

# northern sentry

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WHAT'S INSIDE THIS WEEK:



MINOT AFB HOSTS NUCLEAR SECURITY TACTICS REWRITE

A3



FROM MINOT AFB TO CHICAGO, TALENT TAKES THE STAGE

A6



MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD HIGHLIGHT

C3

## Air Force Leaders visit Minot AFB to advance Sentinel Modernization

5TH BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D.

U.S. Air Force Gen. Dale R. White, Department of War direct reporting portfolio manager for critical major weapon systems, visited Minot Air Force Base, March 19–20, 2026, to assess mission requirements and ongoing preparations supporting the Sentinel intercontinental ballistic missile system modernization efforts.

The visit focused on ensuring alignment between program development and operational execution as the Air Force prepares to transition from the Minuteman III system to the LGM-35A Sentinel.

“The Sentinel program is foundational to our nation’s security, which is why these engagements with our operational Airmen are so critical,” White said. “It’s my responsibility to ensure the capability we deliver is not only modern, but executable, sustainable and aligned to the realities of their mission. My ultimate accountability is to the warfighters operating this mission around the clock; they deserve a weapon system that honors their unwavering commitment to our nuclear deterrent.”

The Sentinel represents a comprehensive modernization of the land-based leg of the nation’s nuclear triad, replacing aging Minuteman III infrastructure with a modernized, flexible weapons

system. The program includes plans to fielding 400 missiles and modernizing 450 launch facilities and more than 600 supporting facilities across the United States, with initial capability expected in the early 2030s.

During the visit, White met with Airmen and leaders across the installation to better understand operational considerations, infrastructure requirements and the phased approach to transition. At Minot, Sentinel Site Activation Task Force Detachment 12 is leading efforts to prepare for the system’s arrival, including managing early planning, deactivation sequencing and construction integration.

“The transition to Sentinel is a once-in-a-generation effort that requires close coordination between our Airmen, industry partners, and program leadership,” said U.S. Air Force Col. James L. Schlabach, commander of the 91st Missile Wing. “Our team is focused on conducting precision operations for Minuteman III as long as it’s needed, while ensuring we are ready to execute the transition to Sentinel.”

The Air Force continues to advance the Sentinel program through ongoing missile development and testing, supply chain stabilization and refinement of a modular, repeatable construction approach designed to improve



U.S. Air Force Gen. Dale R. White (center right), Department of War direct reporting portfolio manager for critical major weapon systems, meets with 91st Missile Security Forces Squadron defenders at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, March 20, 2026. During the visit, White met with Airmen and leaders across the installation to better understand operational considerations, infrastructure requirements, and the phased approach to transition.

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

efficiency and cost predictability at scale.

“This is about delivering credible deterrence on a predictable cost and schedule,” White said. “We are applying lessons learned early, reducing risk where we can and ensuring the system we field is

ready for Airmen to operate on day one.”

The visit underscored the importance of deliberate planning, disciplined execution and sustained investment to ensure the ICBM force remains a cornerstone of the nation’s strategic deterrence.

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# April Squadron of the Month

## 5th Bomb Wing - Wing Staff Agencies

The 5th Bomb Wing Command Team congratulates the Wing Staff Agencies on being recognized as Squadron of the Month. This organization is a true team of teams providing direct support to the wing commander and Airmen across both wings on the installation. From financial stewardship and inspection oversight to treaty compliance, legal counsel, safety programs, and spiritual care, Wing Staff Agencies provide the coordination and specialized expertise that enable Team Minot to execute the strategic deterrence mission every day.

Across the enterprise, these teams deliver measurable impact. The Inspector General executed the wing inspection program, identifying 547 deficiencies through 30 inspection events that strengthened compliance across the \$5.175B B-52, ICBM, and UH-1 mission sets. The Safety Office earned three Air Force Global Strike Command-level awards while reducing occupational mishaps by 7.5

percent and aviation mishaps by 24 percent during FY25, all while earning zero discrepancies during the Nuclear Surety Inspection. The Treaty Office completed the final New START reporting cycle with



4,693 arms control notifications processed for Minot with zero discrepancies since the treaty entered into force in 2011, while the Advanced Programs Office earned the highest rating on a 170-item MAJCOM inspection and coordinated \$16.7M in projects supporting Minot's transition to

future nuclear capabilities.

Wing Staff Agencies also sustain the people and partnerships that power the mission. The Chapel Corps increased worship participation by 150 percent and launched the Northern Paradise Airmen Ministry Center to strengthen dorm resilience and connection among Airmen. The Legal Office continues to safeguard good order and discipline through commander advisement and military justice actions while supporting deploying members and families. The Protocol Office ensures distinguished visitors experience firsthand why "the Best Come North," including hosting seven visiting generals during a high-tempo "General's March." As the wing staff's only squadron, the 5th Comptroller Squadron provides the financial backbone for the installation, delivering resource management and financial services that enable global strike operations and sustain a \$957M annual economic impact to surrounding communities.



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# Minot AFB hosts Nuclear Security Operations Tactics, Techniques and Procedures rewrite

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS WESLEY DAVIES, 5TH BOMB WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS



Missile wing military members and civilians pose for photo during a joint Nuclear Security Operations Tactics, Techniques and Procedures rewrite at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Feb. 25, 2026. The rewrite was necessary to account for significant advancements and new implementations within the nuclear security operations field.

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

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. – Airmen from across the Air Force missile wings recently collaborated on a comprehensive rewrite of Nuclear Security Operations Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTPs) at Minot Air Force Base, reinforcing the foundation of one of the nation’s most critical missions. The update ensures missile security operators remain aligned with modernization efforts and evolving operational requirements across the Air Force.

The rewrite was conducted in conjunction with intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) operators, helicopter pilots, security forces personnel and subject matter experts from Malmstrom Air Force Base, F. E. Warren Air Force Base, Minot Air Force Base, and 20th Air Force. This cross-functional, cross-installation approach ensures the updated TTPs reflect operational realities in the field, integrating diverse expertise from defenders, operators and aviation partners who execute the nuclear security and deterrence mission daily.

“We have massive updates to the nuclear enterprise with Air Force Global Strike Command,” said U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Chad Lyon, chief of weapons and tactics for ICBM security forces operations at 20th Air Force. “It’s very important that we update these TTPs and continue to grow during the modernization efforts.”

The rewrite was necessary to account for significant advancements and new implementations within the nuclear security operations field. Among the most notable updates is the integration of new Payload Transports, the Joint Light Tactical Vehicles and the Armored Utility Vehicles. These platforms enhance mobility, protection and response capabilities for missile field operations. Additionally, ongoing modernization efforts in preparation for the LGM-35A Sentinel ICBM to replace the Minuteman III ICBM demand updated procedures that align with emerging infrastructure, technology and operational concepts.

The TTPs being rewritten serve as the baseline framework for Air Force Global Strike Command bases and their personnel. They establish



U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Brandon Trinidad, 91st Security Forces Group chief of weapons and tactics (left), U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Chad, 20th Air Force chief of weapons and tactics for ICBM security forces operations (middle) and U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Aaron Bedker, 91st Missile Security Operations Squadron NCOIC weapons and tactics pose for a photo during a Nuclear Security Operations Tactics, Techniques and Procedures rewrite at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Feb. 25, 2026. The rewrite establishes standardized procedures that ensure consistency, interoperability and mission assurance across the enterprise.

standardized procedures that ensure consistency, interoperability and mission assurance across the enterprise. While the updated TTPs provide this common foundation, each installation retains the flexibility to tailor them to its unique environment, manning levels, terrain and available equipment. This balance between standardization and adaptability ensures that every missile wing can execute the mission effectively while accounting for local operational variables.

“Nuclear Security Operations are drastically different from how they were even four years ago,” said Lyon. “As all of the new equipment and procedures come online, new weapon systems, vehicles and new technologies, we need to make sure that the tactical-level defenders know how to properly execute those tools and tactics.”

These rewrites occur on a biannual cycle, reinforcing a culture of continuous improvement and modernization. The TTP review process is routinely reassessed and refined with the additions of new capabilities and mission

requirements, ensuring nuclear security operations remain agile, relevant and resilient to better deter threats and safeguard one of the nation’s most critical strategic assets.

Through collaboration, modernization and disciplined execution, the updated Nuclear Security Operations TTPs demonstrate the Air Force’s enduring commitment to maintaining a safe, secure and effective nuclear deterrent.



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# If It Weren't For My Experience in North Dakota



**A VIEW FROM  
 OUR SIDE**  
 ROD WILSON



*"I have always said I would not have been President had it not been for my experience in North Dakota." Theodore Roosevelt*

I have been "pondering" on this column for quite some time. What's pondering? In my case it is thinking about something, but not quite concluding, so the thought goes to my back burner. I haven't forgot about the thought, I just wasn't 100% sure of what I hoped to accomplish.

To be honest, I still am not 100% sure of what I hope to accomplish with this article, but humor me and read on. I don't have a statement quite as strong as my hero, Teddy Roosevelt, because he became President and of course I am just a journalist that works for a weekly paper in North Dakota. Nevertheless, I often tell folks that being born and raised in North Dakota definitely defined me. Let's

start with being raised in the small, rural community of Maddock.

