northernsentry

FREE | WWW.NORTHERNSENTRY.COM | VOL. 61 • ISSUE 50 | MINOT AIR FORCE BASE | FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2023

WHATS INSIDE THIS WEEK:



BABY, ITS COLD OUTSIDE...



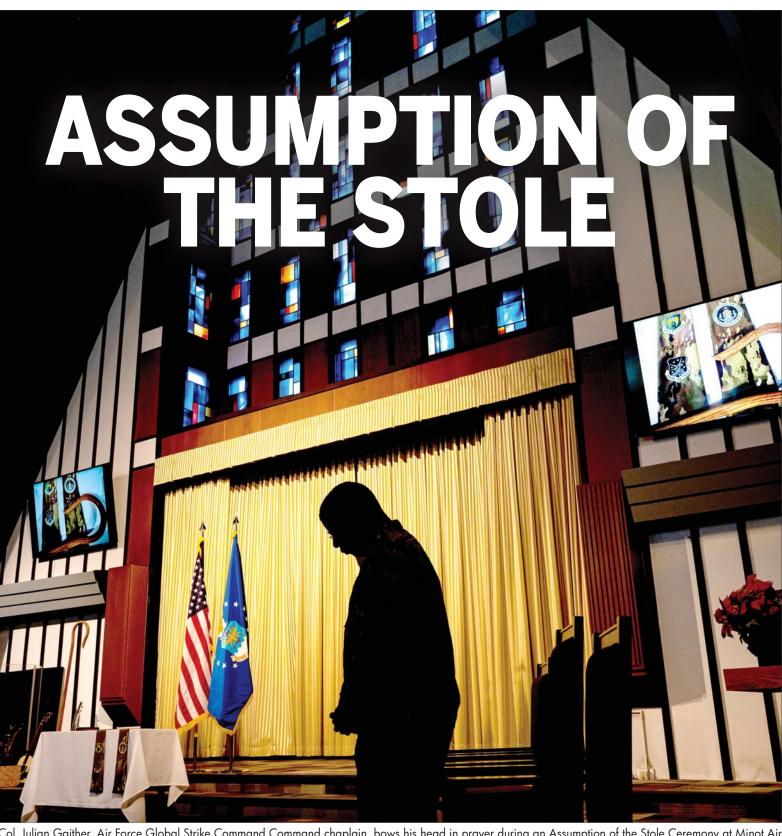
DOWNTOWN MINOT: CP HOLIDAY TRAIN, **LAST MINUTE SHOPPING**

A6-A7



GRACE AT PROJECT BEE

A8



Col. Julian Gaither, Air Force Global Strike Command Command chaplain, bows his head in prayer during an Assumption of the Stole Ceremony at Minot Air Force, North Dakota, Nov. 30, 2023. The assumption of the Stole reminds all chaplains and religious affairs specialists of their calling to serve Soldiers and Families as servant-leaders. See more on page A2.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO I AIRMAN 1ST CLASS ALEXANDER NOTTINGHAM





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AFGSC Chaplain Ensures Spiritual Resilience

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS TRUST TATE, MINOT AIR FORCE BASE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. -- Spiritual resilience is one of the four pillars of resilience in the Air Force, which is a primary component for building resilient Airmen. That is where Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC) command chaplain Col. Julian Gaither comes in. Gaither visited Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota from Nov. 27-Dec. 1, 2023, in pursuit of deepening the connection between AFGSC and Team Minot.

While at Minot AFB, Gaither toured the 5th Bomb Wing & 91st Missile Wing facilities to see the amenities and speak with Airmen and base leadership. During his visit, he participated as the officiating chaplain in the Assumption of the Stole and Crook Ceremony for U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Ronald Feeser 5th Bomb Wing chaplain.

The Stole and Crook ceremony is meant to signify the chaplain's spiritual responsibility to the Airmen on their base. Gaither stated that it is crucial that Airmen know they are being looked out for as well as



U.S. Air Force Col. Julian Gaither, Air Force Global Strike Command command chaplain, speaks to Airmen from Team Minot's chaplain corps at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Nov. 27, 2023.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO I AIRMAN 1ST CLASS KYLE WILSON

looking out for each other.

"Our purpose of coming to Minot is to meet with wing leadership to ensure our chaplain core personnel are meeting leadership expectations and see the mission from the vantage point of our chaplains and religious affairs Airmen," Gaither said.

Gaither said his job is to make sure Airmen across the Air Force Global Strike Command are not only completing the tasks given to them, but also reaching their own goals. The chaplain provides faith opportunities, lends a confidential ear, and gives personal advice so Airmen are strong, and ready to deploy, fight, and win.

Studies conducted by the Department of Defense have shown that spiritual resilience improves optimism, team cohesion and lowers anxiety and depression.

Gaither said a spiritually resilient airmen is an unstoppable one, and his job is to cultivate them.



Lt. Col. Ronald Feeser, 5th Bomb Wing command chaplain, stands at attention to assume the stole from Col. Daniel Hoadley 5th Bomb Wing Commander, and Col. Julian Gaither, Air Force Global Strike Command Command chaplain, at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Nov. 30, 2023. The Assumption of Stole Ceremony allows an incoming chaplain to be formally bestowed their role by a senior officer, but instead of a guidon, the new chaplain receives a stole.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO I AIRMAN 1ST CLASS ALEXANDER NOTTINGHAM



Lt. Col. Ronald Feeser, 5th Bomb Wing command chaplain, gives a speech during an Assumption of the Stole Ceremony at Minot Air Force, North Dakota, Nov. 30, 2023. Wing chaplain responsibilities include advising the commanders on matters of religion, morals and morale, ensuring troops and families have freedom to practice their religion and leading religious support operations for the base.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO I AIRMAN 1ST CLASS ALEXANDER NOTTINGHAM

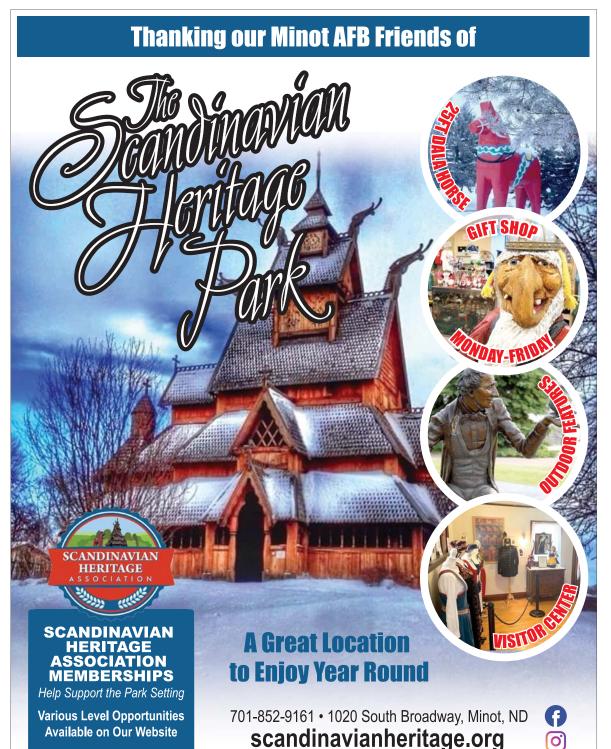


U.S. Air Force Col. Julian Gaither, Air Force Global Strike Command command chaplain, tours the Northern Lights Chapel at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Nov. 27, 2023. Gaither visited in pursuit of deepening the connection between AFGSC and Team Minot.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO I AIRMAN 1ST CLASS KYLE WILSON







ROD WILSON, NORTHERN SENTRY

My first conversation with Lt. Col. Stephen Kroft, Commander of the 5th Contracting Squadron, was at a recent Military Affairs Committee meeting, and the topic that day was the arrival of heated gloves. The heated gloves were not specifically developed for the 54th Helicopter Squadron but were identified as a possible solution for their gunners who are exposed to extreme cold during their missions which require open doors on the helicopters. Heated gloves are being issued to 5 BW and 91 MW maintainers and Security Forces defenders along with others who regularly work in extreme cold temperatures. The 5th Contracting Squadron was able to purchase more than 1,400 pairs of gloves for the 5 BW and 91 MW. Capt. Matt "Savage" Matuszak, the director of Atomic Spark, the Team Minot AFWERX Innovation Cell, submitted a request for innovation funds for the gloves, and Minot AFB was the only AFGSC base selected by Gen Charles Q. Brown, Jr., to receive a portion of his Momentum Innovation Funds to procure the gloves and test them for future use.

With frigid winter temperatures that can reach 50 below zero, Airmen working outdoors are exposed to extreme weather. This makes gloves an essential item in the winter. The standard-issue gloves currently used by many Airmen may protect them from the elements, but don't offer the dexterity needed to perform their duties easily. Heated gloves were identified as a potential solution by the 54th HS during a recent IGNITOR Working Group outreach project with their unit. This is because heated gloves have the potential to provide the right balance of both dexterity and warmth the squadron was looking for. Other units face the same problem with finding gloves that are warm enough for Minot winters but still having the dexterity needed.

Lt. Col. Kroft also referred to the arrival of new prototype cold weather steel toe boots that Air Force



The Danner steel toe prototype boots.

Life Cycle Management Center's Combat Ready Airman (CRA) Program Office provided to Minot AFB maintainers for field testing during the cold extremes of a North Dakota winter.

"We received about 80 pairs of the prototype boots," says Kroft "They have been fitted with steel toes and distributed to maintenance personnel, in particular, on the flight line for a 60-day testing cycle. CRA asked Altama, Rocky, Belleville, and Danner to add steel toes to existing boot models and needs feedback from maintainers to determine whether they meet performance requirements."

According to Leticia Hopkins with 88 ABW/PA, "The CRA program, which is modeled after the U.S. Army's PEO Soldier program, performs three overarching tasks to achieve its mission. It ensures funding is available, communicates with Air Force functional communities concerning their Airmen's OCIE requirements and coordinates with the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center to have those needs met prior to issuing the finished products to the functional communities."

