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THE Contownian



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Mr. Adams's Speaker Series

By Csege Szabo

Mr. Wayne Adams is a reputable, veteran teacher at Conemaugh Township Area High School. He teaches geoastronomy, anatomy and physiology, as well as environment and ecology. Every year he brings in former students to speak in his classes to share about their experience at Township, what careers they chose for themselves, and what course of action they took to get to where they are today.

For the 2024-2025 school year, Mr. Adams brought in five speakers during the second semester. Their names and occupations are Alex Stahl, a physician assistant; Dr. Richard Goodrich, an orthopedic trauma surgeon; Olivia Marisa, a registered nurse; Dr. Alexis Lohr, a pharmacist; and Jenna Pavlosky, an X-ray technician. All of the speakers have graduated from Township within the last 10 years; in which Mr. Adams believes can help the students in his classes to closely relate to them, making it a more real experience for his students. Each speaker gets to come in for roughly an hour and a half, discussing how they went from Conemaugh Township to the college they chose to attend, as well as the challenges they faced along the way. They often share details about any prerequisite classes they needed to take in high school, classes they took in college, where they currently work, and their overall personal experiences in that field. The format opens up multiple opportunities for students to ask questions and learn directly from someone who potentially works in their field of interest.

Even if he has the opportunity to bring in anyone in the world, Mr. Adams said he will continue to bring back Conemaugh Township graduates. To him, it's not about celebrities, it's about the hard work he knows his former students put in. Mr. Adams stated, "I am very appreciative of all the speakers who have come back and shared their time, experience, and thoughts. For me, it might open up opportunities for my students that they never got to experience." By bringing in

professionals to share their experiences, students are able to learn and be exposed to outside sources, which is normally something they only get to experience outside of high school. It is a gift and a privilege to have a teacher who values the success, wellbeing, and intellectual development of his students.

New Rutter's Location on Scalp

By Kennedy Lehman

Scalp Avenue welcomed a new Rutter's this past March! The store and gas station opened on March 26th, 2025 at 1609 Scalp Ave. Rutter's, initially located in Cambria County, was just a convenience store, but now features a brand new bar and lounge.

The people that go to Rutter's can still enjoy their favorite things. WTJ states, "They added that fans can still enjoy all their favorites while they kick back with an ice-cold drink and exclusive sports bar combos. The 21+ bar and lounge section will also feature more than 20 65-inch high-definition televisions, touting that fans won't miss any action for their favorite teams." The new location is about 14,000 square feet. Additionally, some Rutter's are adding EV charging stations for cars that may require such. Earlier in March, Rutter's made an announcement that they were going to open two more stores with the bar and lounge. The one store is located in Milton, Pennsylvania, while the other resides in our very own Johnstown. Pennsylvania is not the only state that plans on getting more Rutter's. If the store shows improvement and has major signs of success in the area, then Maryland and West Virginia plan to follow.

Rutter's is going to be a huge hit, especially on game days. Rutter's is a store booming with lots of fans and is a great place to relax and enjoy a game.

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Contownian News Magazine

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Devin Lohr pitching up a storm!



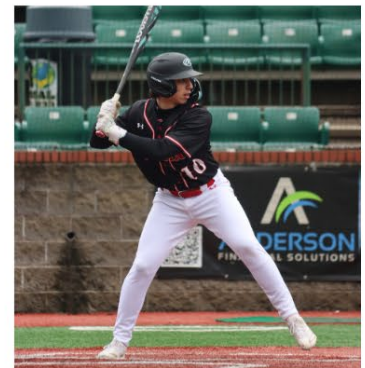
Hannah Gregorich paints for SADD Club.



Jackson Sotosky speaking at FCA.



Jimmy McCann gears up to slay the PSSAs!



DJ Bambino with his eyes on the prize.



Liv Mauzy stealing first base!



Aidan Burnworth leaping for gold!



Sarahbeth Sullivan making elephant toothpaste! Wow!



Megan Armstrong throwing shot put.



Haiden Henry at the physics olympics!

Ms. Lingenfelter's 30 Years

By Maya Denault

This year's musical, *Disney's High School Musical: On Stage*, marked Mari Grace Lingenfelter's 30th musical. For each of these 30 productions, Ms. L has taken the role of the main director. She continues to direct the CT musicals every year due to the fact that she loves to see all her students develop and grow on and off the stage as people and actors.

Each year, Ms. L encourages students to do their best. Her school day ends hours after it began to ensure a quality production. The effort she puts into rehearsals showcases the true talent behind our music department. Due to this unwavering commitment, the Conemaugh Township Musical legacy has been formed. Ms. L's lasting impact on the students and music program will stay for years to come.

