



City Voice

April 2013

City of Caro
317 S. State St.
Caro, Michigan 48723

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Web Page: www.carocity.net

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THE MANAGER'S CORNER BY JARED OLSON



I hope we can all breathe a sigh of relief with some of the fluttering signs of spring that Mother Nature has been sending our way. The warming sunshine and birds chirping throughout the city continue to give hope for the warm days and green grass that are on the horizon.

Speaking of spring coming along, the annual City of Caro Spring Clean-Up day will again happen on the first Saturday in May, which happens to be Saturday May 4th this year. The dumpsters will be set up at the Tuscola County Fair Grounds and most types of trash will be accepted from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Along with the Spring Clean-Up Day, the first curb side brush chipping will occur on the following Monday, which will be May 6th.

Not only does the spring season bring April rain showers and May flowers, it also brings street projects. This warm weather of spring will help to usher in the conclusion of the Sherman Street project and will also signal city-wide street patching and maintenance. The City of Caro is continuing its commitment to infrastructure projects and progress throughout the community and this year will be no different. The city has historically been very successful with grant funding for many different project areas and finding local, state, and federal grant opportunities will remain a top priority.

On a more personal note, my time here within the Caro community has been far more open and welcoming than I could have ever asked for. Over the last month, I've had the opportunity to meet many members of the community and I look forward to meeting many more, both as the

Manager and as a community member.

I maintain an open door policy here at City Hall and welcome you to call me or stop in with any issues or questions that you may have.

City offices will be closed Friday March 29, 2013
in observance of Good Friday

GARAGE SALE PERMITS



It's that time of year when we begin to think of all of the things we need to clean out of our closets, basements, and yes the garage! With this also comes garage sale time. Please be advised that city residents are required to purchase garage (yard, porch, rummage, basement, estate, etc.) sale permits.

Permits are \$1.00 each and you must have one permit for each sign you are placing on your property. A garage sale cannot last more than three (3) consecutive days. Only two (2) garage sales are permitted per residence per year. Please remember your signs **MUST** be placed on private property; they are not allowed in the right-of-ways, or on electrical or utility poles. You may purchase your permits at City Hall, 317 South State Street.

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GREETINGS BY DICK POULIOT, MAYOR



Greetings:
Since the last newsletter, clocks have been moved forward, signs of the coming of spring have been seen, and your City has continued to move ahead and make progressive strides.

First of all, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Jared Olson, our new City Manager. Welcome Jared! As

for myself and the other council members and staff, we are happy to have him on board. I have already seen Jared's ability to be a quick study and a resource in several areas of municipal expertise. Jared is a great guy and, if you have time, stop in and see him at City Hall during normal business hours or come in and see all of us at Council meetings on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:30 p.m.

The council is addressing a number of issues. One is to set our annual spring clean-up day as well as setting dates for normal curbside chipping by City staff. City residents will also have available to them curbside yard waste pick up in barrels as well as the opportunity to haul brush to the Almer Township site on Luder Road which opens April 6. The city will be providing this information in this newsletter, on the Caro website and on the electric billboard. We will be trying something different this year as compared to past years in that brush pick up will be three times instead of six. Throughout the season, based on success and your input, we will determine whether or not to continue in this manner or go back to six pickups, so please let us know.

We are reviewing our recreation plan and programs which are currently in a state of flux as to available programs, registration methods and participatory cost. This is a very challenging task in that it requires a balancing of keeping costs both reasonable and attractive to participants and providing a quality program. Due to current economic times, unfortunately, this has been one of the areas we have had to cut. The other side of this is the opportunity for volunteers to come forward and help with the process, such as registration.

Caro will finish the Sherman Street project this spring, resulting in a major improvement in street upgrade as well as greatly enhanced water service to the neighborhood. We are currently working on requests for

proposals (RFP'S) on mowing and hanging of banners. The results of a RFP for street milling (grinding of old pavement) and repaving our older streets will be the most visible and noticeable. The city has a study and available maps to assist in determining which streets will be improved upon. We are working on specs and a procedure to help expedite pavement repairs and improvement compared to practices of past years.

In closing, the Council and Staff wish to thank you for your support and trust; with it we can do anything - without it, NOTHING.

Best Regards, Mayor Pouliot



City offices will be closed
Monday May 27, 2013
in observance of
Memorial Day

A WORD FROM THE CLERK BY KAREN J SNIDER, CMC

I was reading my last year's newsletter article and took a big sigh. I looked outside to see snow blowing and the temperature at 29 degrees. My article from last year said that at this time it was in the 70's. How things can change, not only by the day but by the minute when you live in Michigan.

