Committee plans $44 million jail for 140 inmates

By John Schneider
jwk@tcadvertiser.com

CARO — Members of the Tuscola County Jail Committee met Thursday to finalize a plan for a new jail to bring to the county board of commissioners in the near future.

The final cost of the chosen jail plan is — it nearly $44 million — about $12 million more than previous estimates. In order for the project to come to fruition, the five-member board of commissioners must give the OK for a ballot proposal that will ask Tuscola County voters to approve a property tax to pay for the new facility.

Engineers provided the committee with several different plans, most of which call for the new jail — 420 Court St. in Caro — to be demolished and a new facility constructed. In a couple of the plans, the facility would be built on a new site, near the intersection of M-24 and Deckerville Road just north of Caro.

The committee, which includes about 30 community members, some involved with law enforcement and some not, settled on two plans to choose from: one on the same site, and the other at different locations. Ultimately, the committee decided on a plan that will cost an estimated $43,996,495, and calls for the new jail to be constructed at the location of the present jail.

The estimate was provided by

SEE COMMITTEE | A4

Outbreak hits jail, prisoners out early

By John Schneider
jwk@tcadvertiser.com

CARO — COVID-19 is making its way through the Tuscola County Jail as officials work to secure plans for a new facility.

A coronavirus outbreak offers a glimpse of why a new jail — with more space — is needed, said Tuscola County Sheriff Glen Skrent.

“But what else can we do?”

Jail staff use both rapid tests and polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests on inmates. “So we find out pretty quick if someone has symptoms whether or not they have COVID,” Skrent said.

SEE OUTBREAK | A4

Bids put pedestrian bridge in jeopardy

By Mark Haney
kryaner@tcadvertiser.com

VASSAR — Vassar’s plans for a 14-foot-wide pedestrian bridge over the Cass River may be a bridge too far.

At or a bridge too costly.

City manager Andrew Niedzinski said the three bids for the bridge — which is to be built this year — came in well over what city officials had expected. The bids — ranging from $1.6 million to $1.8 million — came in 30 percent higher than the engineer’s estimates. The lowest bid would put the city on the hook for an additional $609,000 over and above the state Department of Natural Resources grant and the city’s local match.

“It would be irresponsible for me to recommend we spend that,” Niedzinski said.

The city already has spent $100,000 on moving utility poles, on an archaeological study and on engineering for the project. “And that doesn’t include the city’s contribution (25 percent) toward building the bridge,” Niedzinski said. “That’s just above and beyond.”

Niedzinski said the city has notified the state it is rejecting all of the bids and will be asking to rebid the project. The city also may ask to carry the grant funds over a year if the bids don’t come in closer to the target.

“We are hoping the costs come back down,” Niedzinski said, “but right now that is doubtful.

It is possible, he said, that the firms simply sent in high bids because they aren’t really interested in getting the work.

“There are probably other bridge projects they are looking into,” Niedzinski said. “They are going to make a heckuva a
Back in the old days, when I was just a kid (I know, back before remote control), my dad made my brother and I go outside to our street of an elderly couple each snow day to clear their sidewalks and driveways.

This came on top of clearing the snow from our own driveway and sidewalks. It doubled the work we had to do. That was OK if it was a snow day and we knew we'd have the rest of the day to play and eat loose. It was a bit different if that came after a full day of school.

I don’t remember complaining about this double duty – and believe me that says a lot. You should have heard me whine about having to dig potatoes in the garden – even if the snow was wet and heavy. And we weren’t allowed to accept any payment for this work, though the elderly couple tried and tried to pay us in our hands. Once, however, we did accept some homemade cookies in lieu of compensation.

Complaints didn’t arise, I think, because both knew we were paying it forward. Someone, I remember thinking, someone else will do this for my parents someday.

But that really didn’t happen. My dad wound up with a snowblower – where’s that thing when I really needed it? – and my brother and I were young and moving all of that white stuff by shovel! – an unpleasant experience in itself.

I remember thinking, someone else will do this for my parents someday.

Even though our efforts didn’t pay a dividend for Dad, I wasn’t bothered because by the time he’d reached the age of those neighbors I knew it was better for his health and well-being if he stayed as active as he could. So the more he moved snow, the less he needed to depend on his offspring to do the off his waist. And so we were all and all of his neighbors – that garden yielded a lot of great fruit and vegetables! And so were we and all of his neighbors – that garden yielded a lot of great fruit and vegetables!

I can’t help but wonder if that elderly couple might have been less active in the first place if I had a little help from somewhere. I had resigned myself to thinking I was just resigned myself to thinking I was just helping out. I had resigned myself to thinking I was just helping out.

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TUSCOLA COUNTY

Puppy love: Cass City schools hope therapy dog passes classes.

By John Schneider

john@tcadvertiser.com

CASS CITY — Soon, humans may not be the only ones rummaging through the halls of the Cass City Public Schools. Local Labrador retriever breeder Melanie Radabaugh approached the Cass City school board a few weeks ago proposing to provide a puppy from her most recent litter to the school district for therapy purposes.

"The board was very excited," said Cass City schools Superintendent Allison Zimba. "There’s data that shows the positive impact that dogs have on kids."

Radabaugh only recently entered the dog-breeding business, purchasing three Labradors – two females and one male. The first litter – nine puppies – arrived Nov. 19.

"My heart has always pulsed me in the direction of providing therapy dogs," Radabaugh said. "So it’s been on my mind for a long time. I told myself, ‘If a puppy stands out, and there’s an opportunity, I’m going to reach out.’"

The nine-pup litter featured a canine that has the potential to be a therapy dog – a black Lab male named Hawkeye, that assumed Radabaugh to the school board meeting.

Radabaugh agreed to welcome Hawkeye in the schools as long as he receives the proper training, which is not a certainty. Radabaugh connected with a dog-training facility – Magnum K9 Training in southern Michigan – where Hawkeye is scheduled to go through the process that will certify him as a therapy dog.

"We’re taking him to (Magnum) on March 4 to spend two to three weeks training there," Radabaugh said. "At that time, he’ll work on basic obedience and have an evaluation, and they will let us know if he’s qualified."

About half of the dogs pass the therapy-training sessions.

"While we want to be really excited about it, we have to see if the dog will be the right fit," Zimba said. "We want to keep everyone informed about the dog’s progress throughout this journey.

Radabaugh is paying for the training. If Hawkeye passes his first couple weeks of lessons, he will go back for additional training at about six months, and one year, of age. In the meantime, Radabaugh will be tasked with ‘housebreaking’ to get the pup accustomed to new places and new faces.

"There’s lots of work on our end," she said. "We will take him to visit wherever dogs are allowed, and we will have to arrange for the kids to be involved as well."

Zimba, who has had Labs in the past, knows the effect the animal can have on a child.

"Kids are on a difficult time, getting a friendly dog is always therapeutic," she said. "And it will be nice to have that friendly face roaming the hallways.

Presently, Zimba said, the district is looking for a location and things of a liability nature” that would need to be taken care of before bringing a therapy dog into the school system.

Even if Hawkeye doesn’t meet therapy-dog requirements, future puppies may fit the bill. Melanie Radabaugh said she plans to continue providing dogs for therapy use in the community.

"Like I said, it’s something I’ve been thinking about for a long time," she said. "And it’s something close to my heart."

TUSCOLA COUNTY

Millington pilot Kauer, 78, wins federal award.

By John Schneider

john@tcadvertiser.com

MILLINGTON TWP. — For as long as he can remember, Roy A. Kauer wanted to fly airplanes.

"My first memory as a kid is of a bunch of planes flying over me," he said. "I’ve wanted to be a pilot my whole life." Kauer learned to fly, but he will be honored Wednesday for teaching others.

The 85-year-old Millington Township man received the Federal Aviation Administration Michigan Flight Instructor of the Year award Feb. 9 at Flint Bishop International Airport.

Being in the right place at the right time throughout his life paved the way for Kauer’s dream. He joined the United States Air Force shortly after high school, and was trained to be an aircraft mechanic.

"I met the right people in the right places," Kauer said. "And I got to fly around with them, which fueled my passion.

"And then I was lucky enough to get a job where I could afford it."

After his 1969 discharge from the Air Force, Kauer and his wife, Sharon, moved from Midland – where they had grown up – to the Millington area. He began working at General Motors Corp., retiring 12 years ago.

Then, chance entered his life again.

"My wife worked at a nursing home, and one of the nurses got married and a pilot from the Greater Flint Pilots Association came up and gave free rides to the wedding party. My wife gave her seat to me, and that’s when I met her," Kauer said.

Kauer talked with the pilot about the cost of lessons, which normally includes an instruction fee and airplane rental fee.

"I checked around and rented a plane for about 100 hours and decided that I didn’t want to pay somebody else to use their plane," Kauer said. "So I decided to buy one for myself.

Kauer purchased a small Cessna aircraft, but still needed to find an instructor. In 1976, he was at Midland-Bay City Sajmag (MBS) International Airport – then called Tri-City Airport – searching for someone who could teach him to fly.

Again, fate walked in the door. This time literally.

"An instructor was walking in the door with a student while I was walking out the door," Kauer said. "He said ‘Give me a minute, I want to talk to you.’ And that’s the man who taught me how to fly.

The flight instructor’s name was Maynard Hughes. He passed away in 2020 at age 95.

