By Tom Gilchrist | News Editor
gilchrist@tcadvertiser.com

THETFORD TWP. — Mike Karas looked across the road at the driveway where police found Jesse W. Loomis dead on Tuesday afternoon — though no suspects are in custody.

“This is close to home; this isn’t Flint, or Detroit, or Chicago,” said Karas, 47, who lives about 200 yards from the location of Loomis’ body, located outside a house along Belway Road south of Willard Road.

“This is weird.”

The 22-year-old Loomis, a former Millington High School student, was found deceased outside the home, according to Michigan State Police. He was living at the home and had been fatality shot, according to officers.

One person, declining to give his name, told The Advertiser he heard gunshots about 6 a.m. Tuesday in the neighborhood of the home in northern Genesee County’s Thetford Township, about one-quarter mile south of the Tuscola County line of Willard Road.

Police investigators collected evidence Tuesday afternoon at the scene, where Loomis was lying on his back — bare-chested and without shoes or socks, wearing pajama pants.

Loomis was found outside the home about eight miles southwest of Millington. The house is owned by Brian Colden, according to the Genesee County treasurer.

Neighbors cautious after Millington-area homicide

TUSCOLA COUNTY

Reality-show star Putman charged with assault

By Tom Gilchrist | News Editor
gilchrist@tcadvertiser.com

CARO — Prosecutors have authorized four criminal charges against William E. Putman II, 61, of Ellington Township, star of the 2017 reality-TV show “Meet the Putmans.”

Putman is scheduled to be arraigned March 3 in Tuscola County District Court on four counts of assaulting another with a weapon, carrying a dangerous weapon, according to a press release from Tuscola County Prosecutor Mark E. Reene.

If convicted of any of the counts, Putman would face a maximum sentence of 93 days in jail and a $500 fine.

“Mr. Putman could not reach Putman for comment by cellphone on Friday. He did not immediately return a text sent to him by an Advertiser reporter. Putman is accused of two counts of assault against Michael Ireland, Dylan’s uncle. The Advertiser could not reach Putman for comment on Ireland’s behalf. Putman is accused of two counts of assault against William E. Putman II, 61, of Ellington Township, star of the 2017 reality-TV show “Meet the Putmans.” Putman is scheduled to be arraigned March 3 in Tuscola County District Court on four counts of assaulting another with a weapon, carrying a dangerous weapon, according to a press release from Tuscola County Prosecutor Mark E. Reene. If convicted of any of the counts, Putman would face a maximum sentence of 93 days in jail and a $500 fine. “Mr. Putman could not reach Putman for comment by cellphone on Friday. He did not immediately return a text sent to him by an Advertiser reporter. Putman is accused of two counts of assault against Michael Ireland, Dylan’s uncle. The Advertiser could not reach Putman for comment on Ireland’s behalf. Putman is accused of two counts of assault against William E. Putman II, 61, of Ellington Township, star of the 2017 reality-TV show “Meet the Putmans.” Putman is scheduled to be arraigned March 3 in Tuscola County District Court on four counts of assaulting another with a weapon, carrying a dangerous weapon, according to a press release from Tuscola County Prosecutor Mark E. Reene. If convicted of any of the counts, Putman would face a maximum sentence of 93 days in jail and a $500 fine. “Mr. Putman could not reach Putman for comment by cellphone on Friday. He did not immediately return a text sent to him by an Advertiser reporter.
Letters to the Editor must be signed and carry the address of the writer. Letters may not be published depending on the content. The Editor reserves the right to edit or refuse any letter submitted.

Letters to the Editor should be: 1) in the local author's handwriting, 2) legible, and 3) of a reasonable length.

To make it easier for the mail carrier, please put the letter in a bag and put it in a mailbox. Letters not typed must be signed with a legible name, address and phone number.

The Advertiser welcomes letters to the editor that comment on and further the public debate on topics of general interest. To submit a letter, please email your letter to Editor@tcadvertiser.com. Letters must be signed and carry a legible name, address and phone number.

Submissions that exceed 200 words are less likely to be considered for publication in the print edition of the Advertiser. We reserve the right to edit for length or clarity. Letters may not be published depending on the content.

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TUSCOLA COUNTY

Trump-endorsed SOS candidate visits Caro

By John Schmieder
jschmieder@tcadvertiser.com

CARO — Last summer, Oak Park resident Kristina Karamo received Donald Trump’s endorsement as Michigan’s 2022 Republican Secretary of State candidate.

On Jan. 27, she arrived in Caro to address Tuscola County Republican Party members. Karamo is one of four Republican candidates to announce they are running for the secretary of state post. The Christian mother of two holds a bachelor’s degree in communications from Oakland University and a master’s degree in Christian apologetics from California’s Biola University.

The winner of the Republican nomination will face off in the November election against incumbent Democrat Jocelyn Benson. Cindy Berry, Beau LeFave and Cathleen Postmus are the other Republican candidates for the position.

During the 2020 presidential election, Karamo volunteered as an election official in Detroit, and her first topic of conversation Thursday was about the fraud she said she witnessed first-hand that day.

“When I hear people say that there is no widespread fraud, I have two responses,” Karamo said. “One, how much fraud is OK? Any amount of crime is unacceptable. My second response is there’s been no meaningful investigation.”

A portion of the U.S. population, largely Republicans, believes Donald Trump – not Joe Biden – was the rightful winner of the 2020 election. Karamo said multiple election-day incidents – that she witnessed – made her believe something wasn’t right.

In another, a ballot in which a voter had volunteers to see what they were doing. “I never saw them do anything,” she said. “I never saw them do anything that day.”

Karamo volunteered as an election worker for the county’s veterans’ affairs office. “We’re looking for precinct delegates to be liaisons to our community,” Putman said of the latter committee. “Committees are best for our community,” Putman said of the latter committee. “Committees are important to any given township in our county.”

Putman also announced several committees, and appointed party members to lead them. Among them were committees dedicated to being involved with the county’s veterans affairs office. “We want them to be liaisons to our house (representatives) to keep tabs on what’s going on with the county’s veterans affairs office. “We want them to be in touch with those offices.” Putman said of the latter committee. “Committees are very important. This is the way Tuscola County should have been for the last 12 years. We wouldn’t have to worry about filling these committees. We need to fill them with awesome candidates and take back our county.”

For more information on the Tuscola County Republican Party, or to inquire about becoming a committee member or precinct delegate, contact Putman at tuscolachair@gmail.com.

Karamo said the issue that launched her into politics was abortion. “Because if we don’t have the right to life, we don’t have anything,” she said. “And I want my children to inherit freedom, and not tyranny.”

Karamo encouraged the audience of about 50 to be active in the Republican Party by signing up to be precinct delegates, mimicking a request from Tuscola County Republican Party Chairman Billy Putman Jr.

At the onset of the meeting, Putman presented a billboard outlining the positions the party would like to fill in the coming months: local government, legislative, county legislative, and school board positions that will be up for election this year, as well as the empty Republican delegate positions in each municipality.

“We’re looking for precinct delegates who will listen to their neighbors’ minds and make Tuscola County the place it should be,” he said.

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TUSCOLA COUNTY

Almer board looks to reward employees

By Mark Haney | Reporter
mahaney@tcadvertiser.com

ALMER TWP. — Before the April 1 start of the next fiscal year, the Almer Township board plans to make a couple of adjustments.

Supervisor Jim Mantey said the board is looking to improve the pay of sexton Doug Towers and solar energy developments. The tower law, Mantey said, offers protections to both the neighbor without a property line and welfare for those in the township. “That kind of development to our township,” Mantey said, “but at the same time it isn’t involved in either of those types of regulations.”

“Also, in addition,” Mantey said, “a group of poll workers huddled together to block others from seeing what they were doing. In another, a ballot in which a voter had mistaken already chosen both the straight-party ballot and a ballot with independent candidates.

“’When I hear people say that there is no widespread fraud, I have two responses,’” Karamo said. “One, how much fraud is OK? Any amount of crime is unacceptable. My second response is there’s been no meaningful investigation.”

“Now how many have had their concerns addressed? Not many. Yeah, you get it. So how do we have our voice heard?”

