

OBITUARY

DOROTHY ANN SANGALLI



Dorothy Ann Sangalli, 85, of Three Rivers, passed away on December 11, 2019 at Grace of Douglas. Dorothy was born on Valentine's Day February 14, 1934 the daughter of the late Cecil B. and Elizabeth (Blum) Hice.

Dorothy and her late husband of 60 years Jerry, who passed away on August 24, 2014, owned and operated Wolverine Motor Supply 1966-1994. Dorothy and her husband were very active in the Immaculate Conception Church and School prior to and during those years. Dorothy was a member of the Michigan Appaloosa Horse Association and looked forward to seeing her granddaughter Samantha compete at shows as well as watching her grandchildren

Lizzie and Brady at countless sporting events. After retiring, Dorothy and Jerry enjoyed working part time at the Christmas Store "Tuck's of Saugatuck" 1995-2000 and were very instrumental in the early years of developing the Blue Star Antique Pavilion 2004-2009. Dorothy moved to the Saugatuck-Douglas area after Jerry's passing and enjoyed the many friends they both made during their later years.

Dorothy leaves to cherish the loving memory of her children; Joe (Dave Hulst)

Michaels-Sangalli, Jerome (J.W. Salvesson) Sangalli, Jackie (Jimmy) Drake, Jill (Neil) Bissett, John (Billy LaFontaine) Sangalli; grandchildren, Samantha (Brad Evans) Drake, Lizzie and Brady Bissett.

The family welcomes you to a visitation on Thursday January 30, 2020 at Hohner Funeral Home 4-7:00 p.m. with a Rosary Service to be held at 6:30 p.m. A Mass of Christian Memorial will be held on Friday January 31, 2020 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church at 11:00 a.m. and a luncheon to follow immediately after Mass.

Memorial donations in Dorothy's memory would be appreciated by Immaculate Conception Church or 4 Paws Lakeshore of Douglas. Envelopes will be available at the funeral home and church. Online condolences may be shared at www.hohnerfh.com.

DEATH NOTICE

BOBBY JOE MELVILLE

Bobby Joe Melville, 57 of Leonidas, passed away January 22, 2020 at Ascension Borgess Hospital in Kalamazoo. No public services will take place. Private graveside services will be held in White Pigeon Township Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to Eley Funeral Home, Constantine.

Dems pick Whitmer, Escobar for Trump State of Union response

WASHINGTON (AP) — Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer will deliver the Democratic response to President Donald Trump's State of the Union address on Feb. 4. Rep. Veronica Escobar of Texas will deliver the Spanish-language response.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer made the announcement Friday.

They praised Whitmer for her efforts to ensure clean drinking water is available in communities across Michigan, which was scarred by the 2014

water crisis in Flint. About 25,000 people have sued over the crisis, in which a change in the source of the city's water resulted in lead contamination.

Whitmer, a former prosecutor who was sworn in as governor last year, defeated Republican state Attorney General Bill Schuette, a Trump ally. She had previously served as Democratic Leader in the Michigan state Senate and was the first woman to lead the Senate caucus.

Escobar, of El Paso, attended a protest rally in August ahead of Trump's visit to the city after a mass shooting at a Walmart killed 22 people. Police said the gunman specifically targeted Mexicans. Escobar spent two decades in local government before coming to Washington. She's the first Latina to represent her district.

Trump has said he intends to deliver the State of the Union as scheduled despite his ongoing Senate impeachment trial.

LEGISLATURES

Continued from page 1

Miller said road funding is still an ongoing discussion that brings "a lot of disagreement," adding that many people do not want a 45-cent gas tax increase. To put it in perspective, Miller recounted voting for the 7-cent gas tax increase a few years ago, and said he could tell stories about the pushback he received for that vote.

Miller then discussed the line-item vetoes Whitmer made, and called some of them "indiscriminatory," including secondary road patrol funding and rural hospital funding, which were eventually funded in the December supplementary budget.

"When [rural hospital funding] was vetoed, [Three Rivers Health CEO] Dave Shannon called me up on my cell, and we had a pointed and blunt conversation about that, and said 'this is a problem,' and he started listing off all of the bad effects that could potentially happen if they didn't get the funding," Miller said. "That was enough for me to understand the gravity of the situation, and so I became a walking, talking broken record not just for rural hospital funding, but for other important funds that were vetoed, that we need to get those back sooner rather than later."

Finally, Miller talked about no-fault auto insurance reform, calling its passage "wonderful, historic, and really a miracle." He said everywhere he went around his district, auto insurance reform was one of the main questions, and to him auto insurance reform was not just about personal budgets, but economic development as well.

"What Three Rivers or Sturgis or St. Joseph County can bring to this town is affected by auto insurance and what we have, because we have Indiana sitting right here," Miller said. "It was my No. 1 priority coming into office, is I wanted to see meaningful auto insurance reform to help everybody."

Miller said starting July 2, Michigan consumers will have a choice on what auto insurance policy "pertaining to what your whole policy looks like," which is "not the case in any other state."

With it being his last year as a state representative because of term limits, Miller said he is hoping to finish out the last year of his term strong.

"My commitment of going to every municipality twice a year has not ended," Miller said. "You'll still see me out and about as if I'm still running for office, because I do want to finish strong and keep that commitment through my whole term."