"He’s the best thing that’s ever happened to me," Kauer said. "I’ve learned more from that man than I have from other instructors on purpose.

"He had a great technique. He taught you three ways – ‘By the book,’ and ‘If all else fails,’ and ‘If all else fails’ lessons were really interesting.”


"It’s something I’ve enjoyed doing – sharing with people everything you know," Kauer said. "If it makes me happy, it makes the people I’m teaching happy.

When asked to share stories from his days as an instructor, Kauer said he had had too many, and they fell under the category of good, bad and ugly.

One self described life-changing event happened a couple of years ago. Kauer received a phone call from an employee of a local moving company.

A resident there was building a model construction kit.

When asked to make your personal appointment.
Glass crew showed up.

saying he wasn’t going to cost the Register
Zechmeister said.

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Mike Miller wanted to close the Register

release date or had their bond conditions

|

Outbreak hits county jail

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Barndell said. “That’s as simple as

cannot let somebody be hired under that

are adding a secondary personnel policy

Generally, in the past, this is a formality.”

you also are affecting my department in

That requirement was put in place by

requiring his staff to be vaccinated against

They then denied Bishop his choice for

his 20 years on the job.

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Bishop replied.

“Just to make sure you are properly

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Skrent said Thursday that when the current jail was built, the sheriff’s department contained 14 employees. There are now 50 workers there.

Presently, the jail is underpersonnel. Skrent has said, with two-person-sized holding cells shunted around to

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FROD A1

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Board, register of deeds lock horns again

FROM [A4] it gets," said Grimshaw, who, from 2009 to 2012, preceded Bishop as register of deeds. Grimshaw chose not to seek re-election as register of deeds in 2012, but lost a 2016 primary election when Grimshaw sought to unseat Bishop from the register of deeds post.

"You’ve rejected the policy (requiring workers in the register of deeds office to be vaccinated)," Bishop said. "No, if you have put it in place as a condition of employment, then you are going around us," Grimshaw stressed. "And we cannot let that happen.”

"So now what would it take for her to be heard?" Bishop said. "For me to tell her. 'Oh, I'm sorry the county rejects that policy, let's forget about that.' Is that the tack you want me to take?"

Bishop said it has been the commission’s practice to allow department heads and elected officials to fill openings, with the commissioners rubber-stamping the hires after the fact. In many cases, the person already had started working for the particular office. If that were to happen here, it could result in a lawsuit.

"We have the ground work laid," Niedzinski said. "We know this site can complete such projects.

"And that's why it is important that the person he wanted to hire. "You guys have done what you thought is necessary." Bishop said. "For me to tell people if you train with a pilot who thinks he knows it all, get the heck out of the airplane. And that’s saved my bacon many times," Bishop said after the commissioners refused to act on the person he wanted to hire. "You will never know everything in this business, and I tell people if you train with a pilot who thinks he knows it all, get the heck out of the airplane. And that’s saved my bacon many times," Bishop said after the commissioners refused to act on the person he wanted to hire. "You will never know everything in this business, and I tell people if you train with a pilot who thinks he knows it all, get the heck out of the airplane. And that’s saved my bacon many times." Bishop said after the commissioners refused to act on the person he wanted to hire.

"Now I will have to do what I think is necessary." Bishop said. "Well, you know someday I might be sitting in a nursing home, spitting watermelon seeds at people from my wheelchair as they walk through the door. And I'd rather say, 'I did it when I could' than to wish I'd done it when I could."

The FAA has two officers in Michigan – one that oversees the west side of the state and another monitoring the east side. Each office has a vote for the Instructor of the Year award, and each named Kauer. He received two trophies – one he gets to keep, and another he’ll keep for a year after the委任。
CARO — Mark Ransford may be regretting what he started. Because things have just gotten more confusing ever since last summer, when the Caro businesswoman offered to help Tuscola County solve a space crunch by offering to lease the former Peoples State Bank building, in downtown Caro, to the county.

That resulted in the county’s board of commissioners issuing a request for proposals (RFP) in mid-October to see who else might also offer a leased or lease-to-buy building suitable the county’s purposes.

When that resulted in just two proposals – one from Ransford and his business partner, Damian Wasik, and one from Putman Development – additional proposals have continued to trickle in since then. As of Feb. 10, it’s meeting, the commissioners were considering seven different buildings.

Those seven included leases, an offer of a free building, one that could be leased or purchased, and others that were offered for sale only.

All but the first two proposals, however, were offered well after the deadline for proposals had passed. And of the original two, only the Ransford-Wasik proposal for 171 N. State St. met all of the county’s specifications because it is outside the Caro city limits, but the commissioners kept it in consideration.

That lease offer drew support at the meeting from chief information officer Evan Lee, buildings and grounds supervisor Mike Miller and Deputy Steve Anderson, who is the county’s director of emergency services.

But District 3 Commissioner Dan Grisham still wants to explore the possibility of a purchase, fueled in part by the $1.0 million the county is getting in American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

**Should county buy?**

Grisham said he thinks the county should look to buy, saying the reason the county was looking to lease was because it didn’t think it had the money to purchase a building.

“That’s not the case,” he said. Grisham said the county could use some of its ARPA money to pay for the purchase and renovation of a building.

“I don’t want anybody to think we’ve cut them out of the possibility of the county buying a building from them,” he said, “just because we’ve looked at four buildings. We don’t know what else is available.”

“Why do you do that? You don’t know where you are going,” District 2 Commissioner Thomas Bardwell said. “It’s just leading people on. It raises expectations and frustrations, that’s all.”

Those expectations were raised when the commissioners continued to consider the offer from Putman Development for use of a floor of the new medical building being constructed at 1800 W. Caro Road.

That proposal didn’t fit the county’s specifications because it is outside the Caro city limits, but the commissioners kept it in consideration.

They then kept the Ransford-Wasik offer alive, even though none of them had responded to the county’s initial request for bids.

Al Michel offered free use of the two-story building at 133 S. State St. that once housed the Elbow Room diner.

And the owner of the former Big Boy restaurant on M-81 west of Caro, and across the highway from the Putman medical building, offered the use of that structure.

Then real estate agent Laura Ailing Garrett offered the 7,695-square-foot, one-story office structure at 852 Hooper St. Then, last week, the county was offered a 14,000-square-foot building on Frank Street. The purchase of that building or the lease of the Ransford-Wasik building received the most support from the four people who toured all of the seven – Grisham and District 4 Commissioner Doug Duffus, Lee and Miller.

Ransford said the building receiving the most support. And the only three counties that would keep the building whatever it puts inside the building. The Frank Street building offers a space. “To me, it’s a barn. It looks like a barn,” Miller said. “To me, personally, it’s just a county office building. This thing to; others may argue differently.”

He also discovered there’s a house tucked in mere feet from that building. The house is a rental. “And we’ve had issues in the past with rental houses next door to county property,” he said.

“I still believe that leasing is the best way to go,” said Miller, adding that buying skills move maintenance costs onto the county. “I do believe that the county saves money in the end. If the county chooses to purchase, that money will move maintenance costs onto the county. I’ll move forward and I’ll take care of it.”

District 1 Commissioner Tom Young said, “It’s a matter of getting out of a lease than it would be to sell a building the county owns.”

“I’m not in leasing than I am in purchasing,” Bardwell said, “because it gives another way to use.”

“We need to be frugal, and definitely not everything just because we have the cash to do it.”

No payments necessary

But having the money, Grisham said, means being able to buy without adding to the county’s debt. Ransford pointed out his building doesn’t come with a property tax burden, since the city owns and maintains the lot. He said maintaining a property is a lot like the one on Frank Street – will cost about $2,500 a year in taxes. Initially His building will cost the county only $30,000 a year, or $5 per square foot.

“You will lose money by purchasing if your numbers shake out at any of us have run them,” Ransford said, especially when the cost of maintaining parking lots and rooftops are factored in.

If the county leases the Ransford-Wasik building, Young said, then the two men continue to pay taxes to the city, county and Caro Community Schools. If the county purchased a building, Ransford said, it will cost the school district, city and county thousands of dollars. The county wouldn’t pay any taxes on a building it buys, he said, but the county also wouldn’t receive any. “You lose the private sector tax on it,” he said.

“That’s not an exaggeration. That’s simple math,” said anyone that can do,” added Ransford.

Bardwell asked if the county really needed all of that space – especially the meeting/training center – maintaining it probably wasn’t used as much, if at all.

“When the zombies come, you have to have a place to lock them up,” he said. “So the zombie that we just fought was coronavirus disease in 2019 (COVID-19). And your emergency operations center at the former Peoples State Bank building (now Tuscola County Medical Care Facility).

“We do what do in a nursing home when a virus hits?” He said, “Is the wrong home down and you have no emergency operations center. When the waters rise, when the tornadoes come, when the next virus hits, when the next terrorist event happens, we have to have a place where we can work.”

“You’re right, there is no argument that anyone can make effectively that says we are going to use this space 80 percent of the time. However, when the water rises, we are going to have a place to go.”

Controller/administrator Claytie Zechmeister asked if the county wasn’t legally or ethically bound to act on the two bids from those who responded to the RFP, before taking action to seek other bids.

“No, Grisham said. “We’re not locked into an RFP,” and those options are still out there,” Duffus said. As are all other options, apparently.

“We still have seven properties,” Bardwell said. “Any of them totally excluded by the board.”

And more will be on their way.

