

northern sentry

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WHATS INSIDE THIS WEEK:



JOIN MINOT 5/6 FISHING TOURNAMENT

A2



BLOOMING AT THE BX: PROOF & PETALS

B1



PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION

B8



TIME TO PLAY!




Community members celebrate the opening of a new playground at Minot Air Force Base, made possible through resident feedback from past Tenant Satisfaction Surveys. Pictured are Col. Matthew Crosmán, deputy commander of the 91st Missile Wing, and Col. Jesse Lamarand, commander of the 5th Bomb Wing, joined by other base leaders for the ribbon-cutting ceremony marking the occasion.

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE PA PHOTOS



OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0704-0553 OMB EXPIRATION DATE: 08/31/2028

2026 DAF Housing Survey



MINOT SHRINE CIRCUS

MAY 7 - 9

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May Squadron of the Month

5th Munitions Squadron

The 5th Bomb Wing Command team would like to congratulate the 5th Munitions Squadron (5 MUNS) on being selected as May's Squadron of the Month.

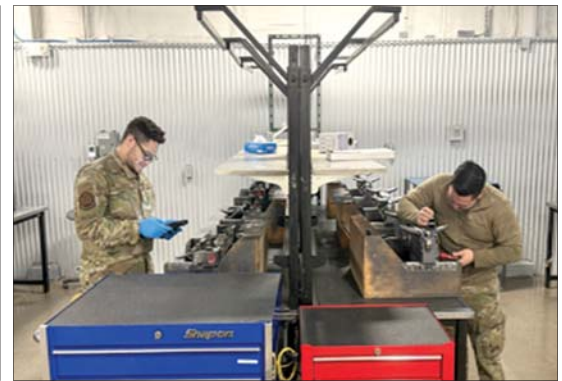
For this year, the 5 MUNS performed 545 explosive operations ensuring the assembly and delivery of 207 munitions supporting 901 flight hours and 180 combat training sorties for the Wing's Flying Program.

5 MUNS also participated in Exercise Global Thunder by providing critical data for the

Crisis Action Team's Leadership for 64 load crew personnel and 552 nuclear loading and downloading operations.

Finally, in sub-zero temperatures, they accomplished 3,000 inspections and delivered all required munitions on time for use in support of real-world operations.

The 5 MUNS continues to power through a demanding schedule to maintain peak operational readiness.



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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Minot 5/6 Announces Second Annual Fishing Tournament at Lake Darling

MINOT, N.D. — The Minot 5/6 is gearing up for a day of friendly competition and community connection with the return of its highly anticipated fishing event. The 2nd Annual Minot 5/6 Fishing Tournament is set to take place Saturday, May 16, 2026, at Lake Darling, located within the Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge.

The tournament, which runs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., invites anglers of all experience levels to cast a line and compete for top catches, while also offering opportunities for volunteers to support the event behind the scenes. In the event of severe weather, a makeup day is scheduled for Sunday, May 17.

Participants can register as teams of two to four members or choose a single-member option. Entry fees are set at \$80 per team and \$50 for individual competitors. Organizers note that all registered teams will receive event gear, including a clipboard with scorecards and rules, a commemorative Minot 5/6 numbered coin, and an Ozark Trail portable dial fish scale.

Those interested in competing are asked to complete registration and payment by scanning the official Minot 5/6 QR code provided below.

In addition to anglers, event organizers are seeking 50 volunteers to help ensure a smooth and successful tournament. Volunteer roles include event setup and teardown, assisting with award presentations, and serving as safe ride drivers. Volunteers are asked to report for check-in at 7:30 a.m. at the refuge. Organizers emphasize that volunteering offers a meaningful way to support the community while enhancing

professional development through strong evaluation performance bullets (EPBs).

Volunteer positions are available on a first-come, first-served basis through a SignUpGenius QR code.

For more information about the tournament, registration, or volunteer opportunities, interested

individuals can contact Jared Bland at jkb101@gmail.com or Keith Cordle at Cordlekeith@gmail.com

Organizers encourage community members to come out for a full day of fishing, teamwork, and outdoor fun in one of the region's most scenic locations.



Members of Team Warbitsky, winners of the inaugural Minot 5/6 Fishing Tournament, pose with their event trophy at Lake Darling in the Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge. The team earned first place during the 2025 competition, setting the standard for this year's anglers.

Minot 5/6 presents

2nd Annual Fishing Tournament

Date:
16 May 2026

Alternate day:
17 May 2026

Location:
Lake Darling at the Upper Souris National Wildlife Range

Entry fees:

Team entry	Single member team
\$80	\$50

Team rules:
Teams must be at least two individuals and can be up to 4 members.

Single-member team option available.

What each team receives:
clipboard with scorecard and scoring rules, a Minot 5/6 Numbered Coin, and an Ozark Trail Portable Dial Fish Scale.

Registration or contact info:
Minot 5/6

Volunteer Sign Up



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May 7th - 10AM & 7PM
May 8th - 10AM & 7PM
May 9th - 10AM, 2PM & 6PM

LOCATION

ND State Fair Center
All Seasons Arena

ONLINE DETAILS

Tickets & Show Information
minotshriners.org

TICKET SALE LOCATIONS

Magic City Hoagies
(Downtown Minot)

Rick's Jewelry
(Downtown Minot)

Marketplace Foods
(All Minot Locations)

Thrifty White Pharmacy
(Town & Country Center)

Proceeds are for the benefit of the Minot Shrine Club. Payments are not deductible as a charitable donation.

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**A VIEW FROM
 OUR SIDE**
 ROD WILSON



IT'S YOUR PAPER...

"I started reading the Northern Sentry as soon as we knew we were coming to the Minot Air Force Base." We hear that statement so many times over and over again when we introduce ourselves to new faces at a Military Affairs Committee meeting. Having good connections with folks on base is certainly vital to the success of the Northern Sentry, but our connection with base personnel goes a lot further.

The whole purpose of the Northern Sentry is to support the mission of the Minot AFB, whether it be maintaining our calendar of events on northernsentry.com, or sending out our Weekly Post Brief on Fridays to give people a chance to catch the highlights of activity on base.

Unlike other newspapers, the Northern Sentry is 100% online on northernsentry.com at no cost. Our web presence is probably most people's first contact, and people can certainly continue to read every weekly edition online, but many folks still like the traditional printed paper, and we hand deliver the Northern Sentry to every home and every shop on base, along with making copies available in most popular locations. I bet the

Answering Some Questions...

Northern Sentry is probably one of the last newspapers in the nation to still have traditional paper delivery (boys & girls).

OK, you have lived on base for a while and you know most of this information, but we all know PCS season is right around the corner, and now is when the phone calls, text messages and emails start to various agencies on base about how to get information about Minot and Minot Air Force Base. Of course, person to person is always good, but if you are someone who is receiving those phone calls:

1) Encourage people to check out northernsentry.com weekly for the latest news and happenings on Minot AFB.

2) Have people sign up for our Weekly Post Brief email newsletter that is sent out every Friday. Our editor, Erin Beene, does an excellent job of creating a synopsis and links to our top stories. You'll find the sign up application on northernsentry.com or by scanning the QR code below.



Something else we hear all the time...no other base has a newspaper like the Northern Sentry. We are certainly proud of every weekly edition we print; but it really goes back to what I was taught in Journalism 101 at the University of North Dakota, you have to make your newspaper, their newspaper, and I can say we do everything we can to follow through with that challenge every week.



The Weekly Post Brief is delivered to your e-mail inbox every Friday.

BUT YOU DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING

I have a friend who reads my columns faithfully...except a couple of weeks last month when he had trouble getting to the grocery store to get a copy of the Northern Sentry.

As fate would have it, he was complaining at our weekly coffee group about not being able to get a copy of the Northern Sentry last week. However, he was in luck. I happened to have extra copies in my car so I ran out to get him a copy and delivered it to him in person.

He opened the paper and went directly to my column and dismissed himself mentally from the conversation taking place at the table about potential city council candidates. When he reached the end of my column he closed the paper without saying a word.

Curiosity got the best of me and I finally had to ask, "so what did you think of my column?" Without hesitation he looked at me and said "you've done better. I guess my complaint is that you didn't say anything."

