

APRIL
2024

THE **Contownian**



VOLUME 86, NO. 8 CONEMAUGH TOWNSHIP AREA HIGH SCHOOL DAVIDSVILLE, PA

Spanish Trip

By Matalyn Mauzy

Señora O'Donnell's Spanish III and IV classes took a trip on the 8th of this month when they traveled to Pittsburgh for an immersive experience. This was a great opportunity for students to be able to practice Spanish in real-life situations while having a good time. The goal of this trip was to help these students further advance in their language acquisition by stepping outside the classroom and using their developed language skills.

The students first stopped at a café for breakfast. The students first practiced their Spanish-speaking skills at Soluna Café. Brianna Shelter ordered the “cheesy piggy,” which is a croissant with cheese, jalapeños, and carnitas. Most other students got waffles.

The next stop on the list was the National Aviary. Señora noted that there were around 500 species of birds from all over the world at the Aviary. Bri was able to feed birds called lorikeets. Bri stated, “They were very pretty birds and I had a blast going to visit and feed them.” During the students' visit to the Aviary, they watched a fascinating documentary about the birds. Students got to enjoy petting some penguins as well.

The last stop on the trip was the Ross Park Mall in Pittsburgh. The class was delighted to be able to have a little shopping spree. They had lunch at the mall and waited for their last surprise. The kids finished the day by experiencing the solar eclipse.

This was a remarkable day that the Spanish students will always remember. They had an incredible experience and then enjoyed something rare and exciting. This day will be a memory for the eclipse as well as their fabulous day in Pittsburgh.

CT Prom 2024

By Asia Zwick



The Conemaugh Township Area School District is holding its annual prom on Friday, May 10th, 2024 at the Cambridge Room at Laurel View. With the appropriate permission slip signed, attendees are dismissed at 11:00 A.M. in order to have time to get ready. Prom will begin at 6:00 P.M. and end at 10:00 P.M. The theme is 24 Carat Gold, however, the pattern this year seems to be light and soft pastel colors. As the years progress, mermaid style dresses and puffy maxi dresses have been the top pick for girls. Guys, on the other hand, go with a simple tux, suits, and sometimes even more casual outfits. Junior Izzy Slezak says, “My favorite part about prom is dancing and having fun with friends!” On the other hand, senior Jon Updyke says, “My favorite part about prom is watching the prom court skits and seeing who is crowned as prom king, queen, prince, and princess.”

To help keep our students safe after prom ends, a post prom will be held in the high school from 11:00 P.M. and will end at 2:30 A.M. There will be plenty of food such as pizza, mac and cheese, chicken wings, buffalo chicken drip, candy selections, and much, much more. Not only is there plenty of food to go around, but there will also be entertaining activities, such as caricature drawings, arts & crafts, obstacle courses, mini golf, inflatables, gaga ball, tie-dye shirts, an escape room, photobooth, prizes, and more! Students are still able to sign up for this completely free event.

In conclusion, prom and post prom are not only fun for the junior and senior classes, but they also give students an entertaining and safe outlet for an entire day and evening. These events are the perfect time to make memories and they both give seniors a last chance to gather together as a class before graduation!

Contownian News Magazine

News

- Page 1 - Spanish Trip
- Page 1 - CT Prom 2024
- Page 8- Terror on the Patapsco River
- Page 8 - Earth Day
- Page 8 - Total Solar Eclipse

Society

- Page 4 - Alumni of the Month
- Page 4 - Stage Right Scholarship
- Page 4- Cafe 118

Little Contownian

- Page 5 - Best Things about Spring
- Page 5 - PSSAs: Good or Bad?
- Page 5 - Tips for Surviving the PSSAs

Editorial

- Page 6 - Should Private Schools Have Their Own Playoffs for Sports?
- Page 6 - Shoes at Prom: Dressy or Comfy?