CUSCO COUNTY

**Seven’s not enough: Board looks to seek even more offers for a building**

*By Mark Haney | reporter haney@tcadvertiser.com*

A6 – Wednesday, February 16, 2022, The Advertiser

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By Vonda Van Til | Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

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Questions about Social Security that can help you plan your retirement

By Vonda Van Til | Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

Social Security benefits are part of the retirement plan of almost every American worker. If you're among the many people who've never heard of Social Security, you should know what your future benefit may be. These monthly payments are likely to be an important part of your retirement income.

We base your benefit payment on how much you earned during your working career. Higher lifetime earnings result in higher benefits. If there were some years you didn’t work or had low earnings, your benefit amount may be lower than if you had worked steadily. Even if you never worked and did not pay Social Security taxes, you may be eligible for spouse’s retirement benefits. You must be at least 62 years old, and your spouse must already be receiving retirement or disability benefits.

Our online retirement portal at www.ssa.gov/retirement is a great place to start mapping out your retirement plan. For example, have you considered:

■ What is the right time for you to start receiving your retirement benefits?

■ What documents you may need to provide SSA for your retirement application?

■ Which factors may affect your retirement benefits?

■ What you should remember to do after you apply for retirement benefits?

You can use your personal my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount to get an instant estimate of your future retirement benefits. You can also see the effects of starting your retirement benefits at different ages.

You may also be wondering about:

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■ How work affects your benefits.

■ Which factors you will have to pay taxes on your benefits.

You can learn more at www.ssa.gov/retirementplanning.

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ASHLEY ZAMORA – ADMINISTRATOR
Pandemic Cover Crop Program again offers crop insurance discounts

By Dean Baas
Illinois State University Extension

Cover crops is a conservation practice with wide ranging benefits including erosion protection, improving soil health, resilience and protecting water quality. Agricultural producers who have cover crops under most crop insurance policies are eligible for a premium benefit from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) if they planted cover crops during the 2022 crop year. To receive the benefit from this year’s Pandemic Cover Crop Program (PCCP), producers must report cover crop acreage by March 15, 2022.

The Pandemic Cover Crop Program provides a discount of $5 per acre on a farmer’s 2022 crop insurance premium, but no more than the full premium price. The Pandemic Cover Crop Program helps farmers maintain their cover crop systems, despite the financial challenges posed by the pandemic and is part of USDA’s Pandemic Assistance for Producers initiative, a bundle of programs to bring financial assistance to farmers, ranchers and producers who felt the impact of COVID-19 market disruptions.

“Cultivating cover crops requires a sustained, long-term investment, and the economic challenges of the pandemic made it financially challenging for many producers to maintain cover crop systems,” said RMA administrator Marcia Bunger. “Producers use cover crops to improve soil health and gain other non-economic benefits, and this program will reduce producers’ overall premium bill to help ensure producers can continue this climate-smart agricultural practice.” The Pandemic Cover Crop Program was first offered in 2021, and producers with crop insurance received $59.5 million in premium subsidies for producers with crop insurance who had 12.2 million acres of cover crops.

For more information on the program, visit Pandemic Cover Crop Program.
Arsonist told to pay area farmer $135K

By John Schneider
john@tcadvertiser.com

CARO — A Vassar man who set fire to property owned by an ex-boss was ordered to pay $135,036 in restitution.

A judge in Tuscola County Circuit Court last week ordered 52-year-old Todd Crosby to pay the amount to Fairgrove- area farmer John Goodchild.

Crosby was also sentenced to a deferred jail term of 313 days and three years of probation. If he follows probation guidelines, Crosby will not serve jail time. Crosby was given credit for two days served and ordered to pay $758 in costs and assessments.

Crosby is accused of setting fire to multiple structures belonging to Goodchild on Aug. 5, 2018. While responding to a barn fire on South Hinson Road, just north of Van Geisen Road in Fairgrove Township, first responders were notified that a hunting blind was on fire a short distance away in a field near the intersection of Van Geisen and Unionville roads in Junita Township.

Both structures were destroyed.

After an investigation, Crosby was charged with two counts of third-degree arson in connection with the fires. On Oct. 27, he pleaded no contest to one of the counts. A no contest plea is not an admission of guilt, but is treated such for sentencing purposes.

Crosby was arrested Oct. 27, 2018, near the hunting blind that was at the intersection of Van Geisen and Unionville roads and near the intersection of Van Geisen and Unionville roads in Junita Township.

According to the police report, family members who work for Goodchild told investigators that Crosby was employed with the farm, but hadn’t worked there in a couple of months. Police were told that in 2017, Goodchild had loaned Crosby several thousand dollars that Crosby said he needed to save his home from going into foreclosure.

About two weeks before the fires, Goodchild and family members confronted Crosby about the loan after learning that the home had been foreclosed on, anyway. Police told Crosby had not paid back any of the loan.

Crosby was questioned by a Michigan State Police trooper near the scene as firefighters were extinguishing the barn fire. He reported that Crosby was eating pizza in his truck and appeared to be intoxicated while watching the fire burn.

Investigators discovered tire tracks in the field near the hunting blind matched the tread of the tires on Crosby’s truck.

And when police questioned him after the incident, a portable heater in Crosby’s truck was discovered, along with a small bottle of alcohol and a pizza in his truck and appeared to be intoxicated while watching the fire burn. Police told Crosby that he needed to save his home from going into foreclosure.

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TUSCOLA COUNTY COURT NEWS

DISTRICT COURT

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TUSCOLA COUNTY COURT NEWS

CIRCUIT COURT

William Robert Brooks, 23, of Cass City, pleaded no contest to assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder or by strangulation, and domestic violence. A sentencing date will be set.

Zachary Shannon Stocchi, 33, of Columbiaville, pleaded no contest to two counts of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder or by strangulation. A sentencing date will be set.

Told Daniel Crosby, 52, of Vassar, was sentenced to 333 days in jail — deferred — with credit for two days served for third-degree arson. He is to be placed on three years of probation and was ordered to pay $115,036 in restitution and $758 in costs and assessments.

Matthew William Cooper, 42, of Lapeer, was sentenced to 90 days in jail — deferred — with credit for 67 days served for operating while intoxicated (third offense). He is to be placed on three years of probation and was ordered to pay $1,258 in costs and assessments.

John Gerald Hayward, 52, of Vassar, pleaded no contest to killing/torturing an animal. A sentencing date will be set.

John Gerald Heyward, 52, of Vassar, is charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder or by strangulation, assault with a dangerous weapon, third-degree fleeing a police officer, 11 counts of assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer, operating while intoxicated and reckless driving.

Sarah Mae Phelps, 37, of Vassar, is charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder or by strangulation, assault with a dangerous weapon, third-degree fleeing a police officer, operating while intoxicated and reckless driving.

Carla Phillips, 46, of Vassar, is charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder or by strangulation, assault with a dangerous weapon, third-degree fleeing a police officer, operating while intoxicated and reckless driving.

SARAH MAE PHELPS

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TUSCOLA COUNTY COURT NEWS

DISTRICT COURT

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TUSCOLA COUNTY COURT NEWS

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Goody bowls donated

Goody bowls donated

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TUSCOLA COUNTY Higher police costs arise in Akron village budget

By Mark Haney | Reporter
haney@tcadvertiser.com

AKRON — The village of Akron is getting its 2022-23 budget together.

In the meantime, the village council is considering suggestions and proposals. During its Jan. 18 session, the council considered putting money into the park fund for the basketball court and to add to and fix the fence. And police chief Matt Simerson proposed a 3 percent increase in his department’s budget plus an additional $1,000 next year for fuel, due to the increased cost of gasoline.

The council needs to approve a budget and have it in place by the end of March. The budget will also reflect some solution to the village’s street sweeper issues. The village’s machine has broken down and will be put up for auction, with a minimum bid of $1,000. At present the village is talking with the village of Fairgrove about having its machine clean Akron’s streets too.

The council also:

■ Hired Sandra Valentine to serve as the village treasurer. She replaces Rita Dickinson, who stepped down effective Jan. 31.

■ Named Mike Cox and Robert Hill to the sewer lagoon board; Mike and Donna Cox and Teri Nuiz to the employee committee; Roxanne Huizar an assistant to the fire board; and the two Covas to the park, buildings and grounds committee; Donna Cox and Jim Dickinson to the police committee; Nuiz and Huizar to the streets and sidewalks committee; and Nuiz, Dickinson and Monte Neuville to the planning committee. The entire council will serve as the sewer and water committee and as the zoning board of appeals.

■ Approved the Michigan Department of Transportation performance resolution.

The resolution is needed to have MDOT allow the village to work within the right-of-way of M-131.

■ Received a request to paint the crosswalk on School and Beach streets. The council said that it made the request a few years ago and the township didn’t want the additional work.

Vassar takes steps to protect water system

By Mark Haney | Reporter
haney@tcadvertiser.com

VASSAR — For most people, water flows one way — out of a faucet. The city of Vassar is taking steps to make sure that stays that way.

So the city voted Feb. 7 to update the city’s cross connection ordinance. The ordinance requires homes and businesses to allow the city to inspect water doesn’t flow backward in the water lines during a high-water demand. Such demand causes such a main break or a fire. Otherwise it could result in draining harm chemicals or other dangerous liquids into the water system.

The water system is a closed system, city manager Andrew Niedzinski said, “and every tap is an access to that.”

