



Minot State University Department of History History News 2017

World War I Letters Donated to [Minot's Common Heritage "Soldier's Mail"](#)

On October 11, 2017, Mary Murphy, the great-niece of long-time Minot State University professors Lester and Eva Hartnett, donated to the [Minot's Common Heritage](#) project letters that Lester Hartnett wrote to his sisters while serving in World War I. These letters will be digitized and preserved as part of that NEH grant-funded project. You can read more of the story at the [Minot Daily News](#) site.

Ernst Pijning Featured for Research on Diamond Smuggling



Minot State University's front page profiles features a profile of professor of history Dr. Ernst Pijning and his "globe-trotting" research into diamond smuggling and the diamond trade that connected the Netherlands, Portugal, and Brazil. Find out more and see pictures of Dr. Pijning in the archives in Portugal and Brazil [here](#).

Making Sense of Friday the 13th

Assistant professor of history Dr. Mark Singer talked on October 12, 2017 with Becky Farr of KXMD-TV about the origins of "unlucky Friday the 13th." You can read the story and watch the video [here](#).

Professor and Students Locate Campus World War I Memorial

Extensive research by professor of history Dr. Joseph Jastrzembki and his students has uncovered information about the former campus memorial garden created to honor MSU students Fred Otis Cooper and Henry Finn, who died in World War I. A fund has been set up to restore this memorial to the campus, and the [League of Social Science](#) is dedicating funds from their popular Manic Chili Wednesday chili cookoff fundraiser to the purchase of one of the two memorial trees. Visit the [Minot Daily News](#) to read about the search.