After the 60-day trial, those Airmen who have been testing the boots will be given a survey to grade the boots on their performance in the field and will keep the boots. Typically, the field testing has been done at bases in Alaska, but CRA has agreed to test new apparel at Minot Air Force Base as the temperatures are often lower than in Alaska.

"We ask that our maintenance personnel provide candid feedback to help CRA determine whether the steel toe boots meet their needs or not and why they do or do not. CRA has received anecdotal feedback regarding steel toe boots but needs to see what the data shows" continues Kroft.

The focus on cold weather gear is important to take care of our Airmen, and the Air Force and 5 BW and 91 MW leadership teams want to provide the very best in cold weather gear for those who are stationed at Team Minot. The 5th Contracting Squadron buys a significant amount of cold weather gear for the base annually. According to Kroft, "All new arrivals need cold weather gear for initial outfitting, and units also have sustainment costs to replace non-serviceable items as well. Regarding gloves, I estimate that approximately 25-40% of the Airmen assigned to Minot AFB will need to be issued cold weather gloves annually. Whether we are supplying the passive (non-heated) gloves, or the new heated gloves, we want to make sure we are buying the best gloves and cold weather gear we can find to take care of our military family. Some troops view military grade products in a negative light; but the AF Acquisitions Community, to include the 5th Contracting Squadron and Combat Ready Airman Program Office, is working to change that perspective by buying quality, innovative solutions with feedback from Airmen rather than focusing only on purchasing the lowest price technically acceptable (LPTA) products. We encourage feedback from units to ensure we are buying gear they like and want to use."

The cost to supply an incoming Airman with the appropriate cold weather gear can range from \$1,000.00 to \$3,500.00, depending on AFSC and the amount and type of gear supplied. "In most cases, larger units may have a warehouse or storage room of gear on hand ready to issue to Airmen. Smaller units may buy gear as troops arrive on a just in time basis," says Lt. Col. Kroft.



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Last Minute Shopping-Head Downtown

Don't quite have that Christmas list filled. Need some ideas for last minute gift giving? It seems that over the years I have found most of those last minute gifts in downtown

I can't even pretend to know what you are looking for, but with Christmas only 8 days away (on December 16th), I can presume that you have pretty much exhausted all of the options on your list(s), and now it's crunch time.

When you enter a shop in downtown Minot, the clerks are very aware of that "I have no idea where to find it" look on your face. They also have dealt with those "I really don't know what I am looking for" responses to simple questions like "Can I help you find something?"

EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS

Merry Tuba Christmas is returning to the Magic City after at least a 4-year hiatus. Minot High's Central Campus Auditorium will be the location for this year's event. I am a tuba player and have enjoyed playing in a number of these over the years. Let's face it, the tuba is not normally an instrument of choice for soloists. Neither is the euphonium, or the baritone. But gathered together the create quite a unique musical sound. Merry Tuba Christmas will start at 3 pm and is free to the public.

The Pat Schwann Brass Quintet will be downstairs at The Spot on Saturday (December 16th) from 5 PM to 6 PM, just ahead of the CP Rail Holiday Train as it rolls into town around 6:30 PM. You'll enjoy warm Christmas Brass music, along with S'mores and Hot Chocolate served by Scout Troop 416. We brought back the hayrides, too.

Candy Canes On Center Stage. It's like an Easter Egg hunt, except you'll be looking for Candy Canes in downtown Minot on Saturday. Find a candy cane and you'll have the chance to win one of hundreds of prizes supplied by area merchants. Watch for details on social media or go to downtownminot.com.

UNIQUE UNTO ITS' OWN

Even if you don't have last minute shopping, the CPKC Holiday Train is worth the trip downtown. Dress warm and bring the entire family. There will also be a food drive for the Homeless Coalition. There will be a trailer located near The Depot where you can drop off canned goods.

A warm, unique holiday experience certainly waits for you and your family this weekend in downtown Minot.

TODAY'S CHUCKLE:

"Halloween is the beginning of the holiday shopping season. That's for women. The beginning of the holiday shopping season for men is Christmas Eve.

northern sentry

A VIEW FROM **OUR SIDE**

ROD WILSON





The Canadian Pacific Holiday Train is a 23-year-long tradition that brings joy (and food) to people in over 160 cities in Canada and the northern United States each year. Attendees are encouraged to bring nonperishable or monetary donations to the free event to benefit the food pantries of the local community.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY PHOTOS

BEST KEPT SECRETS

The Downtown Parking Ramps are absolutely FREE for your first 2 hours of parking! That's right. No matter what time you check in, anything less than 2 hours of

parking will not cost you a dime. There are 2 lots, and both are very convenient to downtown restaurants and retail shops.

New Hardiness Zone map reveals changes...



UPSIDE DOWN UNDER

MARVIN BAKER

When you first look at the 2023 USDA Hardiness Zone map that was recently published, you'll see subtle changes for those of us who live in North Dakota.

The biggest changes are on the southern tier of the state. Richland, Dickey, LaMoure, with parts of Stutsman, Dickey, LaMoure, Logan, McIntosh, Sioux, Grant, Bowman, Slope, Stark, Billings and Golden Valley counties having changed from Zone 4a to 4B. It also includes parts of Sheridan and McLean counties and a tiny spot around the city of Minot.

What that means is USDA calculates over the long term that the areas named will not drop below 25 below through the winter and in the previous map issued in 2012, rock bottom was 30 below.

That doesn't mean it's impossible for these places to not go to 30 below in the depth of winter. It means longterm statistics are averaged out and the coldest winter temperatures in these areas have increased 5 degrees Fahrenheit in the past 11 years. Likewise with Zone 4a. It has

crept closer to the Canadian border with all of Ward and Mountrail counties in Zone 4a, and several other counties including Pembina and Burke, becoming 4a instead of 3b. Again, it represents a 5-degree increase since 2012.

People have long argued with me that I'm in Zone 3 where I live in the gooseneck of Ward County. Since 2012, however, there had been a sliver of the gooseneck, including Carpio that was in Zone 4a. Now it includes all of Ward County including Kenmare, formerly 3b.

Seeing these changes gave me an idea. I pulled up USDA hardiness zone maps going back to 1960 when USDA started to issue them. And here's a shocker!

In 1960, the entire state of North Dakota was in Zone 3 with the exception of Bowman, and parts of Adams, Stark, Golden Valley and Billings counties. The rest of the state was solid Zone 3 which meant the coldest winter temperature residents could expect was 40 below zero. That means that in some locations, the coldest winter temperatures are 15 degrees warmer than they were 62 years ago.

In 1990 the map changed with most of North Dakota remaining in Zone 3, but the counties bordering become Zone 4, as well as the Red River Valley counties. That seemed to be a drastic long-term change because it represented a 10-degree Fahrenheit increase from minus 40 to minus 30.

Further revisions were made to the 2012 map. Twenty-two years after the 1990 map was issued, almost the entire state of North Dakota had changed to Zone 4a, with the exception of the counties along the Canadian border.

Also in 2012, tiny spots in Dickey and Sioux counties had been upgraded to Zone 4b.

Similar changes are evident in other states as well. Parts of Pennington, Custer and Lawrence counties in South Dakota are now considered Zone 5b, meaning the coldest temperature isn't expected to drop below 15 below.

There are parts of Alaska, along the Pacific Ocean stretching all the

way up to Nome that now have a 4a climate, which is essentially the same as a good portion of North Dakota. There are other parts of Alaska, from Juneau to south of Anchorage that now have a Zone 6b rating, the same as central Kansas and Missouri, as well as southeastern Colorado.

It seems really odd, but there are tiny parts of Alaska, northeast of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, that are Zone 4a, the same as most of North Dakota. That's 68.43 Degrees North Latitude. In other words, it's roughly 100 miles north of the Arctic Circle.

Nationwide, the new map shows an average of a 2.5-degree Fahrenheit increase since 2012. In addition, the summer of 2023 was the hottest meteorological summer on record in the United States.

Long term, "the times, they are a changin." Short term, it means we can grow plants and produce harvests that 60 years ago were impossible.



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SLICE OF LIFE KIM FUNDINGSLAND

Politics. Scandals. Wars. Protests. Sometimes it is hard to slow down and appreciate life, to enjoy the real pleasures of life rather than get caught up in clashes of every

Do this. Do that. Beware. Believe this. Believe that. Fact check.

It makes it hard to clear the senses and get away from it all, to enjoy the simple pleasures of life. But it's necessary. Just do it. We're all better for looking to the heavens, finding a quiet moment, enjoying time away from hustle and bustle and conflict.

Pleasant Pleasures

Take a dog for a walk. Hug children and grandkids. Make a special meal. Volunteer a few hours of your time. Appreciate your surroundings. Give thanks.

I opened a chocolate recently and there was an almost hidden message inside the wrapper -"Buy the ticket." Huh?

The message meant to stop delaying and procrastinating and just do it. I thought about that for a few minutes, knowing that this North Dakotan had a fishing trip to Florida coming up in a few days. Interesting.

Regular readers know I have a passion for fishing that has taken me from the wilderness of northern Saskatchewan to the Florida Keys. While fishing has taken me to many new places in pursuit of a variety of fish, each requiring their own methods of catch, it would be easy to get so completely wrapped up in the quest that little to nothing else mattered.

I'm quite certain I've made that mistake. I'm also certain I've corrected it. No, I haven't lost my

passion for wetting a line, but I recognize a growing appreciation for fishing friends and destinations, near and far. Big smiles have come to be just as good, even better, than big fish.

Whether we realize it or not, we all need an occasional break from our daily lives that have been infused with today's deluge of social media and instant news where tragedy grabs headlines. Fishing has become one of my necessary ways to keep life in perspective. Every moment has meaning far beyond lure selection and wind direction.

Wonderment abounds. Look for it. Find it. It can be in the form of a sunrise or sunset, a rainbow or cloud formation. Maybe the sound of light rain or a gentle breeze. Conversation with an old friend or new acquaintance.

