Role reversal: Commissioner proposes ‘reappointing’ road commissioners

By Mark Haney | Reporter haney@tcadvertiser.com

CARO — Kim Vaughan wants appointed road commissioners, not elected ones.

The District 3 county commissioner proposed changing the Tuscola County Road Commission from an elected body back to one appointed — by Vaughan and the rest of the county commission. His proposal made April 14, fell through on a 2-2 vote — with Vaughan and District 2 Commissioner Thomas Hardwell in favor and District 1 Commissioner Tom Young and District 5 Commissioner Dan Grimshaw against — because District 4 Commissioner Doug DuRussel was absent and couldn’t cast a tie-breaking vote.

But the idea didn’t die with that vote. Grimshaw suggested Vaughan bring it back up at the next commission meeting when DuRussel is there.

In order to make the road commission an appointment, taking that away from the voters, the commissioners would have to place the proposal on the ballot.

“Once they are elected the only way to un-elect them is to go on an election,” Vaughan said. “I think we need to bring the road commission back to the people,” he said, even though this proposal would do just the opposite. “They have nobody to contact, they have nobody to go see.”

But, he said, the commissioners go to all of the township meetings.

When the change was made from appointed to elected, he said, “the concept was fine.” But the five-member road board serves in six-year terms. And anyone can run for the office. So it has resulted in people being elected from the most populous areas of the county, leaving the less-dense populations without direct representatives. He said almost all of the road commissioners are from around Caro and while he’d like them to be elected by district, the law doesn’t allow that.

“If we could elect them like we are elected,” Vaughan said, “I probably wouldn’t be talking like this today.”

County takes steps toward jail millage

By Mark Haney | Reporter haney@tcadvertiser.com

CARO — A jail millage is one step closer to going before Tuscola County residents.

The county’s Board of Commissioners voted 3-2, with District 4 Commissioner Doug DuRussel and District 5 Commissioner Dan Grimshaw voting against — on April 14 to hire Detroit-based international law firm Clark Hill to begin the preliminary steps needed to possibly issue capital improvement bonds for a jail.

By an identical vote the commissioners also hired Municipal Financial Consultants Inc. of Grosse Pointe to proceed with financial analysis of jail millage.

Grimshaw and DuRussel objected to a lack of estimated costs for the two services.

“Do me, if we don’t know how much (it is going to cost), I’m going to have to say no,” DuRussel said.

TUSCOLA COUNTY

Grimshaw suggested Vaughan bring it back up at the next commission meeting when DuRussel is there. In order to make the road commission an appointment, taking that away from the voters, the commissioners would have to place the proposal on the ballot. "Once they are elected the only way to un-elect them is to go on an election," Vaughan said. "I think we need to bring the road commission back to the people," he said, even though this proposal would do just the opposite. "They have nobody to contact, they have nobody to go see."

But, he said, the commissioners go to all of the township meetings. When the change was made from appointed to elected, he said, "the concept was fine." But the five-member road board serves in six-year terms. And anyone can run for the office. So it has resulted in people being elected from the most populous areas of the county, leaving the less-dense populations without direct representatives. He said almost all of the road commissioners are from around Caro and while he’d like them to be elected by district, the law doesn’t allow that.

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A third exit

By Mark Haney | Reporter haney@tcadvertiser.com

MILLINGTON — For a third time in his educational career, Larry Kroswek is going to the top spot in Millington.

This time, however, probably is the last.

Kroswek told the district's board of education on April 11 he intended to retire at the start of September. Kroswek, who turns 60 this fall, said he didn’t really start thinking about this step until after Christmas. As the months progressed, he said, the idea took root and led to his announcement at the board session.

Kroswek said he wanted to give the board time to get another superintendent hired so Kroswek could work with his successor to ensure a smooth transition once the new school year starts in the fall. He said he wants to make sure his successor knows the inner workings of the district, from ongoing contracts to regular vendors to which lawyers are used for certain purposes.

The board will receive help from Charles Andrews of the Michigan Leadership Institute to get through the hiring process. It will start with a survey of community members, parents and staff.

Kroswek previously spent eight years as Millington’s superintendent before leaving in 2011 to take a similar role at Harbor Beach Schools, where he’d been a principal for five years before taking the top spot in Millington.

His return to the top job at Millington came in the fall of 2018 — about a year after he’d retired from the superintendent’s job in Harbor Beach. He admitted he’d been bored with retirement, so the opening created in Millington when Bruce Martin stepped down.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

Letters are not returned to the writer unless requested. We do not publish letters from people living outside of this newspaper's coverage area.

Letters should be 200 words or less. Letters over the word limit will be cut at the editor's discretion. All letters are subject to editing.

Letters containing language or comment that is blatantly offensive, defamatory, or obscene will not be published. Editors reserve the right to reject such letters.

Letters should focus on the opinions of the writer. All facts, statements of fact, facts, or information that he and Mrs. Humm will leave Calif., for that month in the summer months here.

A baby girl came to glad the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Whittenburg Friday, May 13.

The present Presbyterian church was built 25 years ago in 1902.

All letters must be signed by the writer, with address and phone number.

Submissions are limited to one letter per person per month. We do not publish letters from people living outside of this newspaper's coverage area.

Letters regarding an election issue or candidate will not be published.

Letters containing language or comment that is blatantly offensive, defamatory, or obscene will not be published. Editors reserve the right to reject such letters.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Justice William Imerson officiated at the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Cilly Wickware's of Oak Township to the home of Mrs. Lee Huston.

A warrant charging his brother-in-law Frank King. A case where the complaining witness of an assault fire burning his hand badly.

The little miss will be called Maxine Ruth.

The flood of 1904 was exceeded by three inches of a peculiar accident. He injured his hand on a plow point, and the wound became infected. Treatment called for the use of rubbing alcohol on the wound bandages. The liquid was applied and Mr. Dickerson stuck a light a cigarette. The alcohol caught fire burning his hand badly.

The Michigan Central is building a new water tank for use in watering its locomotives in Caro. The W.C.R. & G. have furnished markers for each grave, which will be put in place before Decoration Day.

