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STATERS
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MELROSE



Beacon



FISHING page 7

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Melrose Senior Center revitalization tossed around

Input sought at June meetings



Friday morning Liz Pohlmann, (from left) Ruth Traeger and Rosalie Frie gathered in the Melrose Senior Activity room holding items that signify activities people have participated in over the years. Liz Pohlmann, (from left) Ruth Traeger and Rosalie Frie gathered in the Melrose Senior Activity room Friday morning holding items that signify activities people have participated in over the years. Meetings will be held June 20 and 24 to look at revitalizing the center.

by CAROL MOORMAN
carol@melrosebeacon.com

Melrose—How can the Melrose Senior Center be revitalized? What kind of activities should be offered? Should the name be changed to broaden the usage to the community? These are just a few of the questions a core group of individuals—Rosalie Frie, Liz Middendorf, Liz Pohlmann, Pat Seanger and Ruth Traeger—have been asking and are hoping to receive answers to during two public meetings, at 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 20, and 10 a.m. on Monday, June 24, at the senior center in the lower level of the Melrose City Center.

Members meet there for weekly activities like quilting, exercising and card playing.

Senior center page 3

New location, new twists for Saturday’s Munichfest

by CAROL MOORMAN
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New Munich—The 42nd Annual Munichfest will be held Saturday, June 15, with new twists at a new location—New Munich City Hall. It kicks off at 10 a.m. with a Medallion Hunt at city hall. There will be crafters and vendors there from 10

a.m. to 2 p.m. The Kid’s Pedal Tractor Pull starts with registration at 10:30 a.m. “Down on the Farm” is the theme for the 2:30 p.m. Kiddie Parade. Following that there will be games, a “redneck cakewalk, inflatables, music and a cribbage tournament. There will be free music by Bob Niehaus, from The Bob Show, at 9 p.m.



Looking to the future, Melrose firefighter Mark “Bunker” Hill is hoping people will check out becoming a firefighter, must like he did close to 30 years ago. He is pictured at the fire/ambulance station Friday morning before he heads to work at Coborn’s. He feels fortunate his employer allows him to go on daytime calls.

PHOTO BY CAROL MOORMAN

Hill happy to lend a helping hand

Melrose department seeking new members

by CAROL MOORMAN | carol@melrosebeacon.com

Melrose—A few years ago Mark “Bunker” and Pam Hill’s daughter, Brianna, was in a car accident. She called her dad, and he explained to her how things would work when emergency personnel arrived to help. Hill’s experience as a firefighter and first responder came in handy.

“Folks are having one of the worst days in their lives and they expect somebody to show up,” he said.

In order for that to happen, people have to volunteer as local firefighters or emergency medical technicians (EMTs). “Everybody’s busy, with their lives, families, job, but you gotta step up and say, ‘I’m gonna volunteer for this organization,’” he said.

Hills feels fortunate his current employer, Coborn’s in Melrose, allows him to take calls during the day.

“He (his boss, Craig Zilka) was very receptive and said, ‘If you have to go, go,’” Hill recalls when first telling Zilka he was a firefighter hoping to go on day-time calls.

The Melrose Fire Department is looking for five new firefighters, to fill their 30-member roster, said Tom Budde, fire chief. A person must be age 18 or older and fill out an application form that they can get at the Melrose City Center.

“There’s an interview process, a basic physical agility test and once selected a physical at the city’s expense,” said Hill, adding, “You don’t have to be strong, you just have to be in

fairly decent shape.”

Once selected, Hill said, “we find you some gear, give you a pager and start you on the road.”

That includes 180 hours of combined Essentials of Firefighting and First Responder EMS training, over a two-year span. There are monthly training meetings the first and third Mondays.

Hill has been a firefighter for close to 39 years, dating back to 1979 when he was on fire and ambulance crews in Clarkfield where he and Pam lived before moving to Melrose.

Smiling, he recalls one of his first firefighting calls near Clarkfield, one January in the late 1970s, when they wore long coats and long rubber boots. It was a barn fire, he thought about 2 ½ miles out of town but ended up being eight miles.