Ms. L stated "For my 30th Musical at CT, I wanted to thank all of the people who have been by my side for the success

of our shows. However, the tables were turned on me to surprise me with a beautiful celebration. I'm still processing all of the events, gifts, cards, and love from so many amazing people! Thank you to everyone involved and I'm sending my love to my family, friends, staff, and students - and this was all on top of such an exciting run of *Disney's High School Musical: On Stage!*"

Alumni of the Month



Melanie Glovach Byer graduated from Conemaugh Township in 1993. After high school, Melanie attended the University of Pittsburgh in Johnstown and graduated in 1997 with a degree in communications and public relations. After college, Melanie worked with Girl Scouts of America, Highmark Health, and is currently at Mayo Clinic Laboratories as a clinical specialty representative.

Melanie Byer is the wife of Brian Byer and mother to Jackson and Ava Byer, along with their dog Lulu. She enjoys watching her children's sporting events, camping, and hanging out with her high school friends, Shannon, Kim, and Joanne, every Christmas. Her favorite teacher in high school was Mr. DeBiase, who Melanie says was an awesome teacher because of his genuine belief that each student could succeed in and out of the classroom, and his ability to make learning geometry fun. Her best memories of high school were made while playing volleyball, basketball, softball, and going to school dances, which she never missed.

Melanie still plays a part in our school and our community as an active member of the Conemaugh Township school board. Her and her family live in Jerome, PA, where her daughter, Ava, is a senior at Township and her son, Jackson, was a 2022 Township graduate. Melanie has been a living testimony to show that you can still be a part of your school even after graduation through her involvement in our school still today.



Our amazing Ms. Lingenfelter



The CT Musical Directors

SHOFCO

By Amelia Mitchell

Every year the Conemaugh Township Rotary Interact Club holds an event called SHOFCO. SHOFCO stands for shining hope for communities. There are two goals of SHOFCO: to raise money for Build-A-Chair and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Build-A-Chair is a foundation that raises money to build wheelchairs for people with disabilities in Tanzania. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative is a foundation that administers vaccinations that cut down the amount of cases of polio.

Here at Conemaugh Township, we raise the money by doing a soccer tournament. This year it will be taking place on Monday, June 2nd, 2025. Any students in grade 7th through 12th can sign up to be on a team. The Conemaugh Township teachers and staff can even sign up. The tournament runs throughout the whole day. Additionally, if your team makes it to the finals, you are able to play the teachers at 6:30pm for a championship game. Mrs. Grove said about the event, "I am so excited to see how our community and students come together for this great event."

Overall, SHOFCO is a soccer tournament that everyone in the school can enjoy. SHOFCO is also a great way for our school and community to come together to help raise money for some great causes, while also having fun.

NHS Easter Baskets

By Maya Denault

Going into this spring, our students involved in National Honor Society put together Easter baskets for mothers at Conemaugh Hospital with babies in the NICU. These baskets were delivered to the hospital's NICU and maternity wing. This project has been organized and headed by Emmy Allison, a junior in National Honor Society.

On April 15th, members of NHS delivered the baskets to the hospital. These baskets included blankets, wipes, onesies, stuffed animals, socks, washcloths, bath items, and books. All of these baskets were designed to include cute things for the babies in the NICU and maternity wing.

The National Honor Society students chose to do these service projects to help bring joy to the new mothers during this Easter season. Each of these students are glad to give their time putting this together to make other families' days.

"The Easter baskets are a great idea that is going to help many people in need at Conemaugh Hospital. This will help people when they might be at their lowest point," said Isaac Marsh, a junior member of National Honor Society.

Band Fest

By Conner Hawkins

Band Fest is a yearly festival that allows 6th grade band students from all around the area to play a set list of songs. It's very similar to county band, which has the same concept, except that it is only for band members in 7th through 12th grade.

This year, the festival was held at CT with a total of 30 schools participating. There were six representatives from CT, including Abbey Shropshire, Hazel DeSantis, David Alwine, Bailey Thomas, and Ryder Lishka. They all participated in the concert band section while Heaven Coleman participated in percussion ensemble. They had three guest conductors for this festival: Jessica Leggett, who conducted the concert band portion, and both Allen Bixel and David Hock who conducted the percussion ensemble portion.