Features

- Page 7 - Promposals
- Page 7 - How to Test Prep
- Page 7 - Prom Attire
- Page 7 - How to Power Through the Fourth Quarter

Sports

- Page 9- NBA Ban
- Page 9- Tracks Teams' First Home Meet
- Page 9- Frozen Four
- Page 10- Athletes of the Month

Pop Culture

- Page 11 - Road House 2024
- Page 11 - Artist of the Month
- Page 11 - Musician of the Month
- Page 12 - OJ Simpson
- Page 12 - Adidas Shoes Making a Comeback
- Page 12 - The Solar Eclipse

Contownian News Magazine

The Contownian is published online monthly by the Conemaugh Township Area High School Journalism Class. For advertising information call (814) 479-4014, Extension 3822 or write to 300 West Campus Avenue, Davidsville, PA 15928.

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Luke Haight readying to bat.



Mr. Zambanini dominating in dodgeball.



Quinn Moser and Gina Hagan dancing the night away!



Daniel and Katelyn Turley showcasing their skills at the piano recital.



Kelson Kramer cheering for the camera at our junior high track meet.



Lena Solecki-Dull taking a swing!



Alexa Gardenhour experimenting in chemistry.



Danika Black rising to the competition at a track meet.



Orly Konieczny playing our new piano.



Jaeden Holsopple with his coat of arms.

Stage Right Scholarship

By Gracie McCall and Aubrey Johns

This past month, our CT musical students presented an amazing show with their depiction of the Broadway musical, *Mary Poppins*. They also received a special announcement from Chris McAllister, the Artistic and Educational Director at Stage Right. Mr. McAllister helps with our lights and plays in the orchestra pit for our musicals every year and this year he handed out two special opportunities for two of our musical students.

Sophomore Daniel Turley and freshman Anna Hunsberger each received a scholarship from Stage Right to attend their summer camp at the David Mateer Center for the Performing Arts in Greensburg! These two students were selected by our musical directors and staff members because they've shown their hard work and have grown so much throughout the last couple of months.

intensive

Alumni of the Month



Gabriel Slezak graduated from Conemaugh Township Area School District in 2017. After graduating from high school, Gabe attended Shippensburg University. Not long after, Slezak decided to transfer to Penn State University. He spent three years at college before realizing he was interested in a different career path.

He advised, "I don't recommend going to college until you are 100 percent certain you know what career you want to pursue, contrary to what society tells you." Slezak was able to get his Class A CDL and began his career as a truck driver. He enjoys the career he chose and is grateful for the opportunities that this path offers him. Gabe married his high school sweetheart, Maggie Zambanini. Maggie also graduated from Conemaugh Township in 2017. They have been married for two years.

During Gabe's high school career, he was very involved in school activities. He was a great athlete who was a part of both the soccer and football teams. He was also a member of the FCA. Slezak's favorite teacher was Mrs. Stankan. He recounted that "Although she taught English, she would always go out of her way to ensure I was on the right path. She took the time out of her day, every day, to check in and make a difference in students' lives, in the classroom and outside of it. Mrs. Stankan was known for being approachable and always willing to go the extra mile for any student, and for that, I'm grateful," Gabe stated.



Gabe enjoyed his years while at Conemaugh Township. He is thankful for all of the experiences he was able to have. The impact that coaches and teachers had on him while at Township will always be fondly remembered.

Stage Right summer camp goes from July 8-28 from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM each day. Anna and Daniel will be doing the teen edition of *Chorus Line*. During this three-week camp, there will be different professionals and artists coming in to teach the students. There are daily classes and rehearsals in acting, singing, dancing, and stage combat. The performances will be in the afternoon and evenings on July 26th-28th. Daniel said, "I'm super excited to improve my theater skills during this camp. I'm sure it will be a great experience."

Cafe 118

By Emma Pabrazinsky

Cafe 118 is a fun, happy, calm, easy, exciting, and helpful class that teaches you cooking and baking skills. It also teaches you math and money skills, business skills, and how to do it on your own. The Cafe has 14 kids, four staff members, a lizard, and a turtle. We provide drinks and food for students and staff, get out the ingredients, prepare, bake, and sell to staff. Sometimes we sell during lunches in the front of the cafeteria. Cafe 118 shows students a type of skill they can't get in other classes. I learned to do laundry, cook, go on outings, clean, do dishes, do math, and bake. We work hard to sell and bake these goods. Miss Rhonda and Miss Kopp make it fun by making the kids laugh, joke, smile, and socialize.



