

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

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TIAL O KA LE





# Minot Airmen, B-52s complete UK deployment

SENIOR AIRMAN J.T. ARMSTRONG 5TH BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

#### RAF FAIRFORD,

England -- Approximately 300 Airmen, four B-52H Stratofortress aircraft and support equipment assigned to the 5th Bomb Wing at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, returned home from their deployment to RAF Fairford, England, Jan. 30.

While deployed, the 23rd Expeditionary Bomb Squadron flew 36 sorties without a cancellation, in support of U.S. European Command's bomber task force.

"During our time here, the 23rd EBS integrated with 13 nations across the region, from the Baltics in the north, to Spain and Italy in the south," said Lt. Col. Michael Maginness, 23rd EBS commander. "We truly demonstrated the capabilities of strategic bombers here at RAF Fairford."

The January 2018 bomber task force deployment included a historic jointeffort between the Bomber Barons and Lithuanian special forces.

"We were honored to be the first aircraft to employ inert air-to- ground munitions in Lithuania, controlled by Lithuanian joint terminal attack controllers," said Maginness. In addition to the

aggressive operations tempo, 23rd EBS Airmen undertook multiple engagement opportunities to include hosting civic leaders and local aviation enthusiasts clubs, as well as meeting with senior leaders from the



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | STAFF SGT. TREVOR T. MCBRIDE

Three B-52 Stratofortress aircraft prepare to take off from RAF Fairford, England, en route to their home station at Minot Air Force Base, N.D., on Jan 30, 2018. Approximately 300 Airmen assigned to the 5th Bomb Wing deployed to the United Kingdom to conduct theater integration and flying training.

U.S. Air Force and the Royal Air Force bombers out of the U.K.," said Maginness

"The U.S. has a long history of operating Eighth Air Force bombers out of the U.K.," said Maginness. "It's fitting that in 2018, we are still integrated with our great partners, the British, operating Eighth AF bombers out of RAF Fairford."

## **5th MXS: NDI keeps Minot mission ready**

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS DILLON J. AUDIT | 5TH BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. --

Silently, Airmen don masks, black gloves and long rubber aprons before entering a small room, shrouded in darkness. The only thing visible to these NDI technicians is a fluorescent green glow seeping into scratches of steel and nickel.

Short for non-destructive inspection, these 5th Maintenance Squadron technicians inspect external and internal damage to aircraft and other equipment to ensure combat readiness, and keep aircraft and crew members safe during missions.

"Our job is mission critical because we help keep planes in the air and crew members safe," said Senior Airman Brianionathan Loanzon. an NDI journeyman. "We make sure all parts are operational and are not going to break mid-flight." These technicians can spot even the smallest defects in aircraft and other equipment unseen to the naked eye using special tools and chemicals. "If we see any indications of a defect, we wipe them away and use a magnetic particle spray to bring out the defect under a black light," Loanzon said. When NDI receives a part in need of inspection it goes through six different processes, such as x-ray, ultra sound and oil analysis. All of these procedures are important because each part requires different inspections to get the best results, said Loanzon.

For example, Loanzon said he uses a bath of magnetic particles that are attracted to any defects on the aircraft part. Afterward, a magnetic pull breaks the crack and the defect becomes visible.

Once visible, Loanzon explained that a penetrant is applied, sits for a half an hour, and is then prerinsed before applying a hydrophilic remover. After it's applied, the technicians dip the part into a developer, which brings the fluorescent penetrant out of the defects. Then, they let it dry for inspection.

Airmen 1st Class Charles Pridgen, NDI apprentice, said he has been a technician for seven months and feels his job is key to a more effective Air Force.

"I like my job because

See 5th MXS on page 3



# <u>Rolling Stone Magazine</u> **"Best Beatles Tribute On Earth"**



### Sat. Feb. 10 Nelson Hall MSU

1964 takes their audience on a musical journey to an era in rock history that will live forever in our hearts. Performing songs from the pre Sgt. Pepper era, 1964 astonishingly recreates an early 60's live Beatles concert with period instruments, clothing, hairstyles and onstage banter.

*"Amazing*...put this show on your bucket list!!"

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# Why WIC: linking families to nutrition

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS ALYSSA M. AKERS | MINOT AIR FORCE BASE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

INOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. --She sat in the doctor's office, 26 weeks pregnant with her second child. Time seemed to stand still as the doctor walked in and gave her a diagnosis she never expected: cancer.

Through countless weeks of treatment, and a radiation session, she counted down to the birth of her child. After a few more weeks, she was called back in for more radiation. That appointment marked the beginning of her child's formula days.

"Just the small containers that last about three days are \$16, which can add up to about \$300 a month," the mother said. "You can imagine the toll it takes on you when you still have to buy diapers, wipes and clothes for the baby, as well as everything else for your family."

Upon confiding in a friend about her financial struggle, she was informed about assistance she may qualify for: Women, Infants and Children (WIC). As a nutrition and education program, WIC is designed to assist qualifying pregnant and breastfeeding women, new moms, infants and children under five. The program may also assist any other legal guardian who takes care of a qualifying

infant or child under five. "Once we determine a family is income-eligible for the program, we do a health screen to determine if the family is nutritionallyeligible," said Jackie Cenis, WIC program leader at Minot Air Force Base and international board-certified lactation consultant. "From there, we create a nutrition plan and carry-out education during each visit depending on the family."

After every appointment with the WIC office, the family-in-need receives a voucher or check designated for certain WIC-approved foods. Families may use these vouchers or checks in stores that accept them, including the base commissary.

The vouchers can be given for more than just formula for infants, as the mother in the story needed. Cenis works with families to develop a WIC-approved food list that includes fruits, vegetables, milk, whole grains, eggs, peanut butter, cereal, formula and baby food. Accepted foods on shelves at the commissary are marked with an orange sticker.

"In a household with my husband working and me going to school, we don't make a lot," said the mother. "WIC has helped us tremendously with ensuring we can afford food for our family. They also educated us on what is needed for each stage of growth with our children."

Pamphlets with additional information and recipes can be given during every appointment, said Cenis. New recipe pamphlets containing only WIC-approved foods are released every week and include the serving amount and nutritional facts.

"We provide a nutrition education piece to help families," said Cenis. "We want to teach moms, dads and legal guardians how to feed their children so they may grow up healthy. We want them to know what works and what doesn't."

The WIC office also has access to many resources in order to refer families to different agencies they may qualify or need. "Right now, my

oldest is five and youngest is 16 months, and we still receive help from WIC," said the mother. "The biggest struggle was actually making the call to see if we qualified. Don't be afraid of being embarrassed or judged, it's there for a reason: to help."

For more information or to see if your family qualifies for the WIC program, please contact Cenis at (701) 723-2118. The base WIC office is located inside the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 291 Peacekeeper Place.

