Saturday, April 9, 2022

LOCAL NEWS

BY JOHN SCHWARTZ | News Editor
john@tcadvertiser.com

The steeple of the former church at 202 W. Burnside St. in Caro is falling apart. On windy days especially, folks should watch for falling bricks.

Easter egg “hunters” scramble for candy and eggs during Sunday’s Vassar Lions Club’s Easter Egg Hunt.

TUSCOLA COUNTY

BY TOM GILCHRIST | News Editor
gilchrist@tcadvertiser.com

VASSAR — During the COVID-19 pandemic, have you missed the Easter Egg Hunt? Safe to say 3-year-old Charlie Middleton and Ellie Ptaszenski, and 4-year-old Jade Ward, did.

Falling brick zone? Council mulls safety at former church

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TUSCOLA COUNTY

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Charlie, out of Vassar, and her pals Ellie and Jade, who hail from Millington, were all smiles and giggles before they dashed onto the Vassar High School gym floor in search of candy and plastic eggs Sunday.

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TUSCOLA COUNTY

Kids get back in the hunt, and Easter spirit

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

• Letters may be up to 150 words long. We do not publish letters from people living outside of this newspaper’s coverage area.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 by the editor’s discretion. All letters are subject to editing for style, mechanics and grammar.

• Letters containing foul language or content that is blatantly offensive, or that the editor feels is inappropriate, will not be published.

• All letters should focus on the purpose of the writer, not their position. Any statement of facts not generally known or accepted to be true may not be published.

• All letters must be signed by the writer, with address and phone number provided for verification only. Letters will be printed with the author’s name and city of residence only. Anonymous letters will not be published.

• Letters that contain statements that are libelous will not be published, nor will libelous content of any kind.

• Letters written in triplicate or other letters submitted should address the issue at hand, rather than restating the writer by rephrasing a letter that should refer to the headline and date the letter was published. Letters referring to news-stories shall also mention the headline and date of publication.

• Letters regarding an election issue or candidates will not be published in the issue immediately preceding election day.

• Some letters are considered too long and will not be run in full by the editor.

All questions regarding letters to the editor should be directed to News Editor - Tom Gilchrist – gilchrist@tcadvertiser.com.

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![Fire in the Presbyterian church, Sunday evening, near the close of the service, the destroyed $7,000 mortgage which has but recently been covered by pledges made by members, but death and "Eternal Wisdom of Masonry."](image)

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**DEDICATION**

The Presbyterian church, Sunday evening, near the close of the service, the destroyed $7,000 mortgage which has but recently been covered by pledges made by members, but death and "Eternal Wisdom of Masonry." The church is a beautiful and popular place, and was destroyed by a fire which accompanied a thunder storm. The fire department were attending an entertainment in the evening, and the church and congregation joined in singing a song rejoicing while the paper burned. Frank Dyer has ordered a large silver cup, more than 13 inches high, which will be given to the high school track team winning it three times in succession.

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**DAMAGED BARN**

This is the wind-battered barn on the William Profit farm located four miles north of Cass City. High winds Monday seriously damaged the structure. From the April 22, 1942 edition of The Advertiser.
“We have nine new bicycles or tricycles to give away this year; the community has really stepped up,” said Debby Gadany, Vassar Lions Club president, who greeted families arriving at the hunt – one of the Vassar club’s signature events.

Scores of children, separated by age groups, scrambled around the gym floor picking up sweets or plastic eggs. Each plastic egg entitled a child to pick out a prize from among hundreds on tables manned by volunteers including siblings Adalae Partridge, Caeleb Partridge and Baeli Partridge.

The Partridges’ dad, Vassar Lions Club member Ben Partridge, served as master of ceremonies for the hunt. Even adults – each of whom received a raffle ticket on the way into the gym – had a chance to win prizes if Ben Partridge called out their ticket number.

McDonald’s restaurant of Vassar donated hundreds of toys for children to choose from, and any child finding a plastic egg with a tiny “Lego-man” inside it received an Easter basket. Jemma Martin, 2, daughter of Vassar’s Travis and Ashley Martin, was among the first children to traverse the gym floor seeking treasures in the zero-to-2 age group.

The last age group to seek eggs and candy – those ages 11 to 13 – saw Jase Gilltopie, 11, hand away a sack filled with goodies. Jase is the son of Tonia Gibson of Vassar.

Two of the more successful egg/candy hunters in the 7-to-8-year-old age group were Emma Chiszar, 7, daughter of Meghan Chiszar of Vassar, and Ethan Faith, 7, accompanied by Melissa Berlin of Millington.

TuscolaToday.com Saturday, April 9, 2022, The Advertiser

Wendell Stacy IV, 1, of Vassar, ponders a package of Swedish fish candy he obtained during Sunday’s Vassar Lions Club’s Easter Egg Hunt. Wendell is the son of Wendell Stacy IV and Kayla Harris.

Addisyn Schultz, 4, daughter of Brandon Schultz and Lisa Lange of Vassar, peruses potential prizes before selecting one at Sunday’s Vassar Lions Club’s Easter Egg Hunt.

Lilith Dennis, 1, daughter of Jacob Dennis and Sheyenne Kuzma of Vassar, ponders her next move during the Vassar Lions Club’s Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday.

Reese’s Morgan Taylor, 19 months old, checks out his haul of candy and plastic eggs at the Vassar Lions Club’s Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday in the Vassar High School gymnasium.

UNIONVILLE - SEBEWAING AREA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Unionville-Sebewaing Area Elementary is currently pre-registering incoming kindergarten students for the 2022-2023 school year. Students must be five by September 1st to be eligible for kindergarten.

Please visit our website: www.think-usa.org for more information or call our elementary office at 989-883-9147. Screening dates for those registered will be coming soon! We will contact you with more information when screening dates are scheduled.
HURON COUNTY

Chief: Heat lamp, for chickens, caused fire

By Tom Gilchrist | News Editor
gilchrist@tcadvertiser.com

COLFAX TWP. — A heat lamp, warming several chickens in a garage, is to blame for a fire that destroyed a home here March 6, according to Bad Axe Fire Chief John Hunt.

The fire at the 322 S. Outer Drive home of Brandon and Josi Severance began about 6:15 p.m. that evening. The couple and four children escaped the home unharmed, Hunt said.

Firefighters were seeking the cause of the blaze just outside Bad Axe in the days following the fire at the house, which was insured, according to Hunt.

