



City Voice

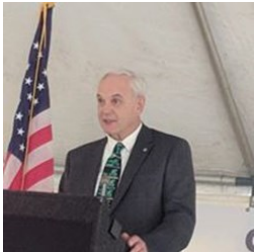
July 2021

City of Caro
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Caro, Michigan 48723

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Web Page: www.carocity.net

Volume 15, Issue 3

A MINUTE WITH THE MAYOR BY: MAYOR JOE GREENE SUMMER IN THE CITY



Caro!

Pure Caro means pure fun, and we have a one-stop list for activities right here in the heart of the Thumb. Whether you are planning activities for the family, immersing yourself in local culture, or just celebrating summer, you are certain to find the perfect place right here in the City of

Atwood Park on State Street, hosts Music in the Park every Thursday night. Music of every genre plays on the stage. Everything from country to polka, gospel to rock, there is something for everyone. Concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. and be sure to bring your chair to enjoy the music.

Bieth Park on Park Drive is home to tennis courts, playgrounds, basketball courts, shuffleboard facility, equestrian arena, picnic pavilions, and a welcome new addition to the City of Caro—the Aqua Zone Splash Pad. Drive a little further down Park Drive and you will find the Tuscola County Fairgrounds that is host to the Tuscola County Fair.

The Caro Roadhouse Museum and its Historical Society is here to research, discover, preserve, and protect the historical heritage of the Caro area. The CRMHS generates interest in the past by educating, showcasing, preserving, and celebrating our area's history for people of all ages. The Roadhouse Museum is located at the end of South Almer Street across from the main entrance of the Tuscola County Fairgrounds.

The Botanical Garden on Hooper Street is a beautiful spot to sit on a bench and take in the fragrance of the flowers. The Botanical Garden offers quiet, introspective, and meditative leisure opportunities for visitors, as does the Nobel Boulder Garden on Frank Street. These gardens are maintained in cooperation with the Caro Garden Club, and we cannot thank them enough for all they do.

Chippewa Landing Park provides numerous leisure opportunities for Caro residents. Fronting on the Cass River, the park provides opportunities for water-based recreation including fishing and boating. A hard-surface boat ramp provides access when the water level is sufficiently high. A fishing pier is located on the west end of the park. The park also offers several playground areas, picnic shelters, grills, and tables. For winter recreation the park has a sledding hill. There are also some great wildlife viewing opportunities along the river where deer and water fowl can be spotted regularly. And let's not forget about the new Bark Park at Chippewa. A great place for our canine citizens!

The Chippewa Landing Park Trail is a 1.1 mile paved trail that runs through Chippewa Landing Park and crosses the Cass River in two locations. The trail follows a pathway and boardwalk along M-24, passes through the park, then re-crosses the Cass River on a pedestrian bridge. The trail then connects to Columbia Street, Frank Street, and back to M-24.

The Caro Exchange Club leases 45 acres of heavily timbered City property on the southeast corner of M-24 and Gun Club Road. The Tuscola County Conservation Club (Gun Club) leases 40 acres.

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The Exchange Club maintains and manages 45 acres on this public property in partnership with the city to provide opportunities for nature-based recreation, hiking, wildlife viewing, nature interpretation, environmental education, and outdoor recreation.

Almer Township Darbee Park, located just east of Caro on M-81, provides numerous opportunities for active and passive recreation including ballfields, volleyball and basketball courts, horseshoes, playground equipment, open field space, picnic areas and pavilions. The southeastern third of the park hosts seven soccer fields, a pavilion, clubhouse, and concession stand that are home to the Caro American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) programs.

Indianfields Township Park, located just west of Caro on M-81, offers excellent opportunities for natural resource based recreation with access to the Cass River. The park includes trails, picnic sites, pavilions, and a butterfly garden.

For the golfers, there is a choice of two courses. Nine-hole Caro Golf Club is located east of the City on M-81. The Arrowhead Golf Club is an 18-hole course located on Gun Club Road off M-24.

For an inside activity, you may want to check out the Brentwood Lanes on Park Drive to bowl a game or two or get a ticket to the latest release at the charming Art Deco Strand Theater on State Street. The Caro Area Library on Frank Street is another great spot. Join their summer reading program, check out a book or a movie, participate in one of their many free programs and activities.

Be sure to check out the beautiful downtown area of Caro. There is everything from restaurants to yarn shops. Hardware stores to clothing boutiques. Shops with doggie treats, as well as dance and yoga studios. Search the Caro Chamber of Commerce page to find what you are looking for.

The newest jewel in the City of Caro is the Farmers Market at State Street Square. The Market is open every Saturday from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. Everything at the Market is homegrown and homemade.