First, my Dad was big on community support. As a family we often heard about supporting local merchants. "If you want to spend your money in Devils Lake (a larger town about 40 miles away), then call the Devils Lake Fire Department when your house is burning. Maybe a bit extreme, but it painted a pretty good picture for us.

Next, I think about jumping on my bike and riding (or in winter walking) to anywhere I wanted to go in town. As kids we never had watches, but at 12 Noon, 6 PM and 10 PM a siren would sound that sent us home for lunch in the summer, home for supper at 6 PM and any kid under 16 had to be home by 10 PM. I think the city called it a curfew...my Mom was not a happy person if I was not in the yard, and in the house within 5 minutes of the siren sounding at 10 PM.

And finally, from the time we were about 12 years old, our parents would look for some meaningful form of work for us. It could be mowing lawns, delivering papers, working for a farmer or a combination of small jobs that you would do for the neighbors. One summer I painted a neighbor's fence. My painting skills were not near that of a professional of course, but the neighbor was patient and eventually I finished and re-finished that job. How proud I was to get \$10.00 for my labor.

But growing up in a small town was not necessarily the only factor that defined me. Long before I ever heard the words "North Dakota Nice" I knew that there was a laid back, give people the benefit



Young Theodore Roosevelt posing with his horse

T.W. INGERSOLL, VIA LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, WASHINGTON DC

of the doubt and help a neighbor when they need it attitude in North Dakota. This attitude was better defined in rural North Dakota where farming families would, without hesitation, lend a neighbor a helping hand. I can remember that I worked for a farmer driving grain truck. In the middle of the afternoon one day my boss told me to take the truck and help out the neighbor for the afternoon. We had 2 trucks, and the neighbor's only truck had broken down. The weather was about to change and the neighbor needed help with harvest. Needless to say, lesson well learned.

If you've stayed with me this long, thank you; and for those of you who are not from North Dakota and may be stationed at Minot Air Force Base, I hope that like Teddy Roosevelt when you leave North Dakota on your next PCS you speak positively about your time here. I

hope that you carry the definition of North Dakota Nice with you wherever you go. And when you talk about the weather you might have a couple of approaches; a smile because you survived double digit below zero wind chill, and an attitude that the cold weather of North Dakota is outweighed by the warm greetings that strangers receive when they move here.

So, my statement would probably be; "I have always said I hope that I made a positive difference to the folks I met who spent time in the great state of North Dakota."

**TODAY'S CHUCKLE**

A successful marriage is based on the ability to pretend you don't know what your spouse is thinking.

# A confusing experiment

researching the Baker family history, I couldn't find any information that would lead me to believe I have any Swedish background.

Two spots that do match are in what one calls "Germanic" and the other calls northwest or southwest Germany. The Germanic map could be anywhere in Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Luxembourg, Alsace-Lorraine, or even tipping into the far southeast reaches of England.

French and British heritage are also found on both maps, but the percentages are different. The first test said I'm 11 percent French. The second test says 2 percent French. The first test says 9 percent British, the second test says 3 percent British.

I'm quite sure I'm reading the maps correctly. But why would my DNA vary? I always assumed that DNA is exact. Apparently, it

isn't. Or, the tests offered aren't completely accurate.

I wanted to find out so I contacted both of these places to ask the question. Long story short, what they tell me is each company uses their own proprietary information and their own mathematical equations to come up with individual results.

A lot of people won't take a DNA test fearing what they might find; disease risk, family secrets uncovered, law enforcement completely an investigation with a DNA test.

Does something like this mean a DNA test could be argued in a court of law of not being 100 percent accurate? I'm not an expert on this by any means, but honestly, I thought they would more closely align with each other.

Since I received both results and have talked to some relatives about this, they all ask me the same

question. Which one do you think is more accurate?

My answer is the My Heritage DNA test because it zeroes in on western Europe and breaks it down much more and it includes Ukraine and Croatia. Ancestry deals with records coming mostly from the United States or Canada.

It was definitely an eye opener to see separate results. But I feel comfortable with the My Heritage test because in the two years I've worked on my family tree, nearly everything I've discovered seems to line up more closely with the My Heritage DNA test.

There are other companies that offer this test. If you are ever interested in something like this, I'm sure if you take any company's test, they'll get you in the ballpark. The question then becomes, how precise do you want it to be?

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# Annual Tenant Satisfaction Survey



SAMANTHA MENDOZA, GS-12, USAF  
PRIVATIZED HOUSING RESIDENT ADVOCATE  
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The FY26 Department of the Air Force Annual Tenant Satisfaction Survey is now open and will run through May 1. This survey gives Minot Air Force Base housing and dorm residents the opportunity to provide valuable feedback that directly impacts the future of military housing.

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The survey results help Department of the Air Force leadership and project owners identify areas for improvement, ensuring the long-term sustainability and quality of housing for service members and their families. All responses are completely confidential. CEL & Associates, the independent firm conducting the survey, will handle all responses, and no identifying information will be shared with the Air Force or Project Owner. This feedback is essential in shaping the future of base housing and dormitories.

For any housing concerns or questions, residents can contact the Resident Advocate at 701-818-7075 or on Facebook at Minot AFB Resident Advocate.

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### I didn't know you did THAT

When I first started treatment at Cornerstone Chiropractic, I had been dealing with chronic back pain for more than a decade.

Not just stiffness of getting out of bed in the morning or discomfort after sitting on the floor playing a board game. But the kind of pain that would put me out of commission for several days if I shoveled a bit of snow, vacuumed too much, or gave one too many underdogs on the swing.

I decided to give consistent chiropractic care a try because I had nothing to lose. Naturally, I expected adjustments. At my first appointment I was introduced to the complimentary therapies they offer: SoftWave and FX Cold Laser. I was open to trying them. But if I'm honest, I still had a pretty narrow view of what chiropractic care actually was.

As time has gone on, I find myself saying, "I didn't know a chiropractor did that."

Cornerstone describes their approach as neurologically based chiropractic care — focused not only on pain relief, but on helping the body shift between sympathetic mode (responding, focusing, competing) and parasympathetic mode (repair, restoration, growth, digestion).

In other words, they want the body to function well — not just hurt less.

That approach has surprised me in the best ways, and I've seen firsthand how it can change quality of life. Sure, I've gotten adjustments. But along the way, we've addressed issues that help my body function better for the long haul—not just acute discomfort.

At one appointment, I offhandedly mentioned how I'd

been plagued by night sweats since my youngest son was born (five years ago). Dr. Matt Hanson immediately started asking questions about my hormones — something I had considered before, but didn't really know who to ask about or how to get a clear answer beyond, "Well, you are getting older..."

Instead of brushing it off, the staff at Cornerstone took it seriously.

They walked me through a hormone "reset" using supplements they've personally vetted and trust. Afterward, I was shocked. Things that had felt out of balance for years felt normal again.

And maybe best of all, I started sleeping through the night. No more waking up drenched, changing pajamas and trying to fall back asleep.

More recently, I've been dealing with brain fog and heavy fatigue. A blood panel showed low levels of iron and vitamin D. It was clear I needed to start supplementing, but was unsure of where to start. Personally, I find the vitamin and supplement aisle overwhelming. How much do I take? What brand is trustworthy? What will be effective?

Again, Dr. Matt was able to quickly point me toward exactly what I needed.

No guessing. No deep dive into Google. No trying to piece together conflicting advice.

The same has been true with other recommendations along the way — omega-3s, a magnesium complex that helped with both pain relief and some of the issues I was being seen for most often, digestion support. In many cases, they even had the supplements



AMY ALLENDER

in the office, from brands they've already researched and trust.

What I appreciate most is that I'm not left trying to figure it out on my own.

I don't have to wonder whether I'm wasting money on something that won't actually help. I'm given clear direction, and I can move forward with confidence. And since I'm seen regularly, we have an actual relationship and plenty of opportunity to follow up and fine tune the approach.

It saves time, removes the guesswork, and more importantly, it helps me feel better faster.

When I first walked into Cornerstone, I thought I knew what chiropractic care would look like: Adjustments, maybe a few extra therapies, hopefully some relief.

What I didn't expect was this kind of comprehensive, whole-body support.

And now, I find myself walking out of appointments thinking the same thing:

I didn't know you could do that.

For more on life in North Dakota and my chiropractic journey, visit [amyallender.com](http://amyallender.com) or join me on social media @heyminot.

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# From Minot AFB to Chicago, Talent Takes the Stage

NATALY ZARRELLA, NORTHERN SENTRY

In a town often described as quiet and remote, a group of performers with ties to Minot Air Force Base are ready to turn up the volume, the lights, and the excitement. This April, Minot State University's stage

will come alive with Chicago, and among the cast are three members from the military community eager to entertain and inspire. 741st Missile Squadron 1st Lieutenant Eli Robinson will take

on the role of Fred Casely, while military spouses Jill Cangealose and Christian Steinborn will portray Go-To-Hell Kitty and Billy Flynn. Together, they represent a unique blend of service and artistry proof that even in the busiest of lifestyles, there is always room for creativity and fun.

Being stationed in Minot may not always come with the reputation of endless entertainment, but for these three, the local theater scene has opened the door to something special. Between demanding work schedules, responsibilities, and everyday life, they have carved out time to do what they love and invite the community to join them.

