

northern sentry

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WHATS INSIDE THIS WEEK:



NORTH DAKOTA DELEGATION REPRESENTED AT MINUTEMAN III LAUNCH

A6



SENATE CONFIRMS ALLVIN TO BE AIR FORCE'S 23RD CHIEF OF STAFF

A7



NEW FCC PROVIDER RIBBON CUTTING

C1



U.S. Air Force Col. Benjamin Jensen, 5th Bomb Wing deputy commander, and U.S. Air Force Col. George L. Chapman, 91st Missile Wing deputy commander, sign a proclamation marking the start of Native American Heritage Month at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Nov. 1, 2023. Native American Heritage Month was signed into law in 1990, and the U.S. Air Force has honored this tradition by paying respects to past and present Native American Airmen. Native Americans have participated in U.S. military actions for more than 200 years. In the 20th Century, five Native Americans have received the Medal of Honor.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | SENIOR AIRMAN CALEB S. KIMMELL



INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

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Directors from National Laboratories immerse in Global Strike mission

CAPT. JOSHUA THOMPSON, AIR FORCE GLOBAL STRIKE COMMAND

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, La. --

Minot Air Force Base, N.D., and Whiteman AFB, Mo., hosted senior officials representing national laboratories and academic institutions, providing them the opportunity to immerse with the mission and weapons systems of the nuclear enterprise, Oct. 17-19, 2023.

Maj. Gen. Jason Armagost, 8th Air Force and Joint-Global Strike

Operations Center commander, led the laboratory leaders on the three-day tour.

"Throughout this trip, the most important thing you will notice is the Airmen," said Armagost, speaking to the group at the beginning of the trip. "They enable and operate these legacy systems by ensuring they are well-maintained and remain a credible strategic deterrent."

After an overview of the command at Barksdale AFB, the group departed for Minot. To further immerse in AFGSC's mission, a KC-46 Pegasus with the 911th Air Refueling Squadron provided transportation between the bases.

Once at Minot, AFGSC's chief scientist Dr. Donna Senft emphasized the role the laboratories play in modernizing the nuclear enterprise.

"We're looking for your insights and perspectives," Senft said. "How can the institutions you represent identify improvements and work toward solutions for the benefit of AFGSC?"

The directors toured both the 5th Bomb Wing and 91st Missile Wing, receiving mission briefs from both wings' leadership teams and touring the weapons storage areas, a B-52 Stratofortress, and training facilities for missileers and missile maintainers.

The group then traveled to

Whiteman. During each leg of the trip, the KC-46 refueled training sorties for B-52 Stratofortress or B-2 Spirit bombers, providing an up-close look at the crucial tanker mission that enables bomber fleets' global reach.

"Our bombers, in concert with Air Mobility Command tankers, provide mobility and global power to make our mission happen," said Armagost.

At Whiteman, the immersion dove into the day-to-day operations that support the B-2 Spirit mission as the world's only stealth bomber aircraft, including getting to tour the aircraft in person and speak with aircrew about factors that could increase their ability to execute the mission.

The trip concluded with the tour returning to Barksdale via the same KC-46.



Directors and leaders representing national laboratories from across the U.S. interact with munitions maintenance Airmen near inert training munitions at Minot Air Force Base during a tour of Air Force Global Strike Command installations, October 18, 2023. Gen. Thomas Bussiere, commander of AFGSC, invited the directors for an immersion in the weapons systems and mission of the command while also getting to interact with the Airmen who operate two-thirds of the nuclear enterprise. As critically important partners of AFGSC, the laboratories develop technologies crucial to the U.S. and its future forces.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | CAPT. JOSHUA THOMPSON

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MINOT CELEBRATES NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



Tech. Sgt. Pashala Lewis, 5th Civil Engineer Squadron NCO in charge of optimization and member of the Native American Heritage Month committee, speaks at the opening ceremony for Native American Heritage Month at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Nov. 1, 2023.



U.S. Air Force Col. George L. Chapman, 91st Missile Wing deputy commander, provides remarks at the opening ceremony for Native American Heritage Month at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Nov. 1, 2023. Native Americans have participated in U.S. military actions for more than 200 years. In the 20th Century, five Native Americans have received the Medal of Honor.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS
SENIOR AIRMAN CALEB S. KIMMELL

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CONTACTUS

Ted Bolton
 Publisher | Advertising
 701-240-5039
 bagroup@srt.com

Rod Wilson
 Business Development | Marketing
 sentrysales@srt.com

GRAPHIC DESIGN BY
Nikki Greening
 nsads@srt.com

**MINOT AIR FORCE BASE
 PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Chief of PA
 Capt. Christopher Thibeaux-Moore

NCOIC of PA
 Technical Sgt. Rusty Frank

**NCOIC of Command
 Information**

Tech. Sgt. Ryann Holzapfel

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5th Bomb Wing Commander:

Col. Daniel S. Hoadley

**5th Bomb Wing Deputy
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Col. Benjamin Jensen

**91st Missile Wing
 Commander:**

Col. Kenneth C. McGhee

**91st Missile Wing Deputy
 Commander:**

Col. George L. Chapman

NEWS SUBMISSIONS

Northern Sentry Office
 nsads@srt.com | 701.839.0946

MAFB Public Affairs Office

v35bw.pa@us.af.mil
 701.723.6212

MAIL

315 South Main Street, Suite 202
 Minot, ND 58701

VIEW ONLINE

www.northern-sentry.com
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It's My Privilege

I often sit in line for a couple of minutes when entering Minot Air Force Base through the main gate. The few minutes gives me an opportunity to think back to the first time I entered this gate some 45 years ago, a young journalist working for a local TV station assigned to do a story about an event on base.

Those who work for the media are asked to stop at the Visitor's Center, fill out paperwork and meet with an assigned member of Public Affairs who will then accompany you during your time on base. I can only describe the next few hours as one of those WOW! experiences. First, there was the "Only The Best Come North" sign above the guard house, followed by a view of B-52's and KC 135 tankers sitting on the alert pads. My guide explained the B-52's are ready to go at a moment's notice. Air crews were housed in the alert area 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

My story was actually with the 5th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, the Spittin Kittens, and the car slowed down so I could see the 2 mascots, Canadian Lynx appropriately named Spittin' and Kitten. From where we were parked I could see several F106 Delta Darts. My first story on Minot Air Force Base had now become a Super WOW!

Although I cannot remember exactly what I covered that day, the story took place in one of the hangars of the 5th Fighter Interceptor Squadron. The interview and subsequent gathering of B-Roll (Support footage of planes, etc.) took about an hour. After packing up I was given a quick tour of the rest of the base, including the area where the 91st Missile Wing had their training and maintenance vehicles. "Someday we will take you down into our training silo" my PA guide said. I remember saying something like, "Sure, I can hardly wait."

When I arrive back at the newsroom I walked straight into the news director's office and told him that if there was ever an opportunity to do a story on Minot Air Force Base, I would volunteer. Yep, the bug had bit me. My passion for stories about Minot Air Force Base has not waned at all. Even though there was almost 25 years where I was not part of a news team I still had a few opportunities to be on base.

What brings my story into focus this week was a recent "fireside chat" with Col's Hoadley and McGhee. As a reporter who spends quite a bit of time on base, I am able to cover stories about the men and women who serve our country in the U.S.

**northern
 sentry**

**A VIEW FROM
 OUR SIDE**
 ROD WILSON



Air Force. Even more than that are the stories about the professionals who also work to help the families of those assigned to Minot. In the 60 minutes Col Hoadley and Col McGhee were in the studio, they talked about dedication; they talked about sacrifice and then they talked about families. The job of protecting our nation is still a 24/7 job. Those assigned to the 91st Missile Wing and 5th Bomb Wing can experience lengthy times away from home. How a base like Minot deals with childcare is certainly unique. Reporter Erin Beene will begin a series of stories that focus on childcare at Minot AFB. Look for her stories in upcoming issues of the Northern Sentry.

On Saturday we also observe Veteran's Day. In this paper is the Northern Sentry's Tribute to Service, stories about those who have served their country. This is certainly not to diminish the importance of those who are serving on Minot AFB today. We are reminded of their presence

every time we see a B-52 overhead or when the Minot AFB Honor Guard presented the colors at a local community event. We watch as Minuteman III maintenance personnel move both warheads and missiles with helicopters flying vigilantly above the caravans. And probably most important, we share our community with the many personnel and families stationed at Minot AFB.

Only The Best Come North...and only the very best leave after their experience in Minot, or as I was reminded recently, "A growing number of us love Minot, and choose to retire here."

So in the Northern Sentry it is my privilege to share stories of those who served, and those who are serving today. Be sure to thank those who serve. Not only on Veteran's Day, but every day. It's what I do each time I pass through the front gate; for I truly believe that only the Best Come North.

BEST KEPT SECRET

Ever been a guest of The Lord and Lady of an English Manor? The Minot Chamber Chorale invites you to participate in their annual Renaissance Feast. The feast takes place on Friday December 1st and Saturday December 2nd at the Regency Event Center in Downtown Minot. Tickets are available on the Minot Chamber Chorale web site minotchamberchorale.org. Your evening includes a royal feast, entertainment and a lot of fun. Get your tickets today!

TODAY'S CHUCKLE

A housewife complained that someone broke into her parked car and stole \$50.00 worth of groceries from her glove compartment.



**UPSIDE DOWN
 UNDER**
 MARVIN BAKER

We have some friends who grew up in northeastern North Dakota, went to college at the University of North Dakota, then worked in Grand Forks for many years.

Then, the husband got a job in Minneapolis that paid far better than anything he could have ever imagined in Grand Forks or Fargo. The wife was able to work from home after moving to the Twin Cities.

For the past seven years, these two, who don't have any children, are set. Their salaries together total a half million dollars a year, they bought a huge house in an upscale suburb, have seasons tickets to the Minnesota Twins and Minnesota Wild professional sports franchises and have purchased the latest and greatest vehicles and motorcycles.

This all sounds really good, right? And it is. One has a dream job and the other is content in hers. Why would this scario even be questioned, right?

Their house is big and has several bedrooms so guests are always welcome and are treated like royalty when visiting. We've made

Is outmigration the answer?...

several visits over the years and I can tell you without exaggeration that as soon as we walk in the door, I'm handed a beer and my wife a cocktail to wind down. Then, we're treated to an incredible meal.

The next morning, no matter what time I wake up, there's a fresh pot of hot coffee on the counter.

Their friends and family members from northeastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota have visited as well. It's especially evident when the UND hockey team is playing in the Twin Cities, or a family member has a high school event in the cities.

This couple, who both came from small towns, have done quite well for themselves and we can't fault

them for that. They both work hard and are 100 percent focused on their respective careers. But they also play hard.

They'll take a weekend to Las Vegas to gamble, get a flight to Tampa to watch the Twins play the Rays in Tropicana Field, go to Nashville and a whim to the Grand Ole Opry.

Many times wealth and/or fame will go to people's heads. Not these two. They remain the same boy/girl they were growing up in small-town North Dakota. Although gaining a little weight and getting some gray hairs, they are the same people, with the same demeanor as they had in high school.

That's the good news. So what

could possibly be bad news here?

I'm not a psychologist, but it appears to me that this man and wife are about the loneliest people in Minneapolis or St. Paul. It's not something they ever talk about, but it is certainly implied.

One thing is they are always talking about family members back in Grand Forks. This is in conversations every time we visit. If a UND game is coming up, they'll talk about how friends are coming to visit a couple of months out.

The thing is, other than us and UND hockey fans, they don't get a lot of social interaction. In fact, I don't think they like their neighbors because of comments that have been made.

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Those Darned North Dakota Winters



SLICE OF LIFE
KIM FUNDINGSLAND

Fall. Thud. Winter.
North Dakota just went from a very pleasant fall season to a heavy dose of winter in just a few hours. People who were riding bicycles or raking leaves, and children who were joyously jumping in them, turned to winter clothing and shoveling snow almost overnight. Tennis courts and golf courses closed. Darn.

Winter means slippery streets and sidewalks, warming up vehicles, frustration when cars won't start, fewer hours of daylight, and flu season. Toss in shoveling, snow blowing, cars stuck in drifts or unable to navigate uphill, piles of snow blocking visibility at intersections, travel advisories, blizzard warnings, cold fingers, toes, ears, and the drift piles higher.

But wait just a doggone minute, despite all that, winter is also a time enjoyed by many. There's cross country skiing, hiking, skating, sledding, ice fishing, snowmobiling, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Bottineau Winter Park is a beautiful place for winter outings with snowboarding and downhill skiing. Ah, better.

However ugly the arrival of winter, and this year was certainly a vivid example, there's nothing that can be done about it. We all

complain about it, at least a little, but no amount of complaining can change the fact that it'll be winter tomorrow too.

North Dakota born; I've experienced more winters than I care to admit. I recall many days of shoveling snow from the front door to the sidewalk with the snow on either side chest high or higher. I also remember hunting the first weekend of January when the weather was so nice that all that was needed was a warm shirt. Winter is a weird season. To steal a line from Forrest Gump, it is like a box of chocolates because you never know what you are going to get.

Despite its brash arrival, this winter might not live up to its opening act. The nation's best weather prognosticators say a strengthening El Nino almost certainly means a warmer than usual winter with less than usual snowfall for North Dakota. That won't equate to great weather everyday this winter, storms and temperature drops are inevitable

but, overall, the outlook favors a "mild" winter. Exactly what mild will look like I cannot say, but I like the optimism.

Warm winter days, temperatures near 30 degrees and light wind, are gifts to be enjoyed. If El Nino behaves as expected, we should have plenty of them. Do not fret, storm lovers, we will have our share of those too. Yes, winter in North Dakota brings a little of something for everybody.

I think of winter as the storm before the calm and take advantage of as many breaks in the storm that I can. Enjoy the winter journey. Rent a cabin or a yurt. Watch a snowfall while drinking a cup of hot chocolate. Build a snowman. Go sledding or skiing. Take in a hockey or basketball game. Attend a winter festival.

One of my favorite wintertime activities is taking my dog for a run on a frozen lake. Of course, I pick days when the temperature isn't too cold or the wind blowing too hard. Yes, in North Dakota you really can walk on water!



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the northern sentry Salute

TSgt Jennifer Winn



5th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron
Hometown: Coos Bay, Oregon

Technical Sergeant Winn has been in the Air Force for 18 years, and calling Minot AFB home for the past for 5 years. She and her family enjoy spending time outdoors and participating in various seasonal activities. She recently earned her Bachelors in Healthcare Administration and is preparing for a master's degree. She takes pride in mentoring and facilitating morale for all the airman at the 5th Medical Group. She is the 5th Bomb Wing POC for the annual Trail of Treats put on by the 5th Medical Group and ensured 1,181 visitors enjoyed an amazing event this year.