I have another friend who will often use the quote "don't ask if you don't want to know." That really fits this situation so well. I probably didn't really want to hear Jim's (name changed to protect the innocent) opinion of my article, but I asked, and he felt obliged to not only give me an opinion, but an honest opinion. So, what is the lesson here? Going forward don't give Jim any more papers with a copy of your article? Well probably not. The lesson is to make sure when you are writing your articles, Rod, you need to say something. So, for this week my "anything" is that I really don't understand putting up stoplights at an intersection and then shutting them off a few years later. Anyone else agree?

TRAVELIN' AROUND

This might not be so much about traveling and more about last week's windy weather. I honestly was stopped dead in my tracks by one gust of wind. It's March that is supposed to "Come in like a lion and go out like a lamb." After last week we could use a little more lamb.

TODAY'S CHUCKLE

Only some of us can learn from other people's mistakes. The rest of us have to be the other people.

The 'Crying Indian'



**UPSIDE DOWN
 UNDER**
 MARVIN BAKER

Does anyone remember a TV commercial in which a Native American was paddling his canoe and he came across a polluted river? When he saw that, he shed a single tear.

It was called the "Crying Indian," a famous 1971 public service announcement from the Keep America Beautiful campaign featuring Iron Eyes Cody witnessing trash in the river and a littered shoreline.

The ad, aimed at raising awareness about littering ends with him looking into the camera and shedding a tear.

It was released on Earth Day, April 22, 1971 and became a cultural

milestone that aired for more than a decade. It's motto, "People start pollution, people can stop it."

And that's the message of this article, written on Earth Day, April 22, 2026.

It's a reminder for a lot of us to take care of our environment. Sometimes, we don't do such a good job of that and in some cases, we could do better.

For instance, my community recently had an Easter egg hunt in the city park. We live near the park, so we walked to observe little children scrambling all over the lawn picking up multiple colored, plastic eggs.

The only problem was along the entrance of the park. There was garbage all over the ditch, presumably blown there over the winter and covered with snow until now. But that wasn't the only issue. That ditch, that we call a "canal," had water in it and getting to some of that trash through the reeds would be near impossible. You can't walk in it, or you'll sink. You can't row a canoe like Iron Eyes Cody because there is too much vegetation.

There's really only one way to solve it. Wait until the "canal" dries

up so people can walk in there and pick up the trash.

The following day, I wanted to take a closer look, so I walked down into the ditch before I hit water. There seemed to be a lot of aluminum cans. Beer cans and pop cans, presumably blown there over the winter since the local tavern is just a block away.

It didn't take long to realize this wasn't going to be a quick task. It took almost three hours, but I was able to take enough aluminum out of that ditch, less than the length of a city block to get \$26 at the recycle center. My guess is we could all do something very similar.

By the time you read this, Earth Day will have passed, but because April is a "cold" month in North Dakota, most people don't go out to clean their yards and neighborhoods until May.

Bearing that in mind, it doesn't stop with trash and aluminum cans in the ditch. I don't know about you, but I've seen some strange things along some of our highways that could have all been recycled.

I was on my way to work one day when I came upon a car engine sitting on the side of the road. No skid marks on the pavement, no

apparent damage to the engine and it was just sitting there, upright. Imagine the weight of that getting recycled.

I've seen sheet metal panels in ditches, combine parts, 55-gallon barrels, mattresses, tires and one spring when I was helping others clean a ditch in Hazen, I found a \$100 bill.

Several years ago an old farmer passed away and didn't have any heirs. The property was sold and had to get cleaned up. The person who purchased it, hired two Amish men from Wisconsin who came out to North Dakota, cleaned up that farm and essentially made their income for that year from one month of work.

I'm not saying North Dakota is polluted. These examples given are all across the state over a span of about 18 years.

Many of us work hard to keep our lawns clean. Many of us work hard to keep our farms looking like they belong in a Normal Rockwell painting. Others, not so much and that's where the dilemma lies.

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SHOUT OUT



A1C SOPHIA MCMAHON

A1C Sophia McMahon has been a Food Service Apprentice for three months at the Dakota Inn Dining Facility, where she manages front of house operations for nearly 600 meals daily. When not in the front of facility preparing the World's Greatest Omelets, she's in



the back working on the mainline entrées for the day and training several new Airmen on roles and responsibilities in the Dining Facility. She has been a tremendous force multiplier, installing key core values, and a positive environment any and everywhere she goes!

CORNERSTONE Map Out The Road To Good Health

More than closets: spring cleaning for your health

Every spring, I get the urge to reorganize my entire life.

Closets? Absolutely. Junk drawer? You betcha. Those mysterious nooks in the linen closet cluttered with half-used supplement bottles and cough syrup both my kids refuse? Also overdue.

There's something about spring in North Dakota that makes me want a reset. Maybe it's the first stretch of sunshine after months of winter. Maybe it's that I'm simply spending more time out of the house—so when I return, I'm less blind to the clutter.

I'm a fan of a good spring clean—and not just the kind that involves clearing closets. Spring also seems to usher in permission to clear away the metaphorical cobwebs from my mind and routines, not just my house.

It's the perfect time to renew a commitment to movement and exercise because spring kicks the door wide open for options.

Suddenly, movement feels less like a chore and more like a reward. Walks outside become enjoyable instead of mildly aggressive. Bike rides come back. Pickleball enters the chat. Even running errands feel better when you're not navigating ice and wind.

And honestly, as I get closer to 40, my motivation has shifted too.

The goal used to be a beach-ready body. Although, in North Dakota, maybe we should call it a "lake-ready" body.

Now? I care more about a body that works for the long haul.

I want to carry groceries, run the vacuum, and shovel snow without back spasms. I want energy to keep up with my kids and mobility to enjoy life instead of managing constant pain. Give me function instead of aesthetics any day.

In years past, spring cleaning my wellness routine has been difficult—and a little demoralizing. While physically reorganizing and decluttering, I'd discover evidence

of inconsistency and routines gone wrong. Tangible reminders that somewhere in the middle of busy days, the vigor of my New Year's resolution had faded and consistency had snuck out the back door.

Well-intentioned supplements I'd only remembered to take twice. "Wellness" gadgets like my weighted walking vest, forgotten and forlorn in various closets and cabinets throughout the house. Not to mention the less visible things left to the same fate: exercise routines, regular stretching, and consistent wellness appointments.

This year, when I tackled my linen closets and medicine cabinets, I still found plenty of evidence of inconsistency—looking at you, barely used magnesium supplement—but things have felt different. Easier.

And that's because I've got an experienced team in my corner.

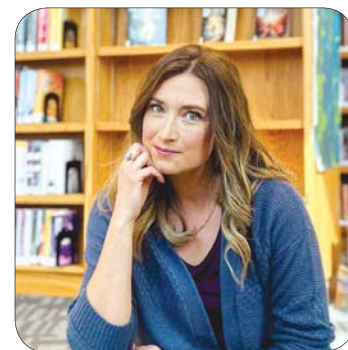
This time last year, I had only been consistently going to Cornerstone Chiropractic for about three months. This year, my therapy has progressed, and my treatment has evolved to include more than just chiropractic adjustments and in-office therapy.

The team at Cornerstone has helped me evaluate what I actually need—not just for alignment, but for broader wellness too. They've helped me reassess the right frequency of care, what therapies make sense for this season, and even which supplements are worth continuing versus which ones are just taking up valuable cabinet space.

They also do the legwork of researching and stocking quality supplements that support the work we're doing in the office, so I don't have to fall down the rabbit hole of trying to figure out which brand is actually "best."

When it comes to wellness, one of the most valuable things is the accountability.

Sometimes wellness doesn't



AMY ALLENDER

require more information—it requires someone in your corner helping you stay consistent. Someone reminding you that sleep matters, movement matters, good food matters, and yes, taking the vitamins you already bought probably matters too. An outside source who can look can look at the bigger picture, and see how all the pieces work together holistically.

That kind of support is underrated. It's the kind I've found at Cornerstone Chiropractic, and the kind I hope you'll find this spring as you audit your own wellness routine.

This is a great time to reassess and reset.

Clean out the cabinet. Revisit the habits you've let slide. Ask yourself what actually helps you feel better—and what just stirs guilt for not doing it.

Maybe it's more walks. Maybe it's drinking water like a functioning adult. Maybe it's moving more during the day to reduce tomorrow's stiffness.

Small changes count.

Spring doesn't have to mean becoming a whole new person. Sometimes it just means returning to the habits that help you feel like yourself again.

And honestly, that might be the best kind of spring cleaning there is.



