



### ***Conemaugh Township's New Turf Field***

*By Rocco Hagan*

This past summer, Conemaugh Township installed their brand-new artificial turf stadium. This will be significant to the school, the athletic teams, and to the community. The new stadium is viewed in awe as fans and supporters can't wait to see the athletic teams perform their best on the new Conemaugh Township turf field.

Many of the athletes and coaches are very excited to be able to finally play on their new field. The Tribune Democrat interviewed the head football coach, Brandon Studer, who said, "New field, new jerseys, there wasn't any pumping up I had to do in the pregame speech." The new field will allow for players to perform their best with consistent field conditions. With all the emotion and joy felt when playing on the beautiful field, it will be easy for the players to express their excitement and play to the best of their abilities. This new field will also attract more fans allowing for the school to gain more revenue in the next few years rather than in previous years, which can help the school to make more new improvements.

The new Conemaugh Township turf field will be great for many years to come, from the community to the individual point scorer on the field at the next sporting event. This improvement, along with others, will help to advocate for the school, and put our name out there for the community to see the amazing things that we do.

### ***Conemaugh Township's Teal Out Volleyball Game***

*By Anna Hunsberger*

September is national Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. Many sports teams, organizations, and communities in the Somerset County area are taking initiative to show their support. Every year, the Conemaugh Township varsity and JV girls volleyball team hosts a Teal Out game to raise awareness for ovarian cancer.

The volleyball games were held on September 18th, with junior varsity beginning at 6:00 p.m. and varsity following shortly afterward. They played against Cambria Heights. Our Township girls showed their support by decorating the trees, lining the school's entrance with teal ribbons, and wearing Teal Out shirts during their warmup. Every year, they even hand out free Teal Out shirts – donated by the Ann Harris Smith Foundation – to anyone who comes to the game so that they can also participate in spreading awareness. In addition, the Conemaugh Township Marching Band helped to promote the cause by performing various pep tunes as well as the national anthem prior to the game.

Every year, the Teal Out games gain a lot of support from the community. Last year, the Ann Harris Smith Foundation, an organization with a mission to raise ovarian cancer awareness in the Cambria and Somerset County areas, set up a donation box at these games. These proceeds went to ovarian cancer research. By coming out and supporting the Conemaugh Township volleyball team, the community supports a much greater cause.

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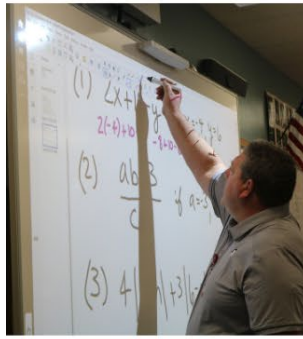
Maya Denault, Alexa Gardenhour, Grayson Kusher, Gracie McCall, Laikyn Reynolds, Renata Savignone, Kaden Valentine, Lena Dull, Isabella Gunby, Rocco Hagan, Hannah James, Mayce Kordell, Vayda Korenoski, Elanor Luscher, Lilly Oakes, Averie Seibert, Emily Purdy, LandonRay Romesburg, Colbi Hunsberger, Emma King, Kennedy Lehman, Savannah Stutzman, Jayla Feathers, & Peyton Lasure

Advisor: Diane Feathers





Bristol Maurer showing off her golf skills.



Geometry lesson from Mr. Lesko.



Mayce Kordell and Rocco Hagan demonstrating their gymnastic skills.



Jennabel Pursley and Addie Piper hanging out in art.



All smiles for the outdoor grill!



Greyson Studer and Gabe Valentine showing us their best poses.



Our sixth graders at Friendship Village.



Andie Hunsberger and Addi Lasure heading to class!



Aidan Burnworth at Senior Night.



Damirr Thomas going for the goal!

## *In Every Key... Jazz Speaks*

By Maya Denault

This year, the Class & Taste Marching Band is proud to present its show theme: *In Every Key... Jazz Speaks*. The program is a tribute to jazz through the decades, highlighting the genre's versatility, soul, and timeless appeal. Audiences will hear George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" from the 1920s, followed by Duke Ellington and Ella Fitzgerald's big band classic "It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)." The show then transitions into the cool, smooth sounds of Miles Davis with "Blue in Green" before traveling to Brazil with the world-famous Bossa Nova tune "The Girl from Ipanema." Finally, the band brings the energy with Dave Brubeck's "Take Five" and Maynard Ferguson's "Birdland," representing the modern jazz sounds of the 1960s and beyond. Together, these selections showcase jazz as a genre that transcends time and speaks to every generation.