“Karamo said the issue that launched her into politics was abortion. “Because if we don’t have the right to life, we don’t have anything,” she said. “And I want my children to inherit freedom, and not tyranny.”

Karamo encouraged the audience of about 50 to be active in the Republican Party by signing up to be precinct delegates, mimicking a request from Tuscola County Republican Party Chairman Billy Putman Jr. At the onset of the meeting, Putman presented a billboard outlining the positions the party would like to fill in the coming months: local government, legislative, county legislative, and school board positions that will be up for election this year, as well as the empty Republican delegate positions in each municipality.

“We’re looking for precinct delegates who will listen to their neighbors’ minds and make Tuscola County the place it should be,” he said. Putman also announced several committees, and appointed party members to lead them. Among them were committees dedicated to being involved with the county’s veterans affairs office. “We want them to be liaisons to our house (representatives) to keep tabs on what’s going on with the county’s veterans affairs office. “We want them to be in touch with those offices.” Putman said of the latter committee. “Committees are very important. This is the way Tuscola County should have been for the last 12 years. We wouldn’t have to worry about filling these committees. We need to fill them with awesome candidates and take back our county.”

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Township approves water agreement to present to Caro

The Advertiser couldn’t reach Colden by phone on Thursday. While posts on Colden’s Facebook page were visible on Wednesday, no posts could be viewed Thursday.

Another man living across the road from the homicide scene in response to a 911 call about 12:20 p.m. Tuesday from someone saying a man required medical assistance in a southwest Caro home caused police to respond the same spot since state police probed the homicide scene Tuesday.

Also at its Monday meeting, the Indianfields Township board discussed language that would allow any businesses along M-81 between the city of Caro and Caro Center to tap into the city’s waterline. It will be presented to the Caro City Council at its Monday meeting.

At its Monday meeting, the Indianfields Township board:

■ Discussed previous business such as fire fund and road tax fund renewals (the board decided on a pair of four-year proposals that it will put on the agenda of a future meeting), what to do with the $203,000 in American Recovery Plan Act Funds it will receive and setting a date and time for its annual fire collection day (tentatively it will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on April 23).

■ Adopted a pair of new marijuana ordinances.

■ Decided to pay township officials every two weeks instead of monthly.

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Reality show star Putman charged with assault

FROM A1

Dylan Ireland said the videos were recorded by one of his uncles, and the first one – lasting one minute and 24 seconds – begins with Dylan Ireland face down on the grass.

The video shows Bill Putman atop Ireland, straddling his back and appearing to tie Ireland's wrists behind Ireland.

After Bill Putman appears to have tied Dylan Ireland’s wrists, Putman stands up and confronts another man, twice yelling for the man to “Get the (expletive) off my property!” before shoving the man.

Later in that video, Ireland is seen with his wrists no longer tied together, attempting to stand up when Bill Putman pronounces on him, throwing him to the ground. Ireland, straddling his back and appearing in the grass.

– begins with Dylan Ireland face down on one – lasting one minute and 24 seconds recorded by one of his uncles, and the first – alleged crimes against the

Township.

The attempted murder count is the end result of a dispute that began when Brandon Putman and Ireland’s uncle, Michael Ireland, according to Ireland's mother posted the videos. Bill Putman has alleged the woman is “trying to demean the character of our community, and Christianity, to defend her son.”

A woman indicating she is Dylan Ireland’s mother posted the videos. Bill Putman is being represented by attorney Bernard Jocuns.

Brandon Putman is seen standing a couple yards from Ireland. Billy Putman, another son of Bill Putman – and the chairman of the Tuscola County Republican Party – is seen a few yards from Ireland as well, holding a leash attached to a collar around a German shepherd.

After Bill Putman appears to have tied Dylan Ireland’s wrists, Putman stands up and confronts another man, twice yelling for the man to “Get the (expletive) off my property!” before shoving the man. The video appears to confirm at least part of the alleged threat, though it’s difficult to hear the tail end of Bill Putman’s apparent statement.

Ireland alleged Billy Putman, holding a leash attached to the German shepherd, told him that “If you get up, I’m gonna (foul language) you in the (genitals).”

The video appears to confirm at least part of the alleged threat, though it’s difficult to hear the tail end of Bill Putman’s apparent statement. Ireland said the videos are the end result of a dispute that began when Brandon Putman and Ireland’s uncle, Michael Ireland, according to Ireland's mother posted the videos. Bill Putman has alleged the woman is “trying to demean the character of our community, and Christianity, to defend her son.”

Michael Ireland said “that if you have a problem with us working slow, we did hit a snag that took up a little more time, but we’re running circles around your (Putman Development) employees, and if you have a problem with us being slow, then we’ll just leave your site,” Dylan Ireland said.

Dylan Ireland claims Brandon Putman told Michael Ireland and several other workers to leave the site if they didn’t want to work there, prompting Michael Ireland to grab a pouch of tools and try to lock the building, only to have Brandon Putman yell at him, and Michael Ireland yell back.

A woman indicating she is Dylan Ireland’s mother posted the videos. Bill Putman has alleged the woman is “trying to demean the character of our community, and Christianity, to defend her son.”

“My family is being targeted by the Putmans’ family,” Michael Ireland said. “I’ve got a target on my back. So anytime they come, it’s a target,” Bill Putman said. “We’re a blessed family, God has blessed us, and we’re a target,” Bill Putman said. “I’ve got a target on my back. So anytime anybody can get on over on the Putmans, “Oh, it’s a big deal.”

FROM A2

the sheriff’s office together in late January to file the complaints. Each woman said they were a victim of severe abuse, the detectives said.

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Millington man charged with attempting to kill wife

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Saturday February 19, 2022, The Advertiser — A5

TUSCOLA COUNTY

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$3,500
Extensive cleaning between classes helps Mayville fight COVID

By Mark Haney | Reporter
haney@tcadvertiser.com

MAYVILLE — Mark Markwart thinks the end might be in view, or at least something of a cease fire.

The superintendent of Mayville Community Schools said the latest coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) surge, based on the omicron variant, seems to be simmering down. “Not that we had any major stuff ourselves anyway,” he said. “We’ve been pretty fortunate.”

The district hasn’t had to shut down due to a large number of staff being ill or had to close any school for high numbers of students having tested positive for COVID-19, Markwart said. Nor does he expect that trend to change.

“We see a brighter outcome ahead,” he said, noting the weather is warming and expects that trend to change.

“We really haven’t seen much flu either,” he said. “We got some stuff going through right now — stomach flu and things like that — but not a whole lot.”

Markwart credits steps being taken by parents to keep children home with outdoor activities for everyone.

“This has been an amazing experience and that is one there,” he said, noting the weather is warming and expects that trend to change.

“It cuts down on the chance of getting in trouble before or after school,” Markwart said. “And now that we’ve been doing it for two years there’s no reason to change it because it has worked out well for everybody.”

Senators to host local sessions

By Mark Haney | Reporter
haney@tcadvertiser.com

LANSONG — District 33 state Sen. Kevin Daley is hosting office hours on Feb. 28.

Daley (R-Lum) will be at the Millington village hall, 8569 State St., from 9-10 a.m.; the Bay City city hall, 301 Washington Ave., from 11 a.m. to noon; and at the Deerfield Inn, 5836 N. Laper Road in North Branch, from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Daley will be on hand to answer questions, provide information and assistance, and take suggestions on issues affecting communities and businesses in the district.

For more information, visit senatorkevinndaley.com or call 517-373-1777.
KOYLTON TWP. — Koylton Township plans to sit on the $149,990 it was awarded from the American Rescue Plan Act funds.

The township board decided Feb. 10 to stock its waiting-and-see attitude toward the American Recovery Plan Act funds. The board put the first half of the $149,990 in the bank, and there it stays for the time being.

“Passow about a year ago, the goal of the act is to aid local governments in their recovery from the effects of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, but the act also allows the funds to be used on infrastructure improvements,” Supervisor Doug Kramer said, “so we’re just going to sit on it.”

That thinking hadn’t changed after Kramer and other township officials had a Zoom meeting with David Sernick, the international consulting firm with offices in Detroit and from GuideHouse — the international consulting firm with offices in Detroit and Millington is ‘awesome’

By Mark Haney | Reporter
haney@tcadvertiser.com

MILLINGTON — The village of Millington plans to keep on trucks. Once there are rules, that is.

