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U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JONATHAN MCELDERRY

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Videos



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | TECH. SGT. NATHAN ALLEN

Survivors of the attacks on Pearl Harbor Naval Station and Hickam Field stand during the singing of the national anthem during the 75th Commemoration of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Hickam Field ceremony Dec. 7, 2016, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. The attacks on seven bases throughout Oahu precipitated America's entry into World War II, and the annual commemoration ceremony is designed to foster reflection, remembrance, and understanding for those affected by the events that took place 75 years ago.

Survivors, friends, families remember Hickam Field attacks in 1941

1ST LT. KAITLIN DADDONA | 15TH WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii

-- On the morning of Dec. 7th, servicemembers and their friends and families gathered here to remember the fatal attacks on Hickam Field in 1941.

The ceremony, which honored the 492 men and women killed and

wounded on Hickam Field, came 75 years after the two waves of attacks launched by the Imperial Japanese Navy on Dec. 7, 1941.

"The attack on Oahu changed the course of history for our nation and the entire world, but it is merely the first chapter in a much longer book," said 15th Wing commander Col. Kevin Gordon. "This

is a story of service, sacrifice, perseverance, unity and triumph."

Of the 3,000 people in attendance, 10 of them were survivors from the attack.

Among those survivors was Armando 'Chick' Galella, a former Army Command Sergeant Major, whose presence at the ceremony was to honor those who died during

the attack. "I am not a hero," he said. "I'm a survivor of war. We're here to honor these boys who lost their lives."

During the ceremony, Gordon shared the stories of the men who came to revisit the place they called home 75 years ago.

"Our citizens stepped up and fought back in defense of our nation,

and their stories need to be told," he said.

Former Tech. Sgt. Durward Swanson, a survivor who has attended the Hickam Field ceremony for the past five years, retired the flag that flew during the attacks.

"Around 9 p.m., Sergeant Swanson looked up and saw Old Glory still flying right here at this very flag pole," Gordon shared. "He grabbed a buddy and they lowered the proudest symbol of our country. On a day when so much had fallen, Old Glory survived."

The men and women who were here during the attacks were honored by performances by the Pacific Air Forces Band, wreath presentations, and an F-22 flyover.

"I wanted to thank everybody here from the bottom of my heart," said Galella. "The ceremony was beautiful."

Following the formal ceremony, attendees posed for photos with the survivors and asked for their autographs.

Gordon reminded the men, women and children in the audience the importance of preserving the Hickam Field heritage and keeping the stories of the fateful day alive.

"Because of you, the events of 7 December 1941 will not be forgotten."

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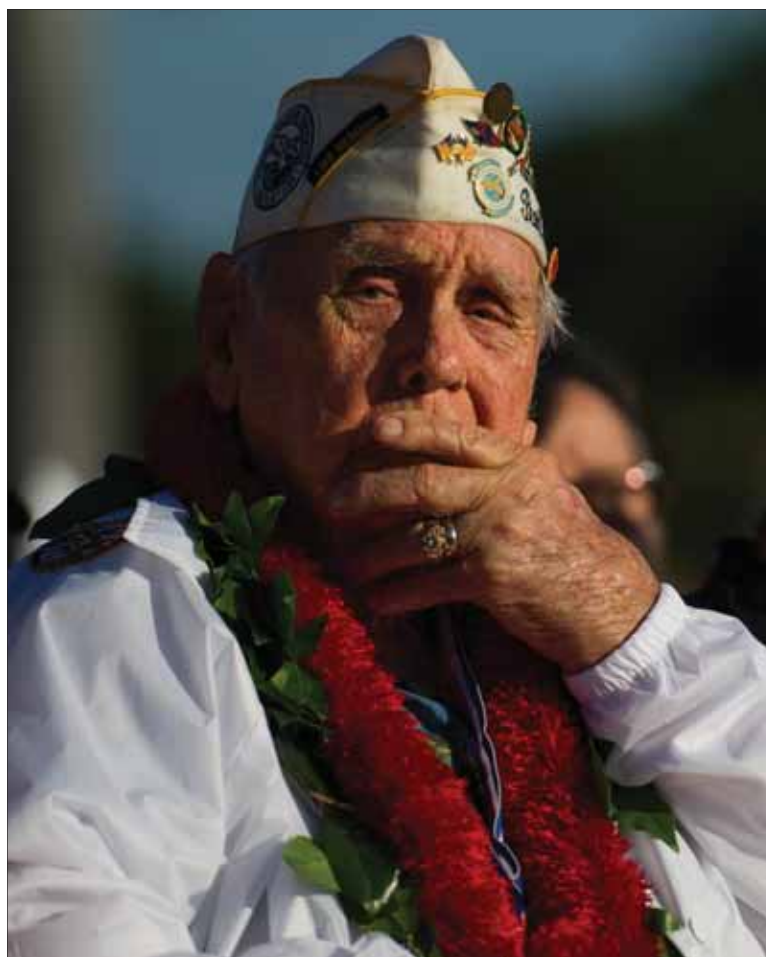
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U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | TECH. SGT. NATHAN ALLEN

Former U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Durward Swanson reflects during the 75th Commemoration of the Dec. 7, 1941 attack on Hickam Field ceremony Dec. 7, 2016, at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. Swanson was assigned to Hickam Field as a security forces guard. After the attack, he served as a B-17 Flying Fortress crew chief. During the Battle of Midway, his aircraft was hit and crash-landed in the water. Seven of the 10-man crew were killed. Swanson received severe injuries and spent nine months in the hospital. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross, a Purple Heart, and an honorable discharge.

Minot AFB Exchange pumping up fuel savings

COURTESY ARTICLE | 5TH BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D.

With the busy, and expensive, holiday shopping season in full swing, Army & Air Force Exchange Service gas stations worldwide are helping to make sure that filling up doesn't

empty the wallet.

From Dec. 19 to Dec. 25, the MILITARY STAR® card is doubling the everyday 5-cents-per-gallon gas discount cardholders receive when fueling up at a Minot AFB Exchange gas station. For that week, drivers paying

for gas with their MILITARY STAR® card will receive 10 cents off per gallon.

"As we head into the final holiday shopping week, we are providing an added incentive for last-minute shoppers to come on base or post to see what the Exchange

has in store," said General Manager Kristine Cowley. "The savings at the pump are just the beginning of the value authorized shoppers will find at the Minot AFB Exchange."

Inspiring the force: New 20th AF vision and mission statements

1ST. LT. VERONICA PEREZ | 20TH AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

F.E. WARREN AIR FORCE BASE, Wyo.

Inspiration can come in many forms and sometimes, the simplest of words can spark great action or change. Twentieth Air Force introduced the command's new vision and mission statements to commanders on Dec. 5, to share with their Airmen and to introduce an updated focus for the more than 11,000 Sentinels in 20th AF.

With the help of 20th AF senior staff, Maj. Gen. Anthony Cotton, 20th AF and Task Force 214 commander, created the statements in time to ring in the New Year with clear direction for both the wings and direct reporting units in the Numbered Air Force. During an off-site, the group also re-evaluated the force goals and priorities to ensure a proper course for the future.

20th AF Vision Statement: A cohesive team of highly skilled

and focused warfighters demonstrating and delivering combat capability across the spectrum of conflict.

"Our vision inspires us to continually improve as warfighters and Airmen on an elite team," Cotton said. "Regardless of duty location or Air Force Specialty Code, every Sentinel is a part of attaining this vision."

The new vision statement no includes the NAF's newest unit, the 576th Flight Test Squadron, Vandenberg Air Force Base, California. The squadron, charged with demonstrating ICBM combat capability through operational tests, joined 20th AF Oct. 1.

20th AF Mission Statement: Employ the world's finest nuclear deterrent force in the defense of U.S. interests and when directed, eliminate aggressors through decisive strike.