“There were two chickens in a small coop, with a heat lamp,” Hunt said on Thursday.

No firefighters were hurt due to the blaze south of M-53 and north of Soper Road. Firefighters from the Bingham Township, Sigel Township and Oliver Township departments provided assistance at the fire scene.

The fire destroyed a pickup truck and a van parked at fire residence, and Hunt called the home a “total loss.”

“There was a pickup and a van in there,” Hunt said. “Everything was lost. They’re tearing it right down.”

Firefighters have placed yellow caution tape as a border near part of the ravaged scene.

When asked the value of the loss of the home and contents, Hunt said “It would be a half million dollars, probably, but I don’t know – I honestly don’t have that number.”

This home at 322 S. Outer Drive, near Soper Road in Huron County’s Colfax Township, was destroyed by fire on March 6. The fire started because of a heat lamp that was warming several chickens in a coop inside the attached garage, firefighters said.
TUSCOLA COUNTY

Mayville alums set June 11 as date of reunion social

By Tom Gilchrist | News Editor
gilchrist@tcadvertiser.com

MAYVILLE - Following a hiatus due to COVID-19, Mayville High School alumni gather again June 11 for their All-School Reunion Social.

In years past, this event has been known as the Alumna Dinner, but Mayville alumni haven’t met since 2019 due to COVID-19 restrictions.

A press release from Reunion Social organizers indicates that “considering the high catering costs this year,” a dinner won’t take place.

Instead, organizers will present golden diplomas to Mayville High School graduates from at least 25 years ago. The classes of 1970, 1971 and 1972 will be recognized as 50-year graduates. The diplomas to Mayville High School graduates from at least 25 years ago.

The Mayville Alumni Association is one of Michigan’s oldest — if not the oldest — active alumni associations. This year marks the group’s 135th year of existence.

In addition to hosting the annual all-school reunion each June, the association awards a graduating senior with a monetary scholarship; donates funding and school supplies to the elementary school, middle school and high school; and gives classroom teachers supplies and money as the funding from members allows such donations.

The association also maintains a website, www.mayvillewildcatalumni.com, that updates alumni on obituaries, news, back issues and current issues of The Historian newsletter, and class reunion announcements. Visitors to the website can subscribe to monthly updates from the association.

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One of the older school buildings in the Thumb area, along Fulton Street in Mayville, continues housing Mayville High School and Mayville Junior High School students. An All-School Reunion Social occurs June 11 for Mayville High School alumni, inside the high school’s auditorium.

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Fairgrove to pull together hazard plan

By Mark Haney | Reporter
haney@tuscolatoday.com

FAIRGROVE — The village of Fairgrove needs a plan — and fast.

The village council met Monday that Fairgrove has yet to formulate an updated hazard mitigation plan and submit it to Tuscola County.

If a plan isn’t in place, the village might not be eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency aid in the event of a disaster.

So the council quickly formed a committee of president Kristin Young, council member Troy McNish, Wood and fire chief Doug Young to pull a plan together and submit it to the county.

The council also authorized that group to meet as soon as possible and for the fire chief to file the plan with the county.

The council also:

• Approved a contract with the Akron Police Dept. for 2022-23. The agreement received additional information through a Freedom of Information Act request as well as an assurance from police chief Matt Simerson on guidelines for auxiliary officers.

• Approved Jessica Dankert to fill an opening on the Fairgrove Fire Dept.

• Is considering a proposal from the fire chief to start an auxiliary fire department.

• Learned the spring brush pickup is April 25, but residents shouldn’t place the brush out until April 22.

• Will pay DTE Energy $18,103 to convert village streetlights to light-emitting diode (LED) lamps.

• Authorized the enforcement of the retail ordinance by the blight officer.

• Asked clerk Cristi Smith to gather more information on a Center Street resident’s request to hook up to the storm sewer.

• Approved the purchase of six lightweight plastic tables.

• Will apply for Michigan Department of Transportation Category B funding.

At Monday’s meeting the Fairgrove Village Council learned that it has yet to formulate an updated hazard mitigation plan and submit it to Tuscola County.
Hills & Dales General Hospital adds wound care to their outpatient services to reduce healing time

CASS CITY — Hills & Dales Wound Care Center is an all-encompassing, full-service outpatient facility providing advanced wound care services with a variety of non-healing wounds.

Hills & Dales Wound Care Center is an all-encompassing, full-service outpatient facility providing advanced wound care services with a variety of non-healing wounds. Patients with any of the following conditions may benefit from advanced wound care services:

- Diabetic foot ulcers
- Venous wounds
- Pressure ulcers
- Neuro-vascular wounds
- Arterial ischemic ulcers
- Traumatic wounds
- Infected wounds
- Crush injuries
- Compromised flaps or grafts

At Hills & Dales Wound Care Center, the approach to wound care is comprehensive, coordinating traditional and advanced therapies and techniques that are proven to reduce healing time and improve healing rates. This is because non-healing wounds rarely result from a single cause, workers begin with a thorough evaluation and diagnostic testing to determine the underlying cause of the wound. A treatment plan is then developed to give patients the best chance for healing. Treatment modalities are covered by Medicare, Medicaid, HMOs and other private insurance. Depending on the type of wound, the treatment plan may include:

- Debridement
- Repositioning of healing tissue
- Offload
- Compression therapy
- Wound debridement
- Skin graft or flap

The center’s clinical team has been built to address the needs of all different wound types and keeps its referring physician partners informed of their patients’ progress with regular updates. Patients are encouraged to keep regular appointments with their referring physician while they are undergoing treatment at Hills & Dales Wound Care Center.

Physicians may refer their patients by calling the center at 989-912-6510. Associates are available to address referring physicians’ needs and assist in coordinating patient appointments. The center is located at 6190 Hospital Drive, Suite 107.

New Light Consultants is a small rural counseling center that treats a wide variety of maladies. You will have the chance to use your knowledge and counseling skills to provide both individual and group therapy to consumers and their families. We are an evidence-based and operation favoring motivational interviewing as treatment modality. You will be part of a fun loving and well-rounded team. Along with this full-time, salaried position we offer full medical and dental benefits, flexible work schedule, and a generous vacation package.

Company Description: New Light Consultants is the premiere provider of community health services in the Thumb of Michigan. We are committed to helping individuals with mild to moderate mental illnesses and substance abuse disorders. Our staff is committed to the highest standard of care that is demanded and we are always looking for the best in our industry to add to our team.