Jill's journey to the production began in an unexpected way. Last August, while supporting Eli at a karaoke competition, she was encouraged by a member of the Mouse River Players to consider auditioning for upcoming shows. When she learned that Chicago was on the horizon, she didn't hesitate. A longtime fan of the musical, she immediately set her sights on auditions. "It's been on my radar ever since," she shared, recalling her excitement at the opportunity to be part of a show she has loved for years.

The enthusiasm quickly spread. Through friends, neighbors, and a growing network of performers, several military-affiliated individuals came out to audition. In the end, Eli, Jill, and Christian were the only ones selected, a



Military spouses Jill Cangealose, Christian Steinborn, and 1st Lieutenant Eli Robinson prepare for rehearsal at Minot State University, just two weeks ahead of opening night for Chicago.

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moment they describe as both exciting and humbling.

Rehearsals began February 3rd, launching more than two months of preparation leading up to opening night. Despite busy schedules, the trio has committed themselves fully to the production. Eli, balancing active-duty responsibilities, attends rehearsals whenever possible and practices his lines and music independently as well as with the group outside of rehearsal. Eli, who studied performing arts at Clemson University, brings a strong background in vocal performance.

Their connection to the stage didn't start here. Christian shared that he and Eli previously appeared in Minot State's production of Oliver, an experience that introduced them to the local theater community and inspired them to return. That sense of community continues to grow, thanks in part to encouragement from fellow performers like Zeb Wallace, who helped connect many of the cast members.

But what truly makes this

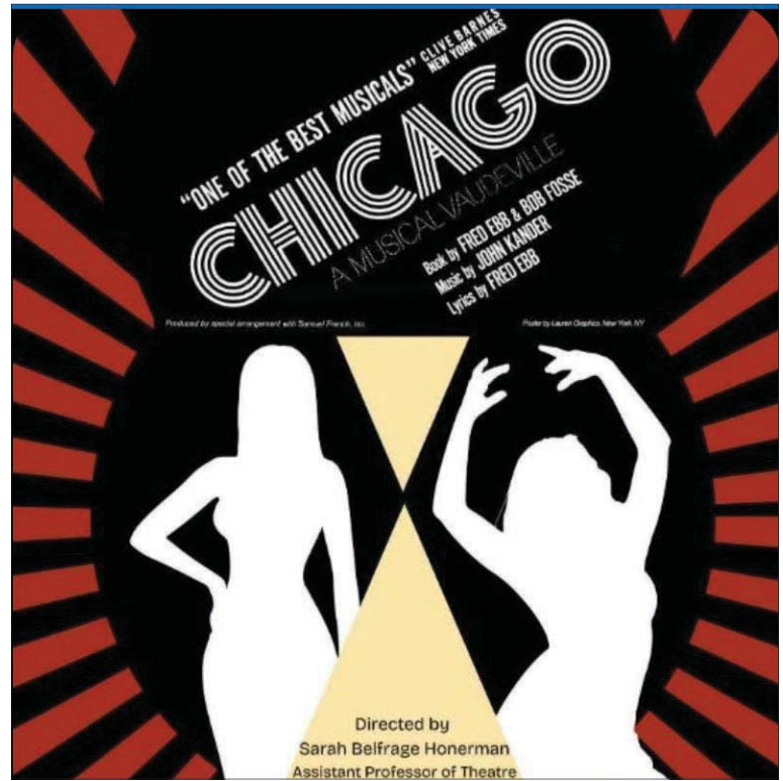
production stand out is the dedication behind the scenes. The cast doesn't just rehearse during scheduled times, they meet on off days, running choreography, practicing songs, and refining lines together. Over time, those extra hours have turned into friendships, laughter, and a strong sense of teamwork.

That chemistry is already evident in rehearsals, where laughter fills the room and energy remains high. Cast members describe the show as "fun, shocking, and unforgettable," promising audiences a mix of humor, bold performances, and memorable moments. With music by John Kander, lyrics by Fred Ebb, and choreography inspired by Bob Fosse, Chicago is known for its dazzling style and this local production aims to deliver just that.

Minot State University Theater has a strong track record, with past productions including James and the Giant Peach and Macbeth. This year's show continues that tradition, bringing high-quality

entertainment to the community. For audiences, the message from the cast is simple, come out and enjoy! "There's something for everyone, you'll laugh, you'll be surprised, and you'll leave talking about it," said Jill.

Performances will run April 9-12, with four chances to catch the show. Whether you're a longtime theater fan or just looking for a fun night out, this production offers an opportunity to support local talent and experience something truly entertaining. In Minot this spring, the stage is set and the Minot Air Force Base community is ready to shine. Tickets can be purchased at <https://app.arts-people.com/?show=294957> or scanning the QR code below.



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A LOOK BACK THIS WEEK IN USAF HISTORY

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CMSAF Paul W. Airey (USAF Photo)

Paul Airey was born in 1923 and raised in Quincy, Massachusetts. He joined the Army Air Forces on November 16, 1942 and spent his more than 27 years in service as an aerial gunner, radio operator, first sergeant, personnel sergeant major, and as the first Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force. During World War II, Airey was a crew member on a B-24 bomber that was downed by anti-aircraft fire over Vienna, Austria. The crew of that bomber were immediately captured and kept as prisoners of war until May 2, 1945. In 1967, he was promoted to the new position of CMSAF, making Airey the highest ranking enlisted Airman. He aided and advised the secretary of the Air Force and the chief of staff on matters pertaining to enlisted airmen, such as assignments and promotions. He was also a strong advocate for enlisted professional military education and pushed the Air Force to give more training to Senior Noncommissioned Officers. After his time as CMSAF, Airey returned to Tyndall AFB, Florida where he became a first sergeant. Paul Airey retired on August 1, 1970 and moved to Florida with his wife, Shirley. He became an active part of the Air Force Sergeants Association, Air University Foundation, Airmen Memorial Museum, and Airmen Memorial Foundation. He passed away on March 11, 2009.

Information [static.dma.mil](http://static.dma.mil) / [media.defense.gov](http://media.defense.gov)

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## Car care checklist for summer road trips • Part 2

It's time for a drive vacation. You mapped a route, booked hotels, and made a checklist of things to do before you go. AAA reminds you to also make car maintenance part of your summer road trip preparation. Use this car care checklist to ensure your vehicle is ready for summer travel.

### Check belts and hoses

Reinforced rubber drive belts power the engine water pump and accessories such as the alternator and air conditioning compressor so you should inspect and replace any that are cracked, glazed or frayed.

Note that modern multi-rib or drive belt materials do not show easily visible signs of wear. As a general rule, replace drive belts every 60,000 miles. Inspect and replace worn, brittle, bulging or excessively soft radiator hoses. Check for leaks around hose clamps and at the radiator and water pump.

### Replenish emergency kit supplies

AAA recommends keeping a well-stocked emergency kit in your vehicle. Include a flashlight and extra fresh batteries, first-aid supplies, drinking water, non-perishable snacks for people and pets, car battery booster cables, emergency flares or reflectors, a rain poncho, a basic tool kit, duct tape, gloves and shop rags or paper towels.

### Plan ahead for vehicle service

In the event you should need vehicle maintenance, know ahead of time where to find an auto repair shop and technician you can trust. Use AAA.com/Repair to access AAA's network of nearly 7,000 Approved Auto Repair facilities. Each shop meets AAA's service and customer satisfaction standards. AAA members receive auto repair discounts, an extended 24-month/24,000-mile parts and labor warranty, and assistance in resolving repair-related issues.

### Keep the AC running cool

Take a test drive with the air conditioner running. If you notice a decrease in cooling capacity, take the car to an auto repair shop for diagnosis. Also have the cabin filter inspected and replaced as needed.



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- Amur Leopards can jump 10 feet high vertically, 20 feet horizontally and are very good at climbing trees. They are solitary ambush hunters, stalking its prey alone and hiding its kill from predators, often in trees.

Fact File	
Life Span	10 - 15 years
Weight	55 - 105 pounds
Head & Body Length	5 feet
Tail Length	32 - 35 inches
Height to Shoulder	2 - 2.5 feet
Speed	37 mph
Wild Diet	Omnivore Carnivore Herbivore Roe Deer, Sika Deer, Wild Boar, Badgers, Hares, Musk Deer

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**Cat II Civilian**  
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Megan Barncord, 5 OG



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Capt Ryan Millspaugh, 5 OG



**1st Sgt. of the Year**  
SMSgt Marshall Ritenour, 5 MSG



**Team of the Year**  
ALCM Flight, 5 MXG



**FGO of the Year**  
Maj Dylan Bechen, 5 MSG



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Capt Joshua McCormick, WSA



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SMSgt Emmanuel Santillan, 5 MSG



**NCO of the Year**  
TSgt Montana McCormick, 5 MSG



**Amn of the Year**  
SrA Cade Sellers, 5 MSG

# 2026 National Children's Dental Health Month Outreach

SSGT NICOLE PHILLIPS, CERTIFIED REGISTERED DENTAL HYGIENIST  
5TH OPERATIONAL MEDICAL READINESS SQUADRON

Smiles were wide at the Minot AFB Child Development Center last week, and not just on the face of Mr. Gator, the popular alligator teaching tool. Ten members of the 5th Medical Group's Dental Clinic visited the center, along with North Plains and Dakota Elementary Schools, to celebrate National Children's Dental Health Month. The team taught approximately 260 children about the importance of oral hygiene using fun, hands-on activities.