The village council has begun the process of drawing up an ordinance governing food trucks. That process began Feb. 14 because Sernick’s Beuerhalle, the newly reopened bar on State Street – the former McKatm’s Pub – has been hosting food trucks. And that has challenged village officials.

“I keep having these food truck people call me and say, ‘Hey, do you guys have a permit for that?’” clerk Kaylene Long said. “Well, we don’t but maybe we should probably look at that. We don’t want to discourage it because we think it is awesome.”

The food trucks are welcome in town, Long said, but village officials need to define where the trucks can park and take whatever steps the village needs to take to meet any Michigan Department of Transportation requirements, since the bar co-owned by Ben Allendorfer and Derek Morey sits right on a state highway.

“We have to make sure all of our ducks are in a row there,” she said.

The council also:

■ Annexed a vacant parcel into the township.
■ Set the members’ salaries, keeping the township not rush into any decision.
■ Discussed hiring a school resource officer. Both the village and Millington Community Schools still are working on a job description and other details. Plans to hire an officer had been in the discussion phase for months but the Nov. 30 shooting at Oxford High School, which left four students dead and seven people injured, accelerated the talks.
■ Adjusted the budget. Most of the changes, Long said, were minimal. “Any big ones we already knew about, we had already discussed and they had already been approved through the council.”
■ Decided to buy 12 more Christmas decorations for the street lights.

Koylton Twp. to wait on ARPA funds

By Mark Haney | Reporter
haney@tcadvertiser.com

KOYLTON TWP. — Koylton Township plans to sit tight, at least for the time being.

The township board decided Feb. 10 to stick with its wait-and-see attitude toward the American Recovery Plan Act funds. The board put the first half of the $149,990 in the bank, and there it stays for the time being.

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The board also:

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Grant details delaying school’s police officer

By Mark Haney | Reporter
haney@tcadvertiser.com

MILLINGTON – Don’t expect to see a police officer the next time you visit Millington Community Schools.

The plan to add a school resource officer, first unveiled in January, still is being worked out. The plan is for an everyday officer in the schools – whenever the schools are in session – who also will handle any attendance problems students may be having, before they turn into truancy.

School district officials are working with village of Millington leaders on a job description and fine tuning so that it fits all of the state Department of Education 31a grant criteria. If done correctly, Superintendent Larry Kroswek said, the grant funds could cover the entire cost of that officer. Section 31a of the state School Act provides funding to eligible schools for, among other purposes, attending school regularly.

That means the officer will be limited to working with parents and students who are not doing any administrative-type work. Instead the focus will be on student attendance and a school-parent liaison as well serving as a law enforcement presence on the three-building campus.

“That happens,” Kroswek said. “They are going to work with parents. They are going to work with students. They are not going to design schedules, or anything like that.”

The two sides also discussed a contract and possible costs. Kroswek also told the board the long-term cost of a school resource officer could be covered, at least in some part, if the Legislature continues with plans to target a certain amount of each year’s per-pupil state aid toward funding school security measures.

Talks about a school resource officer began in August, with an eye toward building the cost into both the school district’s and police department’s budgets. But the Nov. 30 shootings at Oxford High School, which left four students dead and seven people injured, accelerated things.

Once the job description and funding issues are resolved, the district and village will be looking for the right person to serve in the role.

“What we really are working on is getting the right person and the right fit for this kind of a position,” Kroswek said.

“You don’t want somebody who is way too young. You don’t want somebody who doesn’t get along with children. All of those different kinds of things. We really want to get somebody who is a good fit for us.

“But we understand they also are the ones who are the rule enforcers for us, if there’s something that happens that crosses that line.”

Cops quickly solve Speedy Q break-in

By Tom Gilchrist | News Editor
gilchrist@tcadvertiser.com

MARLETTE — Police said they’ve taken a juvenile male into custody following this break-in at the Marlette Speedy Q store about 2:10 a.m. Friday. Officers responding to the scene tracked footprints through the snow that led from the store to a residence in Marlette, where they found the stolen goods.

Police say they’ve taken a juvenile male into custody following this break-in at the Marlette Speedy Q store about 2:10 a.m. Friday. Officers responding to the scene tracked footprints through the snow that led from the store to a residence in Marlette, where they found the stolen goods.

The Sanilac County prosecutor’s office authorized a search warrant for the residence in the city of Marlette.

A joint investigation continues between the Sanilac County Sheriff’s Office and the Marlette Police Department.
Caro rallies to hand Reese first league loss

By Scott Bolsby | Sports Editor

**CARO** — The first time the Caro and Reese girls’ basketball teams met on Jan. 20, the Tigers fell 64-35. On Thursday night, Caro avenged that loss with a 54-50 Greater Thumb Conference West Division win at home over Reese.

“Our mindset going in was we had to shut the penetration down from (Aydan) Dalak and (Osaia) Johnson because that’s what hurt us the second half when we played them over in Reese,” Caro coach Jay Riley said.

“The first half tonight they got out to big lead, we rallied and made it manageable.”

Caro trailed 13-8 after the first quarter before a 16-9 second-quarter Reese run, capped by an Andi Reinert buzzer-beater, gave Reese a 29-17 halftime lead.

“I walked into the locker room at half and their heads were still up,” Riley said.

“They still believed, I told them we can play with them. We have to play better defensively, but I thought we played better defensively, but I think we did that tonight.”

The Red Hawks’ Zach Cowdry (112), Jacob Seegmiller (145) and Kodi Stephens (152), Chase Nickerson (125) and Chevon Lesko (135) received forfeit wins.

The next thing for Cass City and Vassar were individual regionals today at Ithaca.

“We have seven wrestlers going to state,” Cass City coach Adam Dorland said. “But I thought we wrestled them as hard as we could and pushed them into second- and third-period matches. We obviously didn’t get the draw we wanted. It would have been nice to be on the other side and make it to the finals, but I think we improved throughout the year.”

Cass City scored one win with a Cameron Gottschalk (148-pound weight class) pin in 1 minute, 42 seconds. Dorland noted multiple bright spots within the program, and in the match.

“Our neutral position is getting a lot better and we’re getting take-downs,” he said. “I thought our 215-pounder (Cooper Mallory) wrestled a top-three kid in the state and had him on his back multiple times throughout the match.”

Scoring pins for the Vulcans were Hunter Stroup (112), Jacob Zeigmiller (145) and Kodi Stephens (152), Chase Nickerson (125) and Chevon Lesko (135) received forfeit wins.

The top four wrestlers in each weight class move on to the state finals at Ford Field on March 4 and 5.

“We have seven wrestlers going to regionals and I thought all those guys stepped up today,” Dorland said. “This time of the year we’re just looking to constantly get better, and I think we did that tonight.”

The Red Hawks’ Zach Cowdry (112), Hunter Turnbull (130), Logan Kaebe (189), Ethan Kampo (285), Ryan Kruse (285), Mallory and Gottschalk qualified for the regionals. Vassar qualified four wrestlers with Nickerson, Lesko, Zeigmiller and Stephens.

Cass City senior Cameron Gottschalk (right) wrestles in Wednesday’s regional semifinal match against New Lothrop. Gottschalk recorded the Red Hawks’ lone win with a pin.

Caro junior Jacquie Peters (left) attempts to drive around Reese defender Andi Reinert during Thursday’s Greater Thumb Conference West Division showdown. Peters scored two points in the 94-50 Caro upset over Reese.

Cass City grapplers fall to regional champ

By Scott Bolsby | Sports Editor

**CASS CITY** — The Cass City and Vassar wrestling teams’ seasons ended here Wednesday at the hands of New Lothrop and Brown City, respectively.

The Red Hawks fall to the Hornets in the Division 4 regional semifinal 74-6 while Vassar was defeated 48-30 by the Green Devils.

New Lothrop moved on to beat Brown City 67-12 in the regional final for the Division 4 regional semifinal 74-6 and Brown City, respectively.

New Lothrop moved on to beat Brown City 67-12 in the regional final for the program’s 23rd consecutive regional title. The Hornets moved on to the quarterfinals against St. Louis on Friday, Feb. 25.