To apply, contact HR Manager Jeff Baxter at 989-663-7079 or via email JBaxter@nlcfi.net.
CARO — Another youth basketball season is in the books.

For nearly 40 years, the Caro Lions Club has organized and sponsored youth basketball games in Caro. The youth league recently wrapped up its 38th year of teaching the finer points of dribbling, passing and shooting.

With the motto of “Everybody plays,” about 170 boys and girls in the first through sixth grades participated this year. Each year, games are held on Saturday mornings and afternoons at Caro High School and Caro Middle School.

“It’s a two-month program, and it’s 100 percent funded by the Lions Club,” said Tony Sczygiel, Caro Lions Club member and owner of TLS Enterprises.

In the Caro Community Schools, seventh- and eighth-graders play for the middle schools. All younger school-aged children learn the game from Lions Club league volunteer coaches.

“This program would not be possible without volunteers and community support,” Sczygiel said. “Our coaches now have a board which means a business and conducts business on the coaching level. Most of the coaches were once players themselves.”

In addition to games and tournaments, players get instruction from Caro varsity basketball players and coaches within the district’s athletic program at special clinics. Sczygiel credited Dan Bills and Nick Berry for helping youngsters develop their game.

“Our youth can carry the sportsmanship and courtesy they experience through Lions basketball with them throughout their school careers and beyond,” Sczygiel said.

The youth teams don’t just play intramural hoops, but travel locally to play against other schools — in Cass City and Reese, for example — and host teams from other school districts.

At the end of the year, the Lions Club treated its coaches to an appreciation dinner. And the final day of basketball was a “fan” day, which ended with a pizza party courtesy of Caro Pizza Hut.

Youth basketball is not the only way the Lions Club helps the Caro community. “The Lions also help the disadvantaged with eyeglasses, hearing aids and diabetic needs as well as many other programs,” Sczygiel said.

“The Leader Dog Program has merged with Paws For A Cause helping to provide the blind and disabled with service dogs. The Lions Club even gives to (Great Start Tuscola) Imagination Library, a program which delivers free monthly books to children (5 and younger).”

The Caro Lions Club became a chartered member of Lions Club International in 1943. A popular presence annually at the Tuscola County Fair, the Lions Club pavilion raises money for its various programs throughout the year, he said. “We work in conjunction with our state-level Lions to try to meet the needs of those in our community. These are just a few of our contributions. None of this would be possible without the generous support of our caring community.”

The Caro Lions Club meets at 7 p.m. twice a month — the first and third Tuesdays of each month, at Caro’s Brentwood Restaurant and Lounge. Once the weather warms, the meetings will occur at the Lions Club pavilion at the Tuscola County Fairgrounds.

The Caro Lions Club youth basketball league just wrapped up its 38th season. This year, more than 170 first- through sixth-graders participated in the league.
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AZBA appeals to state Supreme Court on turbine permits

By John Schneider

AZBA appeals to state Supreme Court on turbine permits

CARO — The Tuscola County Airport Zoning Board of Appeals (AZBA) met March 29 to discuss options regarding multiple lawsuits concerning the Pegasus Wind Project.

After convening in a closed session with Laura Genovich, attorney for Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith P.C., which has been hired by the AZBA, the board returned to a public forum to make decisions.

The AZBA consists of five members – chairman Keith Kosik, vice chairman Tim Collins, attorney for Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith P.C., which has been hired by the AZBA, the board returned to a public forum to make decisions.

The AZBA consists of five members – chairman Keith Kosik, vice chairman Tim Collins, secretary William Campbell, Paul Hoose and Donald Clinesmith. As has happened at all AZBA meetings concerning the Pegasus project, Kosik excused himself at the beginning of the meeting due to a possible conflict of interest.

The AZBA voted 3-1 – with CampbellISSAING the dissenting vote – to approve variance certificates for 33 of the 60 wind turbines associated with the project, which is based in Ingham, Eaton and Genesee counties.

On March 16, Tuscola County Circuit Judge Amy Grace Gierhart ordered the AZBA to sign off on the variances, and to not attach any conditions to them.

The second vote on March 29 was on whether or not to appeal Gierhart’s decision on the 33 turbines to the Michigan Court of Appeals. The appeals court had already decided on the issue once by sending it back to Gierhart to reaffirm her original decision.

Hoose made the motion to not appeal the circuit court decision. The AZBA was split, with Campbell and Kinney voting to appeal the decision, and Hoose and Clinesmith voting against it. At least three members must vote yes for a proposal to pass.

The third vote involved the decision on variance approval for eight separate turbines associated with Pegasus.

All 41 turbines involved in litigation are close enough to Tuscola Area Airport – 1750 Spiers Road in Indianfields Township, just west of Caro – that variance approval is needed in order for the turbines to be constructed.

A total of 52 of the 60 turbines associated with the wind project – including the 33 involved in litigation – have been erected. The only turbines not yet standing are the eight involved in separate litigation.

Like the case involving the 33 turbines, the one involving the eight has passed through Tuscola County Circuit Court and the Michigan Court of Appeals, which overturned a decision made by Gierhart. In the case involving the eight, the AZBA had denied variance approval for the turbines. Pegasus sued, and Gierhart sided with the AZBA.

But Pegasus appealed to the Michigan Court of Appeals, and won. At its March 29 meeting, the AZBA voted 4-to-0 to appeal the Court of Appeals decision with the Michigan Supreme Court.

The fourth and final decision made by the AZBA March 29 was connected to tall-structure permits for all Pegasus turbines – permits that were granted by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

The decision to approve the permits was appealed in Ingham County Circuit Court by the AZBA and Tuscola Area Airport Authority. The circuit court judge ruled that the AZBA and airport authority did not have standing to pursue the case. The two entities appealed the ruling to the Michigan Court of Appeals, which sided with the Ingham County judge.

Before the AZBA voted on whether to appeal the Ingham judge’s decision with the Michigan Supreme Court, airport authority representative Jim Tasse – an Almer Township trustee – informed AZBA members that the airport authority plans to appeal the decision.

The AZBA voted 4-to-0 to appeal the Court of Appeals decision involving the MDOT tall-structure permits with the Michigan Supreme Court.