"We want our mission statement to resonate with Airmen in 20th AF and to generate some swagger and pride in being a Sentinel," Cotton said.

20th AF Goals:

- Commitment to our warrior ethos
- Coach, train and mentor nuclear professionals and leaders
- Care for our Airmen and their Families
- Safe, secure and effective daily operations

20th AF Priorities:

- Operationalize the C-NAF
- Sustain and enhance

our integrated nuclear operations capability

- Continue nuclear security modernization
- Enhance battlespace awareness
- Develop and train Airmen

The goals and priorities remain unchanged from 2016; however, Cotton modified some of the supporting objectives to align with ongoing initiatives. For example, wings will place greater emphasis on Airmen and families next year in support of AFGSC's 2017 Year of the Family. Additionally, Cotton encourages Sentinels to embrace their ICBM heritage and specific unit history by creating visible reminders of their storied past in missile alert facilities and on-base work centers.

"Now is the time to be proactive in building on the process and culture changes of the past three years," Cotton said. "Let's move forward as a team, quickly and deliberately."

20th AF will publish its 2017 Annual Plan later this month.

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FACEBOOK

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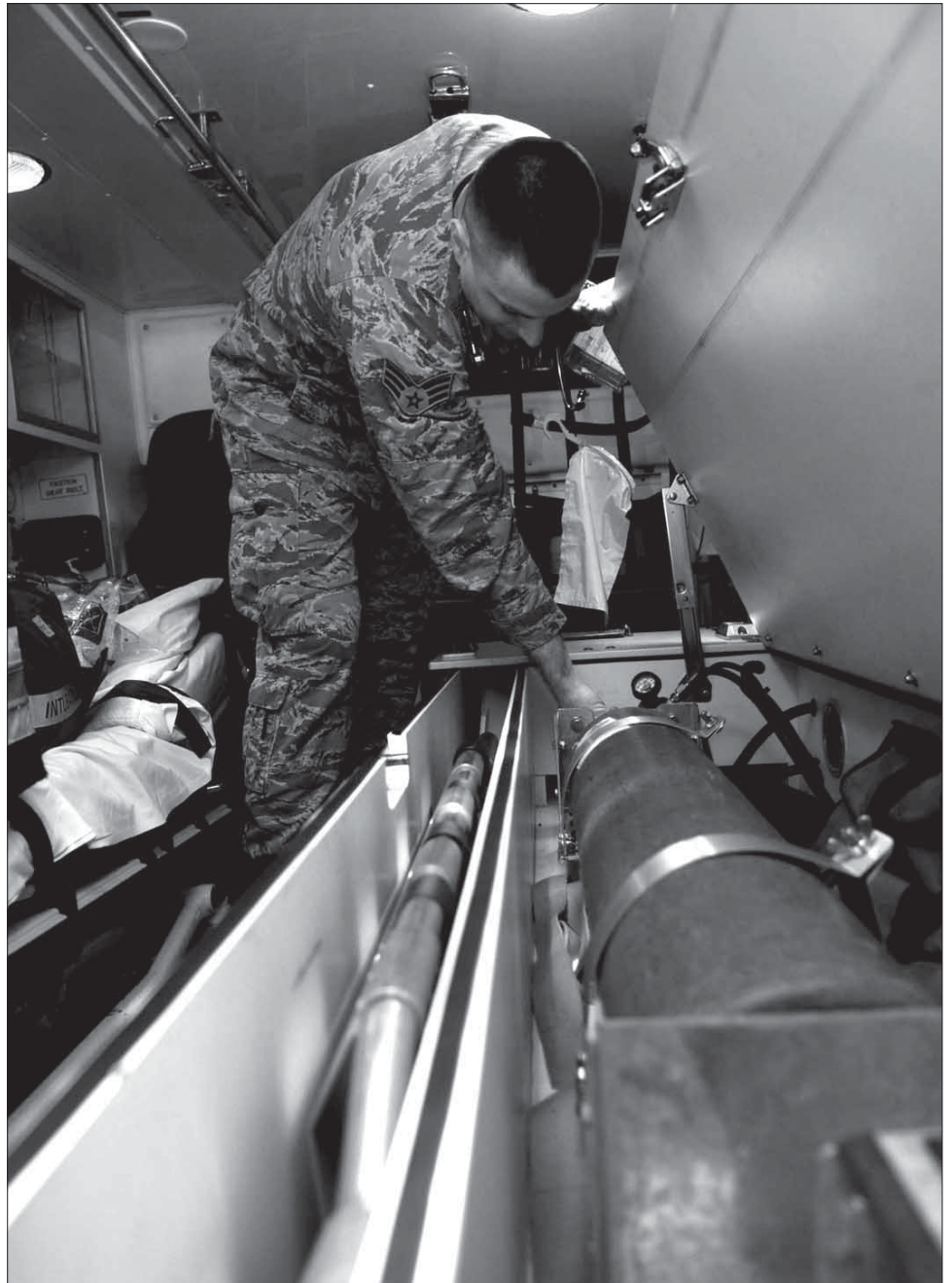


5 MDOs: EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

The 5th Medical Operations Squadron ambulance services department provides emergency medical response and medical technician support for Team Minot. These Airmen also administer immunizations and assist during aeromedical evacuations.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS | AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JONATHAN MCELDERRY

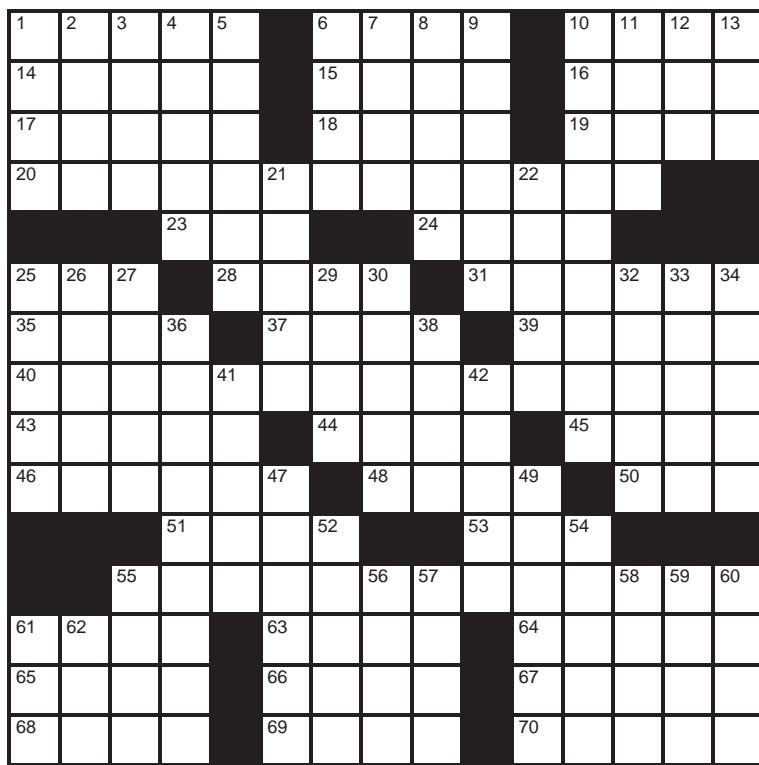




CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

- 1. Beginning
- 6. What icicles do
- 10. Church recess
- 14. Baby grand, e.g.
- 15. Musical set in ancient Egypt
- 16. Lecherous look
- 17. Prevent legally
- 18. Bucks' mates
- 19. Riot spray
- 20. What a cadet won't do (or tolerate those who do), per the West Point honor code
- 23. Bale contents
- 24. Four years for a U.S. president
- 25. "My gal" of song
- 28. Kind of torch on "Survivor"
- 31. Noshes
- 35. Old
- 37. Siestas
- 39. Spread around
- 40. TV title role for Pierce Brosnan
- 43. Occupied, as a restroom
- 44. Blue-pencil
- 45. Coarse file
- 46. They're stuck in milk shakes
- 48. Eject in all directions
- 50. Bon ___ (witticism)
- 51. Studio stages
- 53. Lived
- 55. Supertough
- 61. Destiny
- 63. Become tiresome
- 64. Throw, as a shot put
- 65. Dr. Frankenstein's assistant
- 66. Swedish furniture giant
- 67. 50's-60's singing sensation