“Back then we could ride on the back of the truck, so I jumped on the back of a truck. It was really cold. I got close to the fire to warm up,” said Hill.

Training he received in Clarkfield sped up the process of him becoming a Melrose firefighter almost 25 years ago.

“There was an opening, and I expressed an interest. I had the medical training and the essentials of firefighter. It was a matter of learning the local protocols. Every agency does things a little differently,” said Hill.

Firefighter page 3



PHOTO BY JENNIFER COYNE

The Thielens – (from left) Chad, Judy and Marv – milk 68 cows near Melrose, Minn. Marv and Judy have dairy farmed together for 38 years and are now transitioning the farm to their son.

A CAREER FOCUSED ON family

Thielens cherish time dairying together

by JENNIFER COYNE | DAIRY STAR STAFF WRITER

Melrose— With the start of the new month, Marv and Judy Thielen reminisce about their dairying career as they begin transitioning the dairy to their son, Chad Thielen.

For the past 38 years, the couple has worked alongside each other on their 68-cow dairy near Melrose.

“It’s pretty awesome to think about what we’ve accomplished,” Judy said. “Not many can say they’ve [dairy farmed together] this long and now have their son wanting to get involved. Everybody is kind of excited about it.”

Every morning, Marv and Judy begin their days in the tiestall barn. When Marv first gets to the barn, he cleans the stalls and gets the milking

equipment ready for Judy.

As Judy starts milking, Marv feeds the animals. Then, Judy feeds calves before getting ready for her job off the farm. She works Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday as a medical transcriptionist for the local healthcare system.

“We get to talk in the morning,” Judy said. “As the day gets going, there are more people around. And, when the kids were young, they would be here in the afternoons after school.”

Marv agreed.

“Together, we’ve gone through 76 state inspections and passed them all,” he said.

The couple began dairying in December 1981 with 22 cows in 16 stalls.

“Farming has been a way of life for us. There’s never been a day when we asked ourselves why we’re doing this,” Marv said. “I was a kid when my dad milked, but then he sold the cows when my brother left for the service.”

When Marv and Judy returned to the Thielens’ farm, they gutted the barn and installed new tie stalls. Over the years, they added more to the barn, including stalls and a barn cleaner.

In the early 2000s, the couple added on one last time to accommodate the herd size without having to switch cattle during milkings.

Thielens page 3

OBITUARIES
Agnes T. Kleve

BIRTH
Eli Joseph Meyer


**WEDDING
ANNOUCMENT**
Schiffler-Rademacher

LEGAL NOTICES

- Stearns Co. Board of Adjustment Notice - pg. 0
- Sauk River Watershed Notice - pg. 0
- Stearns Co. Planning Commission Notice - pg. 0

WEATHER

Date	High	Low	Prec.
June 3	0	0	.00
June 4	0	0	.00
June 5	0	0	.00
June 6	00	00	.00
June 7	00	00	.00
June 8	00	00	.00
June 9	00	00	.00



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\$1.50

LIFE CELEBRATION (BIRTHDAY) PARTY

Carole (Bitz) Austing

With an “It’s my party” atmosphere, Carole Austing invites you to help celebrate life around the date of her birthday. This “Life Celebration” Open House will start at 2 p.m. on June 22, 2019, and go as long as it goes, at The Lodge, 14323 245th Ave., in rural Sauk Centre.

There will be food, drinks, music and dancing.

Your gift to her will be your presence and memories shared.

B-23-2P



Carole (Bitz) Austing

WHO’S NEW

Eli Joseph Meyer

Eli Joseph Meyer was born to Shawn and Stacy Meyer of Melrose, June 4, 2019 at 1:26 a.m. at CentraCare Health-Melrose Hospital.

He weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces and measured 20 inches long.

Eli was welcomed by her big sisters, Myla, 5, and Quinn, 2, both at home.

Grandparents are Marvin and Judy Thielen of Melrose and Fred and Joyce Meyer of Melrose.

Great-grandparents are



Eli Joseph Meyer

Loretta Meyer of Melrose and Pat and Leo Bloch of Richmond.

