



MS Citizens of the Month



By: Kelley Jorgensen

Every month at EPJ, two middle school students are given the honorable title of Middle School Citizens of the Month. Mariah Heckathorn and Alex Norby have been named Citizens of the Month for January.

Alex Norby is the son of Jeff and Cara Norby. He has two siblings, Nikki and Matthew. Alex participates in several extracurricular activities including wrestling, football, track, baseball, acceleration, and even student council. Alex attends church services at Saint Joseph Catholic Church where he participates in CCD activities and helps serve on Sundays.

Outside of school, Alex likes participating in sports camps and hanging out with his friends. In the summer, Alex works for Scott Hansen doing field and farm work. He has also helped with the Community Salt Drive. When asked about his role model, Alex named Adrian Peterson, running-back for the Minnesota Vikings. Alex admires Adrian's determination both on and off the field. He hopes to play lots

of sports in the future, but for right now he is just focusing on having a fun time in middle school. When asked what he enjoys about middle school, Alex said that he has enjoyed the fun atmosphere and all the middle school staff the most.

The other Citizen of the Month is Mariah Heckathorn, daughter of Chad and Christy Heckathorn and sister of Jack and Carter Heckathorn. Mariah is involved in band, vocal, Destination Imagination, volleyball, science fair, and the Language Arts Festival. Mariah attends Hillside Community Church in Vermillion, South Dakota. In church she is an Awana/Cubbies teacher, and she is a member of the Girls of Grace at Elk Point United Parish.

Outside of school, Mariah is a member of the Brule Go-Getters 4-H club, holding the office of reporter and photographer for the club. She has attended the prestigious Governor's Camp in Vermillion and has participated in the MS Walk in Sioux Falls.

Mariah's interests include photography, snowskiing, knee boarding, camping, and writing. Mariah has worked alongside her father on the farm and has helped her mother, who is a florist. She also has helped with babysitting duties. Mariah's role models are her parents and her teachers at EPJ. When asked what she enjoys most about middle school, she said, "I really enjoy the well-taught classes!"



Middle school students honored as January Citizens of the Week are pictured above. Back row (L-R) Adam Bradshaw, Katie Reynolds, Alex Norby, Cassie Elkins. Front row (L-R) Matthew Noteboom, Jill Donnelly, Erin Weightman, Mariah Heckathorn.

Dosdall Does It All



By: Alex Lawler

Most people have attended a basketball game or school play. However, not everyone has noticed Josh Dosdall there. Throughout his high school career, Josh could be found helping with lights and sound for all of the school productions as well as running the scoreboard at basketball games. He is even well-known among the teachers for assisting with computer issues.

Josh is a computer guy. It's what he's good at. Josh says that he has been working with electronics, mainly computers, since he was seven. When his parents first got a computer, he was the one always on it.

While he has been interested in computers since childhood, he specifically became more in-

involved with the school's electronics when he was asked by Mr. Schutter to run the school's sound system. Activities Director Mr. Jeff Zeller also worked closely with Josh. When Josh was given the honorary title of AAD (Assistant Activities Director), he took home the manuals for the light system and reprogrammed it.

Mr. Zeller describes Josh as a "challenge-seeker" and a "glass-half-full person." He also says about Josh, "He is always upbeat, encouraging, and ready to try new things."

Being a senior, Josh plans to attend Dakota State University in Madison, South Dakota, after he graduates. He hopes to continue on his technological path and major in computer science, programming computers, helping with troubleshooting, and maybe even studying computer forensics such as hacking and prevention.

Josh has done so much with computers in his last six years of school, he says that it's hard to choose a favorite memory. When pressed to choose his favorite part, though, he says, "The great feeling I get from helping someone with a problem or helping them in general makes all my hard work worth the effort. If I were back in seventh grade, there's nothing I would change about me operating the electronics that we use here at school."

Donnelly Performs at SDSU

The annual South Dakota State University Senior Honor Recital was held in Brookings, South Dakota, on Sunday, February 17. This year, Elk Point-Jefferson High School student Taylor Donnelly was chosen as one of approximately ten seniors in the South Dakota and North Dakota area to participate in this event.

Taylor auditioned last November by sending a recording of her singing both an Italian solo and an English solo to the SDSU Music Department. In January, Taylor received a letter congratulating her for being chosen to

be a part of the Honor Recital.

At Lincoln Hall in Brookings, Taylor performed "Come Again, Sweet Love," composed by John Dowland, as a solo. This was also her audition for an SDSU music scholarship.

When asked how she felt about being selected, she said, "It was an honor to be chosen for this opportunity. This experience has opened more possibilities for the future."

After graduating, Taylor plans to continue expanding her singing career throughout her college career.

