

One of the greatest experiences I had while in high school was attending Boys State in St. Paul. I recently learned that one of Moorhead's own not only went to Girls State but she is going to Girls Nation. What a great honor. We owe Post 21 American Legion Auxiliary a special thank you for sponsoring a Moorhead girl at Girls State.



Hannah Hendrickson recently attended American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Minnesota Girls State at Bethel University in St. Paul. While there, she was selected as a senior senator to attend the 2016 ALA Girls Nation and will travel to Washington D.C. at the end of July. Two "senators" are selected from each Girls State program to attend Girls Nation and will meet for a week where they run for political office and campaign for the passage of legislation. The week will also include special field trips such as visits to the White House, Arlington National Cemetery, and a day on Capitol Hill meeting with state senators and representatives. Hannah was sponsored to attend ALA Girls State by the Moorhead Legion Auxiliary Unit 21. She will be a senior at Moorhead High School this fall and is the daughter of Chuck and Renae Hendrickson.

We received a postcard from Washington, D. C. last week. Anna, a Hawley seventh grade student was one of two Minnesotans to attend National History Day in D.C. She finished in the top ten at the national level. Congratulations to Anna and Jen, her coach.

Next week will celebrate Independence Day, commonly known as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July commemorating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, declaring independence from Great Britain. It is rather ironic that last week, Great Britain voted to declare its independence from the European Union.

Here are some interesting facts about Independence Day. On July 2, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of a resolution for independence but it was two days later that the Declaration of Independence was adopted. Adams believed that we should celebrate on the second and would turn down invitations to appear at events scheduled on the fourth. Of the 13 colonies, nine voted in favor of the Declaration; two (Pennsylvania and South Carolina) voted No, Delaware was undecided and New York abstained. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on July 4, 1826. Philadelphia is believed to hold the first celebration of Independence Day, starting in 1777. General Washington was reported to have issued double rations of rum to all of his soldiers to mark the anniversary in 1778. The US Congress made July 4<sup>th</sup> a federal holiday in 1870 and in 1941 it became a paid holiday for all federal employees.

Again here are some places to celebrate Independence Day; Bonanzaville with a 5K/10K run and all day festivities, bingo and brats at the Dilworth VFW and finish the day at MSUM/Moorhead Business Association's fireworks.