



City Voice

October 2016

City of Caro
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Caro, Michigan 48723

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CHANGE IS THE RESULT OF PROGRESS BY: DICK POULIOT, MAYOR



A number of years ago, maybe forty or so, I heard the quote, "All progress is change, but not all change is progress". How true. As I write this letter we are experiencing change; first the weather. As Mayor, I was invited by the Vollmar family to attend a farm event, "FarmLogs Summer Roadshow" a few miles north of Caro. At this event, a software system was presented that

tracks various nutrients per acre as well as weather factors and soil and ground conditions, which effect overall yields. This software was developed by Jessie Vollmar, who was raised on the Vollmar farm. It also tracks rainfall and temperature for specific areas. On the day of the event, August 15, the area had thirty percent higher temperatures and about thirty percent lower rainfall than historic averages; so, yes, summer was warmer and dryer at that point. Then the weather started to change as we make the transition to fabulous fall in our area of the world!

The next notable change is very obvious to us - it is North Almer Street project. I want to thank all of the residents on that project, as well as the staff, City residents, and the contractors for their cooperation, patience, and understanding throughout this project. This will be completed soon, most likely before this letter goes to press. I invite all of you to take one of our fabulous fall walks on this street to appreciate the sidewalks, safety ramps, and new pavement along with improved storm drainage enhancements. There are also other improvements that needed to be addressed in order to provide stable and adequate drainage on the project; these improvements will likely raise the cost of the project closer to \$600,000. I have been able to walk this project a number of times throughout construction to look at changes and the effects to the individual home owner and am very pleased with the project and the overall good for Caro!

Another noticeable area of progress resulting in changes is the optics along Main and East Frank Streets. Major investments are resulting in a number of projects. Starting from the east going towards the west, is the new Patriot Party Mart and gas station. Yes, gas station, that will be a major convenience and improvement to have fuel available in the downtown area as well as Rec 90 fuel available for small engines as well as marine engines (currently only available now at the 24/46 intersection and Fairgrove). Another project is the former Burger King building purchased by Frankenmuth Credit Union that is undergoing a complete change over and total remodeling. The credit union's mission statement reads, "We are growing trusted relationships by providing personalized financial solutions for our members and financial services that empower our communities". I would like to thank them for their investment in Caro as well as the confidence they have in the overall area for growth!

The latest complete changeover is what used to be the old "Square Deal Auto Parts" then later "TSC" that is now a packaging or containing process site for Harvest Ridge Processing. This certified organic operation is owned by a local farmer and investor, Jon Findlay. We are very happy to have this level of investment taking place in the center of what is known as an "organics hotbed". Caro is fortunate to enjoy the interest and results of agricultural industry that represents close to a billion dollar business for the area.

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The last item of progress I would like to talk about is 2.63 miles of city streets milling (grinding off old asphalt) then repaving with new, starting around September 19th. As you may recall, we are receiving a grant in the amount of \$211,000 from the DEQ scrap tire grant program in which the city will match the dollar amount for repaving streets. MDOT informed us that a one-mile stretch of M-81 thru Caro will be repaved this fall as part of their repaving program from Caro to Reese.

It is exciting and encouraging to see this level of ongoing progress in Caro! I hope to see you at the upcoming fall events or just walking around to see these positive changes happen in our midst. Enjoy the Fabulous Fall, hoping you have time and are able to get out there and enjoy walking your community of Caro!

As always and best regards,
Mayor Pouliot

**THE MANAGER'S CORNER
BY JARED OLSON**



As the summer begins to fade to fall, several projects and events within Caro are wrapping up and some are just beginning.

One of the most obvious projects began in the first week of July and was just recently completed which was the complete

reconstruction of the entire half mile of North Almer Street which included infrastructure and site improvement. This project was funded by a large federal highways grant that paid for more than 50% of the entire project. Receiving grants like this help our city to maintain strong infrastructure while also providing the best service possible, as well as leveraging our local funds to the highest efficiencies.

The city also received a street paving grant from Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for \$211,000 to help pave several of our local streets utilizing a recycled tire mixture within the asphalt. The tire grant when, coupled with the already budgeted local street paving budget will culminate in two and one half miles of newly paved streets throughout town.

The current streets that will be paved this fall utilizing the scrap tire paving grant include West Lincoln from Almer

to M-81, East Burnside, West Sherman from Almer to M-81, West Grant, Fremont, Allen, Alexander, Joy, East Congress, Appletree Lane, Collingwood, and West Washington. Property owners throughout these effected properties were notified prior to the beginning of the projects starting, however; if there are any additional questions, they can be directed to me at city hall. This fall will no doubt be a busy one.

