“Class of 2014” Graduation Set

The ceremony for the graduating “Class of 2014” will take place on June 6, 2014. The class of eighty-two students is graduating at 7:00 P.M. The ceremony will take place in the Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School Auditorium. This year’s commencement theme is entitled “Put Your Heart, Mind, and Soul Into Even Your Smallest Acts. This Is the Secret of Success.”

Katelyn Oleskey, the class treasurer, will deliver the invocation.

Carley Bonk will be the first to present her speech themed “Interconnections.” Carley is the vice president of the senior class. She is also a member of the Principal’s Cabinet and National Honor Society. Additionally, she is an Honor Roll student.

Olivia Conrad will be the second to speak. She will be discussing “The Strength of Heart”. She is the Salutatorian for the Class of 2014. She is a member of National Honor Society and Honor Roll.

“The Strength of Mind” will be presented by Isaac Callihan. Isaac is the president and valedictorian of his senior class. He is also the president of the National Honor Society, and a member of Principal’s Cabinet. He is also an Honor Roll Student.

The final subject of discussion will be “The Strength of Soul.” It will be discussed by Melanie Kauffman. Melanie is a member of the National Honor Society and is an Honor Roll Student.

Susan Saylor-Stahl, Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School Board of Directors President, is the guest speaker. School Superintendent Thomas Kakabar will present the class members with their diplomas.

Carley Bonk will serve as the Master of Ceremonies.

Page Prebehalla, Zoe Stumpo, Juliah Folton, and Beth Brenchak will sing “A Chance in Me.” The band will play the customary “Pomp and Circumstance” for the entrance procession of the seniors.

The ceremony will conclude with Lakota Bostian’s delivery of the Benediction and the traditional singing of Conemaugh Township’s “Alma Mater.”
Making Smart Summer Plans

It is a tradition in the United States for schools across the country to have summer vacation. Nine months out of the year students are expected to be in school getting well-rounded educations, while three months out of the year students are given a break during the hot summer months.

Nationally, “summer school” is commonly considered as unfortunate. The students, who attended needed to spend their summer months to catch up on specific areas in which they needed help or had failed a required course during the regular academic year.

In reporting on the trend of high-school students who go back to school in the summer, the Associated Press wrote, “Some studies suggest students lose as much as two months of knowledge over the summer.”

Pam Allyn, executive director of LitWorld, a literacy nonprofit organization, told the Associated Press, “For every kid, no matter where they live, out-of-school time is really problematic.”

The cost benefits of having year-round school are quite appealing, as well. It helps the school avoid the costs of having to build, furnish, and supply new facilities, plus the cost of hiring new faculty and staff. A year-round school schedule could also provide teachers and staff with more job security.

Having school year round and thus, avoiding the “summer vacation,” can overall help improve schools, jobs, and the education children receive. Three months off can be deadly to what they have learned during the regular academic year. Not only would this increase overall education, but it would create more of a balance.

A Costly Future

After almost thirteen years of going to school, it is time for the senior class to move on from high school onto something hopefully bigger and better. Many people choose to move on to a post-secondary school in the form of a college, university, or trade school. Some others choose to move right into the work force or take a gap year between high school and higher education. Whatever the choice is for after high school, make sure it is the right decision for you.

Out of high school a lot of people decide they would like to further their education and attend a college or university. This is a big decision because school these days is very pricey. Attending such schools can cost up to $60,000.00 every year! Deciding on a degree is also very important because you will have to make enough money to be able to pay off your student loans.

Trade schools can be very beneficial to those who want to go into cosmetology, mechanics, welding, or registered nursing. They are fairly inexpensive compared to college and can get you out into the work force quickly.

Others make the decision to travel and take a year off right out of high school. They are able to explore different things this world has to offer, and it may help them decide what they want their future careers to be. This is a good decision because it gives them time to think and decide what they want to do before going off to school or straight into the work force.

No matter what is decided, make sure you will be able to support and benefit yourself through it. Make sure it is something you want to do for life, the career path that will be something rewarding to you, and something you will feel good about waking up every day to and doing.

A Series of Beginnings

As I have grown older, I have realized life is all about new beginnings. It is full of graduations, promotions, advancements, and achievements. I can remember graduating from my preschool and moving on to kindergarten. It was a new experience; I no longer was spending all of my time with my parents all day. I had gained a little bit of maturity and responsibility. I had to remember things like my lunch number and which bus I had to ride.