### Alumni of the Month



Gillian Berloff graduated from Conemaugh Township High School in 2021. Gillian grew up in Davidsville, Pennsylvania and is the daughter of Dave and Vicki Berloff, and a big sister to Cameron Berloff. She attended Slippery Rock University and majored in communications with a double concentration in integrated marketing and digital media production.

During her time there she was the Copy/Web Editor of *The Rocket*, which is SRU's student-run, independent newspaper. She also was a member of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) and worked for the Student Public Relations and Outreach Coordinator for the Bailey Library on campus. Gillian graduated this past spring and received a bachelor's degree in communications. After college, she interned at the Allegheny County Executive's Office with Executive Sara Innamorato's communications team. Looking forward, she is searching to get a full-time communications or marketing job and starting her career. Gillian told us that one of the teachers she looked up to was Mrs. Custer. She said, "I always loved her classes and I learned so much in them. I think I use a lot of what I learned in psychology, sociology, and global studies in my day-to-day life. I also always loved the welcoming environment she created for students in her classroom and the way she exposed so many of us to different cultures and ways of thinking." She said that her favorite memory from attending Conemaugh Township was performing in Conemaugh Township's production of *Mamma Mia* her senior year. Although the pandemic prevented a full house from seeing the show each night, she was so proud of the show the entire cast put on. She said, "I'll never forget how it felt as the audience cheered us on during the curtain call at the final show."

Preparing for these competitions takes dedication and focus, and this year's group has been working hard. The band practices multiple times each week to prepare for performances, focusing on both the music and the choreography that bring the show to life. Each rehearsal adds new skills or moves, helping the students gradually build the complete performance. With a mix of returning members and many newcomers, the band is learning to march with precision, enter and exit the field with confidence, and perform their music completely from memory. A special emphasis is placed on balance across the field—soloists and melodies are carefully highlighted in the drill design, and sections are often spread out to improve the ensemble's blending and listening quality for the audience. The students are also proud to carry on a tradition of military-style precision drill that has been part of the band's legacy for decades, making their performances both musical and visually striking.

For the members, competitions are more than just scores—they are opportunities for growth, feedback, and connection! Later in the season, they will compete in Chapter Championships and States. Along the way, students look forward to building friendships, watching other performances, and sharing their own hard work with audiences. Memorable experiences like playing on Disney's Waterside Stage or enjoying themed days during band camp remind everyone that the journey is as important as the destination. Above all, the band hopes to inspire pride, joy, and empowerment on the field—showing that when music, marching, and teamwork come together, something truly special is created. With determination and enthusiasm, the Class & Taste Marching Band is ready for a season to remember!



## ***Student Teachers in Our Tribe***

*By Amelia Mitchell & Addison Lasure*

This fall, we have two new student teachers helping us here at Conemaugh Township High School. Our newest additions are Miss Isabella Wingard and Mr. Trent Troxell. They will both help out until December of 2025. We are very excited to welcome them to Conemaugh Township and are ready to see their excitement and passion for teaching come to life throughout these next couple months!

Miss Isabella Wingard is student teaching with Ms. Meribeth DeBarto, who teaches English language arts for 6th grade. Miss Wingard graduated high school from Chestnut Ridge in 2021. In high school, Miss Wingard was very active in sports, playing softball and basketball. She currently attends college at University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. She will be graduating this December with a degree in middle level education. Miss Wingard also played softball her freshman year of college. Some of her hobbies include golfing, going to the Pittsburgh Penguins games, and going to Dunkin. Some of her goals while she is here at Conemaugh Township is to “meet new students, create memories with them, learn the ways of a teacher and see their impact.” Ms. DeBarto said, “Having a student teacher in our classroom is like a breath of fresh air, bringing new energy, inspiring creativity, and igniting the sparks of learning. I'm thrilled to see Isabella shine as she shares her ideas with us!”

