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Gary Lee, a retired U.S. Air Force pilot, poses for a photo with aircrew from the 69th Bomb Squadron in front of a B-52H Stratofortress at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, June 2025. The B-52H is a model that Lee never flew during his career, having only piloted its predecessors: B-52D, E and F models. See page A7 for more on Lee's visit.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY SENIOR AIRMAN KENDRA A. RANSUM

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It’s Back, Baby: Freedom Fest Returns to MAFB

KERIANNE NOEL, NORTHERN SENTRY

This year’s Fourth of July festivities were initially scheduled to be festive but straightforward: A fireworks display put on by MUM Pyrotechnics from Sawyer, ND scheduled for the evening of 27 June 2025. According to Matthew Balas, Deputy Director of the 5th Force Support Squadron (FSS) this is their third year handling the display for MAFB. No strangers to dazzling a crowd, MUM pyrotechnics has been in charge of regularly putting on the City of Minot’s firework show at the NODAK Speedway since 2014. With all of that experience at the helm of the fun, MAFB’s Fourth of July celebrations are certain to inspire patriotism in freedom-loving hearts everywhere.

Originally there were no other events planned beyond daily operations at the Library, Outdoor Pool, Golf Course, and Bowling Center because of the BUFF Bash and Base Open House scheduled for June 13th and 14th. Since their unforeseen cancellation, 5th FSS has pivoted toward putting their many

resources into Freedom Fest 2025: a fun, family-friendly event that some may remember from years past.

The fun will begin at the base library from 1400-1600 with hands-on patriotic themed STEAM activities. According to the 5th FSS these include film bottle rockets, salt-painted fireworks, a mini education information fair, and the extremely popular explosive Coke and Mentos demo, which will take place every hour on the hour.

The excitement will then move to the Rockers parking lot from 1800-2200. Planned events will include a kid zone, face painting, axe throwing, mini golf, yard games and more. While this year’s event will not feature a live band, a DJ will be spinning all the latest hits. Additionally, Rocker’s Bar and Grill and some of the base’s Private Organizations will be on hand to sell food and beverages. The MAFB Spouses Club, for example, plans to sell both cotton candy and drinks as part of their ongoing mission to raise funds for their various

charitable endeavors which includes a scholarship fund for base spouses and dependents. Some private organizations and events will be operating on a cash only basis, so don’t forget to visit the ATM before you come out.

After the conclusion of Freedom Fest, attendees can head over to the firework show, which is scheduled to take place roughly at dusk. “There will be bleachers set up in the grass by Bud Ebert Park where people can safely view the Fireworks,” noted Mr. Balas. Those familiar with fireworks in North Dakota, known for its longer summer daylight, will know that this often takes place as late as 2300. In case of inclement weather, the alternate date for fireworks will be on 28 June Any changes will be announced through base PA and the 5th FSS Facebook Page.

For more information about Freedom Fest visit the FSS’s event website at <https://5thforcesupport.com/event/freedom-fest/> and keep an eye on their Facebook page.



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What Can Happen In A Career



**A VIEW FROM
OUR SIDE**
ROD WILSON

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I may have shared with you that I began my journalism career at a local hometown newspaper. Perhaps I was around 10 years old when the publisher would catch me on my bike and offer me a quarter, or it could have even been a nickel, to sweep the floors and haul out the trash. As I can remember there was a lot of newspaper scraps on the floor and crumpled up pieces of paper in the trash cans.

There were a couple of desks with these odd looking machines on them...I would soon learn they were typewriters. I took an interest in one of the reporters as he was punching what seemed to be random keys on these machines to create words. Next to his typewriter was what looked like chicken scratching. Later down the road I would learn this was shorthand, a kind of hieroglyphic form of creating a news story document.

Typewriters, of course, would take a revolutionary path through the 60's, 70's and even into the 80's. In general, typewriters became a lot smaller than these metal monsters on the desks of the

reporters at the Maddock Standard. Our first typewriter at home was blue in color, as I remember it, and quite a bit smaller; and yes, it was still a manual typewriter, which meant you had to really push down hard on the keys to create a typewritten document.

But now a quick digression to the Maddock Standard. All of those crumpled up sheets of paper in the waste baskets? Well, those were news, or sports stories gone wrong. I would watch the reporters as they would write (or type) their way into a corner and with the flip of their wrist remove a sheet of paper from their typewriter, crumple it up and quickly toss it into the waste basket. No white out or erase tape here. From what I could tell from my stool where I would stop to take a short rest, no story was completed without a termination. A termination? That would normally be a few terse words and then the ripping sound of a sheet of paper being torn from the typewriter.

I didn't work very long at the Maddock Standard, however my older brother did...but he once told me that when the newspaper closed they hauled most of those front line, manual, non-correcting typewriters to the city dump west of town. I have often seen typewriters in museums that resembled those typewriters at the Maddock Standard. And you know what? We had a few of them in our typewriter lab at Maddock High School where I took my first typing class.

Somewhere in my high school days, the Maddock High School purchased new typewriters... They were not only electric, but gone was



My granddaughter Addely discovers a "type-what" on the set of Newsies at The Lights in West Fargo.

the row of metal bars with letters attached that actually did the typing. They were replaced with a ball that rotated and printed a letter once you hit a key. Amazing!

Over the 50 plus years of my Journalism career I would encounter at least 20 more "newest & best" typewriters, the last having a key that allowed you to just kind of back space and erase what you just typed. You could literally erase an entire line of misguided print. But really, you still could write yourself into a corner on an article or story and the wrist rip and crumple motion became your only option.

So why this walk down memory lane? My granddaughter, who is 8 years old, accompanied her dad to work one day at The Lights complex in West Fargo. Scheduled to go on the stage at The Lights this summer is the Broadway play "Newies". If you are not familiar with Newsies, it is about newspaper boys who deliver papers in New York and consequently go on strike.

As one would expect, there would be a typewriter on the set of Newsies, which would lead my granddaughter to question her Dad as to just what this machine is? Without a whole lot more of written rhetoric, let's just say

that from the back room of the Maddock Standard to the text messaging, (and several of our Northern Sentry reporters have used their cell phone text message features to write articles) phones of today has been quite a leap. One day Addely and I will have to sit down and talk about "what BePa does for a living." In the meantime, we booked our tickets to Newsies and the typewriter on set surely won't be a question to me...

MAYBE YOU SHOULD...

Think about attending Military Days at Fort Stevenson State Park south of Garrison. Frontier Military Days at Fort Stevenson State Park will be held on June 28th and 29th. The event will take place from noon to 4:00 PM both days on the Guardhouse Interpretive Center lawn. It's a free event open to the public, offering a glimpse into 1870s military life. There's a lot to do and see, but the highlight each day for me is the firing of the cannon at 12:00 Noon and 3:30 PM. All events are free with a vehicle pass to the park.

TODAY'S CHUCKLE

Life is a journey. It's just that some take the interstate while the rest of us discover all the dead ends.

North Dakota ghost towns

in northern Emmons County and held the county seat for a time, and when the railroad was built three miles west, people moved there and started the community of Hazelton.

Winona was in the southwest and was directly across the Missouri River from Fort Yates. It was once a major stopping point on the stage coach from Bismarck to Sturgis, but when Linton was established in 1899, the town quickly died out.

One of the communities on this list is Old Sanish, in Mountrail County. Another is Elbowoods in McLean County. Of course these two places are barren because they are both at the bottom of Lake Sakakawea. Many of you will recall that before Garrison Dam was built, these two towns were moved to higher ground to a place now called New Town.

There was another place submerged by Lake Sakakawea that many of us don't know about and that was Beaver Creek in Williams County. It was located east of Epping and was completely abandoned in 1955.

Independence, Lucky Butte, Nishu, Red Butte and Shell Creek were additional small communities that were flooded when Garrison Dam was built.

Baden, Brisbane, Charging Eagle, Dogtooth, Hample, Ives, Leipzig, Lynwood, Mose, Petrel, Pierce, Sanger, Schmidt, Sully Springs and Three V Crossing are all places that truly are ghosts. Nothing remains but history, no buildings, no roads, although in some cases cemeteries remain.

Hollywood tends to portray ghost towns as those that have buildings and are abandoned. North Dakota has some of those too. Those places are classified as abandoned sites as a subcategory of ghost town.

If you're on of those people out there who actually like to chase ghosts, you might consider the following; Old Fort Rice and Fort Buford. Old Fort Rice is in Morton County, south of Mandan and has quite a history as a U.S. Army reservation. Even more so is Fort Buford, in Williams County. There's an historic fort there now, but if you dig into the history of the actual Army post Fort Buford, you'll find Soldiers didn't just die in prairie raids, more of them died from disease and mental health issues than from bullets or arrows.

When those two forts existed, there was a lot of uncertainty with Dakota Territory, communities and doctors were far apart and winters

were more brutal than anyone could have imagined.

There's another place, not a military post, that is supposedly haunted and that is San Haven, in Rolette County. It was a tuberculosis sanatorium and later state hospital north of Dunseith, near the Canadian border. It was built in 1913 and closed in 1987.