Every person should find their own way or ways to hit "refresh". Find a hobby. Go for a walk. Attend a sporting event. Get outdoors. Buy the ticket.



A morning view from a home in the Florida Keys.

KIM FUNDINGSLAND PHOTO

Ski the Jewel above the Prairie! **SNOW REPORT**

Chairlift, New T Bar, both Magic Carpets will all be open this weekend

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Ist Lt Ryan Asburry



742nd Missile Squadron nometown: Portiand, Oregon

Lieutenant Asburry currently serves as an ICBM Instructor in the 742nd Missile Squadron. He commissioned from Oregon State University and will be coming up on his 4th year of active duty service at the end of the month. During his time in Minot, he has launched one Minot Minuteman 3 missile, in an operational test at Vandenberg Air Force Base. He is here in Minot with his wife Kaeli, a therapist, and their therapy dog and squadron mascot, Theo.



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.

Last Minute Shopping Guide



HOPE ANDERSON

November flew by and December appears to be doing the same. While I often hear people proclaiming that they are nearly finished with their shopping lists, there are also many that choose to wait to shop until closer to the day that jolly old St. Nick is ready to make his appearance.

Whether you are a planner or a last minute shopper, there always seems to be a few people that need to be added to lists or maybe someone who gave you a gift that you weren't expecting and now you feel like returning the favor. What do you get for people on your last minute shopping list? No need to worry, I have some suggestions for you.

For the foodie in your life, a Pride of Dakota gift basket filled with coffee, bread mix, soup mix, jelly, and bbq sauce all made in the great state of North Dakota is just the ticket. We will even put one together for you in store and you will have a gift ready to give immediately

For the popcorn lover, did you know there are many varieties of popcorn and each pops a little differently? Koselig has a huge variety of popcorn types and even has popcorn salts, seasonings, and oil all to make the perfect gift for the popcorn connoisseur.

How about the person who loves a spa day? From bath salts and soaps to eye masks and essentials, you can make their holiday special by putting together a spa day gift that they can

use on a cozy day right at home.

While I know clothing can be difficult to buy for someone else, it is always a good gift especially if it is a fuzzy sweater, a chenille winter hat, a shacket, or even a piece of jewelry. A gift card can also be the way to go for the clothing lover who might want to pick out their own items.

For the person who has everything (including a million mason jars), you can buy interesting and unique mason jar accessories that fit the mason jars they already own. From silicone sleeves and lids to soap pumps and grater lids, you can find just about anything to outfit those mason jars.

One cool thing is that everything listed here can be found in one location at 219 Main St S. in downtown Minot. As the owner of Koselig: The Cozy Shop, I would like to personally welcome you into our shop to browse for that one of a kind gift. With over 25 local consignors and 11 distinct booths,

there is literally something for everyone. We are always willing to offer suggestions and put together the perfect gift for anyone on your list. There is also the added bonus of supporting local creators who specialize in handmade and unique

items. Shopping local makes the gift more personal and will give you a story to tell when you hand that perfect gift over to the recipient.

Now get going! There aren't too many days left until Christmas!



Koselig: The Cozy Shop is located at 219 Main St S. in downtown Minot.



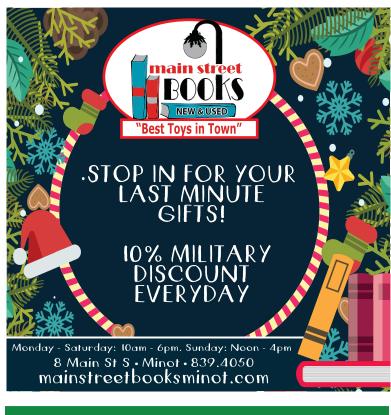














A True Northern Tradition: The CP Holiday Train

One of the greatest things about living in a small, rural town during the holidays is that there is no lack of meaningful traditions. Each year, Minot's Downtown Open House attracts thousands of people looking to make Christmas memories that can be passed down for generations to come. If you come from up North, you may have heard about another tradition that has enchanted hundreds of thousands of people from British Columbia to Maine for the last 24 years: the Canadian Pacific Holiday Train.

24 YEARS OF GIVING BACK

In 1999, Canadian Pacific Railway created a Christmas fundraiser for the food banks in the communities they operated out of in Canada and the United States, and thus the Holiday Train was born. Through this special holiday tradition, Canadian Pacific has gathered over 3 million pounds of food and over \$9 million for Canadian and American food banks, as well as brought the Christmas spirit to over 168 northern-tier towns and a few lucky midwestern participants. It travels over 100,000 miles for three weeks each season, accompanied by musical guests from all over.

The 14 rail carriage Holiday

Train is meticulously decorated in colorful Christmas lights and at each stop along the way, the railcars open up to reveal a stage where the musicians perform a free concert. All ages can attend the event for free, but CPR encourages attendees to get in the "giving spirit" and bring nonperishable food or monetary donations that will benefit the local community's food bank.

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS

Are you new to North Dakota or the small town holiday celebrations? You do not want to miss out on this unique experience. The Train will arrive in Minot on Dec. 16, 2023, at approximately 6:30 p.m. The actual event will go from 6:45 to 7:15 p.m. at the Main Street N railway crossing in downtown Minot, just past 10 North Main and the Depot.

This year, Dallas Smith and MacKenzie Porter will perform.

If you are unable to make it to downtown Minot for the show (and it will be busy), cozy up at home and stream the concert on Facebook, YouTube or on the Canadian Pacific Website, cpr.ca.

The Magic of Minot

HOPE ANDERSON

Fill Wild Refillery™ is a new business serving the Minot AFB. You will find sustainable and refillable home and body essentials such as lotion, dish soap, shampoo, sustainable brushes and bottles, and more! Check them out on Instagram at fillwildrefillery

Does your child want to write a letter to Santa? There is a special mailbox at the Scandinavian Heritage Park just for Santa's mail. It is located just off the parking lot on the south side of the park at 1020 South Broadway. Make an event of it by going in the evening and stopping for a hot cocoa on the way. Drop off the letter and then go for a stroll through the park when it is all lit up for the holidays.

Looking for a new place to eat? El Arepazo is a delicious option. Located at 2035 N. Broadway, they offer Venezuelan arepas, empanadas, and plates. I highly recommend the Arepa de Pabellón.

It is shredded beef, black beans, plantains, and cheese in a cornmeal cake. Delicious!

Love Christmas lights? Did you know there is a whole Facebook page devoted to where to find the best Christmas lights in Minot? Check it out by searching Christmas Lights Minot North Dakota to follow along and see pictures, get address of must see lights, and more. Also check out the Sertoma lights in Oak Park, which is open every night until December 31.

Here's a cool Christmas Eve tradition. In Iceland, it is customary to have a 'book flood' where they give books for Christmas Eve and you spend the rest of the evening reading, eating special treats, and drinking hot beverages. Head to Mainstreet Books and find some great books options and start a new tradition this year.



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Remembrance & Grace at Project Bee

ERIN BEENE, NORTHERN SENTRY

As one of the longest standing nonprofits in Minot, Project Bee has a history of being available for the immediate needs of those in the community through a multitude of projects and programs. The organization may be most known for their warming center and diaper pantry, but some other more seasonal-specific Project Bee programs are also underway.

Remembrance Day and Twice Blessed are just two of the different, but important, projects happening now and in the near future the community should be aware of.

Remembrance Day is a somber event to honor those homeless members of the community who have lost their lives. On Dec 21st, the longest night of the year, at 7pm, the Project Bee staff along with members of local government and organizations will gather around a bonfire and pay their respects. There will be a solemn candle lighting as a prayer offered by Pastor Elaine from Zion Lutheran Church. Liz Larson, Executive Director for Project Bee, said this night is hosted on this often frigid night because it helps us remember that being out in the cold in this community is very often the reality of some people. She said the workers at Project Bee are "sometimes the only someone in a person's life," and their lives still deserved to be honored. Liz invites the public to join them at 205 3rd St SE for this special night.

While this is the season of

remembrance, it is also the season of joy and giving. This time of year, many people are wrapped up with the idea of giving gifts to their loved ones, but it is also a time to think about year-end charitable giving. Finances are tight for a lot of people these days, and making every dollar count has never been more important. That's why Project Bee has once again partnered with Twice Blessed to maximize monetary donations in the month of December. The Twice Blessed program is operated by INSPIRITUS Community Health Foundation, which matches donations-essentially doubling

the amount donated—to deserving non-profits like Project Bee. This means most donations made to Project until Dec 31st will be not once, but TWICE, the amount donated. To take advantage of this yearly giving greatness, go to https://inspiritnd.com/project/ project-bee/ and donate today.

Monetary support from the community is always appreciated, but Liz mentioned that there are other ways to help and serve in the community as well. She and the team at Project Bee have many opportunities for individuals, families or groups to come in and serve their time to give back. Liz



Remembrance Day 2022.

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also mentioned that they love speaking to people with specific talents or gifts for serving and are open to new opportunities and

If you are interested in donating your time to the Minot Community through Project Bee, please reach out to the Volunteer Coordinator, emma@projectbeend.org.

All About Pets

Cold weather safety

booties for their paws and a sweater or jacket, is too cold for your dog. Have fun this Winter, but especially if your dog takes its sweet time.

or a fake grass patch inside the home to avoid going outside at all. If the weather is tolerable, it can be safe to play outside or go for walks for short periods of time, but pay attention to the amount of snow/ice, wind chill, actual temperature, and your dog's breed/coat type. Dogs such as Huskies, German Shepherds, Akitas, and more have very thick coats that allow them to withstand colder temperatures than smaller or shorter coated dogs. As the cold weather creeps up on us, it is time to However, it is still not a good idea to allow your start thinking about how to keep your dog safe dog to be outside in freezing temperatures for any during Winter! If you absolutely must take your extended period of time. Below is a chart created dog outside to use the bathroom, consider using by Petplan that can give you an idea of how cold

always remember to stay safe!