A familiar face has returned to Conemaugh Township. Mr. Trent Troxell has chosen to return, since his graduation from Conemaugh Township in 2017 to continue his career in education with the ultimate goal of becoming a certified history teacher. Mr. Troxell is assisting Mr. Fred Mainhart, who teaches civics and government/economics. Mr. Troxell attended law school, receiving his undergraduate degree at Duquesne University. He is currently attending Point Park University in his pursuit of a teaching degree. His other goals, besides earning a teaching certificate, are to continue coaching football and start a family. While in high school, Mr. Troxell played football and basketball and participated in track & field. He was also a class officer. Mr. Troxell was very grateful for the opportunity to come back to Conemaugh Township to student teach. He stated, “I started my education at Conemaugh Township and now I

get to end my education at Conemaugh Township. It's great to see how the school has grown since I've been gone and I'm excited to become a contributing member to Conemaugh Township this fall.”



Miss Isabella Wingard



Mr. Trent Troxell

## ***New to CT: Renata Savignone***

*By Amelia Mitchell*

This year, Conemaugh Township High School welcomes an exchange student! Her name is Renata Savignone and she has come here all the way from Chile in South America. She is a senior this year and is residing with Jeanette and Bill Hunsberger during her time here.

Renata has been here since August and will be returning home after the school year is over. She said, “I'm excited to be here. I think I'm doing pretty good for how hard it is.” When asked who her favorite teachers were, she responded with Mrs. Feathers and Mrs. Custer. Her reasoning was that they are very understanding and kind. When Renata returns back to Chile, she will need to finish her second semester of 12th grade at her school and then take a test named PEAS. She said what she gets on the test will help her decide what she wants to do with her future. One of Renata's new friends, Greta Mock, said about her “Renata is always so sweet and so kind to everyone.”

Overall, Renata has made a big move from Chile to our small town of Davidsville. Ever since she has gotten here, she has been an inspiration and a positive light to everyone she encounters. We are so excited to see what she accomplishes here and all of the amazing things she does when she returns back home to Chile!

## ***Turf vs. Grass***

*By Liam Richardson*

Many people are on either side of the argument of “turf or grass.” On one hand, many people say that natural grass is much better because they grew up playing on it. However, many disagree and say that turf has a better feeling than grass.

So, what really is better? First, we'll go with natural grass. Natural grass could be better for some because of how it feels. It's soft, squishy, and great for traction. Another big reason why many people think that grass is better is that it's much cooler in temperature. When in the heat all day, turf's rubber beads heat up, making it a super hot surface to play on. The last reason grass is better than turf is that it's better for the environment. The grass produces oxygen, and gets rid of carbon dioxide, cleaning the environment.

Next, is turf. The biggest factor on why turf is better than grass is longevity, and how low maintenance it is. Turf is built to withstand all sorts of weather, not moving or getting destroyed by constant rain or wind, like grass does. Second, is that the field is predictable. When playing baseball, have you ever had a ball hit the ground and bounce in a super weird way? With turf, that won't happen, due to the fact that it is completely flat. Lastly, turf saves water. If you're in a place where rain is a little more uncommon, then turf is a great option. You'll save a ton of money in the summer months by not having to water the grass every single day.

So, overall turf and grass are both great options, yet they both have their cons. Personally, I would rather prefer turf than natural grass. I like the feeling of the ground completely flat, and it looks so much more neat than natural grass does. Other than the initial cost, turf will save money in the long run, especially with not watering it everyday and the repairs made to a natural grass field after it rains. Lastly, to be completely honest, you don't even notice a difference in heat when playing on it, you should be more focused on your game anyways!

## ***Who Is Responsible for Buying College Textbooks?***

*By Anna Hunsberger*

Throughout elementary and high school years, students are given almost every kind of literature needed for class and reading purposes. Classroom shelves are lined with science, English, math, government, social studies, and Spanish textbooks. Countless other subjects can be easily accessed and studied either independently or with a class lecture. However, this is not the case for students entering or enrolled in college. Unfortunately, it is common for colleges to require students to purchase their own textbooks and other learning materials for class. This is not ideal for college students, and it is simply more of a hassle on top of an already difficult experience.

Literature and studyable material is necessary for any kind of education - this is well known and a general commonplace everywhere. The fact that college students must buy their own things to study seems a little absurd when you think about the foundation of all education. It's all based on text, research, and recorded information that students can interpret and become experienced in. They are paying to take all their classes, and that should include the necessary textbooks that they need to learn and pass the class. Of course, buying a personal textbook should still be an option. However, a student should not have to pay hundreds of dollars simply on textbooks (keeping in mind that these prices are still separate from the cost of tuition) in order to be successful in a class that they're already paying for. The extra measures colleges would have to take to provide textbooks – even having students use textbooks temporarily – would be worth it if it meant more students could benefit and have their necessary items to be successful.