In Michigan, there are about four million homes with private water supplies. That is giving the department engine to purchase a grass truck in 2023 at a cost not expected to exceed $77,500.

Those contracts also require the other department determined the grass rig is cheaper to replace the poles than to repaint them.

■ Learned the four lights in the parking lot behind city hall are causing issues. One is not completely and two of them blink like a strobe. So the city is having the lights and the poles all replaced. Niedzinski said the city will buy the parts ($5,140) and Mark Cooper of Cooper Electric of Vassar will install it. A total cost of $8,240. Painting the existing poles would take them down and would mean going a long time without fire protection in the lot. Niedzinski said it also cheaper to replace the poles than to repaint them.

■ Approved the cross connection ordinance just ensures that we have the ability to go in, and check these backflow preventers to protect the water supply,” Niedzinski said. “That preventer is not on there, then water could get back in and would poison the whole system. We don’t want that.”

The city council also:

■ Updated the public participation plans to help the city comply with the Michigan Economic Development Corp. requirements for its Redevelopment Ready Community program. Most of what is in the plan, Niedzinski said, are things the city already has been doing. The document simply pulls it all into one paper. The RRC program helps communities be ready for development by helping them plan for new investment and reinvestment, identify assets and opportunities, and assign limited resources. It also requires they have systems in place to provide superior customer service, have streamlined development approval process and have pertinent information available around-the-clock for anyone to view.

■ Approved the federal poverty guidelines for property taxes.

■ Recognized Shifter’s of Vassar, a new organization, as a nonprofit so it can host raffles. The new group ran the annual car show in the city.

■ Voted to light the four lights in the parking lot behind city hall are causing issues. One is not completely and two of them blink like a strobe. So the city is having the lights and the poles all replaced. Niedzinski said the city will buy the parts ($5,140) and Mark Cooper of Cooper Electric of Vassar will install it. A total cost of $8,240. Painting the existing poles would take them down and would mean going a long time without fire protection in the lot. Niedzinski said it also cheaper to replace the poles than to repaint them.

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■ Learned the fire department plans to purchase a grass truck in 2023 at a cost not expected to exceed $77,500. The agreements with the surrounding townships, Niedzinski said, mean only items costing more than $50,000 and with certain vendors from outside the township.

■ Was asked to have Akron Township take over billing residents for garbage service. The council said it made the request a few years ago and the township didn’t want the additional work.

The ordinance is required by the state. Language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners. The ordinance to clarify and clean up the existing language so it will include homeowners.
FRANCES PERMILLA KAMEN WALK
CARO

A12 — Wednesday, February 16, 2022, The Advertiser — TuscolaToday.com

FRANCES PERMILLA KAMEN WALK
CARO

FRANCES P. Walk, 98, of Caro, died peacefully in her sleep, Monday, February 7, 2022 at the Extended Care of Marlette Regional Hospital. She was born in September 21, 1923 at home in Newberry to William Francis and Kate Perria (Rought) Caro. She married Raymond Kamen October 4, 1941 in Munising. He died in 1982. Frances married Randolph Walk on October 14, 1989 in Kingston. He died July 1, 2002.

Frances worked for Quality House Drugstore in Marlette for eleven years. She was a foster grandparent for six years. Frances enjoyed crocheting and made many afghans for family and friends. She was a Wesleyan Church member since 1945 and a member of Kinship Wesleyan Church since her move to Kingston in 1949. Frances was active with Wesleyan Woman and was a Sunday school teacher. Frances is survived by her children: Donald (Eileen) Kamen of Norville; Sally Demany of Wellston; Virginia (Joe) McIninch of Ann Arbor; Esther (Joe) Westpal of Norton Shores; daughter-in-law, Linda Kamen of Deckerville; granddaughter, Ronda Benjamin of Caro; fourteen grandchildren, thirty-six great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her son, Raymond Kamen; grandson, Paul; granddaughter, Kristin; brother; Helen "Black" Caro; half-siblings; son-in-law, Steve Demeny.

Funeral service was held at 12:00 p.m. Saturday, February 12, 2022 in Kranz Funeral Home of Caro. Friends may share memories, thoughts and prayers online at www.RansfordCollon.com. You may be eligible for certain benefits.

The Advertiser

CARO

FRANCES PERMILLA KAMEN WALK
CARO

HELEN ILENE PERRIA
CARO

HELEN ILENE PERRIA of Caro, age 99, passed away Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at Covenant Health Care in Saginaw. Helen was born August 26, 1923 in Bayron, the daughter of the late Leroy A. and Josephine M. (Durlin) Horning. She worked in the laundry department at St. Joseph Hospital in Pontiac. Helen had a deep love for her family and enjoyed spending time with them and spoiling her children’s dogs with treats. She loved her church and most recently enjoyed watching her son’s church in Lake Orion.

Helen is survived by three children and their spouses, Gary & Fay Perria of Attica, Paul & Ginger Perria of Auburn Hills, Lisa & Tim Stealey of Pontiac; grandchildren and spouses, Michelle & Terry Fulton. Christopher & Natalie Perria, Bryan & Megan Perria, Jacob & Colleen Perria, Adam Perria, Mark Perria, Kevin & Crystal Mayberry, Sierra Mayberry, and Crystal Mayberry; and special friends, Billie Williams and Cecilia Bender.

In addition to her parents and husband, Edward Perria, Helen was preceded in death by her son, Donald Leroy Perria; one brother, Robert Horning; and special friend, Edwin Gruber.

Funeral services were held at the Ransford Collon Funeral Home in Caro at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 10, 2022 with Elders Sandra Dorman and Jerry Bernhardt of the Community of Christ Church in Caro officiating. Burial will be held at Perry Mount Park Cemetery in Pontiac on Wednesday, February 16, 2022. The family was present to receive friends at the funeral home from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on Thursday from 10:00 a.m. until the service at 11:00 a.m. Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider memorial contributions to the Family Disciplinary Fund, c/o Gary Perria, 205 West Shermar Street, Caro, MI 48723.

The family was assisted with these arrangements by the Ransford Collon Funeral Home of Caro. Friends may share memories, thoughts and prayers online at www.RansfordCollon.com.

ROBERT LYNN FRAZER
CARO

ROBERT LYNN FRAZER of Caro, age 81, passed away on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at Medilodge Cass City. Bob was born September 25, 1952 in Pontiac; the son of Laddel and JoAnn Frazers. He graduated from Pontiac Northern High School and went on to run his own business, Electric Motor Service in Pontiac. It was through his brother, Bob met the former Patricia McCann. They dated, fell in love, and were united in marriage on September 10, 1976. Bob and Patricia shared over forty-five wonderful years together and many memories. In 2006, Bob retired from General Motors where he worked as a skilled trades machine repairman. After retirement, Bob proudly worked on building and installing many of the quilt blocks of the Thumb Quilt Trail. He was a jack of all trades, from working on and restoring cars, old vehicles, & trailers, to carpentry and woodworking. Bob loved hunting in the U.F. with his family every year. He enjoyed shooting sports, camping, boating, motorcycles, and above all, being with his family.

Bob is survived by his loving wife, Patricia; children, Katherine Frazers (Mike) Gaugh and Wilbert Frazers; beloved grandchildren, Violet; mother, Laddel of Clinton; sister, Claudia (Mike) Cole of Kalamazoo; brothers, Larry (Dianne) Frazers of Fennville, and Sam (Carol) Frazers of Jackson; and many extended family members, nieces, nephews, and friends.

In keeping with Bob’s wishes, cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider the Caro Roadhouse Museum & Historical Society. The family was assisted with these arrangements by the Ransford Collon Funeral Home of Caro. Friends may share memories, thoughts and prayers online at www.RansfordCollon.com.

BRIAN KEITH COLTSON, SR.
CARO

BRIAN KEITH COLTSON, Sr. of Caro passed away Thursday, February 10, 2022 at home by his family. Brian was born on February 19, 1959 in Cass City, the son of Charles R. and Dolores (Hornick) Bowles and attended Caro High School. He had been employed as a telephone operator at Moore Telephone Company, Caro Plastic, an American Motorcycle Association, and were united in marriage on September 9, 1989 in Cass City, the daughter of the late Charles R. and Alice M. (Mulroy) Bowles with Christine Coltson, twin sister of Brian Jr.; grandparents, Ted & Louise and Jo & Ellen Coltson; and his other dads, Rings and Dallas Nichols.

In keeping with Brian’s wishes, cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider the Caro Roadhouse Museum & Historical Society. The family was assisted with these arrangements by the Ransford Collon Funeral Home of Caro. Friends may share memories, thoughts and prayers online at www.RansfordCollon.com.

CHARLENE THERESA BARANSKI
CARO

CHARLENE THERESA BARANSKI of Caro, age 83, passed away Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at Covenant Health Care in Saginaw, the companion of more than ten years, “Punkin” kept her company. She would never turn down a chance to go shopping and, sitting out with her new friends. Charlene was survived by four children, Ann (Young) Dunia, LaToya (Fields) Lockwood and Greg of Caro; ten grandchildren, Alicee Schmidt, Amy Turc, Sara Duclos, Austin Lockwood; Austin Rodriguez, Rebekah Rodriguez, Jonathan Fields, Joseph Fields and Zaynn Lockwood; fourteen great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. There are no services planned in honor to her parents, Charlene was preceded in death by her husband, John J. Baranski; husband, Leonid I. Barski; one son, Richard C. Fields; one granddaughter, Angela (Dowdell) Kollmann; two children, Robert and Richard Bowles; two sisters, Connie Neumeister and Sue Lockwood; and two nephews, Scott Bowles and Jeffrey Mitchell.