GAME SALUTE: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Senior Airmen Blaik Gage



23rd Bomb Squadron
Hometown: Dallas, Texas

SrA Gage is an Aviation Resource Management Technician assigned to the 23rd Bomb Squadron. She was recently recognized as the Outstanding Aviation Resource Airman of the Year for the 5th Bomb Wing. During a recent squadron deployment, she performed above her rank by serving as the Interim Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge for a six-week stint validating 240 aircrew aviation records, 190 flying hours, and 3000 training events. She also took the initiative to identify and correct uncertified aircrew simulator events fixing 1,568 flying hours and 578 sorties, rectifying a five-year Air Force Global Strike Command discrepancy. Finally, she led her peers as Minot AFB's Aviation Resource Management Working and Advisory Council President, organizing 1,200 hours of hands-on training for 24 personnel across seven units in three wings.

GAME SALUTE: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Recipients of the Northern Sentry Salute will be honored at the respective Minot Minotauros home game. In recognition, each recipient and three guests will receive V.I.P. seating to the noted home game, a \$25.00 Gift Certificate good for concessions at the game, and during the game they will be recognized by the Minotauros public address announcer as well as having their photo and nomination published in the Minotauros Magazine.

North Dakota Delegation Represented at Minuteman III Launch at Vandenberg Space Force Base

MINOT AREA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Minot Area Chamber EDC (MACEDC) Task Force 21 led a delegation of North Dakota officials on a strategic military engagement with Minot Air Force Base (MAFB) and Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC) to the 377 Test and Evaluation Group at Vandenberg Space Force Base, California.

The visit included mission briefs, meeting with military leadership, and the test launch of a Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) that was pulled from North Dakota's missile complex and transported to Vandenberg Space Force Base for the test. The 20-member delegation included Department of Commerce Commissioner Josh Teigen, City of Minot Mayor Tom Ross, Legislators and MACEDC leadership. The launch was also attended by South Korean defense officials.

"The missile launch test exercise helps solidify ND's position as one of the United States' most strategic military powers for peace in the world," shared Josh Teigen, North Dakota Department of Commerce Commissioner. "The Minot Air Force Base is the gold standard for military excellence, and this exercise sends a clear message to our global adversaries that ND and the United States stand ready to feed, fuel, and defend the world. Immense gratitude to our service men and women for the work they do every day to further global stability, you make ND proud."

The test launch is part of a routine and periodic activity intended to demonstrate that the United States' nuclear deterrent is

safe, secure, reliable and effective to deter twenty-first century threats and reassure our allies. Such tests have occurred more than 300 times. The test launch program helps the command evaluate the Minuteman III ICBM and gather data to keep the system effective. The command learns lessons from every test launch. Gathering data from the launch allows AFGSC to identify and correct any issues with the weapon system to ensure the Minuteman III's continued reliability and accuracy.

The unarmed Minuteman II ICBM was safely terminated by Space Launch Delta 30 Nov. 1 over the Pacific Ocean due to an anomaly during the test launch. More information can be found at: Minuteman III test provides vital data before termination > Air Force Global Strike Command AFSTRAT-AIR > Article Display

"The LGM-35A Sentinel will replace the Minuteman III ICBM with an initial capability of 2029. Until full capability is achieved in the mid-2030s, the Air Force is committed to ensuring Minuteman III remains a viable deterrent," according to an AFGSC release.

"North Dakota understands the importance of supporting military, and this engagement allowed leaders from across the state an opportunity to come together to learn more about ND's unique role in protecting the nation and the work ahead to support the full transition from Minuteman III missiles to Sentinel," shared Brekka Kramer, President | CEO of Minot Area Chamber EDC. "Minot will be the third and last Air Force



Base to receive Sentinel and will be operating the Minuteman III ICBM until the new weapon system is in place. This a major modernization project we need to support at all levels and see all the way through."

Minot Air Force Base is home to two major Air Force units: the 5th Bomb Wing and 91st Missile Wing, which are Air Force Global Strike Command units. Minot is the only dual-wing nuclear-capable base in the nation, hosting two legs of the nuclear triad with a fleet of B-52H Stratofortress bombers and Minuteman III missiles. As one of the Air Force's three operational intercontinental ballistic missile units, the 91st Missile Wing,

whose members are known as the Rough Riders, are responsible for strategic deterrence by operation, maintaining and securing a fleet of 150 Minuteman III missile located in underground launch facilities positioned in a 8,500 square mile missile complex located in the northwest part of the state of North Dakota.

Air Force Global Strike Command is a major command with headquarters at Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, in the Shreveport-Bossier City community. The command oversees the nation's three intercontinental ballistic missile wings, the Air Force's entire bomber force, to

include B-52, B-1 and B-2 wings, the B-21 Bomber program, Air Force Nuclear Command, Control and Communications systems, and operational and maintenance support to organizations within the nuclear enterprise. Approximately 33,700 professionals are assigned to two Numbered Air Forces, nine wings, two geographically-separated squadrons and one detachment in the continental United States and deployed to locations around the globe.

More information can be found at: <https://www.afgsc.af.mil/About/Fact-Sheets/Article/454593/air-force-global-strike-command-air-forces-strategic-air/>.



Veteran's Information Roundtable

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Senate confirms Allvin to be Air Force's 23rd chief of staff

CHARLES POPE, SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- The U.S. Senate confirmed Gen. David W. Allvin Nov. 2 to be the 23rd Air Force chief of staff, partially breaking through a blockade on all military confirmations to install the decorated commander, strategist and pilot as the service's highest-ranking officer and uniformed leader.

The vote was 95 to 1. Speaking moments after his confirmation was final, Allvin said, "It is truly an honor to be confirmed as the 23rd Chief of Staff of the Air Force. My wife, Gina, and I are humbled by this opportunity, and we are eager to continue to serve our Air Force, our Airmen, and their families."

Allvin, who was nominated for the job by President Biden, formerly served as Air Force Vice Chief of Staff. He succeeds Gen. CQ Brown, Jr., who is now serving as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"We are grateful for the stellar examples set by General CQ Brown, Jr., and his wife, Sharene. Gina and I look forward to continuing to serve with them in our new roles," Allvin said.

Allvin also echoed sentiments expressed during a hearing in September when the Senate Armed Services Committee was considering his nomination.

"In today's dynamic environment, our service faces both significant challenges and tremendous opportunities — the world's greatest Air Force will meet them head-on just as innovative Airmen have done for generations," he said.

Secretary of the Air Force Frank Kendall praised Allvin's confirmation, history and qualifications to lead the service at a turbulent moment in history.

"On behalf of the Department of the Air Force, we welcome General Allvin as the 23rd Chief of Staff of the Air Force," Kendall said. "He has guided many of our most important initiatives to improve the Air Force, including recruiting and operations. Kristyn Jones and I have full confidence in his leadership, integrity, and ability to lead the Air Force as we continue our efforts to modernize and overcome the challenges that threaten our continued security and prosperity. We also express our gratitude to Gina and the Allvin family as they have supported him through numerous challenging assignments and frequent moves."

Chief of Space Operations Gen. Chance Saltzman joined Air Force leaders in celebrating the confirmation.

"The dynamic challenges we all face will require strategic thinking like General Allvin's to overcome, and I consider the Space Force fortunate to have him as a teammate," Saltzman said. "Partnerships like ours will remain a key component to our shared success, and I look forward to continuing our work together."

With confirmation comes the full legal authority to organize, train and equip Airmen to meet the current and emerging security needs of the nation, allies, and partners. Allvin told the Senate Armed Services Committee that he would push to continue modernizing the service and refine policies and practices that touch on everything from operations to quality of life for Airmen and their families.

"Our nation is coming to grips with the rapid pace of change

that is upon us, and with those intending to act out against our national interests while aggressively seeking the means to do so," Allvin told the committee. "America's national security focus is crucial as we navigate this new global landscape with our allies and partners, especially as opportunities for distraction and confusion are increasingly exploited."

Allvin has a deep and accomplished record as an Air Force officer with 37 years of experience in a wide variety of important and demanding roles.

A 1986 graduate of the Air Force Academy, Allvin is a command pilot with more than 4,600 flight hours in over 30 aircraft, including 800 test flight hours and 100 flight hours in combat.

He has commanded at the squadron and wing levels, which included serving as the commander for the 97th Air Mobility Wing and 618th Air and Space Operations Center. He also held major command staff assignments and served in several Joint Staff positions, including as commanding general for the NATO Air Training Command – Afghanistan and NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan/Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, and commander for the 438th Air Expeditionary Wing.

Allvin has served as the director for Strategy and Policy for Headquarters U.S. European Command and director for Strategy, Plans, and Policy, Joint Staff. Most recently, he served as Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force.



Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. David W. Allvin makes remarks after being sworn in as the Air Force's 23rd chief of staff at Falcon Stadium, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo., Nov. 2, 2023. The brief ceremony took place soon after Senate confirmation while Allvin was attending the CORONA Fall executive conference at the Academy. The location was particularly relevant to Allvin since he swore his commissioning oath at the Academy 37 years ago as a graduate.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO | STAFF SGT. STUART BRIGHT

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Fast Facts

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- 1 in 5 Americans will develop skin cancer by the age of 70
- More than 2 people die of skin cancer in the US every hour
- Having 5 or more sunburns doubles your risk for melanoma
- More people are diagnosed with skin cancer each year in the US than all other cancers combined.
- Men age 49 and under have a higher probability of developing melanoma than any other cancer but colon and rectum cancers

Now that you know the risk, and are likely surprised, and maybe a little nervous, the good news is that with regular skin exams, skin cancer can be detected early. Most skin cancer is curable, but in order to stop it, we need to spot it in time.

The Skin Cancer Foundation recommends "... as part of a complete early detection strategy, that you see a dermatologist once a year."

Who should you see?

The Skin Cancer Foundation recommends "... as part of a complete early detection strategy, that you see a dermatologist once a year." Do your research and make an appointment with a Board-Certified Dermatologist or Certified Dermatology Physician Assistant who works in collaboration with a Board-Certified Dermatologist. Physician Assistants are licensed professionals who have undergone a rigorous master's program and attain thousands of hours in clinical experience. Both are highly qualified to perform full skin exams, identify skin cancers and create treatment plans to remove the affected area.

Can't I check myself for Skin Cancer?

Absolutely! And we encourage you to do exactly that, but between your annual exam in the dermatology office. You understand your body and will see changes that have occurred. If you see any changes in freckles, new "spots" that appear you should not hesitate and contact the dermatology office to make an appointment, even if it is not time for your annual exam just yet.

Performing a Self-Examination

Sometimes it is difficult to examine all areas yourself. Many people enlist the help of a family member. To properly perform a monthly self-exam, use a full-length mirror, along with a hand-held mirror to examine areas that are difficult to see like your back. Use a hairdryer to gently blow your hair to examine your scalp. Identify any newer or changing lesions that may cause you concern and discuss them with your dermatology provider who will be able to assess them during your visit. More information is available on self-examinations and early detection at www.thebigsee.org

Prior to your visit

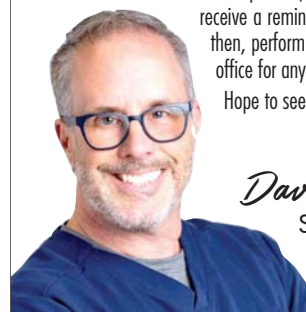
Whenever possible, organize and bring your medical records with you, especially as they may relate to previous dermatologists office notes, skin biopsies, surgical reports and laboratory test results. Having your medical records with you at your visit will help with your examination and provide a more comprehensive view of your overall health and history. Often it takes weeks for the dermatology office to obtain your records from other health providers so if you have made an appointment in advance, use the time wisely to obtain these records and bring them with you. If you have picture of a dermatologic issue that you wish to share,, have it readily accessible in your smart phone.

The day of the exam.

Skin cancer can occur anywhere on your body, even in places that do not receive sun exposure. You should come to your skin screening having bathed earlier that day without wearing makeup or nail polish to ensure your dermatology provider can do a thorough screening. Prior to the screening, you will be asked to change into a gown so your dermatology provider can conduct a head-to-toe examination. The dermatology provider will do everything possible to make the experience comfortable. Please don't let modesty prevent you from potentially missing an opportunity for early detection of a serious skin cancer. Following the exam, the provider will discuss the findings and note if there were any areas of concern. Should there be a suspicious lesion noted, you will receive a small injection to numb the area and a biopsy, or small piece of tissue, will be removed and sent to a pathologist to determine if there is skin cancer present.

Follow up

The biopsy results take about 10 days to come back to the office and you will receive information on the findings. If there is skin cancer present, rest assured, you have done the right thing in coming for an examination and you are now in the very high percentage of people whose skin cancers can be resolved. The treatment plan will depend on the type of skin cancer, it's size and location. If there is no skin cancer present, congratulations! You have been proactive in your care and will receive a reminder in a year to follow up again for your full skin exam. Until then, perform your monthly skin check at home and contact the dermatology office for any questions or concerns you have. Hope to see you soon for your full skin exam!



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MSGT JASON LAWYER, 5TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON

Technology is great...when it works! Whether it's old or new, a vehicle, building, equipment, or tool, the object will not function properly unless all the parts are doing their job. People are needed to maintain technology and they are required to plan, prepare, and execute a given vision.

Two years from now, the final preparations for NASA's Artemis 3 mission are scheduled to occur for humans to once again, walk on the moon. Over 54 years ago, Apollo 11 was the first manned mission to the surface of the moon. Most people know the name of the first man to step foot on the moon, some begin to struggle recalling the name of the second astronaut to walk on the surface, and truth be told, nearly everyone is unfamiliar with the third man on the mission...who never stepped foot on the moon.

July 16, 1969, the monumental stage was set. The most powerful object built by mankind, the 365-foot-tall Saturn V rocket, was ready to ignite its five first stage

engines, each prepared to guzzle three tons of propellant in a second. It's 7.5 million pounds of thrust was capable of vibrating Cape Kennedy's sand nearly four miles from the launch pad. The Apollo 11 mission was developed over eight years of work at a cost of \$24 billion. The program was under much scrutiny, and a popular question asked by the press was which part of the flight would be the most dangerous? Apollo 11 astronaut Michael Collins would always answer, "that part which we had overlooked in our preparations," saying it was the most truthful yet somewhat evasive answer.