To conclude, it is not the college students' responsibility to purchase textbooks for the classes that they are already spending a great deal of money in order to take. Rather, it is the college's responsibility to contribute as much as possible to their students' growth and education, and that starts with the basis of everything their knowledge will be built on: texts.



## ***Top 10 Best Halloween Costumes***

*By Makenzie Miller*

Halloween is one of the holidays everyone looks forward to every year. It's a time where you can have fun and dress up with your friends, go to Halloween parties, and go Trick or Treating. The following are some of the many ideas you can choose from to be this year:

1. Elphaba
2. Glinda
3. Beanie Baby
4. Wednesday
5. Devil/Angel
6. Subway Surfer
7. Witch
8. Men in Black
9. Disney Princess
10. *Scooby Doo* Characters

In conclusion, Halloween is coming up shortly and it's about the time of the year to start planning your costume. Whether you want to do a solo costume or dress up with a group, the options are endless. Halloween is a night to have fun, be creative, and to be a kid!

## ***Bedford's Fall Foliage Festival***

*By Anna Hunsberger*

Just next door to our lovely little Somerset County, an autumn event hosted yearly attracts over 70,000 people to the area: Bedford's Fall Foliage Festival. For two October weekends – the 4th-5th and 11th-12th – people will swarm to the small town of Bedford to experience the good music, beautiful scenery, tasty fall food, unique vendors, countless craftsmen, and fun family activities. Historic Bedford hosts eager locals, hundreds of craftspeople, and even many national and global guests in an opportunity to celebrate the culture, arts, and fellowship of the season.

Fall Foliage began as “The Historic and Fall Tour” back in 1964. It was originally organized as an antique car parade by the County Motor Club and the Antique Auto Club. What started out as a few community vendors, became an invitation for so much more by 1968. By then, community leaders were attempting to organize and enhance the festival, inviting church groups, boy scouts, and girl scouts to open vendors to promote their organizations. Through a lot of time, hard work, and enthusiasm,

Fall Foliage eventually evolved into the massive event that it is today. The Fall Foliage Committee strives to maintain character and authenticity. For example, they ensure that all crafts at vendors are handmade – even if some are coming from outside the area in order to meet growing demands. In addition, many agree that Fall Foliage alone would not be the same if it weren't for the beautiful location in downtown Bedford. The streets are warm, welcoming, and aesthetic. In fact, in 2023, Bedford was named #1 “Best Walkable and Shoppable Small Town” in Pennsylvania, as well as one of the top 22 festivals in the country, according to Oprah Daily. Bedford is truly the perfect place to host such an event thanks to dedicated committees, a friendly small town environment, and a community willing to support and celebrate culture and craft.

This year is the 61st Fall Foliage Festival in Bedford, PA. It is not only an experience of amusements, fresh food, and new crafts to purchase, but also an opportunity to enjoy the fall season and promote unity within the community. So, whether you're into amusements like music, square dancing, and cider making or more exploratory fun like touring vendors, eating food, or just enjoying historic Bedford, Fall Foliage Festival is the perfect place to celebrate the upcoming fall season.

## ***Best Fall Activities***

*By Brinley Franchie*

It's that time of year where the leaves turn colors, the night arrives faster, the leaves crunch under your feet, and the smell of pumpkin warms the air. With the chilly mornings and the autumn breeze, what better way is there to have fun than these activities below:

- Carve pumpkins
- Get lost in corn mazes
- Go apple picking
- Go to pumpkin patch
- Go on hayrides
- Attend a fall festival
- Explore hunted houses
- Decorate for Halloween
- Make autumn themed desserts
- Watch spooky movies

Some people feel that fall is depressing because of the chilly weather and the short amount of daylight. However, these activities enlighten the cold tone and make it a bit more enjoyable, and giving people something to look forward to!

## ***Volleyball Remains Undefeated***

*By Averie Seibert*

The Conemaugh Township varsity volleyball team kicked off the second week of their regular season at home on September 2<sup>nd</sup> against the Lady Panthers of River Valley High School. The girls captured their third win in three sets with scores of 25-15, 25-12, and 25-12. Then, the Indians traveled to Northern Cambria in pursuit to increase their record to 4-0 on the year. The team was able to come home with the win in three sets with scores being 25-22, 25-18, and 25-19.

