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Johnstown's Central Park Reconstruction

By Savannah Stutzman

This past May it was announced that the plans had been finalized for the reconstruction and restoration of Johnstown's Central Park. There had been a lot of debate between the city council on the design, but the project has officially been started. The city officials had hoped that this project would bring a new light to Johnstown, restoring one of the town's most trivial spots once more, however, that no longer seems to be the case.

The entire process started back in 2023, when Johnstown's city council hired Scrape Landscaping and Architecture to help create the official design for Johnstown's new and improved Central Park, after receiving a 6.9 million dollars as an award from the American Rescue Plan Act after COVID-19. Before the construction could begin, the council, and other members of the community, debated for months on the plans, causing it to seem like the project would never begin. Once the majority came to an agreement, and plans were revised, the construction officially started on September 2nd, 2025. Some of the key features include a new water feature, an increased greenspace, a new pavilion, and improved lighting, making the park more accessible. In reality, the park isn't getting many new features, only improved ones, which hopefully will attract more people. The project is predicted to be wrapped up by the summer of 2026. After so much debate, everything was going fairly smooth, and the project received a lot of positive light until recently. Locals have stated that there are less people on the streets because no one can hang out at the park. Many are also concerned that local businesses are no longer getting the attention they deserve due to the fact no one is walking past them. According to WJAC, the city council has taken this into consideration and has promised that they are working to ensure that local businesses are supported.

Hopefully by the time the restoration of Central Park is done, locals will believe that all of the downsides of the construction were worth it and, if everything works out as intended, local businesses will receive more traffic and business as more people are attracted to the revamped Central Park. The construction itself hasn't received negative feedback yet, but many locals are upset by the disruption that it is causing.

Silverbell Closes Early

By Daniel Vanfossen

In recent events, customers are shocked to find out that Silverbell, the ice cream store in the center of Davidsville, closed due to supposed store management issues. They are slotted to reopen next year, sometime before summer 2026.

The Silverbell traditionally closes after Halloween. However, that was not the case this season. This early closing is very disappointing for the community as many people love to get ice cream after their activities and sporting events in the Conemaugh Township area. Every year on trick-or-treating night, Silverbell's lights are on and the lines are filled with kids sporting their costumes. The Silverbell is a staple in the community of Davidsville due to its very convenient location near the schools. Many students are sad to see the Silverbell close unexpectantly this year as it uplifts the community with its warming energy and tasty flavors.

This closing will affect the community of Davidsville heavily as many people love getting their sweet treats during this busy sporting season. This unexpected event led many people to begin speculating why they closed early or fearing if they will reopen next year. Silverbell is loved by many people and was shocking to see it close so early, but the people of Conemaugh Township are hopeful that it will open back up next season.

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Willow Lease taking a shot in her soccer game.



Our volleyball seniors at Senior Night!

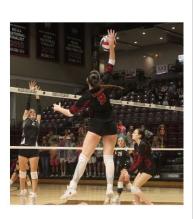


Our football team showing support for Ethan at the Lime Out game.



Our Homecoming King and Queen, Julian Thorne and Andie Hunsberger.

Sarah Swank killing it at the Heritage Championships!



Peyton Lasure and Jayla Feathers working hard on their English assignments.



Mya Kane and Anna Hunsberger picking up trash around the community.



Lila Custer and
Paxton Feathers
handing out candy
in the
Homecoming
Parade.



Addi Lasure and Danika Black up before the sun at Grill Team.



Ian Gardenhour working hard on his math lesson.

Supporting Ethan Matera with Lime Out

By Amelia Mitchell

Conemaugh Township recently came together in a powerful display of community and compassion to support one of their own: Ethan Matera. Ethan is a senior who is bravely battling cancer. In his honor, the school hosted a special "Lime Out" game for volleyball and football. Many fans and players were lime green to show their support for Ethan, and his battle against T-cell lymphoblastic lymphoma.

Ethan was diagnosed with T-cell lymphoblastic lymphoma back in May. When his friend Brennan Lohr found out, he brought up the idea of having a Lime Out game. Brennan wanted to show Ethan that our school and community were here to support him. The school held the Lime Out volleyball game on October 2nd and a Lime Out football game on October 10th. Many fans showed up to both games to show their support for Ethan and his family. One of the teachers at Conemaugh Township, Mrs. Rebecca Conn, was in charge of selling the shirts that were made for this event. When students and community members found out about this sale, the response was enormous. All profits that were made from the sale were directly donated to the Matera family. On the night of October 10th, the football team played Cambria Heights. A father from Cambria Heights generously donated many lime colored bracelets for us to sell as well.