Details are the showstoppers! For Michael Collins, his part or detail was crucial while serving as the lifeboat captain for the two astronauts on the surface of the moon. The three men took a three-day journey, traveling over 240 thousand miles, using the attached space modules Columbia and Eagle. As Eagle detached and delivered the moonwalkers to the lunar surface for

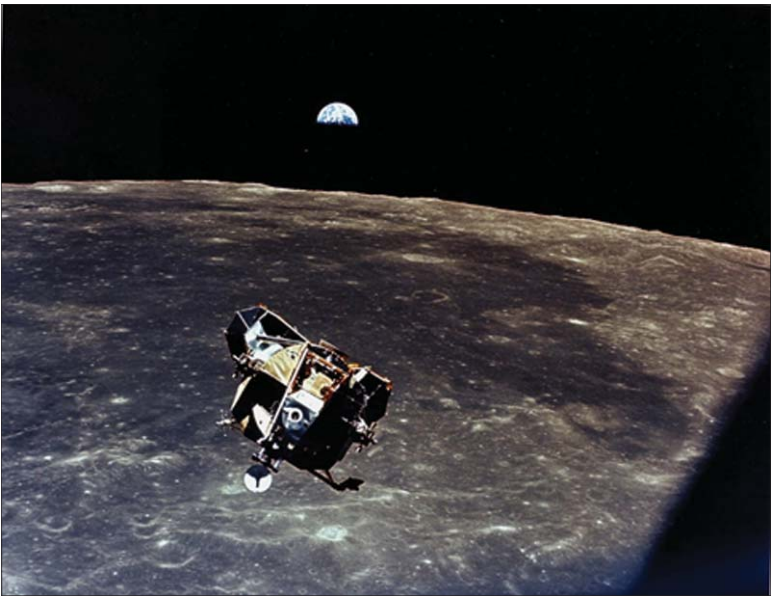
over 21 hours, Michael Collins was in the command module Columbia, orbiting the moon for 27 hours. Essentially, he orbited our natural satellite 14 times truly alone, and would spend 48 minutes absolutely isolated from our world without radio contact every two hours.

"Far from feeling lonely or abandoned, I feel very much a part of what is taking place on the lunar surface. I know that I would be a liar or a fool if I said that I have the best of the three Apollo 11 seats, but I can say with truth and equanimity that I am perfectly satisfied with the one I have. This venture has been structured for three men, and I consider my third to be as necessary as either of the other two."

- Michael Collins

Sometimes it may seem other people are given greater opportunities to succeed, regardless, we all need to excel at whatever we have control over. For Michael, he experienced feelings of "awareness, anticipation, satisfaction, confidence, almost exultation", while performing his roles. Outside the Columbia window, he knew he added value to the historic mission!

Do you ever feel alone or undervalued? At times you may feel like you're on the dark side of the moon, but be patient, be ready, find faith in something, and anticipate your rendezvous. We all have a tremendous impact to a family, team, or work center. Your actions and details could be the next showstopper, and it's our job to make sure that does not occur. I challenge you to act out the wisdom from poet Alexander Pope, "Act well your part, there all the honor lies." You add value to a mission, and more importantly as Michael Collins discovered, others are depending on you!



Spacecraft Eagle ascent from moon to rendezvous with Columbia after the historic walk. Michael Collins wrote, "most beautiful sight of his life was seeing Neil and Buzz returning." Original photograph taken 21 July 1969, courtesy of NASA, non-commercial use.



NASA Apollo 11 official crew portrait, left to right: Neil A. Armstrong, Michael Collins, and Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin. Original photograph taken 30 March 1969, courtesy of NASA, non-commercial use.

For further insight on Michael Collins and to source quotes and facts from this article, locate his autobiography "Carrying the Fire: An Astronaut's Journeys." Michael Collins was a USAF fighter pilot, test pilot, and NASA Gemini 10 and Apollo 11 astronaut. He passed away in 2021 but would have celebrated his 93rd birthday on 31 October.

Disclaimer: The views of this article belong to the author and do not

represent the official views of the United States Air Force.

Jason Lawyer is a military professional with 15 years of experience working in multiple civil engineering disciplines. He loves all things pertaining to the transportation industry, including the infrastructure needed to support. He has a passion for research and enjoys sharing exciting discoveries. He lives with his wife and children in North Dakota.

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The Wallet

RUTH BRADT

It was born in upstate New York, lived half its life there, the other half in Florida and died in Minot, North Dakota!!

What did you ask? My wallet. I had been aware of its severe state of decline for some time and tried to replace it for at least 4 months prior to its ultimate demise but to no avail. I tried the big box stores, some smaller ones, even a thrift store or two but nothing was like my old tried and true. Eventually I went to the Internet and while I did find some there, they were way more money than I ever expected to spend on such an item. So, it turns out, I arrived in North Dakota for a visit with my son and his family and my wallet fell apart!!

"Uh Oh" I said to him, "I really have to get a new wallet now, do you know someplace?" He drove me to Hensen's Fur and Leather at 525 20th Avenue SE.

All I can say is "Wow, what a store!!"

The word Eclectic is defined in the dictionary as ideas, style or taste derived from a broad range of sources, and Hensen's Fur and Leather is most certainly eclectic!

I was in a store like no other I had ever been to.

First the smells as you enter, the smell of leather, warm earthy, then the sights. Present day Native Art adorns the entire back wall letting you know you are not in Kansas anymore!! You are in the West. High up on the wall there were skulls and stuffed pheasants. On the floor is a full-sized buffalo!! When I was there, he was standing with his head in the corner, almost out of sight. A time out? Whatever had he done???

There are Hides of all kinds, leather and fur products as the name implies. A section of gloves that must be 15 ft. long, on both sides!! A very large section devoted to the materials that Native crafters might use to create the regalia used in their Pow Wows. I found those items fascinating, the West at its most historic. My very favorite section of all was near the back of the store, a section of animal hides, most with the faces, tails and paws intact! Have you ever been up close and personal with a wolf? Well, I have now that I have been to Hensen's. There are Cougar, Black

Bear, Red Fox, Beaver and Otter to name a few. They are beautiful, they are impressive.

I was in the store for such a long time that I eventually met Dianne Hensen, who with her husband Rich own and operates the store. Such lovely friendly people! They opened their store in 1971 and have been in business 53 years. In talking with Dianne about the animal hides she says that they encourage children to come in and I would say to any young mother, especially if you are not from this area, it is a lovely experience for children.

There is an array of leather wear for motorcycles enthusiasts, fancy fur coats and hats for that elegant lady in your life, fur earmuffs, moccasins, slippers, belts, leather jackets for men and women, unique handbags, even a large section of colorful Pendleton wear and oh, yes, wallets.

I found exactly what I was looking for, it was high quality, and it was very reasonably priced! Check this place out, it is a wonderful experience, part museum part cultural education, and don't forget, Christmas is just around the corner.



NOTES ON BEING SAFE

CHRISTMAS LIGHT SAFETY

Yes, it's almost that time of year again: the holidays. Reindeer, Santa, fruitcakes, stockings, visions of sugar plums dancing in our heads, and, of course, Christmas lights. Adding a sense of essence to a neighborhood house, Christmas lights are hung from chimneys, and roof eaves, with cheer. But, remember, danger soon could appear.

In order to keep your holidays merry, keep these Christmas light safety tips in mind:

Watch for Ice: Whether you are climbing on a roof or looking for a place to set your ladder, ice is your enemy. Sometimes it's obvious, with a sidewalk or a rooftop being visibly slick, and sometimes it is black ice, ice you don't really notice until it's too late. Before you step anywhere or set a ladder down, be sure there is no ice in the vicinity. Check suspicious areas closely and lay down salt or sand when warranted. It's better to be safe than falling. Use assistance when needed to avoid a possible fall.

Check lights and unravel them on ground level: After sitting in your basement or attic for nearly a year, Christmas lights probably aren't in the best shape. Some lights are loose, some are burnt out, and some cords are tangled in a tight, but oddly well done, sailor's knot. Don't wait till you standing on top of a ladder to learn your lights need some work. Because getting them "roof top ready" can take some time, unravel and check them on ground level.

Make sure they are approved for outdoor use: There are indoor lights, there are outdoor lights, and then there are the switch hitters: lights that do both. Before hanging lights up outside, make sure they are suitable for the outdoors (if they are, it will say on the box). It's also important to make sure the lights were checked by a legitimate testing laboratory, such as UL. Look for seals of approval before you approve them for your house.

The Smaller the Better: There was a time when all holiday lights were made of big, robust bulbs. Nowadays, many lights are much smaller. Some people prefer smaller lights because they look better,

allow more variety, and are easier to hang, but they are also safer. The larger lights have a tendency to get much hotter, increasing the chances for a fire or a singed Christmas tree. For this reason, use smaller lights.

Turn them off when you go to bed or leave: Christmas lights surely add something to your neighborhood: glowing from afar, they make the holidays luminous. Still, any kind of lights have the potential for danger. Even if you want to keep them on from Thanksgiving to Valentine's Day, they need to be turned off when you aren't around. If you leave, shut them down and when you go to bed, pull the plug. If you have a tendency to forget, get a timer that turns them off automatically.



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WINTER DRIVING TIPS

HOW LONG CAN YOU GO IN BETWEEN GETTING AN OIL CHANGE?

Keeping up with vehicle maintenance sometimes can feel like a chore, especially when you can't exactly remember the last time you took your car into the auto shop. Periodic maintenance matters in the long run so you can avoid more costly repairs down the road.

An oil change is one of the more basic services your vehicle needs to perform at its best. Oil is specifically designed to lubricate your vehicle's engine. Fresh oil helps prevent your engine from using more energy and fuel than it needs and protects engine parts from wear and tear. We'll walk you through why oil changes matter for your vehicle and how long is too long to wait in between oil change services.

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DON'T GET AN OIL CHANGE?

When life gets busy, it may be tempting to put things, like an oil change, on the back burner. Delaying important preventative maintenance could cost you overall. Without good engine oil, you are putting your car's engine in danger. Putting off an oil change for too long can:

- Worsen engine performance: Good engine oil keeps all the parts in an engine lubricated, but as it degrades it becomes more difficult for an engine to run at full capacity. As engine oil ages in service, acids accumulate in the oil. Additive performance and protection may also fade and the oil can thicken in viscosity.
- Cause costly engine damage: Neglecting an oil change long-term can have disastrous consequences. Old oil can eventually turn into sludge or deposits that can cause serious damage from a smoking engine to complete engine failure.

HOW LONG CAN YOU GO WITHOUT AN OIL CHANGE?

Now that you know how important an oil change is for your vehicle, you may be wondering what's the best way to keep up with maintenance. A lot of this depends on your type of vehicle and how you drive. The best way to stay on top of maintenance intervals is to refer to your vehicle owner manual or the oil life monitor displayed on the driver information center of your dashboard or center console.

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Alexandra Ipina receiving her license.



Miluska Hakkel receiving her license.



Caitlyn Knight-Daiss cutting her grand opening ribbon.

FCC Providers Grand Opening

BRIANNA LOW, NORTHERN SENTRY

Minot Air Force Base is proud to hold a ribbon cutting for seven new FCC providers this week to offer in home care for families!

Taylor Young is one of our new FCC providers. She married her high school sweetheart, Will, and has two beautiful daughters. She previously worked for an early learning center for two years and will be offering care for children ages three months to five years. She will offer a daily schedule and implement a curriculum to further the development of the children in her care. Her goal is to help with the childcare needs on this base while preparing the children for kindergarten. Ms. Young states, "Teaching has always been my dream job and I'm so grateful for this opportunity to make those dreams come true."

Megan Collins has been at Minot AFB for four years with her husband, Blake, who works in security forces. They have a two-and-a-half-year-old son and a daughter on the way! She has been a classroom teacher for the past five years with a Bachelor's Degree in Early and General Education as well as a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction. Ms. Collins believes, "Providing the children in my care with a fun, loving, and safe environment will help them grow physically and cognitively. I believe that children need to feel safe and loved in order to succeed and grow. I'm excited to share my experience and knowledge with our base community." She will have an

educational-based program that encourages hands-on experiences.

Stephanie Johnson is opening Little Lovebugs Childcare out of her home with hopes to make all of her daycare kids feel safe and comfortable while learning and exploring their imagination and creativity. She has three children of her own who remind her daily that life is an adventure and to enjoy every part of it. Ms. Johnson shares, "I'm happy to be a part of 5FSS and to support the families of Minot AFB."

Maria Corona Munoz is a mother of three children and states, "Becoming a FCC provider has been one of the best decisions I have [ever] made." Maria spent a year to ensure she was making the right decision to take care of families and is now thrilled to have made the decision to become a provider. She is excited to see the growth and smiles of each child every day.

Caitlyn Knight-Daiss and her husband, Shane, have a nine-month-old daughter. She has an early childhood education degree and has been a K-2 teacher for the past six years. Ms. Knight-Daiss states, "I became an FCC provider so I could raise my family at home and I want to use my education to help Minot AFB families grow and learn every day."

Miluska Hakkel was born in Peru, but after visiting the United States a couple of times she decided to move here. She is a proud military wife and a happy mother of two sweet girls. She studied Business

and Spanish, but while teaching Spanish in Europe she discovered her passion for education and became a homeschool teacher. She loves working with families! She previously worked for a non-profit organization assisting low-income immigrant families that were composed of children who had difficulties speaking English and adapting to the education system in the United States. Ms. Hakkel states, "By helping families in crisis I learned that no matter what circumstances children face,

they will always give you a smile. They are eager for opportunities to grow, explore and learn." Her goal is to provide a space where children feel safe, have fun and grow in compassion and knowledge. Ms. Hakkel shares, "I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve the families at Minot AFB and to FCC for the support."

Alexandra Ipina has been a FCC Provider at Minot AFB for a month now. She is currently going to college to complete her Associate's degree in criminal

justice. She plans on assisting Minot AFB with childcare by being able to provide care for children, teach them, and work on improving their developmental skills. Ms. Ipina finds the position rewarding, stating, "Even though I'm going to college, the children I care for still find a way to teach me new things every day."

It is so exciting to see the childcare options grow and to see the passion the providers have to help our families. Congratulations to all our new providers!



Pictured L-R: CYP Flight Chief Ms. Jacquanna Whitfield, FCC Provider Taylor Young and Mr. Bruce Bartholomew, FCC Chairman.



Maria Corona Munoz receiving her license.



Stephanie Johnson receiving her license.