- 68. Violinists' needs
- 69. Golf pegs
- 70. Fishing rod attachments

Down

- 1. European car
- 2. Not yet final, at law
- 3. Completely fill, as a hungry person
- 4. Tennyson's ___ Arden
- 5. Attire accompanying a cane
- 6. Early baby word
- 7. Prison unrest
- 8. That is, in Latin
- 9. Affixes in a scrapbook, say
- 10. School for which one feels nostalgic
- 11. Ring

- 12. "Just a ___!" ("Hold on!")
- 13. Before, in verse
- 21. Watching intently
- 22. Artist Max
- 25. Calcutta dresses
- 26. Ten-percenter
- 27. Tree-dwelling primate
- 29. Shakespearean shrew
- 30. Devices getting music downloads
- 32. It's skimmed off the top
- 33. Kutcher character on "That 70's Show"
- 34. Took the World Series in four games
- 36. Hurricanes, fires, etc.
- 38. Scissors cut
- 41. More modern
- 42. Frets
- 47. "Quit that!"
- 49. Laundromat fixture
- 52. What a charmer may charm
- 54. Inscribed pillar
- 55. Put away for later
- 56. Merriment
- 57. "'Tis a shame"
- 58. Icicle's place
- 59. Blackhearted
- 60. Not so much
- 61. Little lie
- 62. "Long ___ ..."

Solution to last week's Crossword puzzle.



NORTHERN SENTRY

839.0946

SUDOKU

Solution to puzzle on page 14

		1			2		3	
			4	5			1	
		2	6			7		8
	5	7		6		8		
4		8				3		7
		3		7		1	9	
3		4			6	2		
	7			1	9			
	6		3			5		



SATURDAY MOVIES
CARMIKE CINEMA MINOT

COLLATERAL BEAUTY • (PG-13)
1:45 • 4:10 • 6:35 • 9:00

“When a successful New York advertising executive suffers a great tragedy he retreats from life. While his concerned friends try desperately to reconnect with him, he seeks answers from the universe by writing letters to Love, Time and Death. But it's not until his notes bring unexpected personal responses that he begins to understand how these constants interlock in a life fully lived, and how even the deepest loss can reveal moments of meaning and beauty.”

ROGUE ONE • (PG-13)
1:00 • 1:30 • 2:00 • 4:05 • 6:00
7:10 • 9:00 • 9:05 • 9:15

“From Lucasfilm comes the first of the Star Wars standalone films, 'Rogue One: A Star Wars Story', an all-new epic adventure. In a time of conflict, a group of unlikely heroes band together on a mission to steal the plans to the Death Star, the Empire's ultimate weapon of destruction. This key event in the Star Wars timeline brings together ordinary people who choose to do extraordinary things, and in doing so, become part of something greater than themselves.”

OFFICE CHRISTMAS PARTY • (R)
1:25 • 4:00 • 6:35 • 9:10

“In 'Office Christmas Party', when the CEO (Jennifer Aniston) tries to close her hard-partying brother's branch, he (T.J. Miller) and his Chief Technical Officer (Jason Bateman) must rally their co-workers and host an epic office Christmas party in an effort to impress a potential client and close a sale that will save their jobs. The latest comedy from directors Josh Gordon and Will Speck ('Blades Of Glory') co-stars Kate McKinnon, Olivia Munn, Jillian Bell, Rob Corddry, Vanessa Bayer, Randall Park, Sam Richardson, Jamie Chung, and Courtney B. Vance in the funniest movie of the holiday season.”

MOANA • (PG)
1:15 • 4:00 • 6:45 • 9:30

“From Walt Disney Animation Studios comes 'Moana,' a sweeping, CG-animated feature film about an adventurous teenager who sails out on a daring mission to save her people. During her journey, Moana (voice of Auli'i Cravalho) meets the once-mighty demigod Maui (voice of Dwayne Johnson), who guides her in her quest to become a master wayfinder. Together, they sail across the open ocean on an action-packed voyage, encountering enormous monsters and impossible odds, and along the way, Moana fulfills the ancient quest of her ancestors and discovers the one thing she's always sought: her own identity.”



Toasted Smore's Blondies



INGREDIENTS:

Graham Cracker Crust:

- 1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs, about 9 whole sheets
- 2 tbs light brown sugar
- 5 tbs unsalted butter, melted

Blondies:

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 1 cup light brown sugar
- 2 1/2 tsp vanilla
- 1 egg
- 1 cup flour
- optional pinch of salt
- 5 Hershey bars
- 20-25 large marshmallows, cut in half

INSTRUCTIONS:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line an 8x8 (pictured) or 9x9 pan with parchment paper and set aside. Stir graham cracker crumbs, melted butter and brown sugar together until all crumbs are moistened. Press into prepared pan and set aside. In a small saucepan turned to medium heat, place butter and brown by swirling constantly until it turns a light brown color. Be careful not to burn. Scrape up all brown bits from the bottom of the pan and pour butter into a large bowl with brown sugar and mix until smooth. Beat in egg and vanilla until combined. Stir in flour until incorporated. Pour batter into graham cracker crust and bake for 23-25 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out with only a few moist crumbs. When they are done baking, remove from the oven and immediately place Hershey Bars on top in a single layer. Break them apart and arrange as needed. Top with marshmallow halves. Turn oven to broil and place bars back inside to toast marshmallows and melt chocolate. Be sure to watch them carefully because once the marshmallows start brownine the process goes extremely fast and they will burn very quickly. Remove from oven and allow bars to cool on a wire rack in the pan for at least 30 minutes. At this point, you can just eat them this way but they will be a huge mess to cut so I like to transfer the pan to the refrigerator for another 30 minutes to allow the chocolate to set up again. Cut them into bars and serve. Toasted S'mores Bars will stay fresh for up to two days stored in an airtight container at room temperature.

Peppermint White Hot Chocolate

INGREDIENTS:

- 4 cup Milk
- 1/2 cup White Chocolate Chips
- 1 Peppermint Candy Cane
- 1 tsp Peppermint Extract
- Whipped Cream and crushed Peppermint Candy (for garnish)

INSTRUCTIONS:

Heat milk and peppermint cane over low heat in a saucepan until peppermint is melted. Add white chocolate, stirring continuously until melted. Remove from heat and stir in peppermint extract. Transfer to cups and garnish.

Elsa White Hot Chocolate

INGREDIENTS:

- 4 Cups Whole Milk
- 1 Tablespoon Vanilla Extract
- 1 Cup White Chocolate Chips
- Blue Food Coloring
- Whipped Cream, If Desired

INSTRUCTIONS:

In a large saucepan, stir together milk and white chocolate chips. Cook over medium-low heat until chocolate is melted, stirring frequently. Do not boil. Remove from heat. Stir in vanilla extract and blue food coloring. Serve with whipped cream if desired.