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# **5TH MXS** from page 2

you get an in-depth look on how and why inspection methods work rather than just seeing it happen," said Pridgen. "It takes the knowledge and skill of the inner workings to know



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what we do and why." By keeping equipment

maintained the NDI Airmen also help save the Air Force money.

"We're pretty cost effective because we can verify equipment damage and be able to say it needs repaired rather than throwing it out," said Loanzon. "We do our job the best that we can. We find defects and prevent catastrophes and anyone from getting hurt."





# **(S**) age 2



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U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS | AIRMAN 1ST CLASS DILLON J. AUDIT



Airman 1st Class Charles Pridgen, 5th Maintenance Squadron non-destructive inspection apprentice, pours fluorescent magnetic particles on a hook at Minot Air Force Base, N.D., Dec. 13, 2017. Under ultraviolent light, the fluorescent particles allow Airmen to easily locate cracks and imperfections on magnetized aircraft parts.

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# 5TH MAINTENANCE SQUADRON: STRUCTURALLY SOUND

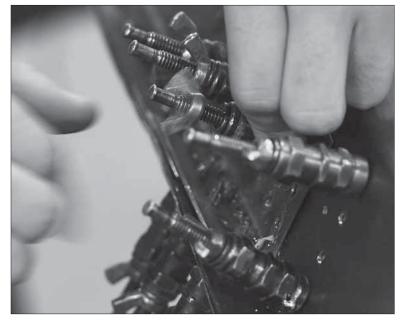
The 5th Maintenance Squadron aircraft structural maintenance shop is responsible for repairing damage and wear to B-52H Stratofortresses at Minot Air Force Base, N.D. Structural maintenance also provides equipment maintenance and special support for the Minuteman III missiles and UH-1N Iroquois helicopters.

U.S. Air Force photos | Airman 1st Class Jonathan McElderry





















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#### **HEALTH & OUTDOORS**



# Include Yoga in your North Dakota Travel Plans

Think it would be fun to

oga is an ancient Hindu spiritual discipline, but in North Dakota, the practice is going through a renaissance. Statista projects that more than 55 million people will be practicing yoga by 2020, which means more travelers will organize their trips around areas that provide yoga opportunities. Across the prairie state, yogis are unfurling their mats and practicing postures that improve both mental and physical health. Yoga studios, gyms and wellness centers welcome participants of all skill levels, making it easy to find one that works for you. Apps like Body and Soul make it easy to find a studio or class to help you breath deeper and be more present to enjoy your vacation.

Many facilities are taking yoga beyond their studio walls and hosting classes and events within the community. vinyasa in a brewery? Here's your chance: Grand Forksbased studio New Love Yoga invites yogis for Craft Yoga at Half Brothers Brewing Company (https://www. newloveyoga.com/attend/) and Bismarck's Transitions Yoga welcomes practitioners for Salutations at the Sun at Laughing Sun Brewing Company (https://www.

facebook.com/ If being on the water helps you restore balance, try Outdoor SUP Yoga hosted by Transitions Yoga at Harmon Lake (http://www.transitionsyoga.com/sup.html).

The North Dakota Yoga Conference (https://www. ndyogaconference.com/) is back after a hugely successful inaugural year. North Dakota's yoga community – and instructors from across the country – will convene in Bismarck this September for three fun days of yoga sessions, lectures and workshops. events/121338431923594/).

It's fun to practice in new locations. Try yoga on a rooftop, in a park ... or in a salt cave. Mojo Fit Studios (https://www.mojofitstudios. com/events/) takes yogis to Hotel Donaldson's roof in downtown Fargo during warm months and Bismarck's Salt Cave Relaxation and Wellness Center offers yoga within the cozy confines of a cave made of salt (https:// www.saltcavend.com/ yoga-). Youth yoga classes (https://www.facebook. com/yogifyuniversity/) and Chair Yoga and Gentle Yoga (https://yogaforyoubismarck. com/special-events-2/silversneakers/) are available for those seeking a slower, more moderate practice. Looking to perfect yoga's essential downward-facing dog pose? There's no better way than in the company of your fourlegged, furry friend with Fargo's Dani

#### MSU Biology Department presents Darwin Day 2018 MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY



to noon, there will be a variety of biology activities about evolution, geared toward high school students. to the community and high school students from the area and together explore evolutionary biology." For more information on the schedule of events for Darwin Day 2018, please visit http://msubiology. info/. If you are not part of an organized school group, please contact Alex Deufel for directions (701-858-3115 or alexandra.deufel@ndus. edu).

#### PRAIRIE ADVENTURES BY PATRICIA STOCKDILL

"This is a good time to fix some of those "loopholes", those little things that need reinforcing."

 Bob West, retired Nestle Purina's sporting dog performance activity programs director.

It's couch potato time. Wrong, it definitely shouldn't be couch potato time for people or their favorite four-legged Hunting Maniac. By settling deep into the folds of the couch, it's that much harder to bring a hunting dog back into condition come spring, spring training, and the upcoming hunting season. "It's got to start with you," offered Bob West, retired Nestle Purina's sporting dog performance activity programs director. "You have to consciously maintain some type of exercise program."

Quite honestly, that applies to two- and fourlegged hunters, alike.

Icky weather out there?

Go to the basement or garage and work a few minutes on training fundamentals, West suggested. That accomplishes two things - reinforcing some of the little things that can easily slip to the background during hunting season, like "sit" when by a vehicle as a hunter gets ready to go afield, "heel", and "whoa". "Now is the time to fix those things - regain control," he stressed, especially because the dog – and hunter – aren't dealing with field distractions. Plus it gets dog and hunter alike moving during the off-season.

When it's nice, get outside and take walks even if it's on a leash down the street.

West also recommends hunters take their dog to their veterinarian for a post-season checkup in early spring, especially to check for internal or external parasites and evaluate body condition. "There might be some vaccinations they need at this time," he explained. nutrition, protein, fat for energy, essential minerals, and other nutrients.

The problem is, West described, it's easy to forget to decrease the amount of caloric intake after hunting season.

When combining less exercise (that couch potato thing) with the same amount of dog food as when the dog was working hard in the field, it's a recipe for portliness. "You could probably cut back 30 percent of the amount of caloric intake," West continued, once hunting season is over.

Do it gradually, though, or it's likely the dog will try to convince you that he or she is being deprived of the last food morsel on the planet.

Reducing caloric intake during the offseason doesn't translate into changing the type of dog food, though. West strongly recommends people feed hunting dogs food designed for hard-working dogs yeararound. Don't switch to a lower calorie dog food. "You're dropping off a lot of essentials they need (yeararound)," he advised.

Instead, simply decrease the quantity gradually. When it gets to be the time of year when training and conditioning for the upcoming hunting season begins, gradually start increasing the quantity.

The bottom line?

Admittedly this is the time of year when it's easy to become a couch potato.