The concert had a wide variety of different pieces to play. Some notable ones from the concert band portion were "The Bold Brigade," "Zombie Stomp," "Attack of the Garden Gnomes," and "Donut Factory." The percussion ensemble had two songs which were "A Caveman Told Me" and "Rails."

To quote Mrs. Grove: "Band Fest was an incredible event here at Conemaugh Township celebrating the creation of music with so many young students! These students learn skills, teamwork, and music while having fun as a group. It is incredible to see how they can all come together on one single day and perform a concert together! We were thrilled to host it here at Conemaugh Township - it is a great reminder that music is for all and it is bigger than just one of us!"

In conclusion, Band Fest is a unique way for 6th grade band students to get a taste of what some of the more advanced festivals look like in middle and high school. They also get the amazing opportunity of getting to meet fellow musicians and even the possibility to hear a new instrument being played.

Midterms vs. Finals

By Gentry Sotosky

As the end of the school year is nearing, students have to start preparing for finals week. Some of these finals could be harder than others, normally depending if your teacher gave a midterm earlier in the year.

In my opinion, having a midterm is better for the long-term effect, especially so you don't have to test on week one material during finals week. For the first half of school, the midterm will cover all of that information so that when it comes to finals, you can forget about the first half of the school year and focus on the second. Another reason why I like midterms is because it checks to see how well you remembered the information that you learned. However, if your final is different than a test, like a book project, I see no point in having a midterm.

Overall, there are many pros and cons to both midterms and finals. Personally, I don't mind taking a midterm as well as a final but other people could be strongly against tests overall. It all depends on what kind of person you are and how good you are at remembering information.

When Should We Hold Prom?

By Kaden Valentine

As the winter weather begins to break and the days get longer, spring is here and the school year is beginning to wind down. With that comes many exciting festivities, possibly the biggest being Prom. The largest-scale dance of the year has high schoolers all over the country anticipating the big day, and Conemaugh Township is no different. The question is: when should that big day be?

When trying to find the best time to hold our Prom here at C.T, we have a few important things to consider. We know we want it to be nice outside, close to the end of the year, but not so close to the finish that it feels packed in or rushed. Additionally, the last month of the school year is very chaotic, with there being lots of other commitments and activities taking place, especially for seniors, and spring sports still being in full swing. Finally, we need to consider the weather. Where we live in south-western Pennsylvania, the unpredictable weather makes it impossible to guarantee that Prom Day will be warm and sunny, but we need to do the best we can to put the odds in our favor.

With all of that being said, scheduling Prom can be a rather uneasy task. It can't be too early because it might be cold or rainy, and we can't make it too close to the end of the year or it could conflict with district level competitions, senior festivities, finals, etc. It must be a Friday, in May, that is likely to have nice weather and no other school related events scheduled for the entire senior-high population. These things are what lead us to the relative dates that we have, usually in the second or third week of May. For example, this year is May 9th, which is probably the best option we could get this spring.

Should We Get Out Early on Fridays?

By Izzy Gunby

Many schools in our area get out early on Fridays, which causes students from our school to wish they got out early, too. I think it would benefit students and teachers to get out early on Fridays. Getting out early could help with students' and teachers' motivation and their mental health.

Throughout the week I often find myself and my friends dreading the end of week because we just want to get to the weekend. When we get out early on Fridays it gives me more motivation to get through the week since it's a few hours less of school I have to get through. A lot of times school gets very draining and stressful as you make your way through high school. There are many tests, exams, and homework that can take a lot of time out of your everyday life. Getting out an hour early gives you a little more time to work on studying and homework. Sometimes students just mentally need a break from all the work and it would benefit many students to get out an hour early. Getting out early also provides students with more time for extracurricular activities and spending time with friends and family. Getting out early could also benefit teachers and give them more time to work on lesson planning and grading. I know a lot of teachers that get overwhelmed with their work and constant questions from students. This would provide teachers with some more time to work on their own work.

Overall, getting out early could get rid of a lot of stress from both students and teachers. It gives us more time to work on many important things that will affect our futures. This can make a huge difference in students and teachers stress levels, happiness, and overall well-being.

Best Locations for Prom Dresses, Flowers, and Pictures

By Braylin Petree

Prom is always a stressful time of year for most, but it is also an unforgettable night for everyone. Here are some of the best locations for prom dresses, flowers, and pictures:

Dresses:

- Celestial Brides and Prom
- The Bridal Suite
- MB Prom
- Lulus - online
- ASOS - online

Flowers:

- Forget Me Not Floral & Gift
- Something Xtra Special
- Westwood Floral & Gifts
- Schrader's Florist & Greenhouse, Inc

Pictures:

- Greenhouse Park
- Laurel View Village
- St. Anne's Church
- Someone's Back Yard or Front Porch

These are some options that will make your prom less stressful and more memorable. Remember to enjoy every moment, and make light of the stressful ones!