I had gotten use to doing tasks on my own and each year I grew more and more self-reliant. In sixth grade everyone looked up to me and my peers. We were known as the “big kids” of the school. A new beginning then happened - sixth grade promotion! Everything then changed. I went from the top of the social chain to the very bottom. It was high school! I was like a child in the midst of giants, scurrying around trying not to get in the way. My status and confidence finally grew; however, as I gained experience in eighth and ninth grade. For me, tenth grade was a new stage of my high school life. The academics were harder, the sports were more competitive, and friendships were stronger than ever. I took from tenth grade a lot of good lessons I would use later on in my life. I learned how to never give up, whether it was on school work or a sports game.

Now I am entering a world full of many new beginnings. My high school life is coming to a close. College is quickly approaching and decision making is the key to creating a successful path to my future. I can now use all of the tools I was taught throughout all of my schooling at Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School and apply them to my daily experiences. It will be a bitter sweet walk across the stage one last time at graduation. Yet nevertheless, I will be sure to remember it is not the end, but instead, a new beginning.
PHOTO JOURNALISM

“PICS OF THE MONTH”

Memorable May

Coltin Miller points out disease types in Health class.

Emilee Naugle and her Prom date share a dance.

McKinley Sanders winds up to pitch to his opponent.

Abigail Roberts prepares to hit the ball during the softball game against Windber.
THE YEAR IN REVIEW

September

September began by reuniting with those we had missed all summer and getting back into the swing of the school year. We welcomed new people to our faculty and student body including Mr. Beach, Mrs. Forgas, and two foreign exchange students, Andrea Mori from Italy and Nicole Ekert from Germany. Friday nights were the times to be at the football field and support our Indians and band. Volleyball, golf, cheerleading and soccer also began. We showed our school spirit at pep rallies held by the cheerleaders and Outdoor Grills attended by the Grill Team.

October

The month of October was “National Breast Cancer Month,” when everyone supported the fight against breast cancer by wearing pink. Students at the school got their message across by doing just that to show their support. On October 11 the Homecoming game was played against Homer Center. The Homecoming court was announced at half time and the king and queen, Ashly Fitzpatrick and Jared Pavlosky, were crowned. October also gave us the colorful changing of season and scary ghosts and goblins in the cafeteria. In celebration of Halloween, students dressed in their favorite costumes to participate in the Costume Contest during all of the lunches sponsored by the Grill Team.

November

November was a very eventful month for everyone. Between all of the special occasions, we had many days off of school. In November, Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School hosted a blood drive where students and residents of the community saved many lives through their donations. During this month, deer season kicked off and Thanksgiving was also celebrated. Many people finished up their Christmas shopping on Black Friday.

December

During the month of December, the wrestling team and boys’ and girls’ basketball teams both had great starts to their seasons. The Christmas Dance, “Moonlight and Mistletoe,” was held on December 21 at the John Bracken Hall. Everyone dressed perfectly and danced the entire night. The junior and senior high bands and choruses put on great shows using their outstanding talents. This month was concluded by the school coming together to watch the movie “Home Alone,” followed by an hour early dismissal. With all of the wonderful events that took place this month, everyone managed to be in wonderful Christmas spirit.

January

When you hear January, do you think of New Year’s celebrations and resolutions? Do you think of the snowfall that seemed never-ending? How about a reflection on our country’s history? January meant new beginnings and starting fresh into the new year, often seen as the month of opportunity. Happy New Year! The streamers and confetti fell, but we looked to the sky because the New Year’s opportunities were endless. Many people made resolutions at this time of year, whether they were small, such as planning to eat healthier and live more balanced lifestyles, or big changes, like striving to do all homework on time! Others associated January with the snowfall seen beginning in November and never seeming to end. With the year’s hard winter, we hardly ap-
HIGH SCHOOL

February

During the month of February we welcomed two new student teachers, Miss McAdoo and Miss Reichard, to our school. February was deemed “National Random Acts of Kindness Month,” and Mrs. Hoffman celebrated by creating the Random Acts of Kindness Club for the junior and senior high school students. During this month members of the club performed acts of kindness toward students, teachers, and community members alike. The month of February was about making the school a better place.

March

The month of March was very exciting. Between the beginning of Lent and the “Hoops for Heart” Basketball Tournament, students at Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School were very busy during March. Lent began on March 5, otherwise known as “Ash Wednesday.” This began the Easter holiday season, as it was forty days before Easter Sunday, one of the most well known holidays to Western Christianity. On March 19, the “Hoops for Heart” Basketball Tournament kicked off. Students in grades ten through twelve raised money for the American Heart Association. A little over $6,200.00 was raised for this event by the many teams that participated. The group that raised the most money raised a total of $1,000.00.

