



WHATS INSIDE THIS WEEK:



COZY LIGHTS IN COLD NIGHTS: MINOT AFB STARTS CHRISTMAS EARLY

A7



LOST MAFB MEMORIES: CAN YOU HELP BRING THIS QUILT HOME?

A8



MINOT HIGH SCHOOL'S "CHANGE OF PACE" HITS A HIGH NOTE

B8



Citizens Alley, Minot's outdoor community gathering space, now offers ice bumper cars. All weekend volunteers from Minot AFB helped kick off their first season in downtown Minot. CARRIE DRIVER PHOTO



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December Squadron of the Month

742nd Missile Squadron



742 Missile Squadron was crucial in supporting Exercise GLOBAL THUNDER 2026, directing the Crisis Action Team for the 91st Missile Wing and simultaneously

taking part in Exercise BULLY VIGILANCE 25 2, showcasing the discipline, precision, and readiness that keep America's deterrent a cornerstone of national security.



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Tuesday, December 9 at 4:00pm
TRIVIA NIGHT
Wednesday, December 10 at 7:00pm
FREE NACHOS
Thursday, December 11 at 4:00pm-close
DREW PETERSON - LIVE MUSIC
Saturday, December 13 at 9:00pm-close

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SEVEN WHITE AND
DANIEL BROADWATER
MAFB

BAY BOY BORN
NOVEMBER 25, 2025 TO:
KAYLA HANSON AND MICHAEL PRUITT
MINOT

BABY GIRL BORN
NOVEMBER 25, 2025 TO:
DEENA AND SHANE LINEHAN
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Minot Community Concert Band Enchants Audience at Winter Concert

BRYLEIGH MCBRIDE, JUNIOR JOURNALIST, NORTHERN SENTRY

The Minot Community Concert Band, under the expert conduction of Tim and Christine Baumann, delivered an enchanting Winter Concert at Minot North’s Auditorium that showcased a rich variety of musical styles and talents. The concert, free to the public with offerings accepted to support the band but also supported with sponsorships such as Minot KX News, drew an audience eager to experience the musical versatility of a group whose members range from young high school sophomores to musicians who have been part of Minot’s bands for more than 20 years.

The performance opened with Women of the Podium, a lively march that immediately captured the audience’s attention with its dynamic contrasts and energetic rhythms. The piece celebrated the spirit of leadership and creativity, setting a spirited tone for the evening.

Next, the band performed Infinity, a composition by a living composer that transported listeners into a world of magic and space-inspired wonder. The music moved fluidly between dramatic, fast-paced sections and long, lyrical passages, evoking the awe and mystery of the unknown. The piece culminated in a crashing finale that left the audience mesmerized, highlighting the band’s skill at conveying both power and nuance.

Autumn Down the Maple Lane, composed by a collaborator of the Baumanns at the International Music Camp, offered a different kind of beauty. Opening with the rich warmth of low voices and the gentle vibrato of soft flutes, the music rose and fell in undulating waves, reminiscent of leaves dancing through the air or drifting slowly to the ground. A delicate flute solo transitioned into a woodwind section, which then passed the theme back to the lower voices. This intricate dialogue continued throughout the piece, concluding softly with the full ensemble in a gentle, harmonious farewell.

The program took a playful turn with Tarantella, a piece that

blends elements of jazz, swing, and tango. Familiar to audiences over the last five years, this Halloween-inspired work begins with a walking bassoon line and emphasizes low-bass textures throughout. The piece gradually accelerates, engaging the audience in a lively musical chase. Creatively reimagined from Itsy Bitsy Spider, the Tarantella showcased the band’s rhythmic precision and tonal versatility, particularly highlighting the bassoons in a spirited and memorable performance.

Patapan, composed by a Minnesota-based woman who is both a conductor and clarinetist, offered a festive and intricate experience. The piece opens with a drum roll leading into a piccolo melody, followed by trilling motifs and playful references to God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen. Throughout the performance, the ensemble highlighted multiple instruments, including clarinet and saxophone, creating a rich tapestry of sound that balanced tradition with creativity.

The band’s rendition of First Suite in E-Flat showcased the ensemble’s mastery of classical repertoire. Tim Baumann described the first movement as “ooey gooeey” British crumpet music, which the band performed with careful repetition thirteen times, emphasizing the movement’s charming nuances. The second movement was light and bouncy, while the third was a march that broke off into a lyrical trio before returning to a grand, triumphant finale. The familiar themes had audience members nodding along in recognition, underscoring the piece’s enduring appeal.

In Three Folk Song Settings for Band, the ensemble reimagined beloved children’s songs for a full band. Movements two and three, All the Pretty Little Horses and Scarborough Fair, included moments where band members vocalized, ending with the group singing together in a harmonious finale for All the Pretty Little Horses. Scarborough Fair was intense and fast-paced, creating a slightly haunting atmosphere, and

concluded with a single note that resonated powerfully throughout the performance space.

The concert closed with Christmas Festival, an ambitious medley arranged by Christine Baumann with the goal of instilling a lifelong love of music in her students. Beginning with the grandeur of Joy to the World, the medley flowed seamlessly through holiday favorites including God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen, Silent Night, Jingle Bells, O Come, Let Us Adore Him, and others. Christine emphasized her gratitude to the band for their courage and dedication, encouraging them to continue their musical journeys well beyond the concert stage. The performance reflected not only technical skill but also the joy and passion that comes from playing together as a community.

Throughout the Winter Concert, the Minot Community Concert Band demonstrated remarkable range, transitioning effortlessly between lively marches, lyrical melodies, intricate classical works, and playful, modern compositions. The evening offered something for everyone, whether it was the haunting resonance of a single sustained note, the lighthearted humor of a reimagined children’s song, or the festive warmth of beloved holiday music.

With the Baumanns’ guidance, the band continues to provide opportunities for musicians of all ages and experience levels, creating a space where young performers can learn from veterans, and seasoned members can share their passion with the next generation. The concert was a testament to the enduring power of music to bring people together, celebrate creativity, and evoke both emotion and wonder.

The Minot Community Concert Band’s Winter Concert was a memorable celebration of musical excellence, community spirit, and the shared joy of performing. For anyone who attended, the evening offered not only entertainment but also a reminder of the beauty and diversity of the musical arts.



Woodwind Section Starts off the Concert with Women of the Podium.



Christine Baumann directs her favorite Christmas arrangement “Christmas Festival”



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How Can We Say Thank You...Enough?



**A VIEW FROM
OUR SIDE**
ROD WILSON

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MINOT AIR FORCE BASE NEWSPAPER | WWW.NORTHERNSENTRY.COM

My Facebook page was filled with wonderful photos of the Downtown Open House celebration that was held on Friday, November 28th. The tree lighting ceremony was one of the first events I attended when I arrived in Minot on November 7th of 1976. Yep, that was a long time ago.

That year they used a “real” tree that was donated by a local citizen. It seems like the tree was at least 40 feet tall. I remember wondering how in the world they got the lights to the very top of that tree. As it does today, Downtown Minot seemed to have a magical Christmas feel to it that year. For a young guy like me living alone in a small 1-bedroom apartment the lighting of the downtown Christmas tree made me smile and think about heading home for Christmas to my hometown of Maddock, North Dakota.

I don’t think I have missed many of these tree lighting ceremonies over the years. Sometimes the weather has been downright balmy, where even wearing a jacket was an option. And well, sometimes like last year, it was so darned cold! Minus 17 degrees with an even more bitter wind chill. Still, people crowd the street to get a view of the lighting of

the tree, and this year a spectacular fireworks display. The cold air made the colors of the tree lights and the fireworks more vibrant. The sounds of the fireworks exploding filled the main street area, and there were several loud cheers as some of the more spectacular fireworks exploded high overhead. It was an absolute perfect beginning to the Christmas season.

One of the recent highlights of the Open House Tree lighting ceremony has been the special guests we have on stage. Each year, for at least the past 10 years, we have sent an invitation to the Command teams of the 5th Bomb Wing and the 91st Missile Wing, and their families, to join emcee Margie Bolton on stage. This year the stage was pretty much packed as both Col Lamarand and Col Schlabach were able to attend and give a warm welcome from the Minot Air Force Base. The unique relationship between the community of Minot and the Minot Air Force base is so very important, especially on a night like the Holiday Open House.

As I looked through the crowd I wondered how many

young Airmen were in attendance seeing the tree lighting and the fireworks for the very first time. For some the weather on Friday evening could have been a bit of a challenge. But we hope the warmth that was extended by the hundreds in attendance made some of that challenge go away. Next year they will have endured a North Dakota winter and will probably laugh at folks who suggest that 18 degrees ABOVE zero is cold.

Of the thank you messages on Facebook was a message from Monica Schlabach and Lisa Sharp. Monica is the spouse of 91st Wing Commander Jimmy Schlabach, and Lisa Sharp is the wife of Chief Master Sergeant Wayne Sharp, Command Chief of the 5th Bomb Wing. Besides the many, many photos they posted of the Minot AFB team in Downtown Minot, there was a small notation on the page...Last Tree Lighting in Minot. Oh my! How reality starts to set in. Yes indeed, this will be the last Tree Lighting for Col Schlabach and his Command Chief Becky Thomas. And of course, the last Tree Lighting for Col Lamarand and Chief Master Sergeant Sharp. OK, I won’t teer up

quite yet, but when you think about it last year was their first year at the Tree Lighting in Minot, and this year is their last. Well unless the memories and allure of this special evening will entice them to return. They may not be on stage, but we want them to know how special it is for them to take time to be part of this special event. For any event to host these special VIP’s is really truly something very unique. The Downtown Business and Professional Association certainly reaches out to each and every one of you and says, “Thank You!”

It’s not cliché at all, the quote that stands right beside an oft used motto “Only the Best Come North.” That quote is, and we mean it with all of our hearts; To every one of you who serve us so well, “We Can’t Say Thank You...Enough!”

ON YOUR CALENDAR

I will still give a shout out the Minot Chamber Chorale Renaissance Feast. As of this writing there are still tickets left for this great event. Check for tickets on minotchamberchorale.org.

TODAY’S CHUCKLE

A diamond is nothing but a lump of coal that stuck to the job.



DBPA President Casey Klein and granddaughter Reya enjoy the fireworks



Right on que, the Downtown Minot Christmas Tree came to life!



Ho Ho Ho! Santa welcomes kids to take a photo with him his new sled!

Hall of Fame Worthy



**UPSIDE DOWN
UNDER**
MARVIN BAKER

Something happened in Watford City Friday night that was monumental, but outside the world of hockey, most people in North Dakota probably didn’t know about it.