For the good of all involved, get outside as much as possible and take the dog along for walks. When it's icky outside, spend some time in the garage or basement fixing those little things a person let slip by during hunting season. Reinforce

Day returns to Minot State University Feb. 8-9. Darwin Day is a global celebration of science and reason, focusing on how all living creatures evolve.

MSU's Darwin Day celebration begins Feb. 8 with students Dakota Brown and Samantha Huether discussing their experiences with DNA sequencing while working with professor Paul Lepp, whose research focus is in the area of microbial ecology and evolution. The event, titled, ""Analysis of Tick-Associated Bacterial Diversity using Nanopore Real-time DNA Sequencing" will be held in the auditorium at Cyril Moore Science Center at 6 p.m.

On Feb. 9 from 8:30 a.m.

Tours of the greenhouse and research labs are open to the general public starting at 9 a.m. on the second floor of the science center. On the greenhouse tours, they can learn about plant diversity. On the lab tours, they can learn about ongoing research at Minot State into the neurobiology of addiction, eye evolution, geology, and more.

"This has always been a

fun event for all," said Alexandra Deufel, chair and professor within the Department of Biology. "We want to, again, open our doors Ask if it's beneficial to commands.

have the dog on yeararound heartworm and flea and tick preventatives.

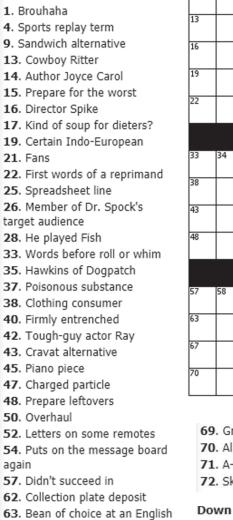
Hunters need to increase their dog's caloric intake as it moves into hunting season to provide adequate Back off on the food, which probably is good advice whether two- or fourlegged.

Besides, before we know it hunting season will be right around the corner.



#### THE LIGHTER SIDE

#### P R Across



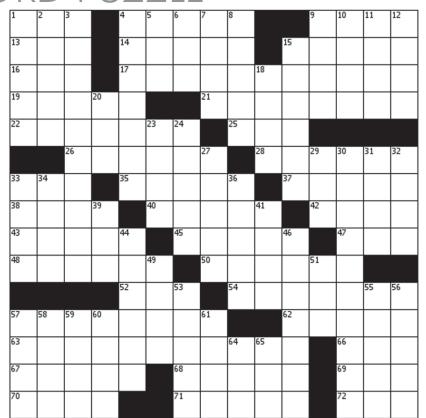
university?

66. Anger or fury

68. Nosey Parker

SUDOKU

67. Bring into agreement



Careless

6. Baseball great Mel

7. "Beowulf" quaff

9. Court order

10. Go ballistic

8. Willow for wicker

- 69. Grand Banks catch

2

1

- 1. Charter publication?
- 2. Plow innovator John
- 3. Field of daisies?

3

4. Norman athletes

20. "So, there you are!" 23. Prove your literacy 24. Become, finally 27. Fierce feline 29. Words with few rounds or step further 30. Spring bloomer made

into a cosmetic?

in myth

feature

sometimes

31. Queen of Carthage,

34. Rudolph's prominent

36. Down for a pillow,

32. Soon, to a poet

Actor Sharif

39. Garden tool

41. Basilica center

44. Watering hole

- 55. Severe pang
  - 56. Morally degraded

53. Expire, as a

membership

57. Ale head

takeoff

58. Undercarriage piece 59. "\_\_\_\_ ain't broke . . ."

46. They're off during

49. Mary Lincoln

51. Miss Piggy's pronoun

- 60. Theater section
- 61. Singer Turner
- 64. Autumn mo.
- 65. Nail holder

70. Allot 71. A-frame overhangs

#### 72. Skeleton, for one

Solution to puzzle on page 14

15. Screw up

## PROUD MARY • (R) FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9 • 1800

Mary (Taraji P. Henson) is a hit woman working for an organized crime family in Boston, whose life is completely turned around when she meets a young boy whose path she crosses when a professional hit goes bad.

# PADDINGTON 2 • (PG) SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10 • 1700

Paddington, now happily settled with the Brown family and a popular mem-ber of the local community, picks up a series of odd jobs to buy the perfect present for his Aunt Lucy's 100th birthday, only for the gift to be stolen.

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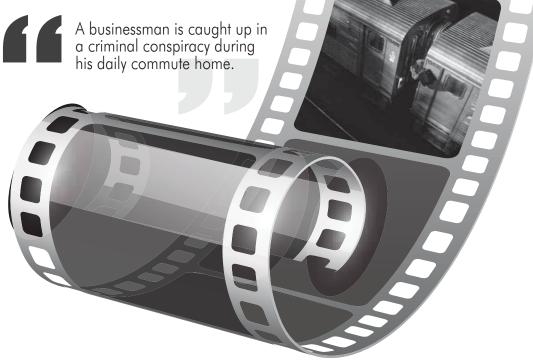


5 3 1 4 6 5 4 7 2 4 6 7 8 4 1 3 9 8 1 9 8 1 3 1 2 9 5 7 4

Solution to last week's Crossword puzzle.

- 11. Word with tooth, heart or back 12. Cats and dogs, for many
- 18. Ukrainian city (Var.)

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# **1964 The Tribute** "Best Beatles Tribute on Earth" Friday, Feb. 10 at the Ann Nicole Nelson Hall in Minot

BEN HART | 1964 THE TRIBUTE

Since the early 80's, "1964" The Tribute has been thrilling audiences around the globe with what

Rolling Stone Magazine calls the "Best Beatles



# WE ARE FIGHTING CANCER. TOGETHER.



Tribute on Earth." If you love the Beatles, you won't want to miss the most unique, fun and familyoriented concert event of 2018 at Ann Nicole Nelson Hall, on the campus of Minot State Universiy.

1964 takes their audience on a musical journey to an era in rock history that will live in our hearts forever. This group is hailed by critics and fans alike as the most authentic and endearing Beatles tribute in the world. Unlike other tribute groups, 1964 concentrates on the "touring years" of The Beatles. Since that time period is one of the most documented of The Beatles, there is much that can be compared. "1964" has accomplished more than other acts could ever imagine, with an astonishingly accurate recreation of the energy and magic of those touring years. Over 30 years of research and performing

have made "1964" The Tribute masters of their craft.

Mark Benson, co-founder of "1964" says, "1964 shows the audience what it was like to attend a Beatles concert in the early sixties and generates the same feeling of happiness that is still generated by the music of The Beatles. We get so much positive energy back from our audiences, it reassures us that for now, we are where we are supposed to be."

"1964" The Tribute has performed at venues around the world including and will be performing for the 14th time at New York's Carnegie Hall just one week after their show in Minot. They have also performed at Denver's famous Red Rocks amphitheater, playing to sell-out audiences for the last 15 years. The late great Diak Clark

The late, great Dick Clark said, "1964 re-creates the Magic of The Beatles" and Allistair Taylor, former President of Apple Records said, "The resemblance is uncanny, it sent shivers down my spine. It was just like the boys. Never have I seen another group go into such detail."

