

## 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. 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 employed by United Independent School District as a special education inclusion teacher and assistant baseball coach. Arek is married to Mayra Garcia, 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 one daughter, Alahna, age six.

During Arek's high school years, he was a 4-year letterman in football and baseball. He was involved in the student council, yearbook club, and art club. Mr. Arek Zambanini wants to thank the following coaches: Pat Berzonski, Joe Kimmel, Dave Jordan, Chuck Lesko, Jim Foster, Chad Rinninger, Pete Kuharchek, Don Haines, Robert Bambino, Ron Telenko, Rod Jarvis, Barry Thomas, Craig Andrews, Rick Matsko, Ms. Maria Pepoy, Mrs. Kelly Birkimer, Mr. Bridgewater, Mr. Kendig, Mr. Adams, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Dave Koba, Mrs. Telenko, Mr. Rummel, Mrs. Keifer, and Mr. Andolina 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. He 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."