up to PPG Paints Arena to see Billie!

If you weren't able to make it to the Pittsburgh show and are still interested in attending her tour, be sure to check out Ticketmaster to find out when and where the next show will be. Be sure to take lots of pictures and videos, but don't forget to live in the moment as well. Be present for a moment you won't want to miss.

Artist of the Month



October's Artist of the Month is Braylin Petree. A senior at Conemaugh Township, she is the daughter of Jenny Petree. She grew up in Hollsopple, always having a passion for drawing. She has now continued that passion into her current artwork.

She mainly draws traditionally, on paper with pencil and paint. She's currently in Art III with Mrs. Spengler, learning techniques to improve her already fantastic skills. In an interview, she stated that her biggest inspirations for her artwork are Frida Kahlo, a Mexican painter known for indulging the culture of Mexico in her works, and Sodja Kim.

Her goals for the near future are to go to Mount Aloysius College, a private Catholic college in Cresson, to pursue occupational therapy. In the same interview, she gave a quote for wandering dreamers: "Love your life," which she very well expresses and follows. Let's hear it for Braylin and wish her luck in her future endeavors!

Musician of the Month



Elijah Sodano is the musician of the month for October. Eli, a senior at Conemaugh Township, is the son of Doug and Lori Sodano. He lives with both of his parents in Davidsville, PA. Eli has been an active member of the marching band and has contributed for many years.

In the band, Eli's chosen instruments are the trumpet and percussion. Eli usually puts on a show with the percussion instruments at football games. He has played in many different shows over the years. Some of these include: Good for the Soul, The Heist, Marching Down Bourbon Street, The Ultimate Quest, Dancing in the Street, and As Seen on TV. Eli has also had different accomplishments throughout his band/chorus career, which include Drum Major and participating in the Somerset County Band.

As Eli continues through his senior year, he does have plans for after graduation. After leaving high school, he plans on attending college. He wants to focus on psychology and eventually attend the Police Academy. After this school year and leaving everything from the band behind, Eli chose this quote to go by, "When life gives you lemons, you eat them." Congratulations Elijah!

Three Hurricanes Around the World

By Csenge Szabo

Hurricane Kirk, Helene, and Leslie are currently located in different areas of the world. Initially, all named storms are a form of a tropical cyclone, which is a rotating, organized system of clouds and thunderstorms in warm waters. According to convoyofhope.org, the first phase of a cyclone is called a tropical depression where wind speeds are less than 39 mph. In cases like these, tropical depressions are not given names but are numbered and tracked in case they grow into tropical storms or hurricanes. When the wind speed breaks 39 mph, a tropical storm is named. Finally, it will be classified as a hurricane once the speed reaches 74 mph.

Cyclone names are reused every six years. In 2012, 2018, and 2024, Leslie was named a hurricane. They all remained a Category 1 storm, which are considered winds of 74 to 95 mph. There are no impacts to land expected as Leslie remains in the Eastern Atlantic. Hurricane Kirk is a Category 4 with 130 mph winds. This hurricane could cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions along the U.S. East Coast, eastern Canada, Bermuda, the Greater Antilles, and the Bahamas, according to forecasters.

According to CBS News, hurricane Helene “left a trail of death and catastrophic damage.” At least 229 people were confirmed dead across multiple states and it is now one of the deadliest storms in U.S. history. President Biden visited Florida and Georgia to survey the damage of the storm. His trip included Greenville, South Carolina; Asheville, North Carolina; and received emergency response updates from officials in Raleigh. The president announced the federal government will cover 100% of all emergency protective measure costs and debris removal in North Carolina for six months, and Florida and Georgia for the next 90 days.

These are just a few of the hurricanes that occurred in 2024. With a total of 13 storms, including nine hurricanes, and four major hurricanes, the total number of fatalities was approximately 375.