There was a North Dakota Amateur Hockey Association Hall of Fame induction and when you see the details of this person, you’ll wonder why this didn’t happen five years ago.

Dave Hansen, who played high school hockey at Grand Forks Red River, moved to Watford City and started a hockey program there in 1985 with Arden Berg. His first team had 14 players, ages 5-14, and

they skated on a local lagoon.

Fast forward 40 years and Hansen has not only been the coach for the Watford City Oilers program, but actually coached two teams for a time. In addition to that, he’s coached state teams, he’s been a referee and all three of his kids; Alex and Ryan played for him and daughter Kayla was an assistant coach, telling the Roundup, a Sidney, Mont., newspaper, that she knew everything about the game.

Through it all, Hansen has coached at least 50 hockey teams in 40 years and the program he built, along with Berg, went from those 14 kids to now, more than 250 hockey players in the Watford City program.

In addition to that, in 2016 twin hockey arenas in Watford City’s Roughrider Center were built, with one dedicated and named the Dave Hansen Arena in January 2017. It’s arguably one of the nicest hockey arenas in North Dakota, save the Ralph Englestad Arena on the University of North Dakota campus in Grand Forks.

So Friday night, the Watford City Park Board, the local hockey program board of directors and

the North Dakota Amateur Hockey Association pulled out all the stops to honor this legendary coach, who was three times Junior Gold Coach of the Year.

At first his family was acknowledged; his wife Lynette, children Alex, Ryan and Kayla, as well as their grandchildren. Hansen said during his speech that his family has endured a lot over the past 40 years being in a hockey family such as theirs. There were late-night trips across the state to get home, there were early Wednesday morning practices and there was time away from home during his coaching career.

Through it all, the family stood by him and as he implied, it made him a better coach, a better father and a better grandfather. And it shows. The entire humble Hansen family showed a lot of grace and dignity Friday night while at center ice.

Hansen was also responsible for something indirectly related to the hockey program that doesn’t get listed in a statistic.

It’s about the spirit of volunteering and how he engineered virtually an entire community to believe in his vision of one day having a promising

hockey program in Watford City. From that frigid and wind-swept lagoon to a multipurpose arena to a state-of-the-art facility, Hansen drove that train, but there were a lot of volunteers working with him and Berg to build, not just the team, but the enthusiasm that goes with creating a successful program. That translates to generations of fans today watching hockey games in the arena.

During his speech, Hansen talked about moving to Watford City from Grand Forks in the mid ‘80s and telling someone he wanted to start a hockey program in a huge basketball town. He surely got some odd looks after making that statement, but now you can easily see the dividends.

Hansen was presented with a special award and a plaque with all 59 of the Hall of Fame inductees listed including himself, the only inductee in the class of 2025. His award will be on permanent display in the North Dakota Hall of Fame headquarters in Jamestown.

Hansen created a spark that has been burning bright for 40 years and will no doubt be around another 40 years.



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Simple Ways to Save Money in Minot this Christmas



SHE'S NOT FROM AROUND HERE
AMY ALLENDER

A few days ago, I walked into TJ Maxx/HomeGoods with a simple mission: buy two packets of specialty hot cocoa as a fun surprise for my kids. Easy. In-and-out. A wholesome, budget-friendly surprise for our Christmas movie night.

Except... I didn't make it 20 feet into the store.

Christmas was everywhere. Glittering garlands, tree skirts that put my own to shame, Christmas crackers that instantly made me want to start a new tradition. In seconds, the cocoa was forgotten and I was spiraling. Suddenly it seemed essential—urgent, even—that every bed in my house have Christmas flannel sheets, my kitchen needed holiday towels, and I was certain my sons childhood would be void of holiday nostalgia if I didn't buy fixings for a hot cocoa bar (forget the single packets I intended to buy.)

I wanted to buy everything, and was paralyzed with overstimulation all at once.

Tis the season.

Even though I'm normally thrifty (frugal living is my true calling), this time of year tends to shake my resolve. And I know I'm not alone. Budgets are tight around the holidays. Expectations are high. So does the temptation to overspend.

Thankfully, I've collected some Minot-tested strategies that keep the season special without blowing the budget. If you're hoping to keep things festive and financially sane, here are some of my favorite ways to save during the holidays.

DO SECONDHAND FIRST

One of Minot's greatest strengths is its thriving secondhand scene. Facebook Marketplace, local thrift stores, Once Upon a Child—these are treasure troves.

And when it comes to kids' gifts? Secondhand is doesn't mean second-class.

Kids' interests shift fast. I've found brand-name toys, Hot Wheels tracks, Magna-Tiles, LEGO, you name it—all in like-new condition and for a fraction of their retail cost. Shopping secondhand doesn't mean you can't afford new. It means you're choosing to be resourceful, cut waste, and stretch your budget, making room for more of something else.

DON'T SPEND MONEY ON THINGS DESTINED FOR THE TRASH CAN

This is a hill I'll die on: wrapping paper shouldn't be spendy. It's

literally designed to be ripped up. I started checking thrift stores or Facebook Marketplace "free" listings for wrapping supplies years ago and never looked back. It's probably the easiest way I save a few bucks, and I never cringe to see it tossed in the trash.

VISIT MAGIC CITY SURPLUS

Magic City Surplus is a budget-saver year-round, but especially now. They carry overstock and items that are brand-new. It's perfect for:

Stocking stuffers, gifts, tape and batteries, Christmas lights, ribbon, paper plates and napkins, and picking up something fun for a white elephant/secret Santa exchange.

CHECK UGLEE BOX

Every Friday, Uglee Box drops new inventory—items with damaged boxes or returns, but new inside. Everything starts at \$7 and prices drop all week until Wednesday, when remaining items are \$1.

You've got to sort through somewhat chaotic bins to see what's there, but I've had great luck. It's a thrifty shopper's dream, here are a few things I've seen first-hand: Threshold lamps from Target for \$3, Stanley travel cups for \$7, glassware for \$5. You never know what you'll find, and it's worth a look if you're trying to curb your spending this season.

START WITH FREE BEFORE PAYING FOR HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

Minot shines during the holidays.

Before you invest in paid events, check out what's going on for free by checking EventsMinot.com or scrolling events on Facebook. The number of quality no-cost activities always surprises me.

A few of my favorites include: seeing the CPKC Holiday Train roll through town, the free performance of Handel's Messiah, holiday light displays, Tuba Christmas, and musical light displays (Visit Minot puts out a map of light displays around town!)

Then choose just one or two paid events your family is genuinely excited about. You'll still make wonderful memories without draining your budget.

REMEMBER WHAT THE HOLIDAYS ARE REALLY ABOUT

It's easy to get swept into a glittery frenzy—especially when the stores are magical, the social feeds are curated, and the pressure is real.

But the season isn't about perfection.

It's not about the most expensive gifts.

And it's definitely not about matching the aesthetic of anyone in your social feeds.

It's about connection. Celebration. Joy.

Small moments that add up to something beautiful.

The magic isn't in the spending. It's in how you show up.

For more stories and ideas for living in North Dakota, connect with me at amyallender.com or @HeyMinot on Instagram and Facebook.



Knowing ways to keep Christmas budget-friendly means you can enjoy the season without the financial strain. Pictured here, my family enjoying one of our favorite, free holiday traditions.

AMY ALLENDER PHOTO

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Confidence, Care, and Cutting-Edge Science at Reveal Aesthetics

HOPE ANDERSON

Walking into a medical spa for the first time can feel a little overwhelming, especially when you’re not sure what to expect. It can be even more challenging when you’re new to a community and don’t yet know where to turn for trustworthy skincare guidance. Reveal Aesthetics & Wellness was created with that in mind. Their very first priority is to take away the uncertainty and help you feel comfortable from the moment you schedule your appointment.

What sets Reveal apart is the way advanced education and genuine patient relationships work hand in hand. It’s a combination Carleen Gust is deeply proud of and the very reason she opened her own clinic in 2022. As a nurse practitioner, Gust has spent years immersed in study, hands-on training, and ongoing education. She holds a prestigious CANS certification, making her one of only 500 practitioners in the country and one of just three in North Dakota.

For patients, that expertise matters. It means Gust and her team bring the most up-to-date, science-backed training to every appointment. They pair their technical precision with a thoughtful, patient-centered approach, taking time to understand each person’s goals and concerns. The result is a level of care that feels both highly skilled and deeply personal.

Reveal offers an extensive range of services and they’re constantly

expanding. Cosmetic injectables remain among their most popular treatments, helping soften fine lines and wrinkles by gently relaxing targeted muscles. Dermal fillers are another expert service, used to smooth wrinkles, restore soft-tissue volume, enhance lips, lift scar depressions, and bring renewed structure to the face. With the precision the Reveal team is known for, clients leave looking refreshed and natural. Like themselves, but more confident.

Their technology-forward services are equally impressive. Reveal offers tattoo removal using advanced photoacoustic technology, which helps the body’s lymphatic system break down ink more efficiently, which means fewer visits and less discomfort. They also provide radiofrequency microneedling to improve acne scarring, rough texture, and uneven tone. This treatment uses gentle, non-burning technology that works beautifully across the full spectrum of skin tones.

Their offerings don’t stop at skincare. Clients can also access laser hair removal, hair restoration, B-12 injections, and vein treatments. A full list of services can be found at <https://revealaestheticsandwellness.com/services/>, and appointments can be booked directly online. For those unsure where to start, a quick phone call is often best. Their knowledgeable office staff is happy to guide new patients

and help them choose the right treatment path.

As a veteran herself, Gust understands the unique challenges military families face when relocating. From finding trusted care, dependable providers, and a supportive community, it can feel daunting. She goes above and beyond to help her clients feel grounded in Minot, offering recommendations for a wide range of local services, from healthcare to haircare and beyond.

If there’s one word that captures Gust after spending time with her, it’s confidence. Not the kind that demands attention, but the steady, grounded kind that comes from deep expertise and genuine passion. It’s clear she loves not only what she does, but who she serves. At Reveal Aesthetics & Wellness, you’re not just another appointment on the schedule. You’re someone they’re committed to caring for well.

Reveal Aesthetics & Wellness is more than a medical spa, it’s a place where science, artistry, and heart come together. Whether you’re seeking long-term skin health, a confidence boost, or a fresh start in a new community, Gust and her team are ready to walk beside you every step of the way. With their unwavering commitment to education, safety, and patient comfort, you can trust that you’re in capable, caring hands.