There, you have a massive building with broken-out windows, asbestos contamination and can you imagine the number of people who died there in the 75 years the place existed?

There's one place on the ghost-town list that has perhaps as much civilian history as do the two Army posts previously named.

Schafer was the McKenzie County seat before Watford City existed. The town may have still existed had it not been for a land dispute between the Schafer family and the Great Northern Railway. Watford City was founded in 1914 leaving Schafer with nothing more today than the old McKenzie County jail.

There are a lot more, Temvik, Tagus, Baden, Banks, Carbury, Clyde, Hartland, Heaton; in effect, too many to mention. But if any of these places could talk, oh the stories they could tell.



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U.S. Air Force Col. Jimmy L. Schlabbach, 91st Missile Wing Commander, speaks to off-base medical providers during the 5th Medical Group (5MDG) Provider Open House at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, June 13, 2025. The event occurs only when the 5MDG changes regional contractors.

5TH MEDICAL GROUP PROVIDER OPEN HOUSE BUILDS WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOCAL COMMUNITY PROVIDERS

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS SENIOR AIRMAN KENDRA A. RANSUM



U.S. Air Force Capt. Deserea Shoemaker, 5th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron medical director of the Warrior Operational Medical Clinic, guides a tour during the 5th Medical Group Provider Open House at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, June 13, 2025. Providers from outside the Military Treatment Facility (MTF) came on base to see how Minot AFB's MTF hospital operated.



Airmen from the the 5th Medical Group (5MDG) guide a tour of off-base medical providers during the 5MDG Provider Open House at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, June 13, 2025. Since Minot AFB is in a rural location, the event's goal was to ensure that beneficiaries have ease of access to care when it comes to specialty services, that the 5MDG as an ambulatory clinic may not be able to provide.



U.S. Air Force Maj. James Passmore, 5th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron human performance flight commander, talks about the Physical Therapy room during the 5th Medical Group Provider (5MDG) Open House at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, June 13, 2025.



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Paws, Play, and Pasta: A Tail-Wagging Year of Events with Souris Valley Animal Shelter

HANNAH WATERS, NORTHERN SENTRY



Last year’s Spaghetti and No Balls Dinner and Pet Fashion Show!

Get ready for an action-packed year with the Souris Valley Animal Shelter! Whether you’re a sports fan, fitness enthusiast, foodie, or pet-fashion aficionado, SVAS has something special lined up, and every event helps support their lifesaving work. Their three main events coming up this year are “Bark at the Park”, “Lend a Paw 5k Color Run and Festival” and “Spaghetti and No Balls Dinner and Pet Fashion Show”, but there are so many exciting events to come! So, save the dates and grab some friends to show some support for animal health and wellness!

To kick off the summer, “Bark at the Park” is a huge event supporting the shelter this year teaming up with the Minot Honeybee’s softball team for a game on July 9th. The Honeybee’s will have a promotion jersey featuring Jonsey the alumni dog at the shelter and 50 other dogs selected from the community! 100% of the funds that are raised on the jerseys auction will go to the shelter. The auction opens on the night of the game and will run through the game’s fruition! Dogs can even be brought to the game that evening! According to Haley Burchett the Fundraising Events Coordinator for SVAS, “People can bring their dogs with them to the [Honeybees] game, which is a huge deal because they’ve never done that before!” Haley also requests that the public please be courteous of the ball park so events like this can continue happening! The shelter will be selling tickets for the game as well! They only have 25 tickets left, and they can be bought from Cornerstone Chiropractic, but the cutoff is June 25th, so you have to act fast!

”The 5K Color Walk Jog or Run and Lend a Paw Festival” is on August 9th at 9:30 at Oak Park. During the run, colored powder provided by Boppre Law Firm, will be thrown participates. Each color that will be thrown has a meaning in every aspect of mental health. Haley said, “This is a mental health event

so people need to be in the mind space” The Minot Police Department will be bringing their bomb dog and therapy dog to talk and share stories about the lives that have been saved by these amazing animals. Natures Nook, referred to by Haley as the “Fundraising Squad,” will be coming to do face painting and work with the SVAS team. Other major players making this event happen are Sergeant Caisee Sanduski from the Minot Police Department and Nicole Sasso. Haley said this is event will be “freaking bombtastic” and everyone will want to be there!

Finally, the “Spaghetti and No Balls Dinner and Pet Fashion” show is sure to be a hoot this year! Dinner will be on November 13th from 6- 8:30 pm.. It will be held at the Sleep Inn and Suites near the Dakota Square Mall. There will be dinner, a silent auction, and the pet fashion show! These are just a few of the great events that will be going on this summer! Make sure to check out the Souris Valley Animal Shelter website for a full list of all the events going on this summer!

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93-year-old retired veteran pilot revisits the B-52

SENIOR AIRMAN KENDRA A. RANSUM, 5TH BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. --

Nearly six decades after his last flight, retired U.S. Air Force Maj. Gary Lee stood on the flightline at Minot Air Force Base, marshaling in the modern iteration of the aircraft he once piloted: the B-52 Stratofortress.

Lee, 93, traveled from his home in South Carolina to visit Minot AFB on June 2025, to reconnect with the legendary bomber he flew during his two-decade career in the U.S. Air Force, which spanned from 1955 to 1975. Over the course of that time, he piloted several variants of strategic bombers, including the B-47 and B-52D, E and F models.

“The last time I flew was the summer of 1967,” Lee said. “Back then, I was flying as an aircraft commander, we had a lot of deployments. We once had 18 airplanes and 18 crews on alert 24/7 for one Bomb Wing. It was kind of hectic.”

During his visit, Lee was given a guided tour to see the base’s B-52H aircraft, the current model operated by the 5th Bomb Wing. For the veteran pilot, the experience was both nostalgic and enlightening.

Lee’s early career began with the B-47 Stratojet as a copilot, where promotion opportunities were limited due to the presence of seasoned World War II veterans who dominated the ranks of Strategic Air Command.

“It was hard to get upgraded in those days,” Lee recalled. “But

at the Bomb Wing I was in, they finally got one quota to upgrade, and they gave that to me. I thought, ‘Wow. I didn’t know the wing commander liked me that much.’”

Even in his copilot days, Lee juggled several roles. “I was also the [electronic countermeasure] operator, the tail gunner and the assistant navigator. Every now and then, they let me land an airplane, and I’d take it.”

Ultimately, it was the B-52 that became his favorite to fly. When the B-47s were phased out, Lee was one of the select few in his

Wing chosen to transition to the newer bombers. That legacy still soars today, as the B-52 continues to evolve with modern upgrades while remaining the backbone of America’s long-range bomber fleet.

“I’m very pleased I came,” he said. “I found out a little bit about the B-52H model that I didn’t know and it was all positive. I’d do it again, mainly because I’m back on an Air Force base with Air Force people and they haven’t changed in the last 50 years, which is wonderful to know. It resumes my faith in my fellow man.”



Gary Lee, a retired U.S. Air Force pilot, poses for a photo in front of a B-52H Stratofortress at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, June 2025. Lee served a 20-year Air Force career from 1955 to 1975, retiring at the rank of Major.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN KENDRA A. RANSUM



Gary Lee (right), a retired U.S. Air Force pilot, marshals in a B-52H Stratofortress at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, June 2025. Alongside being a pilot, Lee served other roles such as as a copilot during his military career, having duties such as the electronic countermeasure operator, the tail gunner and the assistant navigator.



U.S. Air Force Col. Jesse Lamarand (right), 5th Bomb Wing commander, converses with Gary Lee (left), a retired U.S. Air Force pilot, at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, June 2025. Lee, 93, traveled north from his home in South Carolina to experience a guided tour at Minot AFB.



Gary Lee, a retired U.S. Air Force pilot, watches a B-52H Stratofortress fly over Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, June 2025. Over the course of his military career, Lee flew the B-47 Stratojet as well as the B-52D, E and F models.



Gary Lee, a retired U.S. Air Force pilot, holds a 69th Bomb Squadron patch at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, June 2025. Lee shared brief stories of his 20-year-long Air Force career with members of the aircrew who gave him the patch.

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TSGT Sheena Corey was hand-selected to fill the Dental Flight Chief position for the last 11 months and has excelled during her time in the seat. She leads the Medical Group’s largest flight of 35 members and ensures the oral health and readiness for 5,500 Airmen across 2 Wings. She works hard to make sure her flight is taken care of and devotes her time to building camaraderie in the clinic. Her hobbies are shoveling snow and spending time with her wife.

Info from Dec 2024

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AT 106

All About Pets

AF Life with Pets



Elmer Fudd, Dogs on Deployment Mascot 2019 with USAF Capt. Bryan Moore

As many Airmen and families already know, military life is not easy. Here are a few tips to help you make manage your busy Air Force life while also taking proper care of your pet!