Megan Collins cutting her grand opening ribbon.



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Minuteman III test provides vital data before termination

AIR FORCE GLOBAL STRIKE COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AIR FORCE GLOBAL STRIKE COMMAND

VANDENBERG SPACE FORCE BASE, Calif. --

Space Launch Delta 30 safely terminated an unarmed Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile over the Pacific Ocean at 12:06 a.m. Pacific Time Nov. 1, due to an anomaly during a test launch from Vandenberg Space Force Base, California.

An anomaly is any unexpected event during the test. Since anomalies may arise from many factors relating to the operational platform itself or the test equipment, careful analysis is needed to identify the cause.

A Launch Analysis Group is forming to investigate the cause. The group will include representatives from Air Force Global Strike Command, the 377th Test and Evaluation Group, the 576th Flight Test Squadron, Space Launch Delta 30 Safety Office, and Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center, among other organizations.

The test launch program helps the command evaluate the Minuteman III and gather data to keep the system effective. The command learns lessons from every test launch. Gathering data from the launch allows AFGSC to identify and correct any issues with the weapon system to ensure the Minuteman III's continued reliability and accuracy.

Air Force Global Strike

Command is a major command with headquarters at Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, in the Shreveport-Bossier City community. The command overseas the nation's three intercontinental ballistic missile wings, the Air Force's entire bomber force, to include B-52, B-1 and B-2 wings, the Long Range Strike Bomber program, Air Force Nuclear Command, Control and Communications systems, and operational and maintenance support to organizations within the nuclear enterprise. Approximately 33,700 professionals are assigned to two Numbered Air Forces, nine wings, two geographically separated squadrons and one detachment in the continental United States and deployed to locations around the globe.



More information can be found at: <https://www.afgsc.af.mil/About/Fact-Sheets/Article/454593/air-force-global-strike-command-air-forces-strategic-air/>.

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Phone: 701.852.7335
www.blgrill.com

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Solution to last week's Crossword puzzle.

A	M	O		W	E	L	S	H		C	I	T	E	D
R	A	N		E	R	I	C	A		H	A	L	V	E
T	R	E		B	R	E	A	K	D	A	N	C	E	R
H	I	S	T		S	T	E	R	N					
U	N	E	A	S	E		E	A	G	L	E	T	S	
R	A	C	K	O	F	L	A	M	B		E	L	I	E
				E	A	T	O	N		S	M	A	R	T
S	T	I	C	K	S	A	N	D	S	T	O	N	E	S
A	R	T	A	S		A	D	O	R	N				
P	I	E	R		F	E	L	T	T	I	P	P	E	D
S	O	M	E	W	A	Y		S	A	I	L	O	R	
				A	R	E	A	S		E	E	L	Y	
B	A	L	L	S	O	F	F	I	R	E		A	I	R
A	W	A	I	T		U	R	B	A	N		S	A	O
G	L	O	V	E		L	O	S	E	S		E	N	T

SUDOKU

Solution to puzzle on page C9

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Spiteful
6. Soapstones, e.g.
11. Easy target
14. Sun Valley locale
15. Stave off
16. Not quite XL
17. Sidewalk social?
19. "That smarts!"
20. Jessica of "Fantastic Four"
21. Got out of the open
22. Hair protectors
24. Buys and sells
26. Magritte et al.
27. Dance involving a lot of partner switching?
31. "_ luck!"
34. "Frasier" role
35. Throw _
36. Start to Miss
37. Father Damien's island
41. Passed
42. Pearl Mosque site
44. Gloria in Excelsis _
45. Vetoes
47. "The Godfather" gathering?
51. Basketball defense
52. One catching a lot of waves
56. Dynamites
58. Place of refuge
59. "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" author
60. Grammy genre since 1989
61. Google users' get-together?
64. Holiday harbinger
65. Department store employee
66. Result
67. Tedious card game
68. Pope piece
69. Crackerjack

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15						16		
17					18						19		
20					21			22		23			
24				25			26						
			27				28				29	30	
31	32	33				34			35				
36				37	38	39			40		41		
42			43		44				45	46			
47				48				49	50				
		51					52				53	54	55
56	57						58				59		
60				61		62				63			
64				65						66			
67				68						69			

Down

1. Battery type
2. Simpson of fashion
3. Bossa nova cousin
4. Brenner Pass site
5. "... bring Him that _ soars on golden wing": Milton
6. Subduing
7. Enthusiastic
8. First name in comics villainy
9. Executive office piece
10. Concentrated, as tea
11. Crafty
12. Eagerly excited
13. Seats at a wedding, maybe
18. Flimsy, as a plot
23. Singer McEntire
25. Official country name until 1949
26. Rank-and-file mover?
28. Smoking gun, so to speak
29. Take a shine to
30. Former Fords
31. Kill time
32. One of Chekhov's "Three Sisters"
33. Important grade factor
38. Captive of the sea nymph Calypso
39. Kids' hangouts
40. Pt. of a monogram
43. Snootiness
46. Limerick site
48. "_ reasonable"
49. Very different, with "a"
50. Pharaoh's cross
53. Viking language
54. Still in the sack
55. Thus far
56. Bar order
57. Type of lamp
58. Neck of the woods
62. Shakespearean assents
63. Shooter's sphere

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Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
 Fellowship 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Mark Ehrmantraut
www.vincentumc.com


Faith United Methodist Church
5900 Highway 83 N, Minot
www.faithumcminot.com

Pastor Ken Mund
 701-838-1540

Sunday School (All Ages): 9:45 a.m.
 Sunday Coffee Fellowship: 10:30 a.m.
 Worship Services: Sunday 11 a.m.

Cornerstone Presbyterian Church
1000 NE 3rd Street 852-0315
Sunday Schedule
 Contemporary Worship 9:00am
 Sunday School (All Ages) 10:00am
 Traditional Worship 11:00am

Wednesday Evening Schedule
 Community Dinner 5:30-6:30pm
 Contemporary Worship 6:30pm
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 6:30 PM PRE-K/KIDS' CLUB / ABY & ADULT BIBLE STUDY



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 Tuesday 5:15 p.m.
 Wednesday - Friday 7:00 a.m.
 Saturday 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

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Wednesday
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 Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
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 Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.

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 Pastor David Miller


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Southern Baptist Convention

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 Wednesdays (Prayer & Missions) ... 6:30 p.m.


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 email: minotcrbc@gmail.com
Gabe McCormick - Pastor
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838-1873


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 Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Children's Church & Nursery
 Wednesday Family Training Hour
 Meal 5:30p.m.
 Classes for All Ages 6:30 p.m.
 Youth Center, Friday 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.
 ABC Child Care Center 852-6352

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Home: 701-838-5759
KHRT 1320: 9 a.m. Sunday

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Adult/Children Worship.. 11 a.m.
Family Hour 6:30 p.m.
Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.
Bible Study/Child-Adult
Children Worship (Wed).... 7 p.m.
Prayer (Friday) 7 P.m.


First Baptist Church
 200 3rd St. SW • 852-4533
www.fbcminot.org

Classic Worship Service 8:30 a.m.
 Sunday School (All Ages) 9:45 a.m.
 Contemporary Worship Service 9:50 a.m.
 Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m.
 Contemporary Worship Service 11:05 a.m.
 Children's Church 11:05 a.m.
 Wed. AWANA (Sept. to May) 6:30 p.m.
 Fridays, Celebrate Recovery 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Kent Hinkel, Senior Pastor
 Elaine Carlson, Children's Ministry Director

Apostolic Faith Church, UPCI

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 Sunday Worship 3:30 p.m.
 Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

Jesse Starr, Pastor


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 A Reformed Baptist Church

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Wed. Prayer: 5:30 p.m.
 at Living Word Lutheran bldg
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 11:00am Contemporary Service

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U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS | AIRMAN 1ST CLASS KYLE WILSON



Airman 1st Class Seth Quillen, 5th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, turns a nozzle on a liquid oxygen (LOX) cart at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Nov. 2, 2023. LOX boils at minus 297 degrees Fahrenheit, which requires Airmen working with it to wear protective clothing to shield them from the freezing temperatures.



Airman 1st Class Seth Quillen, 5th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, connects a liquid oxygen (LOX) hose to a B-52H Stratofortress at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Nov. 2, 2023. The aircraft's systems convert LOX into a gaseous form, providing oxygen to the aircrew during flight.



Airman 1st Class Seth Quillen, 5th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, looks at his checklist while performing liquid oxygen (LOX) maintenance on a B-52H Stratofortress at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Nov. 2, 2023. Crew chiefs regularly perform LOX maintenance on aircraft to ensure pilots and aircrew have oxygen readily available during flight.



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BABY BOY BORN ON
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2023 TO:
AUNNAH SHAW AND DAGUIS VESHAN
MINOT, ND

BABY BOY BORN ON
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023 TO:
STEPHANIE AND JUSTYN JOHNSON
MINOT AFB, ND

BABY BOY BORN ON
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023 TO:
NATASHA AND BLAKE NELSON
ROLETTE, ND

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8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

MIC3: Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission

There are unique needs for Prek-12 military-connected families Navigating educational systems across the United States is challenging as you prepare to relocate to a different community. As you prepare to PCS with your military-connected student, one available resource to ease this transition is the Military Interstate Children's Compact (MIC3).

MIC3 is an interstate compact across all 50 States and the District of Columbia. The compact addresses the challenges of the military children encounter on their frequent relocations stateside. It allows for the uniform treatment as military children transfer between school districts in member states. The Compact only applies to public schools and focuses on specific impacts on military connected children such as the transfer of records, course sequencing, graduation requirements, exclusion from extracurricular activities, redundant or missed entrance/exit testing, kindergarten and first



JOY-NICOLE SMITH
SCHOOL LIAISON PROGRAM MANAGER, GS-11
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE SCHOOL LIAISON PROGRAM



grade entrance age variances, and power of custodial parents while parents are deployed.

Military Interstate Children's Compact (MIC3) covers students of Active Duty Members of the Uniformed Services, including members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders (Title 10), members or veterans who are medically discharged or retired for one year, members who die on active duty, for a period of one year after death, and uniformed members of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic

and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and United States Public Health Services (USPHS).

MIC3 is an incredible resource and is the policy ensuring consistency of the educational experiences of military connected student. For more information on the compact, visit mic3.net. If you are due to PCS or have educational questions or concerns, now is a great time to contact a School Liaison! Please reach out to the Minot AFB School Liaison at mafb.school.liaison@us.af.mil or 701-723-1447.

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The Cooper family recently moved to Minot AFB last month from overseas and eight year old Waylon enjoys receiving the Northern Sentry. When asked what he likes most about it, he said "I look forward to getting the paper every week to do the crossword puzzle, read the comic and the outdoor report." The Northern Sentry would like to thank you for your readership!



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Upcoming Events

17-18 NOV **FESTIVAL OF TREES**
 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 North Dakota State Fair Center
 2005 E Burdick, Minot, ND

Festival of Trees is Minot's landmark holiday event with fun and festive activities for everyone in the family. Held the weekend before Thanksgiving, this two-day extravaganza is a perfect way to kick off the Christmas season. Enjoy a stroll through the beautifully decorated trees, listen to live entertainment, purchase Christmas gifts, get a free family photo for your Christmas card, and enjoy other activities, all at FREE door admission. We conclude with a ticketed event featuring Dinner and a Live Auction. The purpose of the Festival of Trees is to tell more people about the mission and raise money for Dakota Hope Clinic in Minot.

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17 NOV **SAVE THE DATE: LIGHT UP THE SCANDINAVIAN HERITAGE PARK**
 6:00 PM
 Scandinavian Heritage Park
 1020 S Broadway, Minot, ND

Join us on November 17th at 6pm for a magical evening that will kickstart your holiday spirit! Get ready for an enchanting experience as we illuminate the Scandinavian Heritage Park like never before. Special Appearances by the one and only Mr. Grinch and more! But that's not all! We've got even more holiday surprises up our sleeves, and we can't wait to share them with you. Stay tuned/mark interested for announcements that will make your holiday season truly unforgettable! Mark your calendars, invite your friends and family, and let's make this a night to remember. Stay tuned for more details, and get ready to light up the holiday season with us!

SAVE THE DATE
 NOVEMBER 17TH @6PM

Light Up the Park!
 SCANDINAVIAN HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

For more information:
 Facebook / Scandinavian Heritage Park / Events

23 NOV **9TH ANNUAL MAGIC CITY TURKEY TROT!**
 9:00 AM
 Brick Building, 400 E. Central Ave, Minot ND.

5K/1mi Thanksgiving Day Run! Hosted by Magic City Figure Skating Club's Synchro Teams! Whether you're a competitive runner, a walker or somewhere in between, this event is for you! So lace up your running shoes, grab your leash, dust off that costume, and get ready to be part of an unforgettable Thanksgiving morning tradition! Free t-shirts for runners & walkers registered by November 12th! Packet pickup is on Wed. Nov. 22nd from 4-7pm in the lobby of the Maysa Arena. Costumes encouraged! Prizes for the most spirited participants! After the race, check the pie table to see if you have won a delicious pie! Children 5 & under free! Sorry no refunds. Friendly dogs on leashes welcome!

MAGIC CITY TURKEY TROT 2023

For more information:
 Facebook / Magic City Turkey Trot
 Signup: <https://runsignup.com/Race/ND/Minot/MagicCityTurkeyTrot>

24 NOV **DOWNTOWN MINOT TREE LIGHTING**
 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 Downtown Minot
 Various Locations

Join us for the annual Christmas Open House in Downtown Minot on Friday, Nov. 24th 3-8pm. Enjoy hay rides, reindeer, cookies with Santa, tree lighting ceremony, special music and treats at local businesses, and sales galore! Bundle up the kids and bring the family to Downtown Minot and create your own magical memory.

For more information:
 Facebook / Minot Downtown Business & Professional Association / Events

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91ST SECURITY FORCES GROUP

TRAERER FRIES WITH CHIPOTLE KETCHUP

INGREDIENTS

- 4 WHOLE CHIPOTLE CHILES
- 1 TABLESPOON EXTRA-VIRGIN OLIVE OIL
- 1 TEASPOON ONION POWDER
- 1 TEASPOON GARLIC POWDER
- CUP KETCHUP
- 1 TABLESPOON SUGAR
- 1 TABLESPOON CUMIN
- 1 TABLESPOON CHILI POWDER
- 1 WHOLE LIMES
- 6 WHOLE YUKON GOLD POTATOES, CUT INTO THICK STRIPS
- 2 TABLESPOON BUTTER
- 1 TABLESPOON TRAERER BEEF RUB
- 1/4 CUP PARSLEY, FLAT LEAF, FINELY CHOPPED

Chop the chipotle peppers, then combine them with the remaining chipotle ketchup ingredients in a mixing bowl. Refrigerate the mixture for at least 1 hour to allow the flavors to blend (making it one day ahead of time is even better if you can swing it).