Sophomore, outside hitter, Sarah Swank led the Lady Indians to their win at home delivering 15 kills and 11 digs. Senior, outside hitter, Madee Roman added 11 kills and 11 digs. Junior Averie Seibert and sophomore Mary Matera led the offense tallying 21 and 15 setter assists, respectively. Senior Laikyn Reynolds contributed 9 digs, 8 kills, and 4 aces. At Northern Cambria, the team started out on a high note and never looked back. Sarah Swank led the offense with 16 kills and 11 digs, and Laikyn Reynolds followed right behind with 12 kills and 16 digs. Averie Seibert and Mary Matera generated the offense with 18 and 15 assists each. Madee Roman tallied 7 kills, 10 digs, and 3 aces. Quinn Moser contributed defensively with 11 digs.

The varsity volleyball team has had a great start to the rest of their season. Their hard work and chemistry has placed them at the top of the Heritage after two weeks of conference play. The girls look forward to the season as they strive to lengthen their win streak.

## ***Football Defeats West Shamokin on the Road***

*By Liam Richardson*

On Friday, August 29th, the Conemaugh Township Indians improved their record to 2-0 after beating the West Shamokin Wolves. The final score was 34-0 and the Indians now find themselves in a race for the top of the Heritage Conference.

In their week two matchup, the Indians smashed the Wolves, earning their first shutout of the year. Greyson Studer led the Indians with 3 passes for 78 yards, and a rushing touchdown. Brennan Lohr led the team in rushing yards, with 14 carries for 93 yards, and a touchdown. Stephen Stango contributed 6 carries, 80 yards, and a touchdown. Stango also had a

75 punt return touchdown, which brought his total yards to over 150. Bryce Conn led the team in receiving yards, with one reception for 33 yards and a touchdown. The Indians defense was dominant throughout the game, posting the shutout. Stephen Stango led the charge with 8 tackles, and Dawson Statler came up with 7 tackles. "We just need to play hard, and everyone needs to do their job. We can win, it all comes down to people doing what they're supposed to do," said the Indians' quarterback, Greyson Studer.

Overall, the Indians are shaping up to look really good this season. They're undefeated through two weeks and aim to continue improving that record moving forward.

## ***Girls Soccer Gets Revenge on McConnellsburg***

*By Lilly Oakes*

The Conemaugh Township girls soccer team faced the Lady Spartans of McConnellsburg on September 9th, which led to an improvement in their record by the end of the night. The girls were anxious to beat the Spartans after a tough battle last year, but their hard work and perseverance gave them the win this season.

The girls traveled to the Windber Stadium to face the Spartans at a neutral site. Mayce Kordell opened up the scoring right before halftime to put the girls in the lead. Vayda Korenoski assisted Jayla Feathers for the second goal of the evening, improving the score to 2-0. Emily Purdy defended the goal, posting the shut out. The girls have been working hard and their dedication is being shown as they play.

The fall sports season is in full swing, and the Conemaugh Township girls soccer team is ready for a good season. The girls are off to a pretty good start and are looking to continue improving their record as the season progresses.





# ATHLETES OF THE



Csenge Szabo is the daughter of Marianna Lalanne. They live together in Jerome. Csenge is a senior member of our varsity volleyball team this season. She has been playing volleyball for four years. Csenge's skills go farther than the court. She is a member of our Students Against Destructive Decisions club, community theatre, she is on honor roll, and she was student of the month in December of 2024. She is also a member Fellowship of Christian Athletes, where she has been a group leader. In her spare time,

Csenge enjoys singing, playing video games, watching TV shows and movies, playing volleyball, and hanging out with friends. After graduation, Csenge will be attending Conemaugh School of Nursing where she will pursue a career in the labor and delivery unit. When asked for her favorite quote, Csenge said, "Come to me all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest," Matthew 28.



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Brennan Lohr lives in Jerome with his parents Scott and Danyel Lohr. From academic to athletic achievements, Brennan is a true definition of a student athlete. He has made a mark on our school, and is a part of this year's graduating class. Brennan plays three sports; baseball, football, and basketball. He has played baseball for 14 years, and has received three varsity letters for it. He has played football for 12 years, receiving three letters, and was a selection for First-team All-Conference, First-team All Renda, and First-team All-County. Lastly, he plays

basketball, and has for nine years. He has lettered twice. Brennan has been chosen as Somerset County athlete of the week multiple times for each of the sports that he plays. Outside of his athletic achievements, Brennan is on the Heritage Conference math team, and competed in the Physics Olympics competition. Last year, he received the Challenge Program STEM award. He is also a member of SADD club, NHS, and is a straight A student. In his spare time, Brennan likes to work on improving himself through working out and staying in shape. He enjoys practicing the sports that he participates in as well as watching movies. Brennan plans on applying to FGCU, Penn State, Pitt, and WVU. However, he is still undecided on where he wants to study after high school, and what career he wants to pursue upon graduation. Brennan's favorite quote is "Are you a different animal but the same beast?"