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by Patricia Stockdill

FISHING:

Lake Sakakawea elevation, April 27: 1,827.11 feet above mean sea level (MSL); 14,000 cubic feet per second (CFS) Garrison Dam average daily releases.

Devils Lake elevation: 1,449.94 feet above mean sea level (MSL).

Stump Lake elevation: 1,449.99 MSL.

•N.D. Game & Fish Dept. game wardens: No new reports from area lakes.

•Devils Lake, Woodland Resort, Devils Lake: Devils Lake is ice-free. Lots of walleye activity on upper basin lakes with success varying with the weather. Inflows starting to slow so look for less activity, especially when the spawn gets underway.

•Lake Darling, Karma C-Store, Ruthville: Limited reports with inconsistent weather continuing to limit fishing activity.

•Lake Metigoshe, Four Seasons, Bottineau: Some shore-fishing activity, including open waters along the bridges, with occasional walleye. No bluegill reports.

•Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Cenex Bait & Tackle, Garrison: Weather permitting, look for fair walleye success in 3 to 15 feet on the east end of Lake Sakakawea on sunny days. Missouri River tailrace remains fair to good for walleye. No Lake Audubon reports.

•Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Hwy. 83 Lawn & Leisure, Garrison: Good shore access on the east end of Lake

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

OUTDOOR NOTES:

- May 1: Paddlefish snagging season opens. Go to the N.D. Game & Fish Dept. website, (gf.nd.gov) for regulations, open areas, and licensing.
- May 2, 9, & 16: Birding at Oak Park, Minot. Free bird walk each Saturday, 9 a.m.
- May 8 & 9: Evening Hike Series: Full Flower Moon Fairy Hike, Fort Stevenson State Park, Garrison, 9:30 p.m.
- May 10: Spring turkey season closes.
- May 12: Pioneer Village Museum opens for the season, 10 a.m.
- May 15: 5K FoamFest, Leach Park, Minot, 6 p.m.

TOURNAMENTS:

- May 9: Lake Sakakawea, Four Bears Marina.
- May 16: Lake Darling, West Landing No. 1; Lake Sakakawea, White Earth Bay; Devils Lake, Creel Bay; West Park Lake.

Sakakawea. Try any of the back bays for pike. Limited walleye reports but try pitching jigs along rocky points in 2 to 10 feet. Docks in place at Steinke Bay but not at Centennial early in the week. Lake Audubon also ice-free. Try around any of the islands in 4 to 8 feet for walleye and look for a smallmouth bass bite to start soon. Try dead-heads or jerk and swim baits. No docks in place on Audubon early in the week.

•Lake Sakakawea, New Town: Weather continues limiting angler activity in the Van Hook Arm of Lake Sakakawea.

•Lake Sakakawea, Van Hook Bait & Tackle, New Town: Facilities open for the season May 15.

•Lake Sakakawea/Missouri River, Scott's Bait & Tackle, Pick City: Missouri River tailrace remains fair to good for walleye with best success from shore in the morning or evening hours using plastics or jigs and minnows. Try the boat ramp area or wing walls. Success from boats, as well, using jigs and minnows. Lake Sakakawea sporadic for pike. Try any of the back bays.

•Lake Sakakawea/northwest N.D. lakes, Scenic Sports, Williston: Anglers with paddlefish tags could expect fair to good success in the open areas. Tags must be in possession. Missouri and Yellowstone rivers remain slow for walleye with muddy water conditions. Water also muddied on the upper end of Lake Sakakawea. Try White Earth Bay to the east for cleaner water and better walleye activity. Low water ramp usable at Lund's Landing. Try frozen smelt or herring in the back bays for pike. Look for some trout success with recent stocking of catchable trout in Kota-Ray Dam and West Spring Lake Park.

•North-central/central N.D. lakes, Towner Hdwe. Hank, Towner: Activity remains limited on area lakes and the Souris River.

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.

The Airmen Remain Our Best Weapon

ROD WILSON, NORTHERN SENTRY

Task Force 21 is a group of volunteers whose main goal is to advocate and support the missions of Minot Air Force Base. Some of the members of this year's task force can well remember Task Force '96, a group organized to guide Minot through the Base Realignment and Closure rounds that occurred in the late 1990's. The group was laser focused on retaining both wings at the Minot Air Force Base, the 5th Bomb Wing and the 91st Missile Wing.

Although today's TF21 serves in a much different capacity as the group works to educate, advocate and engage on a local, statewide and national level. Today's North Dakota Nuclear Triad Symposium is much like the Nuclear Symposiums sponsored by TF21 and held in Washington, D.C.

"You know this all started back in the BRAC days" according to Bruce Christianson, one of the members who was integral in Task Force '96 and has transitioned to Task Force 21. "The threat to our base was very real."

Although the Washington D.C. Task Force 21 Nuclear Triad Symposium is held annually, the ND Symposium, which started in 2024, has been a semi-annual event.

COL. TY CISNEROS

Col Cisneros is the Chief, Command and Control Division, A10 ICBM Modernization, Air Force Global Strike Command and he lead off the guest speaker agenda. Col Cisneros stressed that "the system that guaranteed our security today, is not the system we need to guarantee our security tomorrow. Therefore, we have a profound responsibility to Global Strike, to the nation and our kids and your kids to secure a new weapons system. Our greatest weapons system is our Airmen. The maintainers who are out in the field, the security forces who protect our assets and it's the operators keeping the system online and ready to go. We cannot afford to run with the old system, and that is why we need to modernize the main leg of the triad. It's not an option it's a nuclear triad fundamental necessity. We cannot rely on a 60-year-old system indefinitely to counter tomorrow's threats."

Col Cisneros described Sentinel as a whole new weapons system from the ground up that secures not only our nation but provide security

for U.S. allies going forward. The target date for construction to begin is 2027 with the project taking 3-5 years to complete. "We made the decision to build new launch silos," according to Cisneros. In 2027 Minot will start construction on a consolidated vehicle maintenance complex, as well as a security forces operation complex.

Cisneros talked about keeping the public informed going forward "with events like townhalls that we mentioned before. The Sentinel Missile System will be the largest infrastructure system in history. Not just Air Force history, but the United States overall."

JOHN A HILL

Mr. Hill is Foreign Policy Advisor to the Commander, Air Force Global Strike Command. "My job is to tell (Global Strike Command) what is going on in the world" according to Hill "what is going on today? So, I go to the internet to figure that out." Hill pointed out that there have been 25-30,000 Chinese who are 18-20 years old that came across the U.S. borders illegally. "An example" says Hill "is that we had a young fellow approach the gate two days in a row at F.E. Warren. He changed his story the 2nd day."

Another incident that Hill used as an example is that there is a train that goes through F.E. Warren every day. One of the cars on the train is sourced to China, the other says COSCO. "So, what is COSCO? It's China Ocean Shipping Company" said Hill, "and on the other side of that train?" asks Hill, "down in the valley on the other side of that train is the new Sentinel building."

Hill then did a comparison between Russia as an adversary ad China as an adversary. "Russia can't do anything without oil, and Russia can make money selling oil at \$65.00 per barrel, and Putin can fund the war effort at \$65.00 per barrel. Today Brent crude is around \$112.00 per barrel, so yes, plenty of money to fund his (Putin's) war effort."

Hill then gave some interesting information about the Chinese intrusion into the motion picture industry, because companies like Warner Brothers and Paramount want to market into China. Movies like Barbie, and an attempt at Top Gun Maverick. And where Russia may even communicate their intentions, China does not.

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Col. Ty Cisneros, Chief, Command and Control Division, A10 ICBM Modernization, Air Force Global Strike Command.



Gen. S.L. Davis, Commander, Air Force Global Strike Command and Commander, Air Forces Strategic-Air, U.S. Strategic Command delivers keynote address to ND Nuclear Symposium.

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE PA PHOTO

DR. REBECCA HEINRICHS

Dr. Rebecca Heinrichs is a Hudson Institute Senior Fellow and Keystone Defense Initiative Director. Navy Admiral Samuel Paparo in recent testimony according to Heinrichs “says he wants more bombers. He says the best and highest need for him, and across the joint forces is deterrence. Deterrence is our highest need. He wants to double the amount of B21 bombers.

Dr. Heinrichs goes on to point out that we are really in a state of a Cold War environment. “What is the nation’s highest priority? It is deterring major power conflict” according to Heinrichs “and what is certainly fundamental to that deterrence is our nuclear triad. And every conflict in areas away from our shores will ride on our nuclear deterrence holding.”