“Our draw was against the No. 2 seed in the entire state,” Cass City coach Adam Dorland said. “But I thought we wrestled them as hard as we could and pushed them into second- and third-period matches. We obviously didn’t get the draw we wanted. It would have been nice to be on the other side and make it to the finals, but I think we improved throughout the year.”

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Vassar gymnasts win; Cass City’s Suggitt shines

By Scott Bolsby | Sports Editor

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Enjoying a career-best score was Cass City’s Asia Morgan, who scored an 8.1 on the floor.

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Caro junior Jacquie Peters (left) attempts to drive around Reese defender Andi Reinert during Thursday’s Greater Thumb Conference West Division showdown. Peters scored two points in the 94-50 Caro upset over Reese.

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CARO | BASKETBALL

Frankenmuth's Kaden Miller (red headgear) competes against Gladwin's Olivia Ward during Wednesday's Division 3 team regional semifinal match. Miller finished the match with a pin in the second of three rounds.

BY SCOTT BOLSBY | Sports Editor sports@tcadvertiser.com

MONTROSE—A historic postseason came to an end for the Frankenmuth wrestling program here on Wednesday in the Division 3 team regionals. The Eagles fell to Gladwin 60-18 in a regional-semifinal matchup, while Montrose defeated Freeland on the opposite side of the bracket, 45-22.

Montrose won the regional title 47-34 over the Flying G's.

“We rose to the occasion many times this season,” Frankenmuth coach Skylar Ley said. “We accomplished things that maybe we shouldn't have, but it was a fun season. We won our first district title in 13 years and one of only four district titles in program history. We dropped only two matches at the team district competition.”

On Wednesday, the Eagles got wins via pin from Ashton Edie (119-pound weight class), Kaden Miller (135) and Lance Keinath (140). Now that the team season is over, Ley and the Eagles focus on their one remaining individual wrestler competing for a spot in the finals at Ford Field.

“We have one wrestler who qualified for the regionals,” Ley said. “We’ll be sending Nate Morris in the 130-pound class to try and get to Ford Field.”

Two more Frankenmuth wrestlers will try to make history this weekend, competing in the first Michigan High School Athletic Association sanctioned girls' regional competition.

“We have two girls who will be going to the state finals,” Ley said. “This is the first time they are ever doing sanctioned (girls' tournament wrestling) by the MHSAA and the winners from this weekend get to compete at Ford Field alongside the guys, so it’s exciting.”

Competing for the Eagles in Hartland will be Tiffany Anderson (145) and Nevaeh Gleeson (155).
1. HISTORY: When did the first Winter Olympics take place?

2. PSYCHOLOGY: What is the extreme fear represented by a condition called ophidiophobia?

3. AD SLOGANS: Which company featured this advertising campaign in the mid-1980s: “Quality never goes out of style”?

4. LITERATURE: Which 19th-century novel begins with the line, “Whether I shall turn out to be the hero of my own life, or whether that station will be held by anybody else, these pages must show”?

5. MOVIES: Where were the park bench scenes from “Forrest Gump” filmed?

6. ANATOMY: What is the common name for the orbit in human anatomy?

7. MEASUREMENTS: What does a hygrometer measure?

8. U.S. STATES: In which state was the movie “Children of the Corn” filmed?

9. LANGUAGE: What does “fair dinkum” mean in Australian English?

10. SCIENCE: What is the common name for nitrous oxide?

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Answers

1. 1924, Chamonix, France

2. Fear of snakes

3. Levi’s

4. “David Copperfield”

5. Chippewa Square, Savannah, Georgia

6. Eye socket

7. Humidity

8. Iowa

9. Unquestionably good

10. Laughing gas

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Auctions

Braun Online Moving Auction: SCAG Zero Turn Lawn Mower; 18 Foot Dual Axle Trailer; Hot tub; Honda Generator; 15 HP Wood Chipper; Firearms; Furniture; More! Details and photos at Bid.SherwoodAuctionServiceLLC.com 1-800-835-0495.


FOR SALE/LEASE:

FARMERS-CONTRACTORS CRUSHED ASPHALT available $19.50/ton, YELLOW SAND $1.90/ton, Screened black dirt Milton, 214 Driveway crushed stone, 35.30/ton. Truck Loads Only! Loading M-F 7-4:30 Eggers Sand Gravel 4237 Sheridan Road, Office 989-695-5205.

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Visitors can access the full classified section by visiting tuscolatoday.com, then click Classifieds to view them For FREE!
MEETINGS/ EVENTS

FRIENDS OF MUSIC SERIES: Feb- ruary 25th 12 p.m. dual-art, piano-organ, held at Presbyterian Church of Caro.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIA-ry 8421 meetings are held the second Thursday of the month at the Utica-Masonie Ameri- can Legion Hall.

AMERICAN LEGION POST #841 meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. Masons meet the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the VE's plaza next to former Ace Hardware building. Meetings provide a chance to talk to other veterans about their ex- periences while serving and being veterans together to learn about available benefits. Refreshments are provided. For more information, call 989-673-1640.

VFW POST MONTHLY MEET- INGS: VFW Post 4164, Caro, second Monday, 7:30 p.m.; VFW Post 3644, Cass City, second Monday, 7 p.m.; VFW Post 10884, Marysville, second Monday, 2 p.m.; VFW Post 7466, Fitzgerald, first Wednes- day, 7:30 p.m. at Village Hall in Akron; VFW Post 4837, Marlette, third Wednes- day, 9:30 p.m. American Legion Post #87 meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at 110 W. Frank Street, Caro.

CARO CHAPTER 906 Royal Arch Masons meet the second Thursday of each month in the Masonic Temple, 156 N. State St., Caro.

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

TOPS MI 6221 CHAPTER meets Thursdays at 6 p.m. at Hayside Beauty Academy. Call Judy at 989-351-2251 for more information.

TOPS MI 6212 VASSAR meets Wednesday at 8 a.m. at Ivan Middleton, 1007 Lake St. Vassar. From 8 a.m., meetings from 9-10 a.m. For more information, contact 989-670-2167 or 989-577-9464.

INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE.

TUSCOLA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION - 1733 S. MERTZ ROAD, CARO, MI 48723

Sealed bids will be received Thursday, March 3rd, 2022, at the office of the Board of Tuscola County Road Commissioners at 1733 S. Mertz Rd., Caro, Michigan for the following item(s) at the time(s) specified:

8:15 a.m. Street Signs
8:30 a.m. C.M. Pipe Bids

Bids are to be submitted on the Road Commission forms in a plainly marked and sealed envelope. No electronic bids will be accepted. Specifications are available on-line at www.tauc.ws; or call 989-670-4996 for any questions.

Contact us in Caro at 989-670-6928 or highwayengineer@tuscolaroad.org with any questions.

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to readvertise or to accept the proposal, that in their opinion, is in the best interest of the Tuscola County.

The community calendar is available in full at: TuscolaToday.com/Calendar

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Gleeson helps Vulcans snap losing streak

By Scott Bolsby | Sports Editor
sports@tcadvertiser.com

Jenna Gleeson (21) makes a 3-pointer over LakeVille Memorial’s Maria Blanc. Gleeson scored 35 points to propel Vassar to victory.

Conference 8 won over Alma.

The Eagles jumped out to a 26-8 lead after one quarter and extended it to 46-15 at halftime, before outscoring Alma 22-2 in the third quarter.

Frankenmuth’s Emma Kerkau led all scorers with 22 points, Zoey Persails chipped in with 15 and Mua McLaughlin added 12. McLaughlin also swiped five steals.

Frankenmuth (11-3, 9-2) returned to black with a 73-23 Tri-Valley Conference 10 game to the Vikings.

For the Patriots, Kennedy Schember scored a team-high 14 points, Natasha Bickel helped with 11 and Mayville returned to action against the Panthers.

Cass City (12-3, 7-2) found its way back into the win column on Tuesday with a 41-40 Greater Thumb Conference West Division victory over Unionville-Sebewaing Area (3-13, 2-7).

The Red Hawks (10-7, 7-5) returned to action Friday against Mayville (1-14, 0-8) here Tuesday. The Broncos fell to Imlay City 52-36 here Tuesday.