April

April is usually the month when people begin to think about Easter. Easter Sunday was held on April 20 this year. Not only was this a great time for families friends to get together, but it also was a wonderful way for them to enjoy each other’s company. It was also the fresh start of spring, when many embraced the warmer weather by hiking, biking, and fishing. Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School hosted a blood drive in the gymnasium on April 25. The Students Against Destructive Decisions Club and blood drive advisor, Mr. Gary Sechrengost, was remembered as saying, “I am continuously amazed at the generosity of both the students and community of Conemaugh Township who donate blood year in and year out.”

May

With only a few Mondays left, May was the most hectic month. There were numerous projects to finish and finals close at hand. Yet, aside from the serious aspects of May, there were many fun events that came with this month. The prom, the thing most girls and guys look forward to every year, was held on May 2 at the Quality Inn in Somerset. The theme was “The Great Gatsby.” With the help of the Art Club and junior class officers, the theme was definitely fulfilled. After the prom everyone looked forward to the girls’ Powder Puff Football Game, which was held on May 23. With the junior girls against the senior girls, there was surely rivalry, but it was played out with good sportsmanship. Ending May were finals and the end of some great seasons. Track improved much. Softball and baseball pushed through their seasons. The school year ended a year in which many proved in many ways excellence is the definition of the Conemaugh Township Area School District.
Football

The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School Varsity Football Team had a rough season finishing with a record of 3-7. The team lost a lot of close fought battles which could have easily turned their season around if those games would have gone the other way. Senior running back Kody Ofsanko led the way on the ground with 740 rushing yards and 8 touchdowns. Senior quarterback Bruno Rosa led the way through the air with 653 passing yards and 5 total touchdowns. Senior receiver Jacob Formica had 25 receptions for 405 yards and 5 touchdowns. Sophomore Austin Myers led the team in tackles with 152 total. The tribe will be returning many key players and starters for next season with hopes of underclassmen stepping up and making great contributions.

Boys’ Soccer

The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School Boys’ Varsity Soccer Team has shown much experience throughout the season. The team finished its regular season with a 14-4 record. It then went into the playoffs and advanced the entire way to the District V Semi-Finals to meet up with the North Star Cougars. The Cougars came out on top in the heartbreaking 1-0 victory. The team had a very successful season and hopes for that success to continue forward in the years to come.

Girls’ Soccer

The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School Girls’ Varsity Soccer Team finished its season strong with a record of 15-6-1. The team won the West-PAC and District V Championship game. This marks the fourth year in a row the Lady Indians have captured the District V title. The team was lead by Danielle Wertz.

Athletes of the Month

Jenna Telenko is the daughter of Michelle and Adam Cuturilo of Jerome.

Jenna participates in varsity girls’ soccer, basketball, and track. She has accumulated eight varsity letters in her time at Conemaugh Township - three in basketball and soccer and two in track.

From her sophomore to senior year, Jenna was been appointed to the All Somerset County and All WestPAC Teams.

Jenna’s future plan is to attend the Pennsylvania Highlands Community College to get an Associates’ Degree in General Studies. She then plans to transfer to a yet undecided four year university to major in Criminal Justice.

McKinley Sanders is the son of Thomas Sanders of Johnstown.

McKinley participated in varsity wrestling, golf, and baseball. He has accumulated eight varsity letters in his time at Conemaugh Township. One was in golf, three were in wrestling, and four were in baseball.

McKinley received “Honorable Mention” for Somerset County Wrestling in his freshmen year. He also received the same distinction for Somerset County Baseball in his sophomore year. McKinley received an All WestPAC award in his senior year of baseball.

McKinley’s future plan is to attend Allegheny College of Maryland and major in Criminal Justice.
SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL

with 23 goals. The team will look to continue its amaz-

Volleyball
The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High
School Varsity Volleyball Team ended this year’s rough
campaign with an overall record of 1-16. The team will
look to rebound in 2014-2015.

Golf
The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High
School Golf Team once again had another successful
season this past year. The team captured the District
V, WestPAC, and Intercounty titles and advanced onto
Inter District play. The team advanced to the 2013
State Tournament and placed 6th. Members of the
team were seniors Austin Speigle, Luke Varner, and
Andrea Mori. The juniors were Evan Steeves and
Christian Yoder.

Boys’ Basketball
The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High
School Varsity Boys’ Basketball Team finished its sea-
son with a record of 21-6. The team captured its third
straight District V title, as well as reclaiming the West-
PAC title. Leading the way for the Indians were seniors
Jeff Callihan, Jacob Formica, and Austin Speigle. The
team is very optimistic and looks to go for a “4-peat” of
the District V title in 2015.