A meeting was held at the M. E. church, Monday afternoon for the purpose of organizing the Caro Observer" the high school paper.

The following officers were chosen, Pres. Mrs. Alex Reynick, Mrs. J. B. Whitford, Mrs. W. Bartow, Mrs. W. R. Olin, Mrs. J. F. S society, Mrs. Frank Lazelle; sec. Miss Cara Gibbs; treas. Miss Anna Black.

Mr. Ayre will represent the Caro wheelmen in the bicycle races at Bay City, Sunday afternoon.

John and Fred Ogger have returned from a seven weeks' trapping expedition in the northern part of the state.

J. H. Beckwith is nursing a baseball finger, a result of an accident in last week's game. Perry and Tommy Fritz, Ralph Riley and Charles Dyckman of Bay Park, returning home Monday.

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TUSCOLA COUNTY

Deford’s Schmotzer won’t get extra time for torching car

By John Schneider |
johnschneider@tcadvertiser.com

A man accused of setting another man’s car on fire because he reported his reckless operation of a four-wheeler to police was sentenced to two to 10 years in prison.

The punishment is to be served concurrently with another prison sentence, so Thomas R. Schmotzer of Deford won’t see any additional time behind bars.

Schmotzer was sentenced Tuesday in Tuscola County Circuit Court after previously pleading no contest to fourth-degree arson.

A no-contest plea is not an admission of guilt, but is used as such for sentencing purposes. Guidelines for a fourth-degree arson charge state that between $1,000 and $20,000 must be destroyed.

On Tuesday, Schmotzer’s attorney, Bernard Jocuns, requested a hearing to determine potential restitution.

Schmotzer was in the Tuscola County Jail awaiting sentencing on a separate case when a jail informant notified guards that the 39-year-old Deford man told him he was the man police were looking for in connection with the burning of an automobile in Deford last Independence Day.

Schmotzer was a suspect in the case, but denied any involvement.

At about 2:30 a.m. July 4, 2021, the Cass City and Kingston fire departments responded to a car fire on Main Street in the town of Deford. While extinguishing the flames, firefighters contacted the Tuscola County Sheriff’s Office and requested an arson investigation.

But the punishment is to be served concurrently with another prison sentence, so Schmotzer won’t see any additional time behind bars.

The complainant’s Cruze was completely destroyed.

Schmotzer is serving a six-year, four-month to 20-year sentence at Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility in Ionia for crimes committed in July after the arson.

At his Tuesday hearing, he appeared via online video from the prison.

On July 29, while the Fourth of July fire was still under investigation, Schmotzer was arrested in Cass City after assaulting a man and fleeing on a four-wheeler. In October, he pleaded no contest to two counts of third-degree fleeing a police officer and two counts of assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer, and pleaded guilty to triplicit.

Legal proceedings against Schmotzer may not be over. At his Nov. 30 sentencing hearing (for the July 29 crimes), Schmotzer hung at Tuscola County Prosecutor Mark Reece while being led away from the defense table. Schmotzer was subbed by corrections officers and the court bailiff.

At one point, according to the police report, Schmotzer shouted, “I’ll kill you mother—; I won’t be locked up forever.”

Reece said a special prosecutor, outside of Tuscola County, is presently reviewing the incident and will decide on whether or not to charge Schmotzer for any crimes. Schmotzer has previously been convicted of at least 10 felonies in Tuscola County. In 2013, he was sentenced to three years, 10 months to 15 years in prison for possession of a firearm by a felon, receiving and concealing a stolen firearm, and possessing a firearm while committing or attempting to commit a felony.

Schmotzer also received various jail and probation sentences for felonies committed between 2003 and 2011. The crimes included: assault with a dangerous weapon; domestic violence (third offense), assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer; interfering with electronic communications; receiving and concealing a stolen firearm; and possession of a firearm by a felon.

TUSCOLA COUNTY

Residents asked to review county plan

By Mark Haney |
markhaney@tcadvertiser.com

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TUSCOLA COUNTY

Role reversal
Commissioner proposes ‘reappointing’ road commissioners

FROM A1

Vaughan also said the road commission might not be just five residents but might include people from construction and road industries.

While the commissioners remain “the executive board” for the road commission, Vaughan and his fellow commissioners have very little power over the road board. “We’re the ones who take the complaints,” he said.

“We won’t come from appointed to elected you basically gave up your power over the road commissioners,” Vaughan said. “You had the control.”

Vaughan said the issue with the entrance to Vandervel Park is an example of what’s wrong. As the executive board, he said, the commissioners should be able to simply order the road commission to take care of that road, instead of the road commission determining if it will, or won’t work on that road.

“But we don’t do that,” Vaughan said. “This board is a board related to appropriating finance,” Bardwell said. “It is not an operational board so we can’t really go in front of another commission and say, ‘Do this, do that.’ That’s their decision.”

“I think we can do a lot better job by putting people who can talk, someone they can get aboard if they have issues,” Vaughan said. “We can get a board out there that understands what the people need.”

But Grimshaw balked at making a change.

“I would prefer some sort of public apportioning or a petition drive at some point,” Grimshaw said. “I’m not in favor of taking away an elected office.”

Vaughan said the commissioners also could disbend the road commission and assume its job and responsibilities.

“That’s scary,” Young said.

“Nobody wants to do that,” Vaughan said. “I’m not advocating we do that.”

Vaughan said if the issue was put on the ballot then the people could make their feelings known. And if the voters approved the change, he said, “I think it would be the road commission closer to the people. I think they could be more accountable for things that go on.”

Grimshaw asked if the commissioners were going to directly oversee the day-to-day operations of an appointed road commission and ensure complaints they receive get answered.

“It has nothing to do with me wanting more oversight,” Vaughan said. “It is the people need people in their district representing them.

“A guy from Koylton Township is not going to beat a guy from Indianfields Township. And that is what has happened. If we could vote them in by districts, I wouldn’t have this problem. That has been the issue.

Bardwell, for one, found enough to support.

“Think the concept is worthy,” Bardwell said. “You could argue over the merits of why we would or why we wouldn’t.”

