



Community

This year, "Say it with Music." Page 1B

The Daily PLAINSMAN



Sports

Championships decided at the Dakota Oyate Challenge. Page 8

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Second 'Coffee with Legislators' set for Feb. 3

HURON — The second of three Coffee with the Legislators sessions is scheduled for Saturday at City Hall. The forum begins at 9 a.m. Sen. Jim White, R-Huron; Rep. Roger Chase, R-Huron; and Rep. Bob Glanzer, R-Huron; will be on hand to update District 22 residents about legislative action and to answer audience questions.

Apply for property tax freeze

HURON — It's that time of year again for the assessment freeze for the elderly and disabled in Beadle County. Beadle County Treasurer Jacque McCaskell reminds those wishing to participate of the guidelines that must be met

FREEZE - Page 3

'It was 15 minutes ago'

Huron native pens book about Vietnam War experiences

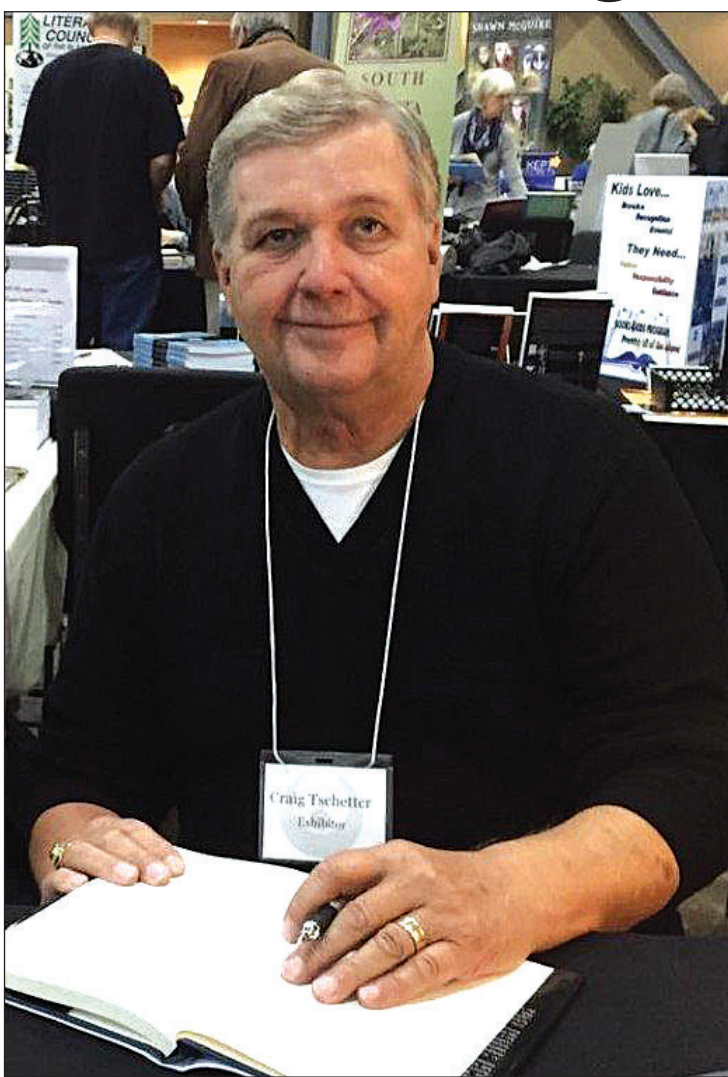
BY ROGER LARSEN OF THE PLAINSMAN

HURON — In the spring of 1967, a few days after Craig Tschetter graduated from Huron High School, he walked into a military recruiter's office at the post office and posed a question to a man sitting at a desk wearing a crisp white uniform. "What's the quickest way to get to Vietnam?" he asked the stunned soldier.

A minute later, Tschetter was handed the receiver by the Navy recruiter and was talking to someone at the United States Marine Corps in Sioux Falls. Not only did he have his diploma, but Tschetter had also recently turned 18 and had decided it was time he made his own choices in life.

His loving parents, Henry and Bobbie, were not the reason he wanted to leave home, at least not directly, he says. Instead, it was his disagreement with the religious mandates he felt were forced on him as he was growing up.

But joining the military — a decision that led him to two tours in Vietnam at the height



COURTESY PHOTO

Author Craig Tschetter signing a copy of his Vietnam War memoir "15 Minutes Ago," at an autograph session at a bookstore.

TSCHETTER - Page 3

Recalling his Vietnam encounter with a buddy

BY ROGER LARSEN OF THE PLAINSMAN

HURON — On the only day Roger Decker saw his friend and fellow Marine Craig Tschetter in Vietnam, at first glance he didn't know who he was.