- Get a low maintenance pet—snakes, certain varieties of fish, hamsters and other rodents, and turtles are just a few ideas of pets that are relatively low maintenance compared to your everyday dogs and cats. It’s still important to provide adequate enrichment, environments, and food for them, but if you do all those things, these pets will be just fine during long work hours. Be sure to check with you housing authority first to make sure these pets are allowed.
- Find a “lazy” pet—high energy and working dog breeds are not recommended for owners who are away from home a lot and do not have the time, energy, and resources to keep their dogs fully enriched. You could consider bringing home a characteristically “lazy” breed instead. Basset Hounds, Boston Terriers, Bull Mastiffs, and Maltese are a few dog breeds that pop up often in the conversation around low-energy breeds. However, it’s still important to note that all dogs are different. You may find a dog that is a couch-potato by nature, or you may find a “low-energy” dog that wants to go 24/7. Make sure you consider the needs of certain breeds and individual dogs (or cats) before adopting, and even if you have a low-energy dog, you still need to meet their basic requirements. Which is why working people should consider...
- Outside help—for shorter periods (a week in the field, a 12 hour day at work), it would

be beneficial to hire a pet sitter, dog walker, or even a neighbor or family member who is willing to help out. While some pets won’t go crazy at home all day, they still need to be provided with socialization and enrichment. See if you can find someone to pop in every few hours to play with, feed, and let your pet outside! Doggy daycare is a great option for many canine parents, and while cats and other small pets are usually alright left alone, it’s never a bad idea for them to have someone to play with. Don’t be afraid to reach out to the base community through Facebook or your friends/family for help if you’re feeling overwhelmed with your pet-parental duties. Chances are there is someone out there who is willing to help you and your pet out.

- For bigger challenges, consider finding a temporary foster home for your pet. Family members, close friends, and even willing community members are always options for long-term pet care instead of rehoming. There are also “deployed pet” help sites that can connect you with temporary fosters, such as Dogs on Deployment and Guardian Angels for Soldier’s Pets. If you’re thinking about rehoming your pet due to the cost of PCSing with them, consider applying for SPCA International’s Operation Military Pets grant.

Taking care of pets is a big responsibility, but when we bring them into our home, it’s our duty to treat them with the care and love that they give us as well. Military life can make it more difficult, but there are so many resources out there to help.

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Devils Lake

A Great “Stay” cation

ROD WILSON, NORTHERN SENTRY

The road into Woodland Resort located on Creel Bay on Devils Lake starts out winding through farm fields, transitions into a natural North Dakota wooded area, and soon you will find yourself looking out over the expanse of Devils Lake, the 2nd largest, and largest natural lake, in North Dakota.

Signs will direct you to Woodland Resort, Devils Lake’s largest full service resort, owned by Devils Lake native Kyle Blanchard, and certainly an example of what can happen when you have a dream and a goal.

“We started Woodland Resort in 1987” according to Kyle “and we just kept expanding.” The latest of those dreams and goals that came to fruition is The Shores, the new convention center that just recently opened after almost a year of construction. “We’ve really been thinking about building this type of (convention center) facility for some time, but I guess we really got serious about construction about 3 years ago.”

Appropriately named The Shores because of the center’s location right on the shores of Devils Lake, the Woodland Resort website describes the new event center well...

Choosing The Shores means choosing a lakeside venue with stunning views, flexible indoor and outdoor spaces, and a dedicated

The Shores at Woodland Resort

team that’s here to make your event unforgettable.

With lakeside ceremony space for up to 100 guests, reception seating for up to 400 guests, and customizable setups, we provide the ideal backdrop for any occasion.”

Coming from Oregon to be the new Events Coordinator at The Shores is Laurel Brown. “I absolutely love it here. I am a hockey player at heart and of course there’s a lot of hockey tradition here in Devils Lake” explains Laurel. In our conversation Laurel was quick to point out that the new events center “has it all. They really didn’t cut out or scrimp on anything. That goes from the tables and chairs to the windows

that overlook the lake and the audio/visual equipment that they’ve installed. You can bring your laptop and hook right in whether it’s for a wedding, or a trade show or some type of seminar.”

There is a patio area that also overlooks the lake and a walkway and stage area that allows couples a choice of having their wedding ceremony literally right on the shores of Devils Lake with unending natural scenery behind them.

Probably the most impressive part of Woodland Resort and The Shores is the amenities that are offered. “We have several options for lodging here, a full service restaurant, a complete rental and repair center for

Have your wedding ceremony on the shores of beautiful Devils Lake!

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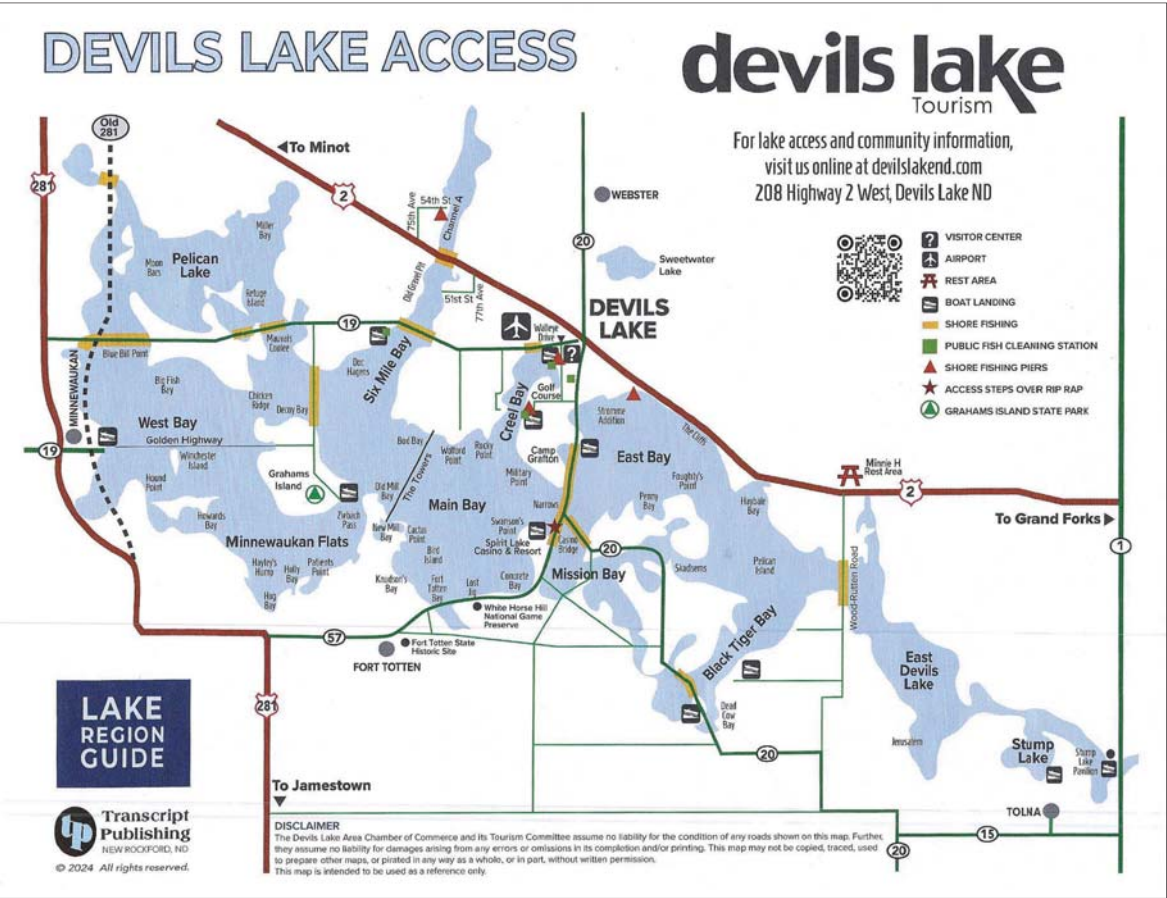
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Devils Lake offers acres of recreational opportunity.

boats, and of course there's the lake. There's just so much opportunity" according to Brown.

And it seems that the word is quickly getting out that The Shores is open and ready to host events, "we just had a wedding, we have 2 weekends in a row with weddings and we have several other events booked and we are getting calls every day" according to Brown.

For Kyle Blanchard "yeah, it just kind of puts a cap on everything we wanted to do here (at Woodland Resort). There just isn't a facility like this (The Shores) anywhere around here."

There is a lot to like about a "stay" cation at Woodland Resort but also Devils Lake in general. For sportsman who enjoy fishing, there is not a better location than Devils Lake. You can pack your golf clubs and book a round of golf just up the road at Creel Bay Golf Course.

Woodland Resort takes pride in being military friendly. "They just have to ask about our military discount when they call. We're



Plan the perfect lakeside wedding event.

happy to serve our military folks and let them have a little fun and recreation just up the road in Devils Lake" Kyle says with a smile.

For more information and to book an event at The Shores you can call Woodland Resort at (701) 662-5996.



