



The Contownian News Magazine

Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School November 2021 Volume 84 Number 3

Orlandi. It is always an honor to be a part of something like this and to see the family receive the bridge dedication as a memorial.”

Bridge Dedication

By Tori Dombrosky and Natalie Kimmel

On October 8th, 2021, a nearby bridge was dedicated to Corporal Anthony G. Orlandi. The memorial bridge refers to the southbound and northbound lanes of the U.S. Route 219 over state Route 601 in Jerome. Corporal Anthony G. Orlandi was a light weapons infantry leader with Company L of the U.S. Army's 3rd Battalion. He was killed in action on January 12, 1952, and was never able to be returned to his family. Orlandi was one of fourteen U.S. soldiers killed on Hill 472 in the Korean War. He earned a Purple Heart and Silver Star for his bravery.

The bridge memorial service was commemorated with Orlandi's family members and members of the community. Natalie Kimmel and Tori Dombrosky were chosen to represent the Conemaugh staff at the memorial service. Tori said, “The service was quite an experience to be a part of. The family was all very welcoming and friendly. Overall, I am very thankful to be a part of such an opportunity.” Natalie stated that, “I am honored to be included in such a special moment for the family of Anthony G. Orlandi. This dedication provides a sense of comfort for his family, and it allows for his memory and sacrifices to live on.”

Pennsylvania Senator, Patrick Stefano, passed the legislation for the bridge dedication to occur. He spoke at the service and quoted, “It means a lot to me because they [the family] remember, but none of us do. They remember the person he was and the sacrifices he made; this dedication is so important to the family so that they can recognize and honor Anthony

Anthony joined the service at sixteen, and was never able to graduate high school. School resource officer, Mr. Mike Bunchich, organized an opportunity, along with superintendent, Mr. T.J. Kakabar, who allowed for the creation of this diploma. They, along with high school principal, Mr. James Foster, have worked through the years and have made sure that Conemaugh Township fallen veterans have received a diploma from the school.

Mr. James Foster assisted in presenting the diploma to the family. He stated in his presentation, “It brings me great honor to offer to the family of Anthony G. Orlandi, a Conemaugh Township high school diploma, as an appreciation for everything he has sacrificed.”



Corporal Anthony G. Orlandi's Memorial Bridge



Anthony G. Orlandi's family receiving the bridge dedication



PA State Senator Patrick Stefano, Natalie Kimmel, Tori Dombrosky, PA State Rep. Carl Metzger, &



Staff Editorials

Rifle: An Underrated Sport

By Ruby Korenoski

The winter sports season is just around the corner. Basketball players are warming up, wrestlers are taking to the mat, cheerleaders are stunting on the hardwood. In the background, Rifle team members are wheeling in their gear bags, cleaning off their safety glasses, and preparing for their matches. We all love to pile into the gymnasium and watch Conemaugh Township's amazing athletes participate in their favorite winter sports. They are even highly publicized, rightfully so. However, more often than not, students hear about rifle and say "Wow, our school has a rifle team?"

It is my third year of being a member of the Rifle Team. Ever since I laid down in the prone position, and shot a ten for the first time, I have had an unexplainable love for the sport. It is a mental game. A teammate once told me, "A certain thought can ruin a certain shot." Which is true. A shooter's headspace must be calm, determined, and decisive. A common misconception, due to the lack of knowledge students have on this sport is that it requires no skill, or it is not a real sport. However, rifle has taught me extreme discipline, due to the harsh regulations to keep the range a safe environment for everyone. It has taught me to never give up, a bad shot does not mean a bad target. Most importantly it has given me some of the best friendships I have ever had. Each shooter is in their own world as they take to the line and make their mark on their three positions. I have learned to respect others, because in rifle, everyone's scores come together to defeat another team, and to win the match. This sport is extremely underrated. It's not about rivalries, and being better than your teammates, it is about coming together and lifting each other up for the common good of the team.

I love to spread awareness for the state winning title team we are lucky enough to have. Our range is wonderful, along with our coaching staff. This sport has brought students of Conemaugh Township countless opportunities. It does not get the recognition it deserves. Talk to a member of the team if it seems to spark your interest, it is an experience of growth, leadership, and memories to last even after leaving the range.

College Admission

By Cameron Berloff

Are we putting too much stress on students to get into the best colleges? Harvard, Yale, Princeton, the list goes on and on of school's that we've all heard about since such young ages. We have been told that they are the best and only colleges you can be successful in. I can remember watching shows and movies in elementary school where every character went to an ivy league school. But when does it all begin to be too much?

So many students spend all of their high school working so hard that they get burnt out. They do not settle for less than a perfect score, join every club possible, and do so much community service to the point that they aren't even doing it for the right reasons anymore. But how many of these students end up attending an ivy league school?