Charlene loved gardening and baking, along with painting pictures, knitting, crocheting and making quilts. Her feline companion of more than ten years, “Punkin” kept her company. She would never turn down a chance to go shopping and, sitting out with her new friends. Charlene was survived by four children, Ann (Young) Dunia, LaToya (Fields) Lockwood and Greg of Caro; ten grandchildren, Alicee Schmidt, Amy Turc, Sara Duclos, Austin Lockwood; Austin Rodriguez, Rebekah Rodriguez, Jonathan Fields, Joseph Fields and Zaynn Lockwood; fourteen great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. There are no services planned in honor to her parents, Charlene was preceded in death by her husband, John J. Baranski; husband, Leonid I. Barski; one son, Richard C. Fields; one granddaughter, Angela (Dowdell) Kollmann; two children, Robert and Richard Bowles; two sisters, Connie Neumeister and Sue Lockwood; and two nephews, Scott Bowles and Jeffrey Mitchell.

Cremation has taken place and no services are planned. Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider memorial contributions to the Caro Roadhouse Museum & Historical Society. The family was assisted with these arrangements by the Ransford Collon Funeral Home of Caro. Friends may share memories, thoughts and prayers online at www.RansfordCollon.com.
JEANNETTE M. McLAREN
UNIONVILLE

Jeannette M. McLaren, 91, of Unionville, passed away Monday, February 14, 2022 at McLaren Bay Region in Bay City. Jeannette was born January 1, 1931 in Akron Twp to the late Leotis and Stella (Hellebuck) Varstunken. She graduated from Unionville High School. She married Kenneth McLaren November 5, 1949 at the Unionville Moravian Church, he preceded her in death March 26, 2016. Jeannette enjoyed sports and the outdoors, especially bowling, golfing, gardening, and fishing.

Jeannette is survived by her children Michael (Gena) of Unionville, Patricia Litten of Akron and Brian (Jenifer) of Owendale; grandchildren Scott, Michelle, Timothy, Jason, Kenneth, Justin, Joshua, and Megan; great-grandchildren, Nati, Brendan, Zachary, Becca, Amber, Colby, Molly, Morgan, Addie, Elise, Washington, Everett, Catell, Esméline, and William; sisters Dorothy Varstunken of Florida and Joyce Bohn of Unionville and brother Larry (Virginia) Varstunken. She was preceded in death by her husband and her parents in law.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Cancer Society.

Funeral services will be held at the Caro First Baptist Church on Saturday, February 19, 2022 at 11:00 am with Rev. Marc Hermon officiating. Burial will follow at Brookside Cemetery in Fairgrove. The family will be present to receive friends at the Ranford Collon Funeral Home in Caro on Friday from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday at the church from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service at 11:00 a.m. Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider memorial contributions to the Caro First Baptist Church. The family was assisted with these arrangements by the Ranford Collon Funeral Home of Caro. Friends may share memories, thoughts and prayers online at RanfordCollon.com.

BETTY ANN ROHLFS
FAIRGROVE

Betty Ann Rohlfs of Fairgrove, age 91, passed away on Saturday, February 12, 2022 at Grayling Nursing and Rehab Center in Grayling. Betty was born January 15, 1931 in Cass City, the daughter of the late Ray and Wilma (Abdelco) Rondo. Betty attended Michigan State University where she met her high school sweetheart, Robert VanSteenhouse, and they were married November 5, 1949. Betty was a graduate of Caro High School, Class of 1949. Betty was united in marriage with Allen Rohlfis on September 17, 1949 in Caro and he preceded her in death on May 1, 2005. She was employed with State Savings Bank in Caro as an assistant president for twenty-eight years, retiring in 1996. In her early years, she was a 4-H leader and Brownie leader, and most recently church organist at the Caro First Baptist Church.

Betty is survived by two daughters, Darby Rohlfis (Denisa Brower) and Vicky (Guy) Clayton of Las Vegas, Nevada; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one sister, Rayola (Roy) Kranshin.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the Cancer Society. Friends may share memories, thoughts and prayers online at www.avramfuneralhome.com.

RUSSEL C SHAWER
MAYVILLE

Russel C. Shawer of Mayville, MI passed away on February 11, 2022 at Fisher Senior Care Rehabilitation Center. He was born December 10, 1943 in Caro, MI to the late Clem and Vera (Clement) Shawer. Russ was a graduate of Caro High School with the Class of 1962. He went on to attend Ferris State University. He had a passion for driving track and handled for companion horse racing and help farm. Russ also enjoyed putting together model cars, doing research on car make and model. He loved spending time with his close cousin Rae Marie Brielar researching their ancestry. Russ was always willing to lend a helping hand, and many in town knew him as the “candy man.” He was always equipped with his bag of candy.

Russ was survived by his children, Brent (Kiki) Shaver of Huntington, CA and Wendy (Betsy) Hayes of Maplelawn, IL; step children, Tim (Greg) Planck of Caro, MI and Rhonda (Hicks) Sattelberg of Caro, MI; 18 grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his fur buddies, Laddie and Sparky.

Memorial Services will be held at the Caro First Baptist Church on February 19, 2022 at 11:00 am. Russ will be laid to rest in the Unionville Cemetery, family will be present to receive friends at the Ranford Collon Funeral Home of Caro, MI. Memorial Contributions may be made to the Cancer Society. Friends may share memories, thoughts and prayers online at www.avramfuneralhome.com.

ROBERT LEWIS
VASSAR

On Thursday, February 17, 2022, Bob Lewis passed away, at the age of 61. Bob was born on May 19, 1960, in Cass City, MI to David and Lucinda Lewis. Dave, Jim, Bob and David were the sons of Linwood Lewis, and Dorothy Lewis. Bob was preceded in death by his brother, DeWalden “Dave” Lewis.

Bob owned and operated Mid-Michigan Lawn Sprinklers for over 30 years. Bob was an avid outdoorsman passionate about snowmobiling, fishing, and hunting. He loved going up north to his hunting cabin with his brothers and nephews, Ron Newton, Trenton McMurphy, and friends. Bob also loved having barbeques and fish fries with his family and friends.

A memorial will be held in the summer. Bob’s obituary was lovingly written by his wife, Sandra.

Friends may share a memory with the family at www.avramfuneralhome.com.

SANDRA KAY RUPPAL
AKRON

Sandra Kay Ruppall of Akron, MI passed away on Sunday, February 13, 2022 at Mid-Michigan Medical Center in Midland, MI. Sandra was born November 13, 1953 in Bay City, MI, the daughter of Geraldine (Neal) Dowdall and the late Frederick Dowdall. Sandra grew up in Unionville and was baptized at the Unionville Moravian Church where she remained a faithful member until her death. Sandra was also a member of the last class to graduate from Unionville High School in 1972. The following year, she was united in marriage with her high school sweetheart, Donald J. Ruppall, Jr. on August 25, 1973 at the Unionville Moravian Church. Sandra worked for many years as a home health care nurse at Hills & Dales General Hospital in Cass City, Colling Church of the Nazarene, Unionville Moravian Church, and several private residences in the area. Cleaning fit Sandra’s meticulous nature and boundless energy. She was hardworking and always put the needs of others before herself. Sandra was sweet but also fiercely independent. She was devotedly supportive of her children and grandchildren and remained to the end a devoted Catholic. Sandra made many memories while summering in Cassville and Port Austin, and also worked Medical Center in Midland.

Sandra’s family will be present to receive friends at the Ranford Collon Funeral Home of Caro on Monday, February 21, 2022. In keeping with her wishes, cremation will follow the visitation and a memorial service will be held at a later date. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider memorial contributions to: The Cancer Supportive Care Foundation, 10110 Westland Dr., Westland, MI 48185-7273. The family was assisted with these arrangements by the Ranford Collon Funeral Home of Caro. Friends may share memories, thoughts and prayers online at www.RanfordCollon.com.
King and Queen court back row: Korbin Dutcher, Carsen Hecht and Terrell Sanders. Front row: Alyssa Fabro, Kylie Clark and Audrey Kreiner.

Junior representatives Paris Riedel and Rylan Mansueto.

Sophomore representatives Savannah Bertelsmeyer and Landon Klinesmith.

Freshman representatives Maezeeona Mendham and Trevor Gleeson.
Moore joins elite company, reaches 1,000-point plateau

By Scott Bolzar | Sports Editor

SEREWANG TWP. — Adelyn Moore’s quest to score 1,000 points began Dec. 3, 2019, in a 60-47 win against Carmona.

Moore, now a 5-foot-10 junior, was relatively unknown at that point, but scored 23 points in her varsity debut, immediately announcing her arrival on the Thumb-area basketball scene.

Fast forward 977 points later, to Feb. 8, 2022, at Unionville-Sebewaing Area High School. Adelyn Moore drains a 3-pointer with 3:41 remaining in the second quarter to officially become a member of the exclusive 1,000-point club.

“It was honestly just another game,” Moore said. “I knew I was going to hit that game, and I was kind of nervous in the first half thinking to myself ‘Oh my gods, when am I going to get there? Where are we? I point-wise?’ But my teammates kept reminding me how far I had to go. When I hit it, it felt really good.”

