

northersentry

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WHAT'S INSIDE THIS WEEK:



NEW 5TH BOMB WING COMMAND TEAM OUTLINES PRIORITIES TO 5 BW AIRMEN

A3



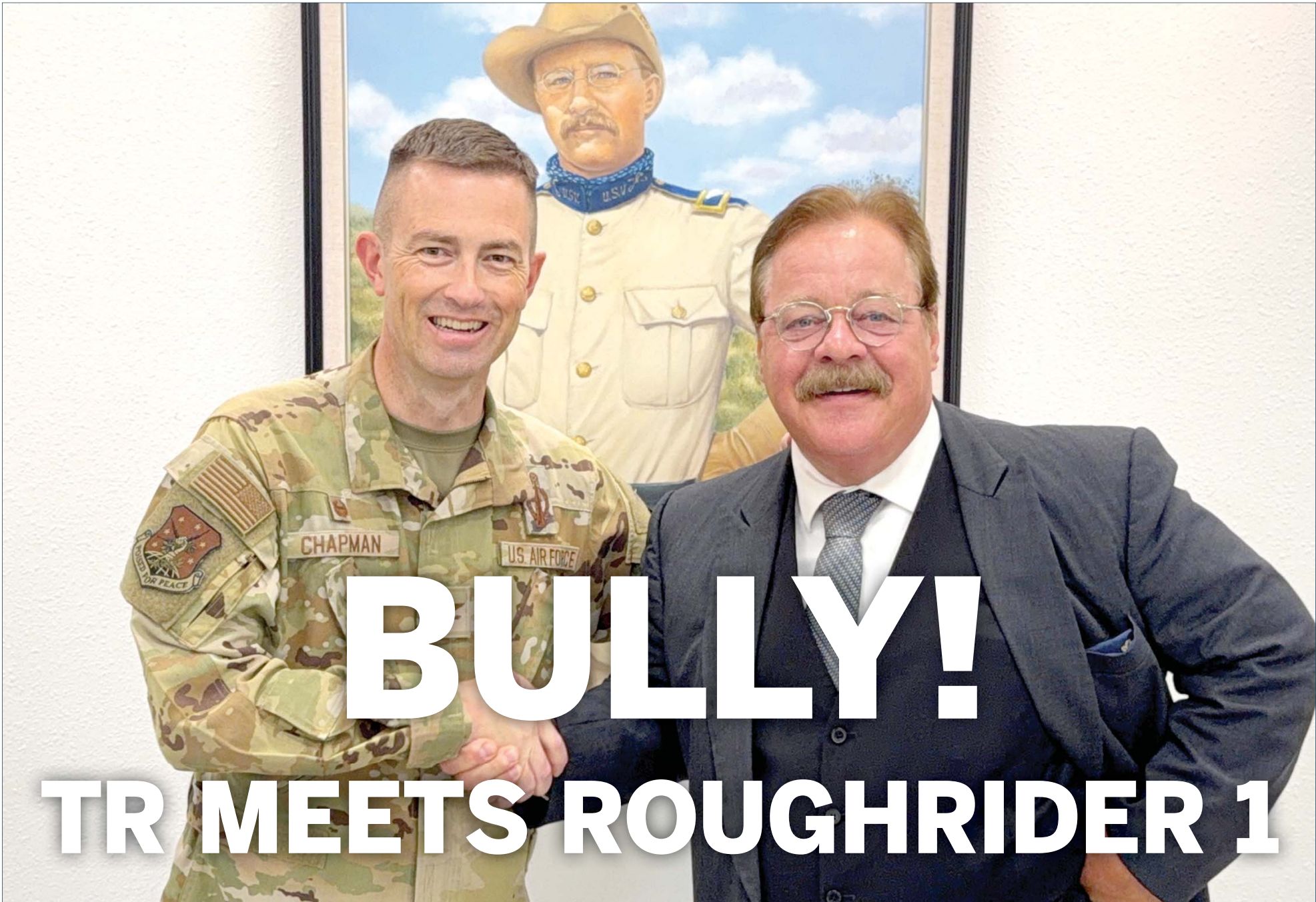
MORE THAN A FAIR, IT'S TRADITION

A6



FOLDS OF HONOR RAISES MONEY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

B6



Col. George Chapman, commander of the 91st Missile Wing, greets Joe Weigand, nationally renowned for his portrayal of President Theodore “Teddy” Roosevelt, during a visit to Missile Wing Headquarters. Known as the “Roughriders,” the 91st Missile Wing shares its nickname with Roosevelt’s famed volunteer cavalry regiment, making the meeting a fitting tribute to the unit’s enduring legacy of courage, service and leadership. See more on page A6-A7.



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August Squadron of the Month

5th Force Support Squadron

The 5th Bomb Wing Command team would like to congratulate the 5th Force Support Squadron on being selected as August Squadron of the Month.

When you think of the heartbeat of Minot Air Force Base, you are thinking of the 5th Force Support Squadron (5 FSS). Spanning 11 distinct flights, the 5 FSS touches nearly every aspect of life and mission readiness on the installation. Whether it's hiring top-tier talent through the Civilian Personnel Office, fueling the fight at the base Dining Facility, providing safe spaces at the Youth Center, or rendering crisp, flawless military honors via the Base Honor Guard, the 5 FSS is dedicated to supporting the base's most valuable asset: its people.

Yet, tucked away among these 11 vital support functions is a flight

dedicated entirely to adventure, relaxation, and making the most of your time in North Dakota. Whether you are looking to explore the great outdoors, plan your next family vacation, or simply need some support during a PCS move, Outdoor Recreation (ODR) - a premier facility within the Community Services Flight, is your ultimate hub for adventure. Often considered one of the base's best-kept secrets, ODR offers a massive variety of services designed to boost morale and support our Airmen and their families. You don't need to spend a fortune to enjoy the wilderness. ODR's rental inventory has everything from fully-equipped campers to tents and sleeping bags. Looking for a staycation? Minot FamCamp offers a scenic, affordable RV site right on base, and if you already own a