The children loved brushing cartoon "germs" off Mr. Gator's teeth, which were made from the bottom halves of water bottles, and learning how to properly floss using crumpled green tissue paper as "food." These clever activities helped the kids practice their dexterity while learning the crucial "C-shaped" flossing technique. After one little girl mastered the skill, she proudly declared, "I'm going to



brush my teeth all the time!" It's that kind of enthusiasm that shows the dental team their fun approach is making all the difference.

According to the American Academy of Pediatric Dentists, creating positive dental experiences at a young age is crucial for a lifetime of good oral health. The 5th

Medical Group's visit is a perfect example of how to make learning about dental hygiene fun and impactful. As National Children's Dental Health month comes to a close, let's continue to make sure our youngest community members have a reason to share their healthy smiles.



Come learn about our organization and our affiliated organizations by stopping by before one of our meetings!

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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!

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**Shriners - 2nd Wednesday at 6:00PM**  
**Scottish Rite - 1st Wednesday at 6:00PM**  
**Eastern Star - 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7:00PM**  
**Prince Hall - 2nd Saturday at 9:00AM**



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# Minot Area Chamber EDC Honors Community Leaders with 2026 Impact Awards

THE MINOT AREA CHAMBER EDC

The Minot Area Chamber EDC (MACEDC) recognized four outstanding contributors to the community during its 2026 Annual Meeting on Monday evening, presenting the fourth annual Impact Awards for Military Support, Small Business, Leadership, and Community Impact. The awards highlight individuals, businesses, and organizations making a meaningful difference across the Minot area.

The Impact Award for Outstanding Military Support was presented to QDOBA and Jersey Mike's for their extraordinary support of Minot Air Force Base Airmen when they donated 100 percent of their earnings for a single day in December to support Operation Homebound.

"Minot has always stepped up to support our military, and this was an incredible example of that commitment in action," said MACEDC President | CEO Brekka Kramer. "By donating an entire day's proceeds, QDOBA and Jersey Mike's helped raise more than \$31,000 to bring Airmen home for the holidays – an impact that meant so much to the members of Team

Minot."

The Impact Award for Outstanding Small Business was awarded to Val's Cyclery, a longtime downtown staple that has served the Minot community for more than 60 years.

"For three generations, Val's Cyclery has helped people explore, stay active, and connect with one another," said 2026 MACEDC Board Chair Jarid Lundeen. "They do more than sell bicycles – they bring people together by hosting weekly rides when North Dakota weather allows it and make lifelong connections. Minot wouldn't be the same without this business."

The Impact Award for Outstanding Leadership was presented to Jessica Ackerman of Local Motives for her vision and leadership in bringing Citizens Alley to life in downtown Minot.

"This project is a powerful example of what can happen when vision meets persistence and collaboration," said Kramer. "Citizens Alley has quickly become a vibrant community space that brings people together year-round, and Jessica's leadership made that vision a reality."

The Impact Award for Outstanding Community Impact was awarded to the Union Silos Public Art Project, a transformational effort that has created a landmark in the heart of Minot.

"This project quite literally changed the skyline of our community," said Lundeen. "The Union Silos mural is something thousands of people see every day. It's something we can all feel proud of, and a reminder of what's possible when a community comes together around a shared vision."

MACEDC leaders emphasized that the awards are a reminder of what makes Minot special.

"Minot is home to so many impactful people who work hard and dream big," Lundeen said. "With these four awards, we shine a spotlight on these people and the businesses and organizations they dedicate themselves to, day in and day out."

MACEDC congratulates each of the 2026 Impact Award recipients and thanks the many community members who submitted nominations to recognize the individuals and organizations making a difference.



The Impact Award for Outstanding Military Support was presented to QDOBA and Jersey Mike's. Left to right: Jarid Lundeen, MACEDC Board Chair; Brekka Kramer, MACEDC President | CEO; Mike Kelly, Director of Operations, Jersey Mike's; Chad Thompson, Owner, Minot QDOBA and Jersey Mike's; Kristi Rosselli-Sullivan, Director of Operations, QDOBA; Maj. Gen. Stacy Jo Huser, Commander, 20th Air Force; Col. Jesse W. Lamarand, Commander, 5th Bomb Wing; Col. Jimmy L. Schlabach, Commander, 91st Missile Wing.



The Impact Award for Outstanding Community Impact was presented to Union Silos Public Art Project. Left to right: Brekka Kramer, MACEDC President | CEO; Derek Hackett, Union Silos Public Art Project; Stephanie Schoenrock, Executive Director, Visit Minot; Chelsea Gleich, Union Silos Public Art Project; Tim Baumann, Union Silos Public Art Project; Cole Krueger, Union Silos Public Art Project; Jarid Lundeen, MACEDC Board Chair.



The Impact Award for Outstanding Small Business was presented to Val's Cyclery. Left to right: Brekka Kramer, MACEDC President | CEO; Rory Schell, Owner, Val's Cyclery; Jarid Lundeen, MACEDC Board Chair.



The Impact Award for Outstanding Leadership was presented to Jessica Ackerman of Local Motives. Left to right: Brekka Kramer, MACEDC President | CEO; Jessica Ackerman, Local Motives; Jarid Lundeen, MACEDC Board Chair.

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Jason Schnaible, Stone Crafters

## NOTES ON BEING SAFE

# SPRING MOTORCYCLE PRE RIDE CHECK

For those of us that live in an area where we have to winterize our bikes and put them up for several months, this article is about getting our bikes dusted off and "ready to ride" for the upcoming riding season.

Before you set out to ride your bike, you should do a quick visual pre-ride motorcycle inspection of the chassis. Look for cracks, bent or missing spokes, loose nuts and bolts, missing nuts, bolts, clips, or pins, and fluid leaks in hoses, seals, or gaskets. Do a quick inspection of the throttle and levers. Ensure that all cables are secured and in good condition. If your motorcycle is chain driven, make sure it is lubricated and not rusted. If your motorcycle is belt driven, make sure there are no cuts or tears in the belt. Refer to your owner's manual to make sure you are not coming due on any scheduled maintenance for mileage or time. Examples of maintenance could be adjusting brakes, clutch or changing fluids.

Always, check the tire pressure before going out on the road. Ensure that the valve stems are seated correctly and are tight. Check to ensure the tire pressure matches the recommended manufacturer air pressure for your specific tire. Usually, you can find this information in your motorcycle user manual or the tire manufacturer's website. Check the tread depth; look for foreign objects, or uneven wear.

Check the fluid levels. Always check the oil and make sure you have a full tank of gasoline. One tip I can pass on is to also go by your miles, rather than the float on the gas tank, because often it can be off by as much as 2 gallons. I make sure I keep track of my miles, that way I know when it is time to fill up. If you have a locking tank, take your key with you in case you run out of gas. Don't assume that all tank keys are made the same because they aren't, take this from the voice of experience.

Check the battery to make sure the terminals are clean and tight fitting. A battery that has discoloration or bulging is a sign of a bad battery needing replacing.

Test your horn, turn signals, headlights, instrument lights, and brake lights to ensure proper operating order. Replace any burnt out bulbs before riding.

Check to make sure your safety features of your motorcycle are

working properly. Make sure your engine kill switch works when used. If your motorcycle won't let you put it in gear with the kick stand down, make sure the motor shuts off when you do. If your motorcycle is equipped with a neutral indicator, check to verify if it indicates when you are in neutral.

Check the mirrors to ensure they are securely bolted and crack free. Adjust the mirrors to the proper position before riding and make sure they are clean and streak free. It isn't easy to adjust your mirrors while riding, nor is it safe.

Do a visual inspection of your exhaust system. Making sure connections are tight and no baffling is loose or missing. You can then start the motorcycle to make sure nothing sounds abnormal. Examples would be a ticking engine, loud exhaust, or

something vibrating that could come loose.

Lastly, when you are on your bike and "ready to ride" and you take up the kickstand, check to make sure that the spring in the kickstand has enough tension to hold it in position. There is nothing like everyone getting in line to ride and when they make the left hand turn out of the parking lot, the one motorcycle that either didn't check their kickstand for faulty springs or left it down, goes belly up in front of everyone.

All of this may sound like it will take a long time, but in reality, once you do it a couple of times, it takes about five to ten minutes each ride. The time invested in a pre-ride motorcycle inspection is certainly better than paying for a tow home or being stranded on the side of the road.



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# Jarid Lundeen, New MACEDC Chair It's The Way I Was Built

ROD WILSON, NORTHERN SENTRY

For Jarid Lundeen, new chair of the Minot Area Chamber EDC (MACEDC) board, it's important to remain positive. "It's my DNA, it's the way I was built" says Lundeen "it's so important to go into a situation with a positive, instead of a negative, attitude. It's just a whole lot better if you lean towards the positive."

Lundeen is very open in his approach. "I am really tired of the negative, look how much we have to celebrate in Minot. We should be celebrating our military and Minot Air Force Base and how well we have done" says Lundeen "and when I heard that we our challenged to get new industry because of our lack of water and natural gas resources; well here we are today just a few months away from turning on the water for NAWS and we are more than likely going to have a natural gas pipeline from Tioga to Minot withing a year. We need to celebrate what we've accomplished, right?"