Should Private Schools Have Their Own Playoffs for Sports?

By Carson Harbart

No matter the sport, playoffs are always a very big deal for the school, the athletes, the parents, and the supporters in general. As private schools are controversially known for recruiting great athletes, it becomes a very challenging topic when it comes to playoffs. Many people believe it is unfair to public schools, however, other people don't see it as a problem.

As mentioned before, the main problem is that private schools can often obtain athletes from anywhere, however, public schools can only take students from their district. This provides private schools with an advantage, giving them a larger variety of athletes from which to choose. The advantage of having better athletes almost guarantees private schools an award or a title. To put this in perspective, this year in the PIAA basketball state playoffs, of the 12 teams that won state championships, nine of those teams were from private schools. For public schools, it is all based on luck of the eligible students and training to have good athletes. Although some public schools might get lucky with great athletes, private schools can get them whenever and wherever. As a result, private schools should have their own playoffs for sports. This will create better competitions for both private and public schools as both schools will be competing with other athletes who are at the same level of skill as them and who come from the same opportunities as them.

Overall, there will always be two sides of this controversial topic, however, many people believe that private schools should have their own playoffs due to these reasons. Even though great athletes can be found in all different schools, it is only fair to play against opponents who are at the same level. At the end of the day, athletes train very hard to get to where they want to be, and it is hard to watch a season go to waste because of an unfair rule.



Shoes at Prom: Dressy or Comfy?

By Lindsay Knieriem

Prom is a staple in almost everyone's high school life. Dressing up, getting ready with friends, the music, the memories, post prom, and everything in between are all huge parts of a successful time at prom. We all know your traditional dress code: girls wear beautiful dresses and guys wear nice suits to match their dates, but what about shoes? Many people will argue that girls must wear high heels and guys must wear fancy dress shoes, while others may argue to wear sneakers or something more comfortable.

High heels are a popular choice for almost all girls. Wearing a fancy dress, having your hair all done, nails done, makeup looking good, this leaves any prom goer with the shoes as just the cherry on top to really pull everything together. However, are they really necessary? Most of the time with girls' prom dresses, they are long enough that you can't even see what shoes are underneath. So, why not just wear some comfy shoes which don't end up with pain at the end of the night or a sprained ankle? After asking about fifteen girls their opinion on what shoes they would wear to prom, all but one said they would wear high heels. Many stated how they love the feeling of dressing up, especially for a night as important as prom. Many stated that it's worth a little bit of discomfort, as they take their shoes off halfway through the night anyways and just bring a pair of socks to wear.

On the other hand, guys have a slightly different standpoint when it comes to shoes. Guys traditionally are not wearing heels, but instead a nice pair of sneaker-like or dress shoes. You are able to see guys' shoes, so they should wear something nice as it would look out of place to wear something comfortable or non-formal.

In the end, prom attire should be formal in all cases. High heels and nice dress shoes should be worn, but if someone desires to go the comfortable route, it should not be looked against.



Promposals

By Braylin Petree

With the prom season coming up comes the creative, heartwarming, and sometimes extravagant tradition of 'promposals.' From simple gestures to crazy productions, promposals have become a memorable part of the high school experience. They can reflect love, friendship, and excitement.

Promposals have evolved from simple gestures to elaborate spectacles, fueled by creativity and the desire to make a lasting impression. TikTok and Instagram have made the "trend" exciting, with promposal videos going viral and challenging others to do more. From personalized scavenger hunts to flash mob performances to signs and videos, the sky is the limit with options. It's not just about the extravagance; it's about the effort, thoughtfulness, and courage to put yourself out there in a memorable moment.

In conclusion, promposals have become a cherished tradition that captures the essence of teenage romance and friendship. Promposals will continue to hold a special place in the hearts of students everywhere, marking a milestone in their high school experience.

