

teamminot celebrates thanksgiving day of love









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ANGELINA CASAREZ | AFIMSC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

SELMA, Texas (AFNS) --A team of six Air Force men and women bested the Army and Navy to capture the firstever Inter-Service Alpha Warrior Final Battle held at Retama Park on the outskirts of San Antonio Nov. 17.

Capt. Mark Bishop of Air Mobility Command, Capt. Noah Palicia of Pacific Air Forces, Capt. Jennifer Wendland of Air Force Global Strike Command, 1st Lt. Stephanie Frye of PACAF, 1st Lt. John Novotny of AMC, and Senior Airman Stephanie Williams of U.S. Air Forces in Europe completed the course in 2:17:33 to win the championship, a 110lb trophy and armed forces bragging rights for the next year.

Fashioned after the popular American Ninja Warrior TV competitions, Alpha Warrior tested the competitors' strength, coordination and endurance through more than 20 obstacles.

The two-day event featured Air Force finals on Nov. 16 and the inter-service finals the next day. Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center and the Air Force Services Activity hosted the event. In kicking off the finals Nov. 17, Maj. Gen. Brad Spacy, AFIMSC commander, talked about how teammates would pull each other through. "These young Soldiers, Sailors, and Airmen are going to push through this course and they're going to get to a point somewhere where they think they can't make it, and they're going to get through it the end." and their teammates are going to get them through it. In the end, someone will be the winner, but they're all going to win together," he said.

It wasn't too surprising the previous day's Air Force Final Battle first place male and female athletes, Palicia from Yokota Air Base, Japan, and Williams from Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom, came out on top again in the individual category. Palicia finished with the overall fastest time at 16:57.9. Williams finished at

24:03.2. "The competition was really tough but I'm really pumped that the Air Force is able to do this," Palicia said. "It feels incredible to be part of the

first inter-service battle." He said the team walkthroughs and understanding proper technique really helped them complete the obstacles.

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Ryan Bareng, who is no stranger to fitness programs, said the atmosphere motivated him.

"I wasn't only getting motivated by my teammates but actually had Air Force and Army guys rooting me on," he said. "It's been one team-one fight mentality this whole time and it's been inspiring to be alongside our sister services." The finals provided an opportunity for friendly competition while building camaraderie and esprit de corps among the competitors, said Army Sgt. Cameron Edwards. "The event was challenging," Edwards said. "It was the first event that I've been around Navy and Air Force together. It was a very unique time together. We competed not only against --but with -- each other through The program expanded from an Air Force-only event in 2017 to include Army and Navy competitors in its second season.

"This event has been a year in the making," said Col. Donna Turner, AFSVA commander. "Airmen had

to compete at the installationlevel and regionals where the top two male and females were selected to compete in the Air Force Final Battle. The top six male and females moved on to our first interservice battle.

US AIR FURCE

PHA WARRI

"We have a phenomenal partnership with Alpha Warrior, to be able to bring this type of training and tactical fitness to our armed

Capt. Mark Bishop nears the end of the bridge obstacle of the proving rig during the first Inter-service Alpha Warrior Final Battle Nov. 17, 2018, Retama Park, Selma, Texas. U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | DEBBIE ARAGON

forces," she said.

"This is the new way to train. This is functional fitness put into a complex environment where Airmen have to think, as well as be fit and strong. We call it the revolution in fitness and this is the way of the future,"

Spacy said.

For more information about Air Force Alpha Warrior, visit https://www.afimsc.af.mil/ Units/Air-Force-Services-Activity/Air-Force-Alpha-Warrior/ and http://www. myairforcelife.com/Fitness/ alpha-warrior.aspx.



The first Inter-Service Alpha Warrior Battle took place Nov. 17, 2018, at the Alpha Warrior Proving Grounds, Retama Park in Selma, Texas. The Air Force took home the title inter-service champions with a team finish time of 2:17:33

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | SARAYUTH PINTHONG

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Air For ce Academy cadets hel p famil y out of cr a shed car

JENNIFER SPRADLIN | U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY PUBLIC AFFAIRS

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. --

eturning from a weekend ski trip in Breckenridge, Colorado, five Air Force Academy cadets witnessed the vehicle in front of them fishtail, turn perpendicular to the road and slide off the ridge.

Fearing the passengers were injured, Cadets 3rd Class Connor Settle, Joseph Canoy, Karl Boerwinkle, Joel Krause and Antonino Del Rossa decided to act. Krause remained with the car and dialed 911 while the other four grabbed their jackets and moved down the hill to locate the vehicle.

"It was instinctual. We knew they needed someone to help, and there was no one else on the road, so we took the responsibility into our own hands," Del Rossa said.

The cadets could hear the

trapped driver honking his horn as they descended. The vehicle had plummeted more than 100 feet and landed upside down in the wood line and the rear end of the vehicle was collapsed.

"We weren't really scared going down, but when we saw the car, I was pretty nervous about their safety," Canoy said.

The cadets helped the driver relieved to learn the and passenger get free. The driver kept yelling that his daughter was trapped in the back.

Unable to pry the door open, Settle smashed the window to attempt to locate and free her. The daughter was eventually able to crawl forward and escape through the same door as her parents.

"The Academy has exposed us to stressful situations, like basic training, and I think that's why none of us were panicked," Boerwinkle said. Krause similarly

acknowledged exposure to first aid and medevac procedures helped them remain calm throughout the accident response.