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## ***Unknown Number: The High School Catfish***

*By Izzy Gunby*

*Unknown Number: the High School Catfish* documentary premiered on Netflix on August 29, 2025, which immediately sparked popularity. The documentary is about Lauryn Licari and Owen McKenney, two high schoolers, who received over 6,000 vulgar messages from an unknown number. The documentary not only shows how difficult it was for Licari and McKenny, but also how it affected the whole community.

The documentary brings to light many of the real and raw text messages were being sent from untraceable numbers. These degrading message were often graphically sexual in nature, supporting suicide, or inflicting new insecurities upon the two of them. Whenever Licari and McKenny decided to get their parents, police, and school involved, the text messages got worse quickly. Soon after, they started to suspect people from their school, accusing classmates. However, these individuals were all proven to be innocent through police involvement. After all the false allegations and no let up in the number of messages received, the school and parents decided to get the FBI involved. After tracking the IP address, the real plot twist came when authorities discovered that all of the messages were coming from Licari's mom, Kendra Licari. Kendra was sentenced to one and a half years in prison. In jail, Kendra still had contact with Lauryn, which left viewers concerned with the continuing influence she had on her daughter's life.

The whole case has caused viewers to be more cautious of the people they surround themselves with and serves as a warning of the dangers of technology. The documentary brought to light a very troubling series of events in a small town. Overall, if you're interested in a true horror story mixed with major plot twists, this documentary would be a great new watch for you!



## ***New Wednesday Season***

*By Nina Richardson*

As fall creeps around the corner, it couldn't be more fitting for the release of the new Wednesday season on Netflix. The new season is being released in two parts: part one was excitingly already given to us on August 6<sup>th</sup>, and the second part was released on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, leaving viewers full of anticipation and suspense leading up to the second date. Not only does this season add a new dark mystery, it also adds the famous Lady Gaga and Steve Buscemi to bring even more talent to the table along with the already impressive cast from the season prior.

This well-known and loved series was created by Alfred Gough and Miles Millar in 2022. However, their idea first sprouted in 2019 when they felt the need to explore and play with the classic character, Wednesday, who appeared in 1938 New York comic strip, *The Addams Family*. As soon as the first season of *Wednesday* was given to the public, people were enamored by it, especially regarding Jenna Ortega's impressive performance in her role. With season one ending in a tasteful cliffhanger, fans were eager for the release of the next season. After seeing the crowd's infatuation with this new series, Netflix quickly announced in early January of 2023 that the show was renewed for a second season, less than two months after the first season had premiered.

So far, this season brings mystery and thriller to its full potential. Wednesday continues her schooling at Nevermore Academy as she explores her psychic abilities, while continuing the attempt to solve her parents' mystery 25 years ago. Most are in love with this new season, but still holding mixed opinions about the plot side quests and upset with the absence of the actor, Percy Haynes White, who played the well-loved, Xavier Thorpe.





## ***The Summer I Turned Pretty***

By Colbi Hunsberger

This July 16th, the first episode of *The Summer I Turned Pretty* Season three was released on Prime video and since then, a new episode has been released every Wednesday, up until the season finale, which took place on September 17th. Over 25 million people have watched and followed *The Summer I Turned Pretty* series. The series continues to promise twists and turns throughout each episode that leaves fans enthralled!

In the first season of *The Summer I Turned Pretty*, viewers are introduced to two families who have been friends since the beginning. The first family includes Isabella Conklin, who we all know as Belly, her brother Stephan, and their mom Laurel. The other family includes the well-known Fisher brothers, Conrad and Jeremiah, and their mom Susannah. These family friends share a house on Cousins Beach together and practically grow up there. In the first few episodes, it goes through Belly's thoughts and emotions since her recent "glow up." Throughout the second season, it quickly escalates to Belly choosing which Fisher brother she wants to be with. This then led to fans making teams and debating which brother they think suits her best and has the better character. In the beginning of season three, it seems like Belly has her mind set on one character, but as the episodes continue, the author Jenny Han has the fans and even Belly questioning her choice.