How to Prepare and Study for Finals

By Regan Maldet

In order to effectively study for finals week, it is important to create a study schedule that breaks down every subject into manageable chunks. Prioritize topics based on how difficult they are and the importance of them. You should also make sure to make specific times for each one. This makes it so everything is not being crammed at the last minute.

It is very important to find a good study method that works well. This could be flashcards, summarizing notes, or teaching the material to someone else. These learning

techniques are a lot more effective than just reading a textbook for hours on end. Taking regular breaks is a good way to not get burnt out and remember the material being studied. A mind that is well rested is much more efficient at retaining information.

In conclusion, making sure you are taking good care of yourself physically and mentally is an important method for effectively studying for finals. Make sure to get enough sleep, eat nutritious meals, and stay hydrated. This does not mean living on energy drinks and junk food. Also, finding time for physical activities, even if it is just a short walk, or stress management techniques, like deep breathing or meditation, can be a very good way to keep yourself sane and have a good studying session.

Best Mother's Day Gift Ideas

By Hannah James

Mother's Day is a day to honor and celebrate mothers all over the world. Mother's Day is an annual celebration on the second Sunday of May. People show their gratitude and appreciation for their mothers by giving them a gift. Sometimes these gifts are bought, and sometimes they are made. The gift you give to your mom doesn't have to be bought, in fact the handmade gifts are often more personalized, and sometimes it's the other way around. Since Mother's Day is approaching soon, here are the top ten best Mother's Day gifts according to The Telegraph:

1. Flowers
2. Box of Chocolate
3. Diffuser
4. Perfume
5. Candles
6. Personalized Pillow
7. Clothes
8. Slippers
9. Blanket
10. Jewelry

Mothers are a big part of our lives. They love and care for us every day, so giving them a gift is our way of saying thank you for all that they do for us. It's a small way to show that we are grateful and appreciate them.

Saint Francis University Transitions to D3

By Ava Byer

Saint Francis University announced on Monday, March 25th, 2025 that the university's athletics will be moving to the Division III Presidents Athletic Conference in the 2026 academic year. This transition will be tough on not only the current athletes, but also the incoming athletes who will both be affected by scholarship money.

The SFU Board of Trustees decided on a reclassification of its NCAA Division I intercollegiate athletic programs to Division III. The university's president, Fr. Malachi Van Tassell, said, "The Board and I have been concerned about the student-athlete experience for many years. The geography of our conference is huge. Our students travel either to Chicago or to Boston or to points in between. That's a lot of time not spent on campus, developing friendships or in the classroom. This decision is about creating and maintaining community and allowing our student-athletes to thrive in the classroom and their chosen sport." He emphasized, "I want to be clear—we are very proud of our Division I history and success, and our student-athletes. We know this transition may be stressful. We will do everything possible to support our student-athletes, their families, our coaches, and our staff and do right by you." This transition is not becoming fully active until the 2029-2030 academic year. For the 2025-2026 year the University will remain an NCAA Division I institution competing in the Northeast Conference (NEC). For the next three years, the University will be recognized as a DIII reclassifying member institution. This means that the athletic programs will be operating in compliance with NCAA Division III bylaws, except for the allowance of certain student-athletes to keep their athletic scholarship. The competition will primarily consist of other Division III institutions. Then in the academic year of 2029-2030, SFU will earn a full Division III membership status. The athletic programs will operate entirely under the NCAA Division III bylaws.

Saint Francis University's recent reclassification of athletics will be a big change for current athletes and upcoming athletes who might have been looking at Saint Francis as an option to continue their athletic careers. This change is very dramatic and will have many people talking about it all around.

Track Class of '25 Breaking Records

By Lilly Oakes

The track season is just getting started and contains a number of impressive athletes. Many of our track athletes manage to qualify for districts and states each season, but only a number of them were able to break the school records in their events.

Izzy Slezak, Jackson Sotosky, and Dillon Defibaugh are all seniors on the track team this year. They have been able to go far into their past seasons, and also hold school records for the events that they compete in. Izzy Slezak holds the school record in the 100 meter, 200 meter, and girls 4x1. Breaking the old record of 12.6, Slezak now set the 100 meter dash record at 12.04. She broke the record in the 200 meter dash, setting the new record at 24.88. For the 4x1, she set the new time to beat at 50.31. Slezak said that she "[feels] very grateful. [She] thanks God for giving [her] the body to do it," and she "[hopes] to improve and do even better this year."