But Grimshaw still balked.

“I think, we say things ahead of ourselves,” Grimshaw said. “That’s my opinion. I think the next time questions answered before we even propose putting this on a ballot.”

“We have these answers,” Vaughan said. “We’ve presented these questions, had them asked and answered. This is not our first rodeo with this.”

FROM A3

“Same here,” Grimshaw said. “Without even a ballpark figure of what the estimated cost is, it can’t.”

The county has used Clark Hill for past bond issues and MFCI was a part of that law that would be brought up off as a separate firm.

“I would be sitting right next to you,” said District 2 Commissioner Thomas Young. “The whole issue is, I mean, we’ve never even shared the motion with us. If we were given a figure we owed that it would be billed to us.”

MFCI comes at no cost, controller/administrator Clayette Zechmeister said, unless the mileage passes. If the mileage passes, it will cost 75 cents per $1,000 in excess of $10 million in the bond issue, which would be about $44 million.

“That’s still $50,000 apiece, for them making phone calls!” Grimshaw said.

“I’m sure they make more than phone calls,” District 3 Commissioner Kim Vaughan said, who likened this to paying for the county’s financial audit cost at a bank.

Grimshaw said he voted against hiring the two firms because the county didn’t work for the work, but simply used firms it had used and been happy with before.

“We just go with one company all of the time,” Grimshaw said, “and you are not getting your best value.”

“And why do we do that?” Bardwell said. “Because that’s the way we’ve always done it,” Grimshaw said.

“Just because something has always been done this way doesn’t mean it is right,” DuBose said.

“If I had the time, we should shop around.” Bardwell said, and got at least two bids.

“I know there are others out there,” Grimshaw said.

Millington Schools leader plans to retire in fall

FROM A1

took the superintendent’s post with Saginaw Township Schools came at the right time.

The Caro native’s first teaching job was in the early 1980s as a long-term substitute for the school district. He then taught in numerous places, including the Atlanta, Georgia area, before moving to his first post in Harbor Beach.

Kroswek said he could retire because he’d accomplished the goals he’s set for himself when he returned. The school district is in good financial shape — it has used, and been happy with, before. Kroswek said he voted against hiring the two bids for the work, but simply used firms it has used and been happy with before.

“Just because something has always been done this way doesn’t mean it is right,” DuBose said.

“If I had the time, we should shop around.” Bardwell said, and got at least two bids.

“I know there are others out there,” Grimshaw said.

The county takes steps toward jail millage

FROM A1

Approved the 2022, 2023-24, 2024-25 school calendars so they align as closely as possible with the Tuscola Intermediate School District calendars for that time period.

Approval paying Carter Crompton Sports Equipment of Clio $6,800 to install the new softball scoreboard infrastructure.

Will pay Holland Bus Co. of Holland $144,800 for two for 2019 used busses. The money will come from the district’s Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESERR) III funds, part of federal Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

Discussed attendance guideline recommendations for the junior/senior high school and a possible automated attendance calling system. This will alert parents on or as close as possible when their child is absent from school and which period they were absent.
**TUSCOLA COUNTY**

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### Daley plans local office hours in Richville

By Mark Haney | Reporter haney@tcadvertiser.com

**MAYVILLE** – This spring has not been kind to the buses of Mayville Community Schools. Maintenance/transportation director Tom Walker told the district’s board of education at its April 13 session that buses needed more repairs in the past month than he ever has seen.

That’s a particularly rough change of kind to the buses of Mayville Community Schools. Maintenance/transportation director Tom Walker told the district’s board of education at its April 13 session that buses needed more repairs in the past month than he ever has seen.

Walker’s contract for two years, to 2024. - Learned the new ice machine in the middle/high school is up and running.
- Approved hiring Jenna Halasz as an aide.
- Accepted the resignation of bus driver Monica Buhl.
- Will host the board scholar awards at 2:30 p.m. June 5 on the football field.
- Accepted the cemetery fees to charge $50.00 a month for a year for Mayville, where the bulk of the district’s buses are operated. The roads that are paved can – and often do – develop potholes.

Superintendent Barry Markwart said the district’s buses have been having problems this spring with springs and mud on the roads. Walker told the board those issues were causing added repairs to the fleet.

“A little more cost than usual,” Markwart said in an email. “Because of the weather this spring.”

The board also:
- Extended Walker’s contract for two years, to 2024.
- Learned the new ice machine in the middle/high school is up and running.
- Approved hiring Jenna Halasz as an aide.
- Accepted the resignation of bus driver Monica Buhl.
- Will host the board scholar awards at 2:30 p.m. June 5 on the football field.
- Accepted the cemetery fees to charge $50.00 a month for a year for burial on Saturday and Sunday.
- Will allow Chad Westendorf to remove firewood from downed trees at the edge of township property across the road from the hall. He will sign a liability waiver prior to starting.
- Will buy a McAfee antivirus subscription for approximately $50 for the township computers.
- Approved a Public Act 116 agreement with Jason and Melissa Kohler of 4995 Sanilac Road.
- Agreed to have Gary Smith show the new section of the foundation formation for monuments in exchange for dirt from the cemetery.
- Agreed to help promote Ray’s Smart 911 program offered by the county’s emergency services office and to look at updating the master plan in the next five years.

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### Rough roads leave Mayville buses damaged

By Mark Haney | Reporter haney@tcadvertiser.com

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- Agreed to have Gary Smith show the new section of the foundation formation for monuments in exchange for dirt from the cemetery.
- Agreed to help promote Ray’s Smart 911 program offered by the county’s emergency services office and to look at updating the master plan in the next five years.

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### Wells Twp. paves way for private roads, if requested

By Mark Haney | Reporter haney@tcadvertiser.com

**WELLS TWP.** – Wells Township has no private roads. But if it now is ready for one, if someone wants one.

The township board voted April 14 to alter its zoning ordinance and land adjustment fees to create a line item for private roads and drives. Clerk Bonnie Hengenreder said the township doesn’t have any private roads or drives at this time, but the board felt that needed to be included in the ordinance.