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Shriners - 2nd Wednesday at 6:00PM

Scottish Rite - 1st Wednesday at 6:00PM

Eastern Star - 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7:00PM

Prince Hall - 2nd Saturday at 9:00AM

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WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH
5:00pm 91 MSFS B L(1) VS 91 MSOS W(2)
6:00pm 705 MUNS L(1) VS 791 MSFS W(2)
7:00pm 5 MDG L(0) VS 91 MSFS A W(2)

SOFTBALL
WEDNESDAY JUNE 18TH
5:00pm LRS W(12) VS MUNS A L(2)
5:00pm 5th SFS W(14) VS 91 MSFS L(9)
6:00pm LRS W(11) VS MUNS A L(10)
6:00pm 5th SFS L(9) VS 91 MSFS W(18)



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A LOOK BACK

THIS WEEK IN USAF HISTORY

OPERATION NEW TAPE
JULY 8, 1960



USAF C-130 from the 40th Tactical Airlift Squadron loads up Swedish troops who were deployed to Congo on July 20, 1960. (UN Photo)

In 1960, the Belgian Congo, a colony in West Central Africa, was granted independence and became the Republic of the Congo. Due to a power-sharing struggle between two opposing political parties and continuing unrest, a civil war broke out. The United Nations deployed troops to help keep the peace as the nation was torn apart. In order to evacuate refugees from the Belgian colony, Operation NEW TAPE began on July 8, 1960. The operation evacuated over 300 American civilians, delivered more UN troops, and flew other humanitarian relief missions. USAF in Europe provided medical air support. The 317th Tactical Hospital Detachment from Evreux Air Base, France, even set up a dispensary. C-130s and C-124s from various American and European squadrons were used to airlift over 1,000 tons of food and over 2,500 refugees. Operation NEW TAPE lasted four years and at the time, became the biggest airlift since the Berlin Airlift.

Information courtesy of: media.defense.gov / airforcemedicine.af.mil / Air Mobility Command Museum / arsof-history.org

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A TAILRACE ADVENTURE

Patricia Stockdill

The Missouri River tailrace lies below 66.5 million cubic yards of Fort Union clay shale earthen fill and 1.5 million cubic yards of concrete comprising Garrison Dam and its spillway.

The dam holds back water from the Missouri River and its tributaries – Little Missouri, Yellowstone, and Milk rivers – squeezing through six hydropower generating units before returning to the modern version of its former self.

The tailrace below Garrison Dam has become a fishing treasure in the decades since the dam closed in 1953 creating Lake Sakakawea.

Much of the fishing focus on the lake, a massive water body that is the third largest reservoir in the United States, centers around boat fishing.

But anglers don't necessarily need a boat when fishing the tailrace. Yes, they can launch off the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers concrete boat ramp on the east side of the river and head near the chutes or downstream.

But there's good reason for shore-fishing's popularity in the tailrace: It's typically a nice place to catch a variety of fish.

And you don't need a boat.

While walleye are the most abundant – and most popular– it's possible to catch catfish, northern pike, rainbow trout, salmon, and at the "right" time of year, even ling.

Anglers tend to focus on two access points when casting a line from shore, described Pick City's Scott Hobbs– the area around the ramp or rocks lining the river's shoreline, which protect against erosion north of the ramp.

The longtime owner of Scott's Bait and Tackle, Hobbs offered some tips and tricks to tailrace shore-fishing: Try casting jigs with live bait such as nightcrawlers or minnows or artificial bait during the day if fishing around the boat ramp. "Walleye are nocturnal feeders so they tend to be deeper during the day," he added. Try light jigs – about 3/8-ounce – in the calm, slack water around the ramp.

But don't hesitate to try a slide weight presentation such as a Lindy rig if fish are a bit finicky about jigs. Casting crankbaits farther out into the faster water coming from the power plant chutes is another popular technique, especially at night when fish tend to feed. Oftentimes the best night fishing finds anglers fishing from the rocks. Just be cautious when trekking over those humungous boulders.

Bobber fishing tends to be less popular because the river's fast current scoots it to shore so quickly.

Yet another tailrace fishing opportunity isn't for those afraid of heights – the wing walls on the west side of the power plant tunnels. It's a long way to the water from the concrete walls.

Anglers typically drop a jig and minnow down for eater-sized walleye with morning hours usually offering the best success.

Should a fish decide to take the bait the challenge then becomes how to skinny it up the high concrete slab without it flipping to freedom.

Yes, it's possible to reel it in but anglers familiar with fishing the wing walls came up with an ingenious method – a basket.

It's not any basket. Nor is it just a fish net.

Nope, it's a basket most anglers make themselves using a good ol' bicycle tire rim, fish netting, a rock, and hose clamps.

Yes, Hobbs described: Clamp netting around the rim and add a rock to keep the net from floating when it's in the water to enjoy the easiest way to bring up a catch.

Flood protection and water supply are two major purposes for Missouri River System dams and reservoirs but its hydropower plants also provide vital electricity for the country's electric energy grid.

Because of that, river levels below Garrison Dam fluctuate based on electrical needs throughout the day, time of year, or in periods of drought and floods.

Typically, though, it doesn't interfere with an opportunity to cast a line in the summer and catch any of the variety of fish that call the tailrace and downstream Missouri River "home".

Another nice thing about shore-fishing the tailrace is the opportunity to observe other wildlife, especially bald eagles, a variety of ducks and water birds, and critters living in the remnant river bottom forest.

Accessing the tailrace is a matter of taking N.D. Highway 200 to Riverdale, head west crossing Garrison Dam spillway – use caution because there could be construction creating one-way traffic until it's completed – and taking the paved road off to the left when starting to cross the dam.



A child enjoys the challenge of reeling in a fish along the Missouri River tailrace near its boat ramp downstream of Garrison Dam.

PATRICIA STOCKDILL PHOTO



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- Failure of or damages to the valve stem;
- Allowing air to escape from the valve or triggering damages through intentional puncturing
- Rubbing of the tire versus the roadway, tearing the tire, or splitting up of tire and rim by collision with additional objects;
- Too much wear of the tire tread causing explosive tire failing or permitting roadway fragments to tear through it
- Some tires, particularly a slow leakage, may be fixed and re-inflated; others, particularly those from worn tread, have to be changed.

Here are some simple methods to catch tire troubles before they become pricey or unsafe. Take a good examination of each tire in a well lit atmosphere. Examine for uneven tire wear, which can easily be created by:

- Too much or insufficient air pressure
- Issues with tire alignment or tire balancing
- Troubles with the suspension
- Unequal tire wear could be an indicator that you may have to have your tires rotated

These could suggest you need brand-new tires-- soon. Driving with a flat tire, specifically at high speeds, may cause a fatal accident. These troubles have the possibility to create a blowout, causing a loss of control that may be incredibly harmful.

- Fracturing or bulging treads or sidewalls that may suggest there is wear or weak point
- Foreign items that pass through in to the tire (nails, screws, glass)
- Tread tearing away from the body of the tire

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CREATURE FEATURES

- A Warthog's disproportionately sized head has thick protective pads on both sides that look like warts. Their warts serve as a fat reserve and are used for defense when males fight.
- Their tusks are actually teeth. They use them for fighting, rooting, or digging.
- Warthogs do not have sweat glands. They must wallow in the mud to cool off.
- Lions and leopards are the Warthog's chief enemies. Warthogs protect themselves from predators by fleeing or sliding backwards into a hole, thus being in a position to use their formidable tusks in an attack.





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Tiny Clothes, Big Impact



HOPE ANDERSON

Piles of clothing, toys galore, and an abundance of shoes. What does one do with all the items a child outgrows seemingly overnight? On the flip side, where does a person go when a child is growing so fast that nothing in the closet fits anymore?

A new store in Downtown Minot, Second Snaps, is answering both questions. It takes the burden of decluttering outgrown clothes and fills closets with pre-loved children's items at a reasonable cost. Just a few months ago, longtime community staple Grow With Me closed its doors when owner Val Stadheim retired.

That's when Zach and Asher Lutz, who had long dreamed of opening a children's store, knew the time was right. As parents themselves to Braxton (age 2) and Jordyn (age 1), they understand how quickly clothing needs change and how expensive buying new can be for any family.

One of their main goals in opening Second Snaps is to make parenting more affordable, freeing up funds for meaningful experiences rather than spending top dollar on brand-new children's goods. They love being able to

engage with the community while supporting local families at the same time.

Located at 110 1st St SE, Lower East Suite, Second Snaps has a boutique feel without the boutique prices. The goal is to make shopping for children's clothing a fun and vibrant experience.

Clothing, gear, and equipment can be donated to Second Snaps, or families can consign gently used items. Needs are always changing, so the best way to stay up to date is to follow their Facebook page for current requests.

The Lutz family is excited to offer a place where families can both buy and sell kids' clothing and where they can also find connection and community. Any items not reclaimed by consignors are donated to the Delight & Co Diaper Pantry, helping families in need. It's just one of the many ways supporting local businesses benefits the whole community.

Open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thursday from 12–8 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Second Snaps offers hours that work well for busy families.

Stop in often for the best selection, as new items arrive daily.

Second Snaps is more than just a children's resale shop, it's where community and compassion meet practicality. In a world where raising little ones can feel overwhelming and expensive, Zach and Asher Lutz have created a space that eases the load, supports local families, and keeps clothing out of landfills. Whether you're clearing out what no longer fits or shopping for the next growth spurt, Second Snaps offers a way to do it with purpose. It's a full-circle solution that makes parenting just a little bit simpler.



