

# The Melcher-Dallas Miner

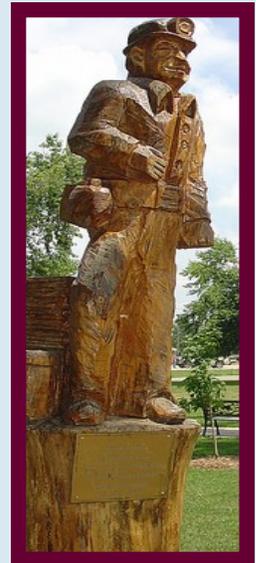
## One man's trash.....

If the old saying, "One man's trash is another man's treasure," holds true, then the South Central Iowa Solid Waste Agency landfill is truly a goldmine. Rick Hurt, Director, and Jennifer Frampton, Program Coordinator, were kind enough to provide an overview of how the landfill operates and what types of services they offer.

While the recent city-wide clean-up was a huge success, it brought to light that people are holding heaps and piles of refuse on their property, when there is a very inexpensive option for disposal of garbage and recyclables close to home. The SCISWA landfill, located in eastern Marion County, serves Lucas, Marion, Poweshiek and Monroe counties. Residents in those counties can take anything from appliances to general household garbage for a nominal fee. The landfill is funded 100 percent through the fees garnered by waste brought to the facilities from cities and residents in the four counties it serves.

"We provide opportunities for residents and businesses to dispose of items in an environmentally responsible way," says Jennifer. She provided an overview of the types of items that can and cannot be disposed of at the SCISWA landfill. There are nominal fees for disposal of items such as household appliances and tires, but the fee is only to cover the cost SCISWA incurs in having the items hauled away by recycling organizations. Funding is generated by weighing and assessing a fee for commercial and residential waste that crosses the scale.

The SCISWA landfill is a 20-minute, scenic drive from Melcher-Dallas. A brochure with more information, including accepted and not accepted items and pricing, is available on the M-D website ([melcherdallasiowa.org](http://melcherdallasiowa.org)). Great information can also be found on the SCISWA website ([www.sciswa.org](http://www.sciswa.org)). Could you and your neighbors pool your resources and develop a system to dispose of unwanted household items in a timely and cost effective manner by utilizing the landfill?



### Important Dates

#### November 5

Election—Community Center

#### November 11

Veteran's Day—City Hall Closed

#### November 12

Regular Council Meeting, 6 pm

#### November 28

Thanksgiving

#### November 28 & 29

City Hall closed for Thanksgiving

### Mayor

Barbara VanWyk

### City Council

Brad Robbins

David Ernst

Chris Heaton

Mark Herold

Terry Fisher (Mayor Pro-Tem)

## Election day around the corner

The general election, which now includes the school board election, will be held on November 5, 2019. M-D citizens will vote at the Community Center and will have a wealth of candidates to choose from this year. The mayoral candidates include incumbent Mayor, Barb VanWyk, with Colin Hyatt and Louis Karpan also running for the office. City council candidates include Terry Fisher and David Ernst (incumbents) as well as Bradley Branson, Mark Moon and Seth Williams. Please plan to cast your vote for these important positions.

## NEWBIE NEWS

Our feature this month is not a new resident but a new business. SouthCentral Coop was recently purchased by Smith Fertilizer & Grain. The home office for SFG is on Hwy 5 between Knoxville and Attica. In addition to the M-D Coop, SFG also purchased operations in Milo, Columbia and Knoxville.

Jeff Fox, M-D/Columbia Location Manger, provided an overview of the services SFG will provide, which include grain storage, as well as fertilizer and feed. The interior of the old Coop office and feed building has been updated with a maroon and white interior that feels fresh and new. Since taking ownership, SFG has added approximately 20 employees.

Jeff was quick to dispel the rumor that SFG will take back the high school baseball field, reaffirming that they intend to leave the ballfield as is. The improvements made to date speak volumes about the SFG commitment to creating a successful business that benefits area farmers and M-D residents.

The fuel pumps previously hooked to the Coop card system will be replaced with new pumps and will carry both diesel and gas. Customers will be able to use a major credit card or apply for a card from SFG, which will be available soon. The sale of fuel is a new endeavor for SFG, and they are pleased to be able to offer diesel that fuels not only farm equipment but city and school vehicles.