According to Ben Hart, producer/promoter of the show, "This is truly an event for the entire family. We have produced this show in several major cities and I am continually surprised at the age diversity of the audience. Everyone from grandmothers to grandchildren were dancing in the aisles, singing along and interacting with the group. It truly is an exciting evening. No one leaves the theatre disappointed".



MADHO UNNIKRISHNAN, MD, MS, HEMATOLOGIST AND MEDICAL ONCOLOGIST, AND PAMELA HOLWEGNER, FNP-C, AOCNP

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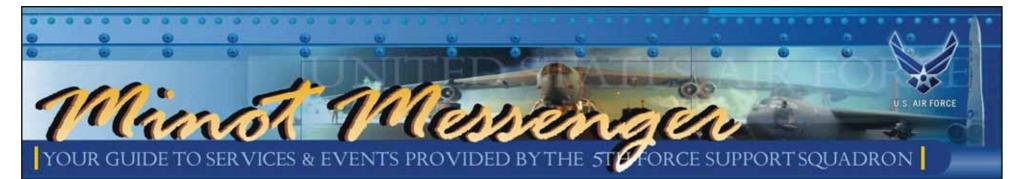
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MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA



## Celebrate Valentine's Day With Numerous 5 FSS Events Free Admission For Club



You'll find a variety of Valentine's Day events at 5th Force Support Squadron facilities this year. From delicious dining to fun events for both young and those not quite so young, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

#### VALENTINE'S FOR VETERANS February 10 - Base Library

Celebrate Valentine's Day by thanking America's veterans. Children of all ages are invited to the FREE Valentine's for Veterans event at the Base Library on Saturday, February 10 starting at 1 p.m. Children will make Valentines for residents of the North Dakota Veterans' Home. Materials and a snack will be provided. For additonal details, call the Base Library at 723-3344.

#### SWEETHEART NIGHT BOWLING SPECIAL February 10 - Rough Rider Lanes

Rough Rider Lanes is offering a Sweetheart Night Bowling Special on Saturday, February 10 from 4-9 p.m. You and your sweetheart can bowl 4 games each for only \$15 per couple with free shoe rental. For more information, call Rough Rider Lanes at 727-4715.

#### VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER February 14 - Rockers Bar & Grill

Make this Valentine's Day unforgettable for your sweetheart with a scrumptious dining experience at Rockers Bar & Grill on Wednesday, February 14 from 5-9 p.m. Rockers Bar & Grill is offering a delicious dinner special featuring mouth-watering, slow roasted prime rib with au jus, golden fried shrimp, baby baker potatoes, steamed vegetables and garlic medallions. This delectable Valentine's Day dining choice is sure to be a hit with you and your loved one. Cost for the dinner special is \$25/person for club members and \$27/person for non-members. For additional information, contact Rockers Bar & Grill at 727-ROCK.

For more information on upcoming 5th Force Support Squadron events, please visit our Facebook page or www.5thforcesupport.com.

## Arts & Crafts Center Offering Wine & Paint Class On Feb. 16

The Arts and Crafts Center invites you to their Wine & Paint class on Friday, February 16 from 6-8 p.m. Gather your friends for a fun evening out painting a masterpiece. Cost is \$26 per person for a two-hour exciting painting experience. Step-by-step instruction will be provided.

Pre-registration is required at the Arts & Crafts Center from now to February 15. There is limited seating available so be sure to register early. Class is open to adults 17 years of age and older only. Wine is not included in cost. You must provide your own wine if desired. For more details, please contact the Arts & Crafts Center at 723-3640.



# Members To UFC Fight Night



Club members receive FREE admission to the UFC 221 pay-per-view event at Rockers Bar & Grill on Saturday, February 10. Non-members price is only \$7. The action features the UFC Interim Middleweight title fight between #1 ranked Yoel Romero and #2 ranked Luke Rockhold. Other main event action will feature a UFC Heavyweight bout between Mark Hunt and Curtis Blaydes. Preliminaries begin at 7 p.m. with the main card starting at 9 p.m. This is an adults only event - no children. For more details, call 727-ROCK.

## 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 Trip on March 9-11. Outdoor Recreation invites you to 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.

Price includes the dog sledding day trip, two nights lodging, and transportation to Ely, MN. Cost for active duty Airmen and their families are \$65/ person quad room, \$90/person triple room, \$115/ person double room, or \$215/person single room. Cost for all other DoD I.D. card holders are \$285/ person quad room, \$300/person triple room, \$330/ person double room, and \$420/person single room.

Deadline for registration is March 2. The Dog Sledding Trip is a Recharge for Resiliency program. For additional information, call Outdoor





PRESENTED BY AIR FORCE SERVICES ACTIVITY

LIVE - FREE FAMILY FRIENDLY SHOW Jimmy Doolittle Center DOORS OPEN AT 4:00PM SHOW STARTS AT 6:00PM LIMITED SEATING

> OPTIONAL PASTA BUFFET AVAILABLE 4-6PM COST <u>Adults</u> Members:\$5 Non-Members:\$10 <u>Children</u> Age 5 & Under: FREE Members Age 5-12: \$2 Non-Members Age 5-12: \$4

Recreation at 723-3648.

For more 5th Force Support events, visit www.facebook.com/5thforcesupport

## CLUB MEMBER DRAWING ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9 WILL BE FOR \$1,050.

You must be present to win. Become a club member today to qualify. Simply visit Rockers Bar & Grill to obtain your application. The next weekly club membership drawing will be held on Friday, February 9 at Rockers Bar & Grill only. Drawing time varies each week between 5:30-6:30 p.m.

#### FAMILY and YOUTH EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Feb 12 *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 February 12 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 more details, call the Family Child Care office at 723-6662.

#### Feb 21 Bundles For Babies

Expectant mothers are invited to attend Bundles For Babies at the Airmen and Family Readiness Center on February 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 growing family and about many of the support programs that are available. Plus participants receive a free gift for your new baby courtesy of the Air Force Aid Society. Please register by noon on February 20. For more details, call the Airman & Family Readiness Center at 723-3950.



#### Feb 15 Creative Kids Class

Spend the morning with your preschooler having fun decorating a T-shirt that you can take home during the Creative Kids class at the Arts & Crafts Center on Thursday, February 15 from 10:30-11 a.m. Age appropriate projects are offered for children ages 3-5. Cost for the class is \$5. Please call at least one day prior to class to sign up for the class. Call the Arts & Crafts Center at 723-3640 for details.