Girls’ Basketball
The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High
School Varsity Girls’ Basketball Team had another suc-
cessful season with an overall record of 17-7. Leading
the charge for the Lady Indians were Megan Boyer,
Kayla Luprek, and Abigail Roberts.

Wrestling
The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High
School Varsity Wrestling Team’s record for the year
was 13 wins and 14 losses. Kody Ofsanko advanced
to the Regional Tournament and performed very well.
The team had success this year but looks to improve as
the years progress. The team had many young talents
waiting to be tested.

Rifle
The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High
School Rifle Team had another stellar season. The
team won every match, save one against the Portage
Mustangs. Leading the way for the Indians were seniors
Morgan Dressick and Kristen Rouser. Juniors Hannah
Weatherford and Lindsay Grove also helped the team to
much success along with Freshmen Kaitlyn Garrety.

Baseball
The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High
School Varsity Baseball Team completed its season
with a record of 6-14. The Indians were led by seniors
Bruno Rosa with a .406 average and McKinley Sanders
with a .304 average. The team had a rough going at
the start of the season but began to gain momentum
during the last part. The tribe came up just short of
the playoffs.

Softball
The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High
School Varsity Softball Team had a very successful sea-
son. The team ended the season with a record of 11-9,
and a trip to the playoffs. The team however lost a tough
game to the Tussey Mountain Titans in the first round.
Leading the team was senior Kayla Luprek with a .506
average and forty hits. Also adding to the team’s suc-
cess was junior Erica Blank and sophomore Kayla Folta
with averages of .493 and .468, respectively. Senior
McKenna Daugherty was the team’s ace with an ERA of
2.68 and 10 wins. The team hopes to improve on this
season’s success and build for the years to come.

Track and Field
The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High
School Varsity Track Team made strides as a team since last
season. The boys’ team had a single win this season
against the Blacklick Valley Vikings. The team has
many underclassmen who are now ready to step up
next year and lead their team. Jacob Formica, however,
got to the State Championship in the 100m Dash.
He finished 12th and had much success this season.
The Girls’ also had a very successful season. Leading
the way for the Lady Indians were Andrea Ardary and
Molly Massimo, as they paced the Indians throughout
the 2014 season.
A Final Message to Our Graduating Seniors

The Conemaugh Township Area High School administration, faculty, and staff would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the graduating seniors and wish them much luck and continued success wherever the future might take them.

Connumach Yearbook Questions

Any questions regarding yearbook orders or billing may be directed as follows. For MIDDLE SCHOOL yearbooks contact the Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School Publications Office at 479-4014. For HIGH SCHOOL yearbooks address any questions you have directly to the Herff-Jones Yearbook Ordering Department at 1-(866)-287-3096.

Telephone Numbers

Administrative Office

Superintendent...........Thomas Kakabar..........................479-7575
Business Manager.......Regina Rembold..........................479-7431
Food Service Director...Adam Thomas............................479-2328
Director of Curriculum...Thomas Kakabar..........................479-7575

Junior/Senior High School 6-12

Principal....................Dave Koba..............................479-4014
Guidance Counselors.....Nancy D'Alimonte and Kelly Birkheimer...479-7886
School Nurse................Cassey DeBiase..........................479-2324
Athletic Director........James Foster...............................479-4014

School Calendar

The following dates are subject to change

May 26...........................Memorial Day - No School
June 5............................Baccalaureate - 7:00PM
June 6...Last Day of School for Students - Early Dismissal - 9:30AM
June 6............................End of 4th 9 Weeks
June 6............................Commencement - 7:00PM
June 7............................SAT Test Date
June 14............................ACT Test Date
June 24..........................School Board Meeting - 7:00PM
July 15..........................School Board Meeting - 7:00PM

Rocco Michael Mantini graduated from Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School in 1976. He graduated from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown in 1980 with Magna Cum Laude honors. In 1984 he graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine.

He has been practicing dentistry for the past twenty-nine years in Davidsville and Johnstown. He has been married for the past thirty-two years to Jeanne and has two children. He has been a Conemaugh Township Area School District Board Director for the past six years, the last two as president.

He currently resides in Hollsopple, PA. His favorite teacher was Mr. Michaels because he would spend some classes talking about other things beside Chemistry. His fondest memory was all of the good times he had at the lunch table where he ate at his school lunches.

Dr. Rocco M. Mantini treats a patient for her dental needs.