Let's also factor price into this equation. To give an idea of these steep prices, Columbia University costs \$58,920 per semester for tuition alone for an in-state resident. Penn State University costs \$10,770 per semester for an in-state resident. That is a \$48,150 difference for just one semester. But the scary thing is that Penn State isn't even considered to be that cheap of a school either. Though it is not an ivy league school, it has a very good reputation. IUP only costs \$4,785 per semester for an in-state resident. We can all agree that Colombia would be a fantastic school to be able to attend, but is it worth \$48,150 more? Most of the students that are paying full price for these ivy league schools are very wealthy people.

These are some of the biggest decisions of our lives, and we are basing it all on superficial values. Students are under an enormous amount of pressure to be the perfect A+ student. But every one of us has a place in this world where we can shine. Why are we wasting all of our time and money on something that we only have a 5% chance of accomplishing?

PHOTO JOURNALISM

HIGH SCHOOL



Natalie Kimmel and Meghan Lesure participate in anything but a backpack day for Halloween.



Chloe Bidelman takes the Indian serve at the District 5 Championship.



The victourious junior and senior volleyball team wins the 6th annual volleyball tournament.

Contownian

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HIGH SCHOOL

Thanksgiving Thankfulness

By Sasha Tarabrin

When the air starts to get an icy chill and leaves begin littering the roads, you know that fall has fully reared its head. November is a month full of looming snow, bare trees, and the anticipation of Christmas time. Many people enjoy going straight from Halloween to Christmas, but lovers of good food, family, and friends truly appreciate the fulfilling holiday that is Thanksgiving.

A traditional custom to the holiday is stating things that you are thankful for as well as why you are thankful for them. The average person's answer would be gratefulness for their parents, friends, food, pets, etc. But, there is one topic of gratitude that is oftentimes overlooked and forgotten - the Native Americans and their selfless contributions to American history. While Thanksgiving and Black Friday are the main highlights of the month, many tend to forget that November is actually Native American Heritage Month. The narrative that Thanksgiving was a peaceful joining of colonists and Indigenous peoples to celebrate the fall harvest is a farce. Colonists stole Native lands, culture, and most horrifically, their lives. So, this Thanksgiving, while enjoying your pumpkin pie and turkey, do not forget to give thanks to the Indigenous people's sacrifices, generosity, and most importantly their culture (which is intertwined with many of Thanksgiving's traditions).



Memory Scrapbook

By Hunter Hartnett

If you are a student interested in the history and past of Conemaugh Township, take a visit to the library and ask Mrs. Kimmel about the secret memory scrapbooks. Five scrapbooks date back the whole way to 1912. These old scrapbooks mostly consist of hundreds of newspaper articles dealing with Conemaugh Township. The articles range from sports to school bus crashes and even debts of Conemaugh Township.

An article in the scrapbook of high interest to CT rowdies is a rivalry between Windber and Township. The title reads, "What does it take to beat Winder?" WJAC Sportscaster asked former Indians football coach Steve Terebus and "Terebus, whose Indians dropped a heartbreaking 14-13 decision to the Ramblers last Friday night, couldn't come up with any answer to this query."

The 1938 - 1951 scrapbook was collected and compiled by Carl Wesley Williamson. It was presented in his memory to the Conemaugh Township Area School District by his wife and children.

Art Fundraisers

By: Lexi Defibaugh

The Conemaugh Township Art Club is having many fundraisers within the next couple of months. The most recent fundraisers are tribal towels and character T-shirts for Christmas. Tribal towels have been sold during football games during the fall to show support for the CT Indians. The character T-shirts are a new fundraiser for the Art Club, and they can't wait for people to see them!

These towels will be sold during winter sports. Towels can be purchased for \$5 and are great for being rowdy. Character T-shirts are being sold during the month of December. These shirts will have drawings of different teachers in cartoon form. They have been drawn by Dewgan Derricott and Isaac Boring and will be for sale during the Christmas season.

The Art Club can not wait for people to see their wonderful creations. All of these fundraisers can be bought from Mrs. Spengler or people in the Art Club. Hopefully all of these fundraisers do well and can bring more acknowledgment to the CT Art Club.

HIGH SCHOOL

Volleyball Marathon*By Abby Persio*

The SADD Club is having another annual volleyball marathon. This is a great way for the students to have fun while raising money for a good cause. Everyone comes together every year to help support our community.