#### YOUNG AIRMEN EVENTS & PROGRAMS

#### Feb 9 Friday Night Karaoke

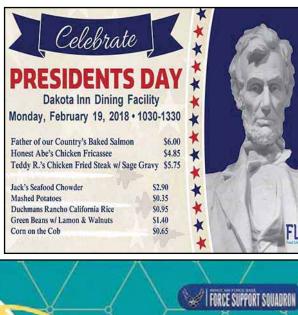
Come and show off your talent during Friday Night Karaoke at Rockers Bar & Grill on February 9 from 8 p.m. to close. Sing solo, do a duet, or grab a group! Rockers has a great karaoke selection for your enjoyment. Gather up your friends and enjoy all of the fun. For additional information, contact Rockers Bar & Grill at 727-ROCK.

#### Feb 26-28 Off-Base Budget Classes

Planning to move off base? Are you ready to manage the costs? The Airman & Family Readiness Center is hosting Off-Base Budget Classes on February 26, 27, & 28 from 2:30-4 p.m. Airmen will obtain important information on leases, military clauses, renters insurance, complete a budget worksheet, and determine an affordable rental price range. Attendees should bring their latest end-of-month LES and have knowledge of their current bills. Pick a date and sign up today! Three classes to choose from in February. Please contact the Airman & Family Readiness Center at 723-3950 for additional information or to sign-up for a class.

#### Feb 17 Heart Healthy Cardio Event

Get your heart pumping and enjoy some healthy exercise! The Fitness Center is hosting the Heart Healthy Cardio Event on Saturday, February 17 from 9-11 a.m. in the aerobics room. This 2-hour event features a variety of cardio and is a terrific way to get some exercise. The Heart Healthy Cardio Event is open to all DoD ID card holders 16 years of age and older. For more details, call the Fitness Center at 723-2145.



#### Feb 12 Federal Résumé Workshop

Get a jump start on your Federal Job search with this interactive workshop. The Airman & Family Readiness Center is hosting the Federal Résumé Workshop on Monday, February 12 from 10-11:30 a.m. The workshop will help you create an account in the USAJOBS website, search for jobs, create a résumé and more! Open to all AD, retirees, AAFES/NAF, DoD civilians, and eligible family members. Seating is limited - call the Airman & Family Readiness Center at 723-3950 to sign up.

#### Feb 22 President's Day Special

Rough Rider Lanes is offering a President's Day bowling special on Thursday, February 22 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Strike up some fun and bowl for \$2.75 per game and shoe rental of only \$1.75. Plus, it's a Red Pin day, get a strike when the head pin is a red pin and receive a free game coupon (one free game coupon per person per game). For more information, please call Rough Rider Lanes at 727-4715.

#### Base vs. Base Rowing Challenge

The Fitness Center is hosting the Base vs. Base Rowing Challenge now through February 28. The base with the best overall average meters will be the first recipients of the traveling trophy. Participants may only compete during normal Fitness Center hours. Call 723-2145 for more details.



# 9 PIN NO-TAP TOURMAMENT

BOWLING

FEB 17 2:00PM \$30/COUPLOE Couple will choose who will bowl the first ball. If they get a strike other bowler bowls next frame. No strike on first ball - other bowler tries for a spare! Must have 20 bowlers age 18 or older to conduct event. Payout one in four/five. Tournament will consist of four games. Call 727-4715 for more details.



Visit our website at www.5thforcesupport.com







#### TODAY

- Last Day to register for the Terry Peak Ski/ Snowboarding Trip at Outdoor Rec
  - Tactical Fitness, 0630, Fitness Center
  - Weight Lifting 101, 1100, Fitness Center
  - Fit to Fight, 1130, Fitness Center
  - School Age Program Sweetheart Dance, 1600-
- 1700, School Age Program
- Torch Club, 1600-1700, Youth Center
- Friday Fun Member's Buffet, 1630-1830,
- Rockers Bar & Grill
  - Yoga, 1700, Fitness Center
- Club Member Cash Drawing, 1730-1830, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Air Force Annual Awards Banquet Kid's Night Out - 91 MW, 1730-2130, Youth Center
- Give Parents A Break, 1800-2200, CDC &
- School Age Program
- Youth Center Sweetheart Dance, 1800-2100, Youth Center
  - Zumba, 1800, Fitness Center
- Mixed Fun League, 1830, Bowling Center
  Keystone Club Meeting, 1830-1930, Youth
- Center
  - Karaoke Night, 2000, Rockers Bar & Grill
    Lights & Strikes Bowling, 2100-2400,

Bowling Center

#### **SATURDAY**

- Lifeguard Certification Course Skills Testing hosted by Outdoor Rec, 0900
- Tactical Strength & Fitness, 0900, Fitness Center
  - Yoga, 1000, Fitness Center
  - Youth Bowling League, 1000, Bowling Center
  - EFMP Event Chill With a Chinchilla!, 1100,
- A&FRC, held at BBC Community Center
  - Valentines for Veterans, 1300, Base Library
  - Sweetheart Night Bowling Special, 1600-
- 2100, Bowling Center
- Bowl the Night Away with "Lights & Strikes", 2000-2400, Bowling Center
- Fight Night UFC 221: Romero vs Rockhold, Prelims at 1900 and Main card at 2100, Rockers Bar & Grill

#### **SUNDAY**

- Sunday Escapes Book Club, 1330, Base Library
- Family Zumba, 1400, Fitness Center

#### MONDAY

- Registration Opens for the Dog Sledding Trip to MN at Outdoor Rec
  - Tactical Fitness, 0630, Fitness Center
  - TAP GPS Workshop, 0800-1600, A&FRC,
- held at the Education Center
- Federal Résumé Workshop, 1000-1130, A&FRC
  - Reintegration Briefing, 1300-1400, A&FRC
  - Yoga, 1730, Fitness Center
- Family Child Care Pre-Orientation, 1800-
- 2000, FCC Office inside Rough Riders Pizza
  - Craft Club, 1800, Base Library
  - Zumba, 1830, Fitness Center
- **TUESDAY**
- TAP GPS Workshop, 0800-1600, A&FRC, held at the Education Center
- Game Day, 1000-1930, Base LibraryDakota Inn Mardi Gras Lunch Special, 1030-
- Dakota Inn Mardi Gras Lunch Special, 1030-1330, Dakota Inn Dining Facility
- Fit to Fight, 1130, Fitness Center

- 4-H Club, 1600, Youth Center
- Mug Club Special, 1600-1800, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Boss & Buddy \$1 off Draft Special, 1630-
- 1830, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Members Wind Down Wednesday Buffet, 1630-1830, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Valentine's Day Dinner, 1700-2100, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Squadron Extramural League, 1730, Bowling Center
  - Zumba, 1730, Fitness Center
  - Yoga, 1830, Fitness Center

