

Conemaugh Township Area Middle School / High School October 2015 Volume 78 Number 2

C T Undergoes Face-lift

Many changes are occurring at Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School. Plans for newly renovated bathrooms, locker rooms, and a state of the art field house commenced over the summer of 2015. As of the end of September, CT is proud to have fully functioning men's and women's rest room facilities in the gymnasium area. Newly refurbished locker rooms are set to be completed by the beginning of November.

The field house is proposed to be ready for use at the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year. This new facility is to be erected sometime in the fall and have an end date in July. It will consist of a weight and training room on the bottom floor. The midway level will contain locker rooms for both boys and girls. The top floor will be a fully functioning wrestling/mat room.

With construction and school being in session at the same time, some may wonder if things get hectic and loud? Ironically, since the school year began students and faculty have been able to witness all of this progress with little to no disruption, other than the occasional sound of a power drill, hammer pounding, or smell of saw dust.



The Gymnasium area rest rooms after having been remodeled to very modern standards.

Fields of Faith a Success



Maggie Zambanini, leads the audience in a closing song, "We Believe."

This year's "Fields of Faith" was held at Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School and welcomed students from all of the high schools in the Laurel Highlands.

The guest speaker for this special night was Mr. Stefphon Jefferson, a former University of Nevada running back. Mr. Jefferson left the "Wolf Pack" in his senior season to try his hand at the NFL draft. Although not making the roster, Stefphon went on to spread his positivity toward and advice for being a student athlete.

This event also was filled with fun, food, and plenty of games! Tshirts were available for purchase for \$10.00. There was also a dodgeball tournament for any teams ready to dip, dodge, duck, and dive! The night was wrapped up with an FCA worship service for all who attended.

The event was sponsored by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and organized by Ryan Cotchen, Jake Grosik, Olivia Shaulis, Gabe Slezak, Trenton Troxell, and Maggie Zambanini.

EDITORIAL



Mass Media's Societal Effects

ass media is the communication of a topic to a large audience through mediums such as television, newspapers, and at the top of the list, the internet. This is extremely influential, especially since mass media has changed dramatically throughout the last century. With connection to the world at your fingertips via computers and smartphones, this subconsciously affects your everyday decisions.

While scrolling through Instagram or Twitter, you see the most popular celebrities wearing a new. cool product, and you want it. Undoubtedly. because of similar sales, the company will increase its profits dramatically and grow. This is a prime example of the influence of mass media on society. Essentially, media shapes culture through its bombardment of messages from a multitude of sources including internet, TV, billboards, and magazines.

As a result, mass media often gets a bad reputation due to aiding to the rise in popularity of meaningless fads; yet, not all effects of mass media are necessarily bad. For example, with many female celebrities angered with unfair pay equality. They have used mediums such as YouTube and Twitter to inform the general public of their concerns. Stars such as Jennifer Lawrence and Emma Watson have publicly talked about how gender inequality should come to an end, claiming they should get pay equal to their male counterparts.

For caring and thoughtful people, donating to charity is nothing new. With the new technological era, donating and making their voices heard is easier than ever. Last year the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge took the internet by storm. Millions around the world, including Conemaugh Township faculty, staff, and students dumped ice water to raise awareness for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. This challenge to internet users helped raise over \$100,000,000.00 for the ALS Association.

In closing, with mass media affecting society day in and out, there is clearly a variety of viewpoints that can be voiced toward it. This is probably because there are so many people trying to solve societal problems and raise awareness via the mass media. The next time you log onto the internet, remember to take the time to ponder its amazing capabilities.

College Decisions

Before any senior chooses what four year college, two year college, or even a trade school he would like to attend after high school, he should always visit its campus. This allows him to see the school's program for his intended major firsthand and also get a feel for its campus.

In our world today, there are many different colleges to pick from to satisfy what any particular student may be looking for. One college might stand out for some reason a little bit more than all of the hundreds of others. Anyone who plans on attending college needs

to look for certain aspects that suit his needs best. While looking for colleges with programs in your major area, do not be afraid to call and talk with someone at that particular college concerning your questions. College representatives are always eager to answer any questions that might help you to choose their school.