Airman Cookie Drive

Officer's Spouses Club volunteers from Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, collected cookies for 1,341 Airmen on base Dec. 9, 2016. Cookies were donated by Team Minot personnel, local businesses and the Chamber of Commerce. First sergeants from the base handed out cookies to dormitory residents and Team Minot Airmen working during the holiday season.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JESSICA WEISSMAN

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Savor New Year's Eve Touch Of Class At Doolittle Center

New Year's Eve
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December 31
6-9PM
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RESERVE BY DECEMBER 28
 CALL THE JDC AT 723-3731
 OR AMY AT 701-340-7730

Start your new years celebration with an elegant gourmet dinner buffet. All meals come with complimentary glass of wine

MENU
 Gourmet Surf & Turf buffet featuring Lobster Bisque, Steak Diane, Shrimp Scampi, & assorted Cheesecakes.

Club Members: \$35 Non-Members: \$40

5TH FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

Are you looking for the perfect way to begin your New Year's celebration? The Doolittle Center invites you to enjoy a night to remember during the New Year's Eve Touch Of Class dinner buffet on December 31 from 6-9 p.m.

Among the tasty menu choices planned for the event are Lobster Bisque, Steak Diane, Shrimp Scampi, and assorted cheesecakes. All meals come with a complimentary glass of wine.

Cost for this unforgettable dining experience is \$35/person for club members and \$40 for non-members. Reservations are required by December 28 and can be made by calling the Doolittle Center at 723-3731 or Amy Filkins at (701) 340-7730.

ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK

CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S EVE IN STYLE!
 SING AND DANCE AND MAKE GOOD CHEER WE MADE IT THROUGH ANOTHER YEAR!

Rock around the clock to music through the decades, starting with the 70's!

Club Members: FREE
Non-Members: \$7

DECEMBER 31
9PM - 2AM
 ROCKERS BAR & GRILL
 MIDNIGHT TOAST & BREAKFAST BUFFET: 12:30AM

DRESS IN YOUR FAVORITE MUSICAL ERA!

727-ROCK

Rough Rider Lanes Hosting Family New Year's Eve Party

Make plans now to attend the Family New Year's Eve Party at Rough Rider Lanes on December 31st from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. It's fun for the entire family as you bid farewell to the old year.

Enjoy snacks, FREE shoe rental, and party favors as you bowl the night away and ring in the New Year with family and friends. Cost is \$2.75 per game for adults and \$2.25 per game for youth 17 years of age and younger. Sign-up at the bowling center to reserve lanes.

Rough Rider Lanes will close at 4 p.m. on January 31st to prepare for the New Year's Eve Party. For more information, call Rough Rider Lanes at 727-4715.

2017
NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
DECEMBER 31ST
9PM - 1AM

Adults: \$2.75/game
Youth 17 & Under: \$2.25/game

Bowl the night away and ring in the New Year with friends & family. Enjoy FREE snacks, shoe rental & party favors!

727-4715

5TH FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

Dog Sled Trip Provides Once In A Lifetime Experience

If you're looking for a once in a lifetime type experience, don't miss the Dog Sledding Adventure Trip on January 6-8. Outdoor Recreation invites you join the fun as you sled through the majestic Superior National Forest in the heart of Minnesota. You will get to drive your own dog team and have lunch on the lake.

Cost is \$65/person quad occupancy, \$85/person triple occupancy, \$127/person double occupancy, or \$255/person single occupancy. Price includes the dog sledding day trip, two nights lodging, and transportation to Ely, MN. Deadline for registrations is December 30. For more details or reservations, call Outdoor Recreation at 723-3648.

2016 DoD MWR Customer Satisfaction Survey Seeks Feedback From Customers

There's a survey in your inbox

Survey email invitations are hitting inboxes for the DoD MWR Satisfaction Survey.

This survey focuses on customer satisfaction of your fitness center, library, swimming pools and other MWR programs operated by the Force Support Squadron.

Recently, select members of active duty, National Guard and Reserve components received the 2016 DoD MWR Customer Satisfaction Survey. All recipients were chosen at random. The survey will measure the impact of satisfaction on three desired outcomes - readiness, retention, and unit cohesion of the MWR programs offered by Force Support Squadrons. The survey will be distributed through GovDelivery.com and for the first time, spouses will also have an opportunity to participate. If you receive the DoD MWR Survey, please take a few minutes to fill it out. Your response can make a significant difference.

Dinner with Santa
Rockers Bar & Grill
December 22 • 5 - 7:30pm
Club Members, bring your families and enjoy a delicious spaghetti dinner. Plus kids get to meet Santa!
\$3 per person, ages 5 and under free
Club Members and Family Only Event

Rockers will close at 2pm this day to get ready for Santa

727-ROCK

5TH FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

CLUB MEMBER DRAWING ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16th WILL BE FOR \$1,650.

You must be present to win. Become a club member today to qualify. Simply visit Rockers Bar & Grill or the Jimmy Doolittle Center to obtain your application. The next weekly club member drawing will be held on Friday, Dec. 16 at the Jimmy Doolittle Center and Rockers Bar & Grill. Drawing time varies each week between 5:30-6:30 p.m.

FAMILY and YOUTH EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Dec 21 Bundles For Babies
Expectant mothers are invited to attend Bundles For Babies at the Airmen and Family Readiness Center on December 21 from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The class is open to all ranks and not limited to a first pregnancy. Attendees will learn how to budget for your new baby and about many of the support programs that are available. Meet other expectant parents and receive a free gift for your new baby courtesy of the Air Force Aid Society. To register or for additional information, call the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 723-3950.

Jan 9 Family Child Care Pre-Orientation
Would you like to work in your home, make a difference on Minot AFB, and in the life of a child? Then attend the FCC Pre-Orientation at the Family Child Care office on January 9 from 6-8 p.m. to see if it is for you! All persons providing care in their homes for more than 10 hours per week must be licensed. People who become affiliated providers living downtown have the same opportunities as base providers. For details, call the Family Child Care office at 723-6662.

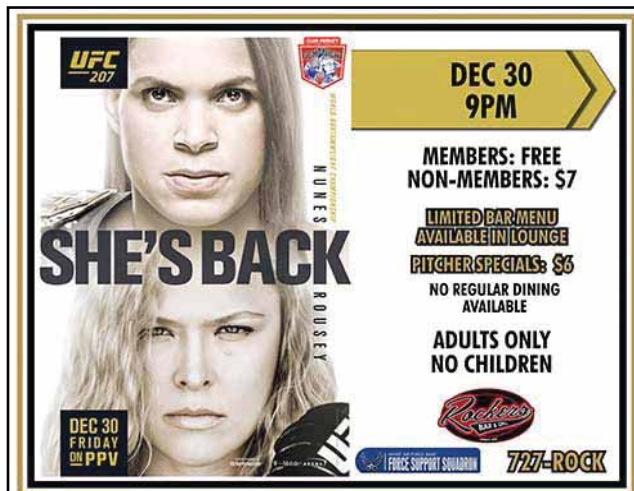
For 5th Force Support Job Opportunities, visit www.nafjobs.org or call NAF Human Resources at 723-2812



STAR WARS GAME NIGHT
ON JANUARY 19TH AT 6:00PM, test your Star Wars knowledge and board game skills with a variety of Star Wars themed games.
Who will win team trivia? Defeat the Empire?
May the Force be with You!

Family Fun Night
Rough Riders invites you to enjoy their Family Fun Night every Tuesday from 5-9 p.m. Club members can enjoy 2 large one topping pizzas, 12 breadsticks, and 2 pitchers of soda for only \$25. Non-members can join the fun for only \$32. For more details, call Rough Riders Pizza at 727-4377.

FREE Admission For Club Members To UFC Fight Night



UFC 207
SHE'S BACK
NUNES vs ROUSEY
DEC 30 9PM
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NON-MEMBERS: \$7
LIMITED BAR MENU AVAILABLE IN LOUNGE
PITCHER SPECIALS: \$6
NO REGULAR DINING AVAILABLE
ADULTS ONLY
NO CHILDREN
Rockers Bar & Grill
727-ROCK

Club members receive FREE admission to the UFC 207 pay-per-view event at Rockers Bar & Grill on Friday, December 30. Non-members price is only \$7. The action is headlined by the UFC Women's Bantamweight Championship bout between current champion Amanda Nunes and former champion Ronda Rousey.



