

ALUMNI OF THE MONTH - NICOLE CHYNOWETH

By: Ruby Korenoski

Nicole Chynoweth graduated from Conemaugh Township in 2009. Since then, she attended Point Park University and graduated in 2013, Summa Cum Laude, with highest honors. She pursued a degree in journalism and multimedia. Nicole worked for many newspaper and news media companies, such as the *Pittsburgh City Paper*, as a freelance writer. She reported on the *Ligonier Valley* for the Tribune-Review and its former sister paper, *The Ligonier Echo*. Chynoweth also covered breaking news, features, and managed social media at *The Evening Sun*. She served as the web and social media editor at the Central Penn Business Journal. In her career so far, she has achieved many awards including the first-place Keystone Press Award for an article she wrote on the research that Powdermill Nature Reserve was doing concerning the effects on biodiversity created by tornadoes.

Currently, Nicole is working as the manager of marketing, public relations, and social media, at Carnegie Science Center. She focuses on museum exhibits, Buhl Planetarium, and the Rangos Giant Cinema. Additionally, she is a freelance writer for the *Central Penn Business Journal*, and she writes stories for *Women in Leadership*, an e-newsletter. Nicole has been a lover of writing and storytelling from a young age. She knew she wanted to pursue a career with her love of writing when Mrs. Vigna told her she was made to be a professional writer someday. "She was right, and I'm so glad I believed her," says Nicole.

In her days at Conemaugh Township high school, she especially loved doing stage crew and speech team alongside her lifelong best friend, Britain Long. She and Britain were nominated "Dynamic Duo " for senior superlatives, "for a good reason!" she says. Some of her favorite teachers were Mr. Andolina, who taught her to never settle, and many lessons about growing up. She also loved learning about the world, and history with Mr. Berzonski and Mr. Cable. Chynoweth mentions that her love for reading was due to Mrs. Kimmel. In addition, Nicole played the clarinet. She enjoyed marching and concert bands, and learning about music with Mrs. Gardenhour.

Currently, Nicole is living in Pittsburgh, with her husband, Matthew Steck, who she married last October. Together, they enjoy collecting records and browsing antique malls for midcentury modern home furniture.