Jackson Sotosky set a new record in the long jump, and tied the record in high jump. The previous long jump record was 21'11, which he broke, setting the new record at 22'8. The high jump record is 6'6, which he is currently tied with. He stated that to break the high jump record, he "[plans] on continuing to work hard at practice as well as in the weight room, and then ultimately get more attempts at it in meets." Jackson said that "it's an honor knowing that what [he] did will be cemented in the history books, and that all [of his] hard work and training has finally paid off. All of the records at Township were extremely hard to beat, and [he has] the utmost respect for all the athletes that have set one... Records are meant to be broken, and by not having them gives [him] the motivation [he] needs to work hard so that [he] can have them." He mentioned that "Having the record means so much to me and thanks to all the people that have helped me get to where I am."

Dillon Defibaugh broke the record in the 400 meter. The old time was 50.89, which he broke, setting the new record at 50.21. Dillon said that "it feels amazing to be part of our school's athletic history." The Conemaugh Township track team is filled with a number of impressive athletes this season. They have broken records already and aim to work hard and get far into this season, and maybe break more records as well.

ATHLETES OF THE



Izzy Slezak is the daughter of Matt Slezak and Juliet Diano and lives with her father here in Davidsville. From breaking school records, to most likely a four-time state qualifier, to recording a sports section on our school YouTube page each week, Izzy has left a mark on Conemaugh Township athletics. Izzy has been playing soccer for 10 years.. She lettered all four years of her high school career. In her freshman year, she attained two awards: being noticed as first team forward and a WestPac All-Star. The same applied for her sophomore year. In her junior year she was mentioned as an offensive MVP, Heritage Conference All-Star, reached 100 career goals, was the Daily American player of the year, and alongside her team, won the District V Championship title. In her senior year she was the varsity soccer team captain, an offensive MVP, the Daily American player of the year, and a Heritage Conference All-Star. She also broke the school record for most goals, setting the new record at 135 goals. Izzy is also a member of the varsity track team. She has been a member of the track team for four years and has made those four years count. In her freshman year she won second at states as a runner for the girls 4x1 race. She was also a District V champion individually for the 200-meter sprint. Her sophomore year she won the District V Championship for the 200-meter sprint, won third at states in the 200-meter sprint, and got eighth at states for the 100-meter sprint. Her junior year she was the District V Champion for both the 100 and 200-meter sprints, won second at states for the 200-meter sprint, and was awarded fifth at states for the 100-meter sprint. She was also a Heritage Conference All-Star. She hopes to set more records and make it far into this season. Outside of her outstanding athleticism, Izzy is a member of clubs such as Grill Team, SADD, FCA, and is on the Honor Roll. In her free time, she enjoys fishing, being outside, and spending time with friends and family. Izzy is looking forward to attending Shippensburg for track where she plans to major in business. Her favorite quote is "one day or day one."



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Sam Shaffer is the son of Holly and Josh Shaffer. He lives with both of them in Davidsville. Sam is a true athlete, and with that comes his ability to play multiple sports and excel in all of them. In his junior year, Sam joined the varsity track and field team, where he lettered and qualified for districts in javelin. Sam also competed with the golf team his freshman year. Sam's true passion lies with football, however. He played football for a total of nine years and was a four-year varsity letterman.

Sam earned the SAFCA Defensive MVP, and is a two-time All-Heritage Conference team member. Sam also led the varsity football team in tackles his junior season. Sam's skills go farther than just on the field He is an active member in SADD Club and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. In his free time, Sam enjoys fishing, hunting, golfing, lifting, and hanging out with his friends. After graduation, Sam plans to attend Washington and Jefferson University to obtain his degree in Environmental Science. Additionally, he will continue his football career with their team. A quote that Sam lives by is, "One for the ditch."



New Bob Dylan Movie

By Izzy Gunby

Many people know the famous singer, Bob Dylan, best known for his songs “Knockin’ on Heaven’s Door,” “Blowin’ in the Wind,” and many more. Many of Dylan’s fans wanted a movie to explore and get a deeper dive into his work. In early 2020, the Bob Dylan movie was announced, *A Complete Unknown*, with James Mangold writing and directing the movie.