PROJECT HISTORY

Pegasus is owned by NRG Energy, which operates three other wind farms in the Thumb and mid-Michigan regions. In November 2017, NextEra announced plans for Pegasus, which at the time called for 57 turbines in Juniata and Fairgrove townships. Fairgrove Township officials granted a special land use permit (SLUP) for the project, but the approval of the SLUP by Juniata Township was controversial.

The project’s plans did not comply with standards of the Juniata Township wind ordinance. In January 2018, the township’s Planning Commission voted unanimously to approve the SLUP, despite NextEra studies showing that the project did not comply with the wind ordinance sections regarding noise level, shadow flicker and setback area, among other discrepancies.

SEE AZBA | A11
AZBA appeals to state Supreme Court on turbine permits

FROM AL

The Januta Township Board of Trustees underwent an overhaul after a recall election resulted in a change of three members. The new board then replaced most planning commission members and ultimately revoked the Januta Township SLUP. Pegasus challenged the decision in Tuscola County Circuit Court and won. Pegasus has been up and running for nearly two years.

HISTORY OF THE 33

In July 2019, the AZBA voted unanimously to deny variance certificates for 33 turbines associated with Pegasus, due to their height and proximity to the Tuscola Area Airport. Pegasus sued and in November 2019, Gierhart overturned the AZBA variance denial. Pegasus named both the AZBA and Tuscola County in its appeal. In December 2019, county commissioners voted not to pursue Gierhart's decision with the Michigan Court of Appeals, but the AZBA decided to contest the ruling, using donated funds from the Friends of the Tuscola Area Airport Inc.

In February 2020, the Court of Appeals sides with Gierhart and the AZBA is ordered to issue 33 variance certificates. The following month, the AZBA voted to issue the certificates, but attached 10 conditions to them. Pegasus sued again, arguing that the Court of Appeals ordered the signing of the variances with no conditions.

Gierhart sided with Pegasus and ordered the certificates to be signed as is. Days later, the AZBA appealed Gierhart's decision, for a second time, with the Court of Appeals.

In May 2021, the Court of Appeals overturned Gierhart's ruling and handed the case back to Tuscola County Circuit Court, ordering Gierhart to rule on each of the 30 conditions individually.

On March 18, Gierhart issued a written decision, ruling that six of the conditions are not reasonable or necessary, two aren’t reasonable and two aren’t necessary. At the March 29 AZBA meeting, members expressed concern at being forced to sign off on the variance certificates. "They brought the hammer down on us and judge said if we don’t sign them, we’ll be in contempt of court and go to jail," Kinney said. "And some of us are too old to go to jail." Campbell was visibly upset at the most recent ruling. "I’ve been on this Earth for 85 years now, and I’ve never seen such a miscarriage of justice or misuse of power as what we’ve seen here," he said. "We volunteered for this. We came here. We made a decision which we felt was the right decision and we’re in a position where we could go to jail for it because one or two people disagree with us. Four board members are here in unison in our thinking and we’re being forced to make a decision that none of us support." Kinney said another appeal of the circuit court’s decision on the 33 turbines would likely be in vain.

"I think we put in our best effort and did a good job," he said. "If we appeal, chances of success are quite low." But Campbell said the AZBA should appeal, even if there is only a slight chance of winning. "There is the possibility we could prevail – not much – but there is the possibility if we chose to appeal," Campbell said. "And I think we owe it to the public and the people who have supported us and the airport to at least give it a shot." Cameron, who attended the March 29 meeting at the Purdy Building in Caro virtually, said the case involving variance certificates is now closed. Kinney signed the certificates at the Tuscola County Clerk’s Office.

HISTORY OF THE EIGHT

At a January 2020 AZBA meeting, NextEra announced it had scrapped plans for the turbines closest to the airport and established new sites for eight turbines. The AZBA voted to deny variance certificates for those turbines. Pegasus appealed the decision in Tuscola County Circuit Court, but this time did not name the AZBA as a defendant – only Tuscola County. This is likely due to the county deciding to not pursue further litigation in the case involving the 33 turbines. The AZBA filed an injunction to be included in the Pegasus complaint, and Gierhart allowed it.

Gierhart this time sided with the AZBA, and Pegasus subsequently appealed to the Michigan Court of Appeals. In a Feb. 25 decision, the Court of Appeals voted 2-1 to overturn Gierhart's ruling and sent the case back to Tuscola County Circuit Court.

While the case is still pending in Tuscola County, the AZBA voted March 29 to appeal the Court of Appeals decision with the Michigan Supreme Court.

HISTORY OF THE MDOT SCAT

The AZBA and Tuscola Area Airport Authority filed an appeal in Ingham County Circuit Court to challenge MDOT’s issuance of tall-structure permits for Pegasus turbines, but the judge there refused to hear the entities, saying they lacked standing to appeal. In October, attorneys for the AZBA and airport authority filed a brief with the Michigan Court of Appeals explaining why the court should hear its appeal of the April 2021 decision by an Ingham County judge to not hear testimony from the two entities regarding the MDOT decision.

The Court of Appeals sided with the Ingham County judge, reinstating that the AZBA and airport authority did not have the right to interfere with MDOT rulings. An appeal will be filed with the Michigan Supreme Court following the AZBA’s March 29 decision.
Final flight: Senior Reese Rockets lead all-Advertiser hoops team

By Scott Bolsby | Sports Editor
sports@tcadvertiser.com

The Advertiser area featured some of the toughest competition in the Thumb region this year and that included Reese, which hung around the top of the Associated Press Division 2 rankings for most of the year.

The Rockets landed two members on the first-team all-Advertiser squad after compiling an 18-3 overall record and 12-0 slate in the Greater Thumb Conference West Division.

The main catalyst for Reese was senior guard Markey Troublefield, who led the team in minutes per game with 31.8 per contest. He also added 14.0 points, 5.7 rebounds and 2.7 assists per game.

The final two members of the first team all-Advertiser list. Rau averaged 14 points and 7.5 rebounds per game.

The team-high in steals (2.7 per game) and 2.5 rebounds per contest. He also added 3.1 per game.

The Eagles closed out their season with a 15-7 overall mark and 11-3 in the Tri-Valley Conference 8. Frankenmuth suffered two of its league losses during the regular season to eventual Division 2 state semifinalist Freeland.

Frankenmuth was knocked out of the postseason in a 49-29 loss to Saginaw Catholic Central in the district championship game.

Brenner, the club’s junior captain, led the team in minutes per game with 32.6, while registering 7.8 points and 2.6 rebounds per contest.