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Tis the season team Minot! When you are spreading the holiday cheer and in a giving spirit, keep in mind, toy safety! There are hundreds of toys on the market today, which are produced from all over the world. However, not all of them are made with quality. While shopping you may not be thinking of safety but this is something that is often overlooked. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission more than 120,000 children are treated in the hospital emergency room for toy related injuries. When selecting a toy, the following things need to be considered: One, the age of the child should be the primary key, so that they are getting something that is appropriate for their group and skill level. Two, inspect the toy by looking for quality design and construction. Avoid items that have sharp points, glass, exposed metal edges, and small attachments. This will help reduce the chance of accidental hazards as choking and cuts. And three, read the label! We often neglect to read the warnings and precautions listed. This notice can be the deciding factor also if the toy will be a good idea as a gift. Remember, a toy for sale does not mean that the product is safe. If you encounter a toy that you feel is unsafe ensure you report your concern to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.





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Senior Airman Dana Gonzalez is a cornerstone of the 69th BGS, consistently ensuring the peak readiness of her assigned aircraft. As an Assistant Dedicated Crew Chief, she tackles every task with meticulous precision and unwavering dedication to mission success, ensuring her jet is always ready to answer the call. Recognizing the importance of mentorship, she has eagerly embraced the role of training the newest Airmen, imparting her knowledge and fostering a culture of excellence. Her commitment to service and love of country has fueled her pursuit of attending Officer Training School to become a Commissioned Officer in the United States Air Force.

GAME SALUTE: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

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.

Cozy Lights in Cold Nights: Minot AFB Starts Christmas Early

NATALY ZARRELLA, NORTHERN SENTRY

For many people across the country, Christmas decorations traditionally go up after Thanksgiving. But at Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota, the holiday season begins much earlier. For a growing number of residents, November 1, just one day after Halloween marks the official start of Christmas decorating. And for those who live in one of the coldest regions in the United States, getting lights and outdoor decor set up before the first major snowfall is not just festive, it's practical. With temperatures plunging quickly and icy conditions arriving early, few are eager to climb ladders or hang lights in 15 degree weather. As Minot resident Bryan Costilla jokingly put it, "Why have one month of Christmas decorations when you can have two?"

While the frigid climate may be one reason Christmas comes early at Minot AFB, residents say the shift is driven by much more than practicality. For some, early

decorating is a source of comfort and joy during the long, dark North Dakota winter. "We decorate for Christmas right after Halloween," said resident Rose Kasowicz. "I do this to add a little extra cheer during the colder months when there's little sun. Christmas has always been a big part of our lives." For her, the tradition is deeply rooted in family memories. She grew up in a large, close knit family spread across multiple states, and the holidays were the one time everyone gathered. "When we all get together for the holidays it is truly heartwarming. I'm extremely family oriented and knowing that I get to see everyone for Christmas puts me in a very good mood," she said.

Others say early decorating helps transform each year into something special, especially for military families who move frequently. Minot AFB resident Mary Schubert explained that creating a festive environment

brings a sense of stability and joy no matter where they live. "I take decorating seriously because we've lived in so many houses over the past 10 years, and it makes each year feel fun and new, but mostly like a home," she said. This year, she and her family turned their front porch into a cheerful "Candy Cane Lane," complete with a Santa's letters mailbox. "Coming home after work feels extra special. It genuinely makes us happy."

Mary also emphasized the emotional impact that early decorating can have during a time

that is both joyful and challenging for many. "Life can feel heavy, especially around the holidays, so if putting your tree up early brings you joy, then do it," she said. She recalled a moment when a neighbor stopped by to compliment their setup and express excitement about what they would do next. "Moments like that make me grateful. If we can help make someone smile, that's a win."

At Minot AFB, early holiday decorating has become more than just a seasonal preference, it has become a way for residents to

support one another, create warmth in a harsh climate, and bring a spark of joy to the community. Whether it's to beat the cold, honor family traditions, or simply brighten up the winter months, residents agree on one thing: the holiday spirit doesn't need to wait until Thanksgiving. Or as Mary put it, if putting up the tree on November 1st makes life a little brighter, then "watch The Grinch with a diabetic coffee, wear your Christmas PJs, and don't worry about anyone judging. Their opinions aren't your business anyway."



Kicking off the holiday season on November 1st with the first sparkle of Christmas tree decorating!
ROSE KASOWICZ PHOTO



Minot AFB said, "Why wait?" Christmas magic starts the day after Halloween!

MARY SCHUBERT PHOTO



Chief Laura Magas brings the spirit of the season to life, decorating her home and filling it with holiday warmth.



Up on the rooftop, Chief Daniel Magas works his holiday magic, lighting up the season for his wife, Chief Laura Magas. A little Christmas glow, a lot of love!





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Lost Minot AFB Memories: Can You Help Bring This Quilt Home?

ERIN BEENE,
NORTHERN SENTRY

Military life is full of movement: new bases, new homes, and new beginnings. Along the way, household items are passed on, shared, donated, or sometimes lost. Farewell gifts, in particular, often hold deep sentimental value. From plaques and framed photos to Minot AFB’s beloved “Bully Stick” memento, these items serve as lasting reminders of a person’s time here.

But every now and then, something meaningful slips through the cracks.

That’s exactly what happened when Sue Mason, browsing a Goodwill store in Arizona, came across a homemade quilt stitched with Minot AFB emblems and patches from the 5th Operations Group. Clearly custom-made and well-loved, the quilt seemed far too personal to end up in a thrift store bin.

Wanting to help, Sue contacted the Northern Sentry in hopes of finding the rightful owner, or anyone who might know the history behind the quilt. “It breaks my heart to see memories at Goodwill, or any thrift store,” she said.

The quilt doesn’t contain dates, names, or identifying marks, just careful craftsmanship and symbols of Minot service. With so few clues, we’re turning to you, the Northern Sentry community, to help solve this mystery.

If you recognize this quilt, know who made it, or can point us toward its original owner, we’d love to hear from you. Please reach out to us on our Facebook page with any information.

Let’s bring this piece of Minot AFB history back where it belongs.



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All About Pets

Instead of Declawing Your Cat...



While choosing to declaw your cat may come with short term benefits for you and your household, the procedure is not in the best interest of your feline friend. Declawing is the process of amputating the front knuckles of a cat’s toes so that it can no longer use its claws, and many shelters and animal advocacy groups strongly advise against it. Felines have a natural instinct to use their claws to mark territory, stretch, play, and even defend themselves in dangerous situations. When their claws are removed, cats run the risk of developing chronic pain, lameness, and behavioral issues.

If you’re having problems with your cat tearing up your furniture or your arms, here are some more humane options to curb unwanted scratching and prevent the need for declawing:

- Consistent nail trimming—every few weeks should be sufficient, depending on your cat.
- Nail caps or claw covers—Soft Paws is one recommended brand for caps that are glued on to your cat’s claws and can help to alleviate excessive scratching.
- Provide enrichment—toys, playtime, and designated scratching posts are great ways to keep your cat happy! They won’t need to scratch your couch when they have more fun things to do around the house.
- Outside time—most people probably don’t think about letting their cats outside since they can often be difficult to catch. But outside is a great place for cats to explore and hunt! Some cats will naturally

come back to their owners once they’ve satisfied their wanderlust, which is great for enrichment. If you’re not sure if your cat will return or you’re worried about their safety in a busy area, try a cat harness with a lightweight leash to take your friend on all the adventures!

- Make unwanted scratching objects unattractive—putting aluminum foil on furniture or other popular scratching areas has been said to deter some cats from going to town with their claws. Other options to deter your cat from scratching can include double-sided tape or unpleasant fragrances such as citrus.
- Training and behaviorists—if all else fails, work with your cat to deter him from scratching unwanted items. A spray bottle or a clapping noise can interrupt their behavior so that you can properly redirect them to an appropriate toy and reward them for using that instead. As a last resort, it may even be helpful to find an animal behavior specialist who can help you determine other solutions for your cat’s scratching.

It is possible for a cat to have medical problems that declawing would fix, but it’s important to consult with your vet to find any other possible solutions before making that decision because it can affect your cat for the rest of its life. As pet owners, it’s our job to make sure our animals have everything they need to live their best lives. Instead of declawing your cat, try these alternatives to give your furry friend its best shot.

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Breakfast Fellowship 10:00am
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(Holy Communion 1st Sunday)
Children's Church available

Northern Lights Chapel
230 Missile Ave
(across from Rockers)

Catholic Mass

Sunday 1000
Daily Monday-Friday 1200

Open Circle (Wiccan/ Neo-Pagan)
1000 on 1st & 3rd Saturdays

Hof (Norse Pagan)
1700 on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays

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Saturday, December 6
5PM, No Vespers

Sunday, December 7
10AM, Congregational Prayer Service



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www.oslcminot.com

Pastor Dan Haugen

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9:30am Contemporary Service
9:30am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
11:00am Contemporary Service (w/Livestream)
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Psalm23Teens (6-8pm)
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www.trinitychurchminot.org



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10:45am Sundays

Sunday School
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Cornerstone Presbyterian Church

**1000 NE 3rd Street
852-0315**

Sunday Schedule
Contemporary Worship 9:00am
Sunday School (All Ages) 10:00am
Traditional Worship 11:00am

Wednesday Evening Schedule
Community Dinner 5:30-6:30pm
Contemporary Worship 6:30pm
Youth Group & Small Groups.. 7:15pm
All are Welcome!
www.cornerstoneminot.com

Faith United Methodist Church

**5900 Highway 83 N, Minot**
www.faithumcminot.com

Pastor Rick Craig
701-838-1540

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

Immanuel Baptist Church

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

SUNDAY
9:00am Coffee & Fellowship
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Worship

WEDNESDAY
11:30am Soup Kitchen
5:45pm Family Supper
6:15pm K-5th & Middle School Start
6:30pm HS & Adult Start

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Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Fr. David A. Richter, Pastor
Parish website: www.stjohnminot.com

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Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
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Classes for All Ages 6:30 p.m.
Youth Center, Friday..... 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.
ABC Child Care Center 852-6352

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Sunday Bible Study & Sunday School
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Wednesday Kid Connection
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**200 3rd St. SW • 852-4533
www.fbcminot.org**

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

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Courage and Faith under fire... The Hannah and Andrew Dotas story

JEANNE SEXTON-BROWN

On Sunday, November 9 Fargo Police Officer Andrew Dotas and his wife, Hannah spoke at the Anselm Trinity Lutheran Church southwest of Sheldon.

Officer Dotas was one of the Fargo Officers ambushed on Friday, July 14, 2023 on 25th St. South in Fargo. He and his wife Hannah shared their story. Officer Dotas is a nine-year veteran of the Fargo Police Force.