The township does have a number of public, local roads and the board voted to apply new pavement to one of them. The board plans to spend $135,697.70 through the Tuscola County Road Commission to repair Freode Road, from Bevens to Riley roads, this summer.

The board also:
- Accepted the job description and job duties for the zoning administrator and ordinance enforcement officer and for the assessor.
- Received an invitation from the road commission to a 10 a.m. meeting May 5 at the Brentwood in Case.
- Accepted the cemetery fees to charge $50.00 a month for a year for burial on Saturday and Sunday.
- Previously additional fees were levied for burials on Saturday and Sunday.
- Will allow Chad Westendorf to remove firewood from downed trees at the edge of township property across the road from the hall. He will sign a liability waiver prior to starting.
- Will buy a McAfee antivirus subscription for approximately $50 for the township computers.
- Approved a Public Act 116 agreement with Jason and Melissa Kohler of 4995 Sanilac Road.
- Agreed to have Gary Smith show the new section of the foundation formation for monuments in exchange for dirt from the cemetery.
- Agreed to help promote Ray’s Smart 911 program offered by the county’s emergency services office and to look at updating the master plan in the next five years.
USA seeks an un-speedy return on M-25

By Mark Haney | haney@tcadvertiser.com

HURON COUNTY

May 1st

AD STARTS

Hahn has been lobbying state Rep. Phil Daley (R-Lum) to get the law changed and get the district’s speed zone back. So far, Hahn told the district’s board of education at its April 11 session, those efforts haven’t borne fruit.

“If you talk to any law enforcement,” Hahn said, “they all know that we need one here because it’s just dangerous – for students, for families. We have commercial vehicle, beet trucks (on M-25). And just dropping off your student in the morning and getting out is difficult with the nature of this and how people are in a rush to get places.”

Hahn said the law has to be amended to get the light and school speed zones back.

USA’s unique position as with its schools situated in between Sebewaing and Unionville means there aren’t a lot of other districts in a similar situation to help raise the issue. Hahn said he’s working with the Michigan Department of Transportation, however, to look that speed zone away because the state’s Public Act 446, approved by the Legislature, allows only those institutions where students arrive by foot or bicycle or in unicycle or skateboard to qualify to be called a school and to get a reduced speed zone. Places like USA, where all students arrive by motor vehicle, no longer can be called a school.

Hahn has been lobbying state Rep. Phil Green (R-Millington) and Sen. Kevin

For the full story, visit the Huron Daily Tribune at www.hurontribune.com.

The Huron County Sheriff’s Office will help, Hahn said, but the village police are just five minutes away so the response will be quicker.

The village and the district continue to discuss having the department supply a school resource officer, though Hahn said a jurisdictional agreement between the schools, has approved the jurisdiction of the village police.

On the school campus, just west of the highway, things should be safer soon. The school district and the village of Sebewaing are close to agreeing to add the campus to the jurisdiction of the village police. Sebewaing Township, which is home to the schools, has approved the jurisdiction change. Once an agreement is reached with the village, Hahn told the board, police from the village could begin enforcing the law on the campus immediately.

The Huron County Sheriff’s Office will help, Hahn said, but the village police are just five minutes away so the response will be quicker.

The village and the district continue to discuss having the department supply a school resource officer, though Hahn said a jurisdictional agreement should help those discussions progress. He doesn’t expect the officer to start until the fall. “That’s my hope,” Hahn said.

The board also:

■ Learned the recent six-week educational boot camp at the elementary school included 34 students and nine of them increased an entire grade during the process. “That is tremendous growth in that short period of time,” Hahn said. “You just get that extra hour and 15 minutes a couple of times a week with a student, on top of what they get in class time, some kids just need that little boost.”

The program, which focused on reading and mathematics for grades 1-8, will return just before the next school year starts.

“Spring is a lot harder to get families to commit to this,” Hahn said. “So it won’t be offered in the spring, but instead will be offered in August, before the start of the next school year. “It will be like a jump-start program to get them ready for school.”

A summer credit recovery program will be provided to grades 9-12.

■ Approved the purchase of a $25,980 walk-in-freezer from Culinary Products Inc. of Saginaw.

■ Will spend $22,150 with William E. Walker Inc., mechanical contractors in Flint, for a new rooftop air conditioning unit over one area of the high school. The AC unit failed over what was used to be the wood shop – now a large classroom – and the drafting room and art room.

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$3.19 ctn.

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7 oz.
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SWEDISH MESA BEEF RIBS
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$1.99
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Store Made 3 Cheese Brats
$3.99
$3.29 lb.

OLD ORCHARD COCKTAILS
$4.25
$3.79

ASSORTED LOAFHOUSE COOKIES
2/$5
$3.79

BONE-IN SPLIT CHICKEN BREAST
$1.99
$1.99

COOPER FARMS TURKEY BREAST
$3.99
$3.99

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$9.99
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WHOLE BEEF TENDERLOINS
$9.99
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CHICKEN BREAST
$1.99
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$1.79
$1.79

GROUND CHUCK
$3.49
$3.49

PORK LOIN
$2.99
$2.99

GROUND HOG CHOP
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GROUND CHUCK
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PORK LOIN
$2.99
$2.99

GROUND HOG CHOP
$1.79
$1.79

GROUND CHUCK
$3.49
$3.49

PORK LOIN
$2.99
$2.99
CARO — The slide in gas prices slowed to a crawl over concerns about increased global oil prices and the return of seasonal domestic gas demands. The war in Ukraine and fear of less Russian oil entering the market caused the price of crude to creep back above $100 a barrel. Meanwhile, as more places in the U.S. see pump prices fall below $4 a gallon, demand is ticking back up. Domestically, the national average for a gallon of gas has fallen to $4.08.

“As the days get longer, the weather gets warmer, and pump prices dip from their record highs, consumers feel more confident about hitting the road,” said Andrew Gross, AAA spokesperson. “But these lower pump prices could be temporary if the global price of oil increases due to constrained supply.”