Dr. Heinrichs says there is bipartisan support for: The United States of America maintaining our nuclear triad.

We must finish the modernization of the program of record, but the

program of record was started in 2009.

We must finish our modernization project and make it the priority of the nation. We must adapt it.

What is deterrence? “Deterrence” according to Dr. Heinrichs “is the act of convincing your adversaries that whatever they may be considering against our interests will result in us acting against them. Deterrence is not a bluff.

GEN. S.L. DAVIS

Gen. S.L. Davis, Commander, Air Force Global Strike Command and Commander, Air Forces Strategic-Air, U.S. Strategic Command, Barksdale Air Force Base.

Gen. Davis was the commander of the 91st MW during the years of the 2011 flood.

“Nobody is able to talk about the MH-139 Grey Wolf helicopter that will be starting to be deployed to Minot in 2027” said Gen Davis.

“I don’t think it’s an exaggeration to say that Global Strike Command bases have the best support from local communities” according to Gen. Davis. “Task Force 21’s

mission is to support the Triad, and it has and they are making a difference. Today they continue their mission of excellence, advocacy & support.” Gen Davis goes on to echo the importance of maintain an effective nuclear deterrence, including the modernization of the U.S. Air Force’s bomber inventory. Gen Davis noted that this year marks the 17th Anniversary of Global Strike Command.

“Today we have 23 bombers in the UK, the most bombers we have had there since World War II, along with a thousand Airmen providing support for those bombers” according to Davis “160 missions were flow. Along with that we maintain an ICBM force as they have always done for the last 63 years. The operate and maintain a Minuteman force at an unbelievably high rate of readiness, approaching 100%.”

Gen Davis continued to support the message of the importance of community support for the Airmen and their families. “We can’t thank you enough.”



Dr. Rebecca Heinrichs, Hudson Institute Senior Fellow and Keystone Defense Initiative Director.



John A. Hill, Forgen Policy Advisor to the Commander, Air Force Global Strike Command.



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Stock up on vehicle breakdown supplies

Unforeseen situations can crop up at any time. Anyone who has had a roadside breakdown in their car understands this. A flat tire or an engine malfunction is something no driver wants to experience, but those with a well-stocked vehicle emergency kit and breakdown strategy can get through most situations rather easily. A 2017 survey from AAA found that 40 percent of drivers in the United States are not ready to handle a typical roadside emergency breakdown. The organization estimates it helps some seven million motorists get back on the road each summer. A well-equipped roadside emergency kit may help drivers get their vehicles back on the road on their own.

- **First aid kit:** The first aid kit will celebrate its 133rd birthday in 2021. The Johnson & Johnson company began commercializing first aid kits in 1888. Having a first aid kit in the car to treat minor injuries can be helpful in the event of an accident or even after injuring oneself during a breakdown.
- **Fire extinguisher:** Cars are full of various mechanical parts and are susceptible to catching on fire. The National Fire Protection Association says vehicle fire extinguishers need to be rated for Class B and C fires.
- **Jumper cables:** A weak or dead battery is often the culprit in breakdowns. Jumper cables enable drivers to get a charge from another motorist, and may help get a person back on the road quickly. If possible, get a set of cables that also comes with safety gloves and

- heavy duty clamps, offers Defensive Driving Online, a defensive driving course.
- **Mobile phone/charger:** A mobile phone is essential for calling for assistance, but the phone is only useful if it's charged.
- **Blanket:** Keep a blanket in the trunk or another storage area. Should the vehicle die in cold weather, that blanket can help keep passengers warm until assistance arrives.
- **Basic tools:** Tools like a screwdriver, ratchet set and wrench may enable drivers to complete minor repairs. Tools also should include tire-changing gear, such as a jack and lug nut remover.
- **Traction aid:** Non-clumping kitty litter or sand can provide the traction needed to get off of a slippery area of roadway.
- **Flashlight:** A flashlight can help keep you visible and able to see your surroundings in dark conditions.
- **Flares:** Should a breakdown occur in the dark, flares can alert other drivers.
- **Snacks and water:** Water and food that stores well, such as emergency rations, granola bars or trail mix, can quell hunger pangs and provide an energy boost while waiting for help.
- **Rope/bungee cords/tarp:** These items can be used in various situations to secure a vehicle. While drivers can gather these items separately, many companies offer all-in-one vehicle emergency kits. A safety kit is essential for all drivers.



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ANIMAL SPOTLIGHT

BLACK AND WHITE RUFFED LEMUR

CREATURE FEATURES

- They quadrupedally (using all 4 limbs) move about in the trees and are often seen suspending themselves upside down by their hind feet to feed on fruit.
- Lemurs are one of the great pollinators of the world! These Lemurs have developed a fascinating relationship with the Traveler's Palm Tree. When they pull apart the bracts of the tree to forage, the pollen sticks to the Lemur's fur and is carried to the next tree.
- Black and White Ruffed Lemurs are one of the only primates to make nests and commonly give birth to twins or triplets.

Fact File

Life Span	14 - 16 Years
Weight	7 - 10 pounds
Height	17 - 22 inches
Tail Length	22 - 25 inches
Body Length	20 - 22 inches
Wild Diet	Omnivore Carnivore Herbivore
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Blooming at the BX: Proof & Petals

ERIN BEENE, NORTHERN SENTRY

It's springtime in the BX! Roses, tulips, lilies, all within your reach with a quick trip to the Base Exchange. A new business has recently taken root in a previously empty space and blossomed into a vibrant and colorful addition.

Proof & Petals, a fresh take on the classic floral shop, quietly opened last month at Minot AFB. With a grand opening planned for Friday, May 1, owner Madison Edmonds explained that her approach offers a new kind of experience. "The space itself is designed to feel more like a boutique experience. It is meant to feel calm, intentional, and approachable rather than transactional. Proof & Petals is intentionally different from a traditional flower shop."

Edmonds wasn't always a floral designer. In fact, she is an Air Force veteran who once worked on the more technical side of things rather than the artistic. After her service, she wasn't sure what direction to take next.

"I had explored the technical side of things, but I realized I needed something that felt more grounding and personal. Flowers became that outlet. It gave me something to create with my hands and a way to reconnect with myself in a different way."

She shared that the name Proof & Petals is rooted in her personal experiences. "The name reflects something I speak about

often: how beauty can come from even the hardest seasons. It's rooted in resilience. No matter what someone is going through, there is still something meaningful that can grow from it. That perspective shapes both the business and the way I approach every arrangement."



Proof & Petals had a humble beginning. Edmonds explained that she participated in a Valentine's vendor event at the BX this past February, where the general manager approached her about possibly filling the empty floral shop space.

"From there, it became a process of preparing the space, coordinating details, and building

out what Proof & Petals would look like in a permanent location within the BX."

As mentioned, Proof & Petals stands apart from traditional flower shops by offering both fresh and faux flowers, giving customers more flexibility. Edmonds said, "Some people want something lasting, while others want something fresh and seasonal. I also focus heavily on ready-to-go arrangements, so customers can walk in and leave with something meaningful without needing to place an order in advance."

In addition to ready-made options, she also takes custom orders and offers special packages for holidays. While the business is off to a strong start, Edmonds already has plans for future growth.

"Looking ahead, I plan to introduce additional offerings such as floral workshops, bloom bar experiences where customers can choose their own stems, and a subscription-style option focused on bringing fresh flowers into the start of the week. The goal is to create something people can incorporate into their routine, not just something they purchase for special occasions."

For Edmonds, this business is a true labor of love. "What started as something small for myself grew into something I now get to share with others," she said.



Veteran & shop owner, Madison Edmonds.



Proof & Petals opened in the Minot AFB Base Exchange in April with a Grand Opening May 1



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A LOOK BACK
THIS WEEK IN USAF HISTORY

LT. JAMES OBENAUFLANDS A BURNING B-47 AND SAVES CREW MEMBER

APRIL 28, 1958



On April 28, 1958, a 341st Bombardment Wing B-47 performed a routine flight out of Dyess AFB, Texas. After about 3 hours and at an altitude of 34,000 feet, one of the engines exploded and the crew proceeded to bail out. As he was about to crawl out the navigator's escape hatch following the pilot, 1st Lt. James E. Obenauf noticed the instructor-navigator, Major Joseph Maxwell, unconscious and missing his helmet. Obenauf was unable to revive him and made the brave decision to risk death and remain in the burning aircraft in an attempt to save his fellow officer. He flew the plane to a lower altitude from the backseat position and at 450 mph in freezing temperatures, he set a course back to Dyess. Due to the elements, Lt. Obenauf's vision faltered while navigating the aircraft. He was able to perform a safe landing with the support of air traffic control and his own skill. Obenauf and Maxwell made full recoveries, and for his heroism and bravery, Lt. Obenauf received the Cheney Award, Aviator's Valor Award, Koren Kolligan Trophy, and a Distinguished Flying Cross.