There is something for everyone here in Caro. Activities galore. Pure Caro equals pure fun. You just need to know where to look!

Please be sure to follow the City of Caro and Mayor Joe Greene on Facebook or on the City's website at carocity.net. As always, feel free to message me on Facebook or call City Hall at 989-673-7671 to set up

an appointment. If you have any questions or concern related to the City of Caro, please do not hesitate to contact me to let me know.

MANAGER'S MUSINGS BY: MATT LANE



Greetings, Caro. I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and in good spirits.

Summer is upon us and Caro is on the move! I am happy to report that we have a lot of accomplishments to celebrate this summer. We held the ribbon cutting and grand opening of State

Street Square, the home of the new Caro Farmers' Market and we held the grand opening for Aqua Zone, the new splash pad in Bieth Memorial Park. With so much to do, we hope to see you out and about in Caro!

We also celebrated the completion of the second phase of the Bark Park at Chippewa Landing with the addition of canine agility equipment. I want to thank the Tuscola County Community Foundation, Janks Fund and Andrews Fund for providing \$4,500 each in grant funds for this project.



We have also been working closely with the State of Michigan on the Caro Center project. The City and the State have reached an agreement to build the water line required for the new facility. Work has begun along M-81 and will continue until we make the connection at the state facility in mid-to-late August.

Stay tuned for more updates as these projects move along and please stay connected with the City of Caro. We encourage you to follow us on Facebook: @CityOfCaro. If you have any questions, comments or concerns feel free to contact me at mlane@carocity.net or 989-673-7671.

Take care of yourselves and your families. Stay healthy and stay safe.

*A Little
Reminder*

Property taxes are mailed out on July 1, 2021 and will be due on September 15, 2021 to avoid late fees. Payments can be made in person, by mail, by drop box, and even online!



STATE STREET SQUARE FARMERS MARKET
BY: LAUREN AMELLAL



The City of Caro celebrated the completion of the State Street Square with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and a First Dollar presentation on June 3rd. The community came out again June 5th in support of the new site, and its main event, the Caro Farmers Market! Over 1,300 people visited

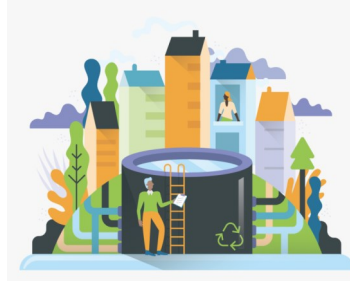
the market for the Grand Opening! The event featured over 25 vendors, including Gibby's Concessions, City Girl City Boy Farmette, Clements Bakery, Once Upon a Thyme, Malburg Farm, and the Tuscola FFA. Guests enjoyed live music, a free kid's craft activity, a play zone, and a story walk provided by the Caro Area District Library. Many children were thrilled to be given a coupon for a complimentary single scoop ice cream, for the neighboring Dairy Parlor. Our hope is to continue the momentum and grow the Caro Farmers Market through community collaborations and guest satisfaction.



The Caro Farmers Market was recently approved to be a SNAP foods benefit retailer. This means that the Farmers Market will soon be accepting SNAP EBT Bridge Card as a form of payment. Many individuals and families rely on the government funded assistance program to buy groceries. The market is an excellent source for fresh, local food. Our farms and food producers look forward to strengthening our community and our economy by implementing the program!

The market is open every Saturday from 8am-1pm, We are accepting more vendors! For more information, please contact me directly. (989)673-7671 (ext. 5229)


WASTEWATER TREATMENT
BY: CURTIS WELLS, SUPT



Quality Water Starts with Quality Operators!! Some of the finest people in America work in the water industry. They know their service is critical to human life and health, and they take their jobs seriously. Too often, they are taken for granted. They are not

missed until the tap runs dry, the toilet does not flush away, or the beautiful streams and rivers are no longer able to sustain life or recreation. They are required to hold a license for what they do. This means attending classes when possible, gaining experience, and taking licensing exams. Some might think these people are highly paid... they are not!! That is one of the things that make them so special. They are not in the water business to get rich! They do it mostly because what they do is extremely important, that they are needed, the environment will suffer if they do nothing. They are proud of what they do to try and ensure clean safe water for generations to come. Your Caro area treatment plant operators are indeed part of the proud few.

Summer is here and the children should be out at play so please be vigilant. Also the RV dump is open for business Monday through Friday 7am – 3:30 pm except Holidays. Also a lucky farmer will be getting our biosolids as a beneficial nutrient source soon. Be safe and God Bless!