Jeff says SFG has plans to continue to improve the property and upgrade the facilities. They have also expanded hours of operation. The "Open" LED sign in the front will be on from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays. Jeff says they will, of course, be open expanded hours during harvest. Jeff acknowledged that there are many loyal former Coop customers in the area, but SFG is hopeful they will appreciate all the new company in town has to offer and stop by to see the updated offices and new products

## M-D Food Pantry receives Marion County Community Foundation Grant



*Special thanks to Bob Warrick for providing an overview of the Holiday Basket Program.*

Citizens who access the M-D food pantry will have a happier holiday season, thanks to a grant from the Marion County Community Foundation. Bob Warrick, one of our local food pantry "warriors," advises that a grant for \$1,000 will be used to create holiday food baskets for all those who utilize the food pantry.

Bob says holiday baskets will be delivered to shut-ins, and all those who are able to come to the pantry will receive their special holiday basket when they come for pick-up on the second or fourth Wednesday of the month during late November and Christmas. Baskets will include special items such as ham, turkey, and other traditional

items to prepare a holiday meal. Local supporters of the food pantry can also contribute to the holiday gift program to help stretch the donations to reach even more people and create more robust baskets. Food and cash donations can be made at City Hall or given to Judy Ripperger.

When asked what types of food items the pantry might run short on, Bob says they are always pleased to receive donations of cereal. He also says that they are happy to receive farm fresh eggs from local farmers. Please call Dennis Tickle at 641-891-0508 to make arrangements to drop off eggs.

A special thanks to all those who staff the food pantry, stock shelves, pass out donations, run down supplies, and all those who provide cash and food donations .



*Kelly greets people warmly at the counter and Manager Jeff is excited about the possibility of expanding services at the Melcher-Dallas location.*



## Life as a “Lifer”

**J**erry Lovell and Jackie (Fortune) Lovell were both born and raised in Melcher-Dallas and raised their four sons in town. Jordy, Jeremy and Josh live in the Melcher-Dallas area, and Jake lives in Pleasantville.

Jerry works at Weiler’s in Knoxville and Jackie works at D&S. They enjoy spending time with their four grandchildren. Anybody who knows Jackie will appreciate her response to the question, “Did you ever think about leaving Melcher-Dallas?” She responded with a laugh, “No, we couldn’t afford to.” When asked what she likes about living here, she responded, “A short commute.” Being within walking distance of your employer is just one of the many benefits Jackie appreciates about living in M-D, and Jackie’s sense of humor is just one of the many fine qualities we appreciate about her!

But in all seriousness, Jackie says they stayed because they like being around family. Jackie and Jerry live in the house Jackie was raised in, and their beautiful lawn and pristine home and property would make any family member proud of their home place. Jackie and Jerry’s son recently bought the house next door, another beautiful home and property.

When asked what qualities they tried to instill in their sons, Jackie responded, “We wanted them to be kind to others,” and she added as an afterthought, “And not tear things up in town.” When asked what makes her most proud of her boys, she said, “They all work hard for a living.” Thank you to Jackie for sharing her thoughts about being a lifer, her family photos, and for always making us laugh.

## Sewer Project Moving Along

We are about half way through the sewer project, which will run through at least late November (depending on weather). To receive important updates from City Hall, please e-mail your name to [mdcityhall@windstream.net](mailto:mdcityhall@windstream.net), and Jenny will add you to an alert list so you will receive breaking news if there are developments.

### Your City Employees

- Mike Damon**—Sewer & Water Director
- Gary Comer**—Streets & Parks Director
- Mike McCarty**—Streets
- Jacob Hoch**—Chief of Police
- Zachary Kalvig**—Reserve Officer
- Ruth Ryun**— Deputy Clerk
- Jenny Knust**—Clerk/Treasurer
- Steph Ripperger**—Admin. Assistant
- Lori Davis**—Library Director
- Fran Smith**—Library Assistant
- Bill Cooper & Janet McBride**—Recycling

### Employee Spotlight

#### Mike McCarty, Public Works



Please meet Mike McCarty, part-time public works employee. Mike lives in Williamson with his wife, Kathy, and daughter Mickayla, who is pursuing a degree in sustainable agriculture at Indian Hills Community College. She is also a champion skeet shooter. Mike currently serves on the Williamson City Council , volunteers his time for city projects, and also farms.