Youth Center's Winter Masquerade Ball
SATURDAY DECEMBER 17 6:00PM
Come out in your best Masquerade Ball attire and dance the night away...
Stop by the Youth Center between December 12th - 16th at 4pm to design your own mask for the Ball
Youth Programs Keystone & Torch Clubs will be selling popcorn & drinks during the Masquerade Ball
AGES 9+ Members Only
723-2838
5th Force Support Squadron



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Reserve holiday guests a room at the Sakakawa Inn
Now accepting Space-A reservations for 1 Nov 2016-2 Jan 2017
Reservations can be made up to 30 days in advance for up to a 30 day stay. Open to all Military and Civilian Personnel assigned to Minot AFB.
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AFI 34-135 allows Space-A guests to stay a maximum of 30 days per year in lodging.
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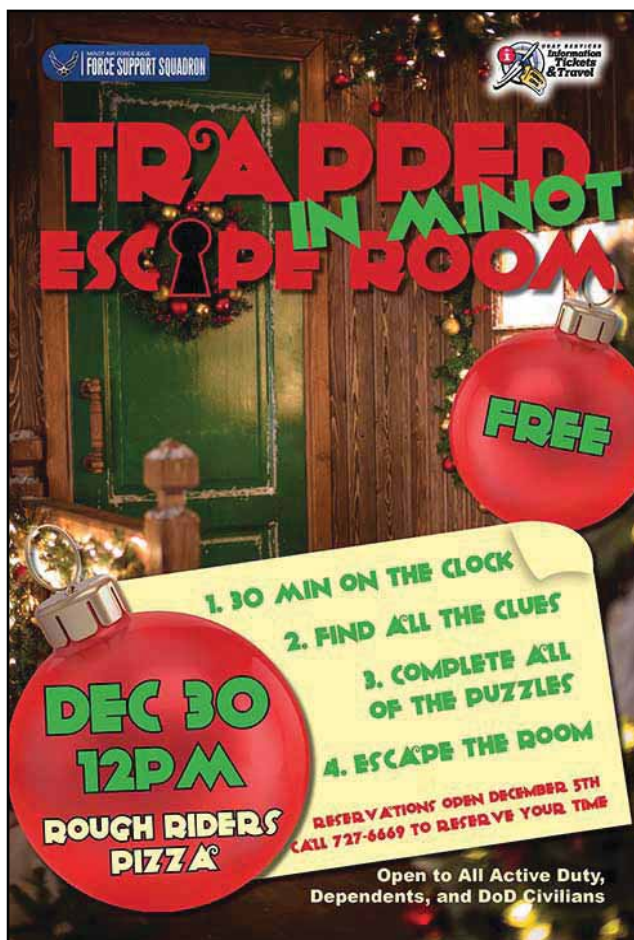
YOUNG AIRMEN EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Dec 16 Friday Night Karaoke
Come and show off your talent during Friday Night Karaoke at Rockers Bar & Grill on Dec. 16 from 8 p.m. to close. Rockers Bar & Grill has a great karaoke selection for your enjoyment. Gather up your friends and enjoy all of the fun. For additional information, contact Rockers Bar & Grill at 727-ROCK.

Dec 18 Football Frenzy
Catch all the exciting NFL action every Sunday during Football Frenzy at Rockers Bar & Grill. Watch your favorite team on the numerous televisions throughout the facility. Club members, be sure to get the unique word of the week then register online to win weekly prizes. Registration details are available at MyAirForceLife.com/FootballFrenzy. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. and the action continues until 6 p.m. For additional information, please contact Rockers Bar & Grill at 727-ROCK.

Dec 29 Off-Base Budget Class
Planning to move off base? Do you have a functional budget plan? The Airman & Family Readiness Center is hosting an Off-Base Budget Class on December 29 from 2:30-4 p.m. Airmen will obtain important information on leases, military clauses, renters insurance, and so forth. Attendees should bring their current LESSs and have knowledge of their bills. Class size is limited; call 723-3950 to register or for more information.

Jan 7 Indoor Sprint Triathlon
The Fitness Center is hosting an Indoor Triathlon on Saturday, January 7 starting at 7 a.m. How far can you run in 20 minutes, swim in 20 minutes, and bike in 20 minutes? This FREE event is limited to the first 50 participants. Visit the front desk of the Fitness Center from January 1-5 to register. The event is open to all active duty and dependents 16 years of age and older. Call 723-2145 for details.



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Road conditions: what they mean

SENIOR AIRMAN SAHARA FALES | MINOT AIR FORCE BASE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D., -- For approximately six months out of the year Minot, North Dakota endures a harsh winter which can be surprising for any newcomer to the city. In order to keep base personnel safe, whether they're traveling 20 miles from the city to base or to a building one block away, Minot Air Force Base has guidelines in place to inform people how dangerous the road conditions are.

The purpose of this traffic code is to establish standardized procedures for motor vehicle traffic supervision and ensure safe and efficient movement of vehicles, materials and personnel to destinations on Minot AFB.

Changes to travel conditions are implemented when weather or other natural disasters affect roadway travel conditions on Minot AFB and roads within the Missile Complex.

The 5th Bomb Wing

commander will determine when to change travel conditions on MAFB based upon information received from the 5th Mission Support Group. While the 91st Missile Wing commander determines when to change travel conditions within the Missile Complex based on information received from personnel and teams traveling across the complex.

If road conditions change, the 5th Security Forces Squadron will update the on-base and Hwy 83 travel condition signs at the installation entry and exit gates.

The following travel conditions are used to define road conditions on and off base and how drivers should respond:

Green- This condition describes the normal day-to-day travel condition.

Yellow- This condition describes a degraded environment when cautious travel conditions exist. Drive according to the weather and road conditions, which may include a reduction of speed. Use of vehicle

cruise control is prohibited when operating government vehicles.

Red- This condition describes a degraded environment when hazardous travel conditions exist. Motorists should not travel due to hazardous conditions which may make it unsafe. Snow plows may be pulled from the roads during severe conditions. Motorists should take "no travel advised" seriously as those motorists who choose to travel at their own risk may become stranded and emergency responders may not be able to reach them safely. A "no travel advised" has the potential to change to a "road closed or blocked" if conditions deteriorate.

Black- This condition is the same as "road closed." Motorists are not allowed to travel on a closed road due to life threatening conditions. The road may be impassible or blocked. Motorists may be cited by Security Forces for driving during this condition. Gate guards will stop outbound vehicles and inform the occupants.

Road conditions in the

MINOT AFB ROAD CONDITIONS	
GREEN	This condition describes normal day-to-day travel conditions
YELLOW	This condition enforces cautious travel conditions. Use your best judgement and drive according to the weather. Reduction to posted speed limit signs may be necessary. Use of vehicle cruise control is prohibited when operating government vehicles.
RED	This condition describes dangerous travel conditions. Motorists should not travel because snow plows may not be removing snow during these conditions. Drivers should take "no travel advised" seriously as those who choose to travel may become stranded and emergency responders may not be able to reach them safely. A "no travel advised" has the potential to change to black if conditions deteriorate.
BLACK	This condition essentially means "road closed." Motorists are not allowed to travel on a closed road due to life threatening conditions. The road may be impassible or blocked. Motorists may be cited by Security Forces for driving during this condition. Gate guards will stop outbound vehicles and inform the occupants.