Chipping will take place on Monday July 19, 2021

WHAT NOT TO FLUSH

The following items should NOT be flushed down the toilet or placed in the drains as these materials cause a great deal of damage to the pumps and other wastewater treatment equipment. You should not place cooking grease, food scraps, feminine hygiene products or their applicators, condoms, syringes, paper (other than toilet paper), baby wipes, mop heads, cloth wipes, diapers, fish, paint, fuel, motor oil, medicine, clothing, etc. Items that do not dissolve in water can create blockages in the sewer pipes and pumps. If they do make it to the treatment plant and through the pumps, they must be removed at the beginning of the treatment process.

CARO POLICE DEPARTMENT BY: CHIEF BRIAN NEWCOMB



Summer is almost here. What a welcome arrival after the past year we had experienced. Outdoor activities are opening up as well as restaurants and other businesses impacted by COVID. Families are holding get-togethers, weddings, birthdays etc. The City of Caro

has opened and dedicated the new farmers market and the children's splash pad. Both are expected to be very popular. Michigan State parks and state forest campgrounds are filling up.

With all of this, Caro PD wishes everyone a happy and safe summer. With the summer weather, motorcycles will be in abundance. Please watch out for them. We continue to write traffic citations for running red lights and stop signs. Traffic enforcement slowed down during the extreme Covid months, but we are picking back up as it appears that there is a ever growing amount of people that are ignoring these laws. Distracted driving is epidemic. Everywhere we drive we see motorists drifting all over the road with their heads in their phones. This is a recipe for disaster, if not now, then soon. It's only a matter of time. Caro PD continues to receive and respond to complaints of speeding and running red lights. Please keep in mind that we take these complaints seriously, but we cannot be everywhere at one time. When you report offenses, it is very helpful if you include vehicle descriptions as well as the time of day that the offenses are observed.

Everyone stay safe and enjoy the summer.

SAY HELLO!



TO OUR NEW WEBSITE
WE'VE GOT A NEW
LOOK, FULL OF
FEATURES AND
HELPFUL
INFORMATION.

PLEASE CHECK US
OUT AT
www.carocity.net

CARO FIRE DEPARTMENT BY: CHIEF RANDY HECKROTH



IT IS DRY, be very cautious when you burn, and please watch for any burning bans that may be implemented soon. Please be mindful of the burning laws in the state of Michigan and local laws within the city limits of Caro. For burn permits outside the Caro city limits please contact the fire station at 989-673-2002 you will hear a message regarding the rules and regulations for the State of Michigan and our fire coverage area. Permits are valid for 30 days. Anyone that would like to have a campfire within the city limits in an approved container please leave your

name and number the Fire Chief will contact you with specific rules for within the city limits. Please remember that the State of Michigan only allows the burning of tree branches and logs no garbage and no lumber of any type anywhere in the state is allowed.

Please contact the Fire Chief or a firefighter for all your fire safety related questions. Always check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. State laws and city ordinances mandate the use a smoke detectors in every residential household.

Please call 989-673-2002 to receive your free burn permit, valid for 30-days

- Please leave your name, contact #, and the address where you will be burning
- Permits are valid for out of City residence only, if you reside within the city limits of Caro, please leave your name and number. The Fire Chief will contact you, to give instructions for allowable fires within the city.
- The State of Michigan only allows tree limbs and natural logs to be burnt
- No garbage [even if in a container] may be burnt at any time
- It is illegal to burn tires, pallets, or any type of construction material
- All fires must be in attendance of a capable adult
- No fires shall be had under and type of tree or electrical power line

The Caro Fire Department has just purchased a new FIRE PUP suit for our Fire Prevention events, Thanks to local business donations.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Council	July 7 & 19	7:30 p.m.
	Aug 2 & 16	7:30 p.m.
	Sept 7 & 20	7:30 p.m.
Planning	July 13 & 27	7:00 p.m.
	Aug 10 & 24	7:00 p.m.
	Sept 14 & 28	7:00 p.m.
DDA	July 14	Noon
	Aug 11	Noon
	Sept 8	Noon
Parks & Rec	July 21	7:00 p.m.
	Aug 18	7:00 p.m.
	Sept 15	7:00 p.m.



Weekly yard waste pick up began Thursday, April 1st. Grass clippings, trimmings from shrubs, trees, and other greenery. You must use biodegradable paper sacks or plastic bins with attachable covers and bins must have a large "X" on the container



The City of Caro celebrated a big first step in our Recreation Revitalization with Aqua Zone at [Bieth Memorial Park](#)! The ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Monday, June 14 for Aqua Zone. Aqua Zone is the latest and coolest splash pad for children and parents alike to cool down and have fun on a summer day.