A Complete Unknown came out in December 2024 starring Timothée Chalamet. The movie focused on Dylan’s rise to fame as a folk singer in the 1960s. *A Complete Unknown* was approved by Bob Dylan himself, and an interview with him even includes his thoughts that Timothée Chalamet’s hard work made a major impact on the film and wouldn’t be the same without him. The movie was nominated for the Oscars where many fans were upset with the outcome of it not winning any awards, saying that Chalamet was “robbed.” Chalamet put lots of work into the film through gaining weight and starting voice lessons in early 2023 to make sure the portrayal was perfect.

Many Bob Dylan fans were nervous about this movie’s portrayal of Dylan’s lifestyle, but the production and Chalamet’s work turned out to be a major success, bringing in over 100 million dollars. Overall, *A Complete Unknown* does an amazing job showing the man behind the music and leaves viewers with a new way to view his music.

Piper Rockelle Documentary

By Marly Teeter

Piper Rockelle is a famous social media influencer and YouTuber who just recently debuted a documentary on Netflix about her and her mother, Tiffany Smith. The documentary dives into Rockelle’s life and a little bit of her reality, along with the social media side of her life. It also goes deeper into some allegations against her mother, revealing that she was making her kids act out for popularity and views.

There have always been terrible stories about parents making kids do things they don’t want to do just for the money. Rockelle had a pretty large friend group and they

all have their own platforms with plenty of followers. Some of the allegations suggest that Smith was trying to sexualize the kids in their TikToks. The documentary came out April 9th, but Rockelle and Smith have already shut down most of the allegations. In another article, Rockelle tried to explain how the whole situation was painful and hard to understand. She also stated how the media isn’t really taking the time to understand her side of the story and hear what she has to say.

In my opinion, if her following has seen all of this going on throughout her platform, why would they believe that her mom is completely innocent? It will be interesting to see the truth behind the dozens of allegations when the documentary comes out.

Meghan Markle’s New Podcast

By Kaydence Forish

Looking for something to occupy your time over Easter break? Maybe something you can listen to while you clean or breathe in the fresh spring air? Well if that’s what you’re looking for, Meghan Markle’s new podcast, *Confessions of a Female Founder*, may be the right option for you!

Meghan Markle has released her new podcast on Spotify and has already crept into the top 10 on the Spotify charts. If business is your thing, this podcast is right up your alley as Markle brings in females and friends who have created their own businesses to talk about their experiences and confessions. Markle is known as a former actress, philanthropist, and an advocate for women. Markle was born in Los Angeles and attended Northwestern University. She double majored in Theater and International Relations. She was originally recognized for her role as Rachel in the show *Suits*. She then married Prince Harry and joined the royal family, making her the first Duchess of Sussex in history.

If learning about the struggles and upsides of creating and running a business is your thing, this podcast may be for you. Even if business isn’t your cup of tea, give the podcast a listen because you will most likely learn something new!



Lollapalooza 2025 Lineup

By Akira Irizarry

The Lollapalooza music festival is coming soon! It was originally a touring event that took place in 1991, but now it is a multi-cultural event that shows the diverse genres of music in this century. It is held annually in Grant Park, Chicago, from July 31st until August 3rd, 2025. The festival is hosting all music types, such as alternative rock, heavy metal, punk rock, hip hop, and electronic dance music. It is considered the largest music festival of all, featuring over 400,000 people.

The festival does not just feature music, it also supports community engagement, including supporting after-school programs, hosting youth events, and partnering with local organizations. The festival also includes something they like to call the Kidzapalooza area, which offers concerts, music workshops, and interactive art exhibits for families. After the festival is over and people wish to continue the party elsewhere, Lollapalooza offers many after shows and parties.

But aside from all the fundamental parts of the Lollapalooza, we should be focusing on the lineup of the year! This year's lineup includes: Olivia Rodrigo, Sabrina Carpenter, Tyler the Creator, Luke Combs, Rūfūs Du Sol, A\$AP Rocky, Korn, Gracie Abrams, DoeChii, and TWICE. They were explicitly chosen for their emerging talents, as they are up and coming artists. The General admission four-day tickets are \$385, while the GA+ tickets are \$715.



Artist of the Month



Elanor Luscher is the Artist of the Month for April! Elanor, a sophomore at Conemaugh Township, is the daughter of Andria and Dave Luscher. She lives with her mom and step-dad, Brad Kaufman, in Davidsville. Elanor is a student in the Art II class and has dedicated a lot of time into her pieces. Elanor has done a great deal of different types of artwork over her high school career, but the ones that stuck out to her the most would be realistic or cartoon art. Cartoon art often resembles a humorous drawing usually found in newspapers or magazines intended for entertainment or to convey a funny message. Other types of art that inspire her would be mural/street art. She loves art shows and seeing all of the different creations people can make. Along her art class journey, Elanor has been featured in many events over the years with her art projects.