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

Schiffler-Rademacher

Ginny and Craig Schiffler of Melrose and Lu and Joe Rademacher of New Munich are happy to announce the engagement and upcoming wedding of their children, Courtney and Gregg.

Gregg graduated from Melrose High School in 2008 and attended Alex Tech in the diesel mechanic program. He works at Arnold’s in St. Martin. Courtney is a 2011 Melrose High School graduate and attended Ridgewater Tech in Willmar in the photography program. She works at the family business and does



Courtney Schiffler and Gregg Rademacher

photography. Their wedding is June 15 in Albany.

Council takes first step to solve infiltration problem

by CAROL MOORMAN
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Freeport—There are an estimated 40 problem spots in Freeport where water is infiltrating into the city’s system, causing major flooding during heavy rains.

Councilmembers, during their May 28 monthly meeting, approved fixing four major infiltration problems, located on city properties, at an estimated cost of \$18,000.

“This buys us time,” Dave Blommel, city engineer, told the council.

Time to fix the other problem spots, some on residential properties.

“It will be a heck of a project,” said Blommel.

Miscellaneous

•Barry Weber, the city’s website consultant, gave a presentation on just what can be on the city’s website. The council would like to see it being utilized more for things like listing items on the calendar.

•Councilors discussed potential ordinance violations at the creamery site, but no action was taken. They did direct city attorney Scott Dymoke to send a letter to a trucking company in town addressing ordinance violations related to noise and parking trailers on a residential street.

Local Legion Girls/Boys Staters to learn lifelong values this week

by CAROL MOORMAN
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Melrose—Four Melrose Area High School juniors—Vanessa Pung, Erika Doetkott, Chris Feldewerd and Bryan Harms—will be spending this week at Legion Girls and Boys State, learning lifelong values and making friendships.

The young ladies, Erika Doetkott and Vanessa Pung, are sponsored by American Legion Auxiliary 101 of Melrose, with chairperson Marie Silbernagel. The 73rd session of Girls State is being held June 9 to 15 at Bethel University in St. Paul. The purpose of this program is to provide Americanism and good citizenship training and to inform participants about the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of government as practiced in a Democratic society.

The young men, Christopher Feldewerd Bryan Harms, and are sponsored by American Legion Post 101 with chairpersons Dave Sieben and Gordy Olson. The 71st Boys State will be held June 9 to 15 on the campus of St. John’s University in Collegeville. The Legion Boys State is a practical learning experience in local and state government. They will be encouraged, through participation, toward a better civic behavior and appreciation of democratic ideals.

“This will be a once in a lifetime experience, and I am looking forward to learning more about American Government,” wrote Pung.

Participants must be high school juniors and are chosen based on school and community involvement.

Meet the Girls/Boys Staters
Erika Doetkott is the daughter of Chad and Vicky Doetkott.

In high school she is involved with girls swimming/diving, speech, National Honor



PHOTO BY CAROL MOORMAN

Melrose Area Girls and Boys State participants, sponsored by American Legion Post and Auxiliary 101 of Melrose, are attending sessions this week in St. Paul and Collegeville. Pictured are Girl Staters (front, from left) Vanessa Pung and Erika Doetkott and Boy Staters Bryan Harms and Christopher Feldewerd; (back) Mollie Dusha, school councilor; Marie Silbernagel, Auxiliary Girl State chair; and Gordy Olson, Post Boy State chair, along with Dave Sieben, who is not pictured.

Society, FFA and synchronized swimming. She is an ExCel award winner, FFA officer, co-chair of the Stearns County Youth Task Force, state speech competitor during the 2017-2019 seasons, state speech top eight finalists during the 2017 and 2018 seasons and state speech top finalists in 2019. State FFA competitor 2017-2019, state FFA small animals CDE champion in 2018, FFA national competitor in 2018, placed sixth in Veterinary Science CDE at the FFA nationals and recognized for academic excellence 2017-2019.

Vanessa Pung is the daughter of Duane and Kathy Pung and lives on a 160-cow dairy farm east of Freeport.