First team-highs in steals (2.7 per game) and assists (3.1 per game).

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The main catalyst for Reese was senior guard Markey Troublefield, who led the squad with 19.7 points per game, among the best in the Thumb region and tops in the Advertiser area.

An all-GTW first-teamer, Troublefield added 3.3 assists and three steals per game.

Troublefield started the season out with a bang, dropping 32 points against Bridgeport in a 69-37 opening-night win.

The 6-foot-4 Jacob Rau, a senior, also represents Reese on the first-team all-Advertiser list. Rau averaged 14 points and 7.5 rebounds per game.

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Division 3 honorable-mention all-state; shot 40.9 percent from beyond the 3-point arc; hit 58.2 percent inside the arc.

PLAYER: Carter Patrick
SCHOOL: Cass City
GRADE: Sophomore
POSITION: Guard
HIGHLIGHTS: First-team all-GTW; Division 3 honorable-mention all-state; led team with 17.6 points per game; pulled down 5.7 rebounds, dished out 2.7 assists and swiped 2.6 steals per game; scored a season-high 28 points against Sandusky.

COACH JOSH PICKELL: “He is a big-time shotmaker. He added 3-point shooting this year ... and also improved his defense.”

PLAYER: Grant Roberson
SCHOOL: Marlette
GRADE: Senior
POSITION: Forward
HIGHLIGHTS: First-team all-GTW; Division 3 honorable-mention all-state; averaged 15.3 points, 8.5 rebounds, 1.2 assists and 1.6 steals per game; recorded a season-high 26 points against Memphis; scored 14 of Marlette’s 30 points in regional final against Beecher.

COACH CHRIS STORM: “Grant was steady for us all season. He led the team in rebounds and played the bulk of his minutes in the paint, but he certainly had the ability to give teams trouble from the perimeter. He has been a solid student-athlete for us.”

TUSCOSA COUNTY
Kingston boys, girls sweep competition at Mayville meet

BY SCOTT BOLSBY | Sports Editor

MAYVILLE — The Kingston boys’ and girls’ track and field teams took first place here at Thursday’s North Central Thumb League Quad No. 1 meet.

The girls’ squad tallied 85 points to defeat Mayville (55), Edenby (52), Genesee (26) and Akron-Fairgrove (12).

The boys’ squad took the top spot with a score of 92, vanquishing Akron-Fairgrove (46), Edenby (44), Mayville (39) and Genesee (16).

In boys’ competition, Kingston’s Owen Corlis won the 400-dash in 50.0 seconds; Ethan Harrington took the 200-dash in 23.4 and 3,200-run (11 minutes, 15.4 seconds) and 110 hurdles (2.0). Kingston’s 400-relay team of Harrington, Corlis, Nick St. George and James Wilson (50.0) also took first. Kingston’s Jacob Rayz won the shot put with a toss of 55 feet, 4 inches and Kaden Bruce won the high jump by clearing 5-4.

Nathan Crane III’11 won the 400-dash (1:00.6) for the victorious Cardinals and was a member of the 1,600-relay (4:17.2) and 800-run (1:24.7) as well.

In girls’ competition, Kingston’s Isabel Hurd won the 100 and 200-dash with times of 13.4 and 29.1, respectively, while also running on the first-place 400-relay (55.4) team with Brooklyn Walker, Faith Boyl and Delaney St. George.

The Cardinals claimed the 3,200 relay (10:02) via Ashlyn Walker, Brooklyn Walker, Meeghan Flikkie and Gracy Delaney.

In girls’ competition, Kingston’s Faith Boyl claimed first in the 100 hurdles (14.5) and Emma Strong won the pole vault with a leap of 14 feet, 9 inches. Kingston’s Ethan Hurd won the javelin with a throw of 146 feet, 8 inches.

The girls’ team finished second with 70 points, followed by Mayville (54), Edenby (50) and Genesee (46). In boys’ competition, Kingston was the runner-up with 73 points, followed by Mayville (72), Edenby (55) and Genesee (46).

In girls’ competition, Kingston’s Rachel Boon claimed first in the pole vault with a jump of 7 feet, 10 inches.

In boys’ competition, Kingston’s Braxton Strong won the long jump with a leap of 18-5.

LeMonte Davis, Vassar, senior
Leesi Fees, Reese, senior
Gummie Guild, Akron-Fairgrove, sophomore
Collins Miller, Marlette, senior
Carter Geister, Kingston, senior

HONORABLE MENTION

Akron-Fairgrove: Isaac Squires, Wilyett Erondu, Ethan Volkert; Cara: Mark Phillips, Ashton Savage; Cass City: Riley Swiderski, Frankie Smith; Nute Jackson, Kingston: Ethan Harrington; Mayville: Mason Halsne, Nathan Crane III; Marlette: Travis Fuller, Tristan Creighton, Millington: Raul Coleman, Nic Yorke, Kaden Wensbach; North Branch: Will Damuska, Gabe Bako; Reese: Tanner Trethub, Jesse Stricker, Wesley Robinson, Unionville-Sebewaing Area: Ethan Leden, Cameron Schland; Vassar: Manuel Mendham, Marquavis Crist, Ryan Massantu.
1. HUMAN ANATOMY: How many miles of blood vessels does the average human have?

2. GEOGRAPHY: What degree is assigned to the International Date Line?

3. MOVIES: Which Looney Tunes character's catchphrase is “You’re despicable”?

4. ADVERTISING: What was the name of the grocery owner in the Charmin bath tissue ads of the 1960s-80s?

5. U.S. STATES: What is the only state to have one syllable in its name?

6. CHEMISTRY: What is the only letter that doesn't appear in the periodic table?

7. MYTHOLOGY: How many gods and goddesses were said to live on Mount Olympus?

8. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president was the last to serve without a college degree?

9. LITERATURE: Celie is a character in which 1982 novel?

10. TELEVISION: Which musical TV drama takes place at William McKinley High School?
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810-922-0591.
EASTER EGG HUNT: Lytle South Baptist Church and the 25 Industrial Blvd. Abilene is having a Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 16 at 11 a.m. It is free. We will have Sassy the Clown, Snow Cone, & Lots of EASTER EGGS.

FOOD OUTREACH: hosted by Spring of Life Community Church in Mayville the third Saturday of each month. Free procession will be available to all who attend. A free dinner will also be available. For more information, call 989-943-0194.