rig, ODR manages convenient RV storage lots.

For those wanting to venture further, ODR organizes guided camping and epic out-of-state adventure trips, taking the stress out of planning so you can just enjoy the ride.

Planning a different kind of getaway? The ITT office is your first stop for exclusive military discounts on theme parks, hotels, and cruises. If you prefer to explore the local flavor, you can even hop on one of ODR's local foodie tours!

For everyday fun, grab your squad and head to the base paintball field, or hone your aim at the indoor and outdoor archery ranges. ODR also hosts monthly Airmen's Night Out trips, offering exciting, low-cost ways to connect. When the summer heat rolls in, the outdoor pool is the place to be to

soak up the sun, complete with an annual "Doggy Dive" to close out the season! Once the outdoor pool wraps up, the indoor pool opens its doors to keep you swimming through the colder months and offers lifeguard certification courses year-round.

Beyond the fun, ODR supports your everyday needs and PCS transitions. The Loan Closet offers free household essentials and appliances to keep your home running while your household goods are in transit, and you can buy or sell a used vehicle hassle-free at the base Lemon Lot.

Whether settling in, preparing to PCS, or looking for weekend fun, 5 FSS Outdoor Recreation has you covered. Stop by today to grab your rental gear, book discount tickets, and start exploring!



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Airmen's Trip. Exploring the Dakota's



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New 5th Bomb Wing command team outlines priorities to 5 BW Airmen

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

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. – U.S. Air Force Col. John E. Burrell, 5th Bomb Wing commander, and U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Scott D. Bradbury, the 5 BW command chief, addressed Airmen as the 5 BW’s new command team, July 22 and July 24, 2026, outlining leadership priorities while emphasizing mission readiness, the future of the wing and the importance of families here.