For updated road conditions call the Minot Air Force Base Information Hotline at 701-723-1190

U.S. AIR FORCE GRAPHIC | AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JESSICA WEISSMAN

Minot Air Force Base, N.D., experiences constantly changing road conditions throughout the winter and this graphic helps explain them.

Missile Complex are similar except they are only coded green, yellow and red - red also serving as a combination of on-base red and black.

Because weather or road conditions may develop during non-working hours which make it difficult for employees to arrive at work on time, the installation commander can determine a later time for members to arrive at their duty stations -- this is known as "delayed

reporting."

The next day early morning notification is made to leadership to begin the personnel notification process.

More information on duty reporting status during inclement weather procedures can be found in Minot AFB Instruction 36-101.

To hear updated road conditions please call the MAFB Information Hotline at 701-723-1190

Inside look: A sensor operator's first weapons strike

SENIOR AIRMAN CHRISTIAN CLAUSEN | 432ND WING/432ND AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CREECH AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. (AFNS)

-- The feelings experienced during combat missions can be intense for many aircrew members. For Airman 1st Class Matthew, a 20-year-old 15th Attack Squadron MQ-1 Predator sensor operator, his first air strike was an event he will never forget.

He became cold and his hands shook nervously as he moved the crosshairs over the target. Time dragged on inside the dark air-conditioned ground control station as he waited for the missile to explode on one of his many screens.

Matthew recalls the experience, clearly, as the day he was suddenly thrown into his first weapons employment, a day he had been trained for, but didn't expect so early in his career.

"We got the call from a joint terminal attack controller for a short-notice airstrike," Matthew said. "We were tasked to hit moving vehicles. One was a motorcycle and the other was a vehicle-borne [improvised explosive device]."

At his age, most individuals would be

anxious about a job interview, college exam or a first date. Not Matthew. He was worried about supporting troops on the ground from an MQ-1 Predator, operating the Multi-Spectral Targeting System while tucked away in a ground control station in the Nevada desert.

"Matthew had to follow the moving vehicles with a laser in order to guide the weapons while determining the escape velocity of the target," said Master Sgt. Jesse, the 15th ATKS operations superintendent. "He would weaponize the missile impact in order to neutralize the target and the cannon mounted in the truck."

All of this had to be done while dealing with a one and a half second delay.

"I was really nervous and got cold all of a sudden," Matthew said. "I didn't want anything to go wrong or to disappoint the supporting unit or squadron. I wanted to prove myself and I had to rely on what I had been taught and practiced."

Jesse said there are so many different variables to each weapons employment that, as sensor operators, there is a constant need

to remember all of their training. Once the weapon is away, however, the entire shot comes down to the sensor operator to maintain the crosshairs and keep the weapon on target to achieve the ground commander's objective.

The pressure was on. If he missed the target, the enemy would reach an area where coalition forces were bedded down for the night.

Despite the pounding in his chest, Matthew's training paid off and he successfully guided the weapons to the target, saving the ground forces and boosting his confidence sky high.

"It was a great shot and he's had a couple more since then," Jesse said. "It's awesome to see. I'm glad things went well as this is what we train so hard to do."

Providing precision attack and dominant reconnaissance capabilities to the combatant commanders wasn't what he thought he would be doing after high school.

"My brother was my recruiter and after looking at what I qualified for, sensor operator sounded the most exciting," Matthew said. "I still wasn't 100

percent sure what I'd be doing but I had no idea I'd be taking bad guys off the battlefield for a living."

Matthew went on to say it's unreal that he lives up to the military image of neutralizing enemies every day.

"This job is awesome, but stressful, yet very crucial to the military," he said. "The information and strikes we provide are amazing. It's those things most people don't see or hear about that we do every day that keeps people safe."

While close-air support is a big part of the mission,

there are other sensor operator opportunities such as raid support, intelligence gathering and combat search and rescue. After a long day of these and other mission sets, Jesse likes that he's still able to see his family after his combat shift. "What other precision strike platform can say that," he said.

"No other aircraft can stay aloft overhead as long as we can, let alone be as consistently precise with a (AGM-114) Hellfire," Jesse said. "This weapons system has truly changed the way we fight wars."



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | SENIOR AIRMAN CHRISTIAN CLAUSEN

Airman 1st Class Matthew, a 15th Attack Squadron MQ-1 Predator sensor operator, follows a moving target alongside an MQ-1 pilot during a training mission Dec. 5, 2016, at Creech Air Force Base, Nev. Despite the remotely piloted aircraft stigma that operators don't feel anything when conducting weapons strikes, Matthew explained he felt nervous, cold, and his heart raced during his first weapons strike in support of ground forces.

SecAF visits F.E. Warren, discusses force improvement efforts

1ST LT. ESTHER WILLETT | 90TH MISSILE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

F.E. WARREN AIR FORCE BASE, Wyo. --

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James and Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration Lt. Gen. Jack Weinstein visited F.E. Warren Air Force Base to speak directly with Airmen about ongoing improvement efforts throughout the nuclear enterprise, Dec. 7-8.

During the visit, James discussed current challenges and successes related to the ICBM mission with commanders, missile crews and mission support personnel.

"Three years ago, we implemented a number of changes throughout the nuclear enterprise, and I am acutely interested in following up to see how we're doing," said James.

Air Force Global Strike Command has introduced a number of aggressive efforts designed to make fundamental changes in ICBM operations and culture. Many of these endeavors began with the implementation of

the Force Improvement Program in 2014.

While FIP began as a ground-level initiative designed to highlight and address prominent issues, it has developed into a culture of shared practices and innovation. Since FIP's inception, a number of quality-of-life and operational improvements have positively impacted the Airmen who operate, maintain, defend and support the nuclear mission.

"The Secretary and the Air Force in general have done an amazing job of investing into the nuclear enterprise," said Lt. Col. Russell Williford, 320th Missile Squadron commander. "FIP was a singular effort to address the culture and climate of the nuclear enterprise, but it was also the start of a new philosophy of continuous improvement. While many FIP aspects were implemented successfully, we need to continue the process."

As the initiatives continue, conversations with Airmen at the tactical level will remain invaluable, said former 20th Air Force

Commander, Lt. Gen. Jack Weinstein.

"We need to sustain this weapon system until we get a new one. Conversations like these help us when we're in battles defending why we need to make this investment," Weinstein said. "What you do every day is foundational to the defense of our nation, so these discussions keep us headed in the right direction."

In addition to participating in round-table discussions, James and Weinstein also paid a visit to the 37th Helicopter Squadron to discuss the UH-1N Huey. Pilots and security forces members from mobile fire teams briefed the senior leaders on their contribution to the ICBM mission.

Both senior leaders left the base encouraged by the progress that has been made across the enterprise, but fully aware there is always more work to be done.

"I have no doubt our nuclear force is moving in the right direction. It's good to know what the problems are, but it's also good to know



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | STAFF SGT. CHRISTOPHER RUANO

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James receives a briefing about the UH-1N "Huey" and its contribution to the ICBM mission at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., Dec. 8, 2016. The 37th Helicopter Squadron plays an important role protecting America's nuclear assets while on missile convoys and patrols in the missile complex.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | STAFF SGT. CHRISTOPHER RUANO

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James addresses missile combat crews at their pre-departure briefing at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., Dec. 8, 2016. She emphasized that the ICBM mission remains critical and relevant to the nation's strategic defense. The SecAF and Lt. Gen. Jack Weinstein, Deputy Chief of Staff for strategic deterrence and nuclear integration visited Warren to speak directly to Airmen on the front lines of the ICBM mission.

that changes have had a positive impact overall," James said. "The nuclear force is at the forefront

of our nation's national defense, and I thank you for bringing all you've got to the fight."

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Central Michigan University

What to know before piloting a drone

SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE STAFF REPORT

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- As unmanned aerial systems, also called drones, become more popular, the Federal Aviation Administration and local bases have established policy on how and when to operate drones.

