



MS Citizens of the Month



Destiny Love and Daniel Petra were selected as EPJ Middle School Citizens of the Month for March. Daniel Petra's parents are Cathy and Daniel Petra. He has a brother and sister, Seth and Anne. Daniel participates in school activities such as track, drumline, pep band, and middle school band. Outside of school, Daniel is very active in Boy Scouts of America. In fact, during the summer, Daniel plans on serving as a Counselor-in-Training at Lewis and Clark Boy Scout camp. He also attends CCD and Ignite Bible Study at Saint Joseph's Catholic Church in Elk Point. His interests include collecting cards and old Godzilla movies. As for work experience, Daniel has had a job taking care of plants, and he has several service hours in Boy Scouts. He is interested in the possibility of joining the priesthood in the future. Daniel's role models are King David, Daniel, and Abraham from the Bible. His favorite part of being in middle school

is playing snare drum in band. Destiny Love's family includes parents Maria and Robert Love, and siblings Eric, Ryan, Nick, Lindsey, Athena, Trinity, Isaiah, and Briseis Love. Her extra-curricular activities include cross country, track, basketball, band, and vocal. Additionally, she is involved in Destination Imagination and Girl Scouts. When she is not busy with these activities, she can be found enjoying her personal interests: art, running, singing, playing trombone, exploring, and writing. Destiny's work experience includes babysitting, mowing, gardening, and helping on a farm, and she plans to do the same this coming summer. When asked about her role models, Destiny includes her parents, teachers, older siblings, Justin Bieber, Christy Heckathorn, Ellen Libby, Katy Perry, The Beatles, and Beyonce. Her favorite things about middle school are the teachers, her home-room, school dances, and friends. She appreciates the fact that there is no bullying. Also noted during the month of March are Middle School Citizens of the Week, pictured at right. Congratulations to all students honored as good citizens in March.

Prom Royalty 2013



Queen Taylor Donnelly and King T. C. Murray reigned over Prom 2013 held on Saturday, April 20. The event was an underwater-themed extravaganza dubbed Depths of Forever. Juniors provided food and music to round out a magical evening celebrating the seniors as they prepare to graduate.

Top Scores at USD Contest

On Saturday, April 6, 29 math students in grades 8-12 took a bus to Vermillion for the 58th Merten Hasse Mathematics Competition. This year, not only did many Elk Point-Jefferson students place in their competitions, but EPJ also won first place overall in the small school division. Twenty-two students earned places with three honorable mentions, three excellent ratings, two outstanding ratings, and four superior ratings. The students earning superiors were first place Daniel Petra in Small School Algebra I, first place Tori Johnson in Small School Algebra II, first place Jenny Dailey and second place Katherine Giorgio in Small School Geometry, and first place Alex McLaury in Small School Pre-Calculus.



Middle school students honored as Citizens of the Month for March are pictured above. Back row (L-R) Jada Mays, Destiny Love, Jack Grassel, Logan Donelan. Front (L-R) Emma Dawdy, Grace Boone, Addison Ludwig, Daniel Petra.

Senior Spotlights

This week our spotlights shine on Nicole Kathryn Rupp and Joseph Patrick Lyon. Nicole and Joseph are two of the 64 talented seniors who will graduate this May. EPJ wishes both Nicole and Joseph a bright future filled with opportunities.



Joseph Lyon

Parents: Mark and Dominique Lyon
Sibling: Mary Fox
Birthday: June 28, 1995
Future Plans: study Chemical Engineering at SDSMT
HS Activities: quiz bowl, science fair
Little-known Fact about Me: I am good with horses.
Role Model: Pete Townshend

I've Always Wanted to Visit: Italy
Age I'd Love to be Forever: 40—it's the new 30
Hobby: playing guitar
Advice for Underclassmen: Take computer classes freshman year. Knowing your laptop is crucial to our education at EPJ.