“My priorities are family, mission, and values,” said Burrell. “Family



U.S. Air Force Col. John E. Burrell, 5th Bomb Wing commander, addresses Airmen an all-call July 23, 2026, at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota. The commander’s call is intended to gather the entire unit to discuss important concerns.

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

is first because they are why we win. They are our bedrock. My charge to you is to maintain the work, life balance. This mission is our responsibility to our nation. We will hold the line, we will innovate, we will find different ways to get the mission done, all the while taking care of our families.”

He stressed that mission accomplishment remains the 5 BW’s top priority while encouraging Airmen to maintain a healthy work-life balance with their friends and loved ones, reminding them to remember why they serve. Burrell also challenged Airmen to uphold their values by remaining credible, humble and competent in every aspect of their service, ensuring they are always prepared to answer the nation’s call through unwavering combat readiness. He emphasized the 5 BW’s focus by declaring that the unit will remain “combat ready always.”

Joining Burrell was Bradbury, the 5 BW command chief. As the senior enlisted leader for the wing, Bradbury serves as Burrell’s principal advisor on matters affecting readiness, professional development, discipline, welfare and force utilization.

“Uphold the Air Force culture and standards, take care of and look out for each other, and continue to execute this incredible mission,” Bradbury said. “This is my first time being assigned to Air Force Global Strike Command and to Minot. I’m excited to be a part of this storied mission and serve alongside all of



U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sergeant Scott D. Bradbury, 5th Bomb Wing Command Chief, addresses Airmen at an all-call July 23, 2026, at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota. As the senior enlisted leader for the wing, Bradbury serves as Burrell’s principal advisor on matters affecting readiness, professional development, discipline, welfare and force utilization.

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

you.”

Bradbury plays a key role in ensuring Minot AFB’s Airmen remain prepared to support the wing’s global bomber mission while serving the installation’s broader community of more than 12,000 active-duty Airmen, family members and civilian personnel.

The command team reemphasized the 5 BW’s continued focus on



An Infographic on the 5th Bomb Wing mission statement. The 5th Bomb Wing aligns under Eighth Air Force and Air Force Global Strike Command.

U.S. AIR FORCE GRAPHIC BY SENIOR AIRMAN CARSON JENEY



U.S. Air Force Col. John E. Burrell, 5th Bomb Wing commander, addresses members of the 5 BW at an all-call July 23, 2026, at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota. Burrell also Airmen of current and upcoming wing events, while also answering questions from the audience.

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

strengthening its operational capabilities while investing in the development and well-being of its Airmen. Through his emphasis on mission excellence, family, values and constant combat readiness, Burrell encouraged Airmen to remain engaged, adaptable and committed to delivering credible strategic deterrence and global strike capability.

“I promise you this,” said Burrell. “As your commander, I will always fly lead. Anything I ask you to do I will do it myself. I will be right there alongside you serving.”



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» usaa.com/military

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A VIEW FROM
OUR SIDE

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AN AWESOME JOB

I have an awesome job...I really do. I spent most of my Monday planning for what was a week of craziness, so’s to speak. My good friend and Teddy Roosevelt reпрisor (we’ll talk about the meaning in my TR article) Joe Weigand made a couple of appearances on a small stage in the Pride of Dakota area in the Magic Place at the North Dakota State Fair.

MEETING ROUGHRIDER 1

I took the opportunity of having Joe in town to arrange for him to meet the new Roughrider 1, Col George Chapman. The two had a great conversation. Joe has been the official mascot of the 91st Missile Wing for many years. As Teddy Roosevelt he has visited the 91st many times, and lately I have had the pleasure of tagging along. What a great experience.



Kurt Skinner as Teddy Roosevelt.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TR FOUNDATION



UPSIDE DOWN
UNDER

MARVIN BAKER

By the time you read this, the North Dakota State Fair will have concluded. I hope you went. We try to go every year if for no other reason but to get fresh squeezed lemonade or watch the Budweiser Clydesdales. But this venue offers a lot more and if you haven’t been to the state fair, you’re missing out. Most importantly, the North Dakota State Fair brings the best of our state to Minot each year. And as big as this event has become over the years, it still has that laid back, hometown kind of vibe.