Overall, the staff, students, and community members of Conemaugh Township all came together to raise awareness, to show their unwavering encouragement for Ethan and his fight against cancer. This event just shows that he is not fighting alone, as the whole school is behind him, cheering him on.

Alumni of the Month



Angela Callihan, a former Conemaugh Township student, graduated high school in 2015. Following her student career, Callihan attended Indiana University of Pennsylvania and earned a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education/Special Education. Furthering her higher education journey, she then proceeded to graduate from PennWest University with a master's degree in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA).

While reflecting on her time spent at the Conemaugh Township High School, Mrs. Callihan noted that she had a variety of favorite moments from her experience as a student. Some of her fondest memories included reading, and listening, to current events during Mr. Mainhart's class, participating in playoff soccer games, and spending time in Mrs. Keifer's room. Callihan also mentioned that her favorite teacher was Mrs. Kimmel, stating, "Mrs. Kimmel showed me 'tough love' and continued to mentor me even outside of high school. Mrs. Kimmel seemed to always have the right thing to say and was always helping me when I needed it. She was a great softball coach as well."

Angela Callihan currently works as a kindergarten and first grade emotional/learning support teacher at the Conemaugh Township Elementary School. She now resides in Hollsopple, Pennsylvania with her loving husband, Jeff Callihan, and their three children: a son, a daughter, and a foster son.

Alumni Concert Preparation

By Alonna Bracken

On November 26th, our school will proudly be hosting "Music Makes Us Stronger," an inspiring event that celebrates the power of music bringing our alumni and current students together. This event will feature performances from our Marching Band, Concert Choir, and Concert Band, and will be held in the gymnasium. Tickets are available for pre-order or at the door for community members and returning alumni. Doors open at 4 p.m. Each group has a selection of tunes to play for this event. Our marching band has prepared some pep tunes such as "The Hey Song," "25 or 6 to 4," and will also be performing the "Star Spangled Banner." Our Concert Choir will be performing "Do You Hear the People Sing" from Les Miserables, "Bridge Over Troubled Water" by Simon & Garfunkel (arr. Shaw), and many more. Our Concert Band will be performing "Armed Forces Salute," arr. Balent with Concert Choir, "Farandole" by Bizet (arr. Bocook), along with "Sleigh Ride" by Leroy Anderson. All groups will also be performing our Alma Mater together! Mrs. Grove gave her input on what she's hoping we achieve during Music Makes Us Stronger. "Our first reunion was in 2017. Our students in the music department were able to perform alongside around 100 alumni in the different ensembles. We hope to have a lot of participation again this year across all of the years! We also really hope our community shows up to support a great cause that has helped 12-15 members in our community already over the last several years!"

Conemaugh Township's Homecoming Traditions

By Lyla Mauzy

Homecoming, an annual highlight of each school year, is a time in which we recognize our talented students, show appreciation towards faculty and staff, and welcome the many alumni returning to our district. Every year, from late September to early October, the Conemaugh Township Area School District celebrates its annual Homecoming week through a variety of generational traditions, thrilling sporting events, and community activities.

The 2025 Homecoming festivities began with our school's Spirit Week, where students and teachers showcased their school pride by dressing up daily for several creative themes. From "PJ Day" to "Extreme Red and Black Day," the student body, as well as numerous faculty members, helped raise school enthusiasm throughout the eventful week of our Homecoming celebration. One of the most notable events during this exciting time, the annual Conemaugh Township Bonfire, took place on Wednesday, October 1st, where many gathered to set the night ablaze with CT spirit. Built by the seniors year after year, the bonfire has always served as a way to unite the graduating class and bring the community together as a whole. The event was accompanied by the yearly Bonfire Dance, which gave middle and high school students the opportunity to spend time with friends, enjoy concessions, and watch several entertaining skits created by the Homecoming Court. The following day, a lively pep rally was held at the elementary school to instill school spirit among the children for the upcoming football game and parade. Students, teachers, and staff members gathered excitedly in the gymnasium to experience true Homecoming cheer firsthand. Throughout the course of the assembly, elementary school students were able to meet the Homecoming Court and senior high football team, watch the cheerleaders and marching band perform, and play their instruments alongside high school band members. After a rousing week of CT spirit to set off the Homecoming celebration, our annual football game and parade were ready to commence on Friday, October 3rd. In preparation for such a momentous evening, the CT Student Council was tasked with arranging decorations both on campus and around the community. The dedicated group and its members did an excellent job painting the windows of local businesses, assembling balloon arches, designing parade signs, and working behind the scenes to ensure that the parade and