But there are more reasons to celebrate according to Lundeen. "Look at the Port of North Dakota. Brekka Kramer and her team brought it back and made it work. We went from 10 trains in 2022 to over 40 trains in 2025. That is certainly something to celebrate!"

And as Jarid looks into the future, he said there are other major fish frying. "I believe that we are very close to bringing American Iron to Minot. That would be a huge win. And look at the projects out at Minot Air Force Base. The Sentinel (Missile) will come to Minot Air Force Base...that's another big win."

But Jarid Lundeen knows that it not only takes positive works to bring success "it takes positive narrative. The past 10 years have been hard, but we've overcome a lot of difficulty. We've built a new high school, we're progressing on flood protection, and I believe in the City of Minot administration that is doing a great job. The leadership has changed, and I am certainly impressed with (Mayor) Mark Jantzer and his team. But we need to get that message out, we



Minot Area Chamber EDC Board Chair Jarid Lundeen addresses the Annual Meeting crowd.

need to tell our story, because it's a great story. Minot is positioned for positive growth, probably better than any other city in the state of North Dakota...I believe that."

Lundeen also believes in success breeding success. "Sales makes things easy to manage. Looking ahead, we are going to be heads and shoulders above the rest of the country."

Jarid Lundeen is the first to rain down compliments on the current MACEDC Board of Directors and staff. "I have to keep the projects that we have already started moving forward. It's important that we keep that positive energy going and growing." One of the projects that Lundeen highlighted was Homeward Bound. "What other community has a project like Homeward Bound. It's a great story to tell."

During his recent speech at the MACEDC Annual Meeting, Jarid brought a Bully Stick to the podium. His well placed "bangs" on the floor and rousing "Bully" yells certainly kept the audience involved. By his own admission he was nervous about speaking in front of the large crowd. But no one in the audience would doubt the energy with which Jarid Lundeen spoke. "I am a mover. I like to get things done" said Lundeen. And so the 2026-2027 chapter of the Minot Area Chamber EDC has started to be written.



Jarid Lundeen at Honorary Commander's Banquet

**cartiva**

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## THE GOOD BADLANDS

Kim Fundingsland



I've visited, photographed, and written about the Badlands many times, yet always feel the efforts are inadequate. That's the effect the Badlands has on me. Others too.

The myriad of misarranged rugged buttes, variety of vegetation and wildlife, and stunning scenery in all directions is overwhelming. Far more than can be portrayed in photographs or written words but, nevertheless, attempts to do so are spurred by every exposure to the grandeur, the elegance, the forbidding terrain.

Badlands? Historically yes. Today no.

The slumping buttes and sage and junipers, the burrowing owl and prairie dogs and coyotes, the colorful blooms of the cactus, the meandering Little Missouri River, the eagle and turkey vultures overhead, the grazing buffalo — all part of a of true wilderness experience, at least of what wilderness remains on the landscape today.

The Badlands of North Dakota is a treasure deserving of lock and key, yet is available for all to see and experience. Ever since my first trip, as a young boy, to Theodore Roosevelt National Park-North Unit, I've been captured by its uniqueness and magnificence. The Badlands are both peaceful and foreboding.

The river bottom is lined with ageless, towering cottonwood trees. Elsewhere are the ever-present juniper trees, mixed with the many exposed colors that comprise the very visible geologic records protruding from historic land.

The ever-present mule deer resides there. So does the bison, remnants of those that once ranged throughout the center of North America in astounding numbers. The North Unit is home to bighorn sheep, the occasional mountain lion and rattlesnake, sagebrush and short-horned lizards and Great Plains toads. There's bird and insect life unique to the Badlands too.

Most who experience the Badlands are changed by it. It is an environment that captures you and captivates you. Images from a single visit are never forgotten, personal invitations to return. And you'll want to.

Badlands memories are your own, but all who visit the rugged land in western North Dakota will come away with their memories too.

Too wordy? Too praiseworthy? No.

If you haven't been to the Badlands, take the time to do so. It will be a Slice of Life you'll never regret.

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# NoAH to Host "Gardening Saturday" in Minot April 18

The Northwest Association of Horticulture (NoAH) is inviting gardening enthusiasts of all experience levels to attend its annual "Gardening Saturday" event on April 18, a full-day educational workshop dedicated to cultivating success in Northern Prairie landscapes.

The event will take place from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Minot Area Workforce Academy in Minot and will feature a lineup of expert speakers sharing practical knowledge, research-based techniques, and inspiration for gardeners across the region.

This year's presenters—Joe Bergeson, Madison Edmonds, Joe Super, and Jeff Smette—will lead engaging sessions on a variety of topics tailored to North Dakota's unique growing conditions. Attendees can expect to learn

about selecting and caring for roses and hydrangeas suited for Northern Prairie gardens, the therapeutic benefits of gardening, the interconnected relationships between land and wildlife, and strategies for growing hardy tree varieties that thrive in the state's climate.

In addition to the educational programming, participants will enjoy a welcoming and community-focused atmosphere, with breakfast, lunch, and snacks provided throughout the day.

"Gardening Saturday" continues to be a cornerstone event for NoAH, offering valuable resources, expert insight, and an opportunity for gardeners to connect and grow together.

Registration information and additional details are available online at [gardeningnoah.com](http://gardeningnoah.com).

## Gardening Saturday April 18

Hosted by NoAH Garden Club

8am - 4pm @ Minot Area Workforce Academy  
2100 21st Ave NW, Minot, ND

\$50 entry fee, includes  
breakfast, lunch, and snacks

Four Speakers on Gardening Topics  
Door Prizes and Vendors

Vendor Room is FREE and Open to the Public

More info or register at: [gardeningnoah.com](http://gardeningnoah.com)

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Friday: 11:00 am - 10:00 pm  
Saturday: 11:00 am - 10:00 pm

Dakota Square Mall

www.doeatasiancuisine.com

# Upcoming Events

4 APR

EASTER AT THE ZOO  
11:00 AM-2:00PM  
Roosevelt Park Zoo,  
1219 E Burdick Expy

The Greater Minot Zoological Society will be hosting Easter at the Zoo, at Roosevelt Park Zoo, on Saturday, April 4th, 2026, from 11 am to 2 pm, and the zoo will only be open during these hours. Easter at the Zoo admission is \$5 per person for non-members, and free for members. You may also purchase your membership in person during the event to receive free admission. Easter Scavenger Hunt: Explore the zoo, and win some candy while supplies last! Easter Bunny: The Easter Bunny will be on site and excited to take photos! Special Crafts: Design an Easter-themed planter, with seeds and soil to take home!

Saturday, April 4 | 11 am - 2pm

**For more information:**  
<https://rooseveltparkzoo.com/event/easter-at-the-zoo-2/>

10 APR

THE BIG ONE - MINOT SPRING SHOW  
10:00AM-12:00PM  
ND State Fair Center  
2005 Burdick Expressway East

The 35th Annual Minot Spring Show includes over 250 booths showcasing products handmade from across the US. Over 175 exhibitors will fill their booths with arts, crafts, and baked goods that all have a touch of being handmade. Admission: \$5.00. Friday, April 10th, 2026 - 10am - 8pm Saturday, April 11th, 2026 - 9am - 5pm

35th Annual

THE BIG ONE  
MINOT SPRING SHOW

APRIL 10-11, 2026

Friday 10am - 8pm • Saturday 9am - 5pm  
ND State Fair Center

Shop North Dakota's largest

**For more information:**  
<https://thebigone.biz/minot-spring-show/>

23 APR

39TH ANNUAL PRAIRIE WARRIOR AUCTION  
4:30PM-8:30PM  
ND State Fair Center  
2005 Burdick Expressway East

Minot Area Chamber EDC is proud to present the 39th Annual Prairie Warrior Auction! An evening of food, fun and bidding. Open to the public and features a live and silent auction, buffet, cash bar and more. Proceeds will be used to support Operation Homebound, help squadrons fund events, meals and morale-boosting activities. \$25/person Active duty military are FREE!

39TH ANNUAL PRAIRIE WARRIOR AUCTION

APRIL 23 • 4:30PM • TICKETS: \$25 • PRESENTED BY

**For more information:**  
Facebook / Minot Area Chamber EDC / events

24-26 APR

IMAGICON 2026  
10:00AM-12:00PM  
ND State Fair Center  
2005 Burdick Expressway East

Whether you're a die-hard collector, a casual fan, or just looking for something unique, you'll find incredible treasures from local artists, creators, and top-tier vendors from across the United States! The event will feature four key performers from the iconic 1990s "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" franchise, and Mary Elizabeth McGlynn, a renowned voice actress, ADR director and singer. Dive into epic video game tournaments, battle it out in Warhammer showdowns, roll the dice in thrilling Dungeons & Dragons campaigns, and race to victory in the fast-paced Pinewood Derby. Plus, don't miss the rock-paper-scissors competitions, exciting panels, trivia, and so much more happening around every corner.

IMAGICON  
April 24-26, 2026  
North Dakota State Fair Center

**For more information:**  
<https://imagiconnd.com/>

## NEW Community at the Northern Sentry

It's more than Minot and more than Minot AFB, it's a Shared Community.