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Tuscola Intermediate School District FFA students are shown at the broiler contest at Munsell’s Poultry Processing in Fowlerville.

Kelsey Nitz raised the state-winning broiler pen in the Michigan FFA Poultry Contest.

Libbie Whitmore, left, and Laken DuRussel took 19th place, nationally, as a food science team.

Michael Sahr
Crop Insurance Agency LLC
Specialists In Multi-Year & Crop Hail
9839 Saginaw street, Reese
48637-2450
Fax 989-668-4765
mikesa@comcast.net
FFA students are shown at the National FFA convention and expo.

FFA students attended the National FFA convention and expo.

FFA students pose on a stage at the National FFA convention and expo.

FFA students used National FFA Grants for Growing to buy and paint a chicken coop this year.

FFA students pose for a photo.

FFA students work on their rabbit breeding program to use for the 4-H Fair this summer.
Cultivating the Next Generation
James Kratz Memorial Scholarship
Now Open for 2022 Applicants

The Tuscola Conservation District will again be offering one (1) $1000.00 scholarship to an area student who is pursuing a degree in Agriculture, Natural Resources or a Science related field. Applications must be received by May 20th, 2022. For a scholarship application contact the District office at 989-673-8174 (ext. 3) or contact your school guidance counselor. Congratulations to last year’s recipient Theron “TJ” Bernia.

Your application must include:
• Name, address and home phone number.
• Your cumulative high school G.P.A from your freshman year to date (must be 3.0 or greater).
• List of achievements and activities in school and in the community. Also include any volunteer activities, athletic involvement, club or other organization participation, as well as other interests, and hobbies.

The field of study you are planning to pursue and why you chose that field. Name of the school you are planning to attend.

At least one letter of recommendation.

Give a brief statement of why conserving our natural resources is important to you.

Please limit your application to five pages.

Conservation districts across the country can trace their roots back to the Dust Bowl days. In response to the devastation caused by the drought and enormous erosion issues that occurred during the depression, Congress created the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) which is now known as the (NRCS) Natural Resource Conservation Service. It was determined early on that local landowners should have a voice in how policy was implemented by the SCS so that practices could be tailored for specific areas.

It was on March 13, 1943, that several landowners in Ellkamp, Ellwood, Ellington, Almena, Janiata and Indianfields townships signed a petition for the organization of the proposed Cass River Soil Conservation District, which was sent to the soil Conservation Committee in Lansing. The petitioners requested that the committee conduct a public hearing on the question and duly define the boundaries of such district, that a referendum be held within the territory so defined on the question of the creation of a soil conservation district in such territory; and that the committee determine that such a district be created.

There was a hearing on the creation of the Tuscola Soil Conservation District on April 8, 1943, at the courthouse in Cass. At that time, it was moved and supported that all land north of the Cass River in Novesta Township be included in the proposed district. It was also moved and supported that the name be changed from Cass River to the Tuscola Soil Conservation District. The state of Michigan is issued a certificate on June 25, 1943, of the due organization of the Tuscola Soil Conservation District as a governmental subdivision of this state and a public body corporate and politic. During November of 1946 there was a public hearing to include the land south of the Cass River in Novesta Township and the rest of the townships that had not previously been included in the soil conservation district. Voting took place on December 5, 1946.

SEE BORN | C2
Newspaper Article:

FROM C2
Saturday, February 19, 2022, The Advertiser

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**BORN OUT OF A DUST BOWL**

*An application in the form required by law for an official certificate to include the additional territory which now composes your soil conservation district.*

**2021 Saginaw Bay CISMA recap**

*This is all it takes to spread invasive European frogbit. Left unmanaged this plant will quickly form thick mats.*

Starting 2022, we will be starting up an invasive species strike team to address priority invasive species infestations in the Saginaw Bay. The strike team will focus on managing Phragmites, knotweed and European frog-bit infestations throughout the Saginaw Bay. If you would like your property surveyed for strike team management, email sbcisma@gmail.com for a Survey Request Form. A CISMA representative will be in touch shortly to schedule a site inspection and determine if strike team management is necessary. We can also provide technical assistance for your invasive species issue, regardless of the strike team’s assessment. Check out our website and social media accounts for new and updated information on CISMA events, invasive species information, survey request forms and more! You can visit our newly updated site at www.sbscisma.com.

**CISMA recap**

_This year we hired two new employees to fill out our monitoring crew; Carter Rogers, and Daniel Blake. Carter and Dan have been hard at work conducting pre-treatment surveys in Hampton Township. Follow up monitoring on land and in the water identified crucial populations of non-native Phragmites, knotweed and European frog-bit, Lymantria dispar, and more throughout the Saginaw Bay watershed! In all, the monitoring crew surveyed nearly 1000 acres for invasive species._

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How to Apply for USDA-NRCS Conservation Programs

If you have never worked with the USDA, and don’t have a farm and tract number, you will need to make an appointment with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) at your local USDA Service Center to establish eligibility for USDA programs. You will need to bring some documentation to the appointment including proof of identity, Social Security or Employer Identification (EIN) numbers, copy of deed to land, and copy of articles of incorporation, bylaws, legal power of attorney or partnership paperwork, if applicable.

While you are at the FSA office there will be a number of forms to complete. It takes time for the paperwork to be processed and additional information may be needed. Please start this process early in order to ensure you are eligible prior to any program sign-up cut-off dates. If you apply for a USDA program and the system does not show you or your entity as eligible, your application will not be processed or funded. Even if you are currently working with the USDA, there is some information that needs to be updated each year. Check with the FSA office to confirm that you are fully eligible for the current year.

When applying for NRCS conservation programs, the recommended first step is getting a conservation plan for your land. A NRCS representative will schedule an appointment to complete an on-site assessment of your farm and develop a conservation plan for your land. A NRCS representative will include in the program application and complete the application process. At this time, you will complete a NRCS-CPA-1200 program application. The form must be signed and dated by the applicant prior to any program sign-up cut-off dates. Additional information may also be needed to be submitted before the cut-off date.

During the application process your application is given a ranking score based on National, State and local ranking factors. After the funding cut-off date, the highest ranked applications will be funded until the money is exhausted. If your application is not funded, you may apply again the following year. If your application is funded, you will sign the contract documents. Make sure you carefully review the program Appendix and are aware of all contract terms, penalties for noncompliance and requirements for implementation before signing. At this time, you may begin implementing the contracted practices. If you start a practice before contract approval, this causes the practice to be ineligible for conservation program financial assistance. You can find more information about conservation programs on the NRCS Michigan Web site, www.mi.nrcs.usda.gov, or stop into the Caro Field Office at 1075 Cleaver Rd, Caro.

If you already have a conservation plan on file, the NRCS representative will go over the plan and update it if necessary.

A conservation plan serves as a blueprint for you to identify your natural resource conservation goals and how you plan to achieve them by changing your management and/or installing conservation practices. NRCS works with you to identify your goals and balances those goals with your economic needs to work toward your conservation plan.

Ash Dieback: Alternative to Replace Weak Ash Trees

Are you one of the many that have been affected by the Emerald Ash Borer? Maybe you only had a few ash trees in your yard, or maybe you had a piece of woods that was made up primarily of ash trees – chances are they are dead and you’re left with a standing graveyard of once beautiful trees. You also may be asking yourself, “What do I do now? Should I replant or not? If so, what should I plant?” Well this article is going to go over some alternative species that are commonly associated with ash and can be used to replant in such areas.

Red Maple (Acer rubrum) is a common tree found throughout Michigan. It can grow upwards to 100 feet tall and 2-3 feet in diameter. It can handle a variety of soils and grows relatively fast. The wood can be used for many purposes, from pulpwood to veneer; deer will browse on the buds and twigs in the winter time.

Northern Hackberry (Celtis occidentalis) is a less common tree, but can be found in most woodlots that have a floodplain. Its corky, rigid bark is unlike any other tree and it grows relatively fast. The fruit stays persistent through winter and is edible; wood is rather soft and course grained and used for boxes or crates.

Swamp White Oak (Quercus bicolor) can grow to be a very large, densely foliated tree. Like cedar, this is a preferred browse species for deer, making regeneration difficult. A great choice to add diversity into an area, as it has multiple wildlife and shade benefits. Seedlings may require the use of shelters or fencing to ensure proper growth.