Not only are numerous city projects being undertaken throughout the community, the excitement for the 2016 Tuscola County Pumpkin Festival is beginning to ramp up. This year's event will be kicking off on October 6th and will be in full swing all the way through the Grand Parade on Sunday October 9th. This year's Pumpkin Festival will include several new events and activities aimed at people of all age groups so if you get a chance, come down and explore everything that the festival has to offer!

This fall looks to be a busy one loaded with community events and city projects. With that said, 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.

**Trick or
Treat**



**Monday
Oct. 31 from
6:00—7:30 p.m.**

**The fire whistle will
sound at the beginning
and at the end of Trick or
Treat Hours.**

**Please have a safe and
Happy Halloween!**



Randy Heckroth, David Rodenberg—new firefighter,
Jared Olson—City Manager and
Karen Snider—City Clerk

A WORD FROM THE CLERK BY KAREN J SNIDER, CMC

It is almost that time again, time to make your voice heard. Don't forget to vote the November 8th General election. The City of Caro residents will vote at the Caro Municipal Building, 317 S. State Street, Caro, Michigan. Precinct one residents will vote in the fire hall training room and precinct two residents will vote in the council chambers. The polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. The last day to register for the November General election is October 11.

If you are an U.S. citizen and at least 18 years of age on Election Day you have a right to vote. However, you must be a registered voter. To become a registered voter, you must be a U.S. Citizen; at least 18 years old by Election Day, and be a resident of Michigan and the city or township where you are applying to register to vote. There are several options to register, including your city clerk's office or by visiting any Secretary of State office. It is important to remember that when you arrive at a polling place to vote, state law requires you to either show a picture ID or sign an affidavit attesting that you are not in possession of a picture ID. You can satisfy the ID requirement by showing a Michigan driver's license or state ID card. If you do not possess either document, you may show any current driver's license or ID card issued by another state, a federal or state government issued photo ID, a U.S. passport, a military ID card with a photo, a tribal ID card with a photo or a student ID with a photo from a high school or an accredited institution of higher education.

Absentee ballots are also available for all elections. The requirements to vote absentee ballot are any one of the following: 1) unable to attend the poles without assistance; 2) age 60 or older; 3) expect to be absent from your city or township for the entire time the polls are open on Election Day; 4) are in jail awaiting arraignment or trial; 5) have been assigned to work as a precinct inspector in a precinct other than where you are registered; or 6) are unable to attend the polls because of religious beliefs. If you have any questions regarding the upcoming election, please contact our office at 673-7671 and we will be happy to get you the answers.

The City of Caro will also be mailing tax bills December 1, 2016. The city collects the taxes on the December bill for the following entities: Caro Area District Library, Caro Transit Authority, County Special voted millages, MCF renovation, Caro School – debt, Caro School – operating, and the Tuscola Intermediate School.

PUBLIC WORKS HIGHLIGHTS BY CHARLIE SUNDBLAD DPW SUPERINTENDENT



Well summer is just about over and that means that leaf season is soon to be upon us. The leaf pickup schedule will be in this newsletter, and on the LED sign at City Hall.

The last day for brush pick up will be October 3rd. Remember there is a brush policy regarding how much we will pick up. If you need a copy of the policy you can get one from City Hall or on the city website. If you have more than the allotted amount you can take it to the Luder Road dump.

When putting your leaves in the street **PLEASE** do not put grass clippings or sticks in the piles as this will plug the equipment. We will be flushing hydrants the week of October 17th.



**City offices will be closed on
Thursday November 24 &
Friday November 25, 2016**

**In observance of
Thanksgiving**

WASTEWATER TREATMENT BY CURTIS WELLS, SUPT



Your staff at the Caro Wastewater Treatment plant hopes everyone had a blessed Summer. We would like to remind you that school is back in session and ask you to be vigilant of the youngsters that will be at the school crossings.

The Summer started out dry but ended with some precipitation that greened everything back up. We have updated some of our lab procedures by purchasing a new Hach DR3900 that speeds up a couple more lab tests and allows for more time elsewhere in the plant. Also we have had all 4 oxidation ditch VFD cabinets rebuilt with all new components. Also we are utilizing our drying beds this summer due to the dry weather and this will save us money. And lastly please remember that disposable does not mean flushable. Thank you for your cooperation.

CARO POLICE DEPARTMENT BY CHIEF BRIAN NEWCOMB

Fall is here and Football season is in full swing. High School, College and NFL. The Tuscola Pumpkin Festival and Parade is gearing up for the second weekend in October. The Tuscola Pumpkin festival committee has their own web site. Check out the schedule and enjoy the festivities.

There have been some additions to the Caro Police department personnel. After a lengthy hiring process, we now have 3 new full time officers and 2 new part time officers on the Department. The new Officers are:

Full time: Michael Fowler, Anthony Jobses, Robert Gaiser
Part time: Joshua Bandur, Brian Duolon

Mike Fowler was hired last November and comes to us from Royal Oak. He previously worked for the Cadillac Police Department where he was a part time summer hire, Royal Oak PD where he worked administrative police duties and Hazel Park PD as a reserve officer. He Graduated from the Oakland University police academy.