I asked advisor Miss Tessari about the volleyball marathon and what exactly it benefits. She responded with, "This year we are supporting the first responders in our community, which includes the Conemaugh Township and Jerome fire fighters, the Conemaugh Township EMS, and local police officers." I then asked her why the SADD Club chose first responders this year and she responded with, "It is a good way for us to give back to them because they do so much not only for the school district but for the community as well." The volleyball marathon consists of the students putting a team together with 6-10 players. The SADD Club then makes a bracket on who versus whom and they are sure to stay on top of updating it throughout the day. SADD is also fundraising this year with Cow Patty Bingo. Tickets are \$10 and each player has to sell two tickets. The cow determines the winner by making the first "deposit" on one of the squares. There is also a basket party and a T-Shirt sale to raise extra money. The volleyball marathon is an all-day event that ends with a championship game and a Teachers vs. Seniors game.

Overall, this is a great way to raise money to help our community out and bring everyone together. You can even get out of your classes or stay in class and watch the live stream to see all of your friends compete. SADD highly recommends signing up for the volleyball marathon next year. It will help SADD Club raise money to help others, and it is a fun thing to be involved in.



Teachers celebrate their win over the students and the money raised for our first responders.

Alumni Of The Month...

Arek Zambanini graduated from Conemaugh Township in 2003. He grew up in Hollsopple/Jerome area with his parents Samuel and Valerie Zambanini. After graduation, Arek attended the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Allegany College of Maryland, and Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) where he obtained a Bachelor's of Science with a major in Kinesiology and a minor in History. He was an assistant baseball coach at Texas A&M International University from 2008-2010. He then became the head softball coach at Texas A&M International University from 2010-2021. The team made playoffs each year as Associate Head Coach winning one conference championship. In 2021 TAMIU Softball received votes in the National Fastpitch Coaches Association top 25 poll for the first time in school history. He is now currently employed by United Independent School District as a special education inclusion teacher and Assistant baseball coach. Arek is married to Mayra Garcia who is also an educator employed by Laredo Independent School District as a college, career, military, and readiness coordinator. They have one son, Arian Zambanini, who is twelve and a daughter, Alahna, age six.

During Arek's high school years, he was a 4-year letterman in football and baseball. He was involved in student council, yearbook club, and art club. Mr. Arek Zambanini wants to thank all of his coaches and many of his teachers and staff for making his experience at Conemaugh Township so memorable.

Arek's favorite memory from Conemaugh Township is Friday night football games, baseball playoff runs, and school dances. His would like to say, "Enjoy your time in High School. It will be some of the best days of your life. You will make lifelong friends and memories. CT is a great school and a great community. I am thankful to have attended such a supportive school with a lot of spirit."



***Arek Zambanini
and his wife Mayra***



Boys Soccer Wrap-Up

By Ben Cotchen

The boys varsity soccer team ended the 2021 season last Thursday night, when they fell to the Fannett Metal Tigers in the quarterfinals of the District 5 Class A playoffs. The team concluded the season with an 11-7 record, a major improvement from last year.

The Indians had key contributors in each grade level this season. Freshman, Jackson Sotosky, led the team with 15 goals. The Sophomore Squad of Dylan Giffin, Max Malicki, Colton Lehman, and Drake Rouser helped control the midfield all season long. Juniors, Austin Elliott and Ronan Cullen, split time as a defensive midfielder, while Trenton Brenneman held down the fort defensively as center back. Every year, the team seniors are looked upon to lead and assist in whatever way they can. Cayden Robinson and Sam Worst did this by helping the offensive attack all season long. Dakota Patton was $\frac{1}{3}$ of the defensive crew from last season and was a key piece in team success. Team captains Ethan Price, Ben Cotchen, and Herman Zilch held the responsibility of being team leaders on and off the field. They helped guide the team all season long and contributed to the team's success.

The boys varsity team went from a 6-11 campaign in 2020 to an 11-7 team in 2021. The team looks forward to building off of this year's success next season, while saluting and thanking the team's seniors for their contributions.



Volleyball District Playoffs

By Ben Cotchen

The Conemaugh Township Lady Indians varsity volleyball team began this year's District 5 playoff run looking to defend the title from last season as District 5 Champions. The Indians put themselves in position to do just that, as they clinched their 4th consecutive District Championship appearance. Conemaugh Township was given a tough test for a championship battle, as they matched up against the Berlin Brothersvalley Mountaineers. The team fought hard, but ultimately fell in three sets.

The game featured two of the best teams in District 5. Their opponent, the Berlin Mountaineers, came in off of playoff wins against Northern Bedford and defending District runner up Shade. The Indians fought hard in the match but were defeated in 3 sets by scores of 25-17, 25-23, and 25-11. When asked about her season, Maldet said, "Even though we fell short of the goal we set out at the beginning of the season, I'm still incredibly proud of the girls. We were a young team, with only 3 starters from last year returning. But the new girls we had stepped up in huge ways and were key pieces of our team. From my teammates to the fans who cheered us on all season, I cannot express my gratitude enough." The Indians ended their season with a 14-5 record.