You can also opt to train your dog to use potty pads

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Minot State University to host **Marketplace for Kids Minot Education Day**

MARKETPLACE FOR KIDS

Minot, ND - Hundreds of enthusiastic young students and volunteers will be on deck Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at Minot State University for their "23rd ANNUAL" – Minot Marketplace for Kids Education Day.

The day will feature a wide array of classes including: "ELECTRICAL **MOTORS** CIRCUITS" ELECTRICAL presented by Scott Halle - Training & Compliance Administrator: ND State Electrical Board; "PREHOSPITAL PATIENT CARE" presented by Robert Kientz, Assistant Chief Paramedic: First Response Ambulance, Trinity Health; "YOUR FOOD'S JOURNEY FROM THE FARM TO YOUR FORK" presented by Les Knudson.

Division Head, Ingredients Operations: AGT Foods; 'BREAKOUT' FROM TRADITIONAL ROLES" presented Jill Vigesaa, Education Coordinator: ND Dept. of Ag/ ND Farm Bureau; and "ENERGY OPPORTUNITIES IN NORTH DAKOTA" presented by Tracey Lead Development Manager: ND Department of Commerce. The Marketplace Leadership

and members of the education community enjoy reviewing the previous year's class reports from the students and take their advice on the classes they would like presented each year. Classes are a memorable educational experience for area students.

Students will be showcasing their

Marketplace MarketplaceForKids.org

innovative ideas the Hall of Great Ideas (in the Dome) from 11:35 AM to 12:25 PM. Everyone is invited to stop by and view the projects, visit with the students and encourage their creativity. Members from the Business Community will be listening to business pitches from the project students and presenting

ribbons to them.

The program targets grades three through eight but is open to all ages. Marketplace for Kids provides a variety of experiential learning classes and activities to help students develop innovation, enhance personal development, and explore career options. Numerous volunteers: local Minot groups and businesses will be volunteering to make the Marketplace for Kids

Education Day a success. North Dakota Department of Career and Technical Education Director, Wayde Sick: "As we move into a new chapter of life, entrepreneurship innovation will become more crucial for our state and our country. The Marketplace for Kids

program will play a critical role in fostering our next generation of business leaders. The work you do with your students, preparing them for their futures, is the most noble of professions. I commend you and have my utmost gratitude" said Sick. Marketplace for Kids encourages your students or children to develop their own ideas, share their creativity, and present them to an audience of all









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New Schedule for Sentinel Coming Soon, Says ICBM Modernization Boss

GREG HADLEY, AIR & SPACES FORCE MAGAZINE

The head of a new office created to oversee the modernization of the Air Force's intercontinental ballistic missile fleet said schedule changes for the Sentinel program are due "at the end of the year" from contractor Northrop Grumman.

While concern has grown over potential delays, Brig. Gen. Colin J. Connor, head of Air Force Global Strike Command's new ICBM Modernization Directorate. declined to share details at an event hosted by the Advanced Nuclear Weapons Alliance Deterrence Center.

"It would be premature for me at this point to talk anything about a delay and get in front of the acquisition community," Connor said Nov. 29.

But Connor did acknowledge the scale and scope of the Sentinel project, which Air Force Secretary Frank Kendall has previously called among the most ambitious and difficult the service has ever undertaken.

"It is the most complex thing we've done, I'll say, since the 1960s,' Connor said. "And I would say even then, because of technology that we're trying to equip, whether it's [nuclear command, control, and communications] technology, digital engineering aspects to it, it's even different than what was done

Kendall said earlier November that Sentinel is "quite honestly, struggling a little bit," and in August, the Government Accountability Office reported that Sentinel was already a year behind schedule. Initial operational capability is expected between April and June 2030, GAO said skating close to the no-fail IOC of September 2030 required by U.S. Strategic Command.

The GAO report criticized the Sentinel program office, saying the master schedule's deficiencies meant it not be used to effectively manage the program.

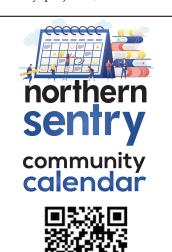
"The prime contractor and the program are conducting a high-level review and discussing potential changes to the schedule, according to the report, which was based on data from January 2023.

Months later, Connor indicated an update is coming soon.

"As we await a schedule from Northrop Grumman to arrive, we expect that to arrive at the end of the year," he said.

Connor also noted that Northrop and the Air Force continue to refine cost estimates, acknowledging that initial estimates are likely to too

"Not to be flippant, but show me a program that doesn't have higher costs at the end than what were





Minot & Minot AFB in ONE PLACE!



Then-Col. Colin Connor speaks at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, July 31, 2018.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO I AIRMAN 1ST CLASS ALYSSA M. AKERS

Inflation, the changed economy after the COVID-19 pandemic, and the significant technological challenge at hand, are all cost factors.

Amid such challenges, Global Strike Command recently stood up the new ICBM modernization directorate, a spokesman told Air & Space Forces Magazine. Labeled the "A10," in line with the Air Staff's A10 directorate for strategic deterrence and nuclear integration, the office aligns with the "A Staff" structure Air Force leadership has sought to promulgate across the service.

It also fulfills a requirement in the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act that the Air Force establish an ICBM Modernization Site Activation Task Force to "oversee and coordinate" the planning, construction, and installation that will go into getting Sentinel online while keeping the existing Minuteman III missiles viable.

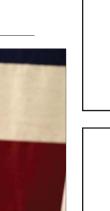
"We are working with both the contractor and the Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center from the acquisition standpoint, to work the operational fielding of the

system, the transition between two systems," Connor said. "The role for Global Strike A10 ... is to facilitate that, from an organize, train, and equip perspective; to make sure that the Airmen in the field have what they need, working both with the acquisition community and the contract force that will be doing a lot of the work out there, as we work this transition."

Sentinel is not merely a new missile, Connor said. "We're not putting 'Minuteman IV' in the ground," Connor said. "It's a different missile that's more capable."

Also coming are new launch control centers with equipment adopted or adapted commercial solutions, and new nuclear command, control, and communications capabilities that will bring today's decades-old technology up to a "more modern approach," he said.

We're not just gutting the launch facilities, repainting them, and putting the same equipment back in," Connor said. It's going to be a whole new nuclear enterprise.





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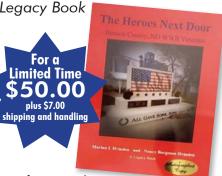
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Team Minot Airmen race to alert vehicles during an exercise at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Dec. 6, 2023. The exercise tested their speed, teamwork, and efficiency as part of a simulated deterrence scenario.



A B-52H Stratofortress takes off from the flightline during a readiness exercise at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Dec. 6, 2023. Airmen from the 5th Bomb Wing participated in a training exercise testing mission



the ground as part of a readiness event at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Dec. 6, 2023. The exercise was a collaboration between Minot AFB units to improve overall



commander, runs an alert vehicle readiness exercise at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Dec. 6, 2023. The competition tested their speed, teamwork, and efficiency as part of a deterrence scenario.



Team Minot Airmen race to B-52H Stratofortress while participating in an exercise at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Dec. 6, 2023. Airmen from the 5th Bomb Wing participated in a training exercise testing their mission readiness.





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1/2 STALK CELERY, DICED 1/4 CUP DRY RED WINE 1/2 TABLESPOON TOMATO PASTE 1/2 TABLESPOON WORCESTERSHIRE

1/2 TEASPOON DRIED THYME 1/2 CAN (14.5 OZ) DICED TOMATOES 1 CUP LOW SODIUM BEEF BROTH 1 BAY LEAF **CHOPPED PARSLEY, FOR GARNISH**

When ready to cook, set the Traeger temperature to 350°F and preheat with the lid closed for 15 minutes. Trim the fat cap on the brisket to 1/4-inch. Season all sides generously with Traeger Prime Rib Rub. In the bottom of a large roasting pan, add the onions, garlic, carrot, and celery.

In a small bowl, add the wine and whisk in the tomato paste, Worcestershire sauce, and thyme. Pour the wine mixture over the vegetables. Add the tomatoes and beef broth, and bury the bay leaves in the vegetables.

Lay the brisket fat-side up on top of the vegetables. Cover tightly with aluminum foil. Place the roasting pan directly on the grill grates. Close the lid and cook for 3 1/2-4 hours, or until the meat is fork-tender. Halfway through the cooking time, carefully lift the foil and turn the meat over. Replace the foil.

Remove the brisket from the grill, and let the brisket rest for 30 minutes. Remove and discard the bay leaves from the vegetables and skim any visible fat from the liquids. Transfer the brisket to a cutting board and slice into 1/4-inch-thick slices. Garnish with parsley, as desired. Enjoy!



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WINTER DRIVING TIPS

HOW LONG CAN YOU GO IN RETWEEN 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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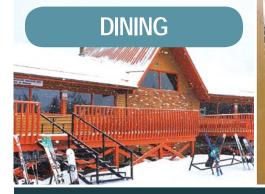
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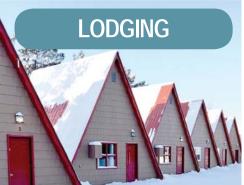












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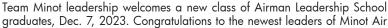
ALS GRADUATION











graduates, Dec. 7, 2023. Congratulations to the newest leaders of Minot Air Force Base! More photos can be found on Minot AFB PA Flickr page.