When ready to cook, set temperature to High and preheat, lid closed for 15 minutes.

Place the potatoes in a bowl, drizzle with melted butter and sprinkle with Beef rub, toss to coat.

Lay the fries on a Traeger Grilling Basket or a baking sheet and bake for 10-15 minutes, or until the fries reach your desired level of crispiness

Remove the fries from the grill, place in a bowl, and toss with parsley. Enjoy by the handful with plenty of chipotle ketchup for dipping. Enjoy

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OUTDOOR

REPORT



by Patricia Stockdill

Fishing:

Lake Sakakawea elevation, Nov. 6: 1,840.21 feet above mean sea level (MSL); 17,000 cubic feet per second (CFS) Garrison Dam average daily releases.

Devis Lake elevation: 1,449.3 feet above mean sea level (MSL).

Stump Lake elevation: 1,449.28 MSL.

- N.D. Game & Fish Dept. game wardens: No reports from area lakes, Devils Lake, or the Missouri River System.
- Devils Lake, Ed's Bait Shop, Devils Lake: Devils Lake quiet with anglers waiting for the transition to ice-fishing.
- Devils Lake, Woodland Resort, Devils Lake: No activity.
- Lake Darling, Karma C-Store, Ruthville: No new reports.
- Lake Metigoshe, Four Seasons, Bottineau: Little activity but a few anglers are shore-fishing for walleye in bays with open water.
- Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Cenex Bait & Tackle, Garrison: No reports from Lake Sakakawea or Lake Audubon.
- Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Hwy. 83 Lawn & Leisure, Garrison: No activity on Lake Sakakawea or Lake Audubon.
- Lake Sakakawea, New Town: Van Hook Arm remains quiet.
- Lake Sakakawea/Missouri River, Scott's Bait & Tackle, Pick City: Missouri River tailrace

Thanks to Woodland Resort, our Outdoors Report sponsor, for helping keep readers up-to-date on happenings throughout the region. For complete details about fishing Devils Lake and its array of recreational opportunities visit their website, (www.woodlandresort.com), Facebook at (facebook.com/woodlandresortDL), telephone (701) 662-5996, extension 1, or email (woodlandresort@gondtc.com). They're located at 1012 Woodland Drive, Devils Lake, N.D. 58301.

- Beware of the potential for thin ice on wetlands and lakes when hunting, including when bird hunting with dogs.
- Please park out of the way of other vehicles and farm equipment on prairie roads and trails and avoid tearing up them up with muddy conditions across much of the state.
- Nov. 10: Deer gun season opens.
- Nov. 12: Sandhill crane season closes.
- Nov. 15: Minot Rifle & Pistol Club new member meeting, 7 p.m., indoor range.
- Nov. 22: Minot Rifle & Pistol Club new member meeting, 7 p.m., indoor range.
- Nov. 23: Happy Thanksgiving.
- Nov. 24 & 25: Fort Stevenson State Park Dickens Village Festival Geo-cache, Garrison. Contact the park, (701) 337-5576, for details and GPS coordinates.
- Nov. 25 & 26: Minot Rifle & Pistol Club Gun Show, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., North Dakota State Fairgrounds.
- Nov. 26: Deer gun season closes.
- Nov. 26: Mountain lion Zone 1 season closes.
- Nov. 27: Hunter's Brunch, Audubon Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, serving free will donation soup and chili, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in conjunction with the refuge's opening day of upland game bird hunting. Sponsored by Audubon Refuge Partners Inc.
- Nov. 27: Mountain lion late season Zone 1 opens.

remains quiet for both anglers and success. Best success is still from boats at night in the chutes with some walleye activity during the day in the spillway channel.

- Lake Sakakawea/northwest N.D. lakes, Scenic Sports, Williston: Upper end of Lake Sakakawea continues producing walleye between Lewis & Clark State Park and Hofflund Island using jigs and minnows. Look for Missouri River above the Yellowstone River to stay a little clearer than the Yellowstone, which is muddying with melting snow. Area lakes unfishable yet.
- Lonetree WMA area lakes, Harvey: No activity throughout area lakes.
- North-central/central N.D. lakes, Towner Hdwe. Hank, Towner: No activity on area lakes or the Souris River.

Hunting:

- Deer: Look for a fair opener but some units have fewer numbers of licenses available.
- Upland: Birds generally

remain in heavier cover despite the warming weather.

- Waterfowl: Fair numbers of Canada geese along the east end of Lake Sakakawea but birds are inconsistent where they're feeding and moving around to different open fields. A few birds still in the northwestern part of the state on large open water bodies with some on the open water of the upper end of Lake Sakakawea. Some lingering waterfowl in north-central and northeastern N.D. but a large number moved out. Fair numbers remain on open water in the southeast. Look for some diving ducks still on Devils Lake with better duck numbers moving in around Missouri River below Garrison Dam.

Numbers to know:

- N.D. Game and Fish Dept., main Bismarck office: (701) 328-6300, website: (<http://gf.nd.gov>).
- Report All Poachers: (701) 328-9921.

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

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MINOT AFB ANNOUNCEMENTS

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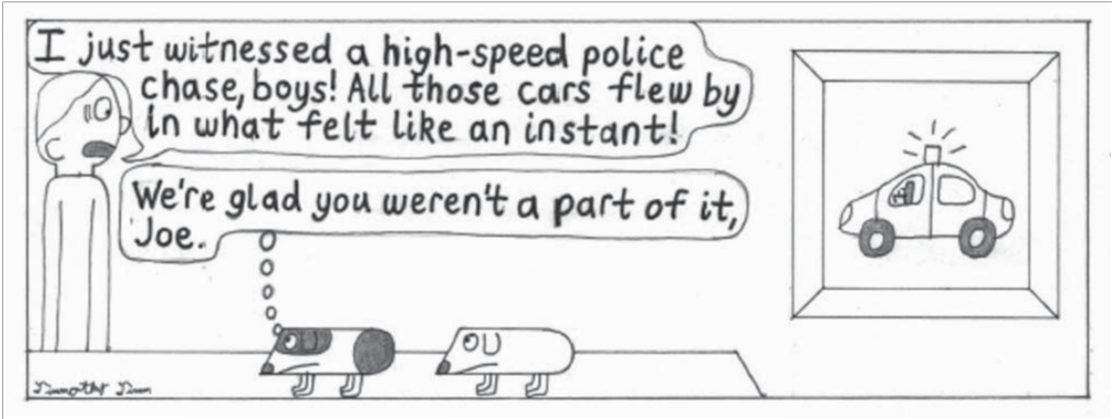
MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY

Minot State University is excited to again offer face-to-face classes at the Minot Air Force Base. There is no application fee for active-duty military personnel. Military personnel can complete their Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) degree and earn a bachelor's degree from Minot State. For more information, contact Brigitte Mikula at 701-727-9044 or by email at Brigitte.mikula@minotstateu.edu




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TIMMOTHY TIMM

Timothy Timm of Minot currently attends Minot State University, is a Minot High School graduate, artist, cartoonist, author and illustrator. Timm has also created other works of art that are on display in his art studio downtown located at 201 Main St. S. in Minot.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Festival of Trees Volunteers

Dakota Hope Clinic is organizing the Festival of Trees event at the ND State Fair Center. The event will start on Friday, November 17th and will feature a variety of activities throughout the day, culminating in a dinner and auction on Saturday night, November 18th. We are in need of volunteers for the entire event from set up Tues -Thurs, the actual event on Fri-Sat and especially tear down at the following times:

Saturday night, Nov 18th 8:30 pm until approx 11:00pm
(any time frame that works will help - the more the merrier!)
Sunday, Nov 19 12:30pm until 5pm
(any time frame that works will help - the more the merrier!)

Go to this site to sign up: <https://www.festoftrees.com/volunteer>

POC: Kris Post 701-852-4675 or kris@dakotahope.org

AADD Volunteers

AADD is seeking volunteers to support various event requests.

*Here is a link to our regular schedule for weekends, if interested, please disseminate to your members.

REGULAR 2023 WEEKLY SCHEDULE- <https://volunteersignup.org/FHLLR>

POC: SSgt Kristal A. Cruz Leon
723-4633 kristal.cruz_leon@us.af.mil

Meals on Wheels Volunteers

On behalf of the Hispanic Allies organization, we would like to offer a volunteer opportunity to help our community. We're working with "Meals on Wheels" to help feed elderly members of our community. If you are interested in volunteering, please let us know. The Meals on Wheels delivery is every Tuesday & Friday. Volunteers can show up at the venue from 1045 to 11am. The route is simple, and it takes 45 min to 1hr, 2 members preferred. No supplies required. The address is 21 1st Ave SE B, Minot, ND 58701 at the Minot Commission On Aging. Please sign up using the following hyperlink: <https://volunteersignup.org/4E7QM>

POC: SrA Brian Bermúdez, brian.o.bermudezcartagena.mil@health.mil or 723-5184.

AF K12 STEM-to-Sky Program Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to assist with the AF K12 STEM-to-Sky program; a new annual outreach effort connecting Airmen & Teachers enabling them to produce direct classroom engagement. The purpose of this effort is to directly engage Airmen with classrooms around the world to share experiences, emphasize the importance of STEM education, and create personal military-to-classroom connections. Within the classroom, Airmen will discuss their associated roles and emphasize the importance of STEM (connect); and create propensity for students to pursue STEM and Air Force fields (inspire). The program entails for schools:

- The Airmen to Classroom connection is a live two-way 30-45min interaction between a classroom and an assigned Air Force Airman, scientist, engineer or researcher.
- Large-scale pre-scheduled live events will include a program link after registration.
- In-person engagements may be available depending on location and availability of local personnel.

Anyone can volunteer, and we especially encourage those who work in STEM-focused career fields! This program is a great way to help us spearhead the efforts to reach General Brown's community outreach priorities related to STEM and youth engagement. I am in the process of reaching out to local schools to get them involved, and we'd love to have you and/or your Airmen too.

For Airmen sign-up and information/instruction - <https://forms.osi.apps.mil/r/fkmgNeYUlr>
Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

POC: Abigail Kinder, Community Relations & Media Operations,
Minot AFB PA, Comm: 701-723-6768, DSN: 453-6768

YMCA Referee Volunteers

The sports director at The Minot Family YMCA is looking for coach and referee volunteers. Most of the youth football games are played on Saturdays from 9:00am to 3:00pm and each game is an hour long. Anyone interested, please contact the YMCA Sports Director.

POC: Shane Christiansen, Youth Sports Director, Minot Family YMCA
701-852-0141

Caring Edge Hospice Volunteers

Caring Edge Hospice is looking for volunteers to assist with a wide-range of support. It's an honor to be part of our patients' and their families' journeys. Making connections with our amazing hospice team is just one of the many personal and professional rewards you will experience through the gift of volunteering. Our team and our community would like to offer that gift to the Airmen at Minot Air Force Base.

POC: Shelby Stuckey, Volunteer Coordinator
(888) 223-4287
shelby.stuckey@caringedge.com

Volunteer Soccer Coaches

Minot AFB Youth sports is looking for volunteer coaches for the upcoming indoor soccer season. The season will run from 6 Nov. through 15 Dec. 2023. Coaching needs are as follows:

- Ages 3-4-year-old: 12 coaches needed. Practice schedule: Mondays from 1700-1730 at the Youth Center
- Ages 5-6-year-old: 12 coaches needed. Practice schedule: Mondays & Wednesdays from either 1730-1830 or 1830-1930 at the Youth Center
- Ages 7-8-year-old: 10 coaches needed. Practice schedule: Tuesdays & Thursdays from 1700-1800 or 1800-1900 at the Youth Center
- Ages 9-12-year-old: 12 coaches needed. Practice schedule: Tuesdays & Thursdays from 1800-1900 or 1900-2000 at the Youth Center

All coaches must complete a volunteer packet with the youth center as well as complete fingerprinting & background checks, regardless of military status. Coaches will also be required to complete online training (provided by youth sports) and attend coaches training prior to the season start.

POC: Ms. April Lawrence, the Youth Sports Coordinator,
701-723-1477/2838 or email april.lawrence.2@us.af.mil

Magic City Civil Air Patrol Composite Squadron

The Magic City Civil Air Patrol Composite Squadron meets every Thursday at AvFlight, 1830-2030. Civil Air Patrol is the official, Congressionally chartered US Air Force Auxiliary open to all adults and children 12+. Its all-volunteer members serve in a multitude of roles in support of CAP's three primary missions: Cadet Programs, Aerospace Education, and Emergency Services. As adult opportunities include working as part of an Aircrew, sUAS operator, Aerospace and STEM instruction, and many other opportunities! The youth Cadet Program provides an opportunity to learn military structure while learning about Aerospace, Leadership, Flight, Cyber Systems, Outdoor Survival and much more! Whether you are looking to bring your skills to a new venue, expand your experience, or learn something new, there's certainly a role for you! No prior experience or military affiliation is necessary. For more information about Civil Air Patrol, visit <https://www.govcivilairpatrol.com> or contact the POC below.

Meeting location: AvFlight, Minot Airport, 2400 N. Broadway Suite E, 1830-2030 every Thursday

POC: 1st Lt Jon McLemore, CAP, Jonathan.mclamore@ndcap.us
701-720-6410 | <https://nd021.cap.go>

To have your volunteer opportunity posted, please contact Military & Family Readiness Center (M&FRC) at:
5fss.family.support@us.af.mil



Veterans Remembrance Short Funding

CIVIL AIR PATROL - U.S. AIR FORCE AUXILIARY

Rosehill Memorial Cemetery, in Minot, is physically set to receive over one thousand wreaths to remember veterans this fall, however, nearly four hundred wreaths still require sponsorship as of Monday. Volunteers from community organizations, including the Magic City Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol, staked in 650 holders last month to place wreaths at gravesites in addition



to the gravesites with upright tombstones. The upcoming ceremony is scheduled for 11 am on December 16.

Those interested in supporting this remembrance can find the wreaths link on the local CAP website, ND021.CAP.GOV. Sponsorships of \$17 made through November 17 will ensure a wreath is placed at this year's ceremony.



Cadet Senior Airman Culver unties cross bundle in preparation for setting.