Senior Spotlights

This week our spotlights shine on Anna Marie Chicoine and Taylor Gregory Buckley. Anna and Taylor are two of the 65 talented seniors who will graduate this May. EPJ wishes both Anna and Taylor a bright future filled with opportunities.



Anna Chicoine

Parents: Brian and Terri Chicoine

Siblings: Amanda and Corey Chicoine

Birthday: June 12, 1994

Future Plans: attend SDSU

HS Activities: basketball,

yearbook, golf, student council, National Honor Society, band

Role Models: my parents

I've Always Wanted to Visit: Venice, Italy

Age I'd Love to be Forever: kindergarten -- because everyone is friends!

Famous Person Crush: Channing Tatum

Hobbies: reading and swimming

Advice for Underclassmen:

Just do what you're told. It makes life ten times easier.

FAVORITES:

Quote: "The goal isn't to live forever. The goal is to create something that will."

- Chuck Palahniuk

School Memory: In first grade we would have to read short stories. Caitlin and I would lay under the table and sing them to each other.

Superhero: Iron Man

Movies: *Mulan* and *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days*

TV Shows: *Grey's Anatomy* and *Chicago Fire*

Book/Author: *Hunger Games* series

Food: pasta

HS Class: yearbook

Song/Artist: "Lucky" by Britney Spears



Taylor Buckley

Parents: Jolene Taylor and Greg and Julie Buckley

Siblings: Noah Buckley, Sam Buckley, and Tia Buckley

Birthday: November 18, 1994

Future Plans: graduation and on to college

Little-known Fact about Me: I raced dirt bikes as a child.

Role Model: Daniel Tosh

I've Always Wanted to Visit: Dubai, India -- it's a beautiful place, a wealthy area, and I could go see the Burj Khalifa.

Age I'd Love to be Forever: 18 -- because it's the age to have fun, be independent, and still have the comfort of home. It's the best of both worlds.

Advice for Underclassmen: Work hard so that when you look back hopefully you'll have no regrets. You can't change it after it's done.

FAVORITES:

Quote: "I've failed over and over and over again in my life and that is why I succeed."

- Michael Jordan

Superhero: Superman -- the guy can do anything!

Movies: *Avengers*, *Hot Rod*, *Harry Potter* series

TV Show: *Workaholics*, *Fringe*, *Call of the Wildman*, *Tosh.O*

Book/Author: *Harry Potter* as a child, but I'm not much of a reader anymore

Food: tacos (meat and cheese)

Sports Team: Denver Broncos

Song/Artist: I like a little of everything, no specific favorites.

Holiday: Christmas

Sending Sweets with a Song

City Hall was in for a real treat on Valentine's Day when a quartet of girls serenaded employees in their offices and handed them boxes of sweets.

The day before Valentine's Day, a call was made to vocal teacher Mr. Dustin Rusche by a worker from the city hall that wanted to send a special Valentine gift to her office and work colleagues. The individual had been planning to deliver the boxes of assorted candies and treats herself, but ended up sick and in bed.

Instead of just asking someone to deliver them for her, she decided to make the gift a little more special by asking Mr. Rus-

che for a volunteer from the high school music class to deliver the goodies with a short song.

Instead of one, four students stepped up and volunteered. The girls, Taylor Donnelly, Heaven Zevenbergen, Gabriela Perez, and Angelica Perez, arranged to sing a song called "Tonight You Belong to Me," a sweet and short piece that the entire office was delighted to hear.

After the singing portion of the Valentine gift, the girls gave the employees their gifts of assorted candies and treats. In return for the students' hard work and generosity, the benefactor gave a donation to the EPJ Music Boosters.

Local Scholarship Update

Seniors are busy applying for the 38 local scholarships available to them. This year the students are using a common application and attaching additional information as needed (essays, transcripts, etc.).

Mrs. McMeekin created the common application to make applying for the scholarships easier for seniors. She hopes this will encourage more seniors to apply.

Mrs. McMeekin talked to seniors about the local scholarships

and how to apply during English IV classes in January. The list of local scholarships can be found on the school's website (www.epj.k12.sd.us). Select Student, Guidance, Local Scholarships.

This year the scholarship deadline is March 18th. This date was set so scholarship commitments would have enough time to review applications and select the recipients before Senior Awards Night, which is Monday, May 6, at 7:00 P.M.

Husky Events This Week

- Thursday (2/28): Boys Basketball Districts 7:45
EPJ v Vermillion at Dakota Valley
- Friday (3/1): MS All State Band at Pierre
- Saturday (3/2): East High Show Choir at Sioux City
District Boys Basketball 6:00/7:45
Southeast Region Destination Imagination
MS All State Band at Pierre
- Monday (3/4): BSC MS Quiz Bowl at Canton 3:30
- Tuesday (3/5): Region Boys Basketball 7:00
- Wednesday (3/6): Region I Instrumental Solo/Ensemble Contest at Vermillion