

COMMUNITY

Austin man injured when 2 semis collide

By Albert Lea Tribune

An Austin man was injured Tuesday when two semis collided in snowy and icy conditions at the intersection of Minnesota Highway 13 and Interstate 90.

Timothy Michael Frazier, 21, was taken to Mayo Clinic Health System in Albert Lea with at least one injury deemed not life-threatening.

Frazier was driving a 2003 Sterling semi truck/trailer south on Minnesota Highway 13. Daniel Scott Hidu, 33, of

Eagan was driving a 2016 Freightliner semi truck/trailer east on Interstate 90 when he stopped at the bottom of the exit ramp, pulled out and struck Hidu's semi at 3:41 p.m., according to the Minnesota State Patrol.

The Freeborn County Sheriff's Office, Manchester Fire Department, Albert Lea Fire Department and Minnesota Department of Transportation assisted on scene.

Frazier and Hidu were wearing their seat belts, and alcohol was not a factor in the crash, the report states.

ON THE ROAD

Chef partnering with Geneva Bar & Grill

By Kelly Wassenberg
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GENEVA — Families often shape who we are as people — how we think, what we believe and even what brings us happiness. This was the case for The Yankee Catering chef Bryan Cunningham.

"I first started cooking with my grandmother, and my mom and I discovered that I absolutely loved it," he said.

In addition, the name The Yankee Catering comes from a bakery once owned by his great-grandfather in Albert Lea.

Cunningham always saw his future as being in the food industry. He started working as a dishwasher at a restaurant and worked his way up to the position of cook before attending the culinary arts program at South Central College in Mankato.

He worked at places like Hy-Vee for a while before starting a partnership with Geneva Bar & Grill. He has been working full time at the establishment while he builds his catering business.

The partnership works well for both the bar and



Bryan Cunningham

the catering business.

Chelsea Hanson, one of the owners of Geneva Bar & Grill, was looking to expand the business, while Cunningham was in search of a commercial kitchen to use for his business.

"Honestly, the puzzle pieces just kind of fit, and we decided to go with it," he said.

With their partnership and Cunningham's traveling catering license, they can provide both food and bar service for special events. They are also looking into acquiring another facility which could be used as a private event center.

Cunningham's menu contains a variety of main dishes and sides — most that fall under the umbrella of comfort foods.

"I like to do a little spin on it," he said of his dishes. "I like to let the seasonings shine through. My foods are never going to be bland."

Cunningham insists he doesn't want potential customers to feel like they are limited to his menu.

"We're an open book when it comes to food," he said. "Don't be afraid

to ask us to do anything. I love cooking everything."

In addition, to entrees, Cunningham said he has a selection of fun appetizers and has made box lunches, pizza bars and pasta bars.

"Basically the sky's the limit on what we are willing to do," he said.

Those interested in learning more about The Yankee Catering can visit its Facebook page or call Cunningham at 507-383-6512.



Check out Bryan Cunningham's recipes in Albert Lea Magazine.

PM REPORT

2 arrested on warrants

Albert Lea police arrested Brandon Leroy Nemechek, 33, on a McLeod County warrant at 3:19 p.m. Tuesday at 2611 Bridge Ave. Nemechek was arrested after a report that a male was standing in front of Kwik Trip attempting to shove a dog into a bag. A second caller said the person was harassing customers and placed a dog inside a suitcase and kicked it.

Police arrested Jamie Lee Tippery, 35, on local warrants after a report that a neighbor was burning garbage in an outside pit was filed at 6:23 p.m. Tuesday at 1405 W. Clark St.

Female taken to emergency room

A female was reportedly taken to Mayo Clinic Health System in Albert Lea after she was described as being in the

middle of the street yelling for help at 1:57 p.m. Tuesday at the intersection of East Sixth Street and Frank Avenue. She had facial injuries.

Damage, thefts reported

Damage to a warehouse was reported at 2:42 p.m. Tuesday at 509 E. Fourth St.

Someone allegedly broke into a business and stole multiple items at 3:09 p.m. Tuesday at Albert Lea Inn, 700 U.S. Highway 69.

A \$20 gas drive-off was reported at 10:56 p.m. Monday at SuperAmerica, 23087 Minnesota Highway 13. The suspect vehicle was described as a light blue SUV heading north on Highway 13.

Sexual assault reported

A sexual assault report was filed at 5:03 p.m. Tuesday in Albert Lea.

EVENTS CALENDAR

- Today**
- American Red Cross blood drive, 1-7 p.m., United Methodist Church
- Monday**
- American Red Cross blood drive, 1-6 p.m., Geneva Community Center
- To get your event in this listing, call 379-3439.

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Minnesota lawmakers: Tax drug makers over opioid crisis

ST. PAUL (AP) — Minnesota lawmakers and activists are making a push to require drug companies to pay more of the costs of dealing with the opioid crisis.

A House health and human services committee had its first hearing scheduled Wednesday on a bill to require manufacturers and wholesalers that sell or distribute opioids in Minnesota to pay registration fees as high as \$500,000. The current fee is just \$235.

It's a different approach than the "penny a pill" legislation that stalled out last year amid opposition from the pharmaceutical industry.

A bipartisan group of representatives and senators said at a news conference Wednesday that the higher fees would provide a steady source of funding to help compensate taxpayers for the costs that state and local governments are incurring due to the opioid crisis.

Police: Self-inflicted gunshot wound follows fatal shooting

ST. PAUL (AP) — St. Paul police said a man matching the description of a person wanted in a fatal shooting himself was shot and wounded himself.

Police Sgt. Mike Ernster said officers were called to a Holiday gas station about 9 p.m. Tuesday on a report of a shooting. When officers arrived, witnesses told them someone who had been shot has been taken away in a private vehicle.

A short time later a man was brought to Regions Hospital with gunshot wounds to his upper torso. He died at the hospital.

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