After Elanor goes through the rest of her high school career, her dream is to go to a college where she can learn more about SFX makeup, as it's one of her favorite hobbies. A quote that Elanor has chosen to live by is, "Become the type of person you aspire to be and don't let anyone tell you otherwise." Congratulations, Elanor!

Musician of the Month



Our musician of the month is Evan Massimo-Grimes! He is the son of Elyse Massimo Grimes and the late Darren Grimes and lives in Tire Hill. Evan has been chosen for this role for his exceptional playing of his favorite instrument, the tuba. Evan has played in a total of six marching band shows in his life. He sums most of his accomplishments in one quote by Leonard Bernstein: "Music can name the unnamable, and communicate the unknowable." Most of his noted accomplishments happened between 2023-2025, such as District Band, District Choir, Region III Choir, Region III Band, and All-State Wind Ensemble.

Evan aspires to pursue a double major of Electrical Engineering and Music Composition. This means even after high school, he wishes to continue his love of music. He believes that after college, he is likely to stay in the local region. It is amazing to see that he loves music so much that he would continue this passion even after he graduates. Congratulations, Evan!

Federal Judge Blocks EPA's Move

By Eleanor Luscher

Recently, the Environmental Protection Agency made a request to try and cancel \$20 billion towards climate grants that were awarded under the Biden agency. They claimed that it was unnecessary, fraud, and a conflict of interest.

The reasoning behind this move is President Trump's cutting of the EPA's budget by about 65%, which led to the EPA then repealing many previous financial decisions. This one in particular assisted in reducing greenhouse gases which is why the federal judge had to go against it as greenhouse gases have part in damaging the public's health. The EPA is making such drastic changes because Trump revealed he also plans to eliminate their research office. The controversy over the matter, however, is due to the fact that the money has been unused for a long time now, so they wanted to take it back. Currently, the ruling is to only temporarily put the EPA's decision on hold while they review it to see if they can let them pass it. The 20 billion was initially provided during Biden's Inflation Reduction Act to try and help to reduce greenhouse gases for public health.

To conclude, the decision is still being reviewed especially considering the EPA team has no substantial evidence or a good enough argument to defend their decision. In the future, only then will it be proven as to how it will play out.

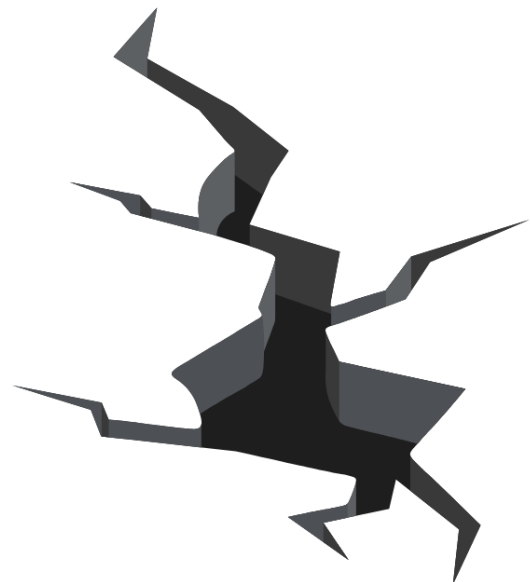
Earthquake in Asia

By Kennedy Lehman

On March 31st, 2025 a powerful earthquake with a 7.7 Magnitude hit Southern Asia. This took place across Myanmar and Asia and resulted in multiple casualties and flattened skyscrapers. There are around 2,056 casualties along with over 3,900 people injured. 270 people are reported missing from this earthquake. The epicenter of the 7.7 magnitude earthquake was in Mandalay, Myanmar. Mandalay is the country's second largest city. Bangkok, which is 600 miles away from Myanmar, felt the earthquake and saw the damage. Thirteen people were killed in Bangkok from a building collapse. Many people suffered from the after effects of this earthquake. A staff

A staff member of the International Rescue Committee working in central Myanmar stated, "I have lived through several earthquakes in my life, but I have never experienced anything like this. The most powerful shaking lasted only a few seconds, and many people immediately ran out of their houses." Many people are now sleeping outside of their homes on the roads and in open fields. There is a huge need for tents there right now because people are too scared to stay or sleep indoors. There is also not much water available there. Telecommunication lines can not be trusted and hospitals are also getting overwhelmed, being forced to treat patients outside for fear of poor infrastructure.