Lt. Obenauf received a Distinguished Flying Cross for his heroic actions. (USAF Photo)

Information courtesy of: Dyess AFB Memorial Museum and Linear Air Park FB / safety.af.mil

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Seeing the Light: A Look Inside Minot's Most Glowing Gallery

MAGIC CITY DISCOVERY CENTER

While most of the Magic City Discovery Center is a whirlwind of bright colors and sunlit spaces, there is one corner where the lights go down, and the magic begins. Tucked away on the second floor, our Light Lab is truly second to none. Step into this dimly lit, mysterious sanctuary to discover how shadows, prisms, and plasma turn a dark room into a glowing world of wonder.

EXPERIENCE THE GLOW OF THE LIGHT LAB!

- The Aurora Maker: You don't have to wait for a clear North Dakota night to see the magic of the skies. The Aurora Maker gives explorers a front-row seat to the science of the heavens. By manipulating magnetic fields

and plasma, you can recreate the dancing "Northern Lights" right here in the Discovery Center!

- The Pendulux: Don't let its simple look fool you! The Pendulux is pure "science zen." Watch as a focused pencil beam of light traces intricate, glowing Spirograph patterns on a rotating screen. It's easily one of the most relaxing (and mesmerizing) ways to spend an afternoon.

- Giant LiteBrite: It's a neon throwback for parents and a total hit for the kids! Our Giant LiteBrite turns a wall into a glowing canvas where you can build messages, patterns, and art with oversized translucent pegs. It's a vivid reminder that some of the best memories are made with the classics.

THE SCIENCE BEHIND THAT GLOW

The Light Lab might feel a bit mysterious at first, but once you step inside, you'll find a world of "aha!" moments waiting to happen. Take the RAYS table: it's a playground of pure energy where ultra-bright beams of color project across a white tabletop. By using mirrors and lenses, you can grab those beams and "bend" them to your will. Practice focusing, reflecting, and mixing them in real-time. Did you know that the "white" light you see every day is actually a team effort made of every color in the rainbow? You can prove it yourself using our prisms! Remember: light is a beam of energy that travels in wavelengths, and it is the only form of energy




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in the entire universe that we can actually see with our own eyes!

FAST FACTS FOR KIDS

- **Speed Demon:** If you could travel at the speed of light, you'd go around Earth 7.5 times in one second!
- **Animal Vision:** Some insects see colors we can't even imagine. What would you name a brand-new color?
- **Light vs. Sound:** Why do we see lightning before we hear thunder? (Light is the winner of the cosmic race!)

HOW TO SUPPORT DISCOVERY IN LIGHTLAB

While your little scientists explore the Light Lab, you can help deepen their experience with just a few simple questions:

- **Check the Vibe:** Ask, "How does this dark room make you feel compared to the sunny lobby? Does the blue light feel different than the red light?"
- **Hunt for Rainbows:** "Where else in this room can you spot a hidden rainbow?" (Hint: Look at the edges of the shadows or near the prisms!)
- **Celebrate Creativity:** At the Giant LiteBrite, ask, "What inspired this pattern?" or "Can we try to make a pattern using only two colors?"
- **Practice New Words:** See if you can use "science words" like reflect (bouncing light), refract (bending

light), or spectrum (all the colors)!

BEYOND THE LIGHT: WHY IT MATTERS

While it looks like a neon wonderland, the Light Lab is a powerhouse for development. As children manipulate the pegs on the LiteBrite or move the mirrors at the RAYS table, they are strengthening their fine motor skills and hand-eye coordination. More importantly, they are practicing scientific inquiry by making a plan, testing a theory, and seeing the results in a flash of brilliant color.

Whether you're a local regular or visiting Minot for the first time, the

Light Lab is waiting to show you the world in a whole new light. Come paint with our light wands, create your own aurora, and leave a glowing message for the next visitor.

Pro-Tip: The Light Lab is a fantastic "cool-down" spot. If the high energy of the other galleries starts to feel overwhelming, the soft glow and "science zen" of the Pendulux offer the perfect brain break.

We can't wait to see what you discover! See you on the 2nd floor! Find us at MagicCityDiscoveryCenter.com or at 1545 1st NW, Minot, ND 58703



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DELIVERY

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| <p><u>TUESDAY, MAY 12</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harvey - 12:00 to 12:30 PM
Cobblestone Inn & Suites parking lot, back side (North) • Drake - 1:30 PM
Street in front of City Park • Velva - 2:30 PM
Verendrye Electric Coop parking lot | <p><u>WEDNESDAY, MAY 13</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minot - 11:15 AM to 12:15 PM
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- 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



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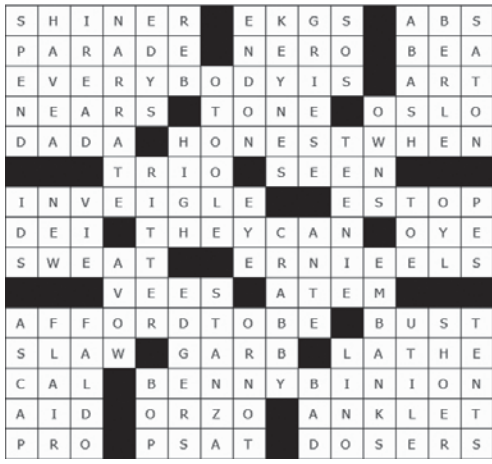
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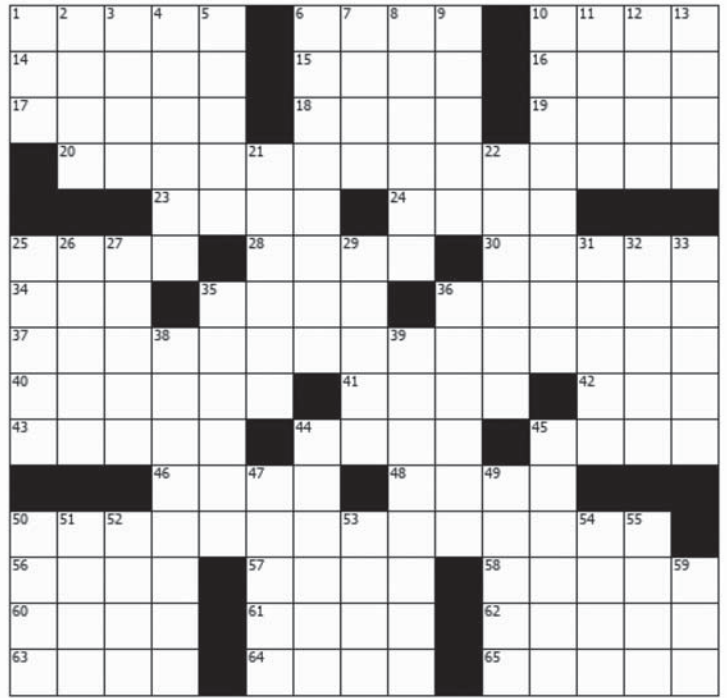
Solution to puzzle on page B10

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

- 1. Trial town
- 6. Char or burn the surface
- 10. Place for a pat?
- 14. Plato's marketplace
- 15. Introduction to Chinese?
- 16. "The African Queen" screenwriter James
- 17. Three-masted vessel
- 18. Desolate
- 19. Emulate Gabriel
- 20. Tombstone hotel?
- 23. Grammy winner Braxton
- 24. Watch chains
- 25. Start of a Horatio Alger plot
- 28. Breakaway group
- 30. Chain of hills
- 34. A Warner Bros. brother
- 35. Leaning tower city
- 36. Excise
- 37. Deal-making apparel?
- 40. Fifth or Lexington
- 41. Words with step or sleep
- 42. They've got your #
- 43. Gives it to the judge
- 44. Ken or Lena of Hollywood
- 45. Surveys
- 46. Desirable to a dieter
- 48. Give the boot
- 50. Agenda for a "Giant" star?
- 56. Unshut
- 57. Drew Carey's foil
- 58. Lit
- 60. Turbine part
- 61. Rite answers
- 62. Clobbered, old-style
- 63. Removed ruthlessly
- 64. Like sour grapes
- 65. More than unpopular