How to Test Prep

By Kendra Huber

Do you struggle with studying for tests? Do you not know how to properly prepare? Studying isn't something that comes naturally for all. Below are some tips to help you better prepare for your next big exam:

- Listen closely to instructions in class.
- Get a good night's sleep the night before.
- Give yourself time and don't cram all your work in at once .
- Eat a healthy breakfast before your test.
- Practice good study habits.
- Start practicing days prior.
- Rehearse your material.
- Take practice quizzes.
- Read the questions several times before selecting an answer.

To conclude, developing positive study habits is something anyone can do. Studying is an important part of the schooling experience.

Prom Attire

By Kendra Huber

With the end of the school year approaching, prom is right around the corner. Many attendees have already started finding their prom outfits for the 2024 prom. Below is a list of what most students are wearing to prom:

- Ball gowns
- Bows
- Ruffles
- Bold colors
- Sleek silhouette
- Fringe
- Corset tops
- Strapless
- Sparkles
- Feathers
- Two piece dresses
- Suit
- Tux
- Bow tie
- Tie



To conclude, prom allows students to use their style to get creative. There are so many different dress options this season, and this prom is going to be a night to remember!

Powering Through the Fourth Quarter

By Alexa Gardenhour

With summer being only two months away, students are ready for the school year to be over. Students often struggle to find motivation during the last quarter of the year. There are many ways that students can encourage themselves to power through. Some ideas include:

1. Prioritize the important things.
2. Take advantage of nice weather.
3. Set goals.
4. Take care of yourself.
5. Think positive.
6. Create an organized schedule.

Many often find it hard to power through the fourth quarter because of how close summer is. These are just a few of the ways you can power through these last months before summer.

NBA BAN

By Lilly Oakes

On Wednesday, April 17th, professional basketball player Jontay Porter faced a decision that will make him go down in history in the NBA for a very dishonorable reason.

Toronto Raptors Jontay Porter was banned for life from the NBA after disclosing information on games to sports betters, and even betting against his own team. NBA Commissioner Adam Silver has only ever banned one person prior to the claims against Porter. Silver claimed,

“There is nothing more important than protecting the integrity of NBA competition for our teams, and everyone associated with our sport,” He also went on to call Porter’s actions “blatant.” Licensed sports betting operators monitor legal betting markets, who informed the NBA of the “unusual gambling patterns surrounding Porter’s performance in a game on March 20 against Sacramento.” This is where the investigation started. There was a bettor who placed \$80,000 on Porter, after Porter gave another bettor information on his own health status. The article states that the bet would have been worth 1.1 million dollars. Porter then “took himself out of that game after less than three minutes, claiming illness, while none of his stats met the totals set in the parlay.” These actions led to the second NBA ban in history,



This event will surely go down in history as a promising career ruined by a poor decision. The ban of Jontay Porter will upset Raptors fans and it may change the face of the Toronto Raptors.

Track Teams’ First Home Meet

By Jenna Brenneman

On April 17, both the boys and girls track and field teams defeated Northern Cambria, Windber and Portage at their first home track meet of the season.

For the girls, a large group took first place in their events. In the field events, Lydia Hostetter took first place in pole vault, Katrina

McCann won discus and javelin, and Baylee Sleek won high jump. Baylee Sleek also won in the 100 hurdles and 300 hurdles. Izzy Slezak claimed first place in the 100 and 200 and Ellie Speigle won the 400. In the 4x100 relay, Layla Overly, Ellie Speigle, Danika Black, and Izzy Slezak claimed first. Additionally, the 4x400 relay consisting of Danika Black, Briar Berkey, Izzy Slezak, and Ellie Speigle also nabbed a first place finish. Finally, in the 4x800 relay, Andie Hunsberger, Ellie Hunsberger, Briar Berkey, and Lydia Hostetter took first place as well.

The boys also had numerous first place finishers as well. In the 4x100 relay, Garret Tunstall, Cameron Dunn, Jon Updyke, and Dillon Defibaugh took first place. Dillon Defibaugh won the 400 and, in the field, Jackson Sotosky won high jump, long jump, and triple jump.