Because many students today are still undecided as freshmen, one option is to attend community college and get all of your general studies out of the way while figuring out exactly what you want to major in. Any credits taken there should transfer to the larger colleges.

2016 seniors feel the most pressure in high school concerning their futures. This is why within the last few years of high school every student really has to start thinking about what he could see himself doing after high school.

There are many different colleges specializing in many different majors and minors. Each student who wants to attend one of these colleges is seeking different assets that make that college appear more appealing than the others. For this reason, every college bound student needs to seek out what will make his college experience best.

Growing Up

The day will come in every person's life when he will have to "grow up."

Being a small child in kindergarten, you are very gullible. You believe everything and feel you are always right. You think life is easy because you get away with everything due to "not knowing any better." Yet, the most eye opening wake up call and number one rule of growing up is, "Accept truths your younger self denied."

Throughout your life, you go through a lot of growing up. Some do more than others, but everyone experiences this. When you were young, you always assumed one day you would wake up and be mature. We are told when we turn eighteen we are then adults. Surely, your age might show you are an adult in years, but you also have to prove you are an adult through your actions.

I also perceive growing up as a job. Every day, you learn something new. Growing up is about realizing life is not a game and you are pretty much all by yourself in making decisions concerning it. Certainly, life's situations also have a major impact in this area.

Along with maturity, comes common sense. Common sense enables you to decipher right from wrong. Some may have more common sense than others, as it comes to us all at different times.

In conclusion, when I was young, I never thought one day I would be a senior in high school, but that is exactly where I am at now. Over the past few years, by learning more at school, I matured and became more intelligent and learned growing up is a way of life.

HIGH SCHOOL

Fall Memories



Kara Wozniak prepares to serve the ball at the volleyball game.

Clayton Blough Abigail and Cover dance to "You're the One that I Want" at the Homecoming Dance.



Serena DiLoretto helps decorate for the Homecoming football aame.

Erin Carr has a blast at the senior bonfire building.

Contownian

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> Advisor: Michael J. Andolina



FEATURES

SOCIETY



Indians Get Their Pink On!

Pink pumpkins, pink clothing, pink purses, pink hair, pink everything! It is October, which is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, symbolized by the color pink. Everywhere you go there are some types of breast cancer awareness fund raisers going on, both locally and nationally, to help raise awareness and money to fight this terrible disease.

Here at the reservation, many fall sports teams and organizations are also doing their share to help raise money for breast cancer research. For example, some football players wear pink socks and use pink Pre-Wrap athletic tape during their games. The soccer teams also wear pink socks and Pre-Wrap, and some members of the girls' soccer team have even dyed the ends of their hair pink. The varsity volleyball team holds a "color game" each October in which its members wear pink jerseys. This year, they chose to promote awareness for all cancers, including breast cancer, so the color game was changed to a "rainbow game," where all of the players wore their pink jerseys and each player wore a different colored hair ribbon to represent the various types of cancer. The team also sold different colored paper ribbons for \$1.00 each. The buyer then was encouraged to write the name of someone he knew who was affected by cancer on the colored ribbon that represented that particular cancer type. The ribbons were then displayed and all proceeds raised by the volleyball team were donated to a local family that had a loved one currently battling cancer. In addition, the Rowdies wore tie-dyed tee shirts.

The junior high and varsity cheerleaders also supported breast cancer awareness by wearing pink tee shirts and bows and using pink pom poms for each game in October. They also held their own annual cancer fund raisers and donated the proceeds. This year, both squads sold dark-pink colored "Township Indians Cheer for the Cure" shirts to family members and friends, in addition to selling O'Shea's candy bars. The total earned for their efforts this year was \$700.00, which was donated to the Joyce Murtha Breast Care Center. The check was presented to a representative from the organization during half time at the pink out varsity football game.