TD Bank Charged \$3 Billion

By Kennedy Lehman

TD Bank has to pay up after breaking the U.S. monetary rules. This is the tenth largest bank in the United States. TD Bank and other banks across the U.S. have been struggling to manage money laundering risks. Also, the cost to be able to maintain

programs has been too high. According to the Wall Street Journal, “This year, the U.S. Treasury Department took a long-awaited step toward updating the patchwork of rules and regulations designed to keep dirty money out of the financial system.” This happened because the bank failed to monitor 18.3 trillion dollars in customer activity from January 2014 to October 2023. Those failures accessed three money-laundering rings to transfer over \$670 million through the bank from 2019 to 2023. The bank earned 1 million dollars daily, but the cash would be scattered onto the bank's counters. Also, ATMs had withdrawals 50 times higher than the average daily limits.

According to [wsj.com](https://www.wsj.com), “Last week, TD Bank agreed to pay \$3 billion in penalties and limit its U.S. growth for failing to properly monitor and prevent cash deposits by Chinese criminals tied to the sale of Fentanyl and other illicit drugs.” The bank allows florential crime to flourish. Attorney General Merrick Garland said, “By making its services convenient for criminals, it became one.” One man got \$470 million in drug proceeds and other illicit funds with this bank. Deputy Secretary of the Treasury Wally Adeyemo stated, “From Fentanyl and narcotics trafficking to terrorist financing and human trafficking, TD Banks chronic failures provided fertile ground for a host of illicit activity to penetrate our financial system.” The high-level executives were alerted about the problems but never took it seriously and the employees made jokes about it. Even the bank chief and money laundering officers knew about it, but still did not take the issue seriously. In addition to that, five employees worked with criminal organizations and laundered \$39 million to Columbia. This money was going towards drug proceeds. Another issue was that Venezuelan passports were open to a lot of accounts. This situation impacted two dozen people who were part of the money laundering schemes. In addition to the situation, the Justice Department has charged two employees because they were a part of the schemes.

The TD Bank is now fixing its money laundering issue. Now they are appointing new leadership and adding new specialists. On October 16th, 2024, the bank went from negative to stable. They have agreed to pay 3 billion dollars in fines. The bank is also allowing a major restructuring of the corporate compliance program. They are also on a five year probation. Masrani assures people that this money laundering problem will never happen again. He is confident that this bank will surpass this issue and emerge even stronger. He says 2025 will be a transition year with short-term costs and a balancing sheet by the bank.

Little Contownian

Junior High Football

By James Polonia

The junior high Indians football team had a solid start to the season so far, beating Marion Center and River Valley and losing to United Valley and Portage. The team is playing great this year for being a younger team mostly consisting of 7th graders.

Devin Lohr has 336 passing yards and 2 passing touchdowns completing 28 out of the 51 passes thrown this season so far. He also had 138 rushing yards and 2 rushing touchdowns out of 42 attempts this season. On the defensive side, Devin acquired 8 tackles, 12 assists, and 1 interception. Abram "The Tank" Mayak has 64 rushing yards and 1 rushing touchdown out of 17 attempts this season. Mayak caught 16 passes and acquired 92 receiving yards with it. On defense, Abram captured 4 tackles and 10 assists.

Kaiden Rose has been a menace so far with 228 yards and 2 rushing touchdowns from 42 rushing attempts. He also had 27 receiving yards out of 1 attempt. Kaiden also had 13 tackles and 18 assists on defense. Cooper Valentine had 10 receptions for 122 yards. Cooper also had 26 rushing yards and 5 rushing attempts. Cooper chipped in with 1 tackle and 4 assists on defense. Xavier "Sunshine" Peake had 6 receptions for 97 receiving yards. He also had 8 rushing yards out of 3 rushing attempts. Xavier, on the defensive side, had 4 tackles, 6 assists, and 1 interception. Blake Jarvis helped out on the defense big time with 3 tackles and 2 assists. Blake also had 2 interceptions so far on the season. Cameron "Long Arms" Fisher acquired 2 receptions, 23 yards, and 1 touchdown. On defense, Cameron captured 4 tackles, 9 assists, and 1 sack.

All in all, the junior high Indians have been doing great this season. Everyone should come and support the Indians as they continue dominating the league!

Update: The junior high Indians finished their season 6-2. Great work, boys!