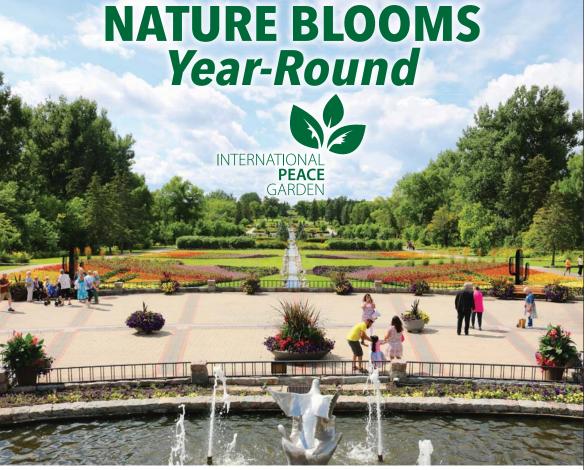
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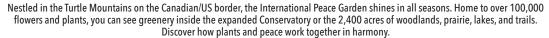








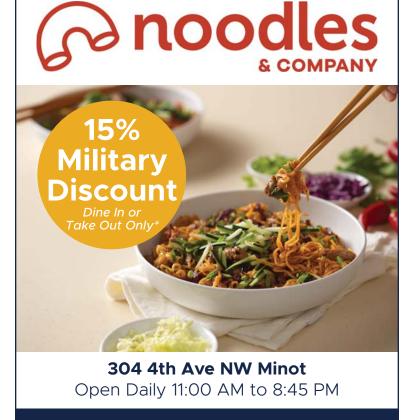




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NORTHERN SENTRY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2023 SECTION B 3

Solution to last week's Crossword puzzle.

s	Α	М		s	N	Α	R	Е	s		Α	С	R	E	
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SUDOKU

Solution to puzzle on page B9

				ocionion to pozzio on page B7						
1				2				3		
	3	4		5		6				
	7					8		9		
	6				5			1		
	2						3			
7			6				9			
6		5					7			
		7		1		3	4			
8				9				2		

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- 1. Barely read
- 5. More, to minimalists
- 9. Relieve of weapons
- 14. English princess
- **15**. Differential-gear locale
- 17. Run wild
- Native of Peru

- 23. Beehive State tribesman
- 24. Maternally related
- 31. "Spring forward" letters
- in 1821

- 38. Party hearty
- 41. For those eating in bed,
- 42. Start of the Lord's Prayer

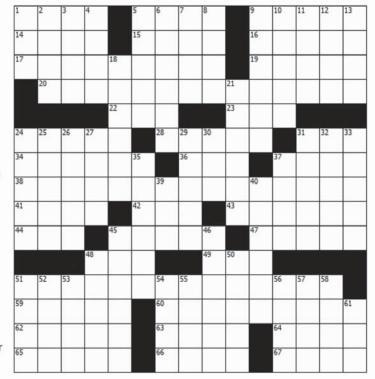
- 45. Lose one's mind
- 48. Scale note
- 49. Former name of Tokyo
- 59. Sports complex
- 60. Bands from 34-Across
- 64. Foreign currency
- 66. Abound
- 67. Tool repository

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

- 16. Salk's conquest
- 20. Touch lightly in passing
- 22. Some like it felt
- 28. "It Wasn't All Velvet" autobiographer
- **34**. It became independent
- 36. Place to find a porter
- 37. Its tail flaps in the wind
- it's supportive
- 43. Encircled and attacked
- 44. Fashion monogram
- 47. In the poorhouse

- **51**. Brilliant idea
- **62**. Clerk of the 4077th
- 63. Midmonth day
- 65. To the left, to sailors



Down

- Problem encountered
- in the middle ages?
- 2. Old radio feature
- 3. "Are you _ (poker query)
- 4. Carte before the course
- 5. Shaping machine
- 6. Shakespearean stage direction
- 7. Duel prelude 8. Word sung by Doris
- Day 9. Awake into the wee
- hours
- 11. Astronaut Shepard 12. Drum parts
- 13. Castle defense
- 10. "Honest!"

18. Facet

- 37. Cap site 39. Motor sound

star

nickname

- 21. Cajun concoctions 45. Racing vehicle
- 24. Gas gauge extreme 46. Extent
- 25. Closes in on 48. Coast Guard 26. Located around a equipment

29. Reason to buy Met

tickets, perhaps

33. White House

30. Same old grind

31. Mournful melody

32. Mount for Lancelot

35. "My Favorite Year"

40. Ryder of Tinseltown

- 50. Certain religious central hub 27. Lilliputian
 - philosophy **51**. "___ Smile" (Hall and
 - Oates) **52**. Links hazard
 - 53. More than patch up
 - 54. Leave unsaid
 - 55. Lose star status
 - 56. Cold confections
 - 57. "Nope" 58. Mudder's father
 - 61. Turf



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Sunday1000 Daily Monday-Thursday at 1200

St. Peter The Aleut **Eastern Orthodox** Church



109 6th St. SE Minot • 838-3094

Saturday, December 16 5PM, Great Vespers

Sunday, December 17 10AM Holy Liturgy

V. Rev. Fr. Paul Hodge

Vincent United

Methodist

Church

1024 2nd St. SE • 838-4425

Behind Town & Country Shopping Center

Sunday School9:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Pastor Mark Ehrmantraut

www.vincentumc.com



Wednesdays 7:00pm and Sundays 10:30am

1821 W Burdick Expressway

For More Information: 701.838.2665 | www.bfbc.tv

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.

Faith United

Methodist

Church



An Evangelical Free Church 3500 4th St. SW • 839-5127 (Just North of Super Wal-Mart)

Sunday School & Fellowship9:00 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.

www.trinitychurchminot.org

Worship Service at 10:45am Sundays Sunday School at 9:45am

1720 4th Ave NW, Minot 838-0916

MinotBibleFellowship.org

Cornerstone Presbyterian Church

1000 NE 3rd Street 852-0315

Sunday Schedule

Contemporary Worship 9:00am Sunday School (All Ages) 10:00am Traditional Worship....

Wednesday Evening Schedule

Community Dinner......5:30-6:30pm Contemporary Worship.......6:30pm Youth Group & Small Groups.. 7:15pm

All are Welcome! www.cornerstoneminot.com

First Lutheran **Church - ELCA** 120 5th Ave. NW 852-4853

Sunday Worship

9:30 am

www.firstlutheran.tv (Live Stream & Recorded) Radio Broadcast KRRZ 1390AM Sunday 9:30 am www.flcminot.com

Pastor Brandy Gerjets • Pastor Ellery Dykemar

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod



Sunday Divine Service 9:30 AM

Adult Bible Study and **Sunday School** 11:00 AM

> Wednesdays **Kid Connection** 5:15 PM

Reverend Philip Beyersdorf 2209 4th Avenue NW, Minot, ND

839-4663 www.minotstmarks.com

Join us on facebook

Immanuel Baptist Church

1615 2nd St. SE • www.ibcminot.org 701-839-3694



JOURNEY CHURCH

1805 2nd St. SE

838-1111

Sunday Services

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Wednesday

6:30 PM

WEDNESDAYS:

9:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 9:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM WORSHIP

11:30 AM SOUP KITCHEN 5:30 PM FAMILY SUPPER 6:30 PM PRE-K/KIDS' CLUB / **ABY & ADULT BIBLE STUDY**



Christ Reformed Church

Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday 234 14th Ave SE

www.christreformedchurchminot.com

Minot

Baptist Church

Sending the Glorious Light of Jesus

Christ to a Dark and Needy World

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship11:00 a.m.

Evening Worship6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening......7:00 p.m.

Independent/Fundamental/KJV

500 46th Ave NE • 839-1351

Pastor David Miller



St. John

the Apostle

Catholic Church

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Fr. David A. Richter, Pastor Parish website: www.stjohnminot.com

Cross Roads Baptist

Southern Baptist Convention

Sunday School (all ages)9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays (Prayer & Missions) ...6:30 p.m.

www.minotcrbc.org email: minotcrbc@gmail.com **Gabe McCormick- Pastor**

415 28th Ave SE (Behind Menards) 838-1873



Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Children's Church & Nursery Wednesday Family Training Hour 6:30 p.m. Classes for All Ages

Youth Center, Friday 7:00 - 11:00 p.m. ABC Child Care Center...... westminot.com facebook.com/westminot

Gospel Tabernacle Community Church

9999 27th St NE 4 miles south of MAFB James W. Henderson Anna B. Henderson

Church: 701-838-4492 Home: 701-838-5759 KHRT 1320: 9 a.m. Sunday

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		
Adult Sunday School	1:00	a.m
Contemporary Worship Service	1:05	a.m
Children's Church	11:05	am
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

2929 19th Ave NW • Minot Located off Hwy 83 Bypass West (701) 838-0609

Saturday School 2:00 p.m. Sunday Worship 3:30 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study7:30 p.m.

Jesse Starr, Pastor

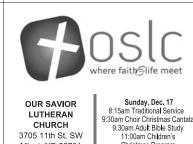


Sunday Service: 4:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer: 5:30 p.m.

at Living Word Lutheran bldg 710 46th Ave NE, Minot

Web: gracebaptistminot.com E-mail: gbcminot@gmail.com

RADIO BROADCAST KFLK 95.9 LPFM 8:30 a.m./p.m. Sat/Sun



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH 3705 11th St. SW Minot ND 58701 701-852-6404

www.oslcminot.com Rev. Heath Trampe Rev. Brian Doel

Christmas Program Wednesday, Dec. 20 5:30pm Soup Supper Fundraise 6pm Choir, OSKids, Confirmatior & High School Youth Group 7pm Choir Christmas Cantata Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Adult/Children Worship.. 11 a.m. Family Hour6:30 p.m. Evening Worship7:30 p.m. Bible Study/Child-Adult Children Worship (Wed)....7 p.m. Prayer (Friday)7 P.m.

OUR REDEEMER'S CHURCH

A Church of the Lutheran Brethren

Sundays:

Worship...... 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

700 16th Ave SE • 701-838-0750

For more information visit us on the web at: www.ourredeemers.org



Our Redeemer's Christian School 700 16th Avenue SE Minot, ND 58701 info@orcsknights.org•701-839-0772

www.orcsknights.org

ORCS Preschool

Our Redeemer's Christian School's Preschool Program will be starting its 36th year the fall of 2023 and we would love to have your child be a part of it!

NOW ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR PROGRAM

- Time-tested curriculum including STEM and Language Arts activities as well as Free Play
- 2 and 3 day options available
- Kindergarten readiness skills practiced each session All teachers hold a North Dakota Professional Educator's License
- Christ-centered environment

Please contact our school office or visit our website for more information.