FREE COMMUNITY LUNCH – last Saturday of every month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in fellowship hall at First United Methodist Church, Marlette. Menu includes soups, salads, sandwiches and deserts. The hall is accessible.

FRIENDS OF MUSIC SERIES: April 22nd noon Erik Gibelyou, classical pianist. Erik Gibelyou is a lifetime resident of Tuscola County. Erik will perform a variety of music styles and eras. $12 adults. Children, $5. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch starts at 11:45 a.m.

GOOD SAMARITANS FOOD PANTRY – meets on the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of each month at the Masonic Hall, 156 N State St., Caro. 989-673-2676.

CARO LIONS CLUB: meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m. at the Remington. Membership applications are available. Call 989-673-5588 for more information.

THUMB COMMUNITY CONCERT CHOIR: Spring concert. Jay on the House under the direction of Dr. Phillip Burkett & Thaddeus Barlow. The choir will perform on April 8th at 7 p.m. Sunday April 10th at 2 p.m. at USA High School Auditorium. Free entrance.

TOPS MI 0221 CHAPTEER: meets Thursdays at 4 p.m. at Bayshore Beauty Academy. Call Joann at 989-551-6361 for more information.

TOPS CLUB 1222 VASSAR: meets Wednesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. at 107 Lane St. Weigh in from 6-9 a.m., meetings start at 9-10 a.m. For more information, contact Shirley at 989-823-8067 or Diana at 989-627-1462.

TOPS CLUB 1627: (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets Monday nights from 9-11 a.m. atifi in Endeavor Center, AKA Senior Commons, 1601 W. Gilford Road in Vassar. For more information, call Susie at 989-551-8438.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP: meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month. 10 – 11:30 a.m. Human Development and Development Center 429 Montague Ave. in Vassar For more information, contact Susie at 989-551-8438.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP – Second Monday of each month 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Ballard-Sanford Memorial Library 520 W. Huron Avenue in Vassar For more information, contact Susie at 989-551-8438.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP – 4th Monday of each month 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Ballard-Sanford Memorial Library 520 W. Huron Avenue in Vassar For more information, contact Susie at 989-551-8438.

COST WILL BE CHARGED A MINIMAL FEE FOR THEIR LISTING.
Ohio’s Hocking Hills is a hikers’ and nature lovers’ paradise

Tom Lounsbury is standing on a stone bridge crossing a deep gorge with rushing water far below, and photographing the amazing Hocking Hills’ landscape.

One of the many waterfalls along a hiking trail in the Hocking Hills.

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The sooner the better, folks!

Tom Lounsbury
Michigan Outdoors with Tom Lounsbury

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Photo by Tom Lounsbury | The Advertiser

Photo by Ginny Lounsbury | The Advertiser

Ohio’s Hocking Hills is a hikers’ and nature lovers’ paradise

The first thing you discover there, is that most everything is either up or down, basically at a 45-degree angle. The main mode of off-road travel is by “shank’s mare.” The winding roads also feature a bunch of switchbacks, too. However, I found that once on top of a mountain, it usually features a rolling terrain which was a bit easier to navigate – until you have to negotiate one of the many steep gullies, which in that part of the country are an almost constant element.

Also learned to avoid some often large, very thorny clumps of greenbrier, which has extensive vines that remind me of the middle ground. And we discovered what this amazing area has to offer.

Thanks to a glacier carving out matters even in this region, it offers some amazing geological features, not to mention an outstanding diversity of fauna and flora. We had a list of features to check out, with the first being “Ash Cave,” which is enormous and attained its name from the ashes left by numerous campers going to way back when – not only for Native Americans, but from early pioneers as well. It was a great place to camp.

Names had been chiseled in the sandstone walls by more recent visitors, along with the dates, and I noticed some being near the mid-19th century. Thankfully, chiseling is not an issue but there is no longer evidence of ashes. We next hiked to “Old Man Cave,” named – according to legend – for a trapper who lived there during the late 18th century. The following day, we visited our “Conkles Hollow,” which entailed a very picturesque landscape, only accessed by well-maintained hiking trails.

Many trails were paved, and they led through a very diverse woods setting with numerous waterfalls in plentiful supply, dropping down from craggy rock formations towering high above. Walking countless rushing mountain streams.

During our visit, icicles were often associated with the waterfalls, certainly accenting matters.

Yep, folks, the only way you can truly enjoy this region, is by “shank’s mare,” which requires sensible, and well-broken in footwear.

It is not the place or time to break in new shoes or boots. In this region, including kids, were often barefoot, with the “running” shoes, and when those were quite prevalent, although there were also plenty of genuine hiking boots. Sandals would not fit my big feet.

I was in the middle ground by wearing my waterproof leather sandals that are just high enough to offer ample ankle support, yet sit light and quite comfortable, and can be readily purchased in a wide enough size to fit my feet.

Having a hiking/walking stick is always a good idea, as it helps take the weight off your feet, and is handy for maintaining balance and easing steps on the large rocks, or down steep grades.

What I used for this adventure was a pair of "trekking poles," which worked marvelously for me. When you have such "mough mileage" as me, you need all the help you can get!

A great place to check out is the Visitor’s Center at the Hocking Hills State Park, where maps and recommendations are available. Besides a campground, very nice cabins sit on the well-tended parking but it usually pays to reserve these well in advance. We found Airbnb has plenty of offerings, and in all different sizes to accommodate small or large groups. We were plenty comfortable during our five day stay, and easing tired muscles in a hot tub on an open deck, after dark, while listening to great horned owls hooting in the fellow below, offers quite a bit of ambiance.

We didn’t hardly scratch the surface of what the Hocking Hills area has to offer, and I’m sure looking forward to another visit.

The sooner the better, folks!
Anglers are reminded to report marked and tagged fish they may encounter while fishing. Fisheries managers are continuously monitoring fish populations using clipped and marked fish. Reports can be made by filling out our Eyes in the Field form.

**SOUTHEAST LOWER PENINSULA**

**LAKE ERIE/DETROIT RIVER:** The walleye fishing on both the Detroit River and Lake Erie were slowly improving. Over the past week the water was muddy in Brant Bay, so anglers launching from Sterling State Park were heading out of the bay and north to find clearer water. Anglers were having the best success while trolling Baits or deep diving Rapalas. Anglers were also finding fish out of Bolles Harbor; they were trolling but also had success with jigging or using blade baits. Anglers were having fair success while jigging in the Detroit River, with similar reports coming from the upper mid and lower river. Water temperatures were in the high thirties or just below, but making fairly deep presentations with a slow presentation was preferred. Although fishing can be inconsistent in early spring, this tactic seemed to catch the best of the action.