MAJ. JEFFREY SLOCUM PHOTO

A LOOK BACK THIS WEEK IN USAF HISTORY

USAF C-141 IS THE FIRST JET TO LAND IN ANTARCTICA
NOVEMBER 14, 1966



The first C-141 to land at McMurdo Sound, Antarctica on Nov. 14, 1966 (USAF)

On November 14, 1966, a USAF Lockheed C-141 became the first jet to land in Antarctica as a part of "Operation Deep Freeze."

Operation Deep Freeze began in 1955 when major nations collaborated to conduct earth science research in one of the least explored areas on Earth. The Air Force began its involvement in 1956 and continues running airlifts to this day. Previously, the USAF had only deployed propeller planes to Antarctica, but on November 14, the 60th Air Mobility Wing landed the first jet carrying 12.9 tons of cargo. Over hundreds of missions, the C-141s would carry essential supplies to installations in Antarctica, as well as hosting passengers that included penguins, gulls, and seal pups. Lockheed C-141s would continue participating in Operation Deep Freeze until they were decommissioned from the Air Force in 2004. Due to the Antarctic Treaty of 1959, US military involvement in Antarctica, including Operation Deep Freeze, continues to be for peaceful and scientific purposes only.

Information courtesy of: www.amc.af.mil / "Operation Deep Freeze," Office of History Air Mobility Command

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IT'S FINALLY ARRIVED - DEER GUN SEASON

Patricia Stockdill

The 2023 North Dakota deer gun season begins promptly at 12 p.m. CT Nov. 10.

After that, hunting hours begin one-half hour before sunrise until the season closes.

It would be understandable if those shooting hours beg a question: "Why does the season start at noon and from then on it's OK to start shortly before sunrise?"

The answer is simple: Tradition.

It's so traditional that many deer hunters opposed the idea when an attempt to start opening day prior to noon was proposed many years ago.

So it's noon.

Admittedly, it gives hunters a bit more time to get their gear organized - never mind the fact it probably should have already been organized sooner.

But still, knowing that extra time is available in the morning can make it, well, more traditional - plus more time for another cup of coffee.

Now it's officially underway, here's a test of one's North Dakota deer season knowledge in the form of Fact or Fiction:

Fact or fiction: Deer season is a state holiday.

Unfortunately, that's fiction. However, it probably should be a state holiday for those lucky license holders drawn in units where tags are tough to come by.

• Fact or fiction: It's OK to shoot a deer and put someone else's tag on it.

Wrong, wrong, wrong. That's definitely fiction. Doing so could get the people involved in some serious trouble with their local game warden when they are caught.

• Fact or fiction: The deer carcass tag needs to accompany the deer carcass.

Yup, that's a fact. That's why it's called a carcass tag. It needs to accompany the meat to the meat processor. If a hunter processes the meat themselves, it still needs to stay with the carcass.

• Fact or fiction: A deer license is the only license a hunter needs to deer hunt.

Wrong and wrong again. That's totally fiction. Deer hunters are required to possess a fishing, hunting and furbearer certificate and general game and habitat license or combination license.

• Fact or fiction: North Dakota's "hunter orange" requirement includes a head covering and outer clothing measuring at least 400 square inches.

Yes, that's a fact. And speaking of "hunter orange", while it's not required when upland game hunting, it's still a good idea because it makes hunters more visible to others in the field.

• Fact or fiction: Camouflage orange is OK to wear while deer hunting in North Dakota.

Wrong. There's a reason it's called camouflage orange. Even though camo orange has hunter orange coloration in its design, it's not solid hunter orange.

Skip wearing that camo orange cap while deer hunting. Instead, save it for upland hunting where solid orange isn't required. Or better yet, wear it to a local wildlife conservation organization's fundraising banquet.

• Fact or fiction: North Dakota defines "edible flesh" as "both front quarters, both hind quarters, and back straps but does not include meat ruined by bullet or natural causes."

Yes, that's a fact, which a person would know if they read the 2023 North Dakota deer hunting guide, a summary of regulations hunters receive with their license.

• Fact or fiction: It's OK to bait on N.D. Game and Fish Department Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs).

Yikes, that's more fiction. It's most definitely not OK to bait on WMAs. In fact, all hunters should be familiar with North Dakota's baiting and chronic wasting disease regulations.

It's illegal to bait in several units regardless of land ownership (check the 2023 deer hunting guide for details), WMAs, all land owned and managed by N. D. State Parks and Recreation, Department of Trust, and N.D. State Forest Service. Plus, it's illegal to bait on all U.S. Forest Service National Grasslands, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service land.

• Fact or fiction: The 2023 North Dakota deer gun season closes Nov. 26.

Yes, that's a fact. The four-month-plus long deer archery season with its unlimited number of resident licenses doesn't shut down until Jan. 7, 2024 while the state's muzzleloader season runs Dec. 1 through Dec. 17 for its lucky lottery licensed hunters.

And, finally, here's another fact: All hunters should keep "safety first" a priority, whether it's deer or any other hunting season.



The velvet embracing this mule deer's antlers in the fall will be gone when the 2023 deer gun season opens Nov. 10.

PATRICIA STOCKDILL PHOTO



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WHAT'S GOING ON MAFB

FRIDAY 10

- Veteran's Day (Observed)
- For a full listing of Veteran's Day holiday facility hours, visit 5thforcesupport.com
- Friday Night Mixed League, 1800, Rough Rider Bowling Center

SATURDAY 11

- For a full listing of Veteran's Day holiday facility hours, visit 5thforcesupport.com
- Veteran's Day Special Lunch, 1030-1330, Dakota Inn Dining Facility
- Youth Bowling League, 1400, Rough Rider Bowling Center
- Free Bowling, 1700-2100, Rough Rider Bowling Center

SUNDAY 12

- For a full listing of Veteran's Day holiday facility hours, visit 5thforcesupport.com

MONDAY 13

- AFGSC Family Day
- For a full listing of Veteran's Day holiday facility hours, visit 5thforcesupport.com
- Craft Club, 1800, Minot AFB Library

TUESDAY 14

- November Fitness Challenge, 0500-2100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Informed Decision Seminar, 0800-1200, Professional Development Center
- Game Day, 1000-1930, Minot AFB Library
- American Education Week – Tuition Assistance Workshop, 1000, Education Center, Room 211
- Family Bootcamp, 1000, Turf hosted by McAdoo Fitness Center
- American Education Week – Veterans Benefits Workshop, 1040, Education Center, Room 211
- Commissioning Briefing, 1130-1300, Professional Development Center
- Zumba, 1800, McAdoo Fitness Center

WEDNESDAY 15

- November Fitness Challenge, 0500-2100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Sponsorship Training, 0900-1100, M&FRC
- American Education Week – SkillBridge Workshop, 1000, Education Center, Room 211
- Pre-Deployment/Remote Readiness Training, 1000, M&FRC, Zoom Meeting
- Storytime, 1030, Minot AFB Library
- Zumba, 1800, McAdoo Fitness Center

THURSDAY 16

- November Fitness Challenge, 0500-2100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Pre-Separation Counseling, 0830-1130, M&FRC
- American Education Week – Military Spouse Education and Opportunities Workshop, 1000, Education Center, Room 211
- Family Bootcamp, 1000, Turf hosted by McAdoo Fitness Center
- Reintegration Briefing, 1000-1100, M&FRC, Zoom Meeting
- American Education Week – Dependent Opportunities with On-Base Schools, 1015, Education Center, Room 211
- American Education Week – Military & Family Readiness Center Brief, 1030, Education Center, Room 211
- American Education Week – Pursuing Higher Education in 3 Steps Workshop, 1330, Education Center, Room 211
- OSI Recruitment Briefing 101, 1500, Professional Development Center
- Yoga, 1700, McAdoo Fitness Center
- DIY Epoxy Cutting Board Class, 1730-1930, Arts & Crafts Center
- Extramural Bowling, 1730, Rough Rider Bowling Center
- Craft Club, 1800, Minot AFB Library
- Zumba, 1800, McAdoo Fitness Center

FRIDAY 17

- November Fitness Challenge, 0500-2100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- JCM – The Power of One, 0800-1600, Professional Development Center
- American Education Week – Education Fair, 1030-1300, Dakota Inn Dining Facility, hosted by the Education Center
- Zumba: Strong Nation, 1700, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Gobble Up Skate Night, 1800-2000, Youth Center
- Friday Night Mixed League, 1800, Rough Rider Bowling Center
- Swerk, 1830, McAdoo Fitness Center

SATURDAY 18

- Poké-Lab Mystery Escape Room Game Ends, Minot AFB Library
- Zumba, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Youth Bowling League, 1400, Rough Rider Bowling Center
- R4R Free Bowling, 1700-2100, Rough Rider Bowling Center

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TRIBUTE TO SERVICE

Tribute To Service was an idea by the editorial & columnist staff at the Northern Sentry to feature stories on Veterans that we may know or touched base with during our journalist careers. We wanted to publish this special section on November 10, the day before Veterans Day 2023. Our thanks to the many merchants who have supported us in our efforts. Also, thanks to those who took the time to share their stories.

By their very nature the many who have served this great country do not brag about the time they spent defending our freedom. Instead they go quietly about their lives as normal citizens. They may be your neighbor, or friend, or just someone you meet at a local Scout or PTA meeting. It is with pride that we at the Northern Sentry publish "Tribute to Service" knowing that these are a very few of the thousands of stories that could be featured.

northernsentry

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE NEWSPAPER | WWW.NORTHERNSENTRY.COM

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HONORING ALL THOSE THAT SERVED FAITHFULLY



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TRIBUTE TO SERVICE

Vietnam Molds a Young Soldier

I Was a Pretty Damned Experienced Captain When I Left

RODNEY WILSON, NORTHERN SENTRY

It was the 17th of January in 1966 when a very young Robert (Robbie) Blatherwick entered the U.S. Army. He was 18, and the world focus was on a small coastal strip of land in Southeast Asia known as Viet Nam, and more specifically North and South Vietnam.

The war in Vietnam had been ramping up since the end of World War II, but the U.S. involvement would come to a peak in 1969 when over 543,000 American combat troops were stationed in Vietnam, and Robbie Blatherwick was one of them. "I enlisted as Airborne unassigned. Like everyone else in the military, you take a pretty big battery of tests. They said do you want to go to OCS (Officer Candidate School) and my thought was that if you are dumb enough to send me to OCS, I'm dumb enough to go, so I spent pretty much the first 2 years training" according to Robbie.

My friendship with Robbie would come quite some time after his military career, but I would probably be one of the first to step up and tell you that his assessment of his intelligence at that time in his life was far from accurate. Rob's father was a medical doctor, and a World War II vet who spent time in a German run prison camp. Robbie was active in Boy Scouts and was one of only 3 per cent of all Scouts nationwide to attain the rank of Eagle Scout. It was through Scouting that I would meet Robbie, and it was through Scouting that I learned so much from him. You see Robbie was one of the best leaders of young men that I have ever met. He has a way of bringing out the best in a young Scout working to learn a skill so that they can advance on their Scouting journey. It certainly did not surprise me that he would soft sell getting into OCS, but I can guarantee you that it wasn't because the U.S. Army knew he was going to fail. Far from that. I am pretty sure they saw what I saw, an ability to educate, reason and lead.

There is another side of Robbie that makes him a leader; he will try just about anything. "I managed to get into jump school (skydiving school) before I went to OCS" remembers Robbie "and 4 guys from my OCS company were selected for Special Forces, the only 4 guys who had already gone to jump school." Robbie will then tell you that standards in those days were a lot different than they are now.

But again, I am not buying into that rhetoric. Special Forces is an elite group of combat ready troops, jump school or no jump school.

Basic training for Rob would be at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri, AIT (or Advanced Individual Training) for infantry was at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and back to OCS at Fort Benning, which is now Fort Moore in Georgia.

The Vietnam War was now in major escalation mode "I got there just before Tet at the end of 1967 and stayed there for 3 years. I got back in 1971" so a bit of quick math will tell you that the Vietnam experience for Blatherwick would be 3-4 years. "I kept on extending for 6 months. They had a policy that if you extended for 6 months you would get 30 days of leave plus 15 days of travel time that didn't count against your regular leave."

VIETNAM

Army Special Forces was headquartered in Nha Trang "it's kind of the central part of South Viet Nam, right along the coast" according to Blatherwick. There was a short trip to Japan to deal with a medical issue, and when returning to Vietnam the now Lt. Blatherwick asked to be assigned to Command and Control. "Our operational areas were Laos, Cambodia and small incursions in North Vietnam" says Blatherwick. It was special operations. (Robbie pauses) I was an inexperienced 2nd Lieutenant when I got there, and a pretty damned experienced Captain when I left. But then I was a 22 year old Captain. Most guys don't get commissioned until they are well past 22. I can explain by saying they were looking for warm bodies, so things got expedited."

Many of us can remember the nightly news stories about Vietnam, and on one particular evening President Nixon would talk about the U.S. invading Cambodia in an area called the Parrot's Beak. The move was to cut off the supply chain that flowed down the Ho Chi Minh Trail, which according to Robbie was a better way than the 6 man Special Forces teams that would operate to slow down supply trains to the south from North Vietnam.

AUGUST 23, 1968

For Robbie Blatherwick August 23rd, 1968, is a date that will never be forgotten. His Special Forces

group was operating out of a base near Da Nang, located on the South China sea. "There are different stories about how we should have known what was coming, that the CIA had actually warned us, and the command had maybe disregarded those warnings. I don't know whether all of that is true or not, but I don't believe it" according to Blatherwick.

Blatherwick's recollection is that about 2:45 AM there was small arms fire "and everybody was 100% alert immediately even though many people were cornered in their hooch." Special Forces had to rely on Indigenous forces to fill out their ranks and they had a real hard time with security. "I look at a Vietnamese and I can't tell whether he's a North Vietnamese or a South Vietnamese" according to Blatherwick "or what his politics are. He could still be a South Vietnamese, but a communist South Vietnamese." On that particular night the guard towers "maybe 4 or 6, or even more" says Robbie, were compromised. The guards were killed in the towers and the main North Vietnamese force came in from the water side. "They were sappers, which were engineers, all hopped up on opium and they had a rifle. Some had grenades, and some had other charges."

There were 300 or maybe even more friendly troops in the camp that night. On the other side, there were 51 intruders. The fighting went on for 2 or 3 hours, and "we recovered our perimeter" Robbie says.