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- ✓ Accessories
- ✓ Seasonal items
- ✓ Baby gear & equipment (must meet safety standards)
- ✓ Toys & books (good condition)

WHAT WE CANNOT ACCEPT:

- ✗ Stained, torn, or excessively worn items
- ✗ Recalled or expired items
- ✗ Car seats & certain cribs (safety reasons)
- ✗ Outdated/broken toys or items with strong odors

DROP-OFF LOCATION:

Second Snaps LLC
110 1st St SE Lower East Suite
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DROP-OFF HOURS:

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- ♥ All items will be inspected on-site.
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5TH MEDICAL GROUP AND 54TH HELICOPTER SQUADRON SHARPEN EMERGENCY RESPONSE SKILLS



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Jamila Jones, a 5th Medical Group (5MDG) medical technician, poses in front of a manikin at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, June 11, 2025. The 5MDG used manikins to assist in training Airmen to assess and treat injuries.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS ANTHONY RAMEY



Airmen from the 5th Medical Group assess and treat simulated injuries for a training event at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, June 11, 2025. The 5MDG gathered volunteers to wear moulage makeup to participate in training Airmen with assessing and treating injuries.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS WESLEY DAVIES



Airmen from the 54th Helicopter Squadron (54HS) transport a volunteer patient to a simulated field hospital during a training event at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, June 11, 2025. The 54HS participated in the training exercise to enhance trust and communication between medics and aircrew during patient handoff or in-flight care.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS WESLEY DAVIES




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Upcoming Events

27 JUNE

**MOVIES IN THE PARK-
THE WILD ROBOT**
9:30 PM
Oak Park
1300 4th Ave NW

Grab your blankets, lawn chairs, and favorite movie buddies—Movies in the Park is back for another season of free outdoor films under the stars! Hosted by Minot Parks, this summer series features a lineup of fun, family-friendly movies, and plenty of space to kick back and enjoy the show. It's the perfect way to spend a summer night— free and open to all ages.



For more information:
Facebook/ Minot Parks/ Events

30 JUNE

**YOGA ABOVE THE MAGIC -
MORNING CLASS**
9:00AM - 12:00PM
Magic City Discovery Center,
1545 1st Street NW, Minot

Find your calm, build your strength, and stretch it out—surrounded by sky-high views and the inspiring energy of the Magic City Discovery Center. This all-levels yoga class blends gentle tai chi, sun salutations, and flowing poses that meet you right where you're at—whether you're brand new or have been practicing for years. Each class ends in peaceful meditation and explores themes like kindness, gratitude, and letting go.

Ages 16+
\$15 Non-Members | \$13.50 MCDC Members | \$12 MCDC Military Members

Move, breathe, and connect—above the magic.



For more information:
Facebook/ Magic City Discovery Center/ Events

02 JULY

BLUE RIDER TRIVIA
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Blue Rider
118 1st Avenue SE, Minot

Bring your quarters to buy your chances at free drink questions, and as always, earn style points and Blue Rider respect for creative team names. Why? Because it's Wednesday. And that means Minot's toughest trivia game is on!! Starts at seven. And feel free to bring your appetite; we've got Jimmy's Pizza, grilled cheese, pop-tarts and peanuts!



For more information:
Facebook/ Blue Rider/ Events

04 JULY

4TH OF JULY FESTIVITIES IN MINOT
9:00 AM - NOON
Oak Park
1300 4th Ave NW

Celebrate Independence Day in Minot with a series of exciting events for the whole family on July 4th.
10:00 AM – Shriners Fourth of July Parade
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM – Minot Parks Fourth of July Festival
3:05 PM Gates Open / 4:05 PM Game Time – Hot Tots Baseball Game
7:00 PM – Races at Nodak Speedway
10:45 PM – Fireworks at the ND State Fairgrounds
Come and enjoy a memorable Fourth of July in Minot, filled with fun, entertainment, and patriotic spirit!



For more information:
<https://visitminot.org/july4th/>

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Magic City Discovery Center Announces “Night of Nostalgia” Fundraising Event

MAGIC CITY DISCOVERY CENTER

Break out your letterman jackets, relive your school-day glory, and grab a cocktail—class is officially back in session! The Magic City Discovery Center invites the community to attend Night of Nostalgia: School’s Back in Session for Grown-Ups, a playful adults-only fundraising event on Tuesday, August 12 from 6 to 9 PM.

With support from Valedictorian Sponsor First Western Bank & Trust, this unforgettable night brings all the best parts of school, minus the homework. From an elevated school lunch and themed drinks to nostalgic games, races, and art projects, the Discovery Center will be transformed into a multi-level throwback experience designed just for grown-ups.

“Our team wanted to create something truly unique. An evening that celebrates fun, friendship, and the joy of learning, while also supporting our mission,” said Abby Arnold, Marketing Coordinator for the Magic City Discovery Center. “Night of Nostalgia is all about tapping into those classic school memories, but with a fun, grown-up twist.”

Highlights of the evening include:

- An Elevated School Lunch from local favorite Bones BBQ, served cafeteria-style (included!)
- A Signature Cocktail, crafted exclusively for the event and included with every ticket.
- Professional Portraits by Hint of Whimsy Photography—

take a new “class photo” solo, with friends, or prom-date style.

- Gym Class Races up the museum’s iconic Magic Climber—winner takes home a prize!
- Craft Projects in the Art Room, themed games, hands-on activities, and more.
- Live Music on the Rooftop from Legion of Sound—bringing all your favorite throwback hits to the “school dance.”
- Access to All Exhibits—for one night only, adults get to be the kids exploring four floors of creative play.

Plus, guests can enjoy Pool Deck Concessions, a nostalgic Bake Sale, a Silent Auction, and exclusive access to themed spaces like the “Teacher’s

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FREE ENTRY

KICK OFF!
SUN, JUNE 1
4PM HERITAGE SINGERS
7PM DANEIL STARKS
Oak Park

SUN, JUNE 8
4PM & 7PM
VOICES OF NOTE
Oak Park

THUR, JUNE 12
5:30PM JARED SCHUMAIER
7PM MISSING LYNX
Downtown Minot

SUN, JUNE 15
4PM & 7PM
MINOT CITY BAND
Oak Park

THUR, JUNE 19
5:30PM TBD
7PM TY & JERILYN OF
MENDENHALL CROSSING
Downtown Minot

SUN, JUNE 22
4PM & 7PM
MINOT CITY BAND
Oak Park

THUR, JUNE 26
5:30PM INTERNATIONAL BRASS
QUINTET
7PM MINOT CITY BAND
Downtown Minot

SUN, JUNE 29
4PM JERRY SCHLAGG
7PM WILD HANDS
Oak Park

SUN, JULY 6
4PM & 7PM
MINOT CITY BAND
Oak Park

THUR, JULY 10
5:30PM SWING BAND
7PM LEGION OF SOUND
Downtown Minot

SUN, JULY 13
4PM & 7PM
MINOT CITY BAND
Oak Park

THUR, JULY 17
7PM
MINOT CITY BAND
Sousa Concert
Oak Park

SUN, JULY 20
7PM 188TH ARMY BAND

Oak Park

SUN, JULY 27
MINOT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
BEAT BEETHOVEN 5K RUN 5:05PM
7PM SOULSHINE
Oak Park

THUR, AUG 7
5:30PM SOUND OF INDEPENDENCE
30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!
VARIOUS FEATURED ARTISTS

Downtown Minot

FINALE! THUR, AUG 21
5:30PM LILA BEA
7PM LITTLE CHICAGO FUNK
Downtown Minot


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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Solution to last weeks
Crossword puzzle.

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

SUDOKU

Solution to puzzle on page B9

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

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- Across**
- 1. Short address
 - 5. Ecstasy
 - 10. MacMurray of "My Three Sons"
 - 14. Moisturizing ingredient
 - 15. Pillages
 - 16. Red hot ooze
 - 17. HONEY
 - 20. Straight-billed marsh bird
 - 21. Tobacco stuff
 - 22. United States Postal Service symbol
 - 23. Kirkuk resource
 - 25. Zeta follower
 - 27. LOVE
 - 35. Support for women?
 - 36. Jib, for one
 - 37. Matthau's "Odd Couple" co-star
 - 38. Prescribed ceremony
 - 40. Sluggish
 - 42. "Titus Andronicus" garb
 - 43. Animadverts
 - 45. Assist unadvisedly
 - 47. Santa visitor
 - 48. DARLING
 - 51. Watson and Crick subject
 - 52. Helios, to the Romans
 - 53. They add up
 - 57. Word with bag or cup
 - 60. Carried on
 - 64. DEAR
 - 67. ___ mater
 - 68. Fancy salad addition
 - 69. Intellectually acute
 - 70. Top of the line
 - 71. Inventory item
 - 72. Crooked