football game were absolutely unforgettable. With extensive planning, decorations, and an incredibly supportive audience in attendance, the parade leading up to the major football game was an astonishing spectacle. Many community members lined up along the route of the procession to watch the eye-catching elements of the event unfold. The parade was marked by the exceptional performances of the marching band and cheerleaders, followed by numerous floats that recognized those who make our district a place worth celebrating. The floats featured a variety of different groups, such as the Homecoming Court couples along with our volleyball, golf, and soccer teams, proud CT alumni residents from Laurel View Village, and parents of the senior high football players. As the parade made its course through town and finished its journey at the Conemaugh Township High School, the much-anticipated Homecoming football game was ready to begin. Though the opposing team was fierce, the Township Indians played a successful game against Penns Manor, winning 6-0. During the halftime show presented by the CT Music Department, the marching band and color guard performed a wonderful selection of songs made famous by The Beatles. Erin Fochtman, a devoted member of the marching band, gave an inside look at what her experience participating in the Homecoming halftime show was like. Fochtman stated, "It's always fun playing on the field for others during senior nights or for Homecoming. The parade also went amazing, and the Homecoming Court great!" Following the spectacular halftime performance, the Homecoming King and Queen were finally announced. The candidates for the Homecoming King were Aidan Burnworth, Gavin Davis, Conner Hawkins, Brennan Lohr, Brandon Petrilli, and Julian Thorne. Candidates for the Homecoming Queen included Andie Hunsberger, Lindsay Knieriem, Laikyn Reynolds, Madee Roman, Olivia Rvan, and Czenge Szabo. Out of the 12 contestants total, Andie Hunsberger and Julian Thorne were crowned the 2025-2026 Homecoming King and Queen. Since both individuals are incredibly talented and hardworking, it is no doubt that the pair will represent our district well.

Overall, the 2025 Homecoming week proved to be extremely successful and memorable for all who participated. Each year, the many traditions, events, and activities the annual Homecoming celebration offers have a community-wide impact. They bring students, teachers, parents, staff, and returning alumni together to make lasting memories and display their unwavering support for the Conemaugh Township Area School District.

Thanksgiving: Overrated or Underrated?

By Hannah James

Thanksgiving is held at the end of the month of November each year. Families and friends come together to eat and give thanks to everything and everyone that they are thankful for. This holiday is meant to help people reflect on the things that they have. Despite how wonderful this holiday is, I believe that it is often overlooked, and very underrated.

Since Thanksgiving is at the end of November, it is very close to Christmas. Because of this, Thanksgiving is often briefly celebrated by a lot of people, instead of giving it the full recognition that it deserves. During Thanksgiving, there is no pressure to get people gifts or cards. The most you have to do is show the people that you care about your appreciation for them. That could be by sending them a text message, or giving them a call.

Thanksgiving is like the calm before the storm. It is a day to relax, eat food, and watch the football game or Macy's day parade with your family and friends. You could start some traditions, like playing board games or having a competition on who can dress the most festive each year.

Thanksgiving isn't just for a certain group of people. It's a day that everyone can celebrate, no matter the age or religion of the person. There is always something that someone can be grateful for; something that's worth celebrating. Many times, we as a society, forget to look back on what we have and take time to appreciate it. Thanksgiving helps us remember that even when life gets rough, there are things or people in our lives that give us a reason to keep going.

Putting more focus on the importance of Thanksgiving can help us realize that it is important to hold on to the people close to us. It shows us that we need people that love and care about us. So, this year, everyone should spend a little more time celebrating a day that shows us the importance of what we have, and how quickly life goes by.

Stuffing or Mashed Potatoes?

By Jacob Bartis

Mashed potatoes and stuffing are two of the biggest staples at any Thanksgiving dinner. However, when it comes to which one truly deserves the spotlight, mashed potatoes take the win. Both are warm, comforting, and packed with flavor, but mashed potatoes bring something special to the table that stuffing just cannot beat. They are creamy, buttery, and smooth, and they go perfectly with everything on your plate. You can load them up with gravy, mix them with corn, or just eat them plain, and they still taste amazing. They never disappoint, and always bring that feeling of home. Stuffing can be great when it is done right, but it can also be dry or too strong, and that makes it hard to love every time. Mashed potatoes are simple, classic, and reliable, and that is why they deserve the crown.

One of the best things about mashed potatoes is how versatile they are. You can make them smooth and buttery, or mix in garlic, cheese, or bacon to switch things up. They taste good no matter what, and they can fit with almost every other dish on the table. They go great with turkey, gravy, or even vegetables. They pull everything together and make the plate feel complete. Stuffing, on the other hand, does not have that same flexibility. It has one strong flavor that only really fits with Thanksgiving. After a few bites, it can start to feel heavy, while mashed potatoes are the kind of food you can eat over and over without getting tired of them.