When asked what he likes about working in Melcher-Dallas, Mike says he really enjoys being in town because people are friendly and always wave when he’s out in the community. Mike does a great job for the city. Be sure and wave when you see him!

## What's up with the library, Lori?

On October 31st, we will be having story time at 1:30. Please bring your little ones and have them wear their Halloween costume.

I know it's early, but we are gearing up for the holidays! On December 7th from 9 a.m. to noon we will be making ornaments with the kids. Stop in to make a free ornament. We are also in the process of setting up a festival of trees.

Stop in and watch for other fun things coming up at the library or call 641-947-6700 for more information about hours of operation, services or events.

**Lori Dhabalt-Davis**  
**Librarian**

### NEW BOOKS THIS MONTH

*Till There Was You*, Marie Force  
*Listening to Love*, Beth Wiseman  
*The Amish Wanderer*, Laura Hilton  
*The Timepiece*, Beverly Lewis  
*The Welcoming*, Nora Roberts  
*In Broad Daylight*, Harry Maclean  
*Lost and Found*, Danielle Steel  
*Bloody Genius*, John Sandford  
*Child's Play*, Danielle Steel  
*Screwed*, Jasinda Wilder  
*Nailed*, Jasinda Wilder

*Dog Man Brawl of the Wild*, Dav Pilkey  
*Dog Man for Whom the Ball Rolls*, Dav Pilkey  
*Nantucket Neighbors*, Pamela Kelley  
*The Nantucket Inn*, Pamela Kelley  
*The 19th Christmas*, James Patterson  
*The Hate You Give*, Amanda Stenberg  
*Amish Acres-The Pumpkin Patch*, Samantha Bayarr  
*The Seven Longest Yards*, Chris Norton

### NEW MOVIES THIS MONTH

John Wick; John Wick Chapter 2; John Wick, Chapter 3; A Dog's Journey; and The Public

## When you do good things, people notice!

As I went for my walk last night, I left my home on D Main West and went over the railroad bridge. I took a long view of D Main going east. I noticed all the yards look freshly mowed. What a beautiful sight! On my way back, I turned on 60th Avenue to Church Street. All the lawns looked well groomed, as if it was one long yard extending to the railroad tracks. It was wonderful to see such pride in our neighborhood. Thank you.

*This civic pride moment brought to you by Naomi Miller.*

### A Trip Down Memory Lane

#### Do you remember:

- The miner who walked to the mine in the dark of the early morning?
- The miner with the lunch bucket hanging on his shoulder and not walking so tall?
- The miner who went down that deep hole? Some working on their knees, some standing tall, some whipped the mules, and some getting black lung?
- The miner who filled the coal car each day for just pennies so the family could eat?
- The miner you couldn't wait to meet at the door in hopes there would be some leftover pie or cookies in the lunch pail?
- How black the miner's face was when he got home after work in that hole?
- When the miner came down the same road after a hard day's work only to find the streets lined with family and friends?

*Special thanks to Sandra Haug for sharing her vivid and precious memories from a coal miner's daughter.*

### Do You Know Your City Ordinances?

1. I think I'll put a "for sale" sign on my car and leave it on the square so everyone can see it.
2. If I park my jet ski and camper in the back yard, they have to be on a hard surface.
3. I can ride my snowmobile on city streets only before they are plowed.
4. I can ride my bike to get groceries and drive home with one hand.
5. I can't place leaves and grass in my trash tote.
6. It's unlawful to burn garbage in my back yard.

1. It's a violation of city parking regulations to place a vehicle on public property for advertisement. 2. True. Parking ordinance requires all vehicles (including campers, boats and jet skis) to be on a hard surface. 3. True. Snowmobiles are allowed on streets that have been plowed only in emergencies. 4. False. Bicycle regulations require riders to have both hands on the handlebars. 5. True. Yard waste must be separated from garbage (can be hauled to the city's brush dump). 6. True. Solid waste ordinance prohibits burning of personal garbage in the back yard.