Anthony Jobses was hired this past May and has worked for several years in Huron County. He has served with many agencies as a part time police officer, including Sebewaing PD, Caseville PD. He is an EMT working for Huron Ambulance and a volunteer fire fighter as well. He Graduated from the Delta College Police academy.

Robert Gaiser was hired in July and is fresh out of the academy at Delta College. Although he is new to Police work, he worked many years in skilled trades for the auto industry. He also was the lead union negotiator for that group for years. He brings a lot of life experience to the job. When the plant he worked in finally closed for good, he returned to Delta College to earn his degree in Criminal Justice and pursue his dream out of high school to work in Law Enforcement.

Joshua Bandur was hired at the end of August and has previous experience with Homeland Security, working for TSA as well as administrative duties with the Flint Police Department. He has his bachelor's degree from University of Michigan-Flint in Criminal Justice and graduated from the Mott College Academy.

Brian Duolon will be starting at Caro PD this week. He has extensive experience in law enforcement including many years at the Bay City Police Department, Saginaw Valley University Police Department. Brian has been an instructor for the law enforcement programs at both

Tuscola County ISD and Bay-Arenac ISD.

These men are a welcome addition to the Caro Police Department and will do a great job for the citizens of the City of Caro.

SWEARING IN NEW POLICE OFFICERS



Robert Gaiser, Brian Newcomb—Chief of Police, and Karen Snider—City Clerk



Brian Newcomb—Chief of Police, Joshua Bandur, and Karen Snider—City Clerk



Brian Newcomb—Chief of Police, Brian Duolon, Jared Olson—City Manager and Karen Snider—City Clerk

CODE ENFORCEMENT BY CHIEF RANDY HECKROTH

Summer is now ending, the fall weather is at hand, and with winter just around the corner it is a good time for everyone to look at their yards for items that need to be removed or repaired. This is just a friendly reminder that the City of Caro does enforce blight issues.

Even with the low amounts of rain early on, everyone managed to keep their lawns green and beautiful. The City is looking great, and that is Thanks to everyone doing his or her part.

I have had reports of neighbors lending lawn mowers to a neighbor in need, just to help keep everything clean and well maintained. This is a demonstration of our great community.

Whether you are driving, jogging or walking the dog, the evidence is clear, our town looks good. While there are some that still need a reminder, the majority of beautiful, cared for yards rule.

In the event you should receive a notice from this office please follow the instruction, and please keep in mind; that it is never the intention of this office to insult any property owner for any situation that may be found on their property. It is my purpose to educate the residences of the City of Caro of the Blight ordinances and work with them to keep our City clean and blight free. The Code Enforcement Officer is aware that in some situations, the time set may not be sufficient to accomplish the task. It is therefore imperative that you contact my office to acquire, if so allowed, an extension of time. Thank you and please keep up the good work!

SWEARING IN NEW FIREFIGHTER



Randy Heckroth, Heath Peters, Jared Olson—City Manager and Karen Snider—City Clerk

CARO FIRE DEPARTMENT BY CHIEF RANDY HECKROTH



The Caro Fire Department answered 16 calls in the month of August 2016. There were two new firefighters that have joined the department, Heath Peters and David Rodenberg. Currently the Caro Fire department is fully staffed at 25 members. Our fire service

contracts are with the City of Caro, Almer Township, Indianfields Township, Ellington Township, Juniata Township and Wells Township. The Caro Fire Department uses the following equipment: Engine 1, Engine 2 (with Jaws of Life), 105 Aerial ladder truck, 3,500 gallon tanker rescue unity (with Jaws of Life and water rescue equipment), 4x4 Grass Truck, 4x4 Utility Truck, 6x6 Off Road Ranger (with 85 gallon water tank and pump), Air Cascade Trailer, Portable Air Compressor, and a Fire Prevention Safety Trailer.

The Fire Chief would like to thank everyone in our fire contracted area, for the continued support of keeping accidental fires to a minimum. Following safety guide lines when burning and insuring that your personal structures are safe, makes our job a lot easier. Please inspect and test all smoke detectors in your home or office, replacing them if necessary. Reminder, it is a State law that requires the minimum of at least one detector in every home in Michigan.

With summer closing, the fall winds will soon bring in the dreaded cold temperatures, it is advisable to have all your heating appliances checked and cleaned properly.

The department does ask that anyone wishing to burn brush piles outside the City limits to please call 989-673-2002, to register for a free burn permit. Just leave the information asked for on the answering machine, and the permit is issued. Please listen closely to the message, for rules and possible bans that may exist for that time frame. For fires inside the City limits of Caro, please leave a contact number and the Fire Chief will call you back to explain the safety rules.