The FAA has stated that unmanned aircraft systems are aircraft, not toys, and are required to adhere to policy.

General rules:
 - All UAS greater than 0.55 pounds are required to be registered, regardless of the type of operation. The operator must provide the registration certificate (paper or electronic) upon request and the UAS must be marked with registration or serial number. UAS purchased on or after Dec. 21, 2015, and used exclusively as model aircraft must be registered prior to operating in the national airspace. UAS that have been operated in the national airspace by the current owner, and used exclusively as model aircraft prior to Dec. 21, 2015, must be registered by Feb. 19, 2016. To verify registration, contact a Law Enforcement Assistance Program agent during normal business hours or the Regional Operations

Center after hours.

- Small unmanned aircraft must give way to all manned aviation activities: airplanes, gliders, parachutists, hang gliders, the Goodyear blimp, etc. If it flies or glides, it has the right of way.

- The operator must remain within visual line of sight of the small unmanned aircraft. Operators can't control or remain clear of other aircraft when they can't see their own small unmanned aircraft.

- Small unmanned aircraft may not operate over any persons not directly involved in the operation.

The FAA divides the national airspace above us into categories: A, B, C, D, E and G. You can

read more about these classes here.

- Class A is 18,000 to 60,000 feet above the average sea level, and operators must be communicating with the FAA to operate up there. So just remember, Class A is "above" where small unmanned aircraft should fly.

- Class B/C/D is the airspace around airports and requires two-way communications with the airport's tower, so small unmanned aircraft need to steer clear of these areas. Just remember not to fly within 5 nautical miles of an open airport/airfield/heliport -- military or civilian.

- Class G airspace exists around uncontrolled airports (no two-way communications),

but small unmanned aircraft must still remain clear by the 5 nautical miles.

Other variables include special use airspace and military training routes. SUA includes prohibited areas, restricted areas and military operating areas. MTRs are "highways" in the sky where the military flies very low and very fast, so it's smart to stay away from them. Local base operations or airfield managers can provide more information on such activities.

Many military installations have an airport, airfield, or

heliport that requires the 5-mile rule, but for national security reasons small unmanned aircraft flights are not authorized on or over military installations unless authorized by the installation commander. Contact base operations, an airfield manager or a security manager to ascertain safe base operating areas and other limitations.

In addition to checking with local base guides, recreational clubs are a good resource to learn what local areas are the best locations for flying unmanned aircraft.

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Airman 1st Class
Amanda SIMPSON
 5th maintenance Group LOMPOC, CA

Warbird of the Week

What did you do before you joined the Air Force
 Moved to CA from MO and worked as a bank teller.

Hobbies or Interests
 Hunting, fishing, anything outdoors, crafting, reading and sports. Go Kings!

Most life changing experience
 Losing my uncle from a heart attack at age 53.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years
 Hopefully raising 2 boys with 2 dogs with my husband at Travis AFB or Whiteman AFB as a Tech Sgt.

If you could have one special talent, what would it be
 I would love to remember everything I learn or read.



Favorite quote
 "Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try."

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p>Little Flower Catholic Church 800 University Avenue West 838-1520</p> <p>Mass Schedule Saturday 5:30 pm Sunday 8:30 & 11:30 am Through Labor Day weekend. Fr. Fred Harvey, Pastor www.littleflowerminot.com</p>	<p>St. Peter The Aleut Eastern Orthodox Church  109 6th St. SE Minot • 838-3094</p> <p>Sunday Liturgy 10 a.m. Saturday Vespers.... 6 p.m.</p> <p>The Very Reverend Father Anastassy</p>	<p>To Advertise your Church in this space.</p> <p>Call 839-0946</p> <p>Only \$7.00 per week</p>	<p>GLENBURN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  402 South Street • 701-362-7971</p> <p>Sundays: Morning Worship..... 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 11:15 a.m.</p> <p>Wednesdays: Glenburn Youth Group - interdenominational Meets September thru May - for students in grades 7-12 6:00 meal followed by singing, games, and lessons. Pastor DeVawn Beckman • revdev@srt.com</p>	<p>Bible Fellowship Church  Worship Service 10:45am Sunday Sunday School/Bible Study 9:45am</p> <p>GRIEF SHARE </p> <p>Classes Starting November 4th, 7:00pm 838-0916 • 1720 4th Ave NW minotbiblefellowship.org</p>
<p>Faith United Methodist Church </p> <p>5900 Highway 83 N, Minot www.faithumcminot.com</p> <p>Pastor Tom Sumers 701-838-1540</p> <p>Sunday School (All Ages): 10 a.m. Sunday Coffee Fellowship: 10:30 a.m. Worship Services: Sunday 11 a.m.</p>	<p>Minot Baptist Church </p> <p>Sending the Glorious Light of Jesus Christ to a Dark and Needy World</p> <p>Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening..... 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><i>Independent/Fundamental/KJV</i> 500 46th Ave NE • 839-1351 Pastor David Miller</p>	<p>Harvest Reformed Church </p> <p>We are devoted to faithful preaching of God's Word. Confessionally Reformed Biblical worship.</p> <p>Now meeting at 1505 N Broadway, Grand International, Norse Room</p> <p>Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. 838-0605 www.harvestreformedchurch.org</p>	<p>Congregational United Church of Christ 430 N. Broadway • 839-1064</p> <p>Sunday School 11 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m. Tuesday Lunch Bible Study 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Wed. Youth Classes 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>To Advertise your Church in this space.</p> <p>Call 839-0946</p> <p>Only \$7.00 per week</p>
<p>First Presbyterian Church  430 N Broadway (Congregational Church of Christ Building) 701-460-6321</p> <p>Worship..... 9:00 a.m. www.fpcminot.org</p> <p><i>Visitors Welcome</i></p>	<p>Apostolic Faith Church, UPCI 2929 19th Ave NW • Minot Located off Hwy 83 Bypass West (701)838-0609</p> <p>Saturday School 2:00 p.m. Sunday Worship 3:30 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Jesse Starr, Pastor</p>	<p>Cornerstone Presbyterian Church 1000 NE 3rd Street 852-0315</p> <p>Sunday Schedule Contemporary Worship 9:30am Child/Youth Sunday School.. 11:00am Adult Sunday School..... 8:30 & 11:00am Traditional Worship..... 11:00am</p> <p>Wednesday Evening Schedule Community Dinner..... 5:30-6:30pm Contemporary Worship..... 6:30pm Youth Group & Small Groups.. 7:15pm</p> <p>All are Welcome! www.ecominot.org</p>	<p>First Lutheran Church - ELCA  120 - 5th Ave. NW 852-4853</p> <p>Saturday Worship 5:30 pm Sunday Worship 8:30 am Sunday Education 9:45 am Sunday Worship..... 11:00 am Wednesday Supper..... 5:30 pm Wednesday Education 6:00 pm</p> <p>Services are now available online at firstlutheran.tv Radio Broadcast KRRZ 1390 AM 8:30 AM Pastor Ken Nelson & Pastor Brandy Gerjets</p>	<p>St. Mark's Lutheran Church <i>Missouri Synod</i> </p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Sunday School, Adult Bible Class & Adult Choir 9:45 a.m.</p> <p>2209 4th Avenue NW Minot, ND 839-4663 Carlyle Roth, Pastor www.stmarksminot.com Call or check out our website for more information.</p>
<p>Bethany Lutheran 215 3rd Ave. SE, Minot, ND Phone: 838-5196 • Fax: 852-8494 A Member of the ELCA</p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:15 am & 10:45 am Sunday Fellowship..... 9:15 am Sunday School..... 9:30 am Wednesday Worship..... 6:45 pm</p> <p>Website: www.bethanylutheranminot.com Email: bethanylutheran@srt.com Live Streaming: bethanylutheran.tv</p> <p>Pastor Janet Hernes Mathistad Pastor Gerald Roise</p>	<p>To Advertise your Church in this space.</p> <p>Call 839-0946</p> <p>Only \$7.00 per week</p>	<p>St. John the Apostle Catholic Church  2600 West Central Ave • Minot, ND 58701 839-7076</p> <p>Daily Mass Schedule: Tuesday 7 p.m. Wednesday - Friday 9 a.m. Saturday 5 p.m. Sunday 8 & 10:30 a.m.</p> <p><i>Fr. Dave Zimmer, Pastor</i> Parish website: www.stjohnminot.com</p>	<p>Calvary Alliance Church  715 20th Avenue NW Minot, ND 58703 www.calvaryofminot.com 701-852-0670</p> <p>Sunday School..... 9:00 am Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am Wednesday Prayer 6:30 pm Wednesday Youth Group (grade 7-12) 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Our Redeemer's Church <i>A Church of the Lutheran Brethren</i> </p> <p>Sundays: Worship..... 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Interpreter services for the deaf .. 10:45 a.m. Radio Broadcast KHRT 1320 AM 11 a.m.</p> <p>700 16th Ave SE • 701-838-0750 For more information visit us on the web at: www.ourredeemers.org</p>
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<p>GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH Independent - affiliated with IMF </p> <p>8300 29th Ave NW Burlington, ND 58722 (South side of Highway 2) 701-839-6319</p> <p>Sunday School..... 9:00 am Meet and Greet 10:00 am Sunday Worship 10:30 am</p> <p>Pastor Gregg S Smith www.gracefellowshipatburlington.com</p>	<p>First Baptist Church  200 3rd St. SW • 852-4533 www.fbcminot.org</p> <p>Classic Worship Service 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service 9:50 a.m. Children's Church..... 9:50 a.m. Sunday School (All Ages)..... 11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service..... 11:05 a.m. Wed. AWANA (Sept. to May) 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Rev. Kent Hinkel, Senior Pastor Rev. Barry Seifert, Associate Pastor Pastor Sam Kautzmann, Student Ministries Elaine Carlson, Children's Ministry Director</p>	<p>Gospel Tabernacle Community Church </p> <p>9999 27th St NE 4 miles south of MAFB James W. Henderson Anna B. Henderson</p> <p>Church: 701-838-4492 Home: 701-838-5759 KHRT 1320: 9 a.m. Sunday</p> <p>Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Adult/Children Worship.. 11 a.m. Family Hour 6:30 p.m. Evening Worship 7:30 p.m. Bible Study/Child-Adult Children Worship (Wed).... 7 p.m. Prayer (Friday) 7 P.m.</p>	<p>Dakota Baptist Church  <i>Teaching the Word, One Verse At a Time! KJB</i> 916 5th Ave, SE Minot, ND 58701</p> <p>Sunday School..... 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Worship 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>(701)852-5399 www.dakotabaptistchurch.com Email: dbchurch@srt.com Pastor: Jeremy Jacob</p>	<p>First Assembly of God 1805 2nd St. SE 838-1111</p> <p>Morning Worship 8:30 a.m. Sunday School 10 a.m. Morning Worship 11 a.m. Evening Worship 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Family Night..... 7 p.m.</p>
<p>Trinity Church </p> <p>An Evangelical Free Church 3500 4th St. SW • 839-5127 (Just North of Super Wal-Mart)</p> <p>Sunday School & Fellowship 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m.</p> <p>www.trinitychurchminot.org</p>	<p>Immanuel Baptist Church  1615 2nd St. SE • Minot • 839-3694</p> <p>Sundays: Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Wednesdays: Soup Kitchen 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Family Supper 5:45 p.m. Classes for all ages 6:30 p.m. Adult Choir (as scheduled). 8:00 p.m.</p> <p>Brian T. Skar, Pastor www.ibcminot.org</p>	<p>ZION Lutheran ELCA  1800 Hiawatha St. 852-1872</p> <p>Saturday Worship 5 p.m. Sunday Worship... 8:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.</p> <p>John Streccius, Pastor Nathan Mugaas, Pastor</p>	<p>Vincent United Methodist Church  1024 2nd St. SE • 838-4425 <i>Behind Town & Country Shopping Center</i> open hearts...open minds...open doors!</p> <p>Saturday Informal Worship .. 5:00 p.m. Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Fellowship..... 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Pastor Ray Baker www.vincentumc.com</p>	