As we all know the end is coming up for *The Summer I Turned Pretty*, which has us all on the edge of our seats! Fans are starting to narrow down their choice, and finally select which brother Belly should be with. This teen romance has captured so many people's attention and has us all wondering what will happen next, and who Belly will choose?

## **Artist of the Month**



Karly Brenchak is a senior, in Art IV and Arts and Crafts. She lives in Davidsville with Melissa and Spurgeon Brenchak. Karly also spends a lot of her time in the art room, since her sister is the art teacher. Karly's main art style is graphic arts and digital art. She also enjoys making art that she can participate in competitions with.

Music is a big inspiration for Karly. She is inspired by Kanye West, Tyler the Creator, Frank Ocean, and Don Toliver. Their music inspires a lot of what she designs and the moods and themes of her art work. Some of Karly's favorite projects are metal arts, poetry, and wax paintings. Mrs. Spengler says "Karly has an excellent ethic—she is so bright. She can accomplish anything that she puts her mind on - it is my hope that she pursues a creative career!"

In the future, Karly plans to go to graphic design school to continue to grow her digital art skills. She likes the quote by Kanye West "Everyone should be their own biggest fan," this quote helps her keep confident in her art abilities and a role model for younger art students.

## **Musician of the Month**



Conner Hawkins is a senior who participates in band and plays percussion. He lives with his parents Amy Hawkins and Zachary Hawkins in Davidsville. It is hard being able to maintain a rigorous schedule while also being able to keep up with band, but Conner loves being able to do both!

Conner plays percussion in the band and specializes in both drum set and xylophone. Some of his greatest accomplishments are being commanding officer for marching band, having a 4.0 GPA while taking honors and AP classes, being in National Honors Society, and writing the Beatles Show for senior night. Some of the shows that he has participated in are *Marching Down Bourbon Street*, *The Heist*, *Dancing in the Streets*, *The Ultimate Quest*, *As Seen on TV*, and *In Every Key... Jazz Speaks*.

Conner's plans after high school are to attend UPJ and take on a major in mechanical engineering. A quote from Conner states, "To be apart of CT's music department was an honor and a gift. It has made me the man I am today."

## ***NASA Found Evidence of Life on Mars***

*By Kennedy Lehman*

NASA's space rover has found fresh evidence of life on Mars. The agency reportedly found free-flowing water and conditions which point to the history of living organisms. Scientists have identified 24 different minerals that lead researchers to the conclusion that volcanic rocks were altered by the interaction of water in the Jezero Crater. NASA officials believe that Jezero hosted habitable environments on more than one occasion. The water changed the rocks into salt and clay, meaning that they came into contact with liquids. These officials are coming to the conclusion that these conditions suitable for life may have occurred multiple times throughout Mars's lifespan.

These rocks on Mars show potential past life on this planet. NASA's Perseverance rover found mudstones in a dusty river bed. The mudstones are dotted with leopard spots and poppy seeds. Scientist thinks these features were produced by a chemical reaction that has been associated with ancient Martian microbes. Scientists believe these "potential biosignatures" could be the clearest signs of life found on Mars. They are going further in the investigation to find out if these are biological in the origin. Dr. Nicola Fox states, "We have found features in the rocks that if you saw them on Earth could be explained by biology - by microbial process. So, we're not saying that we found life, but we're saying that it really gives us something to chase. It's like seeing a leftover fossil. Maybe it was a leftover meal, maybe that meal's been excreted and that's what we're seeing here." All of this evidence leaves the potential that there may have actually been life on our neighboring planet.

Perseverance has been collecting samples on Mars, specifically rocks from the Bright Angel Formation. These samples are returning to earth now. Researchers hope that this new development may once and for all prove that there was in fact life on Mars.

## ***102-Year-Old Japanese Man Climbs Mt.***

### ***Fuji***

*By Nina Richardson*

On August 25, 2025, Japanese man Kokichi Akuzawa surpassed his own world record of being the oldest man to climb Mt. Fuji, at a whopping 102 years old. He had previously set the record at 96 years old. After battling heart failure and shingles in the earlier months of 2025, he made a major comeback by reascending the mountain, this time with an elevation increase of 4,922 feet.