"My recollection is that I was sitting on my bunk facing the back door of the hooch," Decker said, referring to his unit's living quarters.

"The door opened and in walked this rag-tag, dirty, tattered marine," he said. "He was looking for Roger Decker. I didn't recognize him."

Tschetter had just graduated from Huron High School and Decker was at Huron College when they took advantage of a marine buddy program and enlisted at the same time so they could go to boot camp together.

But after that, their paths went different directions.

When they eventually got to Vietnam, Tschetter was assigned as a combat radio operator and Decker was a scout sniper in another regiment.

At the military recruiter's office, then in the post office in Huron, Tschetter signed up as soon as he turned 18. The recruiter told him about the buddy program, and Tschetter asked Decker to consider it.

It may not have been that



Roger Decker

big of a decision for the farm boy from Yale.

His mother had a cousin she called her brother. He had been a Marine in the South Pacific in World War II.

"I thought Loren was 10-foot tall and bullet proof," he said. "I really thought he was something. And, from that, and the fact I always liked army stuff, soldier stuff, I wanted to be a marine."

"I thought about it and I realized that Huron College was not the place that I wanted to be at that time," Decker said.

When he told his family of his enlistment, he said they

ENCOUNTER - Page 3

Today's Weather

Weather forecast for today and tonight. Today: Colder with times of clouds and sun, 20°. Tonight: A moonlit sky, 3°. AccuWeather.com

MONDAY: Some clouds, some sun. HIGH 25 / LOW 18

Deaths

- Huron: Paul Flanagan, 85; Lesa Voss, 54. Woonsocket: Cherry Amick, 89. Fedora: Ardelle Donahue, 89. Spokane, Wash.: Elaine Roth, 90. Chandler, Ariz.: Mary Loos, 100.

Obituaries Page 2

Inside

- Abby & Puzzles ..... 3B. Agendas ..... 2. Business ..... 6. Calendar ..... 3B. Classifieds ..... 4B-6B. Comics ..... Inserted. Community ..... 1B. Menus ..... 6B. Opinion & Commentary. 4-5. Police Log ..... 2. Sports ..... 8-10. Weather ..... 7.

Hand Games and more for fun at the DOC

BY ANGELINA DELLA ROCCO OF THE PLAINSMAN

HURON — At the Dakota Oyate Challenge 2018, held Thursday through Saturday at the Huron Event Center, participating schools also engaged in "Hand Games," among other activities.

Schools from Lower Brule Indian, Crazy Horse, Marty Indian, Omaha Nation, Flandreau Indian, Tiospaye Topa, Tiospa Zina and Takini came to Huron for the weekend to participate.

Hand Games consist of two teams, with between five and ten players on each team, while traditional music of drums and signing is enjoyed.

It is a traditional game, which involves each team hiding bones in order to earn sticks, while the other team attempts to guess where the bone is hidden.

Judges keep track of the games' progress throughout the day in order to award three teams the top places in the tournament.

"Hu Hu Icupi," which translates to "Bone Takers," was the name of the winning team from Tiospa Zina Tribal School.

Each team has a set of ten sticks, plus a kick stick and four bones - two marked and two bare. As players take turns hiding the marked bone, the other team assigns someone to guess whether the bone was hidden to the players' left or right.

In order to win, one of the teams had to play for and collect all 11 sticks, under the watchful eye of the head judge.

Respect is vital with Hand Games, in terms of playing along with the rules, and a mandatory hand shake between teams after games. These

games are passed down in order to continue the traditions of the culture among the younger generations and beyond.

Another attraction at the Huron Event Center this weekend was the Archery tournament. Students from elementary to high school took their shots from different distances, some were experienced shooters and others were taking their first shots on the day.

This life changing skill encourages the students to practice precision, and is known as a "healing sport," as nothing negative is said during practice.

Students were awarded first, second and third place prizes, in different divisions.

Other things to enjoy at the event center included booths and vendors set up in the halls with various handmade items and activities, including a cartoonist and more.



Above: A young lady entertains herself with a ball attached to an elastic cord Friday afternoon at the Huron Event Center. Left: Teams begin a round of Hand Games, a traditional Native American game of hiding and guessing. Hand Games was one of the activities taking place during the Dakota Oyate Challenge. Below: a caricature artist works on a portrait for a customer at one of the many vendors set up for the tournament.

PHOTOS BY ANGELINA DELLA ROCCO OF THE PLAINSMAN



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