The Advertiser —
February 19, 2022,
Conservation District Tree Sale Varieties Announced

The Tuscola Conservation District is presently partaking in its annual tree sale. Here is information on the trees available for purchase.

**Fruit Trees**

All fruit trees are semi-dwarf and are bare rootstock.

**Honeycrisp**: ripens about a week after McIntosh and a few weeks ahead of Red Delicious. This variety is a cross between Macoun and Honeygold and was developed at the University of Minnesota. The skin is two-thirds mottled red with a straw background. Honeycrisp is mildly aromatic with juicy flavor. The tree is moderately vigorous and exhibits good winter hardiness. (Early)

**Early Fuji**: Predicted by Grady Auvil to revolutionize the Fuji market, this sensational strain matures about six weeks ahead of standard Red Fuji sports yet produces a higher percentage of Washington Extra Fancy fruit. The fruit flavor, tree structure, and growth habit appear to be identical to other Red Fuji strains. (Early)

**Golden Delicious**: Gibson Golden is a smooth-skinned selection of the Golden Delicious that appears to russet less than standard Golden. The tree is vigorous, productive, and easy to handle. Like standard Golden, the fruit is sweet and juicy and of excellent type. (Early)

**Gale Gala**: Gale Gala is the “one-pick” Gala strain — the highest coloring Gala sport currently on the market! A whole tree sport of Royal Gala, this outstanding new strain has all the winning characteristics of its parent but has deeper red stripes and a fuller red color. Gale Gala growers report one-pick harvests of this sport with packouts in the 95-100 percent Washington Extra Fancy grade for color. (Early)

**Wolf Empire**: Known for its excellent taste and enormous size, Wolf River apples are capable of growing up to a pound each, making it a perfect apple for cooking and baking. It’s an early-season apple that has a pale red blush on a yellow background, it’s also considered to be a very winter hardy tree. (Mid)

**Red Delicious**: Now comes the next generation of America’s earliest, best coloring Red Delicious, Scarlet Spur II. Although Scarlet Spur II finishes coloring about three days earlier than its parent, it has all the winning characteristics of the original — dark mahogany color, crisp white flesh, excellent fruit production, and outstanding type. (Mid)

**Northern Spy**: An old-time favorite variety for northern climates that has been grown throughout New York, New England, Michigan and Pennsylvania for more than 100 years. Northern Spy produces large, high-quality fruit with excellent keeping quality. The tree is upright, very vigorous and winter hardy. Northern Spy is slow to begin bearing and dwarfing rootstocks are recommended. (Mid)

**McIntosh Apple**: A northeastern classic that’s been missing from our form for a couple years now. A hardy and productive tree with deep red fruit, ripens in late September, requires cross-pollination. (Early)

**Granny Smith**: The Australian apple that became an American standard, Granny...
Conservation District Tree Sale Varieties Announced

Bing Cherry is clothed in vivid clusters of fragrant white flowers hanging below the branches in early spring before the leaves. Bing Cherry will grow to be about 40 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 feet.

FROM: C4

Smith is in a class all of its own. Apple lovers like it for its tart, crisp, and juicy flavor and firm texture. Growers like it for its outstanding keeping quality and excellent production and vigor. Granny Smith is used for both fresh fruit and processing. The tree is extremely precocious and will set crops early in its life. This late maturing variety may not be suitable for growing areas with short springs. (Late)

Manchurian Crabapple: A flowering crab used to pollinate other apple varieties. The white flower is a very prolific pollen producer. Blooms early and through mid-season. Fruit is too small for commercial purposes.

Bing Cherry: The standard by which all other varieties are judged. Bing continues as the leading dark sweet cherry grown in North America. The fruit is dark mahogany at maturity, with a spread of 40 feet.

Seascape Strawberry: A cross between two popular varieties, Seascape is highly productive over a long season, yielding large, delicious berries with excellent flavor. This ever-bearing strawberry has good disease resistance and produces well in a wide range of climates.

Bing Cherry: Heavily demanded for both its taste and beauty. Large, yellow fruit with a half-red blush, firm, sweet flesh has a fine texture with a distinct, outstanding flavor. Bud-hardy and crack-resistant, making it an excellent choice for backyard gardeners. (Mid)

Seascape Strawberry: An exceptional commercial variety that is a heavy bearer. Produces large, dark purple fruit that works great for canning and drying. Self-pollinating, but produces more with a partner, ripens in early September. (Mid-Late)

Redhaven Peach: Redhaven is the standard by which all early peaches are judged. The flesh is firm and yellow with a smooth texture. The tree is vigorous and early bearing. An attractive red and golden skin color further enhances its popularity. Redhaven is excellent for canning and shipping for the fresh market, Freestone. (Early)

Contender Peach: This Bosc sport quickly became a favorite among northern gardeners. The tree exhibits its excellent hardiness and tolerance to late-spring frosts. Its fruits are wonderful too. Contender consistently produces high yields of medium-to-large freestone fruits. Blushed with red skin, the fruits have a maraschino mellow, sweet and juicy yellow flesh. They’re excellent for eating fresh as well as making jams, taking to pies and desserts as well as canning.

North America. The fruit is dark mahogany from its glossy skin to its dense, juicy flesh. It is exceptionally large and flavorful. Bing does not pollinate Lambert or Royal Ann. (Mid)

Rainier Cherry: Heavily demanded for both its taste and beauty. Large, yellow fruit with a half-red blush, firm, sweet flesh has a fine texture with a distinct, outstanding flavor. Bud-hardy and crack-resistant, making it an excellent choice for backyard gardeners. (Mid)

Autumn Bliss: A superb raspberry producing delicious fruit. The fruit ripens from late Summer until the first frosts on primocanes (new growth) if the plant is cut back in autumn or before spring. Then it makes fruit on current year’s wood. It produces large, dark purple fruit that works great for canning and drying.Self-pollinating, but produces more with a partner, ripens in late September. (Mid-Late)

Jewel Strawberry: An exceptional commercial variety that is a heavy bearer. Produces large, dark purple fruit that works great for canning and drying. Self-pollinating, but produces more with a partner, ripens in early September. (Mid-Late)

Fantasia Nectarine: The fruit is large and oval in shape. The skin is bright yellow with a red blush covering half the fruit with yellow flesh that is firm and smooth. Fantasia is vigorous, productive, and self-fruited. (Late)

Robota Apricot: This large, early apricot is gaining popularity among commercial growers. It bears flavorful fruit that has a sweet bouquet. The flesh is firm and ripens to a deep orange. Self-fruited.

Berries and Other

Hononegah Strawberry: JUNEBEARING - Fantastic yielder! This large firm berry is red clear through and is great for pies, jams, and jellies.

Jewel Strawberry: JUNEBEARING - The picture-perfect strawberry - bright red and glossy with a firm wedge shape making this strawberry perfect for arrangements. A cold-hardy berry that ripens in June with excellent flavor.

Redhaven Peach: Redhaven is excellent for canning and shipping for the fresh market, Freestone. (Early)

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Bosc Pear: This Bosc sport was discovered in the Fukui Orchard near Parkdale, Oregon. The fruit is long and symmetrical with a uniform golden ruset color overlaying yellowish-white flesh. It matures about the same time as Arapla. The trees are large and vigorous and require cross-pollination. (Late)

Bartlett Pear: One of America’s leading commercial pear varieties. Bartlett is a favorite dessert and canning pear. The large fruit has a smooth, attractive appearance that is highlighted by its golden yellow color. Bartlett bears young and the tree is productive, grows strong, and has a tendency for compact, upright growth. (Early)

Italian Plum: An exceptional commercial variety that is a heavy bearer. Produces large, dark purple fruit that works great for canning and drying. Self-pollinating, but produces more with a partner, ripens in early September. (Mid-Late)

Granny Smith is used for both fresh fruit and processing. The tree is extremely precocious and will set crops early in its life. This late maturing variety may not be suitable for growing areas with short springs. (Late)

Autumn Bliss Raspberry: JUNEBEARING - An excellent choice for U-pick raspberry due to its large closely crowded raspberry clusters. The Autumn Bliss Raspberry has an intense sweet flavor making it perfect for eating off the vine, or for making jams and preserves. (Red)

Navaho Blackberries: This thorn-less ever-bearing strawberry has good disease resistance and produces well in a wide range of climates.