This year, we did a lot of walking, so much so that we got so tired out, got a snack and went up to the mezzanine to watch what was going on down below.

This Somehow Seems Familiar

ON TO THE STATE FAIR
AND MEDORA

The 91st Missile Wing visit was just the beginning. TR (Joe) and I were off to the ND State Fair and his second of 2 performances at the fair. Around Noon we were both headed to Medora. Joe was not on stage until the following morning when he hosted Brunch with The President. I, however, took the opportunity with my wife, Sue, to attend the Medora Musical and meet the second of 2 TR reпрisors in Medora this summer, Kurt Skinner.

MEETING KURT SKINNER

Once again, awesome would be the correct description for the Pitchfork Fondue, a quick meet and greet with Kurt at the Musical and then of course we attended the Medora Musical and it’s 250 Celebration performance. If you are reading this and haven’t been to the Medora Musical this year, I’ll excuse you to quickly call 1-800-Medora to book your tickets.

BRUNCH WITH THE
PRESIDENT

Joe Weigand took the stage on Thursday morning as Teddy Roosevelt. Sitting at the table with Sue and I was a grandmother, daughter in law and a young man who was 14 and his sister who was 13. They had driven to the Brunch event from Culbertson, Montana. As the brunch ended I had cause, as a newspaper reporter of course, to ask about

their short vacation to Medora. Well, started the grandmother, I wanted my grandchildren to see the Medora Musical, the Teddy Roosevelt library and museum, the Enchanted Highway and...the young lady broke in and said “and I wanted to see Teddy Roosevelt. He’s my favorite President. All of 13, I thought, and she knows about Teddy Roosevelt.

Having attended a couple of Brunches With The President, I knew that Joe would entertain guests right outside the entrance to the venue where the performance took place. I escorted the young lady out to where Joe was talking with a family that had come from Virginia and quickly gave Joe a bit of a nod and eye shift to let him know that this young lady would be thrilled to talk with him.

A MOMENT WITH A
YOUNG FAN

Joe, and Kurt for that matter, have a love for kids. When the crowd cleared a bit Joe quickly made his way to his young guest. I just sat on a nearby bench and watched the master at work. “I understand that you came here to see Teddy Roosevelt” Joe started “did you like today’s show?” The young lady was now in a sharing mode. “I did...you know I did a report on you for my history class” she shared, and the conversation continued for at least 10 minutes.

It would have lasted longer, but TR, Joe, had an engagement with the Marketing Department

at Medora. They were going to jump on one of the new Medora Trolleys and take a ride around Medora. Special Note: You have to try these when you get to Medora. Free transportation to all of the popular sites.

IT IS AN AWESOME JOB

Nothing in my job as a Northern Sentry reporter is necessarily set in stone. There is a saying amongst reporters that goes something like this: “What am I, if I am not flexible? And being flexible can lead you the best stories.” I had no itinerary for last week. I just kind of took what was offered and met some really awesome people. A grandmother who wanted to help her granddaughter live out a dream. A new face to Medora that is enjoying his very hectic 6 days a week job. And I can I not talk about my friend Joe, who himself was flexible enough to make time to meet the Col Chapman. What I do for a job is an awesome experience. I hope it never stops.

RAMBLIN’ AROUND

I haven’t talked about the Enchanted Highway in southwest North Dakota. If you are on your way to Medora, it’s a “must see” experience. The official highway runs from Exit 72 on I-94 to Regent. Allow yourself at least 2-3 hours for the journey.

TODAY’S CHUCKLE

The surest way to be unpopular is to set a good example.