A STORY OF SURVIVAL

As troops inside the hooch that Blatherwick occupied grabbed gear and boots, a grenade would come in the door and hit him in the chest and fell on the floor "and I couldn't see it. I didn't really know what it was and someone else yelled grenade. I just dropped to the floor and swept everything I could find under me, and it didn't go off. One of the occupants in the hooch would go out the door and immediately got shot. When I poked my head out, he said there's a guy right on the corner, right on the corner, but I couldn't see without leaning way out. Travis kept telling me there was a guy on the corner. I yelled that all I could see was a sandbag. Travis yelled shoot the **** sandbag. I jumped out and while I was in the air I fired shots and managed to kill him."

There were several more incidents



of bravery that night by Blatherwick and others in the compound. It could have been worse, but the bottom line was that 51 perished that night, and 17 of them were Americans. Robbie would eventually jump into a bullet riddled ambulance, not expecting it to start, but it did start, and Robbie spent the rest of the night driving around picking up wounded and taking them to the dispensary. "There were a lot more bullet holes in that ambulance when I ended than when I began."

AFTER VIETNAM

As a journalist, I always ask if there is anything my interviewee would like to add to the story. Points I may have missed. "Well, you know me pretty well, Rod. I certainly wasn't expecting ticker tape parades when I returned from Vietnam, but I never expected that someone would walk up to me because I was in uniform and spit on me." After hearing this,

I asked many of my Vietnam era friends about their arrival back in the United States. All of them had dealt with similar experiences. My thoughts would often return to my conversation with Robbie, and the moment where he made the decision to pull what could have been a live grenade under his body to save those around him. Driving around in an ambulance saving others at the risk of his own life. I guess I can understand now why those who serve often serve in silence. Why those who are still alive are determined to give proper military rights to those who pass, because it is what they deserve.

Again, I go back to the moment when Robert Blatherwick made the cut and was sent to Officer's Candidate School. Not sure who decided to send Robbie, but if he was looking for someone to lead and who would readily give his life for his country, as I see it he certainly made the right decision.



VETERANS DAY

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

We honor those who have given it all, and those who put their lives on the line to serve our country.



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TRIBUTE TO SERVICE

Walter Parcels Survives Two Hair Raising Mid-Air Attacks – Comes Home!

EXCERPT FROM "THE HEROES NEXT DOOR" BY MARLAN L. HVINDEN & NANCY BERGESON HVINDEN



Walter Parcels, 1940 Yearbook PHOTO PUBLIC DOMAIN

Walter Parcels. Parcels was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Parcels born in 1922 and spent his youth at Oberon, until the family moved, ending up at Kingston, Washington. Parcels' father, a Benson Co. native, served in the United States Army during World War I. Walter was quick to enlist in the Army Air Corps, doing so December 23, 1941, as he had given his 2 week notice at the newspaper where he worked as a printer on December 8, 1941.

had its share of hard-to-believe stories, but none can surpass the story filed by AP correspondent Wes Gallagher about a B-17 Flying Fortress "Phyllis" and her crew. What began as an ordinary routine flight became a story of one of the most remarkable fights of the war, the homeward journey of a Flying Fortress all shot to pieces high over France, was unfolded today by the crew that survived the venture. The story that follows are Gallagher's and appeared in newspapers worldwide served by the Associated Press News Service.

"The fortress named "Phyllis" was attacked by forty Focke-Wulf 190 fighter planes during Friday's big raid on Maulte, and when Lt. Charles Paine of Waycross, Ga., the pilot, headed home, this was her plight: Two of four motors were out of Commission, rudder and stabilizer bore three holes a piece, half of



Parcels 2nd from left AAF PHOTO

Komarek; Waist gunner: Sgt Herbert M Peterson; Upper turret gunner: Sgt Thomas J Coburn, Junior; Ball turret: Sgt Ralph L. Sheeder; Tail Gunner: Sgt. Bent Taucher; Radio Gunner: Sgt. Arthur Bouthillier; Radio Gunner: Sgt. Walter Parcels.

turret cutting Coburn's head badly. Blinded by blood. Coburn kept firing until he fell unconscious between the two pilots.

The second motor went out over the channel and Sheeder was wounded slightly by a shell which hit the ball turret. Peterson also was wounded but continued to battle finally the Germans gave up the chase in mid-channel and Paine made for the nearest airfields scarcely 1/3 of the size required for the fortress to land on. Paine saw a larger field and made for it, coming down in a belly landing. Except for Coburn, who is in the hospital, the rest of the crew

Glenn Parcels was by now a Tech Sgt., had flown 50 missions, survived two missions which made national news coverage, and wasn't yet 21 years old. He had earned the Air Medal and Oak Leaf Cluster. It was time to go home to Washington on leave.

After the war Parcels returned to Washington state and resumed his career as a newspaper printer. He passed away in 2009 in Washington state.

**Research uncovered since this story was written in 2019: In October, 1943 Parcels was a patient at a Veteran's Hospital in Texas. He was diagnosed with epilepsy and honorably discharged November, 1943.

The story mentioned at the bottom of the magazine cover was the full after the event story chronicled to war correspondent Don Whitehead by the crew of the "Phyllis"

Riddled Flying Fortress Survives Savage Attack by 40 Nazi Planes

American Craft All But Shot to Pieces During Raid on France

Ark-La-Tex News 3
BY WES GALLAGHER.
With the United States Flying Fortress Command. Somewhere in England (AP)—The stirring story of one of the most remarkable flights of the war, the homeward journey of a Flying Fortress all but shot to pieces high over France, was unfolded today by the crew which survived the venture.
The fortress, named "Phyllis," was attacked by 40 Focke-Wulf 190's during Friday's big raid on Maulte, and when Lt. Charles Paine, 27, of Waycross, Ga., the pilot, headed home this was her plight:
Two motors were out of commission, rudder and stabilizer bore three shell holes apiece, half the controls were shot away, the landing gear was smashed, a huge hole was in one wing and there were 200 holes in the fuselage.

Some in Crew Wounded.
But the fortress fluttered back home, some of her crewmen wounded.
Lieutenant Paine's crew included:
Copilot: Lt. Robert Long, 25, of Sweetwater, Texas.
Navigator: Lt. John A. Thompson, 22, of St. Louis.
Bombardier: Lt. Stanley A. Komarek, 27, of Muskegon, Mich.
Waist Gunner: Sgt. Herbert M. Peterson, 21, of Des Moines, Texas.
Upper Turret Gunner: Sgt. Thomas J. Coburn, Jr., 22, of Fort Fort, Pa.
Ball Turret: Sgt. Ralph L. Sheeder, 22, of Six Mile Run, Pa.
Tail Gunner: Sgt. Bent Taucher, 20, of Rock Springs, Wyo.
Radio Gunner: Sgt. Arthur Bouthillier, 22, of Westcott, R. I.
Radio Gunner: Sgt. Walter Parcels, 20, of Kingston, Wash.

Paine joined the squadron the night before that biggest fortress raid yet upon the continent and saw the rest of his crew for the first time when they stepped into the plane.
"We had just crossed the target when trouble started," Paine related. "I suddenly heard shouts from every quarter of the plane. 'Here they come!'"
40 Planes Jump Fortress.
"About 40 FW-190's, including some from Goering's yellow nose squadron, jumped us."
Attacked from all sides, the Fortress guns blazed back. Bouthillier

down," he said. "We had to stand up in our seats and push forward with all our might. Then the ship slowly nosed down."
Nearing the coast, an anti-aircraft shell hit the plane and a cannon shell from a German fighter scored a direct hit on the upper turret, cutting Coburn's head badly. Blinded by blood, Coburn kept firing until he fell unconscious between the two pilots.
Second Motor Goes Out.
A second motor went out over the channel and Sheeder was wounded slightly by a shell which hit the ball turret. Peterson also was wounded but continued the battle.
Finally the Germans gave up the chase in mid-channel and Paine made for the nearest airfield scarcely a third of the size required for a Fortress to land on.
Paine saw a larger field and made for it, coming down in a belly-landing.
Except for Coburn, who is in the hospital, the rest of the crew returned to duty today.

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Paine joined the squadron the night before the biggest fortress raid yet upon the continent and saw the rest of his crew for the first time when they stepped into the plane. "We're just crossed the target when trouble started," Paine related, "I suddenly heard shouts from every quarter of the plane, 'here they come.' About 40 fighters, including some of Goering's yellow nose squadron jumped us and attacked from all sides, the fortress guns blazed back. Bouthillier's oxygen mask broke away from his face as he slipped to the floor unconscious.

Parcels leaped to take his place at the gun, which jammed, but by the time he got it cleared a cannon shot cut his oxygen tube and he too became unconscious. Then two cannon shells knocked motor out and the fortress began losing altitude. At this point an anti-aircraft shell ripped a hole in the wing and the rudder and stabilizer were damaged. "I was busy shooting at those German fighters coming up at us I didn't notice anything," Taucher said.

When he landed, he found three bullet holes three inches from his head and between his legs. another burst of cannon fire inside the fortress knocked out some controls and Payne said the aircraft almost went out of control. The ship's nose wouldn't go down, he said, we had to stand up in our seats and pushed forward with all our might then the ship slowly nosed down. Nearing the coast an anti-aircraft shell hit the plane and a cannon shell from a German fighter scored a direct hit on the upper

'Dirty Girty's' 63rd Run Almost Her Last

By DON WHITEHEAD
WITH THE UNITED STATES SEVENTH ARMY IN SICILY, July 7.—(Delayed)—"Dirty Girty," from somewhere in North Africa, was the first Flying Fortress to land in Sicily—but it was an emergency landing strip that became the target for enemy fighters that morning.
"I'm certainly glad you boys took this strip of land," Hammond said in a cheering crowd of soldiers which gathered around the battered plane.
"If you hadn't, I'd be floating around in the Mediterranean somewhere."
"Dirty Girty" was one of a large flight of Phantoms which was over the tip of Italy this morning, to bomb San Giovanni. The raid was directed at the harbor, from which small boats and ferries have been plying the strait to Sicily.
Another member of the crew was Staff Sgt. John White, New Orleans, the waist gunner.

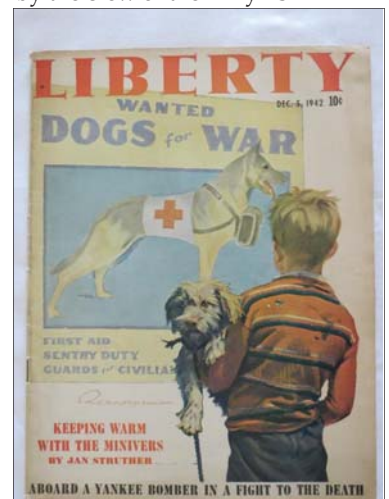
returned to duty today."

Only 8 months after his close call on "Phyllis," Parcels was radio gunner on a crew taking part in the North African campaign. By now he had 49 missions under his belt, and this was to be his final one, number 50. He could go home on leave after this one. It was the invasion of Sicily, Operation Husky. The B-17's had been bombing German airfields in the boot of Italy and their mission was San Giovanni and small ships in the harbor. Only hours earlier the landing forces had captured the runway.

"Dirty Girty" was hit by heavy fire and forced to make an emergency landing. She became the first Allied plane to land in Sicily.

Capt. Hammond was a young but skillful pilot. He not only brought Dirty Girty safely down with no injuries to the crew, but he went on to complete 50 missions himself with the enviable record of never losing a crew member.

Syndicated story, nationwide release, July, 1943



Dirty Girty Purty Happy After Landing On Sicilian Field

By DON WHITEHEAD

With the United States Seventh Army in Sicily, July 7.—(Delayed)—(P)—Dirty Girty, from somewhere in North Africa, was the first Flying Fortress to land on Sicily—but it was an unscheduled stop which had the crew thinking that maybe Girty's sixty-third bombing mission over enemy territory would be her last.

The bomber was in plenty of trouble when First Lieutenant Earl Hammond of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, set her down on an emergency landing strip that invasion troops captured several days ago.

"I'm certainly glad you boys took this strip of land," Hammond told a cheering crowd of soldiers which gathered around the battered plane. "If you hadn't, I'd be floating around in the Mediterranean somewhere."

Dirty Girty was one of a large flight of fortresses which went over the toe of Italy this morning to bomb San Giovanni. The raid was directed at the harbor, from which small boats and ferries have been plying the strait to Sicily.

"When we went in for our bombing run they threw everything but the kitchen stove at us," Hammond said. "There was ample flak and plenty accurate."

One of the happiest members of the crew was Technical Sergeant Walter Parcels of Kingston, Washington, the radio operator, because it was his last flight before going home for a well-earned rest. Parcels has flown on 50 missions over enemy territory and thus qualifies for home leave.

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TRIBUTE TO SERVICE

MSgt Ed Zilli US Army

TED BOLTON, NORTHERN SENTRY

It was June 6th 1944, D-Day.... As part of the US Army's 4th Infantry Division (known as the Ivy Division), Sgt Edward John Zilli had crossed the Atlantic on the Queen Mary, landed in Scotland, rode a blacked out train to a small village in England, had several months of additional field training, and now found himself crossing the English Channel on an LST heading for Utah Beach in Normandy, France.

Ed grew up on Long Island New York, right on the ocean, and was a great swimmer so he wanted to be as high on that ship as possible. When I asked why he replies "I could swim like a fish, and I figured if that ship got hit and was going down I wanted to be able hit the water and not be trapped inside." He went on "you know a lot of my guys weren't good swimmers, so I told them if you end up in the water dump your gear, everything including your rifle. It's no good to you if you're drowned." It was that kind of common sense thinking that helped him not only survive the war, but to excel in both his military & law enforcement careers. The "Ivy Division" was the first unit to land on Utah Beach. Once his feet hit the beach Ed spent the next twelve months in almost constant motion, involved in some of the most notable

events of the war. After fighting his way off the beaches of Normandy and through the hedge rows of France, he helped liberate Paris. Sgt



MSgt Ed Zilli

Zilli says, "There was no time to enjoy Paris that summer. We were moving and fighting constantly, but I sure had some good times in Paris the following summer!" After

liberating Paris and eastern France, it was on in to Germany, fighting in the Hürtgen Forest, and later the Battle of the Bulge in the frigid winter with only light jackets. He also remembers crossing the Rhine and so many other battles both named and unnamed. Then on May 8th 1945 he and his men were only a few miles from Pilsen, Czechoslovakia, home of the world famous Pilsner Urquell Brewery, when word of the German surrender reached them. When I asked what did you think when you heard the war was over? Zilli's eyes light up and he says "Hell, we were so close to getting that great beer, you know, just one more day and we would have been there! I mean, of course we were all happy it was over, but we had been thinking about that beer for days, and it was just a few clicks away...."