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Flame Maple Tree or Autumn Flame a cultivar of Red Maple has an round shape and is a fast grower with strong wood, reaching a height of 45 to 50 feet. One of the defining characteristics of this Maple is the consistently good red to yellow fall color lasting several weeks. It is often one of the first trees to color up in autumn, and it puts on one of the most brilliant displays of any tree.

FROM C5
variety of blackberry produces huge sweet berries with the highest sugar content available: it’s upright and cold hardy and withstands temperatures down to -9 degrees.

Blueberry: A late blooming, early opening variety perfect for colder climates. The bloom produces beautiful white red-flowered flowers and the fruit is medium sized with a sweet juicy flavor.

Patriot Blueberry: Known for its quarter-size berries, this variety is big and bountiful and produces in early season. Outstanding flavor that’s perfect for fresh eating, baked, or in preserves. Tolerates moisture and clay soils, along with being cold hardy.

Mary Washington Apparatus: Heirloom Variety. Best all-around variety for parades and commercial use. Disease Resistant. It produces an abundance of sweet flavoured fruit.

Viking KB3 Apparatus: These tasty spears are one of the first vegetables to harvest in the summer. Very cold hardy and rust resistant, this variety is vigorous and heavy producing.

Red Lake Currant: This attractive berry shrub produces large clusters of bright red berries that a excellent for eating fresh, or for using in preserves. Berries hold well on the bush and are cold hardy.

Heirloom variety. Slender red-green stalks can be harvested after the first of the year. Excellent for cooking and baking.

Deciduous Trees
Swamp White Oak: As the name suggests, this oak is often found in low-lying, poorly drained areas – often moist bottomlands or riverbanks. A great choice for a shade tree, will grow at a moderate pace and can live more than 300 years. Can grow to 50-60 feet at maturity, with growth between 13-24 inches per year.

White Flowering Dogwood: An exceptional landscaping choice for all four seasons. Flowers are white and showy in the spring, with leaves turning to red-purple in the fall, and glossy red fruits for winter ornamentals. Grows to a height of about 25 feet at maturity, prefers at least four hours of direct sunlight each day, grows in a variety of soils, prefers moist conditions.

Red Mulberry: This native deciduous tree is generally found in the moist soils of mesic hardwood forests, floodplains, and other moist sites. Red mulberry grows very well in open locations under full exposure to the sun. It reaches heights of 35 to 70 feet. The red to dark purple berries ripen in late summer, with leaves turning to red/purple in the fall. It is a large, flat topped tree that can grow to 50-70 feet at maturity, grows a moderate rate and can live more than 300 years. Can also be used for erosion control in moist soils.

Red Osier Dogwood is a 3 to 9 foot tall shrub that can be recognized by its flat, um

Red Oak: This compact landscape tree is a spring star, with abundant clusters of fragrant white flowers making their appearance in May. It’s dense, spreading crown and zigzagging branches add to the appeal, often making the tree wider than it is tall.

Persimmon: A southeastern U.S. native tree that is easily recognized in winter by its unusual rugged, blocky bark. Female trees produce large orange/brown fuzzy fruit that are edible after the first frost. Thick, dark green leaves turn a yellow fall color. Native persimmon is not readily available in nurseries, but several selected cultivars are produced for their edible fruit.

Shrubs
Lilac: (Syringa vulgaris). Fast growing, reaching a height of more than 15 feet. Makes an effective screen in three-to-four years when planted six to eight feet apart. Requires well-drained, silty, clayed or loamy soils. Does not tolerate wet soils. Enjoyed for its large, showy clusters of fragrant white flowers in late spring to early summer. Large fragrant flowers in mid-spring after leaves appear. Can be trimmed into hedge. Long lived. Zones 3-7.

Red Osier Dogwood: (Cornus sericea). Six to eight-foot shrub grown primarily for its bright red stem in winter. Good shrub for moist to wet soils. Has dark green leaves and white flowers in Spring. Excellent choice for streamside reclamation and wildlife. Zones 3-8.


Black Elderberry: (Sambucus canadensis) A Native American shrub with berries that can grow to 6-10 feet tall. In the spring small white flowers are borne in dense clusters. Flowers are followed by a purple-black drupe that is produced in drooping clusters in late summer to fall. Tolerant of a wide variety of wet to dry soils but prefers rich, moist, slightly acidic soil in most parts of the United States. Use this plant in naturalized areas, as a hedge, or along stream beds and ponds. It can also be used for erosion control in moist soils.

Highbush Cranberry: (Viburnum trilobum). Vigorous shrub with white flowers and brilliant red fruit clusters. Grows to 12 feet. Does well in acid or partial shade. Fruit remains on the bush, tolerates drought, sandy soil and clay soil. Zones 3-4.

serviceberry: Alniphyllum, serveriophyllum is a small native understory tree with four-season interest. The early white spring flowers, outstanding orange-red fall color, and winter berries make this a lovely specimen for any landscape. The edible blue-black fruit is eaten by birds in late winter. Fall color is attractive to many birds.


Fountain Grass: (Pennisetum alopecuroides). Mound forming plant that grows well in fertile, moist, well or dry soil. It’s great for erosion control in moist soils. Fast growing, moderate to fast spread in width. Flowers hold well, attractive cut flower. Zones 3-7.

Conifers:
Confederate Blue Spruce: This new variety to the list is similar to the Colorado Blue Spruce but has resistance to the needle cast that is devastating the Colorado Blue. The Siberian Spruce offers this upsetting arching branches with a slender straight trunk. The needles are 1-1 1/2 inches long. Prefers a deep, moist, well-drained soil. Plant in partial shade to full sun. Grows 50- 60 feet with a 25-foot spread.

Balsam Cypress: This tree is one of the most cold hardy in the northeast. Grows up to 50-70 feet tall and grows a moderate rate. Prefers full sun. Likes acidic, clay, rock, and very well-drained soils. Tolerant, loamy, moister, sandy, very-well-drained, wet. Grows in a variety of soil and water conditions.
### FRUIT TREES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fruit</th>
<th>Size</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Manchurian Crab</td>
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### DECIDUOUS TREES

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### PICKUP INFORMATION

**Pickup is April 21-23 at Daylight Farms**
280 S. Ringle Rd., Fairgrove, MI 48733
Saginaw Bay Residents – What if addressing the major concerns of U.S. citizens and policymakers improved biodiversity at the same time? The North American Invasive Species Management Association (NAISMA) says that including policy and legislative decisions geared toward invasive species management funding could ensure that North America’s lands and waters remain resilient in the face of climate change and other biological challenges.

An international event held February 28 through March 4, 2022, the annual National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) seeks to raise awareness about invasive species, the threat that they pose, and what can be done to prevent their spread. Representatives from local, state, federal, and regional organizations discuss legislation, policies, and improvements that can be made to prevent and manage invasive species.

The term “invasive” is used for aggressive non-native species that grow and reproduce rapidly, displace native species, and cause major disturbance to the areas in which they are present. Invasive species can cause irreversible harm to the environment and the economy, and often pose a threat to plant, animal, and human health. Environmental organizations in the Saginaw Bay region should be aware of common problem species, including non-native Phragmites, European Frogbit, invasive knotweeds, and black swallowtails and the Lymantria dispar “watchlist species”.

Saginaw Bay Residents can help stop the spread of invasive species by reporting their infestations at www.misin.mi.gov or by contacting your Saginaw Bay CISMA.

Residents of Saginaw Bay can help manage invasive species problems by spraying off your boat and recreational equipment anytime you go in the water. Spraying down your boat with a high-pressure water sprayer and draining water from live-wells and bait containers is an important step in keeping invasive species from infesting new locations. Don’t forget to dispose of your bait in an appropriate manner. Never dump live fish or other bait from one water body into another.

Invasive Phragmites australis is causing many Michigan wetlands—and not for the better. You can also help prevent the spread of invasive insects like emerald ash borers and Lymantria dispar by cleaning their eggs on trees used for firewood, which can create a whole new population of pests when transported to a new location. Avoid creating new infestations by not moving firewood out from infested locations areas, and remembering to buy it where you burn it.