According to new data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA), total domestic gasoline stocks decreased by 3.5 million bbl to 233.1 million bbl last week. Gasoline demand increased slightly from 8.5 million b/d to 8.7 million b/d. Although supply and demand factors would have typically supported elevated pump prices, the fluctuating oil price continues to be the main factor influencing prices at the pump. Pump prices will likely face downward pressure if oil prices remain near $100 per barrel.

Meanwhile, consumers will enjoy a tasty gas price-related treat courtesy of Krispy Kreme Doughnuts. For the next three Wednesdays, Krispy Kreme will lower the price of a dozen Original Glazed donuts to the national average that AAA reports each Monday. The offer runs through Wednesday, May 4th. A dozen glazed doughnuts typically cost around $12. This Wednesday’s dozen should cost $4.08, not including sales tax, only in shop, drive-thru, and online pickup.

Today’s national average for a gallon of gas is $4.08, which is 19 cents less than a month ago, and $1.21 more than a year ago.

**Quick Stats**

- The nation’s top 10 largest weekly decreases: Ohio (−7 cents), Delaware (−7 cents), Florida (−6 cents), Indiana (−6 cents), California (−5 cents), Georgia (−5 cents), Pennsylvania (−5 cents), Kentucky (−4 cents), Virginia (−4 cents) and West Virginia (−4 cents).
- The nation’s top 10 least expensive markets: Kansas ($3.66), Missouri ($3.66), Arkansas ($3.66), Georgia ($3.70), Oklahoma ($3.71), Texas ($3.71), South Carolina ($3.74), Mississippi ($3.77), Ohio ($3.77) and Iowa ($3.78).

**Oil Market Dynamics**

At the close of Thursday’s formal trading session, WTI increased by $2.70 to settle at $106.95. According to EIA’s weekly report, U.S. commercial crude oil inventories increased by 9.4 million barrels from the previous week to reach 421.8 million barrels. Despite reports of increased inventory, crude oil prices jumped last week as the European Union announced they are drafting plans to ban Russian oil imports, a move that could tighten global supply as member countries look for new sources for crude oil in an already tight market. Additionally, the most recent Oil Market Report from the International Energy Agency (IEA) forecasts that Russian oil output will shrink by about 1.5 million barrels per day this month as the result of financial and export sanctions. The crude oil market will likely remain volatile this week and could continue to fluctuate if concerns about supply persist.
Vassar’s Trevor Gleeson swings at a pitch during the second game of Thursday’s doubleheader against Sandusky. Gleeson collected two hits and drove in three runs in the sweep.

By Scott Bolsby | Sports Editor
sports@tcadvertiser.com

**VASSAR** – Nate Whitney earned the win in game one and Manee Mendham picked up the victory in game two, as Vassar swept Sandusky in a twin bill here on Thursday.

The Vulcans beat the Redskins 5-3 in the opener behind a pair of two-RBI performances from Trevor Gleeson and Mendham.

Whitney tossed five innings and allowed one earned run on one hit, and struck out six in the win.

In the finale, Vassar scored a 4-3 victory with Zac Klinesmith knocking in two runs and Mendham allowing no earned runs on three hits, striking out four. Vassar moved to 6-1 overall with the sweep.

Fischer does damage from plate, mound in sweep of Brown City

**CARO** – Russell Fischer drove in five runs in Caro’s nonconference sweep of Brown City here Thursday.

Fischer launched a two-run home run in the fifth inning in the opener, before Fischer delivered a pair of two-RBI performances in Trevor Gleeson and Mendham.

Fischer also tossed 4 and 2/3 innings from the mound, allowing four earned runs on eight hits, and striking out eight. Klayton Clish earned the win during 2/3 of an inning of relief, allowing one earned run on two hits with one strikeout.

In game two, Caro jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning, adding three runs in the fourth inning and one more run in the fifth.

Fischer and Ashton Savage knocked in two runs each while Zach Williams scored twice in the 7-4 victory.

Mark Phillips claimed the win from the bump pitching 4 and 2/3 innings and striking out seven and allowing two hits.

In game two, Caro jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning, adding three runs in the fourth inning and one more run in the fifth.

Fischer and Ashton Savage knocked in two runs each while Zach Williams scored twice in the 7-4 victory.

Mark Phillips claimed the win from the bump pitching 4 and 2/3 innings and striking out seven and allowing two hits.

By Scott Bolsby | Sports Editor
sports@tcadvertiser.com

**MILLINGTON** – The Millington softball team made easy work of Tri-Valley Conference 10 foe St. Louis here on Thursday.

Ashley Ziel earned the win from the circle in both games, tossing one inning and striking out two in a 1-0 win in the nightcap. She pitched three innings in the opener, striking out seven and allowing one hit in a game Millington won by the identical score of 1-0.

Lillia Sherman blasted a home run in the first game and drove in five runs. Trinity Fessler had two RBIs while Ziel and Falon Wilson had one RBI each. Leah Coleman and Sherman scored three runs apiece.

In game two, Ashley Ziel, Shannon Ziel, Dylan Holmes and Lelia Damm drove in two runs each. Shannon Ziel scored three times while Sherman and Holmes scored two runs apiece.

Millington (4-0) travels to Hemlock on Monday.

Eagles walk it off against Freeland

**FRANKENMUTH** – Payton Schafsnitz drove in the winning run in the bottom of the ninth of game two as Frankenmuth swept Freeland in a Tri-Valley Conference 10 doubleheader.

The Eagles defeated Freeland 12-2 in game one and followed it up with the walk-off 7-6 win in game two.

Maggie Thiel won the tight game by tossing six innings, allowing two hits and striking out six in relief of Frankenmuth starter Brooklyn Compaun.

Compaun drove in two runs to lead the Eagles’ offense. Tiffany Keller, Faith Breininger, and Schafsnitz drove in one run each. Thiel scored three runs and Keller scored twice.

In the opening game, Compaun cruised to a 13-0 win in the opener.

By Scott Bolsby | Sports Editor
sports@tcadvertiser.com

**MILLINGTON** senior catcher Trinity Fessler swings at a pitch during an Apc. 14 game against Essexville-Garber. Fessler drove in three runs during Thursday’s doubleheader sweep of St. Louis.