Stuffing also depends a lot on how it is made. Every family has their own recipe. Sometimes it turns out amazing, but other times it misses the mark. It can be too dry, too mushy, or too full of herbs that take over the flavor. Mashed potatoes almost always come out right, even when they are made simply. As long as there is butter and salt, they will taste good. They are the kind of food that everyone loves, no matter their tastebuds. There is something comforting about that soft, smooth texture that makes you want another bite every time. They do not need anything fancy to be good, and that is what makes them so special.

In the end, mashed potatoes are the true MVP of Thanksgiving. They are the dish everyone looks forward to, and they never let anyone down. Stuffing might bring a traditional flavor, but mashed potatoes bring warmth, comfort, and consistency. They are the side that ties the whole meal together and makes every plate feel complete. Thanksgiving would not be the same without them. When it comes to mashed potatoes versus stuffing, mashed potatoes win every single time. They are timeless, satisfying, and the definition of comfort food, proving that sometimes the simplest dishes are the best ones.

Top 10 Thanksgiving Foods

By Jacob Bartis

Thanksgiving is one of those holidays where the food really steals the show. Everyone's plate looks a little different, but there are certain dishes that always seem to make the cut. Here's a lineup of the top 10 Thanksgiving foods, with a mix of classics and a few personal favorites:

- 1. Deep-Fried Turkey Crispy on the outside, juicy on the inside and way more flavorful than a standard roast.
- 2. Stuffing Loaded with bread, herbs, and seasoning; basically the heart of the meal.
- 3. Mashed Potatoes Creamy, buttery, and perfect for soaking up gravy. (Bonus if it's homemade)
- 4. Mac N Cheese Rich, cheesy comfort food that everyone piles on their plate.
- 5. Pumpkin Pie A holiday staple, smooth and spiced just right.
- 6. Cranberry Sauce Sweet, tart, and the perfect contrast to all the savory foods.
- 7. Dinner Rolls Warm and soft, perfect for stacking with turkey or dipping in gravy.
- 8. Corn Simple, sweet, and a side dish that always delivers.
- 9. Pumpkin Roll A dessert favorite, soft cake with cream cheese filling.
- Apple Pie Another Thanksgiving classic, with flaky crust and a sweet, spiced filling that balances the lineup.
- 11. Honorable Mention: Gravy The "glue guy" of Thanksgiving, completely ties the entire meal together.

At the end of the day, Thanksgiving is about loading up your plate with the foods that make you happiest. Whether you're going back for seconds of turkey, or saving space for both pumpkin pie and pumpkin roll, this list shows off the best parts of the holiday table.



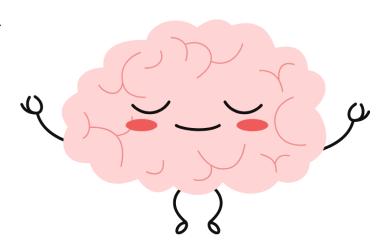
The History of World Mental Health Awareness Day

By Mya Kane

World Mental Health Awareness Day is celebrated on October 10 to raise global recognition on the importance of mental health issues, and supporting those facing mental health challenges. Mental health is a topic that is important for everyone to recognize, no matter how they are feeling or what they are experiencing in life.

World Mental Health Awareness Day was first celebrated and created in October 1992 by the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH). The day originally did not have a theme, but mainly focused on promoting mental health education. Later, in 1994, the first theme, "Improving the Quality of Mental Health Services throughout the World," was presented. The day is now dedicated to addressing mental health issues, challenging mental health stigma, and supporting everyone who struggles with mental health worldwide. It also serves as an opportunity for people to address mental health care services and policies, share stories, and form a better understanding of mental well-being. Altogether, the day was formed to bring awareness to mental health, and to make it easier for people to find help if they are struggling with their mental health.

Mental health is a topic that should not be discussed for only one day, but everyday. The more we spread the importance of World Mental Health Awareness Day, the more we are able to help others who are struggling with mental health.



Football Gets the Win on Homecoming

By DJ Bambino

On Friday October 3, 2025 the Conemaugh Township Indians hosted the Penns Manor Comets for the Indians' 2025 Homecoming game. The game was a defensive masterclass for both teams. However, the Indians would prevail and win the football game 6-0.

The Indians' defense, once again, dominated all game keeping the Comets from reaching the endzone while holding them to just 234 total yards. This was the second shutout for the Indians this season. The defense was led by senior middle linebacker, Cohen Stahl, who tallied eleven tackles including four tackles for a loss. Brennan Lohr also intercepted a Comets' pass deep in the Indians' territory to help keep the shutout alive. Offensively, the Indians' battled hard all game. They were led by sophomore quarterback, Greyson Studer, who carried the ball 21 times racking up 119 rushing yards. He also had a rushing touchdown late in the third quarter which would end up being the only points of the night.