The cadets lent their coats to the family and stayed with them until the paramedics arrived. The cadets were

Brig. Gen. Kristin Goodwin (left), commandant of cadets at the Ü.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., chats with a group of cadets on the terrazzo, Nov. 13, 2018. The five cadets seen here helped a family out of an overturned vehicle after it lost traction and slid off the highway near Breck-enridge, Nov. 11, 2018. U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO |

JOSHUA ARMSTRONG

family escaped with what appeared to be minor injuries.

"Once we got back in the car, I said, 'I'm really proud of us, that there was no hesitation,' and I was really happy that as a group of friends were able to work together like that," Canoy said.

Brig. Gen. Kristin Goodwin, the Academy's commandant of cadets, recognized the cadets for their actions in front of the entire Cadet Wing.

"Their actions speak to the caliber of the cadets we have here at the Academy, and how the training they receive here can be just as applicable in the local community

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as in combat zones," she said.

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More than 530 U.S. Air Force Academy cadets from the 2019 graduating class have been matched to attend pilot training pending final qualifications and commissioning. U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | STAFF SGT. CHARLIE RIVEZZO

Morecadets given opportunity to fly

JENNIFER SPRADLIN | U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY PUBLIC AFFAIRS

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. (AFNS) -ore than 530 U.S. Air Force Academy cadets _from the 2019 graduating class have been matched to attend pilot training said Lt. Col. William Hartman, pending final qualifications and commissioning. This is a 26 percent increase over the 2018 class.

"Airmanship is a large part of and running cadet airmanship the Academy experience, and a core part of our identity as a service, and we are proud as an institution to offer more flying opportunities to our cadets," said Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria, Air Force Academy superintendent.

Cadets are exposed to academic, virtual and handson training at the Academy,

with approximately 70 percent participating in gliding, soaring, or powered flight programs at the Academy airfield.

"The Academy is uniquely situated to produce high quality candidates for pilot training," 306th Flying Training Group deputy commander. "With the leadership growth from cadets teaching other cadets, squadrons, and the mentorship from a broad range of military pilots in multiple fields."

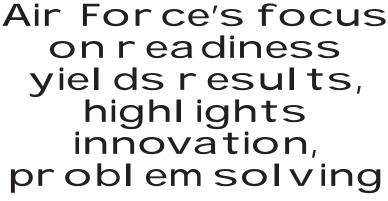
The Academy is also focused on its part in solving the Air Force's ongoing pilot shortage.

The Air Force Academy's **Operations and Analysis** Directorate is working closely with Air Education

and Training Command to produce a percentage of advanced candidates capable of bypassing Initial Flight Training. Additionally, these candidates could move through a truncated version of Undergraduate Pilot Training, further reducing the timeframe for getting new pilots into their specific airframes.

The Academy is planning to add flight-related courses to the sophomore and senior year to help mature pilot training candidates as well.

"The Academy made the case that we could play a role in starting to solve this critical Air Force issue," Silveria said. "We will continue to work with other major commands and Air Force leaders to do our part in solving this national defense challenge.'



SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -rom a distance, the idea – and operational meaning - of

Air Force seems straightforward. Be prepared. Have all

the equipment, training and personnel necessary to accomplish any mission quickly, efficiently and decisively. It means being primed, prepared and available for full-spectrum combat on a moment's notice.

In reality, however, achieving and sustaining readiness across the Air Force's vast operation is a far more complex and nuanced proposition. It also is a highly visible, high volume priority.

"The Air Force is more ready for major combat operations today than we were two years ago," said Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson in a Sept. 17 address to the Air Force Association. "More than 75 percent of our force is combat ready and we're moving the whole force to higher levels of readiness with actions that will play out over the next several years."

Like the other services, the Air Force has long understood how critical readiness is. Recognizing the importance and achieving it, however, are not the same, especially since the Air Force has been operating at highly demanding tempo for more than a decade.

The need for readiness and its importance is also spelled out in the National Defense Strategy.

"The National Defense Strategy recognizes that we are in a more competitive and dangerous international security environment than we have experienced in decades," Wilson told the Senate Armed Services Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee on Oct. 10. "So, the restoration of the force -- the restoration of the readiness of the force to win any fight, any time – has to be job one for all of us."

In her Senate testimony Wilson illustrated in detail how the rhetoric on readiness moves to

are looking to innovate and update the policies and practices that govern readiness.

Ideas for getting there include "readiness" for the U.S. utilizing what Wilson calls "conditions based maintenance" that uses predictive analytics and "sensing on aircraft" to replace parts before they fail so that planes are kept in service longer and without unexpected interruptions which directly affect training programs, certification efforts and other activities that have a direct impact on readiness.

Wilson told senators during the hearing that the new approach is being tested on the B-1 and C-5 aircrafts, yielding promising results and a 30 percent reduction in unscheduled maintenance.

More broadly, the Air Force is looking for ways to expand the use of advanced manufacturing technologies such as 3-D printing to address shortages of some hard-to-get parts and the use of cold spray technology that can be used in some cases to repair parts instead of replacing them.

Getting there and sustaining gains, Air Force planners say, demands innovation, persistence and a degree of good fortune. Budgets and factors outside the Air Force's direct control, for example, will influence the outcome.

It also depends on how "readiness" is defined and measured – another exercise that appears straightforward but which, in truth, is anything but.

"(Department of Denfense's) readiness rebuilding efforts are occurring in a challenging context that requires the department to make difficult decisions regarding how best to address continuing operational demands while preparing for future challenges," said John H. Pendleton, a senior analyst for the General Accountability Office who has studied Air Force readiness, to the Senate subcommittee.