The Tigers defeated USA 57-36 behind Moore’s 31 points. Caro coach Jay Riley took a timeout after Moore scored her 1,000th point so Moore and teammates could celebrate. She was also cheered on from the stands by family, friends, and multiple community members.

“It feels good to hit this milestone, but it was definitely a goal of mine,” Moore said. “We only played five games. We entered the game my freshman year (1972) and entered as an unknown at that point, but it feels good to have the community here cheering me on.”

The two-time Thumb Area Sportswriters’ Association Player of the Year wasn’t sure she would reach the 1,000-point mark, but admits it was on her radar.

“It didn’t think it was going to happen, but it was definitely a goal of mine,” she said. “I remember seeing other players hit 1,000 points and just thinking to myself how cool that was.”

Moore becomes the fourth Caro girls’ basketball player to score 1,000 career points and the first since 1981.

A big deal made of girls’ basketball back then,” said Hyde-Rove. “It became a varsity sport my freshman year (1972) and we only played five games. We entered district tournaments in my junior year, I think.

“We played with a standard-size ball, but a girls’ size ball, and there was no 3-point shot.”

According to Brad Brown, a former Caro girls’ basketball coach and retired teacher, Hyde-Rove played only 48 games her entire four-year career – averaging more than 21 points per contest. Coon averaged 23.3.

By Tom Colebrook | News Editor

WATERTOWN TWP. — As Carter Henry scored a layup in the final seconds here Feb. 8, he secured Fostoria Baptist Academy’s victory over Juinata Christian School – and chalked one up for the Little brothers.

Juniata Christian “has seen us kind of grow up in their shadow, and now we’re competing with them,” said Pastor Steven Henry, head coach of Fostoria Baptist, fielding its first varsity team and capturing its first-ever win over Juniata Christian, 41-38, in overtime.

Juniata Christian School and Fostoria Baptist Academy are about 11 miles apart in southern Tuscola County, and Fostoria Baptist beat Juniata Christian in volleyball, as well, a few months back.

It’s intense, and it is a rivalry,” said Pastor Steven Henry scoring on that driving layup as time expired – sending Fostoria players and coach Henry into a frenzy.

Smith made another free throw to give the Eagles a 38-37 lead, but Fostoria’s Zach Kennedy – who led all scorers with 26 points – drained a shot to give the Crusaders a 39-38 edge.

Following a missed Fostoria free throw, Juniata had a chance at victory, only to see a pair of Fostoria defenders team up to force a stead near half-court, with Carter Henry scoring on that driving layup as time expired – sending Fostoria players and coach Henry into a frenzy.

“If you think (Henry) gets fired up coaching, you should see him preaching,” said Maryellen Wright, manning the Fostoria gym’s concession stand and selling her child dogs.

SEE ‘LITTLE BROTHER’ | B11

Fostoria Baptist Academy’s Elijah Boyd (21) finds room to shoot against Juniata Christian School defenders, from left, Walker UNI (1), Andrew Flanders (13) and Wyatt Green (12). Fostoria Baptist slapped Juniata’s Christian, 41-38, on Feb. 8.

‘Little Brother,’ Fostoria Baptist, nips Juniata in OT

By Tom Colebrook | News Editor

Fostoria Baptist Academy’s Elijah Boyd (21) finds room to shoot against Juniata Christian School defenders, from left, Walker UNI (1), Andrew Flanders (13) and Wyatt Green (12). Fostoria Baptist slapped Juniata’s Christian, 41-38, on Feb. 8.

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SVSU track-and-field lands Reese’s Gray

Reese senior Sarah Gray (white shirt) recently signed to compete in track and field at Saginaw Valley State University. Joining Gray are mom Bonnie (left), sister Holly (middle) and dad Mark (right).

By Scott Bolsby | The Advertiser

REESE — Reese’s Sarah Gray grew up enjoying track-and-field competitions, but it wasn’t until high school that she realized her true love for the sport.

“I liked it when I was in middle school, but it was just a ‘like’ then,” she said. “When I got to high school, I became more serious and after what I did my freshman year, I realized I had potential and I fell in love with the sport.”

Gray, in front of friends and family on Feb. 9, committed to compete at track and field for Saginaw Valley State University.

“I’m feeling great right now and I’m very excited for the future,” Gray said following the signing. “I really like their campus and dorms. I like the track coach and the team and coaches were very welcoming. I just loved everything about SVSU.”

Gray, a four-sport athlete, said SVSU wasn’t the only school recruiting her.

“Thadeofellows,” she said. “Northwood, Detroit Mercy, Clayway, Rochester and a whole bunch of other NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) schools, but SVSU separated themselves from the pack.”

While track and field remains Gray’s favorite, she is also a member of the cross-country, volleyball, and basketball teams at Reese. She recalls a moment during volleyball season as her favorite athletic moment of high school.

“The volleyball state championship without a doubt, because that will always be remembered here,” she said. “For my track-and-field career, it was the Thumb Meet of Champions and being the first female athlete from Reese to win Athlete of the Meet there.”

The Reese volleyball team won the Division 3 state championship on Nov. 20 with a 3-2 victory over Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central.

Gray looks to add to her legacy individually with her final track-and-field season beginning in March. She qualified for the Division 3 state finals last year in the 100- and 300-meter hurdles, and the long jump, earning all-state honors in the 300-hurdles with a seventh-place time of 40.02 seconds. She placed eighth in the long jump with a leap of 15 feet, 10 inches.

“I want to beat some of the school records, so can I be up there always,” she said. “I want to get all-state honors and just crush the upcoming season. I feel like I’ve been a very good legacy. A lot of people look up to me and dream to do what I’ve been able to do, and I’m very satisfied with that and what I have done so far.”

Gray expressed gratitude for her coaches, Brandon Gnatkowski and Foster Findlay. Gnatkowski, a former assistant, took over the program after Findlay stepped down following last season, but Findlay still offers a pivotal role in Gray’s life and decision.

“Both coaches have been huge parts of my life,” she said. “Findlay helped me out in the recruiting process, has always motivated me and always been there for me. Coach Gnatkowski has also always been there when he’s needed something, he always puts a smile on my face, always pushes me and just those two together are amazing to have by my side.”

“I couldn’t imagine having two other coaches guiding me through my track and field career.”

Gray plans to major in business management and minor in marketing, with dreams of becoming an entrepreneur.

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Class representatives for the Unionville-Sebewaing Area High School Coming Home celebration are, from left, juniors Sam Beagle and Michael Jacobs; sophomores John P. Reed and Kameron Schlund; and freshmen Brendan Jameson and Carter Toft.
FOR SALE: 16’ Bar Restaurant, apartment is rented out, $2,000/month or $54,000. Call 989-922-0993.

Furniture
A Queen Pillow Top Mattress Set new in plastic, slightly damaged in shipping, cost $220, sold for $50. Call 989-922-0091.

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2022 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW MEETINGS

ARBELA TOWNSHIP
The Arbela Township Board of Review will meet at Arbela Township Hall, 8905 Birch Run Rd., Milington, Michigan on:

Tuesday, March 15, 2022
3:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Thursday, March 17, 2022
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

The Board of Review is authorized to act upon written request from all Arbela Township taxpayers who are unable to attend the meeting in person concerning their current property assessment.

The tentative rates and the estimated multipliers for each class of real and personal property for 2022 are as follows:

Class Rates and Factors

Agricultural 1-866-950-6757
Commercial 41-71 1-866-950-6757
Industrial 50-34 1-866-950-6757
Residential 44-03 1-866-950-6757
Personal 50-20 1-866-950-6757

David McArthur
Township Assessor

Class Rates and Factors

Agricultural 1-866-950-6757
Commercial 46-17 1-866-950-6757
Industrial 50-34 1-866-950-6757
Residential 44-03 1-866-950-6757
Personal 50-20 1-866-950-6757

FREE Standard installation applies to new Lease subscribers only. Not valid with the following:

- Additional 10% off install for military, health workers & 1st responders.
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- Don’t have a plan.

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JUNIATA TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2022, 7:00 PM

Juniata Township will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 at the Juniata Township Hall, 1971 S Ringle Road, Caro, MI 48723. The purpose of this hearing is to consider approval of the proposed budget. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection by calling Brenda Bigham, Clerk at 989-871-5821.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWNSHIP OF FREMONT

PROPOSED CAREGIVER CULTIVATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA AND HIGH AMPERAGE ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

PLEASE BE NOTIFIED that the Fremont Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fremont Township Hall at 4850 Merz Road, Mayville, MI 48744.

The purpose of this public hearing will be to consider a proposed Caregiver Cultivation of Medical Marijuana and High Amperage Zoning Ordinance Amendment for the Township of Fremont. A copy of the proposed zoning ordinance amendment may be obtained from the Township Clerk by calling 989/871-0621.

All interested persons are encouraged to attend this public hearing. Any opinions you have on the proposed amendment can be presented at this public hearing or may be submitted in writing to the Township Clerk at the above address prior to the hearing.

Amy Holbrook Fremont Township Clerk

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL TUSCULA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEMS (TBHS)

Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems (TBHS), a Michigan Community Mental Health Authority, is seeking sealed bid proposals from Village of Reese and the surrounding area. The Village of Reese is located in Vassar, Michigan. The Village is seeking sealed bid proposals for the provision of medical marijuana and high amperage zoning.
The Arbela Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 at the Arbela Township Hall, 8850 Birch Run Rd., Millington, MI on Monday, March 21, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. “The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.” At this time we are offering the residents an opportunity to express their opinions to the Board regarding which roads they feel are most in need of repair.