The State of Michigan only allows the burning of leaves and tree branches. No garbage, no lumber and no tires are to be burnt in any manner, at any time. The laws are intended for safety and environmental reasons.

The department will always accept applications, please call 989-673-2002 or stop in at the station.

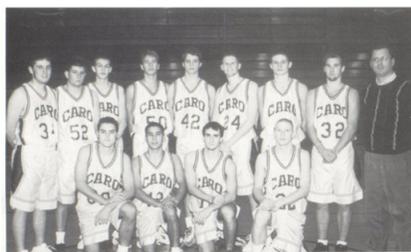
CARO ROADHOUSE MUSEUM BY GAIL LESOSKI



Front Row—Gibbs, Sellers, White, Smith, Sherman
Back Row—Cook, Cap, Eastham, Bradley, Stewart
BASKET BALL

The Caro Roadhouse Museum, located at 235 E. Congress St., across from the Almer St. entrance to the Tuscola County Fairgrounds, has just completed our exhibit on The History of Caro Athletic Programs,

covering the time period from 1922 to the present. This event was held at the Heritage Hall building on the Tuscola County Fairgrounds and was a collaborative effort between the Caro Historical Commission and the Tuscola County Fair Board. It was a pleasure joining with them to put on this program, and we look forward to future collaborations and the opportunity to share the growing collections of both museums with the public.



Above: (l to r) First row: Kevin Romain, James Lopez, Mike Osborn, Garrett Hayward. Second row: Christopher Evers, Mark Curtis, Tom Driscoll, Pat Lewitschany, Jon Grady, Tek Wiegert, Tom Stephens, Ryan Johnson.

Our next, and final, event for the 2016 season will be Friday and Saturday, October 7 & 8, at the Caro Roadhouse Museum, where we will have a display of kitchen collectibles. Many people have suggested this event, so it should be a lot of fun to walk down memory lane and see what's been cookin' in the Caro area for the last several decades.

We are already looking forward to two very special events in May, 2017. First, we will be opening the Tuscola County Courthouse for a tour in honor of State Law Day. Law Day is May 1; however, we have not yet firmed up the date and time for this event, since we are still in the early planning stages. Be sure to keep your eyes and ears open for future information about this exciting program. Following that, the weekend of May 20 & 21, 2017 the Caro Roadhouse Museum will continue our series of tributes to soldiers by honoring veterans and casualties of World War II. Our tribute to veterans is always a well-attended event, and we look forward to the opportunity to give thanks to soldiers and their families for their sacrifices to protect our freedom.

If you have anything to contribute to either of these open houses, please, contact Gail at: 989-673-5389 or leave a message at the Caro Municipal Building: 989-673-7671.

We also keep updates on our Facebook page: Caro Roadhouse Museum, and you can join to get updates of upcoming events and view pictures of previous events.

Remember, as always, admission to our museum events is free, and the public is welcome to attend. The museum is wheelchair accessible. All items loaned to the Caro Roadhouse Museum to share with the public during our open houses are returned to the owner at the end of the event. Please, start looking through your treasures for items related to: kitchen collectibles and old cookbooks, the Tuscola County Courthouse at any time in history, and service men and women of World War II.

HOLIDAY GARBAGE SCHEDULE



Friday November 25, 2016

**Last day for Yard Waste Pick up
Friday November 25, 2016**



City offices will be closed on
Friday December 24, and
Monday December 26, 2016

City offices will be closed on
Friday December 31, 2016
Monday January 2, 2017

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Council	Oct 3 & 17	7:30 p.m.
	Nov 7 & 21	7:30 p.m.
	Dec 5 & 19	7:30 p.m.
Planning	Oct 11 & 25	7:00 p.m.
	Nov 8 & 22	7:00 p.m.
	Dec 13 & 27	7:00 p.m.
DDA	Oct 12	Noon
	Nov 9	Noon
	Dec 14	Noon
Historical	Oct 26	6:30 p.m.
	Nov 16	6:30 p.m.
	Dec	No meeting
Parks & Rec	Oct 20	7:00 p.m.
	Nov 17	7:00 p.m.
	Dec 15	7:00 p.m.

NOTICE

The City of Caro leaf pickup schedule is as follows:
 (Schedule and map available online at carocity.net)

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------------|
| Zone 1 | October 10th to October 14th |
| Zone 2 | October 17th to October 21st |
| Zone 3 | October 24th to October 28th |
|
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| Zone 1 | October 31st to November 4th |
| Zone 2 | November 7th to November 11th |
| Zone 3 | November 14th to November 18th |
|
 | |
| Zone 1 | November 21th to November 25th |
| Zone 2 | November 28th to December 2nd |
| Zone 3 | December 5th to December 9th |