Officer Dotas opened in prayer stating he wanted to give full honor to Christ for the miracles that happened that day in 2023.

Officer Jake Wallin was killed that day. Officer Dotas was shot multiple times, had to have nine surgeries and spent 18 months recovering from his life-threatening injuries. Officer Ty Hawes was shot several times as well, sustaining critical life-threatening injuries which required 19 surgeries and 18 months of recovery. Officer Zach Robinson was able to end the ambush by taking out the shooter after attempting to get him to surrender.

Both Andrew and Hannah Dotas grew up in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul. They place Christ at the center of all that happened that day.

“He never left our side,” said Officer Dotas. “Hannah was also by my side through every step of my recovery process.”

Officer Dotas always wanted to be a police officer and was even in the Police Explorers at age 14. He joined the Fargo Police Force in 2016 with the intent of getting some experience before heading back to the Twin Cities. However, they both fell in love with North Dakota and have no intentions of leaving.

“I want to use my story as credibility,” said Officer Dotas. “Because of my experience I can truly say, Christ was with me. Everybody’s struggle is the same to Christ.”

The morning of Friday, July 14, he had shadowed the previous SRO at Dakota High School in preparation for his new assignment as the school resource officer.

“I still had the school key in my pocket when I was shot,” said Officer Dotas.

Just before the shooting, Officer Dotas had called his wife and told her he would be home in a couple of hours. He told her to get in her swimsuit and take their son to the pool; he would join them shortly.

The call came in of a traffic accident. Officer Dotas was the training officer for Officer Hawes who had just graduated from the police academy in April with Officer Wallin. As training goes, the two officers, Hawes and Dotas, were riding together. Officer Hawes was taking the lead at the accident.

“When there is an injury accident, we call for the fire departments and ambulance,” said Officer Dotas. “It turned out to be a minor injury to one of the drivers involved. I had just released the fire departments and ambulance to leave the scene.”

He had told Officer Hawes and Officer Wallin the plan to move forward with the investigation just prior to shots ringing out.

“I had been deployed in Afghanistan, I knew the sound of automatic gunfire,” said Officer Dotas. “The gunman had a high-powered assault rifle that was equipped with a binary trigger.”

Officer Dotas took two shots to the hip, with one shot jamming his gun in his holster. He was unable to draw his weapon.

“Police officers are trained to respond on instinct,” said Officer Dotas. “Soldiers are trained to

respond on instinct. A year before the ambush, I had returned from deployment in Afghanistan with the Air National Guard. That time allowed me to know and understand automatic gunfire and the reality of when that does occur.”

“Nine miracles happened that day,” said Office Dotas. “The first was that fire and ambulance were on scene for an injury accident.”

He went on to innumerate the miracles.

Second, six people were on scene for what was a minor accident. Officer Dotas was shot several times. Officer Hawes was shot multiple times as well. Jake Wallin was able to get shots off to draw fire before he was hit and died from his injuries.

Third was that the first two shots jammed my weapon in my holster but it also stopped a bullet from hitting vital organs.

Fourth was that just two weeks prior to the incident, the department issued rifle rated plates to insert in their vests which saved his life.

Fifth, he was seconds from bleeding out when his brain shut off. He couldn’t get his gun out. Later, when Officer Dotas and Hannah finally decided to watch his body camera footage, they heard Officer Dotas utter the words, “God help me!”

“I didn’t know I said that,” recalled Officer Dotas. “We do what we are trained to do.”

Officer Dotas credits his parents for taking him to church. Pushing him to go to youth group when he would try to get out of it. The foundation of faith was there and when the need was there, he remembered to call out to God for help.

Sixth, the Fargo Street Fair was going on in downtown Fargo. They believe the shooter was planning to hit the Street Fair as he had searched online for high density shootings. The shooter had 1,900 rounds of ammo; four bombs; as well as machineguns.

The shooter was not involved in the accident. He was seen driving around the accident, viewing the number of officers on scene.

When the shots started and they realized it was multiple injuries, one of the officers called for dispatch to send everyone.

“What would be better than drawing all officers away from the Street Fair to leave that area of the city unprotected, which is what happened.

Seven was the serious nature of Officer Dotas’ injuries. His stomach cut in half, all the contents of his stomach emptied into his chest cavity. His doctors had no idea what to do with that.

“It is something to look at your doctors and they have no idea how to deal with your chest cavity full of

the contents of your stomach,” said Officer Dotas. “It was a miracle that I could survive that.”

His stomach was cut in half, his spleen was shot into so many pieces and the lower part of his lung was shot off.

“The doctor told me they took out my spleen,” said Officer Dotas. “I asked him why? He said, ‘It was in a dozen pieces, do you want me to put it back?’ Um, no, that’s okay.”

Officer Dotas’ good friend at the PD called Hannah to give her the notification. ‘Andrew’s been shot, get to the hospital now!’

He told another officer in the ambulance, ‘Take care of Hannah and AJ (their son).’

Hannah was rushed into a consult room where she waited for two hours while her husband was in surgery.

“They told me he was not awake but he was alive,” recalled Hannah. “I prayed, ‘God, don’t take my husband,’ but then I realized, Andrew is not mine, he is God’s. I changed my prayer to, ‘If he is called home, give me strength to carry on’.”

Hannah went into counseling right away.

“I realized that fear and anxiety is not of God,” said Hannah. “I had to trust the Lord to care for him. I see the miracle of Andrew back to work.”

Officer Dotas stated that being a police officer was a dream job but he is much more than that.

“I’m a son of God; I’m a husband; I’m a father,” said Dotas. “If the stress of my job causes my family harm, I would leave the force. But God has protected them and they are not having any anxiety with me staying on the force.”

One of the other miracles is the fact that God has protected him from any flashbacks, even though he can list all of the organs he lost.

Once he was discharged, they had to move a hospital bed into the living room of their apartment. Their son AJ was two-years-old at the time.

“He was so very careful around his daddy’s tummy,” remembered Hannah. “There was no room in the apartment with the hospital bed set up in the living room. AJ went to the cities to stay with his grandparents for a couple of months during that time of recovery.”

He worked on his physical agility. When he was tested to come back to work, he ran faster than anyone else in the department of 180 officers.

Officer Dotas learned while still in the hospital that he had in fact met the shooter four months before the ambush.

The Dotas family has grown with the recent birth of their daughter Savannah, two months ago.



Hannah and Officer Andrew Dotas tell their story of the ambush on 25th St. South in Fargo, ND on July 14, 2023. Officer Jake Wallin was killed. Officer Ty Hawes and Officer Andrew Dotas were critically wounded, and one bystander was also shot before Officer Zack Robinson took out the shooter, ending the gun battle.

BRIAN KRUGER PHOTO

“I’m a soldier; I’m a police officer; I can protect my family,” said Officer Dotas. “But as a Christian.”

Both Hannah and Officer Dotas have forgiven the shooter.

“We are to forgive as Christ has forgiven us,” said Hannah. “Every time I think of the shooting, I forgive him again.”

“He was very broken,” said Officer Dotas. “I can forgive him for that. It wasn’t easy to do, but as Christians, we need to forgive. I don’t live in fear. We live in a fallen world. Two percent of the people are bad. Police are in it to make a difference. The thin blue line stands between good and evil.”

Both Hannah and Officer Dotas feel supported, that is why he is still a police officer.

During his deployment in Afghanistan, he served with the Phoenix Ravens, a select group of highly trained security forces Airmen tasked with protecting US Aircraft and aircrew when missions take them to hostile environments.

He is still a proud member of the Air National Guard. He is also on the peer support team, the Red River Valley SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) negotiations team.

Officer Dotas’ favorite scripture? Matthew 25:23 “Well done, good and faithful servant!”

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\$4 Rail Drinks, ND Brewery Pints & 22oz Domestic Taps, 4 Lettuce Cups

\$5 Moscow Mule

\$6 Specialty Cocktails, Martinis & 22oz ND Breweries Taps

½ Flat Bread Pizza

DAILY SPECIALS

Monday \$5 Moscow Mules (all day)

Tuesday \$4 ND breweries (all day)

Wednesday ½ Price Wine by the glass/bottle (all day)

Thursday \$1 up for all Tall Taps (all day)

BRUNCH (11am-2pm)

Sunday \$7 TSR Bloody Mary & Caesars

\$12 Bottomless Mimosas

\$6 Breakfast Shots

FAMILY PACKS

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Tuesday Sandwich Pack

Wednesday Chef Creation*

*Changes Weekly – Check our Facebook Page

Thursday Pasta Pack

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Minot Parks Welcomes Outstanding Attendance for Fun Zone’s Season Kickoff

MINOT PARKS

Minot Parks is pleased to announce a successful opening day for the 2025–2026 season of Fun Zone, with 128 attendees joining the first day of this free, family-focused program at the Minot Auditorium’s Armory.

Fun Zone, offered Tuesday through Thursday from 9:00am – noon, provides a safe, active, and engaging space for children ages 10 and under during the cold winter months. Kids can enjoy a variety of activities including toys, bounce castles, coloring stations, and more. Bounce castles are made possible through a partnership with the Minot Area Community Foundation. Children must be supervised by an adult at all times to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Fun Zone will run through March 26, 2026, offering families a warm, energetic place to play throughout

the winter season. The program will take a short holiday break from December 23, 2025, through Thursday, January 1, 2026, and will resume on Tuesday, January 6, 2026.

“We love seeing families come together to play, explore, and make memories at Fun Zone,” said Elly DesLauriers, Executive Director for the Minot Park District. “The strong turnout on opening day shows the how valued indoor recreation space is in our community, and we’re excited to offer another season of free, accessible fun for Minot’s youth.”

Families are encouraged to stop by the Minot Auditorium’s Armory on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:00am – noon to participate.

For more information, please call the Minot Park District office at (701)857-4136.



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MINOT MASONIC CENTER



Come learn about Freemasonry and its community of appendant organizations by attending a meet-and-greet session with our members before one of our regularly scheduled business meetings!

Monthly Business Meeting Schedule • Meet-and-Greets

Blue Lodge - 1st and 3rd Mondays at 6:00PM

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



Upcoming Events

06 DEC

DIY UGLY HOLIDAY SWEATER
6:00PM-8:00PM
Magic City Discovery Center,
1545 1st Street NW, Minot

Embrace the holiday spirit with a splash of creativity and a glass of wine at our Adults Crafting Night. You'll receive a plain sweater and all the materials needed to transform it into a uniquely festive Ugly Holiday Sweater. From glitter and tinsel to pom-poms and bells, we provide everything to make your sweater truly one-of-a-kind.