Frozen Four

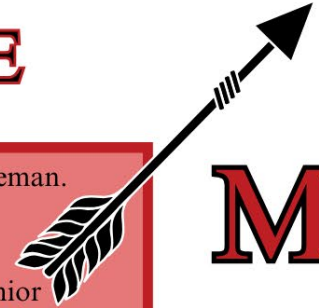
By Lilly Oakes

As people get ready for warm weather, and warm weather sports, hockey fans are still stuck in winter watching the college hockey playoffs as they come to a close. The Frozen Four is a great way for people to watch the end of that winter season. The Frozen Four is a tournament consisting of 16 teams fighting to take the national championship.

The first round was played March 28 and 29, and had all 16 teams in it. There are four teams in each seat of the tournament. In the first seat was Boston College, Michigan Tech, Wisconsin, and Quinnipiac. In second was Boston University, RIT, Minnesota, and Omaha. In third was Denver, Massachusetts, Maine, and Cornell, before the fourth and final seat which held Michigan State, Western Michigan, North Dakota, and Michigan. The second round was played March 30 and 31, holding the eight winning teams of the round before. The semifinals were held Thursday April 11. At this point in the tournament, there are four teams left. Boston College was holding the first place, and beat Michigan in overtime to advance to the Championship game that will be held April 13. Denver beat Boston University to advance to play Boston College in the Championship. The game will be held at 6pm on April 13, at the Xcel Energy Center in Saint Paul Minnesota, and will be shown on ESPN2.

In all, the winter season is coming to an end, and final winter sport tournaments are pushing the process along. The Frozen Four is a college hockey tournament, crowning the national college hockey champion for the 2023-2024 season.

ATHLETES OF THE



Jenna Brenneman is the daughter of Todd and Chelsea Brenneman. Jenna is a three-sport athlete, playing soccer, basketball, and track and field. Her soccer career started in third grade, playing AYSO, until seventh grade when she played on the junior high team. She was a varsity captain, a four-year letterman, a District V and Heritage Conference Champion in 2023, and played in the Cambria-Somerset Senior All-Star Classic. In 2022, she was an All-Somerset County Soccer Honorable Mention, and in 2023 she made All-Somerset County First Team. Jenna began playing basketball in fourth grade at East Hills. She continued playing throughout junior high and in high school. She was a varsity team captain, four-year letterman, a WestPAC runner-up in 2022-2023, and played in the District V All-Star Game. In 2022-2023, she was an All-Somerset County Honorable Mention. Jenna has been a member of the track and field team for three years and is a two-year letterman. She was a back-to-back WestPAC Champion in 2022 and 2023 and a district qualifier in 2022 for high jump. She also throws discus and shotput.



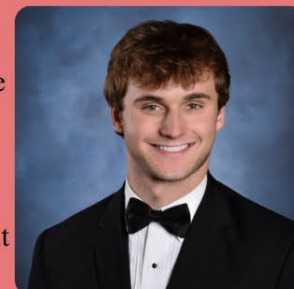
Outside of sports, Jenna is the secretary of National Honors Society. She is a member of SON Club (Serving Our Neighbors), SADD Club (Students Against Destructive Decisions), Rotary Interact Club, Spanish Club, FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes), and Grill Team. She also is a part of the worship team and youth group at her church.

In her spare time, she loves spending time with her family and friends, playing sports, and traveling. After graduating, Jenna's plans are still undecided.



Jon is the son of Jerry and Suzanne Updyke. He lives with them in Johnstown. Jon is a four-year letterman in football and basketball and a two-year letterman in baseball and track & field. Jon is a four-time district champion in basketball and participated in the Elite 8 and Sweet 16 in two years of his career. He is a 1,300-point scorer and ranks 5th in school history in scoring. He also finished with close to 700 rebounds. Jon is also a district champion in track and field for the 4x1 meter relay. Also, in track and field, he is a 4x1 meter relay state champion. Jon has received all-county and conference honors in every sport other than baseball.

Jon is involved in FCA and Grill team and is on the honor roll. In his spare time, he likes to watch sports or a movie series that he is into at the time. He also likes hanging out with his family and seeing his niece Lily Updyke. Jon's future plans are to attend IUP and major in special education. He would like to come back and teach here at Conemaugh Township one day. A quote that Jon respects comes from Thomas Shelby: "Accept criticism but never accept disrespect."