**SEEN EAGLES | B2**

**SPORTS | B5**
Eagles walk it off against Freeland, stay unbeaten

Vassar’s Kendal Roberts swings at a pitch during Thursday’s game against Sandusky. Roberts scored three times in a 3-6 loss to the Redskins.

Photo by Greg Hall | The Advertiser

**From Bennett**

Kingston’s Landon Russell and Josh Eurich had two hits apiece while Schlund rapped one double. Hurley had two RBIs and Strikeout three in six innings and allowing seven unearned runs on 10 hits, striking out 14.

Frankenmuth drops pair in state-ranked tilt

**From B1**

Friday in a Tri-Valley Conference 8 games to 7-0 behind a two-hit pitching performance from Isaiah Helton. Helton tossed 6 and 2/3 innings, allowing no runs and striking out 14.

Sebewaing Area baseball team was held hitless and struck out 16. Nick St. George and Ulewicz each had one RBI each.

**From Bennett**

Unionville-Sebewaing’s Josh Eurich prepares to throw a ball home during Thursday’s season opener against Garber. Eurich took the loss in the 11-0 game one final against the Dukes.

Kingston – Ethan Ulewicz hurled a no-hitter against Caro in a nonconference doubleheader. Ulewicz pitched seven innings and allowing seven earned runs on 10 hits, striking out nine.

Kingston to wins

**From Bennett**

Eagles walk it off against Freeland, stay unbeaten

Tigers pounce on Green Devils

**From Bennett**

Caro – Caro drove in a season-high 18 runs in a 16-2 win over Brown City here on Thursday in the second game of a doubleheader.

Eagles walk it off against Freeland, stay unbeaten

**From Bennett**

Kingston (2-0-1) competes in a North Central Thumb League Stars Division contest.

Eagles walk it off against Freeland, stay unbeaten

**From Bennett**

Kingston defeated Deckerville 7-0 behind a two-hit pitching performance from Isaiah Helton. Helton tossed 6 and 2/3 innings, allowing no runs and striking out 14.

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Kingston to wins

**From Bennett**

Eagles walk it off against Freeland, stay unbeaten

Tigers pounce on Green Devils

**From Bennett**

Caro – Caro drove in a season-high 18 runs in a 16-2 win over Brown City here on Thursday in the second game of a doubleheader.

Lukas Daniels, Kaitlyn Guice, Jacque Petes, and Emily Putnam led offensively in the win with three RBIs each. Makayla Hemmesey and Garza scored two runs each.

Garza earned the win, tossing four innings and allowing one earned run on two hits, striking out three.

In game one, the Tigers defeated the Green Devils 8-2 behind a two-RBI performance from Garza. Hemmesey, Daniels, Brynne Wyckoff and Bailey Smith drove in one run each.

Jacque Petes seized the win from the circle, tossing six innings and allowing one earned run on five hits, striking out eight.

Caro (2-0) travels to Vassar on Monday for a Greater Thumb Conference West Division tilt.
ACROSS

1. Facts and figure
2. Bygone jet
3. Son of Seth
4. Latin love
5. Historical period
6. "Peter Pan" poem
7. "No problem!"
8. "Darkness"
9. "Delicious"
10. "More"
11. "Three, in Roman
12. "Hold sway"
13. "Zsa Zsa's sister"
14. "Stitch"
15. "Just a phase"
16. "Three, in Roman
17. "Mongolian"
18. "Aced a test"
19. "My treat"
20. "Partially mine"
21. "Spring"
22. "Book spine"
23. "It's a state"
24. "Witty one"
25. "Clean air org."
26. "Tie after Q"
27. "Bridge support"
28. "Super Bowl"
29. "Un Ltd."
30. "Cut lumber"
31. "Spray paint"
32. "Scent"
33. "Fictional character"
34. "Author"
35. "Hands"
36. "Tanzania's capital"
37. "Lax security"
38. "Canadian plain"
39. "Taco Bell"
40. "Med plan"

DOWN

1. Calendar squares
2. "Mongolian"
3. "Cute"
4. "When"
5. "Need a pal'
6. "Napoleon's"
7. "Howling"
8. "Well"
9. "Whistle"
10. "Brochure"
11. "Basis"
12. "3,000"
13. "Stuffed"
14. "Sweat"
15. "Bridge tool"
16. "Bridge support"
17. "Bridge tool"
18. "Bridge support"
19. "Bridge support"
20. "Bridge support"
21. "Bridge support"
22. "Bridge support"
23. "Bridge support"
24. "Bridge support"
25. "Bridge support"
26. "Bridge support"
27. "Bridge support"
28. "Bridge support"
29. "Bridge support"
30. "Bridge support"

SUDOKU

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row, column, and each small (3×3) square contains all of the digits 1-9 exactly once.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ••

Moderate •• Challenge

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CRYPTOQUIP

"Merry Christmas" is written in code. Can you solve the cipher and discover the message?

Solution: "HAPPY HOLIDAYS"

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DAYART

Friday, October 21, 2022

Jymy of		Pine

"We were very happy until her first..."

TODAY'S WORD

SCRAMBLERS

"This is our sunny living room. Sink over $5,000 in it."

Solution: "PAINTING"

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CRYPTOQUIP

"Merry Christmas" is written in code. Can you solve the cipher and discover the message?

Solution: "HAPPY HOLIDAYS"

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BOYS AND GIRLS needed for babysitting needs cubs, jills and jills, July and August at Baggage Valley Saddlum Producers, LLC. (810) 366-3641. Boys will be at least 14 years old. by phone or apply. Visit www.bivari.com for online application. Questions can be directed to info@bivari.com.

LAWN & GARDEN


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Looking For your business. Get your ad in today!

AVERIL NOW, $500. 317-525-0803 (ext) or email amccormick79@gmail.com


HELP WANTED
ADULT FOTER CARE HIRING in Care for 2nd shift and weekends. Experience aplus but not necessary, we will train. Call 810-955-3868 for interview. AdamsKnoll at a background check. FAIRGROVE DISTRICT LIBRARY IS SEEKING PAY- ROLL CLERK, Proctor with QuicksBooks software. Part-time position. A couple hours b-weekly. Please email letter of application and resume to marcy@fairgrove-lib.org.