Ages: 21+ • Class Size: Max of 25
Locations: 3rd Floor Lobby
Cost: \$50 for Non-Members, \$45 for MCDC Members, \$40 for Military Members

DIY Ugly Holiday Sweaters
DECEMBER 6TH, 6 TO 8 PM



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

06 DEC

CHRISTMAS AT THE ZOO – GUESS WHO’S GREEN AND COMING TOO!
9:00AM-12:00 NOON
Roosevelt Park Zoo, 1219 E Burdick Expy

Something green is visiting the Zoo this holiday season! Join us at Roosevelt Park Zoo for a morning full of merry mischief, festive fun, and family memories. Slip into your coziest holiday pajamas and get ready to celebrate the season in true Zoo style!

A delicious pancake breakfast (PJs encouraged!)

Photos with Santa and a special surprise guest

A take-home holiday craft for kids

A cheerful stroll through the Zoo to see your favorite animals

Free for Zoo Members — or purchase your 2026 membership for free entry \$5 for Non-Members — get \$1 off with a donation of a non-perishable food item or new toy!



CHRISTMAS AT THE ZOO
GUESS WHO’S GREEN AND COMING TOO!
Saturday, December 6, 2025
9am - 12pm

For more information:
Facebook / Roosevelt Park Zoo / Events

10 DEC

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!



BLUE RIDER TRIVIA
It's the toughest game in town | Every Wednesday

For more information:
Facebook / Blue Rider / Events

UNTIL JAN

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

Christmas in the Park is held annually in Minot's Oak Park starting in the Friday after Thanksgiving and running through New Years Eve. Please join us in celebrating the season with a lovely light display!

\$5 per car (\$7 if paying with card)

Sunday – Thursday: 5:30 pm – 10:00 pm

Friday & Saturday 5:30 pm – 10:30 pm

Cash preferred, cards accepted with fee.



For more information:
Facebook / Minot Sertoma Club / Events

NEW Community at the Northern Sentry

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

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How to make driving in inclement weather more safe

Impaired visibility can be a safety hazard while driving. Everything from sun glare to hail can affect a driver's ability to see the road and navigate it effectively. Before drivers get behind the wheel, they should make note of their local forecast and make a plan for what to do if rain, snow or other conditions make it challenging to drive.

The International Association of Traffic and Safety Sciences indicates that, based on an examination of crash test data conducted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the "likelihood of a crash increases during periods of low visibility, despite the tendency for less traffic and for lower speeds to prevail during these times."

Drivers can take several steps to improve their visibility when driving in poor weather conditions.

- Inspect and change windshield wiper blades. Wipers are instrumental in clearing precipitation away from the windshield. If they're not functioning properly, wipers cannot do their jobs. Drivers should replace their wipers at the first indication that they are no longer effective. In some conditions, wipers can freeze or stick. Drivers should then pull over and clean the wipers manually.

- Clear obstructions. Always make sure the windshield is clear before driving. This can include removing ice and snow in the winter and cleaning off mud or bug splatter

in the spring and summer. Use the front and rear defrost if condensation fogs up windshields and windows. Slow down. Foul weather can reduce drivers' ability to see far into the distance. Drivers should always drive slower in inclement weather in order to improve reaction time.

- Top off fluids. Always keep the windshield washer reservoir full and keep extra fluid in the trunk. In addition, look for a fluid that does not freeze in very cold temperatures.

- Learn how to drive in fog. Each year, more than 38,700 vehicle crashes occur in fog, states the Federal Highway Administration. Travelers Insurance recommends slowing down, staying focused and using regular headlights and not high beams when driving in fog.

- Go out only if necessary. In snowy or icy conditions, drive only if it's absolutely necessary, as snow and ice can impair visibility and make roads slick, says AAA.

- Avoid driving at dusk and dawn. The human eye can have trouble adjusting to rapidly changing light and darkness conditions, which are common at dusk and dawn. If possible, drivers should make trips during the heart of the day, especially if poor lighting conditions typically make it difficult for them to drive.

Drivers can take steps to improve visibility when inclement weather makes roadways hard to navigate.



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WHITE-HANDED GIBBON

CREATURE FEATURES

- White-Handed Gibbons are considered lesser apes and not monkeys. Apes do not have tails. They have hands similar to humans with opposable thumbs.
- True brachiators, gibbons are believed to be the fastest of all the primates and most agile tree dwelling animal. They use their long arms to effortlessly navigate through the trees.
- The White-Handed Gibbons arms are longer than its legs, which allow the gibbon to move nearly 10 feet with each pendulum swing of its body.

ASSOCIATION OF 2005-10 AZA/ARL/ASA/ISAS

WORD PUZZLE

FOREST ANIMALS

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

Fact File	
Life Span	25 - 30 years
Weight	16 - 25 pounds
Height	16 1/2 to 23 inches
Wild Diet	Omnivore Carnivore Herbivore Fruits, Leaves, Flowers, Small birds, Eggs

HOURS:

DAILY
10AM-3PM

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EVENTS AT THE ZOO

Sat, Dec 6 at 11am
Christmas at the Zoo

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Volunteers helped out at the Ice Bumper Car rentals at Citizens Alley. They are looking for more volunteers all winter long too.



Local artist Dakota Chappy volunteered her time with DJ Moni (DJ Brent Monistere, 91 MXS) for the After Party at Rockers.



Isabelle Driver, Carrie Driver, and Karina Frausto greeting drivers as they come into base on Giving Tuesday

GIVING TUESDAY

Giving Tuesday, Military Edition on Dec 2, 2025 was another success! This year all across the base and town of Minot, people gathered to give back and give time volunteering. To find out more about Giving Tuesday, what it means and why it is important: <https://northernsentry.com/2025/11/26/giving-and-volunteering-are-one-and-the-same/>



Eiza Frausto and Isabelle Driver making cards for the dorms and the SF Defenders.



TSgt Timothy Driver, 791 MSFS, volunteering at the Lord's Cupboard.



7PM DEC. 12
3PM DEC. 13
ANN NICOLE NELSON HALL AT MSU

TWO PERFORMANCES



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Provider of the Month Feature

DECEMBER 2025



TAYLOR MANDERLE

What do you enjoy most about being an FCC Provider?

What I enjoy most about being an FCC provider is creating a safe, welcoming space where kids can learn, explore, and have fun. I love turning everyday moments into exciting learning opportunities. I love doing hands-on science experiments, having themed class fun days, or celebrating holidays together. Watching the kids light up when they discover something new or get excited about an activity makes every day worth it. Being able to build that kind of environment in my home is truly my favorite part of this job.

What are your interests/hobbies?
My interests and hobbies include baking and cooking,

going on walks, watching my favorite shows, reading, and doing puzzles. I also love spending time with my husband and our two Great Danes.

What advice do you have for new providers/those interested in being FCC Providers?

My advice for new providers is to not be afraid to ask questions and make mistakes. That is how you learn and grow as a provider. Always remember why you started this job and hold onto that purpose on the tough days. It's also important to take care of yourself, because when you do, you're better able to care for the children and families you serve.

For more information about FCC, please check out the following website:
5thforcesupport.com/family-child-care/



AFA Mission

Our mission is to promote dominant U.S. Air and Space Forces as the foundation of a strong National Defense; to honor and support our Airmen, Guardians, and their Families; and to remember and respect our enduring Heritage.

MONTHLY MEETING (Third Tuesday of Each Month)

Tuesday, December 16
1200, Rockers Bar & Grill, Minot AFB
Looking for all AFA members, and potential AFA members.

For more information contact:
Jim Bowman- nd135.president@afa.org

AFA.org



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ODE TO DOG BEDS

Patricia Stockdill

OK, confession time – the four-legged Hunting Maniacs in the family get Christmas gifts. And sometimes they make the decision of finding that perfect gift extremely simple. That’s because they demolished what in our minds was the perfect dog bed. That’s as in shredding the dog bed. Running as fast as possible from Point A in the living room to the designated target – the dog bed – and then scratching, shaking, and doing anything and everything to put it out of its apparent misery. It seems that our definition of the perfect dog bed doesn’t always equate to their definition of a perfect bed.

So once again, one of the Hunting Maniacs will receive a new dog bed for Christmas. Her name is being withheld at her request because she admitted that she’s embarrassed it’s not her first time she determined she needed a new dog bed. Plus the look on her face when we discovered her handiwork was kind of, sort of, comical.

It’s as challenging to find what she might like (umm, make that destroy) as it is find the perfect bed for two-legged family members: A bolster with sides to rest one’s furry head and comfy back cushion to cozy up to? Memory foam for aching bones? Soft, cushiony, shredded foam in a nice doughnut shape that’s perfect for building the perfect doggie doughnut nest?

So many choices. So many decisions.

Please offer some consolation and say to yourself that the dog bed dilemma sounds familiar - having that beloved forever four-legged family member shred every type of dog bed brought into one’s home. It didn’t matter what the bed was made of, it was going to be destroyed.

Isn’t it amazing how teeny, tiny bits of shredded foam from a dog bed already made from shredded foam sticks to everything? And I do mean everything...from one end of the house to the other after two Forever Family Britts decided it was perfect for a game of tug-of-war.

Now let’s discuss zippers. One particular Hunting Maniac in the family, Magnum, felt zippers were meant to be unzipped. Why would

one want the convenience of a zipper on a dog bed cover so it can be washed? Dog beds are cozier if they’re grubby, grimy, and smelly. The zipper pull tab is annoying. Therefore, zippers are meant to unzipped and ripped apart. One nice thing about that, though, is it’s generally cheaper to replace a zipper (make that zippers) than get a new dog bed.

Thankfully, Magnum finally gave up unzipping and ripping dog bed cover zippers but it might be because we gave up replacing them. Instead, we glued the cloth surrounding the ripped zipper together. Yes, it’s harder to wash the whole dog bed but it beats replacing zippers, dog bed covers, and dog beds.

Perhaps we must ask ourselves another question? Why do we bother with dog beds in the first place?

Raise your hand if you’re a Hunting Maniac Lover who asks your Hunting Maniac for permission to share their chair or their sofa with you. Never mind the little detail that they didn’t select that piece of furniture nor pay for it. They just feel it’s theirs.

They might be right. But, really, let’s face it; it’s not always about the perfect dog bed for our Hunting Maniacs. Raise your hand if the perfect dog bed is the one meant for two-legged family members. It doesn’t matter what the brand is or what the size.