Austin Elliott goes for the ball in a game against Cambria Heights.

Athletes...

Laci Fetterman, the daughter of Scott and Erin Fetterman, has been taking part in many of Conemaugh Townships' athletics. She has lived in Hollsopple, PA and attended Conemaugh Township all of her life. She has been involved in high school sports for four years and has lettered 10 times. Laci enjoys playing for the girl's varsity soccer team, track and field, and taking basketball stats. When asked about her last year at CT Laci said, "I am looking forward and excited to play my last seasons as an Indian."

Some other extracurricular activities Laci participates in are SON club, SADD club, Rotary club, National Honors Society, and is the society editor for journalism. Spending time with friends and family is something that is important to Laci. She also enjoys outside activities, as well as taking time to read and watching a good show.

After graduation, Laci plans on attending Coastal Carolina and majoring in biochemistry.



Ethan Price looks to pass the ball to his teammate in a game against Cambria Heights.

of the Month

Ethan Price, son of Kelly and Greg Price, is a well known athlete at Conemaugh Township. Raised by both parents, Ethan grew up in Hollsopple, Pennsylvania. Ethan Price has excelled at athletics for many years at Conemaugh Township Area Middle/High School. Ethan has been a member of Varsity soccer for three years and Track and Field for two years. He has lettered in soccer three times and helped lead the Township soccer team to a D5 runner-up placement.

Ethan Price is very strong academically having an "A and B" honor roll status through all of his high school career as well as perfect attendance. Ethan is very active in his spare time taking part in Ski Club, drawing, and hanging out with friends.

Ethan's future plans include being a travel nurse or a physician's assistant, or something in the medical field.



Laci Fetterman dribbles the ball towards the goal against North Star.



Veterans Day

By BriElla Harnett

During the month of November, many celebrations occur. One of those celebrations is honoring veterans on Veterans Day. This year, Veterans Day took place on November 11, 2021. On this day, people throughout the United States celebrate and honor the service of all United States military veterans. Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day" on November 11, 1919, which was the first anniversary of the end of World War I. This day pays tribute to all American veterans - alive or dead - and thanks them for honorably serving their country during peacetime and war. This day was nationally declared as a holiday by Congress in 1938.

This national holiday is a day full of honor. When asked how she felt about Veterans Day, Sam Daniels, had these words to say, "I like Veterans Day. I feel that it is a wonderful holiday and I love knowing that many military veterans around the nation are being celebrated and honored for their service."

Unique Thanksgiving Leftover Ideas

By Sasha Tarabrin

As Thanksgiving quickly approaches, plenty of people are already organizing their dinner plans. One of the main reasons that Thanksgiving is such a beloved holiday, is because of the great food that you get to share with your friends and family. From stuffing to cranberry sauce, and turkey to sweet potatoes, Thanksgiving foods are widely known and loved by most. Whether or not you like this holiday food, you are sure to have plenty left-over for weeks after. Here are several unique ideas to spruce up your plain old Thanksgiving leftovers.

- Sweet Potato Bread
- Fried Mash Potato and Stuffing Balls
- BLT Turkey Salad
- Sweet Potato Cranberry Donuts
- Turkey Lattice Pie
- Spicy Turkey Quesadillas
- Turkey Cranberry Bagels

Happy Holidays!

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Food Service Director.....Adam Thomas.....479-2328

Director of Curriculum.....Stacy Dabbs.....479-7575

Middle/High School 6-12

Principal.....James Foster.....479-4014

Guidance Counselors.....Kelly Birkhimer and Kara Duplin.....479-7886

School Nurse.....Cassey DeBiase.....479-2324

Athletic Director.....Jarod Feathers.....479-4014



School Calendar

The following dates are subject to change:

December 3.....Noon Dismissal

December 10.....One-Hour Early Dismissal

December 17.....One-Hour Early Dismissal

December 23.....One-Hour Early Dismissal

December 24-31.....Christmas Vacation

Check calendar dates on ctasd.org



THE LITTLE CONTOWNIAN

JUNIOR HIGH

News

Bella June Chesnutwood, Shawna Spangler, Noah Stultz, Garret
Jacobs. Gracyn Bittner

Sports

Rocco Hagan, Vayda Korenoski, Colton Shippey, Dakota Titus,
Ethan Coulter

Features

Elanor Luscher, Ember Seymour, Micheala Gindlesperger, Rylan
Hillegass, Dylan Tercek, Jason Vandiford

Society

Charlotte Worst, Addison Lasure, Donovan Dadura, Rydell
Walylko, Emily Purdy, Landyn Robinson