For more events visit our online Community Calendar at [www.northern Sentry.com/calendar/](http://www.northern Sentry.com/calendar/)

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# Prairie Warrior Auction Accepting Donations to Support Minot AFB Squadrons

Submissions are due April 10 ahead of the April 23, 2026 live and silent auction

The Minot Area Chamber EDC (MACEDC) is inviting the community to show its support for Minot Air Force Base by contributing auction items and experiences for the 39th Annual Prairie Warrior Auction, scheduled for Thursday, April 23, 2026 at the North Dakota State Fair Center.

The Prairie Warrior Auction is a longstanding community tradition that brings together business leaders, residents, and military members for an evening of live and silent auctions, food, and entertainment – all benefiting the men and women who serve at Minot Air Force Base.

Community members and businesses are encouraged to contribute a wide variety of auction items, from gift baskets, merchandise, and services to one-of-a-kind experiences and travel packages. Submissions will be accepted through Friday, April 10.

Proceeds from the event support squadron initiatives, morale-boosting programs, and Operation Homebound, which helps first-term Airmen travel home for the holidays. In 2025, the event raised

more than \$110,000, directly supporting holiday travels for over 100 Airmen and enhancing quality-of-life programming on base.

“The Prairie Warrior Auction is one of our signature events – and one of our favorite evenings of the year,” said Brekka Kramer, MACEDC President | CEO. “It strengthens the bond between Minot and Minot Air Force Base and creates meaningful connections between our business community, residents, and the service members who call this place home.”

This year, those connections are especially important.

“With ongoing global events, many of our Airmen are facing added pressures,” said Keli Rosselli-Sullivan, MACEDC Military Liaison. “That makes community support here at home more critical than ever. Every donation to our live and silent auctions shows our service members and their families that Minot stands with them.”

Verendrye Electric Cooperative is the presenting sponsor of the event for the fourth year in a row.



by Patricia Stockdill

### FISHING:

Lake Sakakawea elevation, March 30: 1,827.37 feet above mean sea level (MSL); 16,000 cubic feet per second (CFS) Garrison Dam average daily releases.

Devils Lake elevation: 1,449.25 feet above mean sea level (MSL).

Stump Lake elevation: XXX MSL.

•N.D. Game & Fish Dept. game wardens: Stay off area lakes until there's open-water fishing opportunities. Look for possible areas of open water shore-fishing along the bridges around Devils Lake with flowing water. Use caution when walking on the shoreline rocks, however.

•Devils Lake, Woodland Resort, Devils Lake: Look for some pike activity in the feeder creeks and coulees with deteriorating ice conditions putting an end to the ice fishing season for the year on Devils Lake.

•Lake Darling, Karma C-Store, Ruthville: No new reports.

•Lake Metigoshe, Four Seasons, Bottineau: OK bluegill success. Use caution as ice conditions start deteriorating.

•Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Genex Bait & Tackle, Garrison: East end of Lake Sakakawea has open water along some areas of the shorelines in the back bays. Pike activity should improve as more open water occurs along the shoreline. Missouri River tailrace fair to good for walleye.

•Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Hwy. 83 Lawn & Leisure, Garrison: Missouri River tailrace producing walleye. Shorelines deteriorating on Lake Sakakawea with unsafe ice conditions and some areas of open water shorelines. Look for

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](http://www.woodlandresort.com)), Facebook at ([facebook.com/woodlandresortDL](https://facebook.com/woodlandresortDL)), telephone (701) 662-5996, extension 1, or email ([woodlandresort@gondtc.com](mailto:woodlandresort@gondtc.com)). They're located at 1012 Woodland Drive, Devils Lake, N.D. 58301.

- Don't pick up sick or dead waterfowl and other birds as they migrate through the region with some reports of avian influenza cases showing up again.
- April 4: Eggcellent Discovery Hunt, Magic City Discovery Center, 10 a.m.
- April 5 - 11: Free daily admission to honor Month of the Military Child, Magic City Discovery Center.
- April 6: Fairy Garden Builders, Magic City Discovery Center, ages 5 to 11, noon, \$25 for non-members.
- April 10: Badlands Toms Nat'l. Wild Turkey Federation banquet, Outlaws Bar & Grill, Waford City, 5 p.m.
- April 11: Spring turkey season opens (lottery licenses only).
- April 11: Williston Ducks Unlimited banquet, Great Northern Event Center, Williston, 5 p.m.
- April 11 & 12: Maple Sugaring Day, Fort Stevenson State Park, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 11 and noon to 3 p.m. April 12 (live entertainment April 12). Contact the park, (701) 337-5576, for details.
- April 12: 5K Sap Run, Fort Stevenson State Park, Garrison. 5K trail run, jog, or walk. Registration is required. Go to ([runsSignup.com/Race/ND/Garrison/FortStevensonStateParkSapRun5k](https://runsSignup.com/Race/ND/Garrison/FortStevensonStateParkSapRun5k)) for registration and more details.
- April 17: Minot Ducks Unlimited Boom Stick Bingo & Raffle Night in conjunction with Ducks Unlimited North Dakota State Convention, Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, 6 p.m.
- April 18: Ducks Unlimited North Dakota State Convention, Clarion Hotel & Convention Center, Awards & Celebration, 5 p.m.

pike activity to start in the back bays as more areas continue to open up.

•Lake Sakakawea, New Town: No activity in the Van Hook Arm or river portion of Lake Sakakawea around the New Town area as ice conditions deteriorate, honeycomb, and shorelines open up. Anglers generally waiting for enough open water shorelines in the back bays for pike activity.

•Lake Sakakawea/Missouri River, Scott's Bait & Tackle, Pick City: Missouri River tailrace inconsistent for walleye with some good days and other days with slow success. Try jigs or Lindy rigs and minnows from both boat and shore. Some ling and catfish mixed in. Weather fronts could be the major contributors to the river's inconsistency.

•Lake Sakakawea/northwest N.D. lakes, Scenic Sports, Williston: Missouri and Yellowstone rivers producing walleye. Try jigs and minnows. Also try crankbaits on the Yellowstone River. Trenton Lake has open water with some crappie

success. Some pike activity, as well. Lake Sakakawea has open water between Lewis & Clark State Park and Lund's Landing. Ramps are unusable with low water levels but look for pike activity from shore. Sather Dam producing bluegill and crappie.

•North-central/central N.D. lakes, Towner Hdwe. Hank, Towner: No activity on area lakes with anglers waiting for open water. Souris River starting to open up but no activity.

### LIGHT GOOSE MIGRATION:

•Large numbers of birds in north-central N.D. with a few flocks of snow geese moving into the northwest corner of the state earlier in the week. Most birds in east-central birds are moving straight through to the north. No birds along the east or midsection of Lake Sakakawea.

### 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.

**39th ANNUAL PRAIRIE WARRIOR AUCTION**

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# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## Chapel Services at MAFB

**North Plains Chapel**  
290 Peacekeeper Pl  
*(across from North Plains Elementary School)*

**Protestant Community Service Times:**  
Traditional Service 9:00am  
Breakfast Fellowship 10:00am  
Contemporary Service 11:00am  
(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

## St. Peter The Aleut Eastern Orthodox Church

**109 6th St. SE Minot • 838-3094**

**Saturday, April 4**  
5PM, No Vespers

**Sunday, April 5**  
10AM, Congregational Prayer Service



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3705 11th St. SW  
Minot, ND 58701  
701-852-6404  
www.oslcminot.com  
Pastor Dan Haugen

**Sunday Worship**  
April 5 Easter Sunday  
8:00am Traditional Service  
9:00-11:00am Easter Breakfast  
9:30am Contemporary Service (w/ Livestream)  
11:00am Contemporary Service

**Wednesdays 6-7pm**  
OSKids (age 4-5th grade)  
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Psalm23Teens (6-8pm)  
Adult Choir

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## Bible Fellowship Church

**Worship Service**  
10:45am Sundays

**Sunday School**  
9:45am

1720 4th Ave NW, Minot  
838-0916  
MinotBibleFellowship.org



## 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

Pastor Brian Keithline



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2600 West Central Ave • Minot, ND 58701  
839-7076

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

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



## First Lutheran Church - ELCA

120 5th Ave. NW  
852-4853

Sunday Worship 9:30 am

www.firstlutheran.tv  
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www.flcminot.com  
Pastor Brandy Gerjets

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ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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838-1111

Sunday Services  
9:00 am / 10:30 am / Noon



## Minot Baptist Church

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Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship .... 11:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Evening..... 7:00 p.m.

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Pastor David Miller



## Cross Roads Baptist

Southern Baptist Convention

Sunday School (all ages) ..... 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesdays (Prayer & Missions) ... 6:30 p.m.

www.minotcrbc.org  
email: minotcrbc@gmail.com  
Gabe McCormick- Pastor  
415 28th Ave SE (Behind Menards)  
838-1873



## West Minot Church of God

Family Worship Center

1105 16th St. NW • 839-1407

Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Children's Church & Nursery  
Wednesday Family Training Hour  
Meal..... 5:30p.m.  
Classes for All Ages ..... 6:30 p.m.  
Youth Center, Friday..... 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.  
ABC Child Care Center ..... 852-6352

westminot.com  
facebook.com/westminot



## St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod

Sunday Divine Service 9:30 AM  
Sunday Bible Study & Sunday School 11:00 AM  
Wednesday Kid Connection 6:00-7:00 PM

Reverend Philip Beyersdorf  
2209 4th Avenue NW, Minot, ND  
839-4663  
www.minotstmarks.com  
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## First Baptist Church

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

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

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



## Apostolic Faith Church, UPCI

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

Saturday School..... 2:00 p.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 3:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study ..... 7:30 p.m.