One of the main pieces of legislation Upton talked about was the bipartisan United States-Mexico-Canada (USMCA) trade deal, the ratification of which is expected to be signed by President Donald Trump in the near future. While the implementation of it across the three countries is not

complete yet—Canada still needs to ratify the agreement in its legislature—Upton discussed the USMCA as improving on the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

"When we passed NAFTA back in the 90s, we said this isn't necessarily going to be the way it is, you're always going to be able to improve it," Upton said. "The president, to his credit, was able to force an accord with both Mexico and Canada on a number of things."

Upton said he looks at USMCA in two ways: How it will help the agriculture industry and how it would affect the auto industry. While he did not discuss how it would affect the auto industry, for the agriculture industry, he said he wished fruits and vegetables were part of the deal, and said Canada, for the longest time, had "a sweetheart dairy plan."

"Nationally, we have lost 1,000 dairy farms because of the higher price supports they have in Canada," Upton said. "That's now changed, we now have a lot more level playing field."

Upton then talked about his work with the "Problem Solvers" caucus of the House, which most recently opposed the speakership of Nancy Pelosi unless she agreed to certain proposals and rules in the House, which she ultimately accepted. Upton said those proposals "allows bipartisan groups to have a bigger baseball bat and make changes."

One of the other things Upton talked about that the "Problem Solvers" worked on was ending the government shutdown back in January of 2019. He called it "unfair," said he supports border security, and said the shutdown "had nothing to do with air traffic controllers in Kalamazoo," which were affected by the shutdown.

"We were the ones, the president called us in, and we sat with him and the vice president, bipartisan group of about 20 of us, he went around and made sure we supported border security, absolutely, and we were the ones that crafted the deal to get us out of that shutdown and bring people back."

Finally, Upton talked about immigration and Dreamers, the recipients of the Deferred Action for Child Arrivals (DACA) immigration policy. Upton said the immigration system is "broken for everybody," and said he met some Dreamers recently.

"They're panicked," Upton said. "Some have kids that are U.S. citizens, some are married, some have kids that are U.S. citizens because they're born here, some of them have graduate degrees, they're working and paying taxes, but their status is very uncertain, particularly if the Supreme Court says, 'Congress didn't do its job'—they're right, we haven't—and therefore your status is illegal, and therefore you're going home."

The House passed a bill that

would offer a path to citizenship to more than 2 million undocumented immigrants, including "Dreamers," back in June of 2019, which Upton voted for. It has not been brought up in the Senate.

Following his remarks, both Miller and Upton took questions from the audience. When asked whether or not he would run again in 2020, a question frequently asked since his close re-election in 2018, Upton said he is still undecided.

"We haven't decided yet," Upton said. "The filing deadline's months away, the primary's in August, we'll decide soon what we're going to do. My wife and I are going to sit down, and you know, we'll figure it out and keep you posted. We've done everything right, we have all the options in front of us, and we'll make a decision. Our polling looks good, but we're not ready to make a decision quite yet."

When asked about "affordable and sustainable healthcare," Upton said it's "always a big issue."

"I was a leader in trying to make sure we had pre-existing illnesses covered as part of the essential health benefits in every state, but health care costs continued to go up," Upton said, and then diverged into talking about his 21st Century Cures Act from 2016, which streamlines the drug and device approval process and bring treatments to market faster.

Upton's amendment to the 2017 American Health Care Act, which passed the House and failed in the Senate, would've provided \$8 billion to be allocated to states who got waivers to allow insurance companies to charge more in premiums for people with pre-existing conditions.

Finally, Miller was asked about road funding and where the state is at. Miller said Whitmer wants a "large infusion" of new road funding, and said it came out recently that the previously-thought bonding limit that Whitmer "could do unilaterally" did not exist, and "she could bond for whatever she wanted."

"Bonding really scares me. We're still paying off bonds for road funding from the Engler and Granholm administrations. I don't care if it was Engler or Granholm, it was wrong then, and we're paying for it now," Miller said. "I've been very specific on bonding. I think it's wrong. I think it's dangerous. That said, I'm willing to work on something. If she would've come to little Aaron Miller in St. Joseph County and said, 'hey, I know you want no fault reform, and I want a little road funding,' I would've said, 'I'll work with you starting today, where do I sign up?'"

Robert Tomlinson can be reached at 279-7488 ext. 23 or robert@threeriversnews.com.

GIRLS ON THE RUN

Continued from page 1

WAB: How do you measure success?

KG: We measure success by how many girls we can impact in one season. With the highly trained coaches and the life skills curriculum we teach, we have a positive impact on girls' lives by helping increase their self confidence, develop healthy relationships and feel good about themselves in all aspects of their life.

WAB: Coaching the girls to run is also a big part of what you do. Is there a main event they compete in?

KG: Yes. Girls on the Run of Southwest Michigan celebrates the achievement of our girls with a 5K race at the end of the season. In 2019, 750 girls ran in our events at the Berrien County Youth Fair and Decatur High School. It was an amazing time for everyone involved—coaches, parents and, of course, our wonderful girls.

WAB: What have you observed as a coach?

KG: The girls I know are now ninth graders. I hope they are able to look back on their experience and say they

have more self-confidence because of the program. I can tell you my personal experience as a coach has helped me in these areas. So, the coaches we train are positively affected by the Girls on the Run program as well.

WAB: Thank you. For more information on how to become involved with Girls on the Run please contact Kristina Gousetis at kristina.gousetis@girlsontherun.org or 269-849-9502.

WLKM 95.9
 TODAY'S HITS AND YESTERDAY'S FAVORITES
 ALSO BROADCASTING LOCAL NEWS AND WEATHER
WWW.WLKM.COM