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LAWN & GARDEN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

VASSAR TOWNSHIP

There will be a Public Hearing on May 12, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall, 371 E. Prospect Avenue, Vassar, Michigan 48768.

The purpose of the hearing is to review a Medical and Adult-Use Marthana Special Use Permit renewal for a provisioning center.

Parol if 020.000.100.01

Applicant to Star Bids Processing Center LLC.

Any comments or objections to granting this request will be addressed at this time.

This meeting is open to all members of the public under Michigan’s Open Meetings Act.

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After more than 80 years, Jeep remains an American icon.

Michigan Outdoors with Tom Loushny

During the 1940s, the U.S. military began to realize that it needed a light reconnaissance vehicle, no doubt to replace horses, which were becoming inadequate for the quickly developing atmosphere of modern warfare. The British had been using some tough vehicles made by Austin, but they were two-wheel drive and causing issues during reconnaissance in rough country. It was determined to only way to go was with a light and compact vehicle which featured four-wheel drive. The German blitzkrieg in 1939 put developing an ideal scouting vehicle into overdrive.

The year 1940 found the Army Quartermaster Corps (QMC) seeking designs and bids from various American automobile manufacturers. The QMC was very aware of a wily eyed of the committee headed by a very tenacious Senator Harry Truman, and took great pains to do a proper bidding process. Truman laid out a view of the type of vehicle that was needed when off the shelf items, which could be purchased for pennies, became billed in dollars for military contracts. Truman won the QMC's "bidders" and he possessed a distinctly feisty attitude and determination that would serve him well when he suddenly found himself becoming president in a few short years down the road.

The three main competitors were Ford, Willys-Overland and a small company called American Bantam Motors. There was also the war effort, lobbying and a bit of skullduggery taking place to win the government contract, which would mean millions. Burton actually came up with the best design, but Army officials (under the guise the data was Army property) allowed the other competitors to review all of Bantam's technical data which would create their own versions which were near identical to Bantam's. Being the lowest bidder, Willys-Overland won the contract, and produced what is now called the Jeep.

There are various theories as to where the name "Jeep" came from. It is said that when Willys-Overland ads were giving rides to politicians up and down the White House steps with the new reconnaissance vehicle, one of them told a reporter it was a "Jeep," and it came out as such in newspapers the next day. It turns out it was an attempt to name it after Chrysler's "Jeep" truck. Because it was a very effective vehicle for reconnaissance, it was actually called a "Jeep" by World War II soldiers (its compact and lightweight nature even allowed it to be transported in gliders during D-Day). It was an extremely versatile vehicle which could also be armed, even with anti-aircraft guns (the legendary Desert Rats are an example), and used for transporting the wounded. It was never commonly called a Jeep by soldiers until the Vietnam War, when Willys-Overland would give it the official name Jeep in 1950.

Willys-Overland was purchased by Kaiser Motors in 1933, which became the Kaiser-Jeep Corporation in 1963. Kaiser would sell its automobile business to American Motors Corporation (AMC) in 1970, which in turn would be purchased by Chrysler Corporation in 1987. This is when the "CJ" designation of Jeeps that had been around for years was dropped and the newly designed "Wrangler" came in to being.

I've always had a soft spot for Jeeps, no doubt being influenced by the TV ads (which even showed them doing farm duties, including plowing) when I was growing up, and the fact that Roy Rogers often drove a Jeep he called "Nellie-Bell" on his weekly TV western show. However, my first plunge into four-wheeling was when I was almost seven so much luck I was driving a Jeep as a birthday present. I have never wanted to be without a 4-wheel drive for so long since. Like the British military during the 1930s, the Jeep was sometimes found lacking for my outdoor lifestyle. Needless to say, folks, venturing into 4-wheeling taught my humility right away, because nothing is as stuck as a 4-wheel drive when you get yourself overloaded and try to tackle the impossible. Thereabout this time, my trusty Bronco had become a rust-bucket when I purchased a bright red 1986 Jeep CJ-7, and it was love at first sight. It was a very versatile vehicle which even included a snowplow, and I dearly loved to town which took less time longer because a rusty snowplow had just been replaced. I often drove a Jeep he called "Nellie-Bell" (personally I quickly adapted because it looked just like a little Glenlivet stripped literally "half-naked". However, I had learned (the hard way) to always have a respectable shovel in your Jeep during the winter months. Although four-wheel drive allows for more dependable travel during adverse conditions, when you get stuck with one, you are usually really stuck!

There was also the memorable moment when my son Josh was home from college for Christmas, during an ongoing snowstorm, which had been coming heavily down at a steady pace for weeks. He dropped at near- blizzard velocities when going to see me and we simply threw a weather blanket over the hood of my old CJ-7, which was in full progress.

Eleven years later, our well-made Jeep was in full progress. A new snow plow was installed, but it was never to be. The day before the storm Josh was due to leave, we had to move our driveway because a blinding blizzard was on the way. Josh could tell I was having a great time being neighborly!

Tom has learned (the hard way) to always have a respectable shovel in your Jeep during the winter months. Although four-wheel drive allows for more dependable travel during adverse conditions, when you get stuck with one, you are usually really stuck!

Jeep Wrangler owners usually wave each other at each other when meeting on the road, which I find as being rather unique and friendly, because it makes you feel like you are all one big family. Like the Jeep ads say, the Wrangler gives you an automatic sense of adventure, something I believe began with the TV ads. The Jeep Wrangler is definitely a lot larger and wider than my old CJ-7, but I see a whole bunch of similarities, including it can be transformed somewhat (the roof can be easily removed in four sections). And I have always appreciated a sturdy little hill-bar for off-road adventure.