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Answers to puzzle from page 6

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First class graduates from new Advanced Sortie Production Course

STAFF SGT. SIUTA B. IKA | 99TH AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. (AFNS) -- The Advanced Maintenance and Munitions Operations School (AMMOS) here graduated 15 officers from its first Advanced Sortie Production Course (ASPC) Dec. 7.

The 12-week course — which targets maintenance, munitions and logistics readiness officers in their four to nine year time-in-service window — teaches students to think and view problems differently, ultimately to help them solve sortie production deficiencies more effectively.

Through key leader seminars, classroom discussions, guided simulations and hands-on scenarios, each student is immersed in the world of sortie production and charged with solving an ever-present issue facing the Air Force today.

“This course goes through six blocks of instruction that focuses on

everything from people, processes and resources to weapons, munitions, supply chain, consumption chain and mission execution applications,” said Lt. Col. Joe DePorter, the AMMOS commandant. “We really drive to develop the student’s ability to look at things through a more critical lens. Not just being able to identify something and repeat that answer back, but no kidding, be able to identify the problem, analyze that problem through critical thinking, and apply that process change going forward to remedy that deficiency.”

DePorter said all of the students in this graduating class — ASPC class 16A — have deployed once or twice, have significant experience in working flightline operations, and are going back into jobs that heavily effect sortie production. In addition, all of the students were selected through a nomination process.

“The title on the course

is sortie production and that’s something that’s a really big emphasis issue for (Air Combat Command) and the Air Force. We have to be able to produce combat airpower,” said Maj. Dan Connors, an ASPC class 16A graduate and operations officer assigned to the 4th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina. “The biggest thing I’m going to take away from this course is I think we’ve kind of settled into thinking resources are our number one problem so that’s clouded our judgment in the way we look at a problem, but if we throw that away for now it really allows you to be creative in how you achieve the task, job, mission or whatever it is you need to do.”

Previously, AMMOS offered maintenance, munitions and logistics readiness officers the Combat Support Course, but in the beginning of 2016 the school developed the

curriculum for what became the ASPC. The 16A class began in September and all but one of the selected students were assigned to ACC bases.

Capt. David Liberti, an AMMOS academics operations officer and an ASPC instructor, explained how the course benefits each graduate for the duration of their Air Force careers and beyond.

“One of the excellent aspects of this schoolhouse is we’re not just teaching the students one thing to go back and use in their current job and then move past it. We have 593 graduates going all the way back to 2003. So they’re going back to execute what they learned here to help their current unit but it’s going to continue to help them throughout their careers,” Liberti said. “It’s going to now influence how they think, how they approach problem sets, and that’s really what we try to do. The schoolhouse is a resource for them to come

back to when needed, and the graduates have really formed a network that’s available any time.”

Ultimately, DePorter said the ASPC is designed to provide an immediate impact to the Airmen that each ASPC graduate is charged with leading.

“The Airmen are the ones that are doing the day-to-day heavy lifting, but the officers that graduate from this course will now have the critical thinking skills to better serve them,” DePorter said. “I’m looking forward to the new classes going forward and the increased interest and efforts in making the course better to produce a more proficient graduate going out in the field and leading our Airmen.”

The school has been providing the Air Force’s premier advanced maintenance training and expanding combat capability through graduate-level education since it first opened its doors in 2003.

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