Mount Fuji is Japan's highest peak, reaching its summit at 12,388 feet. However, that didn't stop Akuzawa from reaching his goal. According to CBS News, the man, "...reportedly got up early every morning for an hour-long walk and climbed a lesser mountain on a near-weekly basis as a part of his training regime." Without his training, Akuzawa would not have been able to face the harsh weather conditions and fateful climb as well as he did. On his way to the top, he had a flashing moment of doubt. Nevertheless, he stayed true to himself and his family by fulfilling his promise to keep climbing. The proud man strongly made it to the peak and was quite pleased with himself. Akuzawa claimed that it felt a little harder than the previous time, but he remained humble in claiming that he couldn't have done it without the immense support and love from his family.

Not only is this story wildly impressive and pretty shocking, but it is quite inspiring. Kokichi Akuzawa worked hard in accomplishing his dreams. He proved that aging doesn't mean that someone is limited in what he or she is capable of doing, but rather that it offers more opportunities and time to make dreams come true.





*The following is a submission by a Contownian reader as a means to help spread knowledge on Suicide Awareness Month. This piece provided a powerful and essential message for our community. With the help of our school REACH counselor, we have compiled a list of resources following this essay for those who are struggling with thoughts of suicide or self-harm. You matter and you are not alone.*

## **September**

*By Chloe Raihl*

September is a month that indicates brown leaves, sweaters, football, and cheer. It means we are halfway to a new year, a new beginning. September also means suicide awareness. A month to remember the ones we have lost... the millions who have struggled, the 60,000 people who choose to end their lives every month. Everyone will be remembered this month. Pictures will be put up, posts will be put on Facebook, TikTok, and Snapchat. Does it really matter though? The enemies and the bullies will say they loved them so much, but they were the ones who bullied and abused them. People never really understood how it feels to feel this way. No one acknowledges the people who are struggling, who are feeling the feelings that shouldn't be felt. This month is for the thoughts that take over.

People choose to end their lives for many reasons. People get body shamed and judged for their hair, their face, the way God made them. God makes everyone different, but he didn't make them just to die from the judgements from one another. People never realize how bad it gets until these individuals actually make the decision to end their lives. Depression is the main cause of suicide and I feel that some doctors just put us on pills and call it a week. That's just not how it goes, though. The medications may help for some, but so many others struggle silently and never get the help they need. My own loved one ended his life because he convinced himself that every one in the town hated him. here was a way to fix that. Move away, but instead he chose suicide and let people suffer. Like his own loved ones... me.

This September, and any other chance you get, check up on your friends, family or anyone. A stranger, they might just need a hug or someone to talk to and for you to listen. No one should be afraid to speak up about how they feel. No one should ever end their life because someone else feels like they are different. Everyone was meant to be the way they are. You are loved!

Don't kill yourself until all of the following happens at once: your shampoo and conditioner run out the same time (it never does), until you can hold your breath for 22 minutes (it won't happen), until you can run 40,000 miles without stopping or water (not possible), until pigs can fly (come on now). Just don't do it. You can struggle, but not in silence. Reach out. No matter how you feel, it will help. People and families would rather talk face-to-face rather than to a grave. People care about you, you just don't always see it.

**If you feel that you are in a crisis situation and are in need of immediate support, please contact any of the following resources:**

**Safe2Say:** 1-844-723-2729

Individuals can post anonymous tips online as well as at [safe2saypa.org](https://safe2saypa.org)

**Suicide and Crisis Lifeline:** Text or Call 988

**Cambria County Crisis Hotline:** 1-877-268-9463

**Somerset County Crisis Hotline:** 1-866-611-6467

**National Crisis Hotline:** 1-800-273-8255

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) National Helpline:**  
1-800-662-4357

**Crisis Text Line:** text HOME to 741741





## Academic Calendar/ Upcoming Events

October 1.....	Homecoming Bonfire @6 Bonfire Dance 6:30-8:30
October 3.....	Homecoming Parade @6 Homecoming Football Game @7
October 13.....	Teacher In-service
October 24.....	Act 80 Early Dismissal 12:00 Middle/High School 12:30 Elementary
October 27.....	End of Nine Weeks
October 31.....	Halloween

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**SPORTS UPDATES**

## 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

## Yearbook

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### Contact

Mrs. Diane Feathers.....[diane.feathers@ctasd.org](mailto:diane.feathers@ctasd.org)  
479-4014 Extension 3822

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