Down

- 1. Getz's instrument
- 2. Like high-quality wine or cheese
- 3. Timber wolf
- 4. Builds up
- 5. Stallone-esque
- 6. Most slaphappy
- 7. Compound with a doubly linked carbon atom
- 8. Unrestrained, as a ship
- 9. Recurring-theme composition
- 10. Tends tots
- 11. Unattractive fruit that sounds that way
- 12. Gas discovery of 1898
- 13. In stitches
- 21. In a legal line position
- 22. Short, but not necessarily sweet
- 25. Traffic tool
- 26. ___ and beyond
- 27. Hereditary factors
- 29. Channing of Broadway
- 31. Throw water on
- 32. Pretext
- 33. James and Jones of music
- 35. Assets
- 36. Low grade
- 38. Like caribou
- 39. Local member
- 44. Central New York lake
- 45. The scarlet letter, e.g.
- 47. Let in or on
- 49. Cut drastically
- 50. Starbucks wares, informally
- 51. Trojan War hero
- 52. Simba's pride?
- 53. Love, to Ovid
- 54. Type of machine
- 55. Carryall
- 59. Hitched, so to speak

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Local Educator Honored as Ryan Chevrolet's March Teacher of the Month

Ryan Chevrolet is shining a spotlight on local educators with its ongoing Teacher of the Month program, and March's honoree is making a strong impression in and out of the classroom.

Mr. Fricke, a physical education and health teacher at Memorial Middle School, has been named Ryan Chevrolet's March Teacher of the Month. Known for his positive energy and dedication, Fricke encourages students to stay active, build confidence, and develop lifelong healthy habits. His approach helps create an environment where students feel supported, motivated, and eager to participate.

The recognition is part of a monthly initiative aimed at celebrating educators who go above and beyond in their schools and communities.

Nominations are now open for upcoming Teacher of the Month selections. Community members are encouraged to submit the name, school, and a brief explanation of why a teacher stands out by visiting ryanchevroletminot.com/teachers/. Each month, one nominee will be randomly selected and surprised with a prize package that includes a \$200 Visa gift card, a balloon bouquet, a Teacher of the Month certificate, and a pizza or donut party for their classroom.

Ryan Chevrolet's program highlights the important role educators play every day, not just teachers, but also counselors, principals, secretaries, and aides, inviting the community to show appreciation for those who make a difference.



RYAN CHEVROLET PHOTO



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, May 19

1200, Bomber Bistro (Back Room), Minot AFB

Looking for all AFA members, and potential AFA members.



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

afa.org/join



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WICKED DAYS IN DAKOTA

Kim Fundingsland

North Dakota's capital city of Bismarck took grew out of some of the wickedest days in frontier history. The Northern Pacific Railroad, advancing from the populated East, made it as far as the Missouri River. It was there that Edwinton, later renamed Bismarck, was born. It would be several years before funds were appropriated to bridge the Missouri, which was then the edge of the Sioux nation. Thus, Bismarck was the end of the line for roughies, gamblers, and assorted lawbreakers fleeing from the East. Many of them vowed to make Bismarck their last stand, vowing to "die with their boots on."

An early directory of the soon to be booming frontier town listed a population of 1,000 adult men and an astounding 24 saloons. Bismarck's Fourth Street became notorious for drinking and gambling, shootings and slayings. Many of the fatal incidents involved soldiers from Fort Abraham Lincoln, located across the Missouri River from Bismarck. One of the country's best-known personalities, Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer, was commanding officer of the vaunted 7th Cavalry posted at Fort Lincoln.

Saloon frequenters that got into shooting row with a soldier could expect swift reprisal from others wearing the Army blue. The Army did not interfere in such matters and civil authorities lacked jurisdiction on a military post. The only time Custer ever exerted his authority over anyone in Bismarck involved the stealing of Fort Lincoln grain which was to be used as feed for cavalry mounts. He led a company of soldiers across the frozen Missouri and lined them up in front of a storehouse on Bismarck's Main Street. The troopers opened the warehouse and removed sacks of grain clearly marked Ft. Abraham Lincoln. The warehouse was owned by John McLean, Bismarck's mayor, who was said to have shown the proper amount of surprise at seeing the stolen grain sacks. A few months later Custer arrested Charles McCarthy for cutting wood within the boundaries

of the Fort Lincoln reservation. He tossed McCarthy into the guardhouse but released him a few days later at the urging of two attorneys from Bismarck. Ironically, McCarthy was elected sheriff two months later. It was a Custer-led expedition into the Black Hills of present-day South Dakota that discovered gold, an event that ignited a gold rush and accelerated Bismarck's growth. The city positioned itself as the best jumping off point for gold seekers heading to the Hills. Businesses flourished, mostly providing the flow of goods of all kinds headed for the latest bonanza. The Bismarck-to-Deadwood stage trail increased demand for horses, wagons, and supplies. Deadwood quickly earned a reputation as a wild frontier town. The Eastern newspapers were enthralled with exciting tales from Deadwood. Clement Lounsberry, owner/editor of the Bismarck Tribune, made a trip to Deadwood in 1877 to see if the stories of lawlessness and mayhem were true. He returned to Bismarck and wrote glowing accounts of Deadwood and Crook City, two well-known destinations in the Black Hills. However, Lounsberry added, "more murders occurred in the town of Bismarck during the first two years of its existence than has occurred in all of the towns of the Black Hills."



Reenactors inside the Custer house at Fort Abraham Lincoln south of Mandan.

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North Hill Bowl, 1901 N Broadway

Bowl-a-Palooza is back! Gather your friends, coworkers, or most competitive family members and join us at North Hill Bowl for an afternoon of bowling, laughs, food, and just the right amount of chaos to support Souris Valley United Way. Whether you're bowling for bragging rights, showing up in full team costume, or just here for the fun, Bowl-a-Palooza is your chance to hit the lanes for a great cause and a great time. Registration at 12:30 PM | Bowling begins at 1:00 PM
Team Options: Regular Team of 4 - \$160 • VIP Team of 4 - \$200
Details in the registration link.
Plus: Prizes for Best Team Name, Best Team Costume, and Highest Score • 50/50 raffle • Raffle items



Information: Facebook/North Hill Bowl/events
Registration: <https://ddock.co/4ZJPTFEW8>

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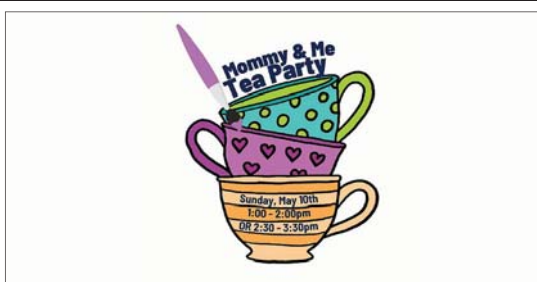
All tickets are general admission. There are no reserved seats. Advance tickets coming soon for purchase at various locations:
Advance ticket prices:
Adult: \$15, Teen (Ages 13-18): \$12, Senior Citizens (Ages 65+): \$12
Active Duty Military: \$12, Children (Kindergarten - Age 12): \$8
Preschool Children: Free
Thursday, May 7th: 10AM and 7PM
Friday, May 8th: 10AM and 7PM
Saturday, May 9th: 10AM, 2PM, and 6PM



Online tickets:
minotshriners.org

10 MAY **MOMMY & ME TEA PARTY**
1:00 PM - 3:30 PM
Magic City Discovery Center,
1545 1st Street NW

Join us for a Mommy & Me Tea Party filled with creativity and connection! Moms and kids will paint and decorate their own teacups and saucers, then enjoy sweet treats while sipping tea and juice together on our beautiful rooftop. It's the perfect blend of hands-on fun and special memories. Please note: Registration is required for each child attending, and all supplies for moms are included in the child's registration. If you have multiple children, be sure to sign up each one individually so everyone can participate! Ages: 5+
Cost: \$30 for non-members, \$27 for members, and \$24 for military members



For more information & to register:
<https://www.magiccitydiscoverycenter.com/camps>

17 MAY **SYTTENDE MAI PARADE AND PARK OPENING DAY**
4:00PM-5:30PM
Scandinavian Heritage Park,
1020 South Broadway

Syttende Mai Celebration - May 17, 2026
Celebrate Norway's Constitution Day with a parade and festivities at the Scandinavian Heritage Park in Minot, ND! Join the walking parade at noon, wear your favorite Norwegian attire, and wave flags while singing "Ja vi elsker." After the parade, enjoy a traditional lunch at the Sons of Norway Thor Lodge, featuring hot dogs, salads, kransekake, and more. This event also marks the grand opening of the park buildings for the summer season, running from May 17 to September 30, 2026.