The Serving Our Neighbors Club held its annual "Pink Out" fund raiser, which included selling light-pink colored "Conemaugh Township Pink Out 2015" tee shirts to the school and community. These were then worn at the Pink Out varsity home football game against Ferndale. Additionally, for the first time this year there were plans to make a cancer ribbon made out of balloons as part of the Pink Out. The SON Club earned \$2,000,00 this year and donated it to the Conemaugh Cancer Care Center.

Cancer is a horrible disease for which a cure must be found. The students, staff, administration, sports teams, coaches, boosters, clubs, and organizations at Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School all do their part in many ways to help raise awareness.

Haunted Happenings

Imagine riding through the darkness with a chill creeping up your spine. Your best friends are beside you, but you know not even your favorite buddies can protect you from the scares that await. If you are a thrill seeker, check out some of Pennsylvania's haunted attractions, from havrides to haunted amusement parks.

In Rockwood Pennsylvania, you could check out Houston's Haunted Hollow. Accordingly, when you purchase a ticket, you receive admission to four of the attractions: the Haunted Boarding House, Twisted Barn in 4D, Toxic Haunted Hayride ending at the Toxic Swamp Walk, and the Dead End Cornfield. Houston's Haunted Hollow is open on every Friday and Saturday of October. An adult ticket costs \$18.00, and a child (52 inches and under) ticket costs \$14.00.

Also located in Rockwood is the Haunted Hayloft. At the Haunted Hayloft there are four attractions: the Historic Haunt, Horrors of Hell, Corn Maze of Carnage, and Paintball Hayride. The Haunted Hayloft has a story line centered on the history of Somerset County where it is located. The Historic Haunt follows the story of the Nicely brothers, two murderers who were eventually hung for their crimes. It is \$17.00 per person to gain admission, and a waiver is needed. If you are under 18, an adult signature is needed on the waiver.

If you are looking to travel for an extremely exhilarating haunt, check out Phantom Fright Nights at Kennywood Park. Located just outside of Pittsburgh in West Mifflin, Pennsylvania, Kennywood features many attractions, from a Friday the 13th four-dimensional movie to the Villa of the Vampire, an attraction built around humans' fears of vampires. Kennywood is open every Friday and Saturday in October from 6:00PM - 12:00AM. The cost of admission is \$32.99 at the gate, \$29.99 if tickets are purchased online, and \$27.99 if tickets are purchased from Giant Eagle.

Caitlin Stahl, avid fall enthusiast, said, "I am definitely going to go to Phantom Fright Nights with my friends. I cannot wait to ride the rides and have a festive fall experience at the same time!"

The next time you want to spend some quality time with your friends and do not know what to do, remember the thrilling Halloween attractions close to home. Put on your favorite pair of wool boots, wrap a blanket scarf around your neck, and have a spooky good time with your best friends!

"Alumni of the Month"

Joe Shetler graduated from Conemaugh Township Area Middle Sch High School in 1997. He then attended Marshall University on a year division one baseball scholarship and graduated with a B.S. Exercise Physiology. Post-graduation, he started his own online-fitm and nutrition business. My Fitness Coach, which he managed for years before accepting a position as Conemaugh Health Syste **Employee Wellness and Community Health Coordinator and Mana** In June 2015, he also became CT's strength and conditioning coa for all sports at the senior high. He currently lives in Davidsville with wife Somer, his daughter Brianna, and his step-son Luke.

Joe had many great teachers in high school, but the one who m the biggest impact on his life and professional career path was Pepoy. She started the fire in Joe that led to his love of health and ness. "Peeps" would regularly take the time during the lunch perio teach Joe anatomy and physiology, a course that was absent du Joe's time at CT, but something he needed in order to prepare for lege. She was also Joe's Strength and Conditioning coach, an a where he spent countless hours training to improve his athletic abili

"Without Peep's selfless dedication and commitment to helping improve in both the classroom and on the baseball field, I wouldn't h had the chance to play collegiately and likely wouldn't have chosen career path I did. I can't thank her enough for all she has done for and I know countless other former CT student athletes feel the sa way," Shetler said.