Jesse Starr, Pastor



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11:15 am Worship Service

Wednesday  
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Pastor Louis McLeod, Jr.  
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Cell: 701-240-3435

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Sunday School (for all ages) ..... 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study  
Children's and Middle School..... 6:00 p.m.  
Adult ..... 6:15 p.m.  
High School ..... 7:15 p.m.

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1st Lt Ethan E. Jean, 91 MXG



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Maj Damion D. Proctor, 91 OG



**Civ Cat I of the Year**  
Ms. Christy T. Triplett, 91 OG



**Civ Cat II of the Year**  
Mr. William E. Haas, 91 SFG



**Civ Cat III of the Year**  
Mr. Mark V. McDonald, 91 WSA



**Pro Team of the Year**  
91 MMXS/MXSFF, 91 MXG



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1st Lt Ashley M. Manzano-Larorre, 91 OG



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Mrs. Melvina A Murray, 91 OG



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MSgt Tyler J. Prete 91 OG

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**TIME:** 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

**WHERE:** MINOT MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM  
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- More Independent, Adaptable, Reliable, Flexible, Mature
- Relate better to those with diverse backgrounds
- Strong family bonds
- Parents involved in their children's education
- Military encourages support of schools
- Experience from many different cultures and geographic areas

- Cooperative spirit, team oriented
- Promotes duty bound/service oriented values

*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.*

## YOUTH IN ACTION



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



Zurie with her mother Yvonne and father MSgt Fernando Aguilera



Hadley and her father 2LT Ian Pitman.



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# MOMC Highlight- Leon Rivera, age 9

ERIN BEENE, NORTHERN SENTRY

Military kid Leon Rivera is known for appreciating the simple things in life. He and his family, dad Berto, mom Amanda, little brother Felix (3), and little sister Elena (1), have lived in Minot since 2022. At first, the family didn't love Minot, but after four years here, they have come to appreciate so many things about it, and Leon was happy to share his thoughts about the place.

Leon is intelligent, fun, and enjoys living life outside his house on base, no matter the season. When asked whether he prefers summer or winter, Leon took a moment to think. He said he likes them both equally because each offers different activities. However, he did admit that summer might be slightly better since more kids are outside playing. He explained how he and the neighborhood kids like to build forts in the field behind his house and spend time running around and playing together.

As a homeschooler, Leon has a bit more flexibility during the day than some kids. His mom, Amanda, told the Northern Sentry that in the past few years, there has been a large number of homeschoolers in their neighborhood, which has made things even more fun for the kids. Leon, who has been homeschooled his whole life, said he really enjoys it, especially being able to sleep in. "I like that, well, that you don't have to catch the school bus and wake up at the crack of dawn," he said.

Leon also loves to stay busy. One of his favorite activities is reading. He enjoys many types of books, but



Military kid Leon Rivera, age 9, loves being silly and imaginative!

fantasy is his favorite genre, and his top series is The Lord of the Rings. He also likes playing video games with his dad and spending time with his younger siblings. He shared that he and his little brother Felix especially enjoy wrestling together.

When asked what his dad does on base, Leon explained, "He is in HICS, making sure the communications are still working. Sometimes he goes out into the field, but I don't know what he does out there." Leon's dad, Senior

Airman Berto Rivera, is actually a maintainer for the 91st Missile Maintenance Squadron.

Overall, Leon didn't have a single negative thing to say about Minot or being a military kid. According to him, life is grand. He loves going to local festivals like Hostfest and the North Dakota State Fair, but he also enjoys just spending time at home. He's an easy kid to please.

Thanks for being such an easygoing military kid, Leon! You make us all look good, keep up the positive attitude!

## ★ MONTH OF THE ★ MILITARY CHILD APRIL



Leon loves playing and wrestling with his little brother Felix.



Leon and his family at Norsk Høstfest Scandinavian Festival this past year.

# MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

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# Discovery Center Salutes Military Families with Free Week of Fun

MAGIC CITY DISCOVERY CENTER

## ★ MONTH OF THE ★ MILITARY CHILD APRIL



April is the Month of the Military Child. This month, we celebrate and honor the strength, resilience, and sacrifice of military families in our community and the children who grow up navigating a life full of transitions, challenges, and new adventures.

Military-connected kids experience a unique childhood. They adapt to new schools, make new friends, and show incredible courage through deployments and changes. Their strength doesn't always make headlines, but it deserves to be celebrated.

At the Magic City Discovery Center, we are proud to support and celebrate these families by creating a space where kids can simply be kids by exploring, creating, and discovering in a place built just for them.

As a small thank you for all that military families give, we are offering FREE admission for all active-duty military personnel and their families (including National Guard and Reserve members) from Monday, April 6, to Saturday, April 11.

We are also offering 10% off new and renewing military memberships, valid April 5 - 11,

using code MILMO online or in person.

Membership gives families the opportunity to return again and again, which creates consistency, connection, and a sense of belonging in a world that feels like it's always changing.

For military families, finding spaces that feel welcoming and stable can make a big difference. The Discovery Center is designed to be a place where curiosity leads the way, where kids can explore at their own pace, and where families can spend time together.

Through hands-on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) experiences, children can:

- Build confidence through problem-solving and creativity
- Express themselves through play and exploration
- Find moments of joy, connection, and discovery

Whether it's building in the construction zone, experimenting with new ideas, or simply playing side by side, these moments matter.

The Month of the Military Child is about appreciation, support, and community. It's about celebrating

the bravery of kids who serve in their own way every single day.

We are honored to welcome military families into the Discovery Center and to be a place where those children can laugh, learn,

and explore.

If you're a military family, we invite you to visit, explore, and enjoy this special week on us. Bring your curiosity, your creativity, and your sense of

adventure!! Because here at the Discovery Center, every child's story matters, and this month, we're especially proud to celebrate yours!

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# MINOT NORTH SENTINEL REPORT



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## Sentinels Start Strong: Records Fall and Seasons Kick Off

BRYLEIGH MCBRIDE, STUDENT JOURNALIST

If the spring sports season were a movie, Minot North High School just dropped one heck of an opening weekend. Baseball drama. Soccer grit. And on a track in Fargo, a group of young women rewrote the record books like they had a personal vendetta against the old ones. Hold onto your Sentinel gear, this is going to be a fun ride.

Let's start on the baseball diamond, where the Sentinels kicked off their season with a 5-4 non-conference home game win over Williston High School on their home field. On paper, a one-run victory might not look glamorous, but in reality, it is a great way to start the season. Those are the games that separate good teams from great ones.

From the first pitch to the final out, this one was close enough to make even the coaches' blood pressure spike. The Coyotes pushed hard, and Minot North pushed right back. When it mattered most, in those final pressure-packed innings, the Sentinels did what winning teams do: they held the line. Starting a season with a win is more valuable than the box score suggests. Confidence is contagious, and right now, the Sentinel dugout has caught it.

Fresh off the baseball team's opener, the girls soccer squad refused to be outdone. On March 27, they took on Legacy High School and walked away with a hard-fought 2-1 victory

and sophomore Kiarra Diaz put the finishing touch on a historic day with a new school record in the triple jump at 33'2 in.

Meanwhile, senior Alyviah Kopp went in a completely different direction, the long kind, breaking records in both the 800-meter at 2:40.07 and 1600-meter, record time of 5:41.28, runs in the same afternoon. Distance runners who can compete at multiple events with record-setting performances don't come around every season. Kopp is something special.

Step back from the box scores for a moment and look at what Minot North accomplished in a single week: a baseball team that knows how to win close games, a soccer team that stays cool when the pressure rises, and a track program that is, quite literally, faster and stronger than it has ever been.

Every coach and fan knows that early-season results don't always guarantee championships, every coach and fan knows that. But they do reveal something about a program's culture and preparation. What happened this past week tells you that Minot North athletes walked into spring ready to compete. The conference schedule will bring tougher tests, but right now the Sentinels have something that's hard to manufacture: momentum. And if week one is any indication, this spring is going to be worth watching.