For more information:
Facebook/Scandinavian Heritage Park/events

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US, Moroccan Air Forces Project Combat Power During Exercise African Lion 26

ARMY 1ST LT. TUCKER CHASE

CAP DRAA, Morocco (AFNS) -- A combined flight of two U.S. Air Force B-52H Stratofortress bombers and four Royal Moroccan Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcons, signaled the launch of the country's first accredited joint terminal attack controller qualification course, April 23.

The flyover was a key component of Exercise African Lion 26, U.S. Africa Command's largest annual joint exercise, led by U.S. Army Southern European Task Force, Africa, from April 20 to May 8. Integrating these aircraft into the multinational exercise demonstrated the ability of the U.S. and its partners to project combat-credible airpower worldwide.

Air Force Global Strike Command bombers routinely conduct sorties around the world, including flights required to maintain crew proficiency and qualification.

"Their visible presence over Morocco, operating alongside Royal Moroccan Air Force fighters, signals credible deterrence and reinforces the U.S. commitment to regional security," said Air Force Gen.

Dagvin Anderson, USAFRICOM commanding general.

U.S. Strategic Command bomber forces regularly carry out combined theater security cooperation engagements with allies and partners, demonstrating the credibility and flexibility of U.S. forces to address today's complex, dynamic and unpredictable global security environment.

"The inaugural [joint terminal attack controller] qualification course trains Moroccan students to direct combat aircraft, artillery and naval gunfire from forward positions," said Air Force Master Sgt. Therron Bundick, chief of weapons and tactics for the 165th Air Support Operations Squadron. "These controllers hold the authority to clear airstrikes, ensuring accuracy while avoiding friendly fire and minimizing collateral damage."

During the exercise, U.S. Air Force JTACs assigned to the 165th ASOS, as well as Detachment 1 of the 2nd ASOS, joined U.S. Marine Corps JTACs assigned to the 3rd Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company to train alongside service members from Canada, Hungary and Morocco.



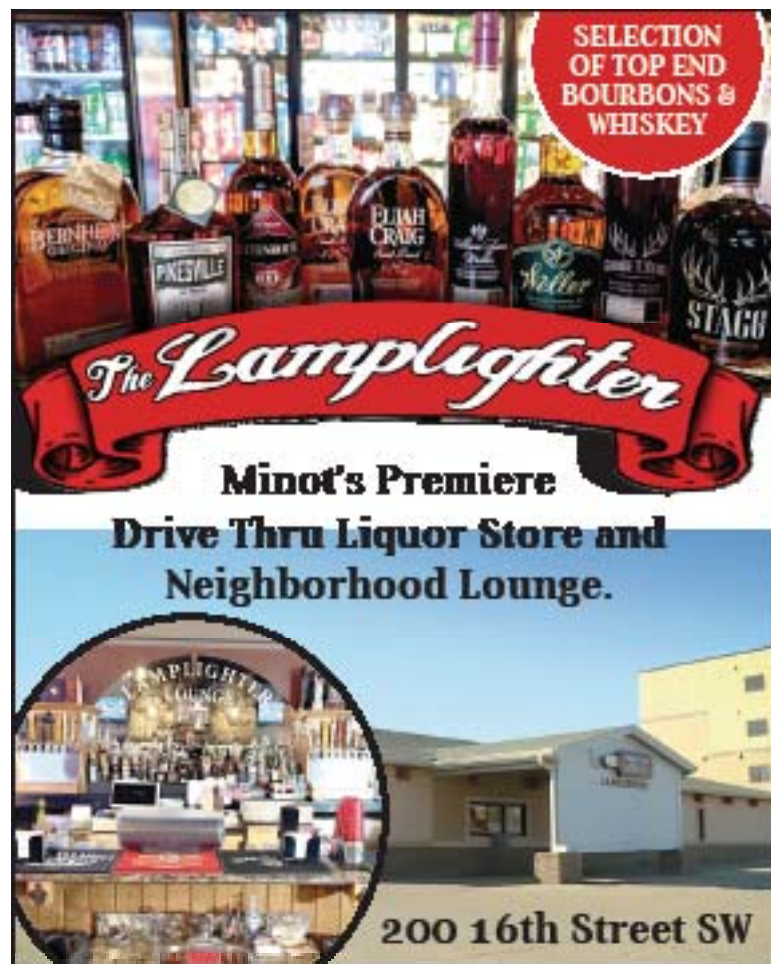
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Live and simulated training events give students realistic close-air support scenarios, and the diverse group accelerates the development of professional JTAC leadership through the exchange of tactics and procedures.

Bundick noted that the program marks a foundational step toward a standardized, internationally interoperable JTAC capability aligned with modern coalition warfare requirements.

“Morocco’s first JTAC qualification course marks a historic milestone in advancing allied interoperability,” he said. “U.S. involvement ensures a rigorous training environment to establish a lasting foundation for the program’s future.”

Combined live-fire integration also allows U.S. units to test their own tactics alongside trusted partners. Marine Corps Maj. Michael Chevallier, 1st Brigade air officer assigned to the 3rd Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, emphasized that the exercise allowed both forces to cross-train and leverage each other’s unique operational capabilities.

“Combined live-fire training like this allows us to validate our tactics, techniques and procedures under the trusted scrutiny of an allied force,” Chevallier said. “It reinforces that shared commitment to excellence where, as we say, ‘steel sharpens steel.’”

Chevallier said Exercise African Lion 26 has provided a valuable opportunity for the Marines of his unit and its partners in the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces to learn from each other’s strengths and unique capabilities.

The combined employment of U.S. strategic heavy bombers with Moroccan airpower, paired with the launch of Morocco’s first nationally accredited JTAC qualification course, provides flexible options to assure partners and deter potential adversaries across the Africom area of responsibility.



U.S. Air Force B-52H Stratofortress aircraft and Moroccan Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcons fly over a training area as service members from the U.S., Morocco, Canada and Hungary pose for a photo during Exercise African Lion 26 at Tan-Tan, Morocco, April 23, 2026. The multinational joint terminal attack controller training enhanced interoperability and demonstrated the ability to project combat-credible airpower alongside allied and partner forces through the exchange of tactics, techniques and procedures.



U.S. Air Force B-52H Stratofortress aircraft assigned to Minot Air Force Base takes off for a proficiency flight in support of Exercise African Lion 2026, April 23, 2026. Bomber missions provide flexible deterrence options and signal our ability to project combat-credible airpower forward, while operating alongside multilateral Allies and partners, throughout Africa, Europe and the world. AL26 is U.S. Africa Command’s largest annual joint exercise, designed to strengthen collective security capabilities of the U.S., African nations and global allies.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS ADDISON BOLT

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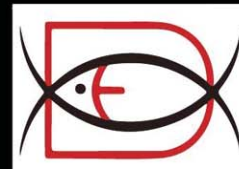
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Principal Appreciation

May 1st is National Principal Appreciation Day and to commemorate this special occasion, I thank all of our local principals! You play an important role in our children's school experiences, supporting students, teachers, and families—and I thank you for your dedication.

According to Educators Writers Association, the first principals arose in the early 19th century in urban schools. This was at a time when one-room schoolhouses expanded due to increased student demand. The evolution of the principal role is as follows: single teacher, head-teacher, teaching-principal, building-principal, to principal. It's no surprise this supervisory role now oversees predominantly administrative responsibilities. For more information, feel free to visit: <https://ewa.org/issues/early-learning/history-and-background-school-leadership>.

Our principals, today, set a clear vision for academic success, ensure teachers receive professional development, manage budgets, facilitate policies, create safe and inclusive environments where students and parents feel welcomed and supported, and engage with stakeholders to strengthen the school community. Regarding this latter role, I feel honored to work with many school principals on behalf of military-connected students.