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OJ Simpson

By Lindsay Knieriem

Orenthal James “OJ” Simpson, a man whose life and legacy were tainted by the accusations against him, died on April 10, 2024 at the age of 76 in Las Vegas, Nevada. OJ was born on July 9, 1947 in San Francisco. In his early days, many viewed him as an all-American idol as both an actor and a star football player. He was an American football player and actor who played in the National Football League for 11 seasons, mainly with the Buffalo Bills. However, his life took a drastic turn after he was arrested in 1994 for the brutal murders of his ex-wife and mother to his five children, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend Ronald Goldman. Many people believed him to have committed the murders, while others found it hard to believe. Simpson was taken to court on account of the murders. His legal defense team famously argued that evidence had been mishandled and that there was racial bias in the investigation. This trial divided the nation, highlighting the different stances between racial profiling and the deaths of the two victims. In the end, on October 3, 1995 OJ Simpson was acquitted of all charges in the criminal trial. Simpson later wrote a book in September of 2007 titled *If I Did It: Confessions of the Killer*. The book discusses the theoretical plans of the murders of Brown and Goldman. The publication of this book caused a major outcry because of his overturned murder convictions. Whether OJ truly committed these crimes or was truly the football star many loved and idolized, will now forever remain a debate as he is laid to rest.

Adidas Shoes Making a Comeback

By Marly Teeter

New trends are constantly cycling back into popularity. Some of those include mom jeans, corduroy, bell bottoms, and platform shoes. A big part of the trends now are inspired by 80s clothes because there were so many good outfit elements during that time period. Another trend that's coming back is old Adidas style shoes. Famous fashion magazines are writing about how a lot of celebrities are wearing the Adidas Samba trainers this spring.

Sambas originally launched in the 1950s and have forever been Adidas's all time best-sellers. They normally retail for about \$100-130, but they could go up depending on

the amount of fame they're gaining. They first started really gaining popularity in the 70s when the three stripes became an emblem of football terraces. Today, Sambas are used more for fashion practicality in sports. Bella and Gigi Hadid are avid wearers of the sneakers and have been for quite some time. Hailey Bieber and even Rihanna are fans of these timeless sneakers. Famous designers and creators have also reached out to Adidas and to collaborate for their own spin on the shoes. Some include the creative director of Louis Vuitton and London-based designer Grace Wales Bonner.

Sambas are extremely versatile and can even pair with new fashion trends inspired by old everyday outfits. Magazines like *Vogue* are saying they're excited to merge them with trends like trench coats, denim, and maxi dresses for this upcoming spring season.

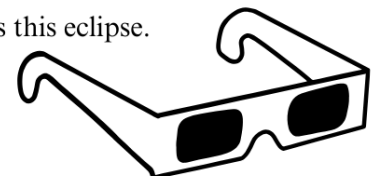
The Solar Eclipse

By Luke Haight

On April 8, 2024, the world was struck with a rare phenomenon of a solar eclipse. Social media platforms and news broadcasts anywhere and everywhere you looked were talking about this amazing sighting.

According to NASA, a total solar eclipse, which occurs about every seven years, is caused by the Moon passing between the Sun and Earth, completely blocking the face of the Sun. The shadow created comprises two concentric cones, a dark inner shadow called the umbra and a lighter outer shadow called the penumbra. Observers on Earth who are within the smaller, central umbra see the Sun completely blocked. Many Pennsylvanians traveled to Erie to view the eclipse, as they were able to see 100% coverage with beautiful weather.

TikTok was booming with videos of the eclipse. It is known that direct viewing of the eclipse without proper glasses can damage one's eyes. The video platform was flooded with people making jokes about the eclipse, as well as videos of it from all around the world. It's an amazing thing how the world was able to bond over an experience as amazing as this eclipse.



Road House 2024

By Luke Hiaght

Road House was released by Amazon MGM Studios via Prime Video on March 21, 2024. The film initially received mixed reviews from critics when it was released because of the extensive use of CGI for fight sequences. But recently, it has been receiving some praise for the performance of Jake Gyllenhaal.