701.839.0772

Email: jschultz@orcsknights.org Website: www.orcsknights.org





advertise FOR ONLY \$9 PER WEEK

Revisions MADE UPON NOTICE FROM THE CHURCH

Deadline **TUESDAYS BY NOON** WEEK OF PUBLICATION **CONTACT US** call 701-839-0946 email NSADS@SRT.COM

VIEW OUR PAPER ONLINE AT NORTHERNSENTRY.COM









RTA GRADUATION

Team Minot leadership joins the newest batch of Resiliency Training Assistants at their graduation, Dec. 7, 2023. RTAs work with Master Resiliency Trainers and base support networks to supplement mental health care and resiliency efforts with peer-to-peer, in-unit support. More photos can be found on Minot AFB PA Flickr page.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS I MINOT AFB PA



























Product Safety Commission.

TIS THE

SEASON FOR

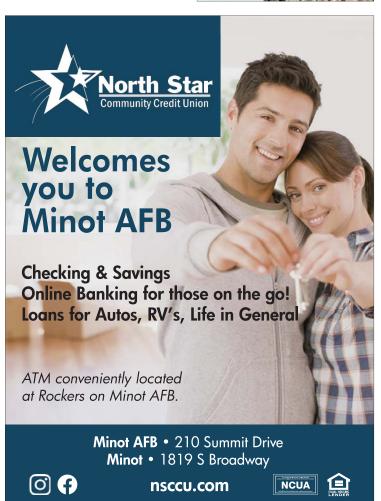
TOY SAFETY

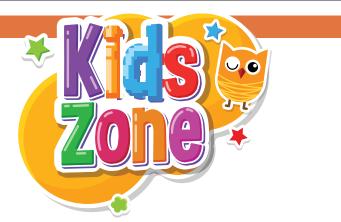


SSGT JOE VERGARA 5TH BOMB WING NCOIC, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY









JOKES OF THE WEEK

What did the cat say when he struck out?

Why did the scarecrow win an award?

- Because it was out standing

What did the vegetables say at the garden party?

- Lettuce turnip the beet

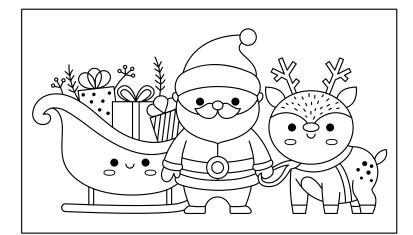
Why did the cookie go to the Doctor?

- Because it was feeling crumby

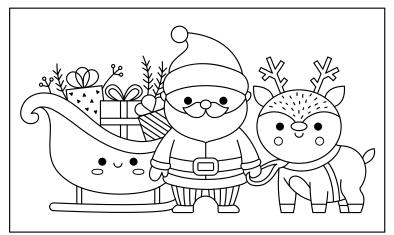
What did Queen Say to the Knight at the end of the day?

- Good night, good knight

SUBMITTED BY WAYLON COOPER, 8 YEARS OLD Do you have a funny joke you would like to see in our Kids Zone? Submit to our website or email nsads@srt.com



FIND 10 DIFFERENCES



CHPISTMAS COLOR BY

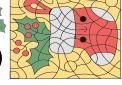


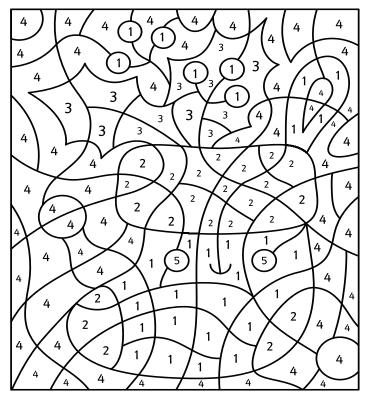












MINOT CURLING CLUB



Don't know how to curl? Don't worry!

This league is open to all skill levels.

Tuesdays January 2-March 19 Minot Curling Club North Dakota State Fairgrounds 2 games played at 6:00PM and 7:00PM

For more information:

Contact Wesley Mason w/ Minot Curling Club at 218-766-1988 or by contacting TSgt Levi Janssen or 1Lt Graysen Trandem

COACHES MEETING

Tuesday December 19 at 5:30PM McAdoo Fitness Center

LEAUGE STARTS

January 2 at 6:00PM with Learn to Curl & Exhibition Game

TEAMS

Min. Team Size is 4 persons. Recommended to have 6+ to account for scheduling issues.

COST

\$15 a person a night, or \$125 a person for whole season upfront.

REGISTRATION

Register at the McAdoo Fitness Center. Letters of Intent are due by the Coaches Meeting December 19.

LEAGUE SPONSOR

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North Dakota Purple Star Award



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



Did you know the average military-connected child will experience 6 to 9 different schools during their K-12 education experience? This is a challenge for many of our military connected students. However, there are organizations and agencies such as the DAF School Liaison Program focused on the quality education of military connected students across the United States and Overseas.

With more than 1.1 million military connected students attending public institutions, issues surrounding quality education are a top priority for the Department of the Air Force. As a result, the North Dakota Purple Star Award is an incredible opportunity to help schools respond to the educational and social-emotional challenges military-connected children face to keep them on track to be college, workforce, and life-ready.

The North Dakota Purple Star Award for military-friendly schools recognizes schools that show a major commitment to

serving students and families connected to our nation's armed forces. Applicants for the Purple Star Award are selected by The Purple Star Advisory Board which is formed by representatives of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, Minot and Grand Forks AFB, ND National Guard, school districts, school counselors and military-connected stakeholders.

This past school year at an assembly at a Minot AFB School, a slide stated, "We will make this place your home." This statement was powerful and moving and shows how essential our schools are in creating environments for our students and families to thrive. With this, I believe our Minot AFB Schools and other schools and districts are poised and well positioned to serve our military connected students.

The hope of the MAFB School Liaison Office is to see Purple Star Awardees in North Dakota.





CPKC HOLIDAY TRAIN 6:30 PM

Maint Street Railroad Crossing Minot, ND

"All aboard! The CPKC Holiday Train is making its way to Minot, ND, bringing with it a festive spectacle of dazzling lights and captivating musical performances! Join us in the heart of downtown to bask in the enchanting glow of the train and relish in the delightful live music. Come enjoy an exciting Family Fun Night all while supporting your local food pantry Our Lady of Grace and other community programs providing healthy meals. Enjoy Downtown shopping, The Hitchin Kitchen Food Truck, Free Will Donation Pepsi Cart with Hot Dogs and Cocoa, visit with Santa and enjoy some fantastic music by Dallas Smith & MacKenzie Porter on the Holiday Train. Don't forget to bring your non-perishable food, cleaning and hygiene items and drop them at the Donation Station on your way in.



For more information:

Facebook / Minot Area Homeless Coalition, Inc. / Events



CANDY CANE CRAWL! 8:00-11:55PM

Downtown Minot Various Locations

Join us Downtown to Celebrate the arrival of the Christmas Train followed by a Candy Cane Crawl! Tickets are \$10. Proceeds to the Minot Downtown Business and Professional Association for our Light It Up Minot project.

What you get?
A night of fun Downtown while supporting the DBPA!
Each stop will have Specality or Themed Drinks for purchase. Some stops may offer drink Specials

A Candy Cane Themed Scavanger Hunt with Prizes!



For more information:

Facebook / Minot Downtown Business & Professional Association / Events

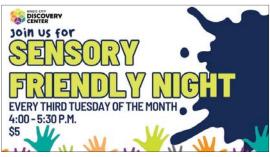


SENSORY FRIENDLY NIGHT 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Magic City Discovery Center 1545 1st St NW, Minot, ND

This event is open to special needs or differently abled individuals, their family members, and guardians. We understand that the museum can be a bustling place. During Sensory Friendly Night, we provide adjusted sound levels to create a calmer environment. Sensory bags will also be available at the front desk. Families are welcome to explore the museum at their own

No timed admission is required. \$5 is the cost of admission



For more information:

Facebook / Magic City Discovery Center/ Events



SERTOMA CHRISTMAS LIGHTS IN OAK PARK 5:30-10:00 PM (SUN-THURS) 5:30-10:30 PM (FRI & SAT) Minot Oak Park, 19th Ave SW, Minot

Take a drive through Oak Park this holiday season. \$5/car \$20/bus. Enjoy the lights while supporting our community.

All proceeds from this event are invested back into our community through the Minot Sertoma Club.

Running daily until December 31.



For more information: Facebook / Minot Sertoma Club

NEW Community at the Northern Sentry



It's more than Minot and more than Minot AFB, it's a



For more events visit our online Community Calendar at www.northernsentry.com/calendar/



Festive Christmas lights make Minot shine

There are so many gorgeous light displays all over town. Neighborhoods, parks businesses light up the night sky for this festive season. Grab some hot chocolate, take a drive to town, turn on that holiday music and enjoy a peaceful and the free Christmas spirit in Minot!

The Bratcher Family, including TSgt Bratcher 791 MSFS, loves decorating the outside of their home for the holidays with lights and festive decorations. Stefani Bratcher said, "We are new to Minot but huge on decorations for the holidays. It's a lot smaller here then our last base so we had to limit what we could put out." She also mentioned that the Minot wind sometimes keeps them from inflating Frosty the Snowman every night, but they do when it's a calm evening.

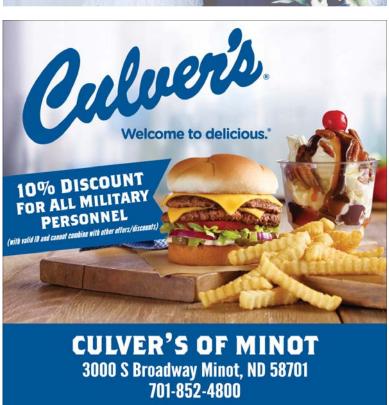
For an interactive list of all the unique housing light displays around town scan the QR code below:





The Christmas lights and towering Frosty the Snowman display at The Bratcher Family home at 115 8th St NW Minot, is sure to get you in the holiday spirit.









by Patricia Stockdill

Lake Sakakawea elevation, Dec. 11: 1,839.55 feet above mean sea level (MSL); 17,200 cubic feet per second (CFS) Garrison Dam average daily releases.