In fact, I am especially appreciative of the time and effort expended by Mr. Larry Derr, Superintendent of Glenburn Public School, and Mrs. McCann, Principal of Erik Ramstad Middle School. These schools were the first schools in North Dakota to receive the Purple Star Award outside of Minot AFB, and both Mr. Derr and Mrs. McCann eagerly worked to meet the following four criteria as listed on <https://www.nd.gov/dpi/educators/awards/purple-star-award>:

How to Qualify
Schools must fulfill all the required activities listed below.

1. Designate a staff point of contact (POC) for military students and families. The POC serves as the primary liaison between the military connected student, their family, and the school. The individual may be a counselor, administrator, teacher, or other staff member.

2. Establish and maintain a dedicated page on its website featuring information and resources for military families.

3. Maintain a student-led transition program to include a student transition team coordinator.

4. Provide professional development for additional staff on special considerations for military students and families.

Optional school activities

- The local school board passes a resolution of the school's support for military children and families.

- The school hosts a military recognition event to demonstrate a military-friendly

culture at the school.

Now, Mr. Harlan Johnson and Mr. David McQueen are working on this award. Monthly, we meet to set one goal after another, and both High School Principals are now ready to submit their applications!

I asked how they felt about the process and why each desired to obtain the Purple Star Award, and here are their responses:

Mr. Derr: "Working toward the Purple Star Award was an important step in strengthening our support for military-connected students and families. As a district, we recognize the unique challenges these students face, and we wanted to ensure we had systems in place to provide consistency, communication, and support during transitions. The process allowed us to be intentional about our practices and strengthen our partnership with the Minot Air Force Base community."



Mr. Larry Derr, Superintendent of Glenburn Public School

Mrs. McCann: "We applied for the Purple Star Award to deepen our commitment to the military-connected families who sacrifice so much for our community. Our goal was to ensure our students feel fully supported and recognized within the Ramstad family. The process was seamless thanks to Mrs. Kelly's guidance, and we truly value the collaborative effort to strengthen our school culture."



Mrs. Laura McCann, Principal of Erik Ramstad Middle School

Mr. Johnson: "The Purple Star process was a great opportunity for our team to really look at how we support military-connected students and families. It was important for us to pursue this because of our strong connection

to Minot Air Force Base and our commitment to making sure those students feel welcomed and supported. It also gave us a clear way to keep improving the work we're already doing."



Mr. Harlan Johnson, Principal of Minot North High School

Mr. McQueen: "Minot High seeks Purple Star designation to demonstrate our commitment to supporting military-connected students and their families through strong relationships, communication, and tailored support. This recognition reflects our dedication to ensuring these students receive the stability, understanding, and opportunities they need to succeed. We have greatly appreciated the collaboration with our military school liaison, Alyssa Kelly, to help guide us through this process."



Mr. David McQueen, Principal of Minot High School

As evident through these leaders' hard work, we are lucky to live within a community of strong individuals devoted to serving students and families connected to our nation's armed forces. Their desire to serve was voluntary, their effort commendable, and their impact widespread.

If I do not reach out to you fast enough and you are a local principal who desires this military-friendly designation, please reach out to me at mafb.school.liaison@us.af.mil.

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.



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



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

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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
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Pastor Brian Keithline

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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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Sunday 9:30 am
www.flcminot.com

Pastor Brandy Gerjets

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**Sunday Services
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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

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Southern Baptist Convention

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

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Meal..... 5:30p.m.
Classes for All Ages 6:30 p.m.
Youth Center, Friday..... 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.
ABC Child Care Center852-6352

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

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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

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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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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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PUZZLE ON PAGE B4

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

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SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE SCHOOL DISTRICT #160 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES APRIL 21, 2026

The School Board of Minot Air Force Base Public School District No. 160 held a regular meeting on April 21, 2026. The meeting was conducted at the Library of Memorial Middle School.

Board Members Present: Eric Fileccia, Wesley Hoffman, Chris Tilstra

Board Members Absent: Kyle Gahring, Anthony Foerster

Call to Order: President Fileccia called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Approval of the Agenda: Motion by Tilstra, seconded by Hoffman to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote carried 3-0.

Public Comment: None

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Faul reported that the Public Schools on Military Installations (PSMI) Facility Assessment is scheduled to take place somewhere between the dates of July 21 through August 10. Additional updates will be shared as the process progresses. He also provided an update on staffing for the 2026-2027 school year, noting that administrative supervision assignments for the MAFB schools will be finalized in the near future.

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Motion by Tilstra, seconded by Hoffman to approve the Consent Agenda to include the January 20, 2026 MAFB PSD #160 regular school board meeting minutes and the January, February and March 2026 financial reports as presented including the accounts payable in the amount of \$81,534.14. Roll call vote carried 3-0.

MAFB School Liaison Officer Report:

MAFB School Liaison Officer Alyssa Kelly presented a report on upcoming events, indicated she will be requesting information regarding the availability of Head Start on MAFB for FY27-28, and provided updates on details related to the STARBASE program.

2026-2027 MAFB #160 & MPS #1 Agreement:

Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Tilstra to approve the 2026-2027 Agreement and Addendum #1 and #2 between the Minot Public School District #1 and the Minot Air Force Base School District #160. Roll call vote carried 3-0.

2026-2027 Northland Busing:

The Board was informed that Northland Busing has communicated to the district that this will be the last school year they will provide shuttle services, which includes those for the MAFB. The district is preparing to assume responsibility for these routes beginning in the 2026-2027 school year.

STARBASE:

Motion by Tilstra, seconded by Hoffman, to approve up to \$150,000 annually in stopgap funding for the STARBASE program in the event of a federal government shutdown, and to review the STARBASE program annually in April. Roll call vote carried 3-0.

Announcements:

1. MAFB School Board Meeting – To Be Determined

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

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What's Going On Minot AFB

FRIDAY 01

- Registration Closes: Youth Outdoor Soccer, CYPBMS
- Norwegian Ruck March, 0600, McAdoo Fitness Center, Dome
- FTEC, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- ODR & ITT Annual Open House, 1100, Outdoor Recreation
- Fun Fri-Yay, 1630-2000, Jimmy Doolittle Center

SATURDAY 02

- Chess Club, 1200-1400, Minot AFB Library

SUNDAY 03

- Registration Closes: Aviation & Space Camps 2026, AFSVC.SVPY.Camps@us.af.mil

MONDAY 04

- Registration Closes: Lifeguard Certification Class, Outdoor Recreation
- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Yellow Belt Process Improvement Foundation Training, 0800-1500, Atomic Spark Innovation Lab, next to B-Fifty Brew
- TAP DOW Transition Day, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Palace Chase, 1400-1500, Professional Development Center

TUESDAY 05

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Yellow Belt Process Improvement Foundation Training, 0800-1500, Atomic Spark Innovation Lab, next to B-Fifty Brew
- 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
- Elevate Your Relationship, 1200-1600, Sirocco Neighborhood Home Center
- Retraining 101, 1300-1400, Professional Development Center
- Quiet Book Club, 1800-1930, Base Library

WEDNESDAY 06

- 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
- Developing Enlisted Future Officers, 1130-1230, Professional Development Center
- Brown Bag Book Talk, 1200-1300, Base Library
- Elevate Your Relationship, 1200-1600, Sirocco Neighborhood Home Center
- Mosaic Magic Workshop, 1700, Arts & Crafts Center

THURSDAY 07

- 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

Scan for full event details



FRIDAY 08

- TAP DoL Employment Track Workshop, 0800-1600, M&FRC
- Membership Day – Hero Squad, 1600-1730, Youth Center
- Spring Progressive Bingo, 1730-1930, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Spring Karaoke Nights, 2000-2300, Rockers Bar & Grill

SATURDAY 09

- Lifeguard Certification Class, Outdoor Recreation
- NAF Auction, 1000-1200, Rough Rider Golf Course
- Paintball Open House, 1000-1500, Painted Fields, hosted by Outdoor Rec.
- Adventure of the Haunted Grove, 1300, Minot AFB Library
- Summer Blockbuster Trivia, 1700, Rockers Bar & Grill
- Karaoke Battle, 1730, Rockers Bar & Grill

SPECIALS

- Rockers Bar & Grill Featured Item
Carolina Pulled Pork Sandwich
- The B-Fifty Brew Featured Item
Eggel
- Bomber Bistro Featured Item
Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap and Dill & Cucumber Salad

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