FAVORITES:
Quote: "Life is very short, and there's no time for fussing and fighting my friends."
- The Beatles

School Memory: The Foxtrots at the end of Miss Ahmann's tests.
Superhero: Batman
Movie: *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*
TV Show: *Monty Python's Flying Circus*
Book/Author: *To Kill a Mockingbird*
Sports Team: KC Chiefs
Food: an entree I had in Paris that I will never remember the name of
Song/Artist: Boston

School Lunch: tater tot casserole
Holiday: 4th of July
Class: A.P. Chemistry
Favorite Rolling Stone: Keith Richards



Nicole Rupp

Parents: Brian and Michelle Rupp and Melanie Rupp
Siblings: Madison, Trysten, Taryn Rupp, and Chloe Diskey
Birthday: February 1, 1995
Future Plans: study anthropology
HS Activities: Destination Imagination, choir, play, golf

Role Model: Ed Sheeran
Hobbies: golf, reading
Famous-person Crush: Misha Collins
I've Always Wanted to Visit: London, England, UK
Advice for Underclassmen: Even if you don't want to, study.

FAVORITES:
Quote: "My thoughts are stars I cannot fathom into constellations."
- John Green
Superheroes: Batman, Iron Man
Movies: *Mean Girls*, *Toy Story*, *The Lion King*
TV Shows: *The Office*, *Scrubs*, *Breaking Bad*, *Doctor Who*, *X Factor*
Book/Authors: John Green, F. Scott Fitzgerald
Food: green peppers
Song/Artist: Ed Sheeran, Paramore, Jake Bugg, One Republic
School Lunch: buffalo chicken
Class: Advanced Biology
Holiday: Christmas
Color: green

EPJ says Farewell to the Finest

Vicki Nearman



When asked about her classroom, Mrs. Nearman said, "I try to make teaching fun with hands-on activities." This is especially true for her science classes. For example, every past 4th grader can remember the excitement of touching a deer heart while learning about the organs of the body. Not surprisingly, Mrs. Nearman's favorite subjects to teach are the human body systems and life sciences. Regarding education in general, she said, "I like education because of the kids. It's fun to see how much the kids learn and grow throughout the years." She knows she will miss her students, but she also realizes how hard it will be to say goodbye to her fellow teachers at the school. She says that they have become like family to her. During retirement, Mrs. Nearman plans to spend her time baking cookies, substituting, traveling, reading, and visiting her granddaughter in Yankton. Mrs. Nearman will be missed by each of her current and past students as well as the school as a whole. EPJ staff and students thank her for her service and wish her all the best as she retires.

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Chris Nearman



After thirty years of teaching at Elk Point-Jefferson, 3rd grade teacher Mrs. Chris Nearman has decided to retire. Mrs. Nearman has taught at EPJ for twenty-seven of the thirty years. Prior to signing on with Elk Point Elementary School, she taught three years at McCook Lake Elementary School. During her college years before she began teaching, she worked at Coast to Coast Hardware Store. Mrs. Nearman also ran a daycare from her home for ten years when her own children were young. Throughout all of her years at EPJ, Mrs. Nearman says her favorite part of teaching is the students and the staff members. She cherishes the relationships she has

built with her fellow teachers with whom she has worked since the beginning of her career. She also loves having been at EPJ long enough to see several generations of students come through her classroom. Her favorite subject to teach is science. She says she enjoys the hands-on activities with her students. When asked how she feels about her retirement, she replied saying, "It's a bitter-sweet feeling. I'm ready for a new stage in my life, but I will be sad about leaving the atmosphere you find at EPJ."

Once she retires, Mrs. Nearman plans on traveling with her good friend and colleague Vicki Nearman, enjoying time with her eight grandchildren, and of course, substitute teaching for EPJ. Students and staff members will miss Mrs. Nearman's bubbly personality filling the halls and classrooms at EPJ. She has been greatly valued at EPJ, and though we are sad to see her go, we thank her for her service here and wish her the best of luck in her future.