On the farm she helps feed and milk cows, scrape the free-stall barn and lends an extra hand when her brothers need help. She also lends a hand at Sacred Heart Church, teaching fourth through sixth grade religion, serving for Mass and doing sacristy work and helping with the annual Freeport Festival.

In high school she is involved with the fall musical,

is a National Honor Society member and has been a student council volunteer for the past two years and is currently the student council executive president. She has been on the speech team for five years and a “proud” captain for two years. She was recently awarded seventh in Drama Interpretation at the state speech competition.

Vanessa plans to attend North Dakota University in the fall of 2020 for a degree in Business Administration, knowing one day she would like to “make an impact on people’s lives.”

She wrote that she is honored to represent Melrose, along with Erika, at Girls State.

“This journey will expose me to new skills, friendships and lifelong values,” Vanessa wrote.

Christopher Feldewerd is the son of Tom and Deanna Feldewerd.

He is busy in high school, participating in choir, cross country where he will be a captain for the 2019 season; swimming/diving where he participated in the True Team State

event; track and field where he reached sections in the individual 400-meter, 4x400 relay, and 4x200 relay, which they also set the school record this current season; and trap shooting where he participated in the state shoot in Alexandria. As a National Honor Society member he helped with the Father/Daughter ball, school walk and senior matinee.

Other community activities include 4-H where he is Adley Creek club treasurer and has also held the position of president, vice president and secretary.

After Boys State he will be representing Melrose Area High School traveling through Europe for four weeks in the German American Partnership Program. He enjoys hunting and ice fishing and carving his own duck decoys and spearing decoys.

Bryan Harms is the son of Cal and Diane Harms, and lives in a “little house in the heart of Freeport,” he wrote.

In school, he has been a speech team captain for two years and a member of a team since seventh grade. He is secretary of the student council executive board.

In furthering his education, he plans to be a part-time or online student his senior year, eventually attending the University of Minnesota Duluth with hopes of becoming a psychiatrist. “I want to be a psychiatrist because I have had the love of medicine since I was a child. After seeing the works of psychology in school and social work through acquaintances, I fell in love with the field of mental health,” he wrote.

He is honored to have been selected to represent Melrose at Boys State this June. “It will be an exciting time to learn more about our beautiful country,” he concluded.



PHOTO SUBMITTED
A grant through the Midwest Dairy Association “Undeniably Dairy” program provided a refrigerated dairy unit for the Melrose Area Food Shelf. Dairy product items, milk and cheese, will be purchased from Stony Creek Dairy and Bongards to fill the refrigerator. Pictured on May 29 with the new refrigerator are (from left) Ann Uphoff and Art Kerfeld, Stearns County Dairy Association Board members; and Tim Wingate, Candy Freeman and Ervin Bueckers, Melrose Area Food Shelf volunteers. Wingate, who submitted the grant application, said food shelf volunteers heard about the grant through Second Harvest Heartland. “This helps promote the local dairy industry,” said Kerfeld. The Melrose Area Food Shelf is open Wednesday afternoons and available to qualifying residents around the Melrose Area School District.

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Variety of programs, activities at Melrose Public Library

Melrose—The Melrose Public Library is pleased to offer the following programs and activities.

Decorate a Library Bag – June 10
Stop in to decorate your own library bag. For children ages 4 to 12. Monday, June 10 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.
LEGO Time—June 18 and 25
Join them for hours of LEGO building fun! For ages 5 to 10. Limit 8. Registration required. Tuesdays, June 18 and 25 and July 9, 16 and 23 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Backyard Garden Creations – June 12
Create a 10 x 10 wood craft

project. Participants will need to choose a design in advance from a handout at the library. Stop in or call the library to pre-register. Limit is 40. Come join us and be creative in painting your sign. For ages 8 to 12. A Legacy event. Wednesday, June 12; 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Big Fun Show – June 13
Join them for the Summer Reading Program kick-off with a family comedy, juggling, and magic show. For all ages. A Legacy event. Thursday, June 13; 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.
Summer Storytime – June 20 and 27
Come and join us for stories,