With Spring cleanup comes the cleaning and filling of swimming pools. If you have a fairly large pool, you may want to contact the water department at 673-2226 to get a meter read before and after filling your pool. There is a \$15.00 fee for each read; however, you will not be charged for the sewer usage. Sewer charges are based on water consumption. You may want to talk with the DPW Superintendent regarding a separate lawn meter if you do a lot of outside watering or washing your vehicles. He can be reached at 673-2571. There are initial costs; however, over a period of time, it could save you money.

The City of Caro has their policies published on the www.carocity.net website for your convenience. You can find answers to numerous questions such as when does the City do brush pickup, what are the parameters of a water/sewer adjustment or how do I go about getting authorization to have a banner hung. Just go to the home page of the City web, click on Department, scroll down under Administration and you will see policies. Click on the policy title you are interested in reviewing. For help, call City Hall at 989-673-7671. The staff are always ready to help you.

CARO FIRE DEPARTMENT BY CHIEF RANDY HECKROTH



Spring will eventually get here. And when it does everyone will be anxious to be doing their yard clean up. All the branches and mess left over from the winter months.

Please keep in mind that there are rules for burning. In town no open burning of any kind. Yard waste cannot be burned in a fire pit in town. We have city pick up for this.

For out of City Residents it is necessary to call in for a burning permit. This permit is only for brush and leaves. There are new laws in Michigan that outlaw the burning of garbage of any sort, even if in an approved container. Please watch for my article upcoming in the Advertiser to address this new law change.

Please burn safe, and always be in attendance of all fires. Please do not hesitate to call the Fire station at 989-673-2002 for any questions.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT BY CURTIS WELLS, SUPT



First of all I would like to say that the staff and myself are proud to serve the residents of this community. The City is now officially the owner of lift station #10, and have put it on line after some much needed upgrades.

We would also like to thank all our customers who are adhering to our sewer use ordinance. It is important to remember that there is no illegal dumping of substances down your sinks, toilets or even in your yards that can filter its way into the sewer system and become detrimental to the City's facility. Also, please remember that when certain disposable items are flushed down your toilet, that too can cause serious issues.

This is April and spring cleaning is on a lot of our minds. I would like to remind our customers, or anyone for that matter, who is reading this, that the Tuscola County Recycling will be hosting a Household Hazardous Waste/Clean Sweep Collection again this year. At the time I submitted this article, the date had not been set. You can call 989-672-1673 or visit their website www.tuscolacounty.org/recycling/events.php to view more information.

And again thank you all in advance for your cooperation in keeping YOUR Caro area Waste water Treatment plant healthy and happy.

SWEARING IN OF NEW FIREFIGHTERS



Nick Britton, Fire Chief Randall Heckroth,
and City Clerk Karen Snider



Fire Chief Randall Heckroth, Donald Gilberg
and City Clerk Karen Snider

PUBLIC WORKS HIGHLIGHTS BY CHARLIE SUNDBLAD DPW SUPERINTENDENT



We are doing our best to keep up with the potholes, if you notice any that we may have missed please call. As a reminder, in April, Emterra Environmental will start yard waste pickup. Remember to put yard waste in containers marked with an "X".

The City does not allow raking or putting of grass clippings, dirt, etc. into the gutters. Hydrant flushing will take place the week of April 22nd. There will be a notice in the paper and on the radio.

CARO POLICE DEPARTMENT BY CHIEF BRIAN NEWCOMB



The Caro Police Department hopes everyone had a happy holiday season and survived another Michigan winter. As

normal, Caro had its share of fender benders, however no serious injuries. Caro PD was the recipient of a new patrol car. The car was purchased through Moore Motors of Caro and is a 2013 Ford Interceptor SUV (Explorer). Along with the new wheels, the car comes with updated graphics. This was done by Larsen Graphics out of Vassar and looks great. Moore Motors did a super job and we are very pleased with the results. Photos of the new patrol vehicle are on the Caro Police Facebook page.

As we move into spring, there have been several law changes and additions. Among them is a new law concerning motor boat operators born after July 1, 1996. Anyone in that category must now have a boating safety certificate. Additionally, the ability of a peace officer/law enforcement to stop and inspect a boat in order to determine the number and adequacy of PFD's (life jackets) is no longer in effect. The boat can only be stopped and inspected if the boat operator is suspected of violating other laws.

A new law is in effect that makes it a crime to intentionally make a false report of a medical or other emergency. The false report in and of itself is a misdemeanor with penalties of 93 days and/or fines of \$500. If an injury occurs because of the false report, it becomes a felony with 5 years in prison and/or fines up to \$20,000.

Also, lying to a police officer is now a crime. If the officer is investigating a criminal act, it is now illegal to knowingly and willfully conceal or lie about any material fact relating to the investigation. This includes statements, identity of those interviewed, etc. The minimum penalty is a misdemeanor and the penalty increases with the seriousness of the crime involved.