Overall, the Indians battled hard all game. This was one of the closest games the Indians have played all year, and they ultimately managed to come out on top, with a 6-0 victory.

Volleyball Captures the Heritage Conference Title

By Peyton Lasure

On Saturday October 18th, the Lady Indians defeated both the Purchase Line Dragons, and the West Shamokin Wolves to claim their second title in their third season in the Heritage Conference. Before competing in the finals, the lady Indians had to go through Purchase Line. Township defeated the Dragons in the semi-finals in two sets, with scores of 25-18 and 25-13. Sarah Swank had 8 kills, 13 digs, and 3 blocks. Madee Roman had 7 kills and 10 digs, and Laikyn Reynolds had 6 kills and 9 digs. Averie Seibert had 16 setter assists, and Mary Matera had 9 setter assists. Senior captain Laikyn Reynolds quoted, "The win felt really good, and gave us motivation for the upcoming game against West Shamokin. We had lost to Purchase Line earlier in the season, so we really wanted this win."

In the finals, our lady Indians defeated West Shamokin, ending the Wolves' undefeated record, in five sets with scores of 25-12, 23-25, 25-18, 22-25, and 15-5. Sarah Swank had 20 kills, 36 digs, and 3 blocks. Madee Roman had 13 kills, 36 digs, and 3 aces. Laikyn Reynolds added 12 kills and 24 digs. Csenge Szabo had 15 digs, and Quinn Moser had 13 digs and 2 aces. Averie Seibert had 29 setter assists, and Mary Matera had 18 setter assists. Senior captain Madee Roman quoted, "I think we had a sense of revenge coming into the KCAC tournament. With Purchase Line and West Shamokin being our only two losses, the drive to win was so overtaking. I think the girls played very well, with a good balance between positive attitudes and determination coming into the tournament."

Following the conclusion of the conference bracket, the Lady Indians took on the District V playoffs. They are continuing to work hard to add another title to their name.

Golf Prevails at District V Match

By Peyton Lasure

The Conemaugh Township Golf team has had a great season so far with a record of 14-1, earning themselves a spot in the District V championship. Many Windber golfers who co-op with Township have also contributed to the makings of the successful season.

On October 7, 2025, Township representatives Skylar McVicker, Nick Hershberger, Ally Waterhouse, Carson Brotz, and Gracie McCall all competed for the District V title. Conemaugh Township was proudly represented, with the team bringing home the District title. The team won by one stroke over McConnellsburg. Ben Steinbeck won the individual District title with a score of 76. Logan Serenko shot 81, Hayden Miller 82, and Skylar McVicker 93. The team will continue their season, playing the District III champion, York Catholic, at Iron Masters, next Tuesday. Gracie McCall was 5th in the girls division with a 102, five strokes short from making it to the state level.

Overall, the Conemaugh Township golf program has represented the school positively. Their success continues to extend their season as they keep competing at higher levels and facing harder competition. The team is continuing to work hard and they ask for support from their fans as they drive for victory.



ATHLETES

OF

THE



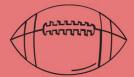
Jacob Bartis is the son of Mike Bartis and Monica Hawkins. He lives in Soap Hollow. Jacob has played two sports throughout his varsity career. He has played football for a total of eight years, lettering in all four years of varsity. In Jacob's most recent football season, he was voted by his peers to be a team captain, as he has been a heavy asset during his football tenure. Bartis has been a starter on both sides of the ball since he was a sophomore and has been known to never miss a team event, from the weight room to team meals. Jacob is also a member of the varsity basketball team. He has played basketball for seven years

and has earned a District V Championship medal with the team. Jacob's accolades extend beyond the field or the court, however. In school, Jacob is an editor for the *Contownian Network* Youtube channel, becoming a senior video editor and starring in multiple segments. He is a member of the SADD club, the *Contownian* newspaper, and the speech team. Outside of school, Bartis works at the Tomahawk

where he gets to put one of his favorite hobbies to use: cooking. In his spare time, Jacob enjoys hanging out with his friends, exploring, and trying new foods. After graduating from Conemaugh Township, Jacob plans on furthering his education in either the culinary arts or education. Bartis lives by a quote from Lebron James: "Dream as if you live forever; live as if you'll die today."