Devils Lake elevation: 1,449.23 feet above mean sea level (MSL). Stump Lake elevation: 1,499.16

• N.D. Game & Fish Dept. game wardens: Fair to good walleye activity on the Missouri River around Bismarck-Mandan. No activity on the east end of Lake Sakakawea with open water. No reports from area lakes.

•Devils Lake, Ed's Bait Shop, Devils Lake: Anglers walking off the Woods-Routen Road onto East Bay and finding some nice perch success. Use extreme caution when walking down off the rocks.

• Devils Lake, Woodland Resort, Devils Lake: Wind opened the main part of Devils Lake last week but some back bays are iced over with walk-on walleye activity around norther feeder lakes and 6-Mile Bay on Devils Lake itself.

•Lake Darling, Karma C-Store, Ruthville: Anglers being cautious with ice conditions but some walleye activity around Grano.

• Lake Metigoshe, Four Seasons, Bottineau: Scattered walleye and pike success with some bluegill activity starting on wax worms.

Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Cenex Bait & Tackle, Garrison: Weather permitting a few anglers continue boat fishing for walleve around Deepwater Bay on Lake Sakakawea and west in the midsection. Some walk-on activity for walleye on the east end of Lake Audubon but ice conditions can vary and use extreme caution, testing ice depth along the way. Try jigs and minnows.

Sakakawea/Lake

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.

• Ice is never completely safe. Avoid areas with vegetation, moving water, pressure ridges, and springs. Check conditions as you go along on the ice and don't move around at night.

• Registration now open for Jan. 6 Ice Fishing 101 workshop, Lewis & Clark State Park on Lake Sakakawea. Call the park, (701) 859-3071, or N.D. Parks & Recreation Dept. website, (parkrec.nd.gov) and click "All Events" under the event listing for details.

• Registration now open for Feb. 9 – 11, 2024 WOW, Wild Outdoor Women, Lake Metigoshe State Park. Go to the N.D. Parks & Recreation Dept. website, (parkrec.nd.gov) and click "All Events" under the event listing for details.

• Dec. 16: East Canada Goose Zone season closes.

•Dec. 17: Muzzleloader deer season closes.

• Dec. 17: Minot Christmas Bird Count (CBC). Meet at Broadway McDonalds, 8 a.m.

•Dec. 19: Des Lacs Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge (NWR) CBC Contact Chad or Laurie at the refuge, (701) 385-4046, ext. 225, for details. •Dec. 20: Movie Skate Night, MAYSA Arena, \$5 skate with \$5

•Dec. 21: Upper Souris NWR CBC. Contact Tom at the refuge, (701) 468-5467, ext. 117, for details.

• Dec. 21: West Canada Goose Zone season closes.

•Dec. 23: Ho Ho Hike, Audubon Nat'l. Wildlife Refuge,

• Dec. 25: Have a wonderful Christmas.

Audubon, Hwy. 83 Lawn & Leisure, Garrison: No activity on the east end of Lake Sakakawea, including in any of the back bays with open water. Some walk-on activity on the east side of Lake Audubon for walleye but use extreme caution. Try the coal veins and stumps from boats on the Missouri River below the tailrace for walleye.

•Lake Sakakawea, New Town: Weather and ice conditions the permitting, midsection continues producing walleye from boats using jigs and minnows/ Access conditions could change rapidly if weather turns more seasonable and ramps ice in with poor conditions to prevent icefishing.

Sakakawea/Missouri River, Scott's Bait & Tackle, Pick City: Missouri River producing small walleye during the day, boat access permitting off the ramp if it's not iced in. Also try the chutes at night but overall angler numbers are light. Lake Sakakawea quiet with open water.

Sakakawea/northwest N.D. lakes, Scenic Sports, Williston: Trenton Lake, Epping-

Springbrook, and Kota-Ray Dam producing decent panfish activity with walk-on access only. Fair walleye success from both boat and shore around the confluence of the Yellowstone and Missouri rivers but beware of the potential for floating ice. Some walkon activity for walleye on Long Creek on the upper end of Lake Sakakawea.

•Lonetree WMA area lakes, Harvey: No new reports.

 North-central/central N.D. lakes, Towner Hdwe. Hank, Towner: A few anglers starting to walk onto Buffalo Lodge Lake with some perch success.

<u>Hunting:</u>

• Predators: Snow cover improving predator hunting success.

•Upland: Pheasant numbers remain good in the northwest and along some areas in central and west-central N.D.

Numbers to know:

•N.D. Game and Fish Dept., main Bismarck office: (701) 328-6300, website: (http://gf.nd.

• Report All Poachers: (701) 328-9921.



CLASSIFIEDS

www.northernsentry.com | sentrysales@srt.com | 701.839.0946 | 315 S. Main Suite 202 | Minot, North Dakota

NOTICE

UPCOMING EVENT

ANTIQUES, JUNK, OLD & NEW DAKOTA FIFA MARKET

NEXT MARKET DATES: FEBRUARY 3 & 4, 2024

N.D. State Fair Grounds. Admission: \$3. Kids Admission Free All Weekend.

Active Military & Veterans' Admission Free on Sunday. Vendor information:

dakotafleamarkets@gmail.com or call or 701-550-1318

NOTICE

Minot AFB, ND -1st Lt Alexander Samaniego from the 740th Missile Squadron has been appointed the Summary Court Officer (SCO) for the estate of

SSGT LOGAN HILL, 91ST MAINTENANCE GROUP.

All claims for or against the estate of the deceased must be submitted to the SCO.

For more information, please contact 1st Lt Alexander Samaniego: Email: alexander. samaniego.2@us.af.mil

NOTICE

Minot AFB, ND -1st Lt Jake Laurel from the 742d Missile Squadron has been appointed the Summary Court Officer (SCO) for the estate of

SRA SANDRO ERAZO JR, **791ST MAINTENANCE** SQUADRON.

All claims for or against the estate of the deceased must be submitted to the SCO.

For more information, please contact 1st Lt Jake Laurel: DSN: 453-6297 Cell: 209-479-0993

NOTICE

Minot AFB, ND -2d Lt William Parker from the 891st Missile Security Forces Squadron has been appointed the Summary Court Officer (SCO) for the estate of

SSGT JONATHAN LYNCH, **891ST MISSILE SECURITY** FORCES SQUADRON.

All claims for or against the estate of the deceased must be submitted to the SCO.

For more information, please contact 2d Lt William Parker: DSN: 453-4443 **Email:** william.parker.43@us.af.mil

NOTICE

Minot AFB, ND -Captain Michael Bechtel from the 5th Munitions Squadron has been appointed the Summary Court Officer (SCO) for the estate of TSGT JALEN MEDINA,

5TH MUNITIONS SQUADRON.

All claims for or against the estate of the deceased must be submitted to the SCO.

For more information. please contact Capt Michael Bechtel: DSN: 453-1119 Cell: (701) 389-8208



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PUZZLE ON PAGE B3

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8	4	3	5	9	7	1	6	2

REAL ESTATE



Contact **Rod Wilson to get** your business listed here! sentrysales@srt.com 701.839.0946



Odalis Jones Martinez RE/MAX Bakken Realty REALTOR®

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THE NORTH DAKOTA NATIONAL **GUARD** have openings available

in a variety of career fields across the state and in Minot. Continue your military career on a parttime basis. For more information call 420-5903 or 420-5904 in Minot.

IMMEDIATE FULL AND PART TIME OPENINGS for

daytime and evening custodial positions cleaning buildings at the Minot Air Force Base. Pay is \$14.49/hour plus health welfare benefit. Hours Days 8a or 9a-finish typically Monday through Friday, may include weekend work. Nights 5p-finish. Apply in person at: 605 27th St SE, Minot ND 58701 or contact: Matt Mackey By email or phone mmackey@kalixnd.org 701-852-1014.

LOOKING FOR A CAREER THAT IS BOTH **CHALLENGING AND REWARDING?**

Kalix is seeking caring and compassionate people to provide support for people with disabilities. We have schedules to fit your needs. We offer competitive wages and excellent benefits. We are an equal opportunity employer and a drug free workplace.

> Apply in person at: 605 27th St SE, Minot ND 58701 Or contact: Matt Mackey By email or phone at

701-852-1014 ADULT & TEEN BAGGERS NEEDED AT THE MINOT AFB COMMISSARY

mmackey@kalixnd.org

BAGGERS WORK FOR TIPS ONLY

ADULT HOURS

Tuesday-Friday 7am-4pm Later start times available but must be able to stay until 4pm & Sunday 11am-6pm

TEEN HOURS

Tuesdays-Friday 4pm-7pm & Saturday 7am-6pm Morning start times rotate & vary

IF INTERESTED SPEAK TO CHARLIE AT THE COMMISSARY OR LEAVE CONTACT INFORMATION WITH CUSTOMER SERVICE.

MINOT AFB ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University is the world's pre-eminent university for aviation and aerospace education. However, our dynamic, hands-on programs will prepare you for careers well beyond the limits of the sky. Our Worldwide Campus has been working with U.S. military service members since 1970, helping them to earn a degree while on active duty or as veterans. And we do it at more than 90 military installations around the globe. The Embry-Riddle Minot Campus — located at Minot Air Force Base — offers associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees, as well as undergraduate and graduate certifications, that will help you whether you are an active-duty military service member, a veteran, or a civilian working at or around Minot Air Force Base, Embry-Riddle Worldwide is here to help you earn your college degree. A degree from Embry-Riddle Worldwide will help service members to become commissioned officers, will make veterans more desirable job candidates as they enter the civilian workforce, and will assist civilians with job advancement or career changes. Our modes of instruction are: Online, Eaglevision Home and Eaglevision Classroom. Our next upcoming term: 8 Jan-10 Mar. For more information, please visit us in Room 223 located in the Base Education Center Building (2nd floor), email: minot@erau.edu or call office phone: 701-727-9007.