arts, and crafts along with a snack. There is a different theme each week. For ages 4 - 9. Limit 35. Thursdays, June 20 and 27; 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Bead Class – June 20
Come and make a bead necklace or bracelet to take home. For ages 10 and up. Limit 12. Thursday, June 20; 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Conversation Circles
Come and practice your English speaking skills while making new friends in a relaxed, fun setting on Wednesdays, in June, July and August. For adults. This program is funded in part with

a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education using federal funding, CFDA 45.310 – Library Services and Technology Act, Grants to States Program (LS-00-18-0024-18). Wednesdays, June 12, 19 and 26; 3 to 4 p.m.
Family Movie Night—June 24
All movies are family-friendly and popcorn will be provided. For families. No preregistration required. Mondays, June 24; 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Melrose Public Library hours: Monday 2-8, Tuesday 2-5, Wednesday 2-7, Thursday 10-12 and 2-5, Friday 2-5, Saturday 9-12.

Thielens from front

“I’ve always enjoyed milking cows, but really liked it when we started using automatic takeoffs,” Judy said.
Judy did not grow up on a farm. After meeting Marv, she became familiar with the lifestyle dairying has to offer. “When we met, she couldn’t tell the difference from the front end of a cow to its back end,” said Marv, jokingly.
With Judy’s interest in the cattle and Marv’s desire to farm on his family’s property, the couple has fine-tuned the management on their dairy to solidify their place in the industry.
“Everyone has their niche,” Marv said. “Ours is our components.”
The Thielens religiously breed for low somatic cell count and milk components, and focus less on milk production. They maintain a butterfat test above 4% in the Holstein herd.
Their milk is shipped to Land O’Lakes where it is made into cheese products.
“We’ve often thought

about our milk and where it goes and who we’re all feeding,” Marv said. “We hope people can appreciate the family farms like ours. We hope they know we’re working one on one with the animals to give them a whole-some product.”
Marv and Judy also finish out dairy steers.
While Marv and Judy take pride in providing a food source for consumers, they are most proud of raising their four children – Chad, Kelly, Stacy and Brian – on the dairy.
“Our greatest accomplishment is being able to dairy farm and cherishing that time we spent as a family,” Judy said.
When the children were in school, the couple always looked forward to them arriving home and helping with chores in the afternoon and on the weekends. While some chores were challenging, Marv and Judy made sure to make it an enjoyable experience.
“We’ve always worked hard, but we would have fun

doing it,” Marv said. “One summer we baled 1,000 straw bales. Then, when we were done, we all ate dinner together and the kids played in the lawn.”
The joy of farming made for a memorable childhood – one Chad and his wife, Jackie, now want to provide for their 20-month-old twins, Raymond and Addelyn.
In the last two years, the Thielens have worked together to develop a plan for Chad to take over the dairy farm.
“This is kind of fun,” said Chad, thinking about the farm transition. “I’m excited to be out here.”
Chad will be the fifth generation on his family’s farm, which was recognized as a homestead in 1862.
“This is great because the farm will still be in the family,” Marv said. “It’s an incredible feeling to think that maybe it’ll be here at 200 years with Chad’s children now.”
As Chad settles into his new role at the family dairy, Marv and Judy will serve as mentors, having gone through

many trials and triumphs in their own dairying career.
“As long as our health remains good, all three of us will be here, definitely,” Marv said.
The Thielens’ recalled their worst year of farming was in 1988 when they chopped corn on July 4.
However, the couple has made it through those less profitable years by remaining vigilant of their finances.
“We’ve always lived within our means,” Judy said.
Marv agreed.
“We didn’t go spend when times were good. ... We never had and never will,” he said. “The best thing we could do was have a nest egg in our checkbook when we needed it.”
As Marv and Judy take on different roles at the dairy, they gleam in seeing their dedication to the cows and their family pay off, and look forward to the farm carrying on.