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				
70					71						72			

- Down**
- 1. Filing aids
 - 2. Ladd who played Shane
 - 3. Crafty Norse god
 - 4. Continue doing
 - 5. Journalist Nellie
 - 6. Missing
 - 7. "American Gothic" locale
 - 8. Dorm room staple
 - 9. Beirut-to-Jerusalem dir.
 - 10. Circus performer
 - 11. Jingled
 - 12. Stuntman Knievel
 - 13. Have the nerve
 - 18. Means of control
 - 19. Playful tormentor
 - 24. Contact between groups
 - 26. Ancient Mexicans
 - 27. Nonsense
 - 28. Eschew restaurants
 - 29. Atoner's worry
 - 30. Sparkle
 - 31. Responder trained in CPR
 - 32. Act theatrical
 - 33. Russian author of "The Inspector General"
 - 34. No-see-um, e.g.
 - 35. Facial feature
 - 39. Finish line
 - 41. Single outcome, maybe
 - 44. Steve's singing partner
 - 46. Rose grower's problem
 - 49. Those using scales
 - 50. Home of the Tlingit
 - 53. Many an Al-Jazeera viewer
 - 54. Barn bundle
 - 55. Handy wallet fillers
 - 56. Chit chaser
 - 58. Some tic-tac-toe players
 - 59. Inside recess
 - 61. Regard
 - 62. Always
 - 63. Interdict
 - 65. Home entertainment company
 - 66. Superior finale



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1500 4TH AVE NW, MINOT, ND



Celebrating World Giraffe Day

BRYLEIGH MCBRIDE, NORTHERN SENTRY

Roosevelt Park Zoo is making bold strides in animal care, conservation, and community engagement this summer with two extraordinary milestones. The grand opening of the African Plains Building, a state-of-the-art indoor giraffe facility, was celebrated on June 21, coinciding with World Giraffe Day, while the birth of four critically endangered Amur tiger cubs on May 19 marks a historic achievement in wildlife preservation. Combined with the release of a new children’s book spotlighting a real-life tiger cub’s journey to North Dakota, it’s clear that the zoo’s mission extends far beyond its gates.

On World Giraffe Day, Roosevelt Park Zoo officially opened its doors to the brand-new African Plains Building, a transformative addition to its African animal exhibits and one of the most advanced giraffe care facilities in the region. At 7,300 square feet, the indoor giraffe habitat was designed with intention and innovation, built to promote both physical health and mental

enrichment for its long-necked residents.

The facility was custom-engineered to support giraffe-sized bone health, especially important during our long North Dakota winters, from the high ceilings to the specially installed pulley-based feeders, every aspect encourages natural movement, stretching, and foraging behaviors.

Beyond the visible features, the giraffe habitat includes complex enrichment systems and husbandry tools that enable zoo staff to provide world-class care. The pulley feeders encourage giraffes to reach and stretch in ways that mimic their natural browsing patterns, promoting strong joints and healthy postures.

The zoo’s giraffe conservation doesn’t stop at the enclosure. Roosevelt Park Zoo has proudly partnered with Save Giraffes Now, an international organization committed to protecting giraffe populations in the wild. Together, they’re working on an active

conservation project in the Swara Plains of Kenya, a vital ecosystem for wild giraffes currently threatened by habitat loss and poaching.

Guests can enjoy interactive giraffe feeding experiences daily at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., offering up-close encounters that help spark empathy, education, and awareness in visitors of all ages.

While the giraffes reached new heights, Roosevelt Park Zoo also marked a landmark achievement in tiger conservation this spring. On May 19, the zoo’s resident Amur tigress gave birth to four healthy cubs, a rare and significant event for a species listed as critically endangered. There are estimated to be fewer than 500 Amur tigers remaining in the wild, making each birth an essential step toward the species’ survival.

“These cubs represent a major positive step forward in our effort to support the global population of Amur tigers,” said Dr. Logan Wood. “Having four thriving cubs and a mother who is successfully raising them is a true testament to the dedication and care provided by our incredible team.”

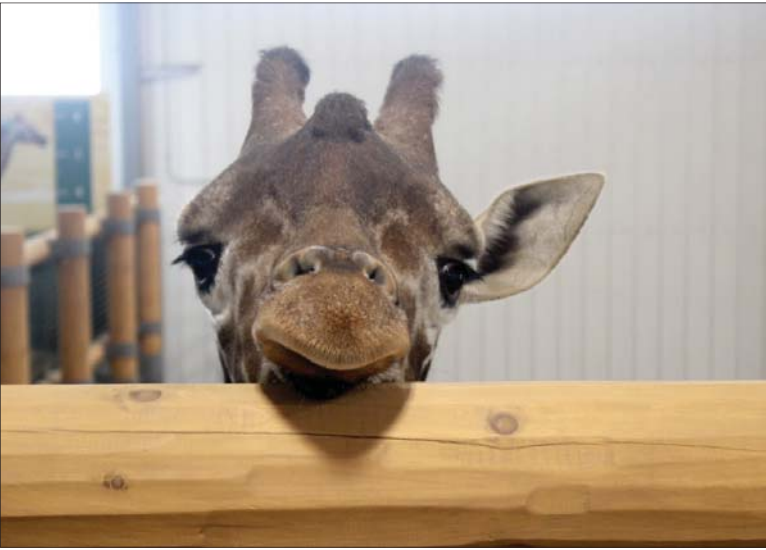
This is not only a biological milestone, but also a success story in terms of mother-reared cubs, which is always preferred in conservation breeding efforts. When mothers raise their own young without intervention, it’s an encouraging sign of maternal health, stress-free environments, and effective habitat design.

Guests eager to meet the new feline family will be able to see the tiger cubs for the first time during their official public debut on July 29, which fittingly coincides with World Tiger Day. At that event, the zoo will also reveal the cubs’ names, chosen with care to reflect their heritage and personalities.

Until then, the zoo continues to monitor their growth and milestones closely, preparing the habitat for increased public visitation.

Adding a literary touch to an already inspiring summer, Roosevelt Park Zoo is proud to feature a brand-new children’s book now available at the zoo gift shop. Titled “A Family for Zoya: The True Story of an Endangered Cub”, the book was written by Debra Kim Wolf and beautifully illustrates the emotional and physical journey of a young tiger who eventually made her home at Roosevelt Park Zoo.

Zoya’s story is not fictional, it is rooted in real events. Born at the Philadelphia Zoo, Zoya faced an uncertain start to life. After being orphaned, she was adopted by a Sumatran tiger family at the Oklahoma City Zoo, a rare cross-subspecies surrogate experience that helped Zoya learn the social and



Amani waiting for treats.

survival behaviors she would need as an adult.

Now, Zoya lives at Roosevelt Park Zoo in Minot, where she continues to thrive and inspire. Her story has become a symbol of collaboration between accredited zoos, and her book serves as an educational tool for young readers learning about species survival and the global efforts needed to protect endangered animals.

Between the debut of a world-class giraffe facility, the arrival of four rare tiger cubs, and the release of an inspiring children’s book, Roosevelt Park Zoo is not just preserving species. It’s inspiring a new generation of wildlife advocates and animal lovers.

With hands-on opportunities to feed giraffes, learn from keepers, and support endangered species through educational merchandise and donation programs, the zoo invites the community to become a part of its ongoing conservation story.

Whether you’re meeting the giraffes for the first time, watching tiger cubs play, or reading about Zoya’s incredible journey, one thing is certain: Roosevelt Park Zoo is where wonder meets wildlife.

Visit Roosevelt Park Zoo this summer to witness the wild wonders for yourself. More information, including tickets, hours, and special events, can be found at www.rpzoo.com.



Giraffes lay down getting comfortable.



Amur Tiger Cubs.

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ALYSSA KELLY

SCHOOL LIAISON PROGRAM MANAGER, GS-12

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE SCHOOL LIAISON PROGRAM



In this article, I am not referring to the new water slide that was recently added to Polaris Park! Instead, I encourage all parents/guardians to continue to embed learning into daily activities, so that there is no regression when school starts back up in August.

To help you stay engaged over the summer, consider participating in the following:

- The Minot AFB Library offers a summer reading program with an opportunity to win prizes!
- The Roosevelt Park Zoo is looking for volunteers to assist the Zoo’s Education Department with handling, monitoring, and transporting the animals to senior living facilities to provide education to Minot and the surrounding area!
- The Woodland Trail offers a natural setting to observe ND birds and turtles, just bring a bird chart and binoculars!
- The Child Development Center on Minot AFB is looking for

volunteers to assist with cleaning windows, organizing closets, organizing laundry, cleaning and organizing the break room, cleaning and organizing the playground, and labeling shelves and cubbies!

-The Minot Commission on Aging is looking for volunteers to assist in Meals on Wheels delivery to help feed elderly members in our community!

Numerous hands-on learning opportunities away from a screen exist in and around Minot AFB. These have the potential to become some of the fondest memories for your children, because when you give of your time to them and our community, you instill in them a sense of pride, value, and purpose. We all know learning doesn’t end when the school year ends and people always need help, so make this summer count!