#### THURSDAY

- Last day to register for the Wine & Paint Class at the Arts & Crafts Center
- TAP GPS Workshop, 0800-1600, A&FRC, held at the Education Center
  - Yoga, 1000, Fitness Center
- Creative Kids Class, 1030-1100, Arts & Crafts Center
  - Weight Lifting 101, 1100, Fitness Center
  - Muscle Pump, 1130, Fitness Center
  - Reintegration Briefing, 1300-1400, A&FRC
- February Kids Swim, 1330-1530, Indoor Pool, hosted by Outdoor Recreation
  - Fitness Hour, 1600-1700, Youth Center
  - Members 2 for 1 Appetizers, 1700-1900,
- Rockers Bar & Grill
- Weight Lifting 101 173
  - Weight Lifting 101, 1730, Fitness CenterCraft Club, 1800, Base Library
  - Mixed Couples League 1830 Royal
  - Mixed Couples League, 1830, Bowling CenterPro Team Get a Jacket League Starts, 1830,
- Bowling Center
- Cycle, 1930, Fitness Center

#### **UPOMING EVENTS - FEBRUARY 16**

- Tactical Fitness, 0630, Fitness Center
- TAP GPS Workshop, 0800-1600, A&FRC,
- held at the Education Center
  - Weight Lifting 101, 1100, Fitness Center
  - Fit to Fight, 1130, Fitness Center
  - Torch Club, 1600-1700, Youth Center
  - Friday Fun Member's Buffet, 1630-1830,
- Rockers Bar & Grill
- Yoga, 1700, Fitness Center
- Club Member Cash Drawing, 1730-1830,
- Rockers Bar & Grill
- Wine & Paint Class, 1800-2000, Arts & Crafts Center
  - Zumba, 1800, Fitness Center
  - Mixed Fun League, 1830, Bowling Center
- Keystone Club Meeting, 1830-1930, Youth Center
  - Karaoke Night, 2000, Rockers Bar & Grill
    Lights & Strikes Bowling, 2100-2400,
- Bowling Center

Fitness Center

# UPOMING EVENTS - FEBRUARY 17 Healthy Heart Cardio Event, 0900-1100,

• Couples Scotch Doubles 9-Pin No Tap

Tournament, 1400, Bowling Center

2000-2400, Bowling Center

**ONGOING EVENTS** 

• Youth Bowling League, 1000, Bowling Center

• Bowl the Night Away with "Lights & Strikes",

Rough Riders Pizza Special. February Special

• Family Fun Night with a Prince & Princess in Love, 1700-1900, Rough Riders Pizza

• Family Fun Night, 1700-2100, Rough Riders Pizza

• Mike Super - Magic & Illusion Show, Show begins at 1800, Optional Pasta Buffet available 1600-1800, Jimmy Doolittle Center

• Urban Boot Čamp, 1830, Fitness Center

• Cycle/Strength/Core, 1930, Fitness Center

#### WEDNESDAY

• Last day to sign up for the Creative Kids Class at the Arts & Crafts Center

• Circuit Training, 0600, Fitness Center

• Right Start, 0730, A&FRC, held at the Base Theater

• TAP GPS Workshop, 0800-1600, A&FRC, held at the Education Center

• Club Member Benefit, Every Wed, 0900-2000, Bowling Center

• Parent & Tot Fit Kids, 0930, Fitness Center

• Story Time, Every Wed, 1030, Base Library

• Pre-Deployment Readiness Training, 1300-1400, A&FRC a sprinkle of parmesan. Small: \$11 Med: \$15 Large: \$17- Members receive \$2 off any pizza Try it on a Panino! \$8.25 meal – includes side & drink

tomatoes, & mozzarella cheese. Finished off with

-Chicken Pesto. Our deliciously seasoned crust

topped with pesto sauce, diced chicken, sliced

• B-Fifty Brew Drink Special. February Special – Hazelnut Chocolate Frappuccino. Heavy cream blended with bittersweet mocha & hazelnut syrup, topped with whipped cream and dark chocolate curls... It's like Ferrero Rocher meets frappuccino! Grande \$5.00 Venti \$5.50

• February Auto Hobby Special. Come in to Auto Hobby to mount your own tires and have the staff balance them & we will waive the stall fee! \*Includes flat & lift stalls – Ask for the February special to receive discount on services. Offer valid 1-28 February during operating hours.

• Winter Reading Program : 1 Dec, 2017 thru 1 Mar, 2018. Sign up for the Library's Winter Reading Program and stay warm with some good books! Registration open from 1 Dec, 2017 until 15 Feb, 2018. Adults and teens who read an log CSAF Reading list titles or books read for fun will receive prizes & chances to win bigger prizes! For more information or to sign up, visit tinyurl.com/Minot-Library. ceramic soup bowl created by the MSU Ceramics Department. Tickets available at Taube Museum of Art or online! PRESELECT YOUR BOWL AFTER FEB. 3! Nonmembers - \$17 Members - \$15 Children 8 & under: 1/2 price (Children's 1/2 price ticket does NOT include ceramic bowl.) Become a new member of the Taube Museum of Art and get a ticket for just \$10! 838-4445 | www.taubemuseum. org | Fundraiser benefits the Taube Museum of Art

• Winter Reading Program Squadron Contests:

1 Dec, 2017 thru 1 Mar, 2018. Registration is open

from 1 Dec, 2017 until 15 Feb, 2018. The squadron

whose active duty members read the most CSAF

Library's Winter Reading Program will receive a

certificate & bragging rights! For more information

Reading List books and log them for the Base

or to sign up, visit tinyurl.com/MinotLibrary

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Undergraduate and Graduate courses, please

request to minot@erau.edu . If you have any

**ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH** 

**ASH WEDNESDAY** Please join us at St.

Service on February 14th. Soup and Sandwiches,

PM with worship service and imposition of ashes

at 7:00 PM. All is welcome! We are located at 2209

MINOT FLEA MARKET FEBRUARY 10

North Dakota State Fair Event Center. The Minot

Flea Market is the biggest of its kind in the entire

their antiques, collectibles, or other valuable items,

while others sell their homemade crafts, products,

and foods. There is something for everyone at the

10 and under are FREE) To inquire about vendor

WILD ABOUT WHEELS FEBRUARY

North Dakota State Fairgrounds. Ladies and

Wild About Wheels Car and Trade Show is

gentlemen start your engines! The 27th Annual

returning to the North Dakota State Fair Event

Center on February 10 and 11! We have Race cars,

Muscle Cars, Classic Cars, Northern Mini-Racers,

and Vendors. Come on down to the All Seasons and

under are free! If you would like to display your car

get your wheel fix!! The show runs Saturday and

Sunday. Adults get in for just \$5 and kids 10 and

during the event you can pre-register by visiting

SOUP IT UP SOCIAL FEBRUARY 10,

DESSERTS! ART! FUN! SOCIAL! TWO FLOORS!

