

Misericordia Homecoming events slated

Misericordia University has a wide range of events planned for Homecoming 2013, set for Oct. 4-6 at the Back Mountain campus. Alumni activities include the 25th anniversary celebration for the Class of 1988 and recognition of reunion years 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008 and 2013.

The weekend will get underway with the Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 4 at the Anderson Sports and Health Center. The 2013 honorees include Elizabeth Kovalchik Carden '03, field hockey; Erica Noel '03, women's soccer; Esther Burke Kapcsos '61, women's basketball; David Kern '04, men's soccer; and Alexandra King '98, women's soccer.

The Athletics Hall of Fame Reception will follow at 8 p.m. in the Catherine Evans McGowan Room, Mary Kintz

Bevevino Library. Cost for the reception is \$25 per person. Reservations are required.

Students will share their talents at a variety show at 8 p.m. on Friday in Lemmond Theater and celebrate the crowning of a Homecoming King and Queen.

The Class of 2012 will dedicate its class gift to Misericordia, the victory bell located near Mangelsdorf Field, at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5. Each sports team competing at Mangelsdorf will ring the bell upon taking the field and once again following a victory, starting a new Misericordia tradition.

The Cougar football team will be the first to ring the bell when it takes on King's College at 1 p.m. on Saturday at Mangelsdorf Field. The post-game festivities will continue at an "MU Overtime

Party" party for alumni and friends from 5 to 10 p.m. at the Metro Bar and Grill in Dallas Twp.

The women's soccer team will compete against Delaware Valley College on Saturday at 5 p.m. and the men's soccer team will also face Delaware Valley at 7:30 p.m.

Visitors to campus will be able to test their wall climbing and zip line skills on the university's new Challenge Course, located adjacent to Mangelsdorf Field. The course will be open from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 4 to 6 p.m. on Saturday.

Monsignor John Bendik, pastor of St. John the Evangelist and previous Misericordia chaplain, will celebrate a Homecoming Mass at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday in the University Chapel. The

dinner for the Class of 1988 will follow from 6:30-9 p.m. at the Metro Bar and Grill.

For students and their families, Casino Night will take place at 8 p.m. on Saturday in the Banks Student Life Center.

Wrapping up the weekend, alumni will be treated to a Brunch with Professors at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 6 in Insalaco Hall. Students and their families are also invited to a special Family Brunch in the Metz Dining Hall. Reservations are required for both events.

A Homecoming favorite, the President's Cup Volleyball Tournament, where the students take on faculty and staff, will be held at 10 a.m. on Sunday near McHale Hall. The weekend will conclude with a Homecoming Mass at 7 p.m. on Sunday in the University Chapel.



Misericordia University designed and built a four-acre Challenge Course on the upper campus near Mangelsdorf Field that features 10-low elements and four-high elements. Here, Allan Austin climbs the wall.

Morgan Patla sings at Airport Day

Morgan Patla, 11, daughter of Ed and Krista Patla, of Harveys Lake, recently sang at the Third Annual Airport Day at the Forty Fort Airport where she performed songs by Taylor Swift, Lady Gaga, Paramore and Pink.

Patla is a member of the Gate of Heaven Youth Choir where she serves as a song leader and psalmist. She is also a second-year member of the Lake-Noxen Elementary Chorus and plays flute for Lake-Lehman Band.



Patla

Bag Monster will make an appearance at Hillside's Fall Festival

If you visit The Lands at Hillside Farms during the fall festival on Oct. 5 and 6, chances are you'll get a chance to see and talk to the Bag Monster. The Bag Monster is a friendly monster whose job is to let people know what happens to the hundreds of plastic bags they use once and then throw away.

More than one billion single-use plastic bags are used by shoppers in our country every year. What happens to all those bags? The vast majority of them end up in landfills, adding to the problem of lack of space in our landfills. A lot of bags get blown about - we see them on the side of the road, in trees and bushes. A very small percentage of plastic bags, less than 4%, are recycled. However, it costs a lot more to recycle a plastic bag than it does to make a new one.



The Bag Monster will be at the fall festival at The Lands at Hillside Farms, teaching participants the importance of recycling plastic bags.

Perhaps the worst place for a plastic bag to end up is in the ocean. It is estimated that 10 percent of our plastic ends up floating in the ocean and on the ocean floor. This causes problems for all kinds of sea life that get tangled in the plastic bag or mistake it for food and swallow it.

At the festival, the Bag Monster will join with The Lands at Hillside Farms whose mission is to teach life choices that are healthy, sustainable, conservation-minded and practical. Come and see how easy it

is to cut down on plastic bag use through smart and simple choices. Reusable grocery bags and metal milk carriers will be available for purchase, along with compact reusable bags that stow in an integrated pouch and fit easily in a pocket or purse.

Let the Bag Monster know that you plan to reduce your plastic bag usage and he'd be happy to pose for a picture with you.

Bird sanctuary will be preserved



CLARK VAN ORDEN/ THE TIMES LEADER

Shown here at North Branch Land Trust's acquisition and dedication of Forest Echo Bird Sanctuary are, from left, Dominick Fino, Sr., Dominick Fino Jr., Margaret Bakker NBLT board member; Guthrie Mitchell Jr., NBLT board member; Paul Lumia, NBLT executive director; Bob Edgerton, Brian Stahl, Ryan Coker, NBLT Land Protection & Stewardship Coordinator; Linda Thoma, NBLT Director of Operations; and Tony Palischak, NBLT board member.

North Branch Land Trust recently closed on a very important land conservation project in the Back Mountain.

Even though NBLT has conserved over 13,000 acres across our region, this is the very first property conserved in the Back Mountain. The property is the Forest Echo Bird Sanctuary formerly owned by Wyoming Seminary.

Forest Echo Bird Sanctuary is a priority property for protection, given its proximity to the Huntsville Reservoir and encroaching residential housing developments. The property provides

direct watershed protection to the Huntsville Reservoir and buffers runoff from the surrounding developments.

The 17-acre property, located off West Center Hill Road in Dallas Borough, will forever be a sanctuary for birds as per the wishes of the original donors, Rachel and Dr. Sarah Wyckoff.

NBLT held a ribbon cutting at the sanctuary on Monday, Sept. 23. Kip Nygren, president of Wyoming Seminary, members of NBLT's board of directors and the donors who made the project possible were in attendance.



Knights plan car show

Dallas Knights of Columbus #8224 will hold a car show from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. today, Sept. 29 at Back Mountain Bowl, Memorial Highway, Route 415, Dallas.

More than a dozen vendors will attend. There will be trophies, basket raffles and a 50-50 drawing.

Proceeds from the show will be distributed to the Dallas Knights of Columbus Back Mountain charities.

From left, are Rich Musinski, show chairman; Gerry Schmid, treasurer; and Jack Cacoza, Grand Knight.

Those interested in attending or obtaining a vendor spot may contact Rich at 570-237-0575.

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