Chinese rescue teams arrived 18 hours after the earthquakes. Over 400 personnel are on the ground, though they have only rescued a few survivors from collapsed buildings. Thirteen people were found dead in the Bangkok buildings. The U.S. embassy in Myanmar needs two million to address humanitarian needs. Myanmar is saying the United States had an immediate response for the disaster. The acting head of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies states, "Myanmar is experiencing a level of devastation that hasn't been seen over a century in Asia." The people there are saying that they are going to see more earthquakes like this throughout the years. As rescue efforts continue, the world hopes that they will find more survivors of this horrendous disaster.



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Ways to Prepare for the PSSAs

By Mya Glover

Spring is a time of testing for students in elementary and middle school. This time presents assessments such as the PSSAs. The PSSAs can be stressful for young students, so here are some ways you can keep yourself calm and ready for state testing!

One way you can prepare for PSSAs is to eat a good breakfast. This strategy might not sound important, but it actually is. Breakfast plays a vital role in powering the brain, helping students with memory, attention, and problem-solving abilities, all of which are crucial for academic success. Numerous studies have shown a positive impact between eating breakfast and improved academic performance.

Another way you can prepare for the PSSAs is to get eight to eleven hours of sleep every night during the PSSAs. Elementary and middle school students should usually get eight to ten hours of sleep every night, so you should get extra sleep for the PSSAs to be able to focus more when the time comes. To get this much sleep, you have to relax. A couple ways you can relax before bed is taking a warm bath, reading, or even listening to calming music. Good sleep will help you feel energized and ready for the PSSAs.

One last way you can prepare for the PSSAs is to go outside and relax or explore. Going outside can make you feel calm and peaceful because being in nature can reduce feelings of anxiety. Outdoor environments can help clear mental clutter and improve attention, especially for those struggling with focus. For students struggling with focusing, stress, or anxiety on a daily basis, going outside can lower that stress and anxiety to enable better focus. Regular exposure to natural light helps regulate sleep schedules, potentially leading to better sleep quality. PSSAs can be a challenging part of middle school for many students, so make sure you take care of yourself to perform the best!

Setting Goals for the End of the Year

By Claudia Shaffer

As we near the end of the school year, you have to think about the new feats you should attempt to accomplish. From personal goals to educational goals, the end of the school year is one of the most vital times to achieve your objectives. Goals can help you feel more accomplished and complete. If you don't feel like you have any goals, you may want to keep reading to figure out what your target should be next.

Grades play a key factor in school. You can't give up on your grades just because this year is coming to a close. Aim as high as possible, and try to get higher grades than your past marking periods. According to Frontiers Media, studies show that goal setting has a positive effect on academic performance. This goal can be achieved by studying, cutting down on screen time, getting extra sleep, and completing homework. Creating a study group with friends would also be a helpful tool to get better grades! A personal goal could be to spend more time with friends, especially since you might not see them over the summer. Whether you spend time with your buddies in school or outside of school, there are plenty of things to do!

In summary, setting goals towards the end of the school year is an important way for you to get things done and to feel accomplished. Hopefully after reading this article, you have more goals that you would like to achieve. Have a fun rest of your school year and live it to the fullest!





Academic Calendar/ Upcoming Events

May 6.....Middle School Spring Concert

May 7.....Senior High Spring Concert

May 9.....Prom and Post Prom

May 22.....One-Hour Early Dismissal

May 26.....Memorial Day Vacation

May 27- May 30.....Senior High Finals Week

Telephone Numbers

Administrative Numbers

Superintendent.....Nicole Dull.....479-7575

Business Manager.....Brandon Studer.....479-7431

Food Service Director.....Randy Walker.....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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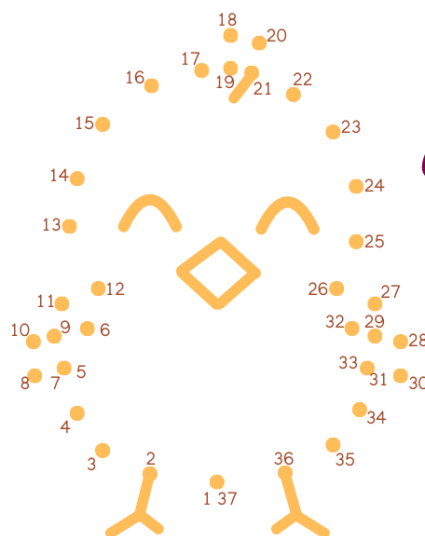
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