Within the school, Addie takes part in the





Addie Miller is the daughter of Chris and Michelle Miller. She is currently living with both in Davidsville, Pennsylvania. Addie is a senior member of our girls soccer team, and has lettered two of her varsity years. She has been playing soccer since she was five years old, and has accomplished many things along her journey. Addie has had many successes throughout those years including earning the title of District V team soccer champion and District V runner-up. When Addie is not on the soccer field, she is involved in many other extracurricular activities.

musical, the bocce ball team, SADD Club, and the National Honor Society. Addie, from the academic standpoint, is on the high honor roll. Outside of school, Addie participates in karate. In her free time, she likes to bake and work at her job at the Thomahawk. After high school, Addie plans on attending a four-year college to major in psychology. When we asked Addie for a quote, she recited inspiration from Alex Morgan: "There's really no secret to success. You make your own success."













Jimmy Kimmel's Cancellation and Return

By Emily Purdy

On September 15, 2025, Jimmy Kimmel expressed some controversial views on Charlie Kirk's death, the accused shooter (Tyler Robinson), and Donald Trump. This led to his show being taken off the air "indefinitely." This suspension, which ended after about a week, resulted in him returning on September 23, 2025.

In the monologue of this disputable scene, Kimmel implied that the MAGA movement was trying to score "political points" through Kirk's assassination. He also brought up Trump's reaction to the murder and compared it to how a child mourns a goldfish. Backlash on his comments then came the next morning, making ABC ban the show after workers received threats. Disney also put out a quote saying, "Last Wednesday, we made the decision to suspend production on the show, to avoid further inflaming a tense situation at an emotional moment for our country... It is a decision we made because we felt some of the comments were ill-timed and thus insensitive." Upon his return, Kimmel stated that he thought that what he said was out of line and he never meant to make light of murder. In his return, he also criticized the government saying, "a government threat to silence a comedian the president doesn't like is anti-American."

Overall, Kimmel's return created some controversy among viewers. Trump even tweeted on the topic, shaming Kimmel's return. Some believe that his apology was faked, while others, such as comedian Ben Stiller, believe that what Kimmel said was a "brilliant monologue."

Dancing With the Stars

By Mary Matera

Dancing with the Stars is back for for another thrilling season of intense choreography. This year is the 34th season, which premiered on September 16, 2025 to November 25, 2025. A new episode airs live every Tuesday at 8 p.m. On the show, professional ballroom dancers are teamed up with celebrities to compete for the Len Goodman Mirrorball Trophy. Each week there is an elimination of a team until one team is left.

Each week brings a different theme to challenge the contestants. Week one was the premiere, week two was

One-Hit Wonders Night, week three was TikTok Night and week four is Disney Night. As of October 7, 2025, three groups have been eliminated from the show. During week two, there was a double elimination of Corey Feldman paired with Jenna Johnson and Baron Davis paired with Britt Stewart. Corey and Jenna were eliminated after their performance of "cha-cha" to Sir Mix-A-Lot's "Baby Got Back." Baron and Britt got eliminated after they performed "samba" to "Return of the Mack." On week three, Lauren Jauregui paired with Brandon Armstrong, were eliminated after dancing a "cha-cha" to Fifth Harmony's song "Work from Home." This leaves only eleven teams left going into week four.

Many people around the world are eager every Tuesday to watch the newest episode to see who will go home and who will make it to the next round. The suspense draws people in to watch, and everyone loves to see their favorite dancers and celebrities on screen.

Jane Goodall's Passing

By Renata Savignone

Dame Jane Morris Goodall was a British primatologist and anthropologist who was recognized for her lifelong work with chimpanzees in their natural habitat at Gombe Stream National Park in Tanzania. She studied the chimpanzees for approximately 26 years. That was her passion, she dedicated her life to the research and study of primates because of her childhood inspiration: *Tarzan*. Young Jane was heavily inspired by the Disney story inspiring her to later go to Africa to live with, and study, the wild animals.

On October 1, 2025, at the age of 91 years-old, Jane died, in her sleep, by natural causes in Los Angeles, while on a speaking tour. In her latter years of life, she dedicated herself to advocating for human rights, the protection of species and environments, animal welfare, and more. She wrote several books for both children and adult readers. She also featured in multiple documentaries and films about her life studying the chimpanzees and her journey as a conservationist and environmental advocate. She founded the "Jane Goodall Institute" and the "Youth Movement Roots and Shoots," which is directed to young people who are interested in leadership and taking action to change the world.

A lot of people mourn her passing, but they also remember her for who she was; a strong willed woman who gave so much of herself in the name of science and who left an enormous legacy behind. Today we remember Jane Goodall whose life's work reminds us that we should do what makes us happy, and do it with dedication.

Wicked: For Good

By Sarah Swank

The Tony-winning Broadway musical *Wicked* is releasing a part two. *Wicked: For Good* is set to be released on November 21, 2025. Directed by Jon M. Chu, it completes the story of Elphaba and Glinda. The movie will explore an emotional story, describing the rise of Oz, and how Elphaba became the Wicked Witch of the West.