The film was directed by Doug Liman from a screenplay by Anthony Bagarozzi and Chuck Mondry. This film is a remake of the original 1989 film. The film stars Jake Gyllenhaal, Daniela Melchior, Connor McGregor, J. D. Pardo, Arturo Castro, and Billy Magnussen. The main plot of the movie portrays a troubled former UFC middleweight fighter named Elwood Dalton who makes a living scamming fighters on the underground circuit. He is approached by Frankie, the owner of an unruly roadhouse in the Florida Keys community of Glass Key, who offers him a job as a head bouncer. Initially hesitant, Dalton takes up the offer after narrowly escaping a suicide attempt with a freight train that destroys his car. He takes a bus to Frankie's establishment called *Road House* and befriends Charlie, a teenager who runs a bookstore with her father, Stephen.

Jake Gyllenhaal deserves much credit for getting this movie so much attention. Moviegoers are sure to be thrilled with this high action flick!



Artist of the Month



Bobby Kamler is the Artist of the Month for April. Bobby, a junior at Conemaugh Township, is the son of Jessica Kamler. He lives with his mom in Johnstown. Bobby is a student in the Art III class and has worked hard throughout his high school career. Bobby has created many different types of artwork, but the kind that's struck his interest the most is painting freehand or shading. Freehand painting is done without the help of any equipment and usually is represented with accurate circles, straight lines, or symbols. Shading artwork is the darkening coloring of a drawing with lines or blocks of color. It's often used to create the illusion of depth or make an object three dimensional. Bobby says that the art that inspires him the most would be digital art or impressionism. Impressionism is usually "on the spot" and creates works that reflect the world we live in. After high school, Bobby plans on taking a gap year before going to college and working through his CNA license at GJCTC. The art he's done through his high school career has inspired him greatly. A quote from Bobby is, "If you are lucky enough to find something that you love, and you have a shot at being good at it, don't stop, don't put it down." Congratulations, Bobby, on being April's artist of the month!

Musician of the Month



Lily Newfield-Fingerhoot is a senior at Conemaugh Township Area High School. She lives with her parents Brandi and James Vozshyak in a lovely neighborhood in Jerome. Furthermore, Lily is a part of concert choir and band, and can play a plethora of percussion instruments, such as the Kalimba. She can play eighteen to be exact. Some of her musical accomplishments include playing with Foreigner on stage with members of the choir. Additionally, Lily got to travel with fellow band members to Disney and Universal parks in Florida to perform in Disney Springs. Her future plans are to attend college and obtain a degree in Oceanography and Cinematography. Finally, Lily's favorite quote comes from Miles Morales: "Change always comes. What matters is how you face it."



Terror on the Patapsco River

By Alison Matera

On March 16th at 1:30 a.m., an enormous cargo vessel smashed into a support column of the Francis Scott Key Bridge. This particular bridge runs over 57,000 feet over the Patapsco River. This not only injured several people, but also caused the bridge to collapse.

This impact caused a huge part of the bridge to collapse into the water. At 1:30 a.m. that morning, the first 911 call came in and reported a ship hit the bridge. After the call, all shipping traffic was suspended at this port. The ship that was involved in the crash was called Dali, a Singapore-flagged vessel. The ship had just left the Baltimore Port when it lost propulsion and then crashed into the bridge.

A search and recovery mission was set to take place the next day. Brian Hudson was the FBI special agent in charge of the search. The debris from accident had not settled yet, making it unsafe to use a dive team. The FBI then deployed a ROV with sonar technology instead until something was found. The ROV is an remotely operated vehicle, looking for sunken vehicles or human remains. Along with the FBI's efforts, the U.S. Coast Guard was also actively looking for missing people. Of the six total people believed to be missing, two were pulled from the river. The people rescued were then sent to the University of Maryland Medical Center for treatment. Later in the week, it was revealed that six people total were presumed dead.

At one point this event was considered a "mass casualty event." Some people close by shared, "Earthquake — sounded like a big bash of thunder, and then just like I said it felt like an earthquake, the whole house vibrated. Like my house was falling down."

Earth Day

By Emma Pabrazinsky

Earth Day is held every year on April 22. Earth Day is a day dedicated to celebrate our earth and protect our environment.