Entrance to The Enchanted Highway.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ND LEGENDARY

It’s still a small-town vibe

I noticed something that I hadn’t in all the years I’ve gone to the fair dating back to the ‘70s. Young, pre-teen children were engaged and motivated. I didn’t see one bored kid out there, nor did I see or hear any complaining about having to be there.

It’s obvious to me that kids love this entertainment, something that is great for a family because the parents and older kids who may be teenagers, love it too.

There’s so much to do and many of the events are free. Of course, there is gate admission, but you don’t have to spend money once you get in the gate. Most of us do and that’s part of what the state fair is all about.

This year there was a kiosk offering deep-fried alligator. We spend a lot of time in Florida, but we don’t like Florida so much that we would try something like that. The churches have their pies, this year there were two places to get poutine, so that’s catching on. There’s cold beer, all kinds of exhibits and free stages. It’s just too good to pass up.

All 53 counties were represented at the 4-H exhibits. And there was this dessert of some kind made by a 4-H member from Pembina County. I just wanted to open the bag and gobble that thing up. It looked so good.

People design quilts that are on display. We all see quilts, but I don’t think a lot of us consider the amount of detail that goes into making one of them. We took the time to examine them this year and that is some amazing artwork that you’ll never see otherwise unless someone shows you.

The MHA Nation horse race was a sellout. Good on them! I was working at the newspaper in New Town when that got started as a “new” idea. It quickly became more popular on the Rez and now it’s popular enough at the state fair to sell out.

Many of the concerts sold out. We all hope that the fair continues to get top-notch entertainment because it’s obviously a big draw. Over the years, our state fair has been notorious for bringing in some of the top names in entertainment, from the Beach Boys to Blake Shelton to Def Leppard to Johnny Cash.

I don’t know how many people think about this, but you can find some really good Christmas gift ideas at the state fair. Vendors come in from all over the United States and Canada to sell their wares, whatever they may be. Some of the items are

quite appealing while others are a novelty most of us should try once.

I should say vendors come in from all over the world. This year while we were ordering fresh squeezed lemonade, the young lady who helped us was from New Zealand and affectionately known as a kiwi.

Unless you live under a rock, you’re always going to see people you know, which brings us back to that hometown vibe. It’s so much fun to run into acquaintances and know they are doing the same thing you are to promote this event.

The carnival rides also have to be mentioned here. I’m at an age in which it no longer piques my interest. But here is another place where the young people are really engaged. Walking through the carnival area, it was obvious the young people were having the time of their live with the chills and thrills.

The state fair displays the best of each county. It brings together the best of us across the state of North Dakota. Whether you’re a business person, a cowboy, a musician, retired military, a radio disk jockey or a vendor from Hannah, N.D. For nine days, we’re all together enjoying that small-town vibe.

Why I shop for winter in August



SHE'S NOT FROM AROUND HERE
AMY ALLENDER

Every year, it was the same, stressed-out story. October would inevitably arrive, the forecast would mention snow, and suddenly I'd realize someone needed new boots. Someone else's snow pants were two inches too short. Gloves had disappeared into the void—presumably with all my Tupperware lids. And just like that I was panic shopping online, bemoaning the fact the things I wanted weren't on sale. Refusing to actually purchase until the price dropped, in the meantime squeezing kids into ill-fitting snowpants and mismatched gloves. Eventually, I'd buy something I didn't love, or spend more money than I wanted. We needed the gear now. North Dakota's winter doesn't wait for you to find the perfect things on sale. Then last year, about this time I stopped at a garage sale on a whim. In a pile of boys clothes was a

