

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



HUDSON LEASE JUNIOR OLYMPICS

Hudson Lease attended the Junior Olympics over the summer. He competed in track and field against 49 other athletes. The Junior Olympics was held in Texas at Texas A&M College. When Hudson competed at districts for Conemaugh Township, a coach from another team suggested he try out for the Junior Olympics. To get into this competition, he was required to place in the top three in two other meets: one at Slippery Rock and another in New Jersey. He began training in March of 2024. The Junior Olympics competition lasted a week long. He placed 22nd in the mile and 21st in the two mile. Hudson is grateful that he got a great experience, exposure for college recruits to see him, the opportunity to experience competing at a national level, and the chance to see how he would place. Hudson quoted Kevin Durant in stating, "Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard."



TEAL OUT GAME

Conemaugh Township's volleyball team's Teal Out Game was held on Thursday, September 19th. The junior varsity team played first, and beat Cambria Heights in two sets. The varsity team, encouraged by the cause, won all three sets with the score 25-12, 25-20, and 25-15. The teal out game was in memory Carson Harbart's father Scott Harbart, who recently lost his battle with lung cancer. The Ann Harris Smith Foundation attended the game and set up a donation box. All of the proceeds went to ovarian cancer research. The Ann Harris Smith Foundation was also the group who supplied the "Hit For Harby" t-shirts. These shirts were teal and white: teal for ovarian cancer and white for lung cancer. Sophomore player Danika Black said, "We had a great showing from the community and lots of support for a good cause. " We're proud of our volleyball players and the community for coming out for a great cause!



New Faces in the Tribe

MS. PASIERB



Ms. Pasierb is our school's new chemistry teacher. She has a husband, two children, and a beagle named Whiskey. She attended Shade-Central City High School then went onto continue her schooling at Washington Jefferson College. Her past jobs were in research and development at Conemaugh and as a dental office manager in Windber. She wanted this job so she can get back into chemistry and work in a close-knit district like Conemaugh Township. So far, she enjoys how much the students and staff have been helpful and nice, and how her days are split up with new kids each period.

MR. BALLARINO

Mr. Ballarino is joining Conemaugh Township as the school's new health and physical education teacher. He was recently married to his wife in June of 2024. He attended Bishop McCort High school, Saint Frances for undergraduate, and Indiana University of Pennsylvania for his master's degree. He taught at Bishop Carroll for two years before being hired here. He chose to work at Conemaugh Township because he enjoys the community and the district. Everyone supports each other, and there are lots of opportunities to grow in his career. He enjoys spending time outdoors, walking, hiking, and going to the gym.



SARAH MIENTUS

Sarah Mientus is our school's new full time REACH counselor. She went to Freeport High School before going to Slippery Rock for her bachelors in music education, and then Colorado Christian University for her master's. She has worked as a part time reach counselor at Windber and North Star, Family Behavioral Resource, and Kentucky Treatment Facility. She chose to apply for this job because she lives nearby, would get to work here full time, and help children work through hard things. She finds that our school is very supportive, everyone is a team and supports one another, and that we have a great deal of Indian pride. She enjoys playing volleyball, singing, playing music, and being outside.



Rotary

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES



Each year, the Conemaugh Township student rotary club sends out college care packages to the members of the club who graduated the year before. The rotary will be sending out 15 care packages this year. Each package has two to three of the current members of the rotary putting together the packages. The rotarian in charge will get all the addresses and a generalized list of supplies the new college students may want and may need. Each group gets their graduated member in the middle of September and tries to personalize the package to the graduated member that they received. The rotary will be sending out the packages homecoming week. One student stated, "It is nice to be able to give back to people that we know and help them during their first year in college."

ROAD CLEAN UP

The rotary road clean up will take place sometime during the week after homecoming. The students who are current rotary members will be dismissed for half a day to walk the path of the homecoming parade and pick up candy and trash left on the side of the road. If the students have extra time they will walk from the Thomahawk to the 219 exits. This allows the students to experience how cleaning even just a bit of trash off the side of the road will help the community look nice and improve the surrounding environment. The students who are available after school will stay and clean up around the school as well for their fall campus clean up. The rotary students are grateful to be able to get out of school and be able to help the community be a cleaner place. Maya Denault stated, "It is a nice experience to be able to help and give back to our community."



Fall Festivities

HOMECOMING

Conemaugh Township's varsity football team will be taking on Cambria Heights on October 4th for the annual Homecoming game. Jacob Bartis states, "Its going to be a hard fought battle, but we are going to give it our best and leave it all out on the field." The game will start at 7pm, following the Homecoming parade which starts at 6pm.

The annual parade travels down Main Street in town, traveling from St. David's Church past hundreds of Indians fans, to finally stop at the football field. This year's Homecoming Court couples are Ava Byer and Noah Getson, Marly Teeter and Grant Dombrosky, Carson Harbart and Dylan Hovanec, Jema Calasara and Dane Rouser, Izzy Slezak and Sam Shaffer, Jordyn Snyder and Jackson Sotosky, and Briar Berkey and Haiden Henry. Each couple will prepare a skit that they will perform at the Bonfire Dance on October 2nd. This year's theme will be "Old Movie Couples."