Red Ribbon Week Held

was held. The Grill Team set up and ran this lunch complete with an ice cream topping bar. For every lunch, each of the members of the team selected students with the best costumes and had them stand in front of the cafeteria. Everyone then voted for each person by clapping and shouting out loud for the costume each liked the most. The winners of each lunch were then awarded prizes. This year's winners were in Lunch A, Dallas Palmatier; Lunch B, Ethan Leasure; and Lunch C, Kylie Hooper. The first place overall winner was Kylie Hooper, second place, Ethan Leasure; and third place, Dallas Palmatier.

Through the week of October 25 - 30, Red Ribbon Week was held at Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School. Monday was "Show Your drugs Who is Boss" and "Dress Like Your Favorite Teacher, Principal, or Adult." Tuesday was "Show Drugs That a Healthy Me is Drug Free" and "Wear Workout Clothes." "Wednesday was "Fight Drugs Together with a Friend" and be a "Dynamic Duo." Thursday was "Kick Drugs Out for All Time," "Dress as a Decade." Each grade was assigned a different year to dress up as. Seventh and eighth grade students were the 1950's, ninth Homecoming Royalty Named graders the 1960's, tenth grade the 1970's, eleventh grade students the 1990's, and twelfth graders the 1980's. Friday was "Spook Drugs The Homecoming Court of 2015 was announced in September. The Away by Wearing a Costume."

princesses on the court were Nicole Moyer, Molly Massimo, Abby Cover, Cameron Mcmillan, Hannah Thomas, Jennifer Ent, and Abbey Student were asked to make good decisions by not using drugs. Roberts. The princes were Noah Livella, Coltin Miller, Cory Griffiths, Nick Nasell, Eric Kmett, Michael Roman, and Clayton Blough.

This annual week of fun was sponsored by the S.A.D.D./T.A.T.U.

The Homecoming king and gueen were announced at halftime of Halloween Hits Home the Indians versus Blacklick game. The queen was Nicole Moyer On the Friday before Halloween the school Halloween Lunch and the king Cory Griffiths.

hool/ four S. in	Joe's fondest memory at CT was play- ing baseball for Coach Zambanini. He played during an era when the team was		
ness	consistently dominating the county, and		
r ten	many other CT ball players were either		
em's	getting drafted by big league ball clubs or		
ager. Dach	being recruited to play collegiately.		
h his	Shetler said, "We were always pushing each other to become better both on the field and in the Weight Room year round.		
nade	"Coach Z" preached attitude and effort, Somer and children Bri-		
Ms.	no matter what, and that's something I anna and Luke.		
d fit-	continue to pass along to those I coach today. Playing for a great coach		
od to uring	and many talented and dedicated teammates over my four years is something I will never forget."		
r col-	Chatler believes wellseen is a lifest de abaies, and he and his family.		
area ities.	Shetler believes wellness is a lifestyle choice, and he and his family are passionate about sharing and encouraging that choice with the young men and women Joe coaches and influences on a daily basis.		
me			
nave	Shetler believes, "Exercise doesn't take time out of your life; it puts life		
n the me,	back into your time." He wants to make a positive impact on the lives of the youth he coaches. "It's more than just wins and losses, it's about		
ame	the process. Learn from your mistakes and the adversities you face		
	to come out a stronger person. Give everything you do all you have!"		
	was hold. The Orill Team action and reading lunch complete		

SPORTS

SPORTS



Golf

The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School Varsity Golf Team concluded its season with a loss against Everett with a score of Everett 234 and Township 245.

The Team next played in the WestPAC tournament and won first place with a score 394. However, in the District Five Tournament the team placed third with a round score of 375. Eric Kmett was third, overall, and received the honor of going on to Regionals on October 19. There, Eric placed fortyfourth with a round of 112.

The Golf team had an overall record of 8-3 and still holds the WestPAC Championship title.

Eric Kmett said, "The golf team has worked hard this year. We have many seniors and underclassmen who contribute to make playing golf a great experience. We had a good season with a final record of 8-3. We also won our conference title."

The Golf team is coached by Scott Cable and Charles Lesko.