April 22 first became Earth Day in 1970. Since then, every year, activists advocate for our environment yearly on this day. The official theme for Earth Day, 2024 is plants verses plastics. People chose this theme in homes to

eliminate hard plastics of the earth. The most common way people celebrate Earth Day is planning a tree. Earth Day Network hopes to have plant 7.8 billion trees by Earth Day 2024.

People in over 190 countries celebrate Earth Day every year. It doesn't have to be Earth Day to take care of our planet. How are you going to better this environment for Earth Day?

Total Solar Eclipse

By Alison Matera

On April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse moved across North America. Mexico, the United States, and Canada were all in the path of totality. A total solar eclipse can occur when the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, which blocks the face of the Sun. During this time, it was dark as if it was dawn or dusk.

Most of North America was not in the direct path, but still witnessed a partial eclipse. The first place that saw the top totality was Mazatlán's, then continued northwest toward Texas. There were around 31.6 million people who live in the path of totality, which is where the moon fully blocked out the sun. This path of totality was between 108 and 122 miles wide.

This event was very fascinating to watch. However, there were some safety measures that needed to be in place. Viewing any part of the bright Sun through a camera lens, binoculars, or a telescope without a special-purpose solar filter will instantly cause severe eye damage. An article on CBS NEWS shared, "There's no amount of sunglasses that people can put on that will make up for the filtering that the ISO standard filters and the eclipse glasses provide." The only acceptable eyewear are eclipse glasses and they must have an IOS label.

Total solar eclipses happen around the world every 11 to 18 months, but they often do not cross paths with millions of people. The next total solar eclipse will not happen again until 2044 in Montana and North Dakota.



Academic Calendar & Upcoming Events

May 1.....	Middle School Spring Concert
May 2.....	Senior High Spring Concert
May 8.....	National Honor Society Ceremony
May 10.....	Songfest at North Star High School
May 24.....	One-Hour Early Dismissal
May 27.....	Memorial Day Vacation
May 28.....	SHOFCO Soccer Tournament
May 29.....	Baccalaureate
May 30.....	Commencement / Last Day for Students

Telephone Numbers

Administrative Numbers

Superintendent.....	Nicole Dull.....	479-7575
Business Manager.....	Brandon Studer.....	479-7431
Food Service Director.....	Adam Thomas.....	479-2328
Director of Curriculum....	Stacy Dabbs.....	479-7575

Middle/High School

Principal.....	James Foster.....	479-4014
Vice Principal/Athletic Director.....	Jarod Feathers.....	479-4014
HS Guidance Counselor....	Kara Duplin.....	479-7886
MS Guidance Counselor.....	Kellie Hankinson.....	479-7886
School Nurse.....	Cassey DeBiase.....	479-2324

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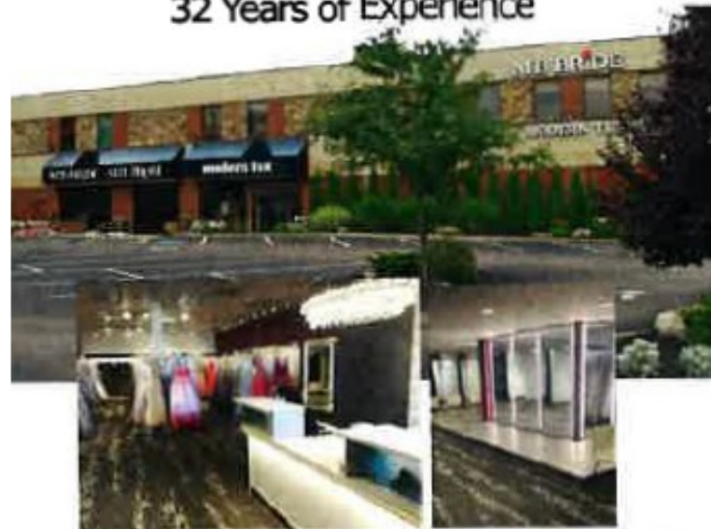
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We are thankful to serve the Conemaugh Twp Community, and wish Blessing to all of the Students in the 2023/2024 School year.