For Upcoming Events, City Updates, Important City Notices and Information from in and around Caro, add/like us on Facebook!

ATWOOD PARK BANDSHELL

MUSIC IN THE PARK

ENJOY THE TALENTS OF MUSICAL PERFORMERS AT THE
ATWOOD PARK BANDSHELL.
605 NORTH STATE STREET, CARO MI 48723

EVERY THURSDAY, JUNE THROUGH AUGUST,
6:30 - 8:30 P.M.

- June 3 - Kounty Klass Band
- June 10 - Kowalski Brothers Band
- June 17 - Josh Ramsey Band
- June 24 - God's County Rock Band
- July 1 - Leftovers Band
- July 8 - Copper Creek Band
- July 15 - John Ecken Band
- July 22 Tom & Jerry Show
- July 29 - Still Running Band
- August 5 - Random Band
- August 12 - The Cronies Band
- August 19 - Dave & Joe Duo
- August 26 - Sonas Band

CODE ENFORCEMENT BY: CHIEF RANDY HECKROTH



Everyone's lawns and property are looking great. Please keep up the good work that makes our City the best it can be.

The Zoning

Administrator would like to remind everyone that zoning permits are required. Please review the following list, for the most active blights and zoning issues-

- All vehicles must be properly plated and in running order
- Pallets, crates, tires, appliances and any type of construction material & equipment are not allowed.
- All fences, pools, and any type of structure needs to have a zoning permit. Please contact this office to receive an application. Permits are only \$25.

Please note the *new ordinance that is now being enforced*, All garbage [cans, containers etc..] are not to be placed out for pickup prior to 24-hours and all [cans, containers etc.] must be removed within 24-hours after the pickup.

Please be safe and enjoy the Michigan summer.



What a difference a day (and 100 yards of mulch) makes! Play grounds at Bieth Memorial Park are now fully open! Thank you to our partners from the Tuscola Intermediate School District Work-Based Learning Program for helping make this project possible!!



City of Caro Utility Customers:

Paying your utility bill is easy as 1 2 3



View and pay your bills at www.CaroCity.net




Download **PSN Payments** from the App Store® or Google Play™



Call toll-free at **877-885-7968**

- View balance, past payments, and receipts
- Set & manage Auto-Pay
- Store payment methods
- *Payment convenience fees apply: 2.75% (+\$0.50 for payments under \$100.00)*
- *for credit/debit cards; \$1.00 for check/savings payments*






**CITY OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED
ON
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021
IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY**

**HAVE A SAFE AND
ENJOYABLE HOLIDAY**





Please remember that when you see someone working in the roadway to please take extra caution when driving around them



CITY OF CARO EXCERPT FROM BRUSH CHIPPING POLICY

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, third Monday in August, and first Monday in October. Additional brush chipping days may be added throughout the year at the discretion of the DPW Superintendent, with two-week notice to the public. All brush should be out for collection no later than 7:30 a.m. on pick up day.

In addition, the City dump located at Weeden Road, Caro, MI will be opened from 10 a.m. to noon the first and third Saturday beginning the first Saturday in April until the last Saturday of November. In case of damage caused by a storm, the DPW Superintendent may open the dump to allow residents to clean up brush caused by such storm as staffing allows.

The DPW will pick up piles of brush up to six (6) feet wide and four (4) feet high by six (6) feet long. Brush is to be placed at the curbside no more than ten (10) days prior to the next pickup and it 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. 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, and stones to the Emterra Environmental USA Landfill at 4151 South McMillan Road, Bad Axe, MI 48413, 989-658-2594.

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

Brush placed at the curbside before the ten (10) day period prior to pick up may be considered blight and will be handled as such. A ten (10) day blight notice will be mailed and if said brush remains on the curbside after the ten (10) day period, a private contractor will be hired by the City and the cost including a twenty dollar administrative fee will be invoiced back to the property owner.

(Please note that the Brush Chipping Policy does not reflect the policy in its entirety. All City of Caro Policies can be found on the web by going to www.carocity.net)



On Thursday, May 3, 2021 the City of Caro held the ribbon cutting at the new State Street Square Farmers Market. Pictured from left to right Attorney Phoebe Moore, Farmers Market Manager Lauren Amellal, Rowe Engineering Mike Carpenter, DDA Chairperson Mike Bauerschmidt, City Mayor Joe Greene, Councilwoman Jill White, DDA Member Evan Osentoski, and City Manager Matt Lane.



Caro Farmers Market 1st Annual Flower Day event



Grand Opening of State Street Square Caro Farmers Market on Saturday, June 5, 2021