The Taube Museum of Art in Minot will be hosting

their 11th annual Soup It Up Social fundraiser on

Saturday, February 10, 2018 at the Taube Museum

of Art! Soup will be served from 11:00 am - 1:30

pm. Doors open at 10:30 am for shopping with the artisans and crafters who will be selling their

wares, from 10:30 am - 2 pm. (No ticket is needed

to shop your favorite artists!) Silent Auction! Door

prizes! Soup served by: Magic City Hoagies • 10

Teri Tingley • Olive Garden • Taube Board As in

first 100 attendees will take home a hand crafted

previous years, for the price of a soup ticket, the

North Main • Panera Bread • Kroll's Diner •

www.racenodak.com or calling 701-822-7223.

2018 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Taube Museum of Art. SOUP! BREAD!

10, 2018 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Minot Flea Market! Admission is ONLY \$1.00 (ages

booth space please contact Fabian Zeltinger at (701)

state of North Dakota. Many people come to sell

& 11, 2018 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

served by the Elders of the church, start at 5:30

Mark's Lutheran Church for Ash Wednesday

questions, please call 701-727-9007.

4th Ave in Northwest Minot.

340-7930.

Spring 2018 term (15 Feb-18 Apr). To sign up for

stop by the ERAU office, located inside the Base

Education Center Bldg, Room 223 or email your

**UNIVERSITY** is now registering for the

#### **FREE ICE SKATING FEBRUARY 10, 2018 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM** All Seasons Arena. Free Public Ice Skating! If you don't have skates, don't worry, we have skate rental available for \$2.00 each.

#### BOOK ART WORKSHOP FEBRUARY 10, 2018 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

MPL will be hosting a workshop on folding books. You fold pages at predetermined inches to make a picture. Instructions will be provided. We will have books and rulers for you to make this fun project. Just bring your enthusiasm! lease register for this activity at the Minot Public Library or call 852-1045 as supplies are limited.

# CHURCHDIRECTORY



# CLASSIFIEDS

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#### HELP WANTED

DAKOTA NORTH THE NATIONAL GUARD have openings available in a variety of career fields across the state and in Minot. Continue your military career on a part-time basis. For more information call 420-5903 or 420-5904 in Minot.

tfn

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MATURE, RELIABLE, AND A TRUSTWORTHY **INDIVIDUAL**. Part-Time Retail sales 25-35 hrs/week occasional Sat. closed Sun. Apply in person at Aeroport Hobby Shoppe, 2112 N. Broadway.

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AN AD IN THE NORTHERN SENTRY with get your business noticed. Email your ads to nsads@srt.com or call 839-0946



#### **REAL ESTATE**

Find ALL listed homes for sale in Minot and the surrounding areas at www. brokers12.com. tfn

#### LCSWS NEEDED AT MINOT AFB

Spectrum Healthcare Resources is currently recruiting for full time LCSWs to work at Minot Air Force Base. This opportunity will utilize skills outside of a traditional setting, embedded in the operational unit as opposed to stuck in an office! Paid time off and benefits are offered. For more information contact

Tammy Spruill at Tammy Spruill@spectrumhealth.com, 314-744-4246, or visit www. spectrumhealth.com.

6w

#### FLEA MARKET

MOVING NEED CASH? Sell your used/unwanted items at MINOT FLEA MARKET, February 10 and 11, State Fairgrounds. Info 701-340-7930. tfn



#### AVAILABLE NOW! Several apts on North Hill available 4 rent. 2 Bdrm + 1 bath. \$655 to \$795. Call Matt or Jerry at IPM. 852-1157

RENTALS

SELL YOUR STUFF - One person's trash is another's treasure. Sell your unwanted items with an ad in the Northern Sentry. Contact us at nsads@srt. com or 701-839-0946 for more information.

tfn

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#### SERVICES

WE CLEAN ALL TYPES OF FLOORING including carpets, upholstery, walls, air ducts. Let us clean your boat, camper, garage, storage unit. We have dump trailer for debris removal. Low rates. Cash/check/credit. Prairie Carpet Services. 701-833-2884 or 448-2883.

# **HOW DO I SUBMIT ARTICLES OR STORY IDEAS** TO THE NORTHERN SENTRY?

The Northern Sentry is a privately owned and edited publication in no way affiliated with the Minot Air Force Base, the Department of the Air Force or the Department of Defense. Military members and DoD civilian employees must contact the Public Affairs office prior to contacting any member of the media.



#### **AUCTION**



Rare ND Antiques & Collectibles, Plus Guns. 1996 Honda Accord LX Wagon, Creme Puff, Rare!, 159,000, Needs Nothing, No Rust, Drive Anywhere!; 1960s Kustom AmpHead & PA with 2 Speakers, Blue Sparkle, Tuck & Roll, VF, Rebuilt by Feist Electronics, Bismarck 2017; Orig. ND Native American Art, Leaded Glass; Old B&W Images of ND Towns & Native Americans; Art; Native Postcards; Old Cast Iron; Pottery; Glassware; Crocks; Old Stereo Equip.; Old Trunks; Old Harley Davidson Images; Tables; Chairs; Rare Indian Motor Oil Porcelain; And Other Signs; Rare German War Eagle on Board from Old Porter Brothers in Minot; Old Wes Cummings Jack Knives Shadow Box, Roseglen, ND; Partial Listing.

**Questions or more Information** Call 701-626-2712

# **BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY**

#### **AUTOMOTIVE**

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SELL YOUR CAR in the Northern Sentry. Email your ad copy to nsads@srt.com or call

# Obituary



# April 11, 1950 - February 1, 2018

Well here I sit, about to write the hardest summary I have ever had the pleasure/displeasure of writing. If my Paw Paw were still here. I would've called him and he would've asked me "How are your wings?" and I would've responded "Strangely strong, thanks to you." It is an honor to try and describe such a full and beautiful life, narrowing it down to a few words and some punctuations... it just doesn't seem possible. I will make sure to get the generics in there, to list the places he may have bumped into you, to say his loves and likes and cares. I will list the families left behind with tears in their eyes and a hole in their heart that can never be filled. I will acknowledge the accomplishments that he mastered, against all odds. But none of it seems to be enough! Nothing written will do this man of

integrity, any justice. All that can truly be said is that if you never met my dad then you missed out on one of the most Godly, kind, honest, loving, compassionate, strong, adventurous, silly, handsome, talented and honorable men I have ever had the honor of knowing. He was a force to be reckoned with and he stood his ground. Kennith Lowery is the type of man you are proud to say was part of your world. As some would say, "God broke the mold with this one".

Kennith Ray Lowery passed away February 1, 2018, at the young age of 67, from a Grade III Stage IV Neuroendocrine Tumor. He fought a horrific battle like a true warrior and was finally called home to Jesus at 1 pm on the nose, surrounded by his wife, daughters, two servicemen and one of his favorite songs playing in the background.