"Determining an appropriate balance between maintaining and upgrading legacy weapon system platforms currently in operational use and procuring platforms able to overcome rapidly advancing future threats. Air Force leaders have stated that striking such a balance is exceptionally difficult," Pendleton said. Air Force leaders are also searching more widely for suggestions on how to change and improve readiness across the service. Last spring 50 Airmen from around the world spent six months examining all facets of readiness and providing specific proposals. Among the questions they confronted were: How should readiness be measured? How can the Air Force ensure the effort has enough resources, both financially, procedurally and in personnel? What is the best way to recover readiness when it



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"Our plan accelerates readiness recovery in these units by aligning resources and manpower. Our goal is for 80 percent of these units to have the right number of properly trained and equipped Airmen by the end of 2020 - six yearsfaster than we projected before we developed our recovery plan," said Wilson at the Senate hearing.

"While we will drive the readiness recovery of these operational squadrons first, the remainder of our 312 operational squadrons will be close behind so that by 2023 we will meet the 80 percent mark for all of our operational squadrons," she said.

A Focus on Innovation and Details

That mandate is one reason Wilson and other senior leaders

Continued on page 11



Team Minot cel ebr ates Thanksgiving Day of Love

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

Team Minot hosts the 49th Annual Thanksgiving Day of Love at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, November 22, 2018. Over 200 senior citizens and retired military members participated in a Thanksgiving feast with various events, such as bingo, door prizes, and the crowning of the oldest male and female participant.





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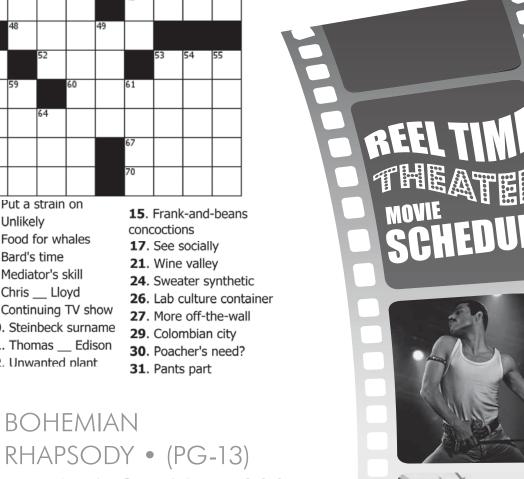
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INGREDIENTS:

- Almond Flour Cheesecake Crust
- 1 1/2 cup Blanched almond flour
- 1/2 cup Vital Proteins Collagen
- Peptides (or whey protein powder)
- 3 tbsp Erythritol
- 1/3 cup Butter (melted)
- 1 tsp Vanilla extract
- 1 tsp Pumpkin pie spice

.....

1/2 tsp Cinnamon

• 1 cup Pumpkin puree

Pumpkin Cheesecake Filling

• 1 1/4 cup Powdered erythritol

• 24 oz Plain cream cheese (softened)

3 large Eggs (at room temperature)

1 tsp Vanilla extract

INSTRUCTIONS:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (177 degrees C). Line the bottom of a 9 in (23 cm) springform pan with parchment paper. (You can also try greasing well.)

To make the almond flour cheesecake crust, stir the almond flour, collagen or protein powder, and erythritol together.

Whisk together the melted butter and vanilla, then stir into the dry ingredients, pressing with the spoon or spatula, until well combined. The dough will be slightly crumbly.

Press the dough into the bottom of the prepared pan. Prick gently with a fork all over. Bake for about 12-15 minutes, until barely golden. Let cool at least 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, beat the cream cheese and powdered sweetener together at low to medium speed until fluffy. Beat in the pumpkin puree, pumpkin pie spice, cinnamon and vanilla. Beat in the eggs, one at a time. (Keep the mixer at low to medium the whole time; too high speed will introduce too many air bubbles, which we don't want.)

Pour the filling into the pan over the crust. Smooth the top with a spatula. (Use a pastry spatula for a smoother top if you have one that fits into the pan.)

Bake for about 40-50 minutes, until the center is almost set, but still jiggly.

Remove the cheesecake from the oven. If the edges are stuck to the pan, run a knife around the edge. (But, do not remove the springform edge just yet.) Cool the cheesecake in the pan on the counter to room temperature, then refrigerate for at least 4 hours (preferably overnight), until completely set. (Do not try to remove the cake from the pan before chilling.)

Serve with whipped cream and/or a sprinkle of cinnamon.

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as we screen "Santa Claus Conquers The Martians" in the Theater Room at Sleep Inn and Suites! This 1964 classic, which is also on the list of the worst movies ever made, stars Pia Zadora (remember her?!) and a bunch of people you've probably never heard of. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the door -- but, if you bring an item from the Domestic Violence Crisis Center's wish list,

you get in for free! For more information check out: Facebook event/ Magic City **Misfits Presents: Santa Claus Conquers The Martians**

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Location: Margie's Art Studio 109 Main St S, Minot. Make this Christmas extra special! Come

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701.837.8555 call immediately. For more information check out: Facebook event/ Blown Glass **Ornaments**

Revital izing squadrons efforts cross borders

PENTAGON, Va. (AFNS) -he Air Force's Revitalizing Squadrons team recently joined together with their Royal Canadian Air Force, or RCAF, counterparts in Ottawa, Canada to collaborate and share best practices in their respective missions to strengthen squadrons across both Air Forces.

"I'm pleased to have met with our allies in the United States Air Force to discuss how they are also approaching the revitalization of their squadrons and to have shared our own work with them," said Lieutenant-General Al Meinzinger, RCAF

commander. "I look forward to continuing our work with them as well as strengthening our own squadrons through retention, training and the continued support of our personnel."

While each of the Air Forces has their own unique challenges, the two share numerous similarities, notably the vision and passion of their senior leaders to continually improve their respective squadron cultures to increase readiness and capability for the future fight.