For all of the young or new drivers, it is now illegal for a person holding a Level 1 or 2 drivers license to use a cell phone while driving. The penalty is a civil infraction.

In closing, we are again asking for everyone to watch for pedestrians, as the weather warms up, people will be walking through town and enjoying the escape from winter.

Have a safe spring.

SWEARING IN OF NEW POLICE OFFICER



John May, Police Chief Brian Newcomb,
and City Clerk Karen Snider

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT SUNNY PHYSICAL THERAPY LLC

Sunny Physical Therapy, LLC, located at 1525 W. Caro Road provides physical therapy and rehabilitation services. Prathima Peachera PT, DPT, Certified SMIT is the Physical Therapist for Sunny Physical Therapy. Some of the areas they specialize in are back and neck pain, arthritis, occupational injuries, shoulder, elbow, and hand injuries, head injuries, sports injuries, spinal injuries and chronic pain patients. In addition, Sunny Physical Therapy offers physical therapy house calls for clients who require outpatient physical therapy but are unable to receive treatment in the clinic due to medical reasons.

All services provided at Sunny Physical Therapy are provided by a license physical therapist. You can contact Sunny Physical Therapy at 1-888-994-4244, to schedule your evaluation appointment.



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Luder Rd Dump

Opens April 6

Hours of Operation:

Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Wednesday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Tree limbs, brush, stones
and cement may be disposed of

Curbside Yard Waste

Pick up begins April 4. It is defined as grass clippings, trimmings from shrubs and trees, and other greenery from general yard maintenance. It will be collected as a separate waste stream from the refuse and garbage. Residents must use biodegradable paper sacks or plastic bins with attachable covers. All bins must be marked as YARD WASTE or have a large "X" on container. It cannot exceed fifty pounds.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Council	April 1 & 15	7:30 p.m.
	May 6 & 20	7:30 p.m.
	June 3 & 17	7:30 p.m.
Planning	April 9 & 23	7:00 p.m.
	May 14 & 28	7:00 p.m.
	June 11 & 25	7:00 p.m.
DDA	April 10	Noon
	May 8	Noon
	June 12	Noon
Historical	April 24	6:30 p.m.
	May 22	6:30 p.m.
	June 26	6:30 p.m.
Parks & Rec	April 18	7:00 p.m.
	May 16	7:00 p.m.
	June 20	7:00 p.m.



SPRING CLEAN-UP

Saturday May 4, 2013
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

City of Caro Residents Only!

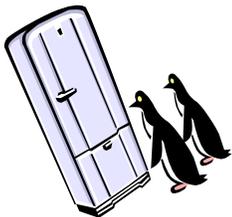
**Clean out the garage, attic, basement and yard.
Bring all of your junk to the fairgrounds
(next to the tennis courts)**



Tires

(First 100 Passenger tires only)

Yard waste, branches up to 2' in diameter,
no longer than 4' in length can be dropped off



All appliances, refrigerators and freezers
(Freon does **NOT** need to be removed)

For more information call the
City offices at 989-673-2226



CITY OF CARO

Brush Chipping

A friendly reminder on how to properly prepare your brush for chipping.

The City of Caro's Department of Public Works (DPW) will be chipping brush a total of three times during the brush season which runs from April through October. The brush chipping will be the first Monday in May, third Monday in July and first Monday in October. All brush should be out for collection no later than 7:30 a.m. on pick up day.

Brush Chipping

The DPW will pick up piles of brush up to four (4) feet wide and four (4) feet high by six (6) feet long. All piles of brush must contain branches less than 4 inches in diameter. When branches are placed at the curb, place the cut end toward the road edge and stack them neatly. This helps to speed up the chipping process. The City will not pick up whole trees or large amounts of brush. You may want to consider a private contractor to remove trees or larger brush piles.

Caro City residents may take tree limbs, brush, stones and cement to the Luder Road land fill during the hours of operation, which at the present time are Wednesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The dump will be closed during the winter months.

Chipping is for limbs and any small debris lying on the ground after pick up is the responsibility of the homeowner.

If your brush was not picked up today, it was because of one or more of the following. Please take note of the problem and correct it for the next pick up. **Thank you.**

- Your pile of brush was larger than 4x4x6. Only that amount was taken. Longer limbs and branches are preferred, but should not be longer than one man can reasonably lift.
- Your branches were not placed neatly at the curb with the cut edges toward the road.
- You had one or more stumps or roots that will not go through the chipper.
- You placed small, spindly trimmings or clippings that will not go through the chipper.
- You had one or more branches that were twisted and gnarled or had a large "V" fork in them and would not go through the chipper.

Adopted by Council: 03-06-06

Policy # 06-001

Revised 05-04-09
Effective 03-18-13