The Wicked movies are led by pop star Ariana Grande, who plays Glinda, and Tony-winner Cynthia Erivo as Elphaba. Since the movies were filmed back-to-back, director Jon M. Chu did not need to convince the cast to return. Wicked: For Good will contain two new songs, both of which were composed by Stephen Schwartz. According to Elle Magazine, Chu, in a recent interview with Games Radar, stated, "We get maybe a new song-or two. We get more into the meat, and the best is yet to come with these characters." In an episode of Award Chatter, Erivo stated, "I collaborated on one of the new songs, and it is so special to me." Erivo also stated, "When we filmed it, the entire crew was in tears. I hope audiences are ready - it's a song that speaks to the heart of who Elphaba is." Grande added that the sequel will explore themes of unconditional love, forgiveness, and the emotional consequences of earlier choices.

In conclusion, *Wicked: For Good* promises to be a memorable ending to the story of Elphaba and Glinda. With new songs, heartfelt themes, and powerful performances, the sequel is likely to leave the audience enchanted. Fans can look forward to a continuation that brings the magic of *Wicked* to heights when it releases this fall.

Artist of the Month



Conemaugh Township High School has so many amazing student artists, one being Kyra Kimmel. Kyra Kimmel is the daughter of Joe and Tara Kimmel who live in the Conemaugh Township district. This year, Kyra is a senior who takes Art IV and was recognized last year as one of the All-Conference artists in the 2025 Heritage

Conference.

One of Kyra's main inspirations comes from nostalgia. She says "I am heavily inspired by dreams and liminal spaces." Another thing Kyra is inspired by is dolls, especially barbies. Kyra's plans for after school and the future are still undecided. One of Kyra's favorite quotes is from Luke 23:43 - "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Kyra's creativity and passion for art has brought so much to the program over the past four years. All she has done and is currently working on is so amazing and unique. We can not wait to see what big projects and plans Kyra has in store for the future!

Musician of the Month



For the month of October, the musician of the month is Alonna Bracken. Alonna is a big part of our music department. She loves to participate in anything involving singing, music, and band. She has found that music is her comfort. Alonna has been in the band for five years, and every year she has fallen deeper in love with it.

Alonna has been in our school band for five years and she has learned how to play the tenor sax and the trombone. In the band she also is a part of the marching band, the jazz band and a small group ensemble. Alonna has said," Being a part of all these groups for a band has opened me up to so many different opportunities I never thought that I would ever do." Alonna is also a part of the musicals for four years going into her fifth. She was in stage crew for 8th and 9th grade and a part of the cast for her 10th, 11th, and now her 12th grade years. Alonna has shared a quote for anybody who is scared to take the next step: "Just get out of your comfort zone and try new things you'll never know where they will take you."

Alonna got out of her comfort zone and tried something new and ended up falling in love with it. She would recommend joining the band and even choir to anybody that would ask. She loves being a part of the music department and has done so many things to impact it. Alonna has done so many things and she hopes more people join the music department.

Government Shutdown

By Emma King

On October 1, 2025, the United States government entered a partial shutdown after Congress failed to pass appropriation legislation for the 2026 fiscal year. One of the main reasons for the shutdown is that politicians could not agree on how much money to spend and where to spend it. This marks the first shutdown of President Donald Trump's second term. It has resulted in significant disruptions across federal spending levels, foreign aid rescissions, and health insurance subsidies.

About 900,000 government workers were sent home without pay and another 700,000 had to keep working, but did not get paid on time. Important agencies like the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention were affected, and some programs had to stop or slow down. The Trump administration also let go of over 4,000 workers during the shutdown, which caused problems for government services and led to lawsuits from worker unions.

The October 2025 government shutdown highlights the deepening partisan divide in U.S. politics and its tangible impact on federal operations and employees. With Congress at an impasse and essential services compromised, the nation faces uncertainty regarding the resolution of the shutdown and the restoration of normal government functions. The ongoing crisis underscores the need for bipartisan cooperation to address fiscal challenges and prevent future disruptions.



Gaza Peace Deal

By Noah Nagy

On October 8th, 2025, President Trump announced Israel and Hamas had reached an agreement to sign the first stage of the Gaza Peace Deal. This first phase was primarily focused on freeing hostages on both sides, and Israel's withdrawal of its forces from the boundaries set in the Gaza Strip. Although a ceasefire has been signed, it is unclear if both nations will abide by the rules and continue to work towards a solution.