"Having worked in operational squadrons for years, I know first-hand the drive and dedication of our aviators. They are the

SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

lifeblood of the RCAF and the RCAF can only be successful in the delivery of modern air and space power if we have well-led, robust, healthy and inclusive squadrons. For

that reason, I've made the squadron the focal point of my commander's NAVAIDS (talking points) as that is the point where all our efforts come together into action,"

said Meinzinger. Chief of Staff of the Air Force General David L. Goldfein launched the

Continued on page 10





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newspaper carrier. Here's a little bit about me. I'm in the 8th grade. I enjoy playing violin, and walking my dog Cali. This past summer I entered Cali into the Ward County 4-H dog show, and I won Grand

Champion for showmanship. My parents are Sat. Jason and Elaine Birch. I live on Minot Air Force Base with my parents, my two brothers, two dogs, one cat and one guinea pig.

"We are very proud of Sara, she helped her Brother Jacob with the route he started in 2016. Now she has taken over his route and even added a second!"



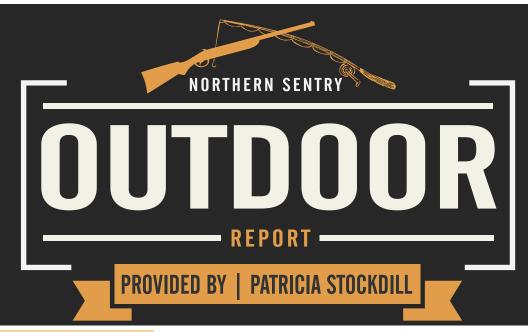
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• Nov. 30: Deer muzzleloader season opens.

• Dec 1: Mountrail Co. Fowlers, Dec 1: Mountrail Co. Fowlers, Delta Waterfowl banquet, Mountrail Co. South Complex, Stanley, 5 p.m.
 Dec. 2: Whitefront goose and High and Low Plains duck, merganser, and coot seasons close

close

• Dec. 3: N.D. Game & Fish Dept. advisory meeting, Mountrail Co. South Complex, Stanley, 7 p.m.

• Dec. 8: High Plains duck, merganser, coot, and snipe seasons open



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*Darkhouse spearfishing season opens at ice-over on legal lakes.

Fishing: *Lake Darling: Upper Souris Nat'l. Wildlife Řefuge, Foxholm: Lots of activity with several anglers accessing the lake at the spillway boat ramp and Grano. Ice depths vary, however.

*Lake Sakakawea elevation, Nov. 27: 1,840.36 feet above mean sea level (MSL); 24,000 cubic feet per second (CFS) Garrison Dam average daily releases.

Devils Lake elevation: 1,448.11 feet above mean sea level (MSL). Stump Lake elevation: 1,448.12

MSL *N.D. Game & Fish Dept. game wardens: A little activity on Lake Metigoshe but anglers advised to limit access to snowmobiles and ATVs yet. Limited walk-on activity on Devils Lake back bays. Not many reports from area lakes other than Antelope Lake producing a few perch. Missouri River tailrace fair for walleye. No activity on the east end of Lake Sakakawea with the main lake open.

*Devils Lake, Ed's Bait Shop, Devils Lake: Some walk-on activity on northern feeder lakes of Devils Lake, as well as the north end of 6-Mile Bay. Watch variable ice conditions.

*Devils Lake, Woodland Resort, Devils Lake: Some perch and walleye activity on Lake Alice and Lake Irvine. Try shallow in the morning for walleye and move deeper for perch.

*Lake Darling, Karma C-Store, Ruthville: Increasing numbers of anglers on Lake Darling and Grano with some nice early season walleye success.

*Lake Metigoshe, Four Seasons, Bottineau: Walk-on activity recommended yet on Lake Metigoshe with some nice early season pike success. A few bluegill mixed in but limited walleye reports yet.

Velva Point. Try jigs and minnows. Lake Sakakawea quiet. Missouri River tailrace fair to good for walleye down river around the first coal vein. Some ling mixed in.

OUTDOOR NOTES:

*Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, 6-Mile Bait & Tackle, Garrison: Look for some pike activity on small area lakes, including Scobey Lake and Lake Gertie. Some walleye activity along the east end embankment but watch for thin ice with flowing water through the culvert. No Lake Sakakawea reports.

*Lake Sakakawea, Scenic 23, New Town: Weather permitting, anglers still finding fair to good open water walleye success in the Van Hook Arm.

*Lake Sakakawea/Missouri River, Scott's Bait & Tackle, Pick City: Limited reports from the Missouri River. No activity on the east end of Lake Sakakawea yet.

*Lake Sakakawea/northwest N.D. lakes, Scenic Sports, Williston: Some walk-on activity for walleye on Long Creek and Tobacco Garden on Lake Sakakawea. Other areas of the lake still have open water. Trenton Lake continues producing crappie success.

*Lonetree WMA area lakes, Harvey: Antelope Lake remains good for perch. Try other area perch lakes, as well, for an early season bite.

*North-central/central N.D. lakes, Towner Hdwe. Hank, Towner: A few anglers testing area lakes but limited reports yet.

Hunting: *Upper Souris NWR, Foxholm Unit II area of the refuge now open to late season upland game hunting. Auto tour route closed until spring. Refuge also open to hunters with muzzleloader deer licenses.

*Deer: Look for continued deer movement yet as bow season

continues. *Predators: Better fur prices bringing more activity this winter.