They own the bed and share it when they want. Because remember Rule NO. 9 on the “Official List of 10 Beloved Four-legged Hunting Maniac Rules”: “DON’T MOVE ME whilst I am asleep sideways in the middle of the bed. You have plenty of room right there on the edge.” Regardless of that fact, there will still be the task of finding yet again the perfect Dog Bed for the Four-legged Hunting Maniac who might not be totally perfect.

But she lets us go hunting with her and she points, flushes, and retrieves the object of her affection, usually a pheasant.

It would be nice, though, if she was as gentle about handling her dog bed as she is when she drops the bird in hand.



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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Solution to last weeks
Crossword puzzle.

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

SUDOKU

Solution to puzzle on page B9

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

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

- 1. Reason for a parental reprimand
- 5. Contragate figure
- 10. Parking ticket alternative
- 13. Truism
- 15. Snake River locale
- 16. Hall of Fame stat
- 17. Start of a clubhouse observation
- 20. Sanctify using oil
- 21. Word with Mexico or England
- 22. Cry from the tickled?
- 23. Upon
- 25. R.M.N. opponent
- 27. Actress Thurman
- 30. Part 2 of the observation
- 36. Snatches
- 38. Horse cart
- 39. Straight-laced finger-wagger
- 40. Composer Liszt
- 42. Vent opening?
- 43. Facilitates
- 44. One of Seventeen?
- 45. Canadian singer k.d.
- 47. Sasquatch cousin
- 48. Part 3 of the observation
- 51. American taxpayer's ID
- 52. Dot follower
- 53. "Serving ____" (2002 film)
- 55. Gherkin kin
- 58. Invite
- 61. Disgust
- 65. End of the observation
- 68. Writer's shortcut
- 69. Kentucky college, or its town
- 70. Accounting entry
- 71. Eight hours, to many workers
- 72. Plus
- 73. Great amounts

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							73		

Down

- 1. Complicated account
 - 2. Impulse conductor
 - 3. Storage space
 - 4. Bulgaria's capital
 - 5. Nothing
 - 6. Valhalla ruler
 - 7. Not leave leaves
 - 8. "Tommy" group
 - 9. Trendy
 - 10. It's in the Bible
 - 11. Nabisco nibble
 - 12. Female with a sting
 - 14. Like some candies or fresh breath
 - 18. Didn't get a seat
- 19. Butt holder
 - 24. Imperial
 - 26. Clinton's birthplace
 - 27. Out of shape
 - 28. Wetland
 - 29. Degrade
 - 31. Food wrap brand
 - 32. Howling hunters
 - 33. Joins together
 - 34. "Waiting for Lefty" playwright
 - 35. Shellac, for one
 - 37. Cuddle
 - 41. Nothing
 - 46. Grind one's teeth
- 49. Sidesteps
 - 50. Put through the wringer
 - 54. Weekend warrior's woes
 - 55. Turned blue, perhaps
 - 56. Smidgen
 - 57. "Peanuts" fussbudget
 - 59. Lancelot and Galahad
 - 60. Spot for a cap
 - 62. 1995 earthquake city
 - 63. Literary Lamb
 - 64. New Jersey cagers
 - 66. 64-Across arbiter
 - 67. Repeatedly tie the knot?



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BAD GUYS II

(2025) Animation, Action, Heist (PG)

REGRETTING YOU

(2025) Romantic Comdey, Drama, Romance (PG-13)

THE POLAR EXPRESS

(2004) Animation, Holiday, Family (G)

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What Souris Valley United Way Does for Our Community

When many people hear the name “United Way,” they recognize the brand but may not know exactly what the organization does. While every United Way across the country shares a common mission of improving lives and strengthening communities, each one is independently operated and responds to the specific needs of its own region. Souris Valley United Way (SVUW) focuses on the essential needs of individuals, families, and children in Minot and the seven surrounding counties it serves.

Meeting basic needs is often the first step. Food insecurity, unstable housing, and crisis situations affect more families in our area than many realize. SVUW funds programs that provide safe shelter, crisis intervention, emergency assistance, and access to food. In some cases, this support takes the form of helping a family remain in their home during a difficult month. In others, it means ensuring a survivor of domestic violence has a safe place to go that very night. These services offer stability at the moments people need it most.

Food access has become a particular priority in rural North Dakota, where small communities sometimes struggle to maintain active food pantries. To support those efforts, SVUW launched its Rural Pantry Grant Program, helping local pantries upgrade equipment, purchase food, and improve their ability to serve neighbors. The support is tailored to each town’s needs, keeping essential resources closer to home for families across the region.

In Minot, the Backpack Buddies program represents one of SVUW’s most visible and rapidly growing responses to food insecurity. This school year, the program is feeding 560 students in elementary

schools, stocking pantry shelves for about 50 middle school students, and is now serving children on Minot Air Force Base. Teachers routinely share how students receiving these weekend food bags return to school more focused, more settled, and more prepared to learn.

But meeting basic needs is only one part of SVUW’s work. Education is another pillar, because a strong start in school often shapes a child’s future. SVUW invests in early literacy, tutoring, mentorship, and programs that help children build confidence and connection.

Families also need support building long-term financial stability. Many in our community live close to the edge, where a single emergency expense can upend their budget. SVUW supports programs that teach essential skills, such as budgeting or job readiness, and organizations that provide adult literacy services. Some of the most inspiring stories come from adults learning to read for the first time, opening doors to employment and independence.

Behind the scenes, one of SVUW’s most important roles is serving as the connector. Life’s challenges rarely exist in isolation. A family experiencing hunger may also need help with rent. Someone escaping

violence may need counseling and legal resources. A veteran may need access to mental health support and help finding employment. Instead of leaving people to navigate the network of services on their own, SVUW helps guide and connect them to the right programs. This coordination ensures that community resources work together efficiently to meet all the needs of neighbors who need them.

SVUW’s impact is powered entirely by local giving. Every dollar donated to Souris Valley United Way remains within the seven counties it serves. Those dollars help fund more than 15 local nonprofit programs and initiatives. The results are tangible: children fed through Backpack Buddies, families kept in their homes, rural food pantries strengthened, students supported in classrooms, survivors connected with safe shelter, and adults empowered with new skills.

At its core, Souris Valley United Way exists to ensure no one faces hardship alone. Through collaboration, compassion, and community support, SVUW works to create a place where every child is fed, every family can thrive, and every neighbor has the resources they need to build a better tomorrow.



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Magic City Wrestling Academy: Pre-Season Training Prepares Wrestlers for a Promising Season

FATIMZAHRA ELBOUAB, AGE 16

Over the course of two months, from September to October, wrestlers from surrounding communities have attended a two-hour Sunday wrestling camp from 2-4 p.m. This extra training gave them a head start in the upcoming wrestling season. During that period, Coach Justin Racine, the head coach of the Minot United Boys Wrestling team, brought in clinicians from around the region to teach the next generation of high school wrestlers.

On September 28, Coach James Kisgen, the Head Men's Wrestling Coach of McKendree University, led a four-hour session providing wrestlers with a valuable experience. Coach Kisgen has coached 11 national champions and was a four-time All-American wrestler during college.

On October 5, the University of Jamestown Head Coach Gresh Jones, a two-time NAIA All-American, and Coach Nakoda Currie were

the clinicians for the day. With this session focused on cradling techniques, many wrestlers said that they would apply the moves in future matches.

On October 12, U-Mary Men's Wrestling Head Coach Adam Aho visited the Minot High wrestling room to share effective short offense tips and an important message on developing the proper mindset for wrestling practice.

On October 19, U-Mary Coach Reese Bernhardt, a four-time NCAA All-American, came in with former Minot High wrestler Gabe Mortensen to teach hand-fighting and shot set-up tips. Then, on October 26, Coach Steven Monk, who was a Division I All-American, led a session teaching wrestlers short offense, ankle breakdowns, and cradles. With such a valuable pre-season camp, Minot's wrestlers are poised for a promising wrestling season.



U-Mary Head Coach Adam Aho and Magic City Wrestlers

MAGIC CITY WRESTLING ACADEMY PHOTO



McKendree University Men's Head Coach James Kisgen coaching wrestlers

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SENTINEL REPORT



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Get Squared Away


Minot United Hockey Shines Despite Early Struggles

BRYLEIGH MCBRIDE, STUDENT JOURNALIST


Minot United Hockey has experienced a season of highs and lows so far, showing resilience and strong individual performances across both the junior varsity and varsity teams. The season opened with a challenging night on November 21st, where the JV squad fell 3-1, and the varsity team lost 4-0. Despite the tough results, goaltenders Luke Richeson and Canton Christians impressed with strong play between the pipes, keeping both teams competitive and highlighting their skill and composure under pressure. The team bounced back

later in the season, including a standout performance on November 29th when Minot United secured a decisive 6-1 victory over Notre Dame. This win demonstrated the team's offensive capabilities and growing cohesion on the ice. Throughout the season, both squads have faced a mix of fierce competition and challenging matchups. While early setbacks tested the team's resolve, Minot United players have continued to build chemistry, sharpen skills, and show flashes of the talent that will carry them through the remainder of the season.

The Minot United schedule remains busy, with upcoming games against rival Fargo North and Fargo South promising intense matchups. Fans can expect competitive, fast-paced hockey as both the JV and varsity teams look to improve their records and make a statement in the second half of the season. With strong goaltending, emerging stars, and a growing confidence, Minot United Hockey is poised to continue improving, representing Minot with determination and grit on every shift.




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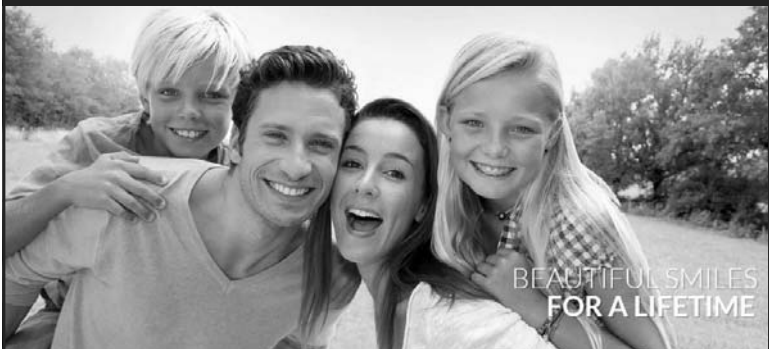


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Send us your photos of snowmen, snow angels, Northern Lights, sundogs, blizzards, snowmobiling, winter activities or anything that shows the way you choose to spend this season! Photos can be with or without people, but we'd love to see your smiling faces!