That is just a glimpse of my father in-law's amazing 100 years of life.

God willing Sgt Zilli will celebrate 101 trips around the sun February 8th. He lives across the street from us and I have been his primary care giver since he survived covid in 2020.

I thank God for all the brave men and women who have served our great country, and I'm especially proud to know this one personally.



A Uniform Reality

MSGT JASON LAWYER, 5TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON



MSgt. Jason Lawyer welcomed home by his family after returning from a 2021 deployment.

Air Force members are part of the "uniformed services", but everyone has a unique experience during their time of service. Specifically, for enlisted Airmen, we can all relate to our rite of passage at Lackland AFB, including our joyous march down the "Bomb Run" during graduation weekend. From that location, we all dispersed into our assigned career fields, and learned from our first supervisor and subsequent chain of command at our first duty station.

These unique experiences build upon an individual's inherited traits, ultimately influencing a person's character. The "uniform" qualities from all levels become a part of our genetics, to include an exclusive objective of a Major Command all the way to a specific installation with a diverse mix of people, and its climatical challenges!

During my upbringing in the Air Force family, I have served with members born from at least 16 different countries and worked alongside members of our sister services, including Airmen who previously wore the uniform of a sister service. Perhaps the

greatest asset of this family is the continuity and experience shared from our civilian counterparts. For example, I recently gained lasting insight and long-range viewpoints from a retired Chief, who in fact also mentored a handful of Chief's currently serving within the civil engineer enterprise. Ultimately, we forge friendships, challenge and develop each other, and at times discipline one another to correct and mold a better professional.

Life as enlisted requires daily calculated tradeoffs. There are more tasks and requirements asked of us than we can skillfully complete. As military professionals, we balance the tasks and constraints to complete the priority. To put things simply, as big "A" Airmen, we execute. A cost is always incurred from any accomplishment or achievement, and we do our best to remedy and reduce those costs. We solve problems and find solutions. As a family, we make it happen and get it done! Thanks, fellow family members for your service, additionally, thanks to our families at home who selflessly give all the support we need in order to serve!

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TRIBUTE TO SERVICE

Minot Bomber Alum: Col (Ret) Jeff Beene

ERIN BEENE

Military service is both a sacrifice and a privilege. Service members of all branches and their families are honored every Veterans Day as a thank-you for keeping America protected against foreign invaders. The US Armed Forces technically erupted during the country's birth in 1776; however, the US Air Force has been honoring its members since 1947 when it became a separate military branch. The Air Force plays a strong part in Minot's history and one small part of that slice of history is Colonel (Ret) Jeff Beene, USAF.

Every service member has a unique story to tell. Col Beene began his military career right here in North Dakota. First Lieutenant Beene- at the time- and his newlywed wife, Carol, arrived in the state on a sub-zero January day in 1984. Both from Texas originally, the weather was "a cold like we had never seen" remarked Col Beene.

Col Beene was assigned to the 23rd Bomb Squadron when he arrived. Back then, at the height of the Cold War, each B-52 crew sat "on alert" for a week at a time, similar to what the 91st Missile Wing members do today in the missile field. While on alert, Col Beene explained that the B-52 pilots and team lived in a facility and could expect to have a "klaxon" - alarm that signals rapid reaction - at least once per week. During these alarms, Airmen had

no idea if the alert was an exercise or real-life situation until they were suited up and ready to take action in the aircraft. Fortunately, Col Beene was grateful never to have carried out a real-world bomber attack mission during his years at MAFB. He said that bombers were on alert status like this until the Soviet Union dissolved and the threat lessened in 1991.

Col Beene recalled that time in his life by explaining how close the squadron members were and how much of their lives - when not on alert - were simply lived on base, which was more robust with services at the time. He explained that back then, the town of Minot was nothing like it is today, and he and his wife spent the majority of their time with the on base community attending First Friday events, squadron functions at the O-Club and church at the North Plains Chapel.

Having visited Minot AFB in the past year, Col Beene commented on the positive growth and amenities now offered in the city. When asked about what he remembers about his time here in the 1980s, Col Beene noted the unique core of community leaders and support the base had from the city of Minot. Col Beene specifically remembered the support of Bruce Christianson. He said Mr. Christianson was always willing to support the base and they developed

a working friendship. Nearly 30 years later, when Col Beene went on to work as Director of Staff at Global Strike Headquarters at Barksdale AFB, he was pleasantly surprised to reconnect with Mr. Christianson, who still remained a dedicated community leader and supporter of Minot AFB.

When asked if he remembered Col Beene and the times spent in the 1980's, Christianson said "Yes!" He recalled Col Beene as a "real fine man." Christianson was a Minot City Councilman back then and said they spent a lot of time trying to make sure everyone felt welcome in the Magic City. He remarked, "times were certainly different, but we had lots of fun forming relationships [with the MAFB Airmen]. We would have golf tournaments and game shooting competitions." Today, Christianson remains a long-time member of Task Force 21, the committee aimed at working with local & state government to represent and lobby for Minot Air Force Base. He plans to continue working on the strong bond between the base and the city of Minot.

Many Airmen have made their way North through Minot AFB's gates, and many will still follow. Their stories are all different. Col Beene went on from North Dakota and served 26 years on active duty in the Air Force before retiring in 2008.

After that, he served an additional decade as a civil servant. He lived at 13 different duty stations and traveled the globe during his active

duty time protecting the United States. Thank-you for your service, Col Beene!



Some of Col. Beene's memorabilia from his time at Minot AFB in the mid 1980's.



1984, 23rd Bomb Squadron crew in Puerto Rico where they were deployed for an exercise. L-R: Capt Drew Hodges, Navigator; Capt Craig Bendorf, Aircraft Commander; Capt Bill Koenitzer, Radar Navigator; SSgt James Lockhart, Gunner; Capt Gary Ergish, Electronic Warfare Officer; Lt Jeff Beene, Copilot

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TRIBUTE TO SERVICE

Hillstead reveals World War II contribution

MARVIN BAKER



Jim Hillstead, Army photo 1943

was told his squad would be setting up radar, a cutting-edge technology in the early 1940s that did indeed change the outcome of the war for the Americans.

Upon arriving in Burma, Hillstead's unit was told the Army Air Corps was losing a plane a day because it couldn't get over "the hump," a Burmese mountain that was a major obstacle in getting supplies in and wounded Soldiers out.

After setting up that initial radar station somewhere on the Burma Road, Hillstead said the United States didn't lose another airplane because the pilots were able to navigate above or around "the hump."

Hillstead and his men were given accolades from the Army for being a critical link in the success of the U.S. mission in Asia against Imperial Japan.

That said, Hillstead's superiors offered him a career option of being a radar instructor at Drew Field,

which is where Tampa International Airport is now located.

He said no for a couple of reasons. No. 1, he didn't get along with one of his officers and said it would be perogatory as long as that man was in the Army. Second, his sweetheart Sylvia, who became his wife for many years, was waiting back in North Dakota and that was more important than an exotic mission in Florida.

Radar wasn't the only thing Hillstead was involved in during the war. He and other Soldiers in his unit surveilled nearby Japanese soldiers and reported their movements back to headquarters.

He said at one point, the Japanese were so close, he could have reached out and touched them. But Hillstead and his buddy were concealed well in the bush and the Japanese passed by without seeing them.

He also talked of another time when his unit was on a move and one of the trucks broke down as the Japanese were advancing. Nobody

knew what to do, but Hillstead said that's when his North Dakota farm boy mentality kicked in. He cannibalized parts from another truck to get the broken down truck operating well enough to retreat.

Hillstead came home from the war unscathed and he and Sylvia lived long and happy lives, until recently when Sylvia passed away. The couple had three children and one of them, Terri, lives in Australia.

Hillstead hauled cattle in the late 1940s with his brother, but became successful as an antique dealer. He carried that out for many years and only recently sold his collection.

Like nearly everyone else from

the Greatest Generation, Hillstead to this day remains a humble man about his involvement in one of the greatest tests the United States has ever faced.

Until about three years ago, Hillstead drove a black Ford Ranger around Kenmare every day and when he became too old to drive, he walked about three blocks each day to the Kenmare Post Office to greet people picking up their mail.

In 2022, Hillstead was named grand marshal for Kenmare's 125th Jubilee parade. He continues to visit the Kenmare Senior Citizens Center to play cards and visit.

In a way, Jim Hillstead's story about military service is much the same as other veterans, but in another way, it is completely different.

Hillstead, who is 103 and lives quietly with his son Kelly in Kenmare, took on a significant military role when he was drafted into the Army in World War II in 1941.

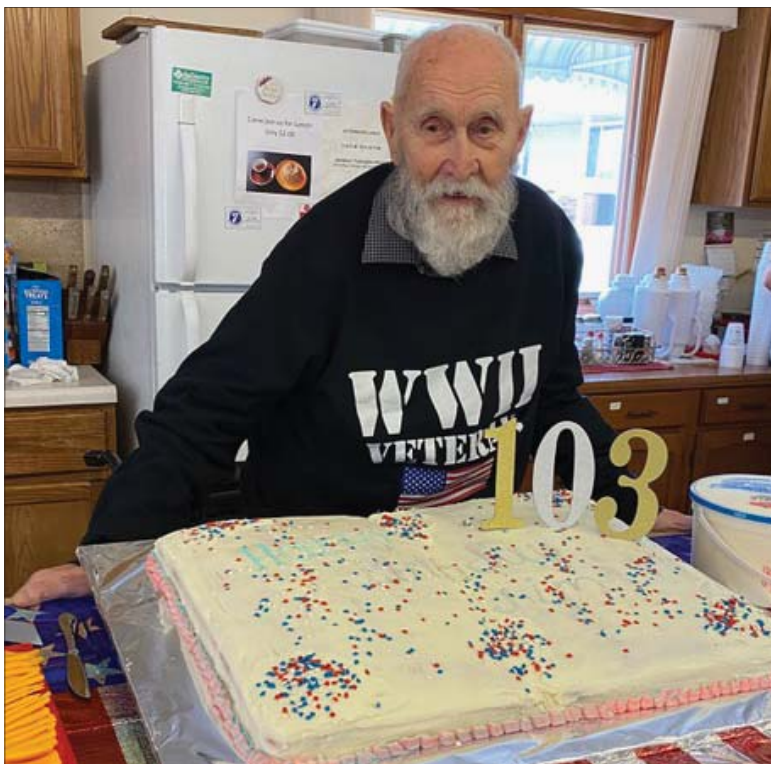
Hillstead, who didn't go to high school, read a lot of books when he was young, learned about the Burma Road and became fascinated with it, an infrastructure project that took 200,000 Chinese workers to build. Little did he know that seven years later he would actually be driving an Army jeep on that very same road.

When the young, "North Dakota farm boy" was inducted, he told his superiors he wanted to be a truck driver. He took the training, but rather than driving truck, the Army made him a jeep driver for one of his officers.

A short time later, his platoon had a meeting about a "secret unit" that was starting up and could change the complexity of the war. As a curious young Soldier, Hillstead signed up.

Because he grew up on a North Dakota farm and later spent some time in the Civilian Conservation Corps, he quickly moved up the ladder, became a private first class and was shipped off to Burma, which is now called Myanmar.

When Hillstead got to Burma he



Jim Hillstead celebrates his 103rd birthday April 28 in Kenmare. Hillstead is Kenmare's oldest citizen and was drafted into World War II in 1941 at the age of 21.

PHOTO COURTESY THE KENMARE NEWS

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TRIBUTE TO SERVICE

Someone's Baby in the Battle

AMY ALLENDER

There are many tipping points in life. The one I've most recently reached is that funny point when youth doesn't seem all that long ago, but upon looking at a teenager, you can't help think, "What a baby." Maybe you can relate.

This is a strange thing to reflect upon for Veteran's Day, but this is the exact thought I had recently when I looked at a photo of my grandfather in his army uniform.

It's a photo I've seen many times before. But now, as a mother, I view it differently, searching the photo for a genetic resemblance to my own children. They'll never know their great-grandfather, but they see him in photos. They hear stories. For most of my life this photo was just that, a photo. But now, as I look at it all I can think is, "What a baby."

For much of my life, the word "soldier" implied someone very grown-up. They were men and women, far older than me, doing things that took far more courage than I could imagine. I was a child, unwittingly living in the peace and security hard-fought, and intentionally protected by generations of service members, past and present. My days reaped the benefits of the effort they'd put forth, and the atrocities they'd faced, but I was unable to truly wrap my head around what being

in the military—or fighting a war—actually entailed.

At 23, I remember being dumbstruck when I realized I was years older than my father had been when he served during the Vietnam War. Twenty-three was older than my grandfathers and great-grandfathers had been when they had served in World War II, World War I, and the American Revolution. Suddenly soldiers didn't seem like far off grown-ups. They seemed like peers. That hits differently.

Now, as I creep close to 40, I look at images of these men in uniform and see them as utterly young. When I look at those photos, I think of my own sons and what it would be like to watch them leave for conflict. I wish I would have asked my grandmother how her heart withstood watching my dad enlist and leave. He was her baby, after all.

This new tipping point has impacted my view of veterans. Yes, it's those who go, it's those who enlist—they deserve intentional gratitude every day of the year. But it's also generations of parents who have watched their baby go off to war. It's families setting aside the desire to protect their own, in favor of protecting our way of life. It's spouses who keep home-life intact when a service member works late,

deploys, or moves to a new duty station.

Freedom has a way of quietly ticking away in the background of life. Comforting, constant—often unnoticed or taken for granted. The older I get, the louder it seems. America's legacy of veterans is built on a web of individuals willing to sacrifice their entitlement to freedom in order to ensure it for others. It's built on the courage of those who go, and the loving support of those who watch them leave.

I have no war story of my own. I cannot relay valiant tales told to me by my forefathers. They were rather quiet about what they saw and experienced. I can only tell you that I will do my best to ensure that Veteran's Day doesn't turn into a silent holiday in my home, but rather something that is noticed, discussed, and celebrated. We can all do our best to train our children to notice the comforting tick, tick, tick of freedom running smoothly in the background—and ensure they know it didn't get there by chance. We can acknowledge the legacy of those that have come before us. We can remember that those who serve aren't far-off grown-ups, but rather someone's baby. We can appreciate those who serve, and those who stand behind and encourage them to do so.



This framed photo of my grandfather hangs in the guest room of my parents' home.

AMY ALLENDER PHOTO

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