Varsity Girls' Soccer

The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School Varsity Girls' Soccer Team is looking forward to playing in the playoffs as its regular season ends. The girls end their regular season with a record of 10-4-2. They won six beating North Star 1-0, Winder 1-0, Westmont Hilltop 1-0, Berlin Brothersvalley 2-1, Meyersdale 7-0, and Berlin Brothersvalley 2-1. The girls lost to Richland 0-1, Rockwood 2-3 and Somerset 0-4.

Senior Molly Massimo stated, "Our team is looking forward to doing great things in the playoffs. We became a family over the past couple of weeks. I couldn't ask for a better group of girls to play with."

The Lady Indians will face McConnellsburg on Saturday, October 31 at home for their first playoff game.

The girls are coached by Gary Hoffman.

Volleyball

The Conemaugh Township Are Middle School/Senior High School Varsity Volleyball Team has ended its season. The team had an overall record of 6-11 and conference record of 4-6.

The Lady Indians played a hard season and fought with determination. They ended their season with a tough battle against the Conemaugh Valley Blue Jays. The Indians fought

HIGH SCHOOL

hard winning the first match. Unfortunately, this would be the only match the ladies would win. They kept the matches very close but could not score the winning point. The Lady Indians lost their final game by a score of 1-3.

Despite their loss, junior Laura Bivens was happy with their season, "Our volleyball team isn't just a team. We really bonded this year and became a family. There is no other team that can replace the team we had this year. When it comes down to it, it's not all about winning. It's about having fun and spending time doing the things you enjoy with the people you love."

The team was coached by Ms. Abby Gearhart and assistant coach Miss Candace Croner.

Varsity Football

The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School Varsity Football Team has improved its record from 3-1 to 6-2.

The Indians played a homecoming match up against the Blacklick Valley Vikings for their first October game. The Indians started the game off with only a single touchdown in the first quarter scored by senior running back Austin Myers. On the Indians first defensive drive, one sole Viking broke through the line and ran for a Blacklick Valley touchdown. This, however, would be the only touchdown the Vikings would get. The Indians ended the game with a score of 46-6.

Next, the Indians traveled to Shade Central City to face the Panthers. The Indians would reign victorious by a score of 28-6 there. Austin Myers scored all four Indian touchdowns and Noah Livella made all of the PAT's.

The Indians then faced the 5-1 Portage Mustangs at home in their next match up. The Indian team played a tough battle against the Portae Mustangs but came up short by a score of 21-41. Scoring for the tribe was Austin Myers with two touchdowns on the ground and Ryan Cotchen with one receiving touchdown. The Indians record dropped to 5-2 as they moved on to play the North Star Cougars.

After coming off of a hard loss, the Indians rebounded and took to the field playing North Star with heart and determination. Contributing to the win were Austin Myers, Donate Myers, and Brandon Stahl each with one rushing touchdown. Ryan Cotchen had one receiving touchdown. The Indians won the match up 35-6. Their record then improved to 6-2.

FALL SPORTS MOVE AHEAD

The Indians will play their last scheduled home game against the Ferndale Yellow Jackets on Friday, October 30.

Varsity Boys' Soccer

The Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School Boys' Varsity Soccer Team has ended its 2015-2016 season. The team had an overall record of 7-9-0 and a conference record of 5-3, clinching the WestPAC title.

So far this season, the Indians have played six games, losing four and winning two. The teams Township lost to include Richland with a score of 4-1, Forest Hills 2-0, Westmont Hilltop 6-0, and North Star 4-2. In light of these losses, the Indians fought to win their last two games beating WestPAC rivals Rockwood, 7-0, and Berlin, 3-1. This win took the WestPAC title away from Berlin and allowed CT to claim it for itself.

Senior and captain Noah Livella stated in regards to the season "It was a very good one. This years season was one in which there were a lot of good games and team bonding."

Athletes of the Month



Alexis Christofes is the daughter of Greg and Lisa Christofes of Hollsopple, Pennsylvania. Noah Livella is the son of John and Natalie Livella. He resides with his parents in Davidsville.