**TEN LEVEL RIVER:** Anglers were starting to catch a few walleye while using jigs tipped with live minnows. Both bay and shore anglers were catching several coho salmon so this area remains a good bet for walleye.

**SAGINAW BAY:** Anglers were targeting yellow perch in the Qualicum to Sebewa area cuts and rivers. Most perch that were caught were small in size with a few large enough to keep. Fishing had been mostly slow. Anglers were using Tsuie in the Caseville area looking for perch with similar results. Some perch were caught, but mostly small ones to sort through. The pier in Caseville produced some lake trout with anglers using Tsuie and live minnows. Walleye were caught at L Meador in 9 feet of water while trolling crankbaits and at Bay City State Park in 15 feet while trolling crankbaits. Anglers were catching yellow perch at Finn Road while shore fishing with live minnows.

**LEONINGTON:** Coho salmon were showing up along the beach in 5 to 15 feet of water. Long lines with shallow spoons or baits like Thin Fins and Rapalas were producing a few Coho.

**ST. JOSEPH:** Boat anglers were catching good numbers of coho. Most of the fishing pressure was south of the pier. Boat anglers were having success in 18 to 30 feet of water. Most fish were caught while trolling crankbaits. Catches were mainly coho with an occasional brown trout or coho. Pier anglers were also catching a few coho. Almost all fish were caught on spoons.

**SOUTH BAY:** Boat anglers were targeting yellow perch near the south pier. Anglers were catching lake trout in 60 to 70 feet of water while targeting salmon. Pier anglers had slow fishing action for salmon. Angler pressure was high but very few fish were caught.

**MUSKIEGON:** Pier anglers were catching a few steelhead and brown trout on spoons. Boats were finding a few lake trout while trolling the shoreline on body baits.

**GRAND HAVEN:** Pier anglers were catching a few lake trout and coho whitefish on spin. The yellow perch action was slow for both anglers.

**TAWAS:** There were a couple brown trout caught in 10 to 15 feet of Husky Bays. A few walleye were caught out in 20 to 30 feet of body baits near Alabaster and Whitepoint Point. Fishing was slow all week in the Tawas River. A couple lake trout were caught off the pier while casting Tsuie.

**EAST BRANCH** Au Gres at Singing Bridge Access: The water was muddy and fishing had been slow.

**FIREN RIVER:** There were some perch caught off minnows in the open water inside Eastern Bay Marina.

**ALPENA:** The main launch site was still ice up and all around the marinas. The river access site on Fletcher Street was open and the dock was in. Anglers reported catching some Atlantic salmon and brown trout while using minnows.

**THUNDER BAY RIVER:** The river was high and muddy with two chutes open at the 9th Street Dam. Anglers targeting steelhead were drifting with artificial baits imitating fish eggs. A few were also using spawn but had no success.

**NORTHWEST LOWER PENINSULA**

**ONEKAMA:** There was still ice build-up on both piers which restricted anglers from venturing all the way out. Anglers were reporting slow activity.

**PORTAGE LAKE:** Ice covered about 80% of the lake with no access from the city launch. The DNR launch was free of ice and there was access.

**MUSKEGON:** Anglers trolling for brown trout caught a few near the harbor and along the coastline north and south of town. A couple lake trout and coho were brought in as well. Pier anglers caught a pair of trout and salmon including a couple steelhead and whitefish, but the bite was slow at times.

**LITTLE BAY DE NOC:** Perch anglers reported mixed success. Most anglers were fishing across from Kipling in depths of 40 to 45 feet of water. Some anglers were also catching perch in shallower waters near the Kipling launch and by the Days River. Anglers reported more success while using wigglers, but some perch were caught on minnows as well.

**KEWEENAW BAY/HURON BAY:** Anglers were catching some lake trout as well as whitefish and some coho salmon in shallow waters. Most fishing pressure was concentrated around the river mouths and anglers reported that steelhead were in the river. On the 13th, most anglers had success catching lake trout and coho dominantly with some as far as 8 feet. While the deep-water anglers persist, less and less pressure was being applied to those systems. Reports off the ice were starting to increase in smelt and whitefish schooling in these shallower depths as well. Most fish were caught on jigs and lures tipped with natural baits however some found success with un-baited lures. Fish seem to be moving in near rivers so anglers should try shallower depths where the fish may be staying.

**SOUTH PORTAGE ENTRY/BIG TRAVERSE BAY:** Water was open north of the Portage entry canal with some ports still locked by snow piles and docks. Open water fishing was possible north of the canal with proper access.

**MUNISING BAY:** Angling pressure continued to be low. A few pressure cracks showed up near the channels and close to Grand Island. Fishing success had been sporadic. One day anglers were catching limits of brown trout while another day they were catching nothing. Catches were comprised mainly of coho with a few speckled. Majority of anglers reported zero to two coho. A few barbel with some catches of smelt were reported off Sand Point.

**HESSEL BAY:** Anglers were having success fishing perch for Hessel Bay. Anglers were sorting through a ton of small perch to get their keepers. There were two 13-inch perch caught this past week. Anglers were also recently reporting catches of speckled. There were a number of small recently seen and caught within the bay. Smelt were caught on worms while targeting perch and speckle were caught on live minnows.

**TWO HEARTED RIVER:** Fishing picked up nicely over the past couple of weeks. Many anglers were seeing limits of steelhead. The area was still snow covered and roads were impassable requiring snowmobiles to reach the river. Most of the fishing pressure was limited to the lower reaches of the river and immediate to the river mouth. Anglers were using spoons and single beads. Snowpack remains in this area in Luce County until warmer temperatures and rain comes in.

**FREE PRESCHOOL, KINDERGARTEN, YOUNG 5’s ROUNDPUP**

**Wednesday, April 13th, 2022**

**By Appointment**

- All students who will be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2022 are eligible for kindergarten.
- All students who will be 5 years old on or before October 1, 2022 are eligible for Young 5’s
- Students who will be 4 years old on or before December 1, 2021, are eligible for preschool screening. Those accepted in preschool must meet income eligibility requirements. All ages 3 and 4 years can apply for possible programming.

