

Four Students Earn Honorable Mention at Minnesota History Day

An academic process that started back in December wrapped up this past Saturday. Nine students from Parkers Prairie headed to the University of Minnesota for Minnesota History Day. History Day is a state and national event in which students research and create one of five different types of projects: Exhibit, Documentary, Performance, Website, or Paper. They shared their projects in this academic competition with over twelve hundred other students who qualified through local and then regional competition. This year's theme was Taking a Stand. The competitors included the following:

- Hailey Koep and Elli Westfall performed their original piece 'Pellagra Play' about Dr. Joseph Goldberger's long, strange, and at times, gross, fight against the disease pellagra in the early 1900s.
- Luke Geiser performed his original piece 'The Free State of Jones' about Newt Knight and the county of Jones in Mississippi that fought against the Confederacy during World War II.
- Aleisha Thomas and Megan Reigstad performed their original piece 'Keep Calm and Curie On' about Marie Curie's groundbreaking work on radioactivity in an era when women and science were rarely allowed to commingle. Thomas and Reigstad qualified for the finals and received Honorable Mention at the state competition.
- Macy Jakubiec and Emily Benzinger held a screening of their documentary on Candy Lightner, the founder of Mothers Against Drunk Driving.
- Erica Woida and Trever Arceneau displayed and discussed their exhibit board on the Stonewall Riots, a demonstration by gay activists in 1969 in New York City. They earned an Honorable Mention at the state competition.

This was Parkers Prairie High School's first year participating in History Day.