Alexis participates in soccer and track. She has played soccer for twelve years and track for four. She has received WestPAC All County honors and "Honorable Mention" in soccer. Alexis also lettered in soccer and track for four years. Noah has played varsity soccer for four years lettering all four times. Noah has played football for one year and has participated in track and field for two years. In school, Noah has received the "Scholastic Achievement Award"

Alexis Christofes

Out of school, Alexis participates as a member of the Grill Team, National Honor Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Spanish Club. In addition, she serves as the Society/People Editor of the <u>Conemaugh/Connumach/</u> <u>Contownian</u>.

When Alexis has spare time, she loves to shop and spend time with her family and friends. She is also a member of the Emmanuel Baptist Church. Outside of school, Noah enjoys playing the guitar and ukulele and singing. He also hunts and fishes. He snow boards and golfs for fun. What he enjoys most of all, though, is spending time with his family and friends.

Alexis' future plan is to attend Kent State University majoring in fashion merchandising. Noah's future plans are to attend a four year college majoring in biology and then applying to a school of optometry.

nst The team was coached by Kelly Kramer and assistant coach Russell Grunza.



Derek Sauter, Josiah Bassette, and Gabe Slezak build a wall to block the kick.



Noah Livella



Senior Yearbook Photo Deadline Set

Formal senior portraits for the "Senior Section" of the yearbook are due no later than Friday, December 18, 2015. You will be called to the Publications Office during Homeroom Period during the weeks of December 7-11 to approve your yearbook selection. If you are planning on substituting a picture of your own, you will be made aware at this time of any substitutions that will be accepted. Students not photographed by this time will be photographed by a staff photographer. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE NOR ANY PICTURES ACCEPTED AFTER DECEMBER 18, 2015.

Yearbooks Available

The 2014-2015 <u>Connumach</u> and <u>Conemaugh</u> Yearbooks have arrived and are presently being distributed. There are Extra books that are available for purchase. The cost is \$75.00 and \$50.00, respectively. They may be purchased with a check or money order made out to "Conemaugh Township Are High School" and are available in the Publications Office or by calling 479-4014.

Telephone Numbers

Administrative Office

Superintendent	Thomas Kakabar	479-7575
Business Manager	Regina Rembold	
Food Service Director	Adam Thomas	
Director of Curriculum	Stacy Dabbs	479-7575

Middle/High School 6-12

Principal	James Foster	
•	Nancy D'Alimonte and Kelly	
School Nurse	Cassey DeBiase	479-2324
Athletic Director	Lance McGough	479-4014

School Calendar

The following dates are subject to change

One Last Look...

Racosky Family Makes Donation

Andrew Racosky, an alumnus of Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School, passed away last spring with a special wish: that his treasured violin be donated to his home school district in Davidsville, PA. This is due to the fact that while attending CT, he was involved in the Orchestra, All Country Orchestra, and Jazz Band.

Mr. Racosky graduated from CTHS in 1944. At that time he served as the Editor of the <u>Contownian</u>. He then joined the United States Army Air Corps during World War II. At the same time he was employed as a photojournalist for WJAC-TV, where he worked for 45 years, and news photographer for the <u>Tribune-Democrat</u>.

Andrew left behind a wife, Helen, and a son, Richard, commonly known as "Rico." Shortly after Mr. Racosky's death, the Racosky family decided to make the long trip back to Davidsville to present Mr. Kakabar, Superintendent, and Mrs. Gardenhour, CT Band Director, with the donation of his personal violin.

On Monday, September 26, Mrs. Racosky and her son presented Mr. Kakabar and Mrs. Gardenhour with their beloved husband and father's violin. The violin is refurbished and ready for any student with a passion and gift to use it.

Mr. Racosky's specific wish was for his violin to be presented to his home district not only due to his love of music, but also because of his pride and honor of being an Alumnus of such an outstanding music department.

Both Mr. Racosky's family and his Township family will always have fond memories of Mr. Racosky and have great regards to his memory.



Mrs. Helen Racosky presents Mr. Kakabar and Mrs. Gardenhour with her husband's violin.