The Saginaw Bay CISMA was established in 2016 to address invasive species issues along the Saginaw Bay. Formerly encompassing 16 Michigan counties in the Saginaw Bay Watershed, SB-CISMA was divided into three separate groups in 2019 to better serve the community. The new Saginaw Bay CISMA provides invasive species education, treatment and management activities in Arenac, Bay, Huron, Saginaw, Sanilac and Tuscola counties. Based out of the Arenac Conservation District, Saginaw Bay CISMA is committed to providing the best invasive species education and management to residents of the Saginaw Bay Watershed. You can learn more about the Saginaw Bay CISMA at www.sbcisma.com

The North American Invasive Species Association’s mission is to support, promote, and empower invasive species prevention and management in North America. Since 1993, NAISMA has been growing programs that bridge jurisdictional and geographic divides. In addition to organizing a variety of professional development opportunities, housing the Certified Weed Free Housing program NAISMA is the lead partner on the PlayCleanFish program. Learn more at naisma.org and osisma.org

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Olivia Walker’s essay wins local award

OLIVIA WALKER

Glaciers carved Michigan’s rivers, and formed our ever so unique Great Lakes. Since these lakes combined provide one fifth of the world’s fresh water, and ninety percent of the United States surface fresh water supply, they are incredibly important to our entire world. Looking deeper than statistics however, beauty as well as beneficial utilities can be found within these bodies of water in our great state. Unfortunately, a rise in issues specifically associated with our freshwater has threatened one of our most important natural resources.

Water pollution and invasive species are some of the most predominant problems Michigan’s freshwater is facing but thankfully there are actions being taken to combat these issues. Michigan’s water is drastically important, and we must take the necessary steps to fight back against these issues.

Through my research, I was able to identify local issues pertaining to our freshwater. The most drastic being the high levels of arsenic within the well water of the Thumb of Michigan. Reports by Michigan Thumb Well Water shows the areas with arsenic detected, and the levels of concentration of the identified areas. This kind of water can become carcinogenic if it is consumed. Long-term effects can take place when the water is used in cooking or drinking for an extended period of time. According to the EPA, arsenic water can be linked to many types of cancer, partial paralysis and blindness. Efforts to reduce this problem can be seen in testing specific wells for arsenic. Those wells found with levels of arsenic can have a reverse osmosis pump installed, which is the most effective treatment currently for inorganic arsenic.

Invasive species as well as water pollution is a problem. It is not just local to me, but everywhere in Michigan! Eurasian Phragmites, Zebra and Quagga mussels, Japanese Knotweed, and Eurasian Watermilfoil are some of the most prominent invasive species in Michigan. Each of these species has traveled to the United States from another country, and are now overtaking our ecosystems here. Invasive species are especially easy to spread in water, which is why Eurasian Phragmites, Zebra and Quagga mussels are the most common invasive species.

Our state government keeps an updated list as well as a watch list for invasive species posted online for everyone to have access to. Various organizations and the state have programs in place during which certain species of the year they focus on the invasive species that is most easily spread. By doing this thing they can get rid of them. Arsenic levels in water and invasive species pose a threat to our water, which is why there are several efforts to combat them.

During my research I not only learned about the problems we face as a state which dislodged sentiments of soil can be seen in testing specific wells for arsenic, but I also learned how important our government’s role is within protecting our bodies of water. Not only is our state government able to help, but so is the federal government. Laws and agreements have and can be made in an effort to protect the water, and there are several enacted already. For example, our Michigan legislature has banned the diversion of Michigan’s Great Lakes water out of the Great Lakes basin. There are also state and federal permits required to build “shoreline structures,” such as docks and seawalls.

Damage to our rivers is now being prevented by Michigan legislation through usage of a permitting program. Rivers have been damaged through poorly constructed structures that degrade the water quality for wildlife and fish in which dialted sentiments of soil can disrupt the fish breeding habitat. However, permits are now required by the state for anyone who wishes to fill, divert water and or construct in a river and lake. Our state and federal government’s policies contribute to the protection of our water here in Michigan.

With this new information I have obtained through my research, I have developed a greater sense of awareness and fondness for our state’s water. Living beside a river my whole life has created a certain appreciation for freshwater, and now I can move forward with a plan on how it’s protected, what harmful species can lie within it, and the possibility for it or nearby water to be contaminated. Our dear water of the Great Lakes state is so marvelous!

For more than a century, GreenStone has been committed to supporting communities, programs and initiatives dedicated to advancing agriculture—tooday and tomorrow. Contact us for more information on how we can help you preserve land for future generations.

Contact us in Caro at 989-673-4128
Do landowners sometimes find it difficult to stop by the local field office just to sign paperwork? Or maybe some landowners are just too busy with daily farm chores? Something came up and they can’t make their appointment? Well, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) can help. The NRCS has come out with a new online application program to assist with conservation practices. Through Conservation Client Gateway landowners and land managers can request technical assistance, apply for financial assistance, review, sign, and submit applications and contracts, and track payments all at the convenience of the landowner.

What is Conservation? Client Gateway?

Conservation Client Gateway is a secure online web application that gives landowners and land managers the ability to track their payments, report completed practices, request conservation assistance, and electronically sign documents anytime, anywhere. Conservation Client Gateway provides users the flexibility to determine when they want to engage with NRCS online and when they prefer in-person conservation planning assistance.

In order to register for Conservation Client Gateway, landowners need to have a client record in the USDA Service Center Information Management System (SCIMS), and it needs to be identified as an individual, not as a business.

This program is beneficial to both the landowner and NRCS employees for facilitating communication, distributing information, and most of all convenience! For details on the program stop by the NRCS office at 1075 Cleaver Rd., Caro or call the office at 989-673-8174 x.3.
Annual Tree Pruning Workshop.

Bob Tritten, retired Fruit Educator for Southeast Michigan MSU Extension, giving hands-on experience for how to properly prune trees at the Tuscola Conservation District’s Annual Tree Pruning Workshop.

After a three year pause, the Tuscola Conservation District will resume our annual Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop. It will be held from 8:30 am to Noon at the MSU Saginaw Valley Research Farm just south of M-46 on Reese Rd. We usually begin with some indoor sessions followed by outdoor demonstration and practice. Doors for the outdoors in March, which in Michigan can mean warm and sunny or cold and snowy, or maybe both on the same day! This workshop will cover everything for the backyard fruit grower with a major emphasis on pruning for good, consistent fruit production. Our guest speaker, Bob Tritten has been doing this workshop for us since 2010 and always tailors the presentation to the current audience with plenty of opportunity to get your questions answered.

Learn basic care of fruit trees such as where and how to plant them, fertilizing, water needs, pest control and deer protection. Learn to prune old trees, young trees, apples, pears, stone fruits and vine fruits. How should you prune your trees by pruning at the wrong time of year? What kind of trees should I match for the best pollination?

These topics and more will be covered along with a hands-on demonstration on a variety of fruit trees. If you are unable to walk outside for the demonstration there will be plenty of information shared inside to make it worth your while to attend. There is no registration fee, we simply ask that you rsvp to the Tuscola Conservation District at 673-8174 ext. 3 or email mike.boike@tuscolacd.net. The address is 3775 S. Reese Rd. Frankenmuth, MI 48734. We will be just west of Richville, a half mile south of M-46 on Reese Rd at the Green MSU buildings. Hope to see you there.

Ash Dieback: Alternative to Replace Weak Ash Trees

What’s the difference between pruning an apple versus a peach? How long should a peach tree last in Michigan? Can I harm my trees by pruning at the wrong time of year? What kind of trees should I match for the best pollination?

These topics and more will be covered along with a hands-on demonstration on a variety of fruit trees. If you are unable to walk outside for the demonstration there will be plenty of information shared inside to make it worth your while to attend. There is no registration fee, we simply ask that you rsvp to the Tuscola Conservation District at 673-8174 ext. 3 or email mike.boike@tuscolacd.net. The address is 3775 S. Reese Rd. Frankenmuth, MI 48734. We will be just west of Richville, a half mile south of M-46 on Reese Rd at the Green MSU buildings. Hope to see you there.