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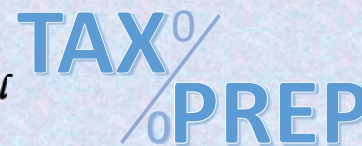
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**PUZZLE ON PAGE C7**

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

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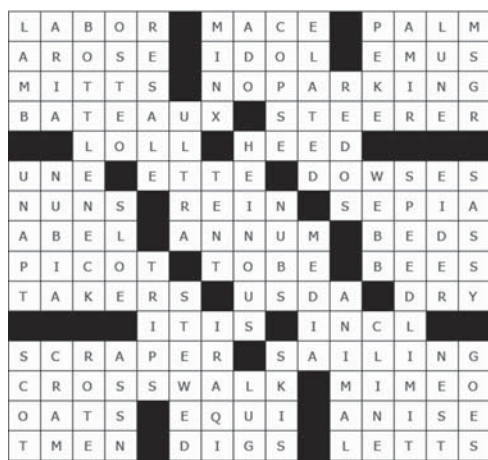
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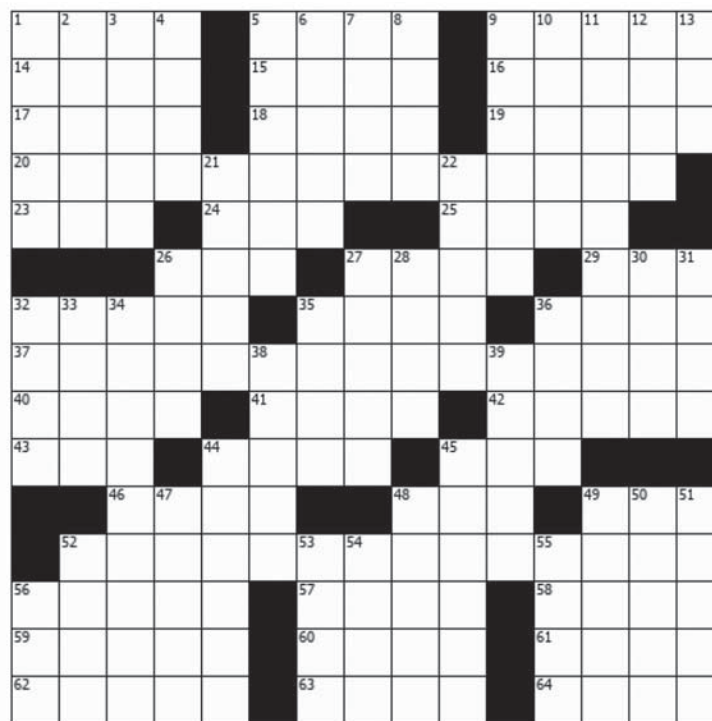
Solution to puzzle on page C6

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Injection
5. Bosom buddies
9. Ease off
14. Fish story
15. Café au \_\_\_
16. Apples and pears
17. Second
18. Kind of code
19. Put in the ground
20. Shift noisily
23. A real looker
24. Go cross-country
25. Like some chairs
26. Word with music or culture
27. Lowdown louse
29. Creation made while sitting
32. Broadcasting concern
35. Waterproofs, in a way
36. Natural balm
37. Lose power
40. Ease the way, in a way?
41. Java vessels
42. Stand for a sitting
43. The queen as a subject?
44. One way to sin
45. Mr. Whoever-You-Are
46. Test standard
48. Importune
49. Sony rival
52. Lose traction
56. Sorbonne, e.g.
57. Its rings tell time
58. In a frenzy
59. Less often found
60. Peter the Great, e.g.
61. Court order?
62. Level for a newbie
63. They used to be nuts
64. Burgoo, e.g.



Down

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Proscenium is a part of it</li> <li>2. Hirsute</li> <li>3. Song released on a 45</li> <li>4. Older child, perhaps</li> <li>5. Emphasize</li> <li>6. Brother of Miriam</li> <li>7. In ___ of</li> <li>8. Dwarf or giant?</li> <li>9. Attorney's ploy</li> <li>10. Ropes with weights attached</li> <li>11. Belladonna lily</li> <li>12. Bo Derek and all wives, e.g.</li> <li>13. Best ending?</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>21. Dentist's occupational hazard</li> <li>22. Silly ones</li> <li>26. Heaping helping</li> <li>27. Favorite hangout</li> <li>28. Goofs up</li> <li>30. Top-drawer</li> <li>31. Steed companion</li> <li>32. Snakes in hieroglyphics</li> <li>33. It has six sides</li> <li>34. Small, decorative writing desk</li> <li>35. Musical Amos</li> <li>36. Gelling agent</li> <li>38. "Delicious!"</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>39. Paddock sound</li> <li>44. Curmudgeonly</li> <li>45. Singer fans and users</li> <li>47. Fuel deliverer</li> <li>48. Shout from those huddled together</li> <li>49. Put the check in the mail</li> <li>50. Like some encounters</li> <li>51. Wonky</li> <li>52. Check for viruses</li> <li>53. Bart's bus driver</li> <li>54. Major or Minor constellation</li> <li>55. Piercing places</li> <li>56. Before, once</li> </ol> |
|--|---|--|

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**STARTS FRIDAY**

<p><b>THE HOUSEMAID</b> (2025) Thriller, Drama, Mystery (R)</p> <p><b>GOAT</b> (2026) Animal, Animation, Basketball, Comedy (PG)</p>	<p><b>SONG SUNG BLUE</b> (2025) Pop Musical, Biography, Drama (PG-13)</p> <p><b>THE POUT-POUT FISH</b> (2026) Animation, Comedy, Family, Sea Adventure (PG)</p>	<p><b>HELD OVER</b></p>
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1500 4TH AVE NW, MINOT, ND

# What's Going On Minot AFB

## FRIDAY 03

- SNCO Foundation Course 700, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- Fun Fri-Yay, 1630-2000, Jimmy Doolittle Center
- Airmen's Night Out, 1600, Outdoor Recreation
- Friday Flicks, 1630-2200, Rockers Bar & Grill

## WEDNESDAY 08

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Informed Decision Seminar, 0800-1200, Professional Development Center
- TAP Employment Fundamentals of Career Transition, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- Storytime, 1030, Base Library
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center

## FRIDAY 10

- TAP DoL Employment Track Workshop, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- Friday Flicks, 1630-2200, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Karaoke Battle, 1730-2030, Rockers Bar & Grill

## SATURDAY 04

- Jedi Library Escape Room Game Begins, Minot AFB Library
- Chess Club, 1200-1400, Minot AFB Library

## THURSDAY 09

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- TAP DoL Employment Track Workshop, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Tuition Assistance (TA) Brief, 1330, Education Center
- Parent Advisory Board & Quality Improvement Team Meeting, 1400-1630, Youth Center
- Breakfast Quest Special Dinner, 1630-1830, Dakota Inn Dining Facility

## SATURDAY 11

- Star Wars Spectacular, 1300, Minot AFB Library
- Kayak Confidence Class, 1300-1600, Outdoor Recreation

## SUNDAY 05

## MONDAY 06

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- TAP DOW Transition Day, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Palace Chase, 1400-1500, Professional Development Center

Scan for full event details



## SPECIALS

- Rockers Bar & Grill Featured Item  
Chicken Tenders
- The B-Fifty Brew Featured Item  
Northern Lights Lotus
- Bomber Bistro Featured Item  
French Onion Soup and Caesar Chicken Wrap

## TUESDAY 07

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- TAP VA Services and Benefits Briefing, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- Tuition Assistance (TA) Brief, 1000, Education Center
- Game Day, 1000-1930, Base Library
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Retraining 101, 1300-1400, Professional Development Center
- Quiet Book Club, 1800-1930, Base Library

### KARAOKE BATTLE

ROCKERS BAR & GRILL

10 APR 2026  
1730

SCAN QR FOR DETAILS  
MUST USE NON-NIPD DEVICE TO ACCESS WEBSITE

STAY AFTER FOR OPEN MIC • 18+ ONLY • 727-ROCK

FORCE 5THFORCESUPPORT.COM

### KAYAK CONFIDENCE

OUTDOOR RECREATION

11 APR 2026 • 1300

REGISTRATION OPEN 16 MAR

JOIN US AT THE INDOOR POOL FOR A CHANCE TO BUILD CONFIDENCE, LEARN TIPS & TRICKS AND HAVE FUN IN A KAYAK

OPEN TO ALL DOW/D CARD HOLDERS AGES 10+, 16 & UNDER NEED PARENTAL SUPERVISION

\$20 PER PERSON 723-3648

FORCE 5THFORCESUPPORT.COM

### STAR WARS SPECTACULAR

11 April 2026 • 1:00PM

Minot AFB Library

Open to children of all ages!

Grab your lightsaber and navigate your way through hyperspace to the Minot AFB Library!

This 12th Annual Star Wars celebration will feature crafts, activities, and special guests!

May the force be with you!

For details, call 723-3344 or email mafblibrary@gmail.com

FORCE 5THFORCESUPPORT.COM

### DUNGEONS & DRAGONS GAME NIGHT

15 April 2026 • 6PM - 8PM

Youth Center • Ages 9+ • \$10

Play a 2-hour D&D campaign! No experience necessary.

Books, figures, and dice are available, but you can bring your own!

Register by 13 April 2026.

Scan the QR Code to register or visit the CYPBMS website at <https://parent.afcyp.com/>

For details, call the Youth Center at 723-2838

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### MINOT AFB SPRING RESOURCE EXPO

15 April 2026 • 10:00AM - 2:00PM

Minot AFB Main Exchange • Lobby Atrium

Open to all students, future students, spouses, parents, and educators!

- Gather information on community, education, and career development resources!
- Meet with representatives from various on and off-base colleges and universities.
- Learn about admission requirements, financial aid, campus life, and more!

For details, call the Education Center at 723-2772

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## Dakota Square ARCO

Locally Owned & Part of Our Community

1520 24th Avenue SW  
Next to Dakota Square Mall

We appreciate our Minot AFB Friends



### QUALITY HEALTHCARE FOR ALL

Non-emergency walk-ins welcome Monday-Friday 1-4 p.m.

- Ob/Gyn Care
- Newborn Care
- Well Child Visits
- Pediatrics
- Free Pregnancy Tests
- Geriatric Care
- Preventive Healthcare
- Full Service Pharmacy



UND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