Upland: Pheasant hunters finding some better bird numbers in pockets now that harvest is generally done. Light snow cover is helping hunters working for pheasants around the Lonetree



RACHEL ALFARO | GALLERY COORDINATOR | TAUBE MUSEUM OF ART

(Minot, ND) he Taube Museum of Art's Main Gallery will feature our annual Festival of the Arts exhibition and sales venue! This year will feature a variety of artists, including: Judy Greenwood, Brent Braniff, Tim Eisenzimmer, Bob Olson, and others.

There will be an Open House held on Friday, November 23rd from 3 pm - 8 pm in conjunction with the Downtown Olde Fashioned Christmas Open House. Refreshments will be served. Bring the whole family and join in the fun!! Local and regional artists will showcase their exciting art, which will make great gifts for the Holiday season. There will be everything from original fine art, prints, cards, jewelry, fiber art, ornaments, to stocking stuffers. All works are available the day of purchase. Here is the chance to purchase original art from established and emerging artists in one convenient location.

The Taube Museum of Art's Lower Gallery will include an array of ceramic works by Linda

Olson, Ben Wilson, Jerica Ward, Hannah Marquardt, Lindsey Jaeg, and Amanda Anderson. Minot State Ceramics will feature both sculptural and functional ceramics created by students and faculty at Minot State University. Since 1990, Linda Olson has taught studio arts as a full professor at MSU. Galleries throughout the region have often exhibited Olson's artworks. Her students works varies from modern to fantastical.

Both exhibitions will run concurrently from Nov. 23-Dec. 23, 2018 at the Taube Museum of Art with an open house on Nov. 23 from 3pm – 8pm.

Museum and Gift Shop business hours: Tues. - Fri. 10:30 am - 5:30 pm, Sat. 11:00 am - 4:00 pm or by special appointment. Contributions are accepted to help the Taube Museum fulfill their mission of enriching lives through the visual arts.

This event is brought to you by the Taube Museum of Art. Please call Rachel Alfaro, Gallery Coordinator at 838-4445 for further information.



DAKOTA RECREATION REPORT & N.D BIG GAME RECORDS BOOK: (WWW DANCINGPRAIRIEARTS. COM)

*Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Cenex Bait & Tackle, Garrison: Some walleye activity on the east end of Lake Audubon, including 9-Mile Bay, east end embankment, Nelson Bay, and

WMA *Waterfowl: Good numbers of Canada geese remain on the open water of the east end of Lake

around the Van Hook Arm.

Sakakawea and the midsection

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CROSS BORDERS from page 8

revitalizing the squadron efforts to improve the beating heart of the service, the squadron, where Air Force culture resides, innovation is born and where Airmen succeed in mission execution. While the effort is now well into the implementation phase with programs being implemented by commanders and Airmen, the process of learning is continuous.

"The special connection the U.S. Air Force has with our Canadian counterparts enables us to learn from each other's programs, share best practices and accelerate each of our efforts to achieve a greater focus on the mission, strengthen our leadership and esprit de corps and increase our family support. The week was packed with extremely productive collaboration between the teams that will make an immediate impact in our forces," Colonel Rusty Williford, U.S. Air Force **Revitalizing Squadrons** director.

The RCAF is experiencing similar pressures as the Air Force, stemming from the growing commercial airline industry and robust global economy, causing increased competition to recruit and retain highly-skilled talent between the military and civilian sectors. The RCAF effort to focus on the squadron and other tactical-level units is the centerpiece of a range of programs designed to maximize retention of the hard-earned experience and qualifications of its aviators.

"The RCAF faces attraction and retention challenges similar to our U.S. (Air Force) partners, so working together this past week provided a tremendous opportunity to share best practices and lessons learned," Colonel Don McLeod, RCAF Retention coordinator. "The discussions were extremely valuable and have paved the way for more engagement in many different areas."

The initial meeting between the teams is just the beginning of the collaboration between the allies.

"It is always valuable to get an outside view on our efforts that can positively impact our Airmen and revitalize squadrons," Chief Master Sergeant John Hover, Revitalizing Squadrons chief.



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^r Trinity on Track in 2017 with New Medical Complex Plans, Minot Daily News, 1/1/2018

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AIR FORCE FOCUS from page 4

slips?

No matter how the reforms play out, the complexity surrounding readiness means there will be challenges. They include accommodating the years-long timeline necessary to train pilots and maintenance personnel who must learn the intricacies of flying and caring for aircraft that are a complex blend of vastly different ages, high-tech materials and inter-connected systems all controlled by millions of lines of software.

Accommodating Hard Numbers and Unknowns

The numbers – and implications – add up fast. Each F-35, for example, demands 20 maintainers. That's why Air Force leaders have paid special attention to closing the shortage of active-duty maintainers. To date a gap that once numbered 4,000 Airmen in 2016 has been reduced to 400 and is expected to be erased entirely by December.

Similar effort and attention is being directed at boosting the number of pilots. By the end of fiscal year 2019, the Air Force expects to train 1,300 pilots, compared to 1,160 in 2017. By fiscal year 2022 the number will grow to 1,500 where it is expected to remain into the future.

Beyond specific benchmarks, bringing the Air Force to readiness requires adapting to fluctuating funding and shifting operational imperatives that are a result of the world's changing geo-politics and threats.

It must take into account more pedestrian but equally important concerns that include providing health care and housing to 318,000 active-duty Airmen as well as incorporating Guard and Reserve of differing ages, genders and needs spread across all corners of the world. Fuel, food, administrative support and logistics must be reliably delivered. Opportunities for continuing education and professional growth are necessary along with ensuring quality of life at a time when the Air Force has been engaged in active combat operations for 25 continuous years.

The effort to achieve readiness must take into account that any solution by itself triggers a host of issues that must be addressed.