Colombia winter coat that checked all my boxes. It's exactly what I'd want him wearing at recess in the winter. One size too big. The price? Four dollars. Obviously, it came home with me that day. That garage sale changed my system. Something clicked. Instead of stress shopping when we're on the brink of snow, I'd inventory earlier and keep an eye out while it is still warm. Instead of panic-buying I simply started watching. Garage sales are still happening every weekend. Families are cleaning out closets before school starts. Facebook Marketplace is full of people clearing out things their children have outgrown. Thrift stores are stocked with winter gear that hasn't yet become everyone else's priority—these usually come out of storage in September. I've got a short list of what we need for this season in the Notes App of my phone. And I'm just watching. Maybe I'll find exactly what I'm looking for next weekend. Maybe it takes a month. The beauty is that it doesn't matter because I'm not under pressure. The same goes for selling. July and August are a wonderful time to pass along the things your family has outgrown. The boots that no longer fit, the snow pants your kids wore twice because of a growth

spurt, the extra mittens—those things are probably on someone else's shopping list right now. In our house, selling what we no longer need often helps fund what we do. One family's outgrown gear becomes another family's bargain, and everyone wins. Even if you rarely shop secondhand, there's still value in doing a summer inventory. Maybe you'll discover everyone is set except one child who needs boots. Maybe you'll realize your own winter coat needs an upgrade. Maybe you'll remember that your car needs a new ice scraper and your emergency kit is nonexistent. Knowing what you need is half the battle. Then, when you happen across a clearance rack, a garage sale, or a Marketplace listing over the next

several weeks, you'll know whether it's worth stopping. Living in North Dakota teaches us that winter isn't something to fear, but it is something to prepare for. The best preparation rarely happens when the forecast says snow is coming tomorrow. It happens quietly, weeks or months beforehand, one small step at a time. I've found that's true of more than just winter gear. The more we can do ahead of time, the more present we get to be when the season actually arrives. Instead of spending the first chilly weekend stressed about what the kids will wear to recess, you can spend it making soup, having a cozy movie night, taking a walk through crunchy leaves, or simply enjoying that familiar feeling in the air that reminds us another summer is behind us and the adventure of

winter lies ahead. But let's not talk about that just yet. Summer is still here. There are still garage sales to wander, Marketplace listings to browse, and warm evenings to enjoy. So, if you're looking for one practical item to add to your July routine, make it this: pull out the winter gear. See what fits. Make a list. Sell what you don't need. Then, without pressure just keep your eyes open. You might be surprised what you find. And if you're lucky, maybe there's a four-dollar Columbia coat waiting for you, too. *For more thoughts on living in North Dakota, join me online at amyallender.com or on social media @heyminot.*

NOTES ON BEING SAFE

Summer Food Safety: Outdoor Grilling

Grilling, one of the easiest low-fat cooking methods, can be a centerpiece for summertime meals. It is a great way to spend time with family and friends in an enjoyable setting.

While the art of grilling may come with practice, follow these pointers to enjoy a successful experience.

Bring out the Barbecue - Grills need annual cleaning after winter storage by scouring the grate with a wire brush. Spray the grid with oven cleaner and rinse thoroughly. Before each use, apply non-stick cooking spray to prevent food from sticking to the grill.

Stock up on Charcoal - Quality charcoal briquets light quickly and have a long burn life. Store charcoal in a cool, dry area. For instant-lighting charcoal, keep the bag tightly closed to prevent lighter fluid from evaporating. If you are using a gas grill, check the tank to make sure you have enough fuel to completely cook your meal.

Use Proper Tools - Tongs and a spatula help to turn food without piercing it to lose any juices. A vegetable grilling basket holds smaller foods. Other useful utensils include a wire brush for cleaning, long-handled tongs and flame retardant mitts to protect hands.

Get Ready to Grill - Arrange briquets in a pyramid at the bottom of the grill. Add approximately two ounces of lighter fluid and carefully light with a match.

Charcoal should be ready in about 20 minutes, with 70 percent covered with ash and displaying a slight red glow. To estimate the temperature, hold your hand, palm side down, about 6 inches above the coals.

two seconds - it's hot, about 375 degrees F. or more
three seconds - it's medium-hot, about 350 to 375 degrees F.
four seconds - it's medium, about 300 to 350 degrees F.
five seconds - it's low, about 200 to 300 degrees F.

When coals are ready for cooking, spread in a single layer or bank them. Set the grilling grid in place and put on the food.