The Arbela Township Board will provide necessary auxiliary aids and services, such as a TTY, sign language interpreters, and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting. Individuals with disabilities and who will need such services to participate should contact the Arbela Township Clerk at 517-836-2737 at least 5 (five) days in advance notice of the public hearing.

All persons attending the public hearing are strongly encouraged to wear protective masks. This meeting is open to all members of the public under the Michigan’s Open Meetings Act.

**CITY OF VASSAR**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

March 7, 2022

Notice is hereby given that the City of Vassar City Council will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 3, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. at City Hall, 287 E Huron Avenue, Vassar, MI 48768 to hold a Public Hearing to amend text for the following:

Ordinance No. 2022-01

Copy of the complete ordinances are available for review by the public Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, 287 E Huron Avenue, Vassar, MI 48768. These ordinances can also be viewed at www.cityofvassar.org. Persons unable to attend may submit written comments to the City Clerk at the above email address: citymanager@cityofvassar.org.

**Tuscola County, MI**

Offices: Section 36.1 - Street, Drain and Waterway Connections

The Zoning Board of Appeals will hear appeal of a variance appealed in writing and is not required to make a personal appearance.

The tentative ratios and estimated multipliers necessary to compute individual state equalized values are as follows:

### NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING CITY OF CARO

March 7, 2022

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on Monday, March 28, 2022 at 6:00:00 p.m. at City Hall, in the Council Chambers, 207 E Huron Avenue, Vassar, MI 48768 to consider a variance of the placement of a Commercial Dog Kennel in a single-family residential district without proper setback. The parcel is located at 302 S West St, Vassar and is identified as: 051-500-002 in Vassar MI. A variance can only be issued after the public is offered the chance for public comment. Persons unable to attend may submit written comments to the Zoning Administrator Andrew Niedzinski at the above address and they will be recorded for the record at the public hearing.

Andrew Niedzinski
Zoning Administrator

**WATERTOWN TOWNSHIP**

NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW MEETINGS

March 8, 9:00 AM – NOON
March 15, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
March 22, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Waverly Township Library
9405 Foster St
Pine River, MI 49675

NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW MEETINGS

March 8, 9:00 AM – Noon
March 15, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
March 22, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Waverly Township Library
9405 Foster St
Pine River, MI 49675

NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW MEETINGS

March 8, 9:00 AM – Noon
March 15, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
March 22, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF ALMER
NOTICE OF ADOPTION:
ORDINANCE TO AMEND ZONING ORDINANCE REGARDING COMMUNICATION TOWERS

To the residents and property owners of the Charter Township of Almer, Tuscola County, Michigan, and all other interested persons:

On February 8, 2022, the Charter Township of Almer (the “Township”) adopted an Ordinance to Amend Zoning Ordinance Regarding Communication Towers (“Ordinance”). A summary of the Ordinance is provided below. A true copy of the Ordinance, including all exhibits, is available for inspection at the Township Hall, 1310 Cameron Rd., Caro, MI 48723, and is posted on the website of the Charter Township of Almer. http://www.almer township.mi.us.

Section 1. Purpose. This section states the purpose of the Ordinance.

Section 2. Amendment of Section 1524. This section comprehensively amends Section 1524 of the Zoning Ordinance regarding the standards and requirements for communication towers in the Township.

Section 3. Validity and Severability. This section provides that if any portion of the Ordinance is found invalid for any reason, such holding shall not be construed as affecting the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

Section 4. Repealer. This section provides that any ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the Ordinance are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give the Ordinance full force and effect.

Section 5. Effective Date. This section provides that the Ordinance shall take effect seven days after publication.

The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 10-days notice. Douglass Kramer
Koylton Township Supervisor

KOYLTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW

The Koylton Township Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 1310 Cameron Rd, Caro, MI 48723, on Monday, March 22, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon & 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the tax valuations of the real and personal property of the residents of the Township for the year 2022.

The Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals and to readvertise or to award any or all of said projects.

“An equal opportunity employer”

Input - ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEEN POINT ZERO THREE PERCENT (177.03%).

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real and personal property for 2022 are as follows:

Class Ratio Multiplier
Agricultural 44.70 1.0000
Commercial 51.27 0.7072
Industrial 49.26 0.9963
Residential 44.96 1.1212
Personal Property 50.00 1.0000

This meeting is open to all public under Michigan Open Meetings Act.

Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 10-days notice.

John Laurie, Chairman
Gary Parsell, Vice-Chairman
Julie Matuszak, Member

WELLS TOWNSHIP 2022 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The Wells Township Board of Review meetings will be held at the Wells Township Hall, 2300 Flint Rd., Cass, MI 48723 on the following dates:

• Tuesday, March 8 at 9:00 a.m. This is an organizational meeting and no record will be heard at organizational meeting.
• Wednesday, March 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Appeal Hearing.
• Thursday, March 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Appeal Hearing

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2022 are as follows:

Class Ratio Multiplier
Agricultural 48.69 1.0000
Commercial 48.38 1.0265
Industrial 49.01 1.0936
Residential 44.05 1.1351
Personal Property 50.00 1.0000

The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 10-days notice.

Karen Varney, 2300 Flint Rd, Cass, MI 48723, supervisor@wellsfob.org or call 989-673-4487

REQUEST FOR BIDS NOTICE TUSCOLA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

TUSCOLA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION-1735 S. MERTZ ROAD, CARO, MI 48723

Sealed bids will be received by the Township, Thursday, March 3rd, 2022, at the office of the Tuscola County Road Commissioners at 1735 S. Wenz Rd., Caro, Michigan for the following item(s) at the time(s) specified:

8:45 a.m. Pavement Markings

Bids are to be submitted to the Road Commission offices in a plainly marked and sealed envelope. No electronic bids will be accepted. Specifications are available on line at www.tuscolacounty.org. Please contact Brent Dankert, P.E., Tuscola County Highway Engineer at 989-673-4430 or bdankert@tuscolacounty.org with any questions.

The Board reserves the right to accept or 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.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS

An equal Opportunity Employer

Tuscola Today.com Wednesday, February 16, 2022, The Advertiser — B9
The creditors of LINDA JOYCE HARAHUE, deceased, have been notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless personal representatives are notified and appear to the probate court at 440 N. State Street, Caro, MI 48723 and the personal representative on or before the 6 months after the date of publication of the Notice to Creditors.

The creditors are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless personal representatives are notified and appear to the probate court at 440 N. State Street, Caro, MI 48723 and the personal representative on or before the 6 months after the date of publication of this notice. 2022/12/01, 7:00 PM

The creditors are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless personal representatives are notified and appear to the probate court at 440 N. State Street, Caro, MI 48723 and the personal representative on or before the 6 months after the date of publication of this notice. 2022/12/01, 7:00 PM

The creditors of DONALD LEWIS KENNETH AYERS, deceased, have been notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless personal representatives are notified and appear to the probate court at 440 N. State Street, Caro, MI 48723 and the personal representative on or before the 6 months after the date of publication of the Notice to Creditors.

The creditors are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless personal representatives are notified and appear to the probate court at 440 N. State Street, Caro, MI 48723 and the personal representative on or before the 6 months after the date of publication of this notice. 2022/12/01, 7:00 PM

The Board of Review is authorized to act upon written request from all Indianfields Township taxpayers who are unable to attend the hearing will be held on March 15 in order to be considered. Call 989-823-9541 for an appointment. For more information visit our website at gertytownship.org.

The tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for Ellington are:

- Agricultural: 44.95, multiplier 1.1123
- Commercial: 51.69, multiplier 1.0522
- Residential: 43.43, multiplier 1.1254
- Personal Property: 50.30, multiplier 1.0000

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

The tentative ratios and estimated multipliers necessary to compute individual state equalized values are as follows:

- Agricultural: 44.95, multiplier 1.1123
- Commercial: 51.69, multiplier 1.0522
- Residential: 43.43, multiplier 1.1254
- Personal Property: 50.30, multiplier 1.0000

This notice is posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 5 days notice.

As required by the General Property Tax Act, notice is hereby given by Fremont Township, that the 2023 Millage Board of Review will meet on the following days at the Fremont Township Hall located at 4450 Merz Road, Mayville, Michigan, for the purpose of reviewing 2022 assessment and hearing requests, protests or applications for corrections of assessed or tentative taxable values.

- March 8, 2022: 10:00 a.m.
- March 14, 2022: 6:00 p.m.
- March 18, 2022: 9:00 a.m.

The Fremont Township Board of Review will hear appeals on the above dates and times.

Letter appeals are also accepted in lieu of personal appearance and will be accepted from the first Tuesday in March until the Board of Review adjourns from the public hearing for which it meets to hear such protests.

The tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for the 2023 Assessments in the Township are as follows:

- Agricultural: 44.95, multiplier 1.1123
- Commercial: 51.69, multiplier 1.0522
- Residential: 43.43, multiplier 1.1254
- Personal Property: 50.30, multiplier 1.0000

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

The tentative ratios and estimated multipliers necessary to compute individual state equalized values are as follows:

- Agricultural: 44.95, multiplier 1.1123
- Commercial: 51.69, multiplier 1.0522
- Residential: 43.43, multiplier 1.1254
- Personal Property: 50.30, multiplier 1.0000

The tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for Ellington are:

- Residential: 43.43, multiplier 1.1254
Senior queen candidates for Millington High School Snowcoming are, front row from left, Ashlee Wagner, Isabelle Basner, Kenzie Trato and Emma Hoard; senior king candidates are, back row, Nicholas Yorke, Hayden Holmes, Nathan Phillips and Austin Kibby.

Class representatives for Millington High School Snowcoming are, front row from left, freshman Karoline Root, sophomore Darianna Tinsman and junior Georgia Peters; back row, freshman Ryan Keinath, sophomore Logan Boovy and junior Kaden Witsenbach.

Marlette High School king and queen candidates for Snowcoming are, from left: Chyler Chisholm & Lucie Petrizot; Ethan Marshall & Gracie Bell; Travis McElhend & Janice Vasanthakumar; Jeremiah Miller & Abby Klinesmith; Grant Roberson & Emma Woods.

Class representatives are, from left: junior Madelyn Leffler and Nathan Abbot; Lillian Lemansi and Tristan King; and freshman Turlough Bennett & Emmy Crane.
Moore joins elite company, reaches milestone

**From BL**

more than 12 points a game in her career, including 19.3 points per game in her senior season. Moore scored 1,014 points in her career while playing for Caro as the all-time leading scorer at Caro with 1,086 points – a goal Moore looked to achieve next.

“I want to bring a district championship home to Caro,” Moore said. “But personally, I also want to become the all-time leading scorer in Caro girls’ basketball history.”

Moore scored 361 points her freshman season, and 285 in her Caro High School sophomore season in 13 games. Following the USA game on Feb. 8, of this year, she tallied 373 points this season, giving her 20.3 points per game in her career.

“It started freshman year with a lot of hard work,” Moore said. “It was hard work every day, during the offseason, in the summer, getting up even when I didn’t feel like it. I would get up and just push through.”

As a freshman, Moore also played a pivotal role in Caro winning its first girls’ basketball conference championship since 1995, snapping Reese’s streak of 12 consecutive conference titles.

Tigers defeated Reese 46-37, and 54-22, to clinch the Greater Thumb Conference West Division crown as Moore scored 21 and 16 points, respectively.

“This is probably the second-best moment,” she said. “The top moment is still winning the conference championship at Reese my freshman year. That was something special.”

Moore was presented with a commemorative 1,000-point basketball prior to Thursday’s game against Caro. Caro fell to the Red Hawks 43-45, but Moore added to her point tally with a total of 1,039 points on the season.

**Editor’s note:** The Advertiser has strived to determine those names of players and coaches that are listed in the newspaper’s archives.

**Cass City senior football player Connor Herford.**

Cass City senior football player Connor Herford, a 2021 graduate of Caro, prepares to release a shot during her senior season of girls’ basketball. Caro became the second girls’ 1,000-point scorer in Caro basketball history and went on to become the all-time leading scorer with 1,086 points.

***Lynette Coon, a 1981 graduate of Caro, prepares to release a shot during her senior season of girls’ basketball. Caro became the second girls’ 1,000-point scorer in Caro basketball history and went on to become the all-time leading scorer with 1,086 points.***

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**Herford flies high: Cass City senior signs with Division I Air Force Academy**

Cass City senior Connor Herford (sitting middle) is joined at his Feb. 2 signing by mom Angela Wasienski (sitting right), dad Ryan Herford (standing left) and brother Lane (standing right). By SCOTT ROYAL | Sports Editor

**CASS CITY — The Air Force Academy’s motto is “Fight-Fly-Win,” which can also be used to describe the style of play for Cass City senior football player Connor Herford. The 6-foot-2, 245-pound lineman could be seen flying around the field, doing everything in his power to lead the Red Hawks to a win on both sides of the ball.**

“I like to think of myself as someone who does his job and does it well,” Herford said. “I set the edge on defense, and I contribute just as much on offense. I just try to create holes for my running backs, and protect the quarterback.”

Herford, son of Angela and Gene Wasienski, and Ryan and Shelli Herford, found the perfect fit at the next level by signing his certificate of intent on Feb. 2 to join the U.S. Air Force Academy and play Division I football.

“I feel very happy,” he said. “It’s kind of overwhelming and shocking. I never expected anything like this was ever going to happen.”

Herford will continue his football career at Air Force before serving in the Air Force for the following five years, but the decision could lead down a different path, based on his career interest.

“I’m hoping to get into physical therapy white while there,” Herford said. “I’ll need my doctorate for that and that’ll turn into 10 years of service, but it would be totally worth it if I get to have my amount of money to receive a doctorate.”

Herford is projected to play on the defensive line for the Falcons, who finished the 2021 season with a 10-3 record and a U.S. Army Bowl victory over Louisville in the First Responders Bowl.

Life was not always easy that Herford saw in his future before he started talking to Air Force representatives in November, but he noted “I’m just going with it now that we are here.”

Cass City head football coach Scott Cuthrell commented on Herford’s signing as more than just his coach.

“I’m really proud of him,” Cuthrell said. “I’m kind of like a proud dad just because of all the work he’s done. His vision was always to play Division 1 or 2 football and his dream came true and that was partly from hard work.”

Cuthrell, along with his wife, Amy, visited the 18,000-acre-plus academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado recently, and talked with the coaches.

“We had a chance to go out there and it’s a beautiful place,” he said. “We had a chance to talk to their coach (Tony Calhoun) and they are excited for Connor and excited to have him come out.”

“It’s a beautiful area and a beautiful campus and I think he’s going to get a great education and serve our country.”

Herford, who carries a 3.55 grade-point average, moved up to varsity for the Red Hawks beginning his sophomore season and since then the team has enjoyed a 26-8 record over the last three seasons, a pair of Greater Thumb Conference West Division titles, and state semifinal appearances. **Herford has given his senior year of high school to his dreams of playing Division I football.**

“It’s a beautiful area and a beautiful campus and I think he’s going to get a great education and serve our country.”

Farm Depot

**Caro**

**CUTTHELL, along with his wife, Amy, visited the 18,000-acre-plus academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado recently, and talked with the coaches.**

“His junior year of high school, he made the decision to go to the academy,” Cuthrell said. “He’s just one of those people who has a passion for football,” he said. “We can tell him what we need him to be, know he’ll be in the right field and keeping his conditioning up.”

Connor was one of those kids who stick with the plan we had in mind for the dream come true on improving and improving and improving.”

Herford is also a member of the boys’ basketball team and track-and-field squad, and after basketball season, he hopes to break the 50-shot shot put school record Herford’s best throw last season was 48 feet.

“He played all the sports and just grew each year,” coach Cuthrell said. “He stayed on track, stayed focused and understood that grades are a big part of this. He’s the overall package.”

Herford becomes the third member of his family to play Division 1 sports, joining cousins Mason Eda — who picked up football in Michigan State University and currently is in the Los Angeles Angels organization — and Kathryn Palmer, who was golfdkeller for the University of Oklahoma and Vanderbilt University soccer teams.

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www.farmdepot.biz
By Scott Bolsby | sports@tcadvertiser.com

**Valley Conference 8 play with a trip to Floyd Atwood scored seven.**

The Eagles extended the lead to 25-28 entering the final stanza. Nate Jackson led the way for the Frankenmuth boys’ basketball team with a double-double of 11 points and 10 rebounds. Drew Titzworth scored 11 points, Trent Cicik had eight and Floyd-Axtoord scored seven.

**Millington stung by Yellowjackets**

The boys’ basketball team’s five seniors soar past Swan Valley after a 56-36 win here Friday.

From the Advertiser

**Player of the Week**

 따스이 오우근 | 스포츠 에디터

Player of the Week

**Cass City junior Michael Fernald goes up for a basket during Friday's 65-43 win over Cars. Fernald scored a game-high 28 points for the Red Hawks.**

Photo by John Cook | The Advertiser

**Player of the Week**

 따스이 오우근 | 스포츠 에디터

Player of the Week

**By Scott Bolsby | sports@tcadvertiser.com**

**East Montmorency–Fairview Stung by Allenwood**

The Eagles were led by sophomore Mia Diehl with 14 points, and Kaden Fernald had 10. The Eagles have scored 20 points or more in 10 of their last 11 games.

**Nate Jackson, 'Muth, soar past Swan Valley**

By Scott Bolsby | sports@tcadvertiser.com

**CARO – Cass City played spoiler in the annual Cass ComingHome festivities here on Friday by defeating the Tigers 65-43. The Red Hawks led 10-8 after the first quarter and 35-22 at halftime in front of a packed Statmats Gymnasium.**

“This was a great atmosphere tonight,” Cass City coach Aaron Fernald said. “I told the boys this is how it should be for a Friday night game. This is how it used to be in the Thumb area during big rivalry games.”

Michael Fernald led Cass City with 28 points, Carter Patrick helped with 15 and Evan Clark chipped in with 15.

“That’s just who they are, they are survivors,” Aaron Fernald said of Patrick and Fernald. “They are constantly working on that aspect of the game and getting better. They work hard at shooting that ball.”

Mark Phillips led the Tigers with 20 points.

Cass City (8-4, 3-3) hosted Birch Run on Tuesday in a nonconference showdown while Caro (3-11, 1-8) hosts Ubly today.

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