Firefighter from front

At the time Ralph Revermann was the fire chief. Since then Hill has worked under the helm of other fire chiefs, including Jeremy Kraemer and Tom Budde. Hill has held offices, including assistant chief and training officer.
He explains new firefighters are assigned a mentor for the first 1 ½ years.
“They get to a scene and tag along with their mentor who explains what needs to be done. Other times they will get together and open the doors on a truck and see where different equipment is stored,” said Hill.
There are limitations when junior firefighters go on calls that first year.
“A lot of times things start making sense as they piece together things,” he said. “They find a comfort level and get more assertive.”
When responding to calls, there are jobs for everyone, Hill said. Firefighters bring their own strengths to the department.
“Not every firefighter has to climb to the top of the aerial ladder if they are not comfortable with heights. There are other jobs they can do,” said Hill. “Not everything is physical or daring, but every job is important.”
Everyone pitches in to get the job done, whether it’s at the scene of a fire or accident or back at the fire station after a call when they have to clean up equipment.
“The unglamorous part is once the fire is over, you load everything back onto

the truck and go back to the station and spend 30 minutes, even at three in the morning cleaning up,” said Hill.
That’s where the camaraderie comes into play.
“You go home tired and dirty and sometimes you get some sleep,” feeling good because chances are you helped someone out, said Hill, speaking from experience.
There isn’t much he hasn’t seen or done as a firefighter.
“I’ve been on any kind of a call there is, practically,” he said.
Now the Melrose Fire Department needs others to step up to the plate.
“It’s a pretty heads up organization. We have good support from the city and surrounding areas. We do a good job of budgeting to make sure our equipment is up to snuff, and we have the tools we need,” said Bunker.
He said there are personal benefits to being on the fire department.
“It’s not just going on rescue calls, medicals or fighting fires. It’s a valuable learning experience. If you’re enjoying yourself in July and someone gets burned by the campfire

or someone injures their ankle, there’s gonna be one cool head because you’ve got the experience, so you know what needs to be done,” he said.
Hill recalls the time he and his wife came across a head-on accident and he helped the people out until law enforcement arrived. Another time he was at an auction sale and a guy fell down, and he did CPR until the ambulance arrived.
“Having the firefighting, rescue and EMS experience makes you more prepared for any kind of life experience. That’s a benefit for anybody,” he said.
Hill, in his 60s, smiles, when saying, I can’t do this forever.” He said if the department had a full crew and someone would tap him on his shoulder, saying they would like to become a firefighter chances are he would “ride off into the sunset.”
Generations in families have been Melrose firefighters. Currently they have a father-son duo on the crew – Edwin Santana and his son, Anthony, who is a junior firefighter.
“I took Anthony on his first burn. We gave him the

opportunity to use the nozzle. He did a great job,” said Hill.
As a senior member of the department, Hill has learned not to let emotions get the best of him.
“You risk a lot to save a lot,” said Hill, adding he’s more “thick-skinned.”
Even when there are tragic situations, like deaths, he rationalizes what was done.
“We didn’t create that crash. We didn’t start that fire. Our pagers went off and we left whatever we were doing, put on our gear, went to the location and did the best job we could. Sometimes the outcomes aren’t good, but you don’t let that eat at you. You do the best you can with what you have,” he said.
Now the Melrose Fire Department needs more people—men or women—to make the commitment to volunteer for a “pretty dang good organization,” Hill said.
“It’s personally rewarding, because you never know when what you learned can benefit you or someone else,” Hill concludes.
That was the case with Hill and his daughter.

MELROSE SENIOR CENTER

- Golden Goalies Tuesdays 9 a.m.
- Silver Sneakers classes Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8 a.m.
- 500 cards on the third Wednesday of the month and first Sunday of the month at 1:30 p.m.
- Pool: Instructions 10 a.m. Monday through Friday.
- Line Dancing: Wednesdays at 9 a.m.