The news has come as a shock to the world, with many seeing it as a major shift in the political climate of the Middle East. For a war that has been raging on for years, to be ended so suddenly seems impossible. Some believe that it can be done. Supporters of the deal see the agreement as a chance to reduce casualties, free hostages, and rebuild the Gaza Strip. Others remain doubtful of the plan's effectiveness. They point to the history of failed ceasefires and believe this is just another example. Despite the first phase of the peace deal being ratified, it is up to both sides to rebuild communication, follow through on their commitments, and most importantly, not attack the other side. If the first phase is successful, it opens the door to many more agreements and will allow more discussions to be held. For now, people in Israel and Gaza are holding their breath anxiously, waiting for the other side to violate the treaty, sending the countries back to war.

Trump has said, "We've achieved what everybody said was impossible — at long last, we have peace in the Middle East." Trump's quote shows that he wholeheartedly believes this plan will work and will finally bring peace. For now, however, it is unclear if this is true. What can be confirmed is that the world is seeking a solution. In an ever-changing political climate, the Gaza Peace Deal stands out as one of the most important issues in the modern era.

Little Contownian

National Diabetes Month

By: Arabella Seibert

You may ask "What is diabetes?" or "Why do we have a month in honor of it?" Diabetes is a common disease that many people suffer from that has multiple stages and medications to go along with it. This common disease affects thousands, even millions, of people around the world in different ways, so we use November as a month to honor those who are affected and encourage research to help them.

In the United States, there are many different ways we bring light to the disease by wearing the color blue or trying to raise money. Individuals are encouraged to start conversations warning other people about this horrible disease that has taken over many lives in the world. To go along with the other examples, many people fundraise to raise money that goes toward people suffering with the disease. The United States earns millions of dollars from fundraisers to help people with this chronic disease each year.

In summary, the month of November is National Diabetes Month, and there are many ways in which you could help your community, or the ones in desperate need for help. This November, find a small group to help you spread awareness, and support the cause!



Blooket

By; Brantley Moyer

Have you ever heard of the game called *Blooket*? It is an online game where you can collect coins while still getting an education. You could play solo or with your friends. There are many different game modes you can play. Some examples are "Tower of Defense," "Gold Quest," and "Factory." These are the three most popular game modes.

You can get eight different rarities, with the most rare being mystical and the most common being uncommon. There are also Uniques and Chromas. There are only two uniques ever made, Wise Caterpillar and Wise Owl, both of them being very difficult to get. You can't get a unique from a pack, unlike Chromas, where you have a chance of getting one from a pack. There are tons of different blooks that you can collect.

In *Blooket* they brought back the Halloween/October event. This event contains the spooky pack, where you can get the Skeleton Fish, Super Glider, and the Ghost. This event also contains the game called Candy Quest. They also released the lunch pack. In this pack you can get the legendary sandwich. You could also get the half a sandwich which is the chroma. You have a 0.65% chance of getting the sandwich. For half a sandwich blook, you have a 0.04% chance of getting it.

This game is so popular that it makes \$10-20 million every year! You could play this at school, home, and in the car. This game could be tested out in your free time. My friends and I all love this game and I hope you do, too.



November 3	Report Cards Issued
November 7	One-Hour Early Dismissal
November 10	Parent Teacher Conferences-
November 11	No School for StudentsVeterans Day Vacation
November 26	One-Hour Early Dismissal 12:00 Middle/High School 12:30 Elementary
November 27-28	Thanksgiving Break

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Telephone Numbers

Administrative Numbers

Superintendent	Nicole Dull	479-7575
Business Manager	Brandon Studer	479-7431
Food Service Director	orRandy Walker	479-2328
Director of Curricula	umStacy Dabbs	479-7575

Middle/High School

PrincipalJames Foster479-4014
Vice Principal/Athletic DirectorJarod Feathers479-4014
HS Guidance CounselorKara Duplin479-7886
MS Guidance CounselorKellie Hankinson479-7886
School NurseCassey DeBiase479-2324

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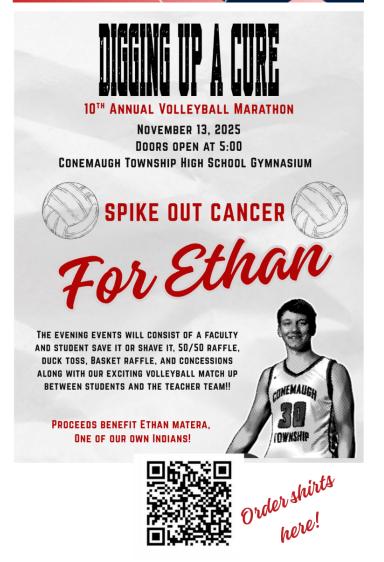
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