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NOTES ON BEING SAFE

Obeying the law, prior planning key to fireworks safety



SSGT JOE VERGARA

5TH BOMB WING

NCOIC OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY



The Fourth of July is right around the corner and most of us are probably planning a special event of some type, some folks might even be looking forward to setting off their own fireworks display. More than 11,000 people are injured in the United States each year from fireworks. Most injuries are the result of the lack of adult supervision and misuse of the fireworks. If you plan on using fireworks to add to the celebration this year here are some important reminders:

- Observe local laws. The sale of fireworks is legal from June 26 until July 5 and they may not be purchased by persons under the age of 12.
- Fireworks Permitted on Base Are; Sparklers, fountains, smoke devices, snake and glow worms, trick noisemakers such as party poppers, string poppers or snappers, and toy pistol caps.
- Fireworks Specifically Prohibited on Base Are; Explosive or aerial fireworks, roman candles, and rockets or similar devices. If prohibited fireworks are discovered in your possession on the base, the fireworks will be confiscated and you will face administrative/disciplinary actions.
- Fireworks are allowed in Ward County but NOT within in the city limits of Minot. If you are caught within city limits with fireworks you will have to appear in court, pay a minimum \$150 bond and be fined between \$50 to \$75. It is also a Class B Misdemeanor.
- Use fireworks outdoors only.
- Never let children handle or light fireworks. Even sparklers can be dangerous if unsupervised. 16 percent of those injuries involved sparklers. That number increases to 33 percent of the injuries to children, five or younger, when they used sparklers. Those injuries could’ve been avoided if adults provided adequate supervision.
- Never ignite fireworks while holding them. Only light one at a time, and move away quickly.
- Make sure there’s enough room to ignite fireworks, and keep them away from buildings, vehicles and flammable materials.
- Have a full bucket of water

handy for emergencies, and douse used sparklers.

- People should watch what clothing they wear when using fireworks. Loose clothing can catch fire, and shouldn’t be worn while handling fireworks.
- Never try to re-ignite fireworks that have malfunctioned. Wait 20 minutes before soaking them with water and throwing them away.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Have a “designated shooter.”

The transportation and storage of personal fireworks on Minot AFB is prohibited. The fact is there are no safe and sure ways to use fireworks - it’s that simple! In 2008, according to the National Fire Protection Association, fireworks caused an estimated 22,500 reported fires. These fires resulted in one death, 40 injuries and \$42 million in direct property damage. Fireworks, even the smallest of firecrackers, are explosives

and very unpredictable. Some have very short fuses and some have hard to light fuses that can suddenly begin a rapid burn. Rockets and cones tend to have no programmed guidance system, making people and buildings unwanted targets.

Each year thousands of Americans, many of them children, are victims of fireworks accidents. In 2008, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated 7,000 people for fireworks related injuries. These accidents are not minor; they include the loss or disfiguration of fingers, hands, arms, faces, vision, hearing and severe burns. Sparklers, which can burn as hot as 1000 degrees have caused countless tragic injuries to small children since parents assume they are safe for children to use.

By observing these reminders, people can help prevent unfortunate accidents. Remember, in case of an emergency, call 911.

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North Plains/ Dakota Summer School Students Kick Off Summer with Bowling Fun

SUBMITTED BY MELVINA MURRAY

Students from North Plains and Dakota Elementary Schools wrapped up their first week of summer school with a fun-filled walking field trip to the Bowling Center right here on Minot Air Force Base. This joint summer school program brought students together for a memorable outing that combined fun, movement, and community connection.

Mike, the Bowling Center manager, went above and beyond to welcome the students, helping to end their first week of learning on a high note. His support—and the enthusiastic environment he helped create—made the experience one to remember.

A special thank you goes out to the incredible volunteers from the 891st Missile Security Forces Squadron, who played a key role in ensuring the safety of students during their walk to and from the center. These

volunteers also jumped right into the action, cheering on students and even joining in on the games.

Both teachers and students were all smiles and expressed deep gratitude for the opportunity. This field trip not only provided a well-deserved break but also showcased the power of community support. We're so thankful to be part of such a caring and engaged Minot AFB community!

Even better, our base families have an amazing place to enjoy all summer long! **Rough Rider Lanes offers a Kids Bowl Free program from June 2 through August 15, Monday through Friday between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM.** With proof of registration, kids receive **two free games per day!**

Families can register (2 adults and 2 kids) at www.kidsbowlfree.com. For more details, call Rough Rider Lanes at 727-4715.



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BIOENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING
DEEP DIVES INTO HEALTH AND SAFETY

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS VINCENT PADILLA



Airman 1st Class Carnucci Jn Michel (left), Airman Jesse Thurman (center) and U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Jaail Smith (right), 5th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron, collect water samples from the recreational pool at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, May 30, 2025. The unit utilizes their skills to ensure healthful conditions are not adversely affected.



Airman 1st Class Carnucci Jn Michel (left), Airman Jesse Thurman (center) and U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Jaail Smith (right), 5th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron, collect water samples from the recreational pool at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, May 30, 2025. The water is tested regularly to ensure pool alkalinity; the measure of a pool’s capacity to resist changes.



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Jaail Smith, NCOIC of occupational health for the 5th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron (5OMRS), tests the pH balance of the water of the outdoor base pool at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, May 30, 2025. Bioenvironmental Engineers play a critical role in protecting the health of the force through air and water quality testing, radiation monitoring, and exposure risk assessments.

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OUTDOOR

REPORT



by Patricia Stockdill

FISHING:
Lake Sakakawea elevation, June 23: 1,834.87 feet above mean sea level (MSL); 22,900 cubic feet per second (CFS) Garrison Dam average daily releases.
Devils Lake elevation: 1,449.49 feet above mean sea level (MSL).
Stump Lake elevation: 1,449.59 MSL.
• N.D. Game & Fish Dept. game wardens: No new reports from Lake Sakakawea, north-central area lakes, and Devils Lake.
• Devils Lake, Woodland Resort, Devils Lake: Mixed and inconsistent walleye success with many anglers catching small walleye.
• Lake Darling, Karma C-Store, Ruthville: Inconsistent weather continues limiting Lake Darling reports.
• Lake Metigoshe, Four Seasons, Bottineau: Good numbers of crappie showing up. Continued success for small bluegill along the docks and in shallow water. Decent walleye activity in the evening.
• Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Cenex Bait & Tackle, Garrison: No new reports.
• Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Hwy. 83 Lawn & Leisure, Garrison: East end of Lake Sakakawea producing walleye around Douglas Bay and west towards Indians Hills. Try 10 feet pitching jigs and minnows. Some anglers also trying slow death hooks. Look for good smallmouth bass activity towards McKenzie Bay in the midsection. Smallmouth bass success continues throughout Lake Audubon with walleye mixed in. Work rocky areas.
• Lake Sakakawea, Indian Hills Resort, Garrison: Look for somewhat improving walleye activity.
• Lake Sakakawea, New Town: Weather and wind permitting, anglers finding fair walleye success in the Van Hook Arm. Work shallow in the warmer water along the north end of the Arm. Try a mix of presentations.
• Lake Sakakawea, Van Hook Bait & Tackle New Town: Continued

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.

- OUTDOOR NOTES:**
- Fireworks and camping prohibited on Upper Souris Nat’l Wildlife Refuge with open hours for the public from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.
 - June 27: Movie in the Park (free), Oak Park, 9:30 p.m.
 - June 28 & 29 Frontier Military Days, living history demonstrations and historical military encampments and demonstrations with Children’s Stick Horse Rodeo, noon. Fort Stevenson State Park, Garrison, beginning at noon each day.
 - July 4: Celebrate the 4th of July in Minot with 10 a.m. Shriner’s Parade, 11 a.m. Oak Park Festival with food, games, and music, and more concluding with 10:45 p.m. Fireworks and the North Dakota State Fairgrounds.
- TOURNAMENTS:**
- June 28: Lake Sakakawea, Sportsmen’s Centennial Park; Lake Audubon, cabin sites ramp.
 - July 12: Lake Sakakawea, Parshall Bay: Lake Sakakawea, 4 Bears; Devils Lake, Woodland Resort; Devils Lake, Creel Bay.

improving walleye success but still somewhat inconsistent with cool water temperatures and varying weather conditions. Try Fox Island north in the Van Hook Arm using a variety of presentations and bait in 12 to 24 feet. Move around.
• Lake Sakakawea/Missouri River, Scott’s Bait & Tackle, Pick City: Missouri River tailrace continues producing walleye during the day down river from boats. Try jigs and minnows with a variety of bait. Lots of small walleye, though. Some catfish in the tailrace and up into the chutes during the day, as well. Shore-fishing producing walleye off the rocks at night and along the boat ramp with nice eaters-sized catfish mixed in. East end of Lake Sakakawea producing some walleye in 10 feet and less pulling Lindy rigs or jig-casting. Also try 25 feet with crankbaits. Better success is west of Pick City on the south shore but some activity around Steinke or deTrobriand bays on the north shore. Work rocky areas for bass.
• Lake Sakakawea/northwest N.D. lakes, Scenic Sports, Williston: Best walleye activity on the upper end of Lake Sakakawea remains around the midsection in Van Hook Arm, although a few walleye coming from White Earth Bay. Fish slow with larger spinner blades in the muddy water. Kota-Ray continues producing good trout numbers with a few decent bass

mixed in. Try Epping-Springbrook Dam for pike with occasional walleye.
• North-central/central N.D. lakes, Towner Hdwe. Hank, Towner: Antelope Lake producing some walleye. Buffalo Lodge Lake continues producing walleye. No reports from the Souris River.
N.D. RIVERS GAUGE HEIGHT AND STREAMFLOW (conditions can vary rapidly):
• Des Lacs River, Foxholm: Gauge height, 5.51 feet; streamflow, 9.15 CFS.
• Lake Darling, Foxholm: Gauge height: 97.05 feet.
• Little Missouri River, Medora: Gauge height, 2.18 feet; streamflow, 142 CFS
• Little Missouri River, Long X Bridge near Watford City, gauge height, 8.36 feet; streamflow, 409 CFS.
• Missouri River, Williston: Gauge height, 18.35 feet.
• Missouri River, Washburn: Gauge height, 10.33 feet.
• Souris River, Broadway Bridge, Minot: Gauge height, 41.35feet.
• Yellowstone River, Cartwright: Gauge height: 67.53 feet.
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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08-01-2025

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 part-time basis. For more information call 420-5903 or 420-5904 in Minot.