PULSE ON PEOPLE

Michigan Technological University, in Houghton, Michigan, has released the Dean’s List for the 2019 spring semester. Among the honorees was **Lewis S. Ekola**, Melrose Area High School graduate, majoring in Biomedical Engineering.
The following Alexandria Technical & Community College students were named to the Dean’s List Spring Semester 2019: Freeport--**Tyler Roerick**; Melrose--**Isabella Crosby, Gracie Drossel, Jacob Feldewerd, Jaime Martinez Botello and Nicholas Scholz**.
Area residents among 795 students named to the spring semester Dean’s List at the University of Mary in Bismarck include **Samantha Wiechman** of Freeport and **Diana Nathe** of Melrose

One injured in accident

by **CAROL MOORMAN**
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Melrose Township—A rural Melrose man was taken to CentraCare Health-Melrose Hospital following a two vehicle crash June 4 in Melrose Township.
According to a Staerns County Sheriff’s report, around 12:41 p.m. John Hellermann, 67, and Dylan Hellermann, 24, both of rural Melrose, were northbound on County Road 17 in their CAN-AM side-by-side ATV. A black Ford pickup truck pulling a field roller, driven by Myron Reiman, 69, of rural Melrose, passed the ATV on the left. John Hellermann attempted to make a left-

hand turn into a field approach when he struck the field roller. He fell out of the ATV and the roller ran over him causing severe injuries.
John Hellermann was transported to the Melrose Hospital by Melrose Ambulance for treatment of his injuries. Dylan Hellermann and Reiman were not injured.
North Air helicopter was dispatched to the crash but was unable to respond due to the rainy weather. Melrose Police Department, Melrose Fire Department and MN State Patrol assisted at the scene. The crash remains under investigation by the Stearns County Sheriff’s Office and MN State Patrol.

Suspicious man spotted in Melrose Located later, warned not to have contact with young girls

by **CAROL MOORMAN**
carol@melrosebeacon.com

Melrose—Anyone feeling uncomfortable or scared of someone else should go to a public place, tell someone else about it or call 911 or the Melrose police non-emergency line, (320) 256-7211.
Those were suggestions June 4 from Melrose Police Chief Craig Maus after there was a complaint of a suspicious man in Melrose the night before. According to a Facebook post, a man driving a black, four-door car, tried striking up a conversation with a 16-year-old in Coborn’s parking lot. She went inside the store and purchased items. With a bad feeling, she asked for someone to walk her to her vehicle, which a man did. The older man tried to converse with her again as they were walking, but she got into her

vehicle and locked the doors. The older man followed her in his vehicle out of the parking lot. Suddenly she noticed he wasn’t following her. She turned round and was met by two police officers, giving them a description of the suspicious person—a white man in his 50s, longer, greasy looking hair with some gray, larger build and wearing a plaid blue shirt.
Getting somewhere safe is the first thing to do when in suspicious situations, Maus said.
“Then try and get as much information as you can so we can try to locate the suspicious person, vehicle or activity that is happening,” Maus concluded.
The suspicious man was later identified, thanks to the business’ video camera, and he was warned not to have contact with youth.

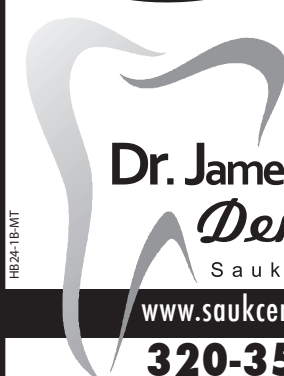
Senior center from front

“Wouldn’t it be great to have a plant swap? You bring extra rhubarb and I’ll bring extra irises.”
Pohlmann said there was a suggestion that maybe it should be more of a community center.
“Senior center gives the impression that you have to be a certain age to participate. Maybe it should be relaxed with everybody welcome,” said Pohlmann.
She laughs when mentioning that a member of the core group talked about her mom, who is in her 90s, saying she’s not old enough for the senior center.
They encourage people to attend one of the two meetings where ideas will be shared and collected. If you would like to contribute but cannot attend any of the meetings, you can call Liz at (518) 256-5718.
“This room just needs to be filled,” said Frie, glancing around the senior activity room.
“It’s important that everybody has a voice,” Pohlmann concluded.

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2. \$1,000	5. \$500	8. \$200	11. \$100
3. \$1,000	6. \$500	9. \$200	12. \$100
4. \$500	7. \$200	10. \$100	

Drawing held Sat., June 22, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.
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