That was his death, here is his huge life. Kennith Ray Lowerv (aka Silverback aka Paw Paw aka Pooh Bear aka Kenny), of the Lumbee tribe, was born April 11, 1950 and grew up in Pembroke, North Carolina. He was the high school quarterback and a roller skating champ (seriously). He joined the military and started a lifelong career (40 years) with the USAF when he was just 18 years old. From there he was stationed in Florida, Madrid, Spain (where he met Leslie, his wife of 45 years), South Carolina, the Netherlands, Tennessee, the Philippines, and Minot, ND, where he retired as a Senior Master Sergeant (NCOIC Readiness) in 1995. Most notable among his decorations were the Meritorious Service Medal and Air Force Commendation Medal, both twice awarded, and the National Defense Service Medal, awarded for his service during the Vietnam War and Operations Desert Shield/ Desert Storm. He continued to work in the same department as a civilian and retired from that in 2009 as a GS11. Ken and Leslie then moved to Iowa to take care of his motherin-law (Petie) for a few years, later settling in Minnesota, where Ken became his wife's caretaker. During all of this, he was a Table Tennis Champion, playing for the USAF & later in life becoming a Senior Table Tennis State Champion of MN 65+ in 2016, earning 4 gold medals and a USATT rating of 1241! With all of this in his back

With all of this in his back pocket, Ken's greatest joy in life was sharing the Lord with everyone he encountered. Many times, when he was confided in, he would respond with "Yeah, but what does that have to do with your salvation?" Waxing philosophical was a go-to conversation and it

will be dearly missed. His faith was unshaken even up to his dying breath, the definition of integrity! A close second is the love he had for his family. He was a strong and territorial guardian but at the same time the most gentle (unless you were trying a one-on-one game of anything, then he would crush you) and kind confidant that showered us with love and wisdom, our daddy. His earthly passions were collecting just about anything that was collectible: ball cards, movies, records, clocks, etc.! The excitement of possibly finding an unknown treasure was a top thrill for him. As previously mentioned, Ken was an impressive sportsman. His resume was long and included football, tennis, racquetball, ping pong, roller-skating, bowling, softball, and

weightlifting (among many other things.) To watch him was to watch art in motion. He had a passion for everything he did and wanted to do. I'm not sure how to squish in Neil Diamond, deviled eggs and grapes but they were a big part of his world and there are stories to go with them, and boy was he a phenomenal story teller!

Throughout my dad's battle with cancer, I had the pleasure of meeting people and hearing stories about my Paw Paw that have warmed my heart and brought a smile to my face. The stories that stand out the most are the ones about how respected and admired he was. He mentored SO many people throughout his life and he left this world untarnished in their eyes. This is something that many of us will never achieve and that says

a lot.

Here is the final prayer at his passing that we would like to share with you.

We give you thanks, O God, for all the goodness and kindness that have passed from the life of this your servant Ken into the lives of others:

For a life's task faithfully and honorably discharged; for good humor and gracious affection and kindly generosity; for sadness met without surrender, and weakness endured without defeat.

In the name of your son Jesus Christ, Amen.

We love you Daddy! You will forever be in our hearts, minds & spirits.

Ken was proceeded in death by father, William Henry Lowry, and sister, Doreen Blue.

Survived by wife, Leslie Aileen Lowery; daughters, Mesha Aileen Hair (Jeff Hair) and Tanuel Dawn Lowery (David Eide); grandsons, Jeff Gordon Hair III (Bonai Hair), Christian Ray Hair and Haakon Henry Lowery-Eide.

Surviving family members: Elzetter Lowery (mom), William Lowery (brother) and sisters, Dorita Graham and Dinah Fields.

> In lieu of flowers, Ken would like donations made to the Veterans of Foreign Wars at heroes. vfw.org

> > Memorial will be held Saturday, February 17 at 11 a.m. at Church of the Nazarene, 3343 East Circle Drive NE, Rochester, MN 55906 Military Memorial will be held in the Spring at Fort Snelling Cemetery



### Robotic surgery training program aims at improving patient outcomes

SHIREEN BEDI | AIR FORCE SURGEON GENERAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ALLS CHURCH, Va. (AFNS) -- As the use of surgical robotics increases, the Air robots," said Tyler. "We Force Medical Service is training its surgical teams in the latest technology, ensuring patients have access to the most advanced surgical procedures and best possible outcomes.

To address the demand for training military healthcare providers, Maj. Joshua Tyler, director of robotics at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, helped to establish the Institute for Defense Robotic Surgical Education. The first of its kind in the Air Force, the facility trains Air Force, Army, Navy and Department of Veterans Affairs surgical teams to use state-of-the-art medical robotics. Access to this type of training was previously only available through private industry.

"Robotic surgery is

becoming the standard of care for many specialties and procedures, but Air Force surgeons had limited opportunities to train with surgical needed a way to get surgeons trained without relying solely on the private sector. With the creation of InDoRSE we are able to do just that by using existing facilities and personnel." The InDoRSE

training site addresses challenges unique to military healthcare. The training also uses a team-based model, which helps overcome some of the challenges of implementing robotic surgery in military hospitals.

"Between deployments, operational tempo, and varying surgical volumes at military facilities, it is important that whole teams are fully trained on surgical robotics," explained Tyler. "Also training the nurses and medical technicians, in addition to the surgeon,

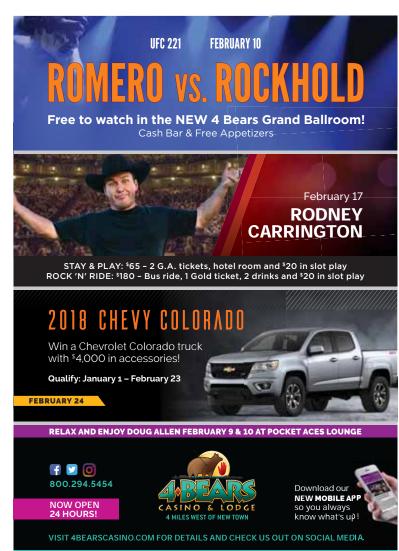
ensures that everyone has tangible experience with the robot, and helps get surgical robotics up and running much quicker."

Robotic surgeries have been shown to deliver better outcomes for patients than traditional surgery. Robotics offers increased mobility for the surgeon, allowing them to make smaller incisions, and gives them better visualization. This precision leads to more successful surgeries and quicker recovery times, which improves patient satisfaction and lowers costs.

"The best outcomes I've ever given my patients came using robotics," explained Tyler. "We see significant decreases in post-surgery pain, surgical site infection rates and length of hospital stay. That quicker recovery means patients get to return to their normal life more quickly."

The InDoRSE facility at Keesler AFB stood up in March 2017. There are already plans to double its training capacity soon. Soon after Keesler AFB's facility opened, Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio set up their own surgical robotics program. Travis AFB in California and Nellis AFB in Nevada are currently working on their surgical robotics acquisition now.

"Use of robotics is increasing in many medical specialties," said Tyler. "Providing opportunities for our whole surgical teams to receive training on this cutting edge technology is vital to the AFMS's focus on continuously improving the patient experience."



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