The Northern Sentry staff will choose a few of the submitted photos to appear in our printed newspaper each week! Not only that, but each photo submitted secures you an entry to win the grand prize:



Only ONE photo, per person, per day will be accepted! Winner will be chosen at random from the pool of entries and announced at the beginning of March 2026 on the Northern Sentry Facebook page.

We can't wait to see all your photos! Good Luck!

HOW TO ENTER

Submit your photo and a description of who/what/when/where on the Northern Sentry website



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 - One entry per person/per day
 - Contest is open to Minot AFB military personnel and their dependents, and the prize recipients are intended to be MAFB-affiliated personnel. Must be 18 years of age or older to win and be able to prove MAFB affiliation.
 - Prize must be used in its entirety in one day. The winter park entry cannot be spread over several days.
 - All photo entries will be counted as submissions (if they follow the guidelines) even if they are not chosen to run in the Northern Sentry newspaper print edition or Facebook.
 - Photos must be taken in North Dakota and must be taken in the 2025/2026 winter season
 - Contest will run from December 5, 2025 thru February 28, 2026
 - By submitting a photo, a print release is automatically given to the Northern Sentry to use in print, social media or online promotions



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Local Phone Book: Retro but Current

It is easy to label the phone book as an unimportant resource or archaic publication; however, if you give it a chance – you’ll find hidden gems! For instance, did you know our Ward County population is 68,427? It is! This information can be found on page B-4. There are three sections that I find incredibly valuable for our military students and families, especially newcomers!



Firstly, there is information on our local schools. There’s a section titled “City Information” with subheadings and contact information for the following: MAFB District #160 School Board Members, Minot Public School District #1 School Board Members, Administration, and MPS Principals and Schools (B-2). This is great! Also, there’s a section listing “Area Public Schools” with local school districts and contact information (B-3). From Anamoose/Drake to Westhope Public School, there are a total of 30 districts, including MAFB! As your School Liaison Program Manager, I am required

to input local school information into a data collection website called Record Management System or RMS. With the phone book’s help, I can efficiently and accurately update my records this month, calling each school for our military-connected student count. My data can then be used to support local, state, and national military-connected student initiatives.


Secondly, there are two sections titled “Minot Air Base Services” and “Minot Air Base Listings” showcasing Minot Air Force Base organizations and contact information (A-Youth 1, A – Minot 2). There’s also a MAFB map (B-8). These listings and map will undoubtedly aid our military population, who could be looking for the Airman’s Attic/Loan Closet 701-723-1818, Library 701-723-3344, or Education Center 701-723-2772. (Please note: The “Bus (School)” phone number listed in “Minot Air Base Services” does not take you to our on-base winter busing Manager, MPS, or Glenburn busing, but rather the MAFB

Vehicle Management Office. In addition, there is no “Prairie Pre-School” and when you attempt to call the number listed, the line disconnects. So, the phone book isn’t 100% accurate. In these instances, I can help you!

Thirdly, there is a section titled “Emergency Planning Guide” with suggested tips for local home safety and disaster prevention, as well as, contact information for emergency management (B-6 and B-7). Did you know the City of Minot will open a shelter at Edison School during Tornado Warnings? Another tip: “Store important documents, such as birth certificates, marriage licenses and insurance papers in a fire-proof box or in the refrigerator” (B-7). Although this is interesting and may be feasible for you, I read this to my husband and he responded, “We’re not putting our documents in the refrigerator.” Instead, this two-page guide can



ALYSSA KELLY
SCHOOL LIAISON PROGRAM MANAGER, GS-12
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE SCHOOL LIAISON PROGRAM




be ripped out of your phone book and displayed on your refrigerator! The tips can both help prevent emergencies and guide you in case of sudden emergencies. Our military-connected students and families, especially, should have this local information available.

I have ripped out the above pages from my local phone book, laminated them, and placed them in my office under my laptop and at home, the Emergency Planning Guide is on my fridge. Next year, I will replace these documents with

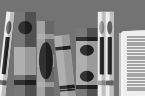
our local phone book’s newest edition and smile, because it’s a perfect way to ring in the New Year!

SRT Communications: Classified Directory (Phone Book Publication): 2025. <https://www.cdi.media/srt>

The information in this article is provided as a resource and does not constitute endorsement by Minot AFB, the United States Air Force, or the Department of War of the external website, or the information, products, or services contained therein.



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YOUTH IN ACTION

Minot High School’s “Change of Pace” Hits a High Note

BRYLEIGH MCBRIDE, JUNIOR JOURNALIST, NORTHERN SENTRY

Minot High School’s “Change of Pace” has become much more than a choir group; it is a space where challenging music meets deep personal growth, fostering a sense of community that resonates with students and audiences alike. This year, the choir group has captivated the school and the wider community with their harmonies and energy, all under the expert guidance of director Lindsay Kerzmann. The group is known for tackling music that is far from simple, demanding dedication and skill from its members.

“This is my first year in the group at Minot High called Change of Pace,” says acapella member Ackenna Hoffman. “Not only has this improved my skills as a musician, but also as a person. Change of Pace offers a more challenging type of music.” Hoffman initially underestimated the commitment required: “Going into this group, I remembered thinking it would be a piece of cake, but halfway through the year, I now know I was wrong.” The rigorous rehearsals and complex arrangements push students to excel, a process Hoffman describes as both “frustrating yet very rewarding.”

The driving force behind this growth is their director. “Our director pushes us and challenges us because she knows we can do it,” sophomore Ackenna notes. For senior Xylia Michels, “Change of Pace has been a truly amazing experience.” Her connection to the group started early. “I remember when they came and sang for my 8th Grade Choir, and I knew then that I really wanted to be in the group.” When she finally got in right before her junior year, the excitement was immense, but the reality was even better. “The past couple of years being in it have been even more meaningful than I expected,” Michels said. Beyond the sheet music and vocal exercises, the students cherish the deep connections they forge. “Through countless rehearsals, gigs, performances, and little moments in between, I’ve built some of my closest friendships,” Xylia shared. This bond is a core part of the “Change of Pace” experience. “There’s something special about creating music with people who care just as much as you do; those shared experiences have brought us together in a way that feels like family.”

From sectionals and pre-concert support to celebrating small victories, these bonds are something Xylia knows she will “carry with me long after high school.” Michels also noted a significant personal growth in her relationship with her director. “I’ve also grown so much closer to my choir director, Mrs. Kerzmann. She has pushed me, supported me, and believed in me in ways that have made me more confident both as a singer and as a person,” the senior explained. “Whether she’s helping me refine a difficult section or encouraging me to step out of my comfort zone, she always finds a way to bring out the best in me. Her guidance has shaped my high school choir experience into something I’ll always be grateful for.”

The group regularly takes their talents outside the classroom, performing for the community and sharing their passion and dedication across Minot. “I have met many new people in this time being, and have learned how to

create relationships with music,” Hoffman explained.

As the year progresses, the students of “Change of Pace” look forward to further growth and continued performances, demonstrating the group’s significant impact on their lives. “I can’t wait to continue doing music, and see what the future has for us all,” Hoffman reflected. “Change of Pace” hasn’t just made these

students better musicians. It has given them a supportive community and reminded them “how powerful it is to share something you’re passionate about with people who feel the same.” Through discipline, creativity, and a shared love for vocal music, exemplifying the spirit of Minot High School’s thriving arts program, leaving audiences eager for every next performance.



Boys of Change of Pace

ARBAUT PHOTOGRAPHY



Girls of Change of Pace

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THIS WEEK IN USAF HISTORY

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The blown-out bridge at Funchilin Pass. (USAF Photo)

After several days of unrelenting conditions and Chinese attacks, the U.S. Army’s Tenth Corps and 1st Marine Division found themselves stuck on the wrong side of a bridge spanning the 1,500 foot gorge in the Funchilin Pass, Korea. 10,000 troops and 1,000 vehicles spent 38 hours maneuvering down the 11-mile mountain path to safety, only to find that the Chinese had blown out the bridge. Crossing the 16-foot gap with vehicles, supplies, and exhausted soldiers seemed an impossible feat. However, Maj. Gen. Oliver Smith, commander of the 1st Marine Division, would not allow this setback to stop them. He requested an air drop of Treadway Bridge and plywood planks from Combat Cargo Command. On Dec. 7, 1950, eight C-119s from the 314th Troop Carrier Group deployed to the Pass. The planes carried one 2,900 pound bridge section each and dropped them in an unmarked zone. On the morning of Dec. 8, the stranded soldiers were able to rebuild the bridge and leave the Funchilin pass, escaping harm’s way. The Air Forces involved in the mission also evacuated thousands of troops and tons of cargo, as well as dropping necessary supplies for the troops fighting.

Information courtesy of: The Air Force by The Air Force Historical Foundation / littlerock.af.mil / defense.gov

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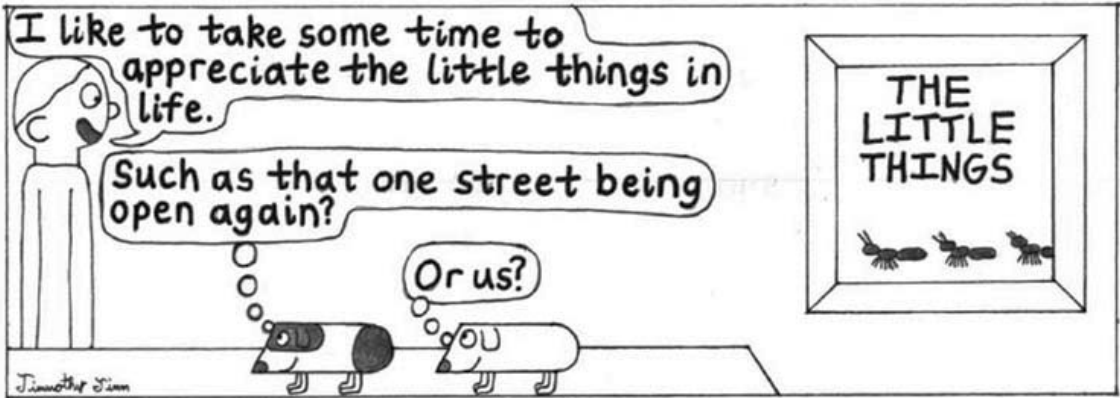
MINOT AFB ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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



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Culver’s Restaurant 3000 S Broadway, Minot Phone: 701.852.4800 www.culvers.com	Do Eat Asian Cuisine <i>All You Can Eat</i> 2400 10th Street Southwest, #522, Minot Phone: 701.837.9999 www.doeatasiancuisine.com	Ironhorse Kitchen + Bar 21 E Central Avenue, Minot Phone: 701.852.8183 FB: Ironhorse Kitchen + Bar Minot
Meg-A-Latte 2045 N Broadway Suite #100, Minot Phone: 701-838-8479 www.meg-a-latte.com	Mi Mexico 3816 South Broadway, Minot Phone: 701.858.0777 www.mimexicominotnd.com	N.D. Asia 3400 16th St SW, Minot Phone: 701.852.1240 www.ND-Asia.com
Noodles & Company 304 4th Ave NW Minot 701.491.9103 www.noodles.com	The Blue Rider 118 1st Avenue SE, Minot Phone: 701.852.9050 www.theblueriderbar.com	
The Starving Rooster 30 1st St. NE, Minot Phone: 701.838.3030 www.starvingrooster.com		

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Play It Forward with MCDC

THE MAGIC CITY DISCOVERY CENTER

Minot, N.D. –The Magic City Discovery Center is excited to announce a special December initiative that spreads joy, supports families, and shares the power of play throughout our community. During the month of December, for every membership purchased, the Discovery Center will donate one Play Pass admission ticket to the Domestic Violence Crisis Center (DVCC).