Halloween

By Heaven Coleman

Do you ever want to have a spooky night full of fun? Well, say hello to Halloween. Halloween is full of fun, scary costumes, and sweet, delicious candy. If you have last year's costume, you can use it as a new costume by dressing it up as a new character. If you don't participate in Halloween, you'd be missing out on delicious candy, silly costumes, and lastly, the fun of it. If you don't have ideas for costumes, here is a list of some that are trending for this year!

1. Beetlejuice, the main character
2. Lydia, from Beetlejuice
3. Skibidi Toilet
4. Wednesday Addams
5. Taylor Swift
6. Sabrina Carpenter

You also need the best kind of candy to go with your costume. These are some of the best candies that vary in their taste, smell, and sight of them.

1. Hershey bars
2. Hershey kisses
3. Kit Kats
4. Milky Ways
5. Twix Bars
6. 3 Musketeers
7. Twizzlers
8. Dum-Dum Lollipops
9. Trolli Gummies
10. Rice Krispies

After that night of fun, you are left with lots of candy and costumes that you could donate to others. These are the two best parts of Halloween!

HAPPY
Halloween



Academic Calendar/ Upcoming Events

November 4.....	Report Cards Issued
November 8.....	One Hour Early Dismissal
November 11.....	Veterans Day Vacation
November 12.....	Parent Conference Day No School for Students
November 27.....	One Hour Early Dismissal
November 28 - 29.....	Thanksgiving Vacation

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

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DAILY NEWS

WEEKLY NEWS

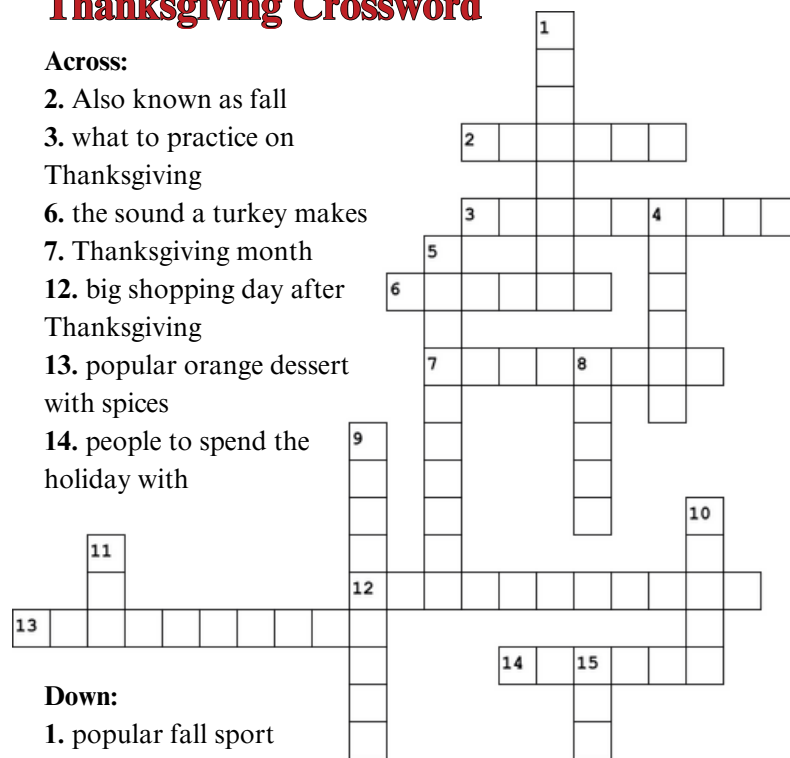
STUDENT FEATURES

SPORTS UPDATES

Thanksgiving Crossword

Across:

2. Also known as fall
3. what to practice on Thanksgiving
6. the sound a turkey makes
7. Thanksgiving month
12. big shopping day after Thanksgiving
13. popular orange dessert with spices
14. people to spend the holiday with



Down:

1. popular fall sport
4. Thanksgiving bird
5. horn stuffed with fruit and flowers
8. pale yellow grain; similar to corn
9. small, sour and dark red berry
10. topping for mashed potatoes
11. alternative to turkey
15. name of main ship sailed to the New World



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We are thankful to serve the Conemaugh Twp Community, and wish Blessing to all of the Students in the 2023/2024 School year.