



HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL
Wood closes in on 600th win

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LAKE ERIE
Beach sampling wrapped up

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BERLIN HEIGHTS

Soviak procession set for Wednesday

By TOM JACKSON

tjackson@sanduskyregister.com

BERLIN HEIGHTS

The public is invited to witness the public procession on Wednesday of Navy war hero Max Soviak when his remains return to Erie County.

"All members of the community are invited and encouraged to pay their respects to Corpsman Soviak and his family along the entire public processional route,"



Soviak

Erie County Sheriff Paul Sigsworth said.

The remains of United States Navy Fleet Marine Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Soviak, 22, of Berlin Heights, are scheduled to arrive at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport about 10:25 a.m. Wednesday, the Navy announced.

Soviak, a sailor assigned to 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, Calif., was killed during an attack at the Abbey Gates of Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul, Afghanistan, Aug. 26, 2021, while supporting Operation Allies Refuge.

Soviak, a 2017 Edison High School graduate and Navy Corpsman, died in a suicide bombing attack in Kubal, Afghanistan, along with 12 other U.S. members of the Armed Forces. He died a hero, helping evacuate Americans and Afghan citizens, including children, at risk of being killed by the Taliban.

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MILAN MELON FEST

Soviak honored in parade

By LYNANNE VUCOVICH

lynannevucovich@norwalkreflector.com

MILAN

The Milan Melon Festival drew big crowds over the weekend, honoring local heroes during Sunday's parade.

The parade's first leg traveled down the village silently, with the American flag held high. Leading the parade were classmates of Max Soviak's, holding a banner with his picture and 13 stars.

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Festival committee president Bill Harris said the banner was put together last minute to honor the fallen soldier.

"We have a banner for him that will lead the parade. Some

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Register photo/LYNANNE VUCOVICH

Classmates of Max Soviak lead the Melon Festival Parade in Milan with a banner honoring the fallen soldier.

Festival draws large crowds



Register photos/BILL THEISEN

Photos from Sunday at the Milan Melon Festival.

By BILL THEISEN

Special to the Register

MILAN

The Melon Festival returned to Milan after a one-year hiatus due to COVID-19 restrictions.

New this year, the food trucks were open Friday night.

Sunday featured the grand parade starting at 2 p.m. with over 60 entries. The parade was led by three boys carrying a banner honoring Maxton Soviak. Soviak was a Navy Corpsman who was recently killed in action in Afghanistan.



OBITUARIES

ALAFITA, Barbara (Skadeland), 80, Sandusky
LAZZARA, Christopher John, 32, Sandusky
MASCHARI, Michael, 31, Port Clinton
SASS, Kenneth "Ken" H., 71, Bellevue
SCHNEIDER, Raymond, 69, New York City
VARA, Nicholas, 99, New York City
WAGNER, Todathon Eugene II, 50, Norwalk

TODAY **WEDNESDAY**

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 Sunny to partly cloudy and pleasant

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HURON

Back to the Wild releases first pelican



Register photo/ERIN CALDWELL

After Fremont veterinarian Mark Reineck opened the carrier's door, an American white pelican steps onto the beach at Lake Front Park in Huron on Saturday. The pelican was rehabilitated at Back to the Wild for a couple of months.

By LYNANNE VUCOVICH

lynannevucovich@norwalkreflector.com

HURON

Any time Back to the Wild can rehabilitate an animal and release it, it's a massive victory for all involved — but this past weekend's release was particularly special.

Workers representing the nonprofit wildlife center released its first mended pelican on Saturday afternoon at Lake Front Park in Huron.

The pelican first came to the Castalia-area rescue site on July 19, and it was in rough shape.

"He came in very underweight. He had a fishing line and hooks tangled up on his legs, and the webbing in his toes was very badly damaged," center assistant director Heather Tuttle said. "He couldn't stand

up under his weight. He was having trouble recovering."

Huron County wildlife officer Matt Smith rescued the pelican that day. He told Tuttle it was the first time he went swimming for a rescue.

"We took him for X-rays, and we found BB shots in his chest muscles," Tuttle said. "At some point, somebody shot him. Luckily, the shot was lead-free. It could have led to lead poisoning for him."

Dr. Mark Reineck, of Fremont Animal Hospital, conducted the X-rays and sent the pelican's blood for testing, which came back normal.

"This was our first pelican. We get a lot of calls from people thinking they've found pelicans, but, most of the time, it's a case of mistaken identity," Tuttle said.

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