In 2016, the number of students being trained as

aircraft maintainers at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, surged from 3,400 to 4,900 within a single year – much faster than the staffing and resourcing processes are designed to accommodate. That meant a 40 percent increase in workload had to be absorbed without additional staff, equipment or other training resources.

In practical terms, where there were once perhaps 30 students learning to change a C-130 tire, there were now 55, with no additional instructors, classroom space or training aircraft. In some cases, the answer was moving to shift work; during the heart of the surge, the 82nd Training Wing at Sheppard AFB was training across three shifts for many of its 900 courses.

Beyond training itself, it also meant increased workload for support forces – a 40 percent increase in students meant a 40 percent increase in reassignment orders, medical and dental exams, security clearance processing and a host of other functions, all without immediate increases in staffing.

Adding 40 percent more maintainers now means 40 percent more Airmen who will need upgrade training as they reach higher rank.

The 982nd Training Group based at Sheppard AFB operates 48 field training detachments embedded with maintenance groups at Air Force bases on three continents. The units deliver Air Education and Training Commandmanaged, curriculum-driven courses primarily in support of aircraft maintainers. Importantly, the courses include 5- and 7- level upgrade courses, specialty courses and transition courses such as those required to move from an F-16 wing to an F-15 wing.

The group is already working through AETC and individual functional communities to prepare for that coming, second surge – ensuring there are enough qualified instructors at the right locations, teaching the right courses with the best possible equipment and resources to continue to grow these new maintainers.

Despite the complexity, countless "moving parts" and a collection of "known unknowns" such as budgets and evolving threats, the focus on readiness is – and will remain – a high priority.



JB Charleston executes full-spectrumreadiness exercise

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JOSHUA R. MAUND | JOINT BASE CHARLESTON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

JOINT BASE CHARLESTON, S.C. (AFNS)

pproximately 600 Airmen from the 628th Air Base Wing, 437th Airlift Wing and 315th Airlift Wing teamed up for a total force rapid mobility exercise Nov. 13-17, 2018.

The exercise focused on total force readiness, mobilization, base defense and quick-response airlift capabilities, according to Col. Rockie Wilson, 628th Mission Support Group commander and leader of one of the exercise's simulated air expeditionary groups.

"Based upon today's global climate, we have to be able to prepare, mobilize and deploy our forces on a large scale to respond anywhere in the world," said Wilson. "Instead of deploying individually to support counterinsurgency operations as we have done for the past 15 to 20 years, this is a large scale, full-spectrum readiness response exercise."

To keep the training as realistic as possible, participants from across Joint Base Charleston received the equipment, weapons and specialty uniform items they would use in real-world situations. The simulated scenarios enabled senior base leaders and subject matter experts to ensure the readiness of JB Charleston's quickresponse capabilities and analyze ways to maximize their effectiveness.

"Practicing these types of plans is extremely important to make sure we are constantly trained and ready to go," said Tech. Sgt. John Christopher, 628th Civil Engineer Squadron structural NCO in charge. "It has also given us an opportunity to logistically see how long it would take us to mobilize and gives us a chance see how our plans and processes can become more efficient.

"As NCOs, the more knowledge we can pass down to our younger Airmen, the better prepared we will be as a fighting force for the future," he added.

Conducting exercises with the incorporation of the reserve element helps ensure continuity between components. The result is an effective total force that is able deliver mobility in a timely manner with minimal setbacks.

"Being able to test and demonstrate our abilities as a total force is definitely a step in the right direction," said Col. Steve Lanier, 315th Operations Group commander Ist Lt. Paul Underwood, 628th Civil Engineer Squadron explosive ordnance disposal flight commander, inspects an unexploded ordnance during an exercise Nov. 16, 2018, at Joint Base Charleston, S.C. To keep the training as realistic as possible, participants from across JB Charleston received the equipment, weapons and specialty uniform items they would use in real-world situations. The simulated scenarios enabled senior base leaders and subject matter experts to ensure the readiness of JB Charleston's quick response capabilities.

> U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO| STAFF SGT. WILLIAM OBRIEN

and exercise air expeditionary group commander. "This allowed us to sharpen our abilities and strengthen our confidence in order to complete any mission."

After the long week of planning and execution, the base and its leaders learned a lot about their force. Many units pulled 12-hour shifts in order to complete their missions.

"I'm proud of what we have accomplished during the training," said Wilson. "The fact that all three wings came together and performed at the level that they have is a win in and of itself. The Airmen in all three wings did a great job executing the duties that they were tasked with and I look forward to more opportunities like this in the future."





380th EMDG: Providing Care to the Fight

CHARLES POPE | SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

AL DHAFRA AIR BASE, United Arab Emirates (AFNS) -he 380th Air **Expeditionary Wing** consists of four groups executing the warfighting mission. One of these groups, the 380th Expeditionary Medical Group, provides various medical care and services supporting more than 3,500 deployed personnel at Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates.

To achieve success, they are focused on evolving as a highreliability organization by embedding innovation and Continuous Process Improvement at every level. By strengthening host nation and coalition partnerships, they increase efficacy and maximize the extension of medical benefits to all through enabling and empowering Phantom Medics through deliberate professional leadership development. "As an Expeditionary Medical Group, our mission is to support defense of the region and delivery of airpower by providing high-quality, highly reliable trusted care," said Maj. Brandon Cochran, 380th Expeditionary Medical Group administrator. "Our aim is to optimize warfighter performance through proactive and adaptive medicine. The 380th EMDG is staffed and prepared to support urgent or emergency medical needs as well as support the flight medicine enterprise of the 380 AEW." There are three distinct flights executing the 380th EMDG

mission. Each features a unique and tailored skillset focused on the delivery of trusted care to Al Dhafra AB.