I have always learned about the "Jeep wars," where Jeep Wrangler owners usually wave each other at each other when meeting on the road, which I find as being rather unique and friendly, because it makes you feel like you are all one big family. Like the Jeep ads say, the Wrangler gives you an automatic sense of adventure, something I believe began with the TV ads. The Jeep Wrangler is definitely a lot larger and wider than my old CJ-7, but I see a whole bunch of similarities, including it can be transformed somewhat (the roof can be easily removed in four sections). And I have always appreciated a sturdy little hill-bar for off-road adventure.

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Drivers using long handled dip-nets and fish spears to herd suckers to waiting nets, and getting this kind of silence like on every pitch "like this roar leading up to it, but then interesting feeling in the ballpark," opportunity to get there, it's a pretty series win, were appreciating it.

"It was kind of almost eerie." It was kind of almost eerie.

Cabrera hit the first pitch he saw from former Tigers prospect Chad Green in the sixth inning. The pitch broke his bat, but the ball skipped past LeMahieu and through the left side as the crowd roared.

"As you can see with Miggy, when he puts some good at-bats together, he can put some hits together quickly," Hinch said. "It doesn’t surprise me other than you don’t expect somebody to get four hits when you get to a night like this. But never doubt Miggy."
**MEETINGS/ EVENTS**

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIA-**

**RY 4421 meetings** are held the second Thursday of the month at the American Legion Post 181 in Caro.

**FOOD PANTRY**

- **GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD PANTRY** is open every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 670 W. Gilford St., Open to Tuscola County residents. ID is required.

**COMPANY MEMORIAL DAY**

- **OPPERMAN MEMORIAL DAY** is held on Memorial Day, check out the new features that the public library has to offer: Overdrive (digital e-books and audiobooks), Rave/Dig (digital magazines), Kingston Enter-prise newspaper available online from 1941 to 1960.

**SADIE:**

- **SAVE A LIFE** an event where families are encouraged to keep CPR certified through the American Heart Association.

**SOUTHCARE HOSPICE** is searching for Volunteers for our Volunteer Program. Volunteers make a big difference in the lives of Hospice patients and their families. Call us at 989-790-7533 to learn more about becoming a Hospice Volunteer.

**VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED:** Tuscola County Office of Veterans Affairs needs drivers to take county veterans to their doctor appointments in Owosso. If interested, contact Connie at 989-673-6414.

**SMITH** is searching for Volunteers for our Volunteer Program. Volunteers make a big difference in the lives of Hospice patients and their families. Call us at 989-790-7533 to learn more about becoming a Hospice Volunteer.

**SERVICE FOR VETERANS (VET TO VET)**

- **MENTOR MEETINGS** are held the second Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at the VFW Hall next to the Caro Fire Building. These meetings provide a chance to talk to other veterans about their experiences while serving and bring veterans to learn about available benefits. Referrals are provided. For more information, call 989-433-1002.

**CARO AMERICAN LEGION POST 181 MEETINGS**

- **MEETING** is held the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Post 181.

**FOOD OUTREACH**

- **EASTER EGG HUNT** hosted by Spring Life Community Church in Mayville the weekend of April 16-17. Activities will be available to all who attend. A free lunch will be served. The building is handicap accessible. Includes soups, salads, sandwiches and desserts.

**FRIENDS OF MUSIC SERIES**

- **TOPS MI 0221 CHAPTER** meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m. at the Brentwood Memorial. Applications are available. Call 989-673-5588 for more information.

**MASH (MICROSCOPIC ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL PERSON-**

- **NELS)**

**TOPS MI 0221 CHAPTER** meets the 1st Tuesday of each month in the Mason Temple, 150 N. State St., Caro.

**CARO LIONS CLUB** meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m.

**BIBLE MEETINGS**, every Sunday in April and May. 4-5 p.m. on 1044 W. Huron Ave., Vassar. Everyone is welcome and no collection is taken. Hosted by Bruce Shaw & Robert Bishop.

**CARO AMERICAN LEGION POST 7 MEETINGS** are the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

**CARO CHAPTER 996 Royal Arch Macons** meet the second Thursday of each month in the Masonic Temple, 150 N. State St., Caro. The program is Caro’s Exchange Club Forest. Lunch will be served.

**THE THUMB COMMUNITY CONCERT CHOIR** Spring concert: Jay in the House will direct the choir of St. Philip Church & St. Rumburg, 11 a.m. at the Brentwood in Caro. The program is Caro’s Exchange Club Forest. Lunch will be served.

**TOPS MI 0221 CHAPTER** meets Thursday evenings at Beyerden Beauty Academy. Call JoAnn at 989-551-6561 for more information.

**TOPS CLUB 1212 VASSAR meets Wednesday at Ivan Middleton Hall. 1007 Lake St., Vassar. Old Timers meetings from 9-10 a.m. For more information, con- tact Melvin Johnson, 989-790-3467.

**VASSAR FRIENDS OF THE LI-**

- **BIBLE MEETINGS** are held the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Luther Bible Church, 503 St. Andrew, Vassar. For more information, call Cezella at 989-673-6023 or Cezzella@comcast.net.

**VFW POST 4164, Caro, second Wed.- first Wed.**

- **MEETING** is held every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at William Hall, Alcona. VFW Post 4837, Carle, third Wednes-

**ADVERTISE**

- **COMMUNITY SERVICE listings** are available free of charge to non-commercial and non-political busi-

**FOOD PANTRY**

- **GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD PANTRY** is open every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Vassar Seventh-day Adventist Church, 5920 Frankenmuth Rd. for free clothing, shoes, bedding, etc. Donations greatly ap- preciated. Everyone welcome. 989-823-3069.

**FOOD OUTREACH**

- **FOOD OUTREACH** hosted by Spring Life Community Church in Mayville the second Saturday of each month. Free food will be served.

**FOOD Pantry**

- **FOOD Pantry** is open every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. It is free. We will have Sassy the Clown, Snow Cones, & Lots of EASTER EGGS! It is free. We will have Sassy the Clown, Snow Cones, & Lots of EASTER EGGS!}

**FRIENDS OF MUSIC SERIES**

- **TOPS MI 0221 CHAPTER** meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

**SAVING A LIFE**

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