**What to bring:**
- Birth Certificate
- 2021 Tax Return
- Driver’s License

**Contact:**
- Heather LaBerge or Natalie Hoffman
- 989-673-3169, Ext. 4001

**Registration:**
- McComb Elementary Gym
- Wednesday, April 13th, 6:30 P.M.

**YOUNG 5’s ROUNDUP**

**Saturday, April 9, 2022,**

**The Advertiser**

**What to bring:**
- Birth Certificate
- 2021 Tax Return
- Driver’s License

**Contact:**
- Lauren Henry
- 989-673-3169, Ext. 4098

**Registration:**
- McComb Elementary Gym
- Wednesday, April 13th, 6:30 P.M.

**WHAT TO BRING:**

- Birth Certificate
- 2021 Tax Return
- Driver’s License

**Contact:**
- May 23-26 by Appointment

**Kindergarten Clinic:**

**Mid-Michigan Coin & Jewely**

**Contact:**
- 989-673-3169, Ext. 4001

**Registration:**
- McComb Elementary Gym
- Wednesday, April 13th, 6:30 P.M.
6:30 p.m. in the Council meeting of the City called the regular FEBRUARY 21, 2022.

Enforcement Officer & Chief, Randy Heckroth – Treasurer, Brian Newcomb – Chief Brian Newcomb

Others: Matthew Eschenbacher, Emily Campbell, Don Hall, Tedra Jones-Holmes, and Jil White. Absent: None.

Motion by Batschke, seconded by Batschke to approve the agenda with the addition of: A. Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting and 2nd May 3rd

MOTION – Council recessed at 6:40 p.m. for aAdjournment

Meeting is tomorrow, April 18, 2022, 7:00 a.m. at the Tuscola County Prosecutor’s office for the City of Caro audit. Preparing for April 9th Easter egg hunt.

2. Parks and Recreation Committee – Attended meeting.

3. Manager put in a letter to Parks & Recreation Committee. Approved to recommend the Parks and Recreation Committee and appoint Jeff Martin to Parks and Recreation Committee.

4. Motion carried.

5. Manager submitted a report. City Manager indicated an audit report was consistent with presentation of newly adopted ethics ordinance in addition to potentially state law for conflict of interest in presented contract with option of removing Alan Holubec as City Manager presented Council with options of removing Alan Holubec and the Tuscola County Prosecutor’s office for recommendation of possible charges.

Motion by Hall, seconded by White to proceed with the recommendations, as explained by the City Manager, to remove Alan Holubec from the Planning Commission.

Motion carried.

Manager indicated an audit report was consistent with presentation of newly adopted ethics ordinance in addition to potentially state law for conflict of interest in presented contract with option of removing Alan Holubec as City Manager presented Council with options of removing Alan Holubec and the Tuscola County Prosecutor’s office for recommendation of possible charges.

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Detroit Tigers reach official 28-man Opening Day roster

By Jason Beck | @Beckjason
MLB.com Tigers Reporter

The Tigers’ Opening Day roster includes several players making their debut for Detroit and two prospects making their Major League debut, as well as two pitchers returning to club after being sent to the Minors earlier this spring.

While the position roster was boosted with upgrades via free agency (Javier Báez), trades (Austin Meadows, Tucker Barnhart) and the farm system (Spencer Torkelson), injuries have hampered the depth in the bullpen over the last couple weeks. Three relievers — Andrew Chafin, Kyle Funkhouser and José Cisnero — will open the season on the injured list, thinning out a relief corps that had been a bright spot by the end of last season.

Teams are able to carry 28 players (29 for doubleheaders), up from 26, from Opening Day through May 1. Additionally, there will be no limit on how many pitchers clubs can carry as part of the expanded 28-man rosters. However, rosters will revert clubs can carry as part of the expanded 28-man rosters. However, rosters will revert...
Tuscola 4-H’ers ride home with awards from state contests

By Scott Bolsby | Sports Editor

EAST LANSING — Five members of the Tuscola County 4-H Club recently competed in the hippology and judging contest at Michigan State University in East Lansing on March 26 and 27. The hippology contest is held annually at MSU and allows youths to demonstrate knowledge of equine science and husbandry in a competitive setting. The contest consists of various phases — written exam, stations, slides, skills and judging. Competitors identify different horse equipment at stations, while contestants view slides and are asked to identify different breeds of horses.

The horse-judging contest provides youth an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of equine conformation and performance. Participants then give an oral explanation after evaluating different horses in an arena. The hippology competition featured Tuscola County 4-H'ers and first-time competitors Hannah Wasik, Madison Findlay, Nowell van Rijn, Ashley Marquardt and Helene van Rijn.

Wasik and Nowell van Rijn are homeschooled while Findlay attends Unionville-Sebewaing Area Schools. Ashley Marquardt and Helene van Rijn both attended Kingston Community Schools. Helene van Rijn earned two first-place showings in the hippology competition with a top award in junior novice judging and junior novice overall. Wasik took home first in senior novice stations.

The junior age group requires participants to be at least 8 years old and not more than 13 on Jan. 1 of the current calendar year. The senior group requires contestants be at least 14 years old and not more than 19 years of age on Jan. 1 of the current calendar.

Wasik racked up second-place finishes in slides, skills, written exam, judging and senior novice overall. Helene van Rijn also earned second-place showings in slides and skills, while Marquardt earned runner-up in judging.

Findlay took third in slides, skills, and written exam, while Nowell van Rijn placed third in stations, judging and overall.

The senior novice team of Wasik, Findlay and Nowell van Rijn took first place overall.

Wasik, Marquardt and the van Rijns competed in the horse-judging competition at the MSU pavilion, and all Tuscola county competitors won awards.

In senior novice reasons, Wasik took first while Nowell was fifth. Wasik also took first in the senior novice overall category, and Nowell van Rijn was fifth.

In junior novice overall, Helene van Rijn took sixth and Marquardt placed eighth.

The two teams were coached by 4-H volunteer Grant Gettel.

“These competitions are a great opportunity for youths of all ages and backgrounds to come together and hone their skills in Equine and build life skills with a positive youth experience,” said Tuscola 4-H program coordinator Katie Cooper.

Three Tuscola 4-H senior novice members competed individually and as a team during the March 26 hippology competition in East Lansing. The team, from left, consists of Madison Findlay, Nowell van Rijn and Hannah Wasik, and took first overall in the senior novice competition.

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