PARK UNIVERSITY MINOT -

Your degree, Your way. Park University is enrolling now. Earn your CCAF credits, AU-ABC, and your Bachelor's degree with PARK. Let's maximize your military experience! Find how many credits you can get from your military experience by going to military park edu. and confirmed your credits Or Ask Alexa! Enable the Park University skill on your Alexa device and say "Alexa, ask Park, How many credit hours can I get from my military experience?" She'll even tell you your graduation date! Minot AFB @ the Education Center RM 222 | 844-884-8612 | mino@park. edu PARK. YOU

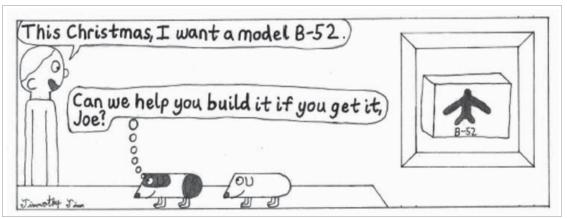
MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY

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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TITUS & PHILEMON

Everyday adventures of Titus and Philemon and their owner Joe.



Timmothy 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.



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.

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

• 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 STEMfocused 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/ fkmaNeYuLr

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

 \bullet 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.gocivilairpatrol.com or contact the POC

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

POC: 1st Lt Jon McLemore, CAP, Jonathan.mclemore@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





DECEMBER MAC MEETING

Tom Rafferty, Chairman of the Minot Chamber/EDC Military Affairs Committee, had the honor of introducing those in attendance to the Barksdale Trophy. The trophy awards the community with best base/community relationship. Minot has won the trophy twice since it's inception in 2019. A community cannot win the trophy 2 consecutive years

Entertaining the Minot Chamber/EDC Military Affairs Committee was the Change of Pace singers from Minot High School. The Change of Pace has become the regular entertainment at the December MĂC meeting, entertaining the crowd with familiar Christmas sonas and carols.





THIS WEEK IN USAF HISTORY

"OPERATION CHRISTMAS KIDLIFT" **BRINGS SOUTH KOREAN ORPHANS TO SAFETY DECEMBER 20, 1950**



Capt. Tone Nobile, a flight nurse, comforts 19, 1950, Blaisdell met Col. T.C.

During the Korean War, Air Force Chaplains Lt. Col. Russell Blaisdell and Col. Wallace Wolverton set up the Seoul Orphanage Reception Center to provide food, clothing, shelter, and medical aid to approximately 4,000 orphans in the South Korean capital. When Chinese forces began pushing towards Seoul, the chaplains feared for the children's safety in the midst of a war zone. On December an orphan before the airlift.(USAF Photo) Rogers, Fifth Air Force Chief of Operations. Along with Lt. Gen.

William Tunner, Commander of Combat Cargo Command, they were able to call in 12 C-54 Skymasters from the 61st Troop Carrier Group. Over 1,000 orphans were airlifted to safety on December 20. Nurses and medics from the 501st Air Evacuation Squadron also provided aid to the children, and most of them were able to make it out of harm's way because of the valiant efforts of the Airmen involved.

Information courtesy of: airforcemedicine.af.mil / USAF Chronology by D. Haulman, P. Jones, R. Oliver





Patricia Stockdill

Now that it's been a few weeks since everyone has hopefully – recovered from overindulging in turkey, trimmings, and football that is so much a part of Thanksgiving, it's time to prep for Christmas and the coming of a New Year.

But, whoa, that doesn't mean North Dakota's Great Outdoors should be neglected in what remains of the final weeks of 2023. Besides, once the calendar cranks over to a new year, there is less than a week left for most hunting seasons.

Yes, December can bring cold, snow, and potential blizzards — all one has to do is flash back to December 2022 and remember how much fun that definitely was not.

Those days are best spent embracing the Great Indoors.

Yet December can offer amazing outdoor experiences. We have the privilege of embracing four distinct, diverse seasons. We're not locked into the "same ol', same ol" weather year-around.

Just consider these opportunities to enjoy in December:

It's the time of year for Christmas Bird Counts (CBC). Granted, CBCs attract some pretty hardcore birders but check on the North Dakota Birding Society website, (www.ndbirdingsociety.com) and click the CBC link to get contact information for each location's upcoming count. Organizers can often assist people who might not have the same expertise as longtime birders yet are interested in participating.

CBC events take place nationwide between Dec. 14 and Jan. 5. In North Dakota some area Christmas Bird Count locations include Medora, Bismarck-Mandan, Garrison Dam, or Upper Souris and Des Lacs National Wildlife refuges.

Call Upper Souris headquarters, (701) 468-5467 extension 117, for details on their Dec. 21 CBC or Des Lacs, (701) 385-4046, extension 225, for their Dec. 19 information.

And, of course, there is ice-fishing — ice conditions permitting, that is. Regardless of whether it's early season activity on the ice or as the calendar move into January and February, folks fishing on the hard water need to remember to be prepared for potential problems and always test ice depth as one ventures

If there is enough snow North Dakota's Snowmobile ND trails open officially Dec. 1 (scratch that thought in 2023, though). Their website, (www.snowmobilend. org) has links to trail conditions.

Volunteer snowmobile clubs help make the trail system a reality so it's worth checking out what Snowmobile ND is all about, as well. Trails remain open until April 1, snow condition permitting.

And finally, December still brings many hunting opportunities, including predator hunting and, above all, some late season pheasant hunting. The advantage to being out with one's favorite four-legged hunting companion in December is that while it might be nippy at times, it's so peaceful when glistening snow blankets the landscape.

Besides, there is usually so much less hunting pressure. And it's tough to beat a crisp sunny day afield.

Just be sure to be prepared for both hunter and dog alike and carry fresh water in the field. Snow simply doesn't cut it for providing the amount of the water a hard-working dog needs even when it's late season

Stop and make certain they drink water. Adding a little chicken broth to the water bottle might help entice them to drink. Also, a collapsible bowl is easy to carry in a hunting vest.

Be mindful of cold temperatures. Dogs and people alike can get hypothermia. Things like frozen cornstalks can slice a dog's foot pads and cut legs.

Settle indoors and do that Christmas prep on those icky December days and embrace the ones when we can get outside.

This is North Dakota, after all, and weather can turn on a dime – usually not for the better, either.

Embrace the Great Outdoors when we can. Above all, keep safety in mind - regardless of what outdoor activity one pursues.

Perhaps John Burroughs said it best in "The Snow-Walkers," (1866): "He who marvels at the beauty of the world in summer will find equal cause for wonder and admiration in winter.... In winter the stars seem to have rekindled their fires, the moon achieves a fuller triumph, and the heavens wear a look of a more exalted simplicity."



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WHAT'S GOING ON MAFB

FRIDAY

- December Fitness Challenge, 0500-2100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- JCM 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership, 0800-1600. Professional Development Center
- Education Fair, 1100-1300, Bomber Bistro, hosted by Education Center
- Family Night, 1700-1900, Bomber Bistro
- Jingle Bowling, 1700, Rough Rider Bowling Center
- Zumba Strong Nation, 1730, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Snowball Dance, 1800-2000, Youth Center
- Friday Night Mixed League, 1800, Rough Rider Bowling Center

SATURDAY

- Youth Bowling League, 1400, Rough Rider Bowling Center
- R4R Free Bowling, 1700-2100, Rough Rider Bowling Center

WEDNESDAY 20

- Bundles for Babies, 0900-1030, M&FRC
- Pre-Deployment/Remote Readiness Training, 1000, M&FRC, Zoom Meeting
- Storytime, 1030, Minot AFB Library
- Zumba, 1730, McAdoo Fitness Center

THURSDAY 7

- Pre-Separation Counseling, 0830-1130, M&FRC
- Family Bootcamp, 1000, Turf hosted by McAdoo Fitness Center
- OSI Recruitment Briefing, 1500, Professional Development Center
- Jingle Bowling, 1700, Rough Rider Bowling Center
- Yoga, 1700, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Extramural Bowling, 1730, Rough Rider Bowling Center
- Zumba, 1800, McAdoo Fitness Center



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Zumba, 1400, McAdoo Fitness Center

MONDAY

- Immersion, 1000, M&FRC
- Reintegration Briefing, 1000, M&FRC, Zoom Meetina
- Palace Chase/Front Briefing, 1400, Professional Development Center

First Duty Station Officer Financial Course, 0900-1100, M&FRC

• Family Bootcamp, 1000, Turf hosted by McAdoo Fitness Center

• Moving Out of the Dorms Budget Class, 1300-1500, M&FRC, Zoom Meeting

Zumba Strong Nation, 1730, McAdoo Fitness Center

TUESDAY

• Game Day, 1000-1930, Minot AFB Library

Zumba, 1800, McAdoo Fitness Center

- Writing Club, 1800, Minot AFB Library
- Yoga, 1830, McAdoo Fitness Center

FRIDAY

- Jingle Bowling, 1700, Rough Rider Bowling Center
- Friday Night Mixed League, 1800, Rough Rider Bowling Center

SATURDAY

- Youth Bowling League, 1400, Rough Rider Bowling Center
- Jingle Bowling, 1700, Rough Rider Bowling Center
- R4R Free Bowling, 1700-2100, Rough Rider Bowling Center

DEC SPECIALS

Bomber Bistro Featured Item

Grinch Pie

Pizza with a pesto base, topped with shredded mozzarella and cherry tomatoes.

The B-Fifty Brew Featured Item

Peppermint Mocha

Signature Starbucks Espresso Roast combines with steamed milk, sweet mocha sauce, and peppermint-flavored syrup, topped with whipped cream and dark-chocolate curls

Rockers Bar & Grill Featured Item

Chicken Tenders

Four tasty tenders served with crispy fries and your choice of dipping sauce!

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