The Aeromedical-Dental Flight consists of Dental, Public Health, Bioenvironmental Engineering, Flight Medicine, and Aerospace Medical Support. With a broad and diverse capability set, the AMDF flight provides limited comprehensive dental care, disease surveillance and trending, sanitation and hygiene education, inspection services and industrial

"MY JOB IS IMPORTANT BY MAKING SURE THAT EVERYONE **IS READY TO** PERFORM THEIR JOBS AT THE

380th EMDG public health craftsman. "We get out there and see what different occupations are doing, what they're studied for and how they're applying it. As medical, I believe we get to see more than any other shop because we see the health perspective, and the job perspective along with the overall perspective of readiness and how it affects us."

The Medical Operations Flight consists of Clinical Operations and Specialty Services. The Clinical Operations element provides

routine and urgent warfighter care to include immunizations while the Specialty Services element provides both Mental Health and Physical Therapy services. MDOF is our point-ofcare flight, 90 percent of patient interactions are accomplished by the Airmen of this flight. This flight also supports on base response missions; such as injury, fire emergency services, and Explosive Ordinance Disposal detonation support. "My job is important by making sure that everyone is ready to perform their jobs at the best of their abilities," said Senior Airman Stephanie Poe-Orange, 380th EMDG aerospace medical technician. "If I can help people every day then it's a successful day to me" The Medical Support Flight consists of Support Services and Ancillary Services. The Support Services element consists of Medical Administration, Medical Logistics and Biomedical Repair. Often behind the scenes, these Airmen facilitate TRICARE liaison services, off-base or network referral care management, claims payment, aeromedical evacuation coordination, medical information systems support, and unit travel and readiness services. They also provide medical supply and equipment repair, medical equipment maintenance, medical facility management, and management of medical War Reserve Material.

"You can't fly without supply, so if we don't receive, procure, or acquisition items the warfighters needs then the mission stops,' said Master Sgt. Camela LaCoste, 380th EMDG medical logistics noncommissioned officer in charge. "We have more than 650,000 items at the Medical Logistics Hospital, we're proud of that and it's at 100 percent accuracy. We can immediately grab items and ship them out or distribute them on the spot."

The Ancillary Services element consists of Pharmacy, Radiology and Laboratory services. This element provides highly specialized diagnostic and therapeutic capabilities that are critical in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury. "At the end of the day, we support the warfighters," added LaCoste. "We support the Wing, Groups and down-range members with lifesaving supplies, and I really like having a part in that process.' Phantom Medics are engaged across the wing. Mental Health regularly participates in personal improvement seminars as part of the Al Dhafra AB Coalition for Awareness, Response and Empowerment team. Furthermore, the Public

Senior Airman Stephanie Poe-Orange, 380th Expeditionary Medical Group aerospace medical technician, checks the blood pressure of a patient at Al Dhafra Air Base, United Arab Emirates, Nov. 21, 2018. The Medical Operations Flight consists of Clinical Operations and Specialty Services.

> U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | TECH. SGT. DARNELL T. CANNADY

Health and Bioenvironmental Engineering sections provide key on-the-job training, sanitation and hygiene, confined space safety, hazard materials program and occupational health in their work areas to ensure maximum mission accomplishment with the minimum exposure to health risks for Airmen.

The 380th EMDG also regularly supports wing events such as the DÂNCON 25K March, EOD Detonations, Fire Emergency Response, military ceremonies and many others. "Just as maintenance is necessary on all aircraft, and Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance, and weapons system to produce maximum lethality, so is maintenance and care necessary to achieve optimal performance in the human weapons system," said Cochran. "(Al Dhafra AB) needs every Airman and Soldier functioning at their best to adapt to the sheer volume and velocity of the mission in an ever-changing expeditionary environment. It's our job, as Phantom Medics, to ensure they are physically and mentally prepared to meet this challenge."

BEST OF THEIR ABILITIES."

- SENIOR AIRMAN STEPHANIE POE-ORANGE, 380TH EMDG AEROSPACE MEDICAL TECHNICIAN

shop training and surveillance. They also provide Chemical-Biological-Radiological-Nuclear response, air and water quality testing and radiation safety and noise dosimetry. Furthermore, they provide flight medicine and aerospace medical support by fatigue management, flyer care and emergency response, occupational health, and aeromedical evacuation support.

"I think that is the best reality," said Master Sgt. Lolita Reels,

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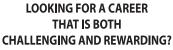
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TODAY

- Last day to submit entries for the Air Force Art Contest at
- www.myairforcelife.com/artcontest
- Barre, 0600, Fitness Center
- TAP GPS Workshop, 0730-1630, held at the Education Center, hosted by A&FRC
- Torch Club, 1600-1700, Youth Center
- Friday Fun Members Buffet, 1630-1830, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Yoga, 1700, Fitness Center
- Keystone Meeting, 1700-1800, Youth Center Club Members \$\$\$ Drawing, 1730-1830, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Kids Night Out Team Minot Holiday Social, 1745-2200, Child Development Center and Youth Center
- Zumba, 1800, Fitness Center
- Mixed Fun League, 1830, Rough Rider Lanes
- Karaoke Night, 2100, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Lights & Strikes Bowling, 2100-2400, Rough Rider Lanes

- TUESDAY
- Run 4 Fitness, 0600, Fitness Center
- Pre-Separation Counseling, 0800-1130, A&FRC