This promotion, called “Play It Forward,” helps ensure that families served by the DVCC have the chance to enjoy hands-on play, exploration, and creativity at the Discovery Center, offering meaningful, fun experiences during what can be a difficult time.

“Play is so important,” said Abigail Arnold, Marketing Coordinator at the Magic City Discovery Center. “It brings joy, comfort, and a chance

to just be a kid. With Play It Forward, every membership bought in December helps us share that joy with families at the Domestic Violence Crisis Center. It’s a simple way for our community to make a big impact, and we’re so grateful to everyone who joins in.”

Memberships to the Magic City Discovery Center include unlimited access to over 100 exhibits and hands-on learning experiences. With several membership options available, it’s the perfect holiday gift, one that not only lasts all year but also helps bring play to families who need it.

At the end of the month, all donated Play Passes will be delivered to the Domestic Violence Crisis Center, giving children and families free admission throughout the year.



MAGIC CITY
**DISCOVERY
CENTER**

**LOPEZ
BOXING GYM**

**4715 NORTH BROADWAY, MINOT
701-500-7066**

Goal: \$625,000

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90%

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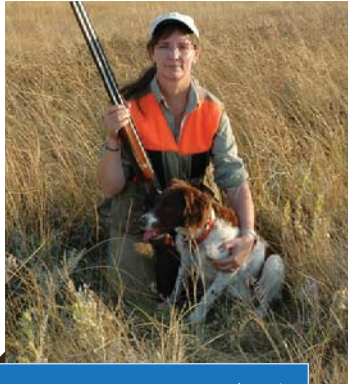
20%

10%

LIVE UNITED

Souris Valley United Way

**OUTDOOR
REPORT**



by Patricia Stockdill

FISHING:

Lake Sakakawea elevation, Dec. 1: 1,830.36 feet above mean sea level (MSL); 14,000 cubic feet per second (CFS) Garrison Dam average daily releases. Devils Lake elevation: 1,448.77 feet above mean sea level (MSL). Stump Lake elevation: 1,448.76 MSL.

- N.D. Game & Fish Dept. game wardens: No reports with unsafe ice conditions throughout the region.
- Devils Lake, Woodland Resort, Devils Lake: No activity recommended with open water on Devils Lake’s main lake and back bays not iced over enough.
- Lake Darling, Karma C-Store, Ruthville: No new reports with unsafe ice conditions yet.
- Lake Metigoshe, Four Seasons, Bottineau: Ice conditions are extremely dangerous yet and inconsistent with open water along the bridges on Lake Metigoshe.
- Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Cenex Bait & Tackle, Garrison: East end of lake Sakakawea has open water with inconsistent freezing of ice in back bays. Anglers need to wait until ice conditions improve for walk-on access.
- Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Hwy. 83 Lawn & Leisure, Garrison: Anglers need to stay off ice on the back bays of Lake Audubon, Lake Sakakawea, as well as small area lakes yet.
- Lake Sakakawea, New Town: No activity with open water around the midsection of lake Sakakawea early in the week. Any ice on back bays is too dangerous for access and anglers need to stay off the lake as well as small area lakes.

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.

- 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 on the ice at night.
- Hunters need to be aware of dog safety in cold, wet conditions when pheasant hunting and avoid hypothermia. Keep dogs hydrated on short hunts only and watch so they don’t cut or injure footpads. Also be mindful that hunting in cold weather also pushes wildlife out of their safe area for shelter in cold and snowy conditions.
- Keep hunting dogs away from ice on wetlands and lake shorelines with thin ice conditions possible.
- Dec. 5, 6, 12, & 13: Fort Stevenson State Park Dicken Village Festival Ornament Geocache with coordinates live on park’s Facebook page at 8 a.m. Free with park daily entrance fee or annual pass.
- Dec. 5, 6, 12, & 13: Fort Stevenson State Park “Make It & Take It” gingerbread house for all ages from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free with park daily entrance fee or annual pass.
- Dec. 6: Christmas at the Zoo, Roosevelt Park Zoo beginning with 9 a.m. pancake breakfast with crafts, Santa photos, and stroll through the zoo.
- Dec. 7: Resident and nonresident High and Low Plains duck, coot, & merganser seasons close.
- Dec. 7: Resident and nonresident white-fronted goose season closes.
- Dec. 10: Registration opens for WOW, Wild Outdoor Women winter outdoor program Feb. 6 – 8, 2026, Lake Metigoshe State Park, Bottineau. Go to, (<https://bit.ly/WinterWOW2026>), for more information.
- Dec. 13: Wreaths Across America Ceremony Day, Rosehill Memorial Park, 700 11th Ave SE, 11: 30 a.m.
- Dec. 13: Resident and nonresident High Plains duck, coot, & merganser seasons open. Go to the N.D. Game & Fish Dept. website, (gf.nd.gov) for regulations and open hunting unit description.
- Dec. 13: Ducks Unlimited Riverdale Raffle “Knight”, Knights Bar & Grill, Riverdale, 5 p.m.
- Dec. 14: Deer muzzleloader season closes.

- Lake Sakakawea/Missouri River, Scott’s Bait & Tackle, Pick City: Weather permitting, anglers continue finding walleye success off the wing walls in the Missouri River tailrace.
 - Lake Sakakawea/northwest N.D. lakes, Scenic Sports, Williston: A few anglers walking onto Trenton Lake and finding occasional walleye and pike. Lake levels are low, however. Anglers should give the back bays of Lake Sakakawea and small area lakes more time for better ice.
 - North-central/central N.D. lakes, Towner Hdwe. Hank, Towner: No activity with anglers waiting for better ice conditions on area lakes.
- HUNTING:**
- Pheasants: Birds are bunched in heavy cover.
 - Waterfowl: Some geese remain on the open water of the Missouri River tailrace and could stay until they can’t access too feed.
- 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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What's Going On Minot AFB

FRIDAY 05

- Five Nights At Freddy's Escape Room Game Ends, Minot AFB Library
- FTEC, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- TAP DOL Employment Track Workshop, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- Friday Flicks, 1630-2200, Rockers Bar & Grill

SATURDAY 06

- Frostival, 1400-1700, The Turf
- Tree Lighting Ceremony, 1730, Turf Parking Lot

SUNDAY 07

MONDAY 08

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Junior Enlisted Foundation Course 300, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- TAP Overview, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- FCC New Provider Orientation Class, 0830-1330, Family Child Care
- Reintegration Briefing, 1000-1100, M&FRC
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Parent Advisory Board & Quality Improvement Team, 1300-1600, Youth Center
- Craft Club, 1800-1900, Base Library

SPECIALS

- Rockers Bar & Grill Featured Item
Philly Cheesesteak

The B-Fifty Brew Featured Item
Biscuits & Gravy, Eggs, & 1 Choice of Bacon, Sausage Links, or Turkey Patty
- Bomber Bistro Featured Item
Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, & Gravy

TUESDAY 09

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Junior Enlisted Foundation Course 300, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center TAP VA Services and Benefits • Briefing, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- FCC New Provider Orientation Class, 0830-1330, Family Child Care
- Tuition Assistance (TA) Brief, 1000, Education Center
- Game Day, 1000-1930, Base Library
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- December Vehicle Maintenance Class, 1700-1930, Auto Hobby Shop

WEDNESDAY 10

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Base Right Start, 0730-1230, Jimmy Doolittle Center, hosted by M&FRC
- Junior Enlisted Foundation Course 300, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- TAP DOL Overview, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- FCC New Provider Orientation Class, 0830-1330, Family Child Care
- SkillBridge Brief, 1000, Education Center – Room 211
- Pre-Deployment/Remote Readiness Training, 1000-1100, M&FRC
- Storytime, 1030, Base Library
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Financial Literacy Class, 1530-1630, Youth Center
- Dungeons & Dragons Game Night, 1800-2000, Youth Center

THURSDAY 11

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Junior Enlisted Foundation Course 300, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- TAP DOL Employment Track Workshop, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- FCC New Provider Orientation Class, 0830-1330, Family Child Care
- Reintegration Briefing, 1000-1100, M&FRC
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Tuition Assistance (TA) Brief, 1330, Education Center

FRIDAY 12

- Junior Enlisted Foundation Course 300, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- TAP DOL Employment Track Workshop, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- Frossen Krig – Jotnar Joust, 0800-1630, McAdoo Fitness Center
- FCC New Provider Orientation Class, 0830-1330, Family Child Care
- Airmen's Night Out, 1600-2200, Maysa Arena, hosted by Outdoor Recreation
- 4th Quarter Birthday Meal, 1630-1800, Dakota Inn Dining Facility
- Friday Flicks, 1630-2200, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Pre-Teen Holiday Hangout, 1800-Midnight, Youth Center

SATURDAY 13

- Frosty & Friends, 1300, Base Library

Scan for full event details



Frostival

Saturday, 6 Dec 2025
2pm - 5pm • The Turf

Pictures with Santa & The Mean One!
Holiday crafts, games, bouncy houses & the Tree Lighting!

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FROSTY & FRIENDS

13 December 2025
1:00PM • Minot AFB Library

Do you want to build a snowman?
Celebrate snowmen and all things
Frosty with cool crafts and
snowy STEM activities!

For details, call 723-8344
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12/12 - NORSEMAN GAME • DINNER AT BIG DOG SALOON

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10 December 2025 • 6PM - 8PM
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No experience necessary.

Books, figures, and dice are available,
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