BONFIRE / BONFIRE DANCE

On October 2nd at 6 pm, the school's annual bonfire will be held. At the bonfire, the senior members of all fall sports teams will give a speech about their competitions so far and what they predict for the rest of the season. After their speeches, the band will play and the fire will be lit. At 6:30, the students will be heading into the school for the bonfire dance. The middle school dance will be held in the cafeteria. The high school dance will be held in the gym. The dance will last until 8. Akira Irizarry, an 11th grade cheerleader, noted, "We are so excited to cheer at the bonfire so we can represent the school and our team!" It looks like it is going to be an exciting Homecoming week for our Indians!



MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

DISTRICT VI CHOIR AUDITIONS

On October 20th a group of choir members are going to audition for District VI Chorus. The group includes Julia Thomas, Evan Grimes, Addison Lasure, Caven Miller, Elijah Sodano, Isaac Marsh, Chris Yoder, Heath Moser, Jaylynn Moyer, Emily Purdy, Daniel Turley, Alexa Gardenhour, Charlotte Worst, Greta Mock, and Anna Hunsberger. Within this group there are two sopranos, six altos, and seven tenors. The song they are auditioning with is called "Cantate Domino." The students will arrive at the school early Saturday morning and ride a bus to Northern Bedford. The host of these auditions will be the choral and general music teacher from Northern Bedford, Brett Keith.



VOLUNTEER CHOIR STUDENTS SING FOR 125TH CELEBRATION

On October 27th, six volunteer choir students are going to Thomas Mennonite Church to sing two songs for the church's 125th celebration. The students are Maya Denault, Eden Denault, Greta Mock, Julia Thomas, Jacob Hostetler, and Alexa Gardenhour. The students have been preparing to sing for the church during their free time and with the help of Ms. Lingenfelter during homeroom. The church will be having the celebration starting at 2pm and the choir students will sing at 2:30. Afterward, the church will be serving ice cream. Sandy Wakins, the organizer of the celebration, states, "I along the church are so grateful to be able to host some of the Conemaugh Township choir and can't wait to hear them sing for our celebration."



Outstanding Indians

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



"Heaven Coleman is sweet and considerate to all of her peers. She is a thoughtful and sweet student."

"Louis DeSignore is friendly and polite to teachers and his peers. He is always helpful and engaged in class."



"Angelo Toney is a very conscientious student. He is personable and helpful to his peers."

SENIOR HIGH STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



"A breath of fresh air, Jada David is always in a positive mood with a bright smile; she's a hard worker who is kind to everyone!"

"Elanor Luscher is one of the hardest workers, and this work ethic is only surpassed by her kindness towards others. She treats everyone respectfully."



"Laikyn Reynolds is a passionate and reliable student. She is honest, hard-working, and helpful to her peers."

"Carson Harbart is always kind, always smiling, and always trying! Her positivity and loving demeanor is contagious."





Teacher Spotlight: Kelly Kramer



"Mr. Kramer is the best person ever. Being in his classroom brings me so much joy. He is a great, trustworthy, and honest person."

-Lilly Oakes

Mr. Kelly Kramer has been a staple at Conemaugh Township for 13 years now. Along with teaching math and being our resident bearded beauty, he has become a safe space for students in all grades.

Mr. Kramer was born in Wilbur, Pennsylvania into a military family that moved frequently. His childhood took him across the country, spending time in Colorado, Maryland, and Somerset. He graduated from Shade High School in 2001, but instead of heading straight to college, Mr. Kramer started his career in construction. In 2003, Mr. Kramer joined the Army as part of the initial invasion of Iraq where he served in the infantry. After his military service, Mr. Kramer pursued higher education at Indiana University of Pennsylvania where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Secondary Math Education. He furthered his studies and obtained a Master's degree in the same field.

In 2012, Mr. Kramer was hired by Conemaugh Township, where he has since dedicated himself to teaching math. Over the past 13 years, he has taught a variety of courses including 7th grade math, 8th grade math, Geometry, Algebra I and II, and Trigonometry, impacting countless students with his passion for mathematics.

Mr. Kramer has been happily married to his wife, Vicki, for 19 years. Together, they have two wonderful children: Kendall, a senior in high school, and Kelson, who is currently in 8th grade. They share their home with two cats, Clover and Squeaks. Outside of the classroom, Mr. Kramer is a coach for Conemaugh Township's girls soccer team, sharing his own love for the sport. He enjoys staying active through running and has a lot love for the outdoors, particularly long rifle shooting. Additionally, he used to enjoy snowboarding.

Mr. Kramer cherishes the interactions he has with both students and colleagues at Conemaugh Township, and his calm, hilarious, and passionate demeanor make him a beloved part of our Conemaugh Township community.

"Mr. Kramer is an asset to this school. He is a dedicated teacher, a solid role model, and a fine coach. Our students should be glad to have a teacher with vast world experiences in their lives. He is a heck of a nice guy and is willing to watch most of the weird movies I tell him about."

-Mr. Kusher



"Mr. Kramer is always willing to lend an ear and take time out of his day for his students. He is always a joy to be around."

-Kat McCann

"Mr. Kramer is always willing to help anyone with anything and makes sure that we feel like we are in a safe environment."

-Maya Denault



UPCOMING EVENTS

October 2 | Homecoming Bonfire | 6:00
Bonfire Dance | 6:30-8:00

October 4 | Homecoming Football Game
7:00 @Home

October 11 | 2 Hour Early Dismissal

October 14 | Teacher In-Service

October 20 | Act 80 Early Dismissal
12:00 Middle/High School
12:30 Elementary

October 28 | End of Nine Weeks

October 31 | Halloween