- Cycle, 1230, Fitness Center
- EFMP-FS Peer Support Group, 1630-1730, A&FRC
- Family Fun Night, 1700-2100, Rough Riders Pizza
 - EDNESDAY
- Last day to register for the King of the Court Challenge at the Fitness Center
- Registration opens for Holiday Wreath Class at the Arts & Crafts Center
- Circuit Training, 0600, Fitness Center
- Club Member Benefit, 0900-2000, Rough Rider Lanes

- Pre-Deployment/Remote Readiness Training, 1300-1400, A&FRC

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0. Humphries, stationed at Minot AFB, N.D., recently passed away. Anyone with a claim for or against her estate should step forward at this time by contacting Lt Eric Kilgore, reachable by telephone at (559) 960-8194, or by email

- Zumba, 1800, Fitness Center

- Story Time, 1030, Base Library
- Run 4 Fitness, 1145, Fitness Center
- Brown Bag Book Talks, 1200, Base Library
- Minot Public School Early Release Day, 1300, Youth Center

7 December

- Barre, 0600, Fitness Center
- Career Exploration & Planning Workshop, 0800-1600, held at the Education Center, hosted by A&FRC
- King of the Court Challenge, 1130, Fitness Center
- Torch Club, 1600-1700, Youth Center
- Friday Fun Members Buffet, 1630-1830, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Gentle Yoga, 1700, Fitness Center • Zumba, 1800, Fitness Center
- Keystone Meeting, 1700-1800, Youth Center
- Club Members \$\$\$ Drawing, 1730-1830, Rockers Bar & Grill • Give Parents a Break, 1800-2200, Child Development Center and Youth Center
- Mixed Fun League, 1830, Rough Rider Lanes
- Masquerade Ball, 1900-2100, Youth Center
- #WEOWNFRIDAY Teen Event, 2000, Youth Center
- Karaoke Night, 2100, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Lights & Strikes Bowling, 2100-2400, Rough

- Barre, 0915, Fitness Center
- Game Day, 1000-1930, Base Library

- Carry In Your Workout Shoes begins today at the Fitness center • Winter Reading Program begins at the Base Library
- Zumba, 0900, Fitness Center
- Youth Bowling League, 1000, Rough Rider Lanes
- Bowl the Night Away with "Lights & Strikes", 2000-2400, Rough Rider Lanes

SUNDAY

SATURDAY

- NFL Sunday Ticket Football Frenzy & NFL Shop \$50 Gift Card Giveaway, 1130-1800, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Family Zumba, 1400, Fitness Center
- Yoga, 1500, Fitness Center

MONDAY

- Tactical Fit Express, 0600, Fitness Center
- Reintegration Briefing, 1300-1400, A&FRC
- Digital Literacy Club, 1630-1730, Youth Center
- Zumba, 1730, Fitness Center
- Battle Rig Fitness, 1800, Fitness Center
- Knitting Club, 1800, Base Library
- Key Spouse Monthly Meeting, 1800-1930, held at the PDC, hosted by A&FRC
- Yoga Strong, 1830, Fitness Center

- 4-H Club, 1600-1700, Youth Center
- Mug Club Special, 1600-1800, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Digital Literacy Club, 1630-1730, Youth Center
- Boss & Buddy \$1 off Draft Special, 1630-1830, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Members Wind Down Wednesday Buffet, 1630-1830, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Quarterly Airmen Birthday Meal, 1700-1830, Dakota Inn Dining Facility
- Sauadron Extramural League, 1730, Rough Rider Lanes
- Yoga, 1830, Fitness Center

THURSDAY

- Last day to register for Family Paint Class at the Arts & Crafts Center
- Tactical Fit Express, 0600, Fitness Center
- Career Exploration & Planning Workshop, 0800-1600, held at the Education Center, hosted by A&FRC
- Barre, 0915, Fitness Center
- High Performance Nutrition Class, 1200-1245, Fitness Center
- Cycle, 1230, Fitness Center
- Reintegration Briefing, 1300-1400, A&FRC
- Fitness Hour, 1600-1700, Youth Center
- Members 2-4-1 Appetizer Night, 1700-1900, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Olympic Weight Lifting, 1730, Fitness Center
- Hour of Code, 1800, Base Library
- Zumba, 1830, Fitness Center
- NFL Thursday Night Football Frenzy, 1900, Rockers Bar & Grill

1 December

- Zumba, 0900, Fitness Center
- Powerlifting Competition, 0930, Fitness Center
- Youth Bowling League, 1000, Rough Rider Lanes
- Barre, 1000, Fitness Center
- Nutcracker Fantasy, 1300, Base Library
- Family Paint Class, 1300, Arts & Crafts Center
- UFC Fight Night UFC 231: Holloway vs Ortega, prelims begin at 1900 and main card at 2100, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Bowl the Night Away with "Lights & Strikes", 2000-2400, Rough Rider lanes

Rough Riders Pizza Special December Special – Shrimp Scampi Pizza

A creamy base of alfredo sauce coated with mouth-watering mozzarella & parmesan cheeses, topped off with spinach, herbs, and shrimp. Small: \$11 Med: \$15 Large: \$17- Members receive \$2 off any pizza Try it on a Panino! \$8.25 meal — includes side & drink

The B-Fifty Brew Drink Special <u>December Drink of the Month – Cupcake Delight Frappucino</u> A tasty drink combining whole milk, vanilla bean powder, and a delicious twist of strawberry, raspberry, and toffee nut syrups. Topped off with whipped cream and colorful sprinkles. Try yours hot or iced!

Auto Hobby September Specials

November 16-30 Tire Balancing Special - Regular Price: \$6.50 per tire-Special Price: \$4.50 per tire!

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