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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: Alicia Mello by email or phone at amello@kalixnd.org 701-852-1014.

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PUZZLE ON PAGE B4

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

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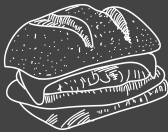
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2302 15th St SW, Minot Phone: 701.839.2130 www.applebees.com

Badlands Restaurant & Bar

1400 31st Ave SW, Minot Phone: 701.852.7335 www.blgrill.com

Bone's BBQ Smokehouse & Grill

437 N Broadway, Minot Phone: 701.833.9140 www.bonesbbqminot.com

Culver's Restaurant

3000 S Broadway, Minot Phone: 701.852.4800 www.culvers.com

Ironhorse Kitchen + Bar

21 E Central Avenue, Minot Phone: 701.858.8183 FB: Ironhorse Kitchen + Bar Minot

Jamaican Vybz Kitchen

Dakota Square Mall, Minot Phone: 701-441-9309 FB: Jamaican Vybz Kitchen

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Pink's Bar & Grill

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118 1st Avenue SE, Minot Phone: 701.852.9050 www.theblueriderbar.com

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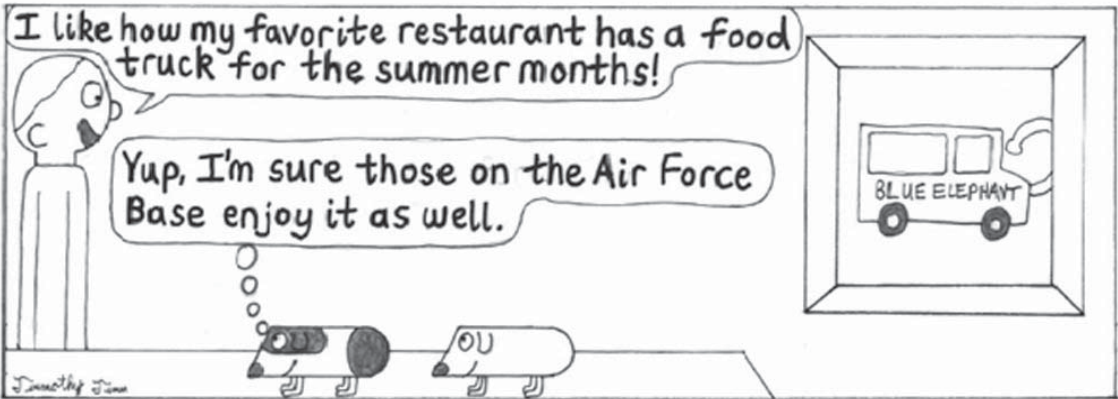
MINOT AFB ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. 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.

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.*



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.

TIMMOTHY TIMM

★Hotel★
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*Weddings
for Warriors*

Revel Hotel, a newly renovated hotel next to Dakota Mall, will be giving away use of the Pilot’s Bar and adjoining banquet space at its venue to Airmen.

The new giveaway, **Weddings for Warriors**, will honor the men and women who serve the United States by giving away use of the Pilot’s Bar and banquet space once every month.

At least one partner must be serving or must be an active member of the U.S. Air Force.

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- **Force Management:** Evaluations, Duty Information, G-Series Orders, Unfavorable Information File (UIF), Special Duty Assignment Pay (SDAP)
- **Career Development:** Permanent Change of Station (PCS), Outbound Assignment, Separation, Retirement, Retention, Promotion

DEERS (Appointment Only): Mon, Wed-Fri 0800-1600, Tue 0800-1500
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Appointment hours: Mon-Fri 0800-1600, Wed 0800-1130

*Closed for training every Wed from 1200-1630

MINOT MPF OFFICE

MINOT AFB PHARMACY

How YOU can communicate with US!

Do you need to ACTIVATE a new prescription?

Here are three ways to ACTIVATE a prescription at Minot AFB Pharmacy:

1. **MHS GENESIS Patient Portal**
<https://patientportal.mhsgenesis.health.mil>

- Using the link or QR code
- Click on ‘Message’ tab

2. **Q-Anywhere**

- Text “Get in line” to 1-833-274-5419

3. **In Person**

- Come pull a ticket at the pharmacy and wait for your number to be called

Do you need to REFILL an existing prescription?

Here are two ways to REFILL a prescription at Minot AFB Pharmacy:

1. **MHS GENESIS Patient Portal**
<https://patientportal.mhsgenesis.health.mil>

- Use the link or QR code
- Click on ‘Rx Refills’ tab

2. **Automatic REFILL Hotline**

- Call 1-701-937-4688
- Follow the prompts

*If you are out of refills, a new prescription will need to be activated. Please contact your provider to get started.

Do you need to COMMUNICATE with your pharmacy team?

Here are three ways you can COMMUNICATE with pharmacy staff:

1. **MHS GENESIS Patient Portal**
<https://patientportal.mhsgenesis.health.mil>

- Using the link or QR code
- Click on ‘Message’ tab

2. **Q-Anywhere**

- Text “Get in line” to 1-833-274-5419

3. **In Person**

- Come pull a ticket at the pharmacy and wait for your number to be called



MHS Genesis
Patient Portal



Q-Anywhere

Duty Hours
Monday - Friday:
0730-1215 & 1315-1630

Saturday: CLOSED
Sunday: CLOSED



For the latest information on MDG closures and news, please visit our Facebook page at: facebook.com/5thMedicalGroup



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What's Going On Minot AFB

June-July

FRIDAY27

- Bootcamp Express, 0545, McAdoo Fitness Center
- FTEC, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- TAP DOL Employment Track Workshop, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- Firecracker Scramble, 1300, Rough Rider Golf Course
- Freedom Fest STEAM, 1400, Minot AFB Library
- Board Game Making Camp, 1500, Minot AFB Library
- Freedom Fest, 1800-2200, Rockers Bar & Grill Parking Lot
- Fireworks, 2230, Bud Ebert Park

TUESDAY01

- Registration Opens: Youth Cheer Sports, <https://parent.afcyp.com/>
- Registration Opens: Flag Football, <https://parent.afcyp.com/>
- July 2025 Photo Scavenger Hunt Begins, Minot AFB Library
- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Thrift Savings Plan for Military Members, 0900-1100, M&FRC
- Tuition Assistance (TA) Brief, 1000, Education Center — Room 211
- Game Day, 1000-1930, Minot AFB Library
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Sponsorship Training, 1300-1430, M&FRC
- Quiet Book Club, 1800-1930, Minot AFB Library

FRIDAY04

- Independence Day
- For a full listing of Independence Day Holiday facility hours, visit 5thforcesupport.com
- Registration Ends: Flip the Fairway Tournament, <https://www.memberplanet.com/s/minotafbclubs/11flipthefairway2025>
- Independence Day Special Lunch, 1030-1330, Dakota Inn Dining Facility
- Independence Day Special Dinner, 1630-1830, Dakota Inn Dining Facility

SATURDAY28

- Board Game Making Camp Competition, 1500, Minot AFB Library
- Progressive Bingo, 1730, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Karaoke Nights, 2100, Rockers Bar & Grill

WEDNESDAY02

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- UVAO Training, 0900-1030, M&FRC
- Pre-Deployment/Remote Readiness Training, 1000, M&FRC, Zoom Meeting
- SkillBridge Brief, 1000, Education Center — Room 211
- Storytime, 1030, Minot AFB Library
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Brown Bag Book Talk, 1200, Minot AFB Library

SATURDAY05

- For a full listing of Independence Day Holiday facility hours, visit 5thforcesupport.com

SUNDAY29

MONDAY30

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Bootcamp Express, 0545, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Family Bootcamp, 1000, Turf, hosted by McAdoo Fitness Center
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Cycle, 1700, McAdoo Fitness Center

THURSDAY03

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Reintegration Briefing, 1000-1100, M&FRC, Zoom Meeting
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Tuition Assistance (TA) Brief, 1330, Education Center — Room 211

SPECIALS

Bomber Bistro Featured Item
Chicken Curry Rice Bowl

Rockers Bar & Grill Featured Item
Rockin' Chicken Sandwich

The B-Fifty Brew Featured Item
Chocolate Covered Cherry Frappe

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1800-2200 • ROCKERS PARKING LOT

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