Food Safety - Food safety should be a high priority while grilling. If food is handled or cooked improperly, health risks can dampen the experience. Use these food safety suggestions:

Keep meat cold until ready to grill. Do not leave it out at room temperature.

Pre-cooked meats can still be grilled to add authentic flavor and shorten grilling time.

If starting with frozen products, thaw in the refrigerator or microwave. Grill immediately after thawing in the microwave.

Do not use the same platter or utensils to handle raw and cooked products.

Use a meat thermometer to check internal temperatures. Ground meat should be 160 degrees F, poultry at 180 degrees F., poultry breasts at 170 degrees F., pork at 160 degrees F., and steaks at 145 degrees F.

Once taken from the grill, keep the meat hot until serving in a warming tray or slow cooker.

Place leftovers in the refrigerator. Discard anything left out more than two hours. If you are outdoors and the temperature is above 80 degrees F., refrigerate leftovers within one hour, or discard them.

Grilling Safety Tips

Pick a safe area - Position the grill in a well-ventilated, flat, level surface away from overhangs, deck railings and shrubbery. Keep children and pets away from the grill when in use.

Handle charcoal carefully - Never add lighter fluid directly to hot coals since flames could travel up the fluid stream. Instead, place several new briquets in a metal can and apply lighter fluid. Transfer the briquets into the pyramid in the grill with pair of long-handled tongs and light with a match. Use proper utensils for safe handling of food and coals.

Putting out the fire - Place the cover on the grill, close the vents

and allow the coals to burn out completely. Let ashes cool for at least 48 hours, and dispose in a non-combustible container. When using a gas grill, remember to allow it to completely cool before placing the cover over it.

More Grilling Tips

Before placing food on grilling surface, preheat the grill. Remove charred food debris to reduce exposure to possible cancer-causing substances formed during high heat cooking.

Avoid fire flare-ups by using lean meats and trimming away all visible fat. Raise the rack to the highest position away from the heat and keep food on one side of the grill and coals or other heat source on the other side.

Marinades enhance flavors, tenderize and keep foods moist. If you plan to use the remaining marinade later as a table sauce, it must be boiled for at least three minutes to eliminate bacteria.

Try grilling vegetables and fruits: eggplant, summer squashes, bell peppers, sweet onions, Roma or cherry tomatoes, mushrooms, mangoes, pineapple or peaches. Cut vegetables into half-inch slices or large chunks. Brush with warmed, seasoned oil. Turn only once, and grill until tender. Fruit should be halved with pits removed. Grill with the pulp (cut side) side down.



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Carrying On The Legacy

Teddy Roosevelt Still Popular In North Dakota

ROD WILSON, NORTHERN SENTRY

TR COMES TO LIFE IN MEDORA

In Medora, Joe Weigand is often introduced as a President Theodore Roosevelt reprimor. The word is likely related to “reprise,” meaning to repeat a performance or role. In Weigand’s case, the description fits: he does far more than resemble the 26th president. He walks the walk, talks the talk, and brings Roosevelt’s Medora years vividly to life.

Roosevelt’s years in western North Dakota helped shape the public figure he later became. His famous charge up San Juan Hill with his cavalry unit, the Rough Riders, became another defining

chapter, along with his later service as President of the United States.

THE 91ST MISSILE WING: THE ROUGHRIDERS

Fitting into the role of TR is certainly not defined by one character. I was able to spend some time with Joe Weigand on a recent visit to Minot. I have to say I really like spending time with Joe, whether he is Joe Weigand, my personal friend, or Theodore Roosevelt, with his driving bass voice and New York City accent.

Some years ago, although not totally defined as to exactly when and where, the 91st Missile Wing

on Minot Air Force Base adopted Theodore Roosevelt and the Rough Riders as their mascot. The Missile Wing is referred to as the Roughriders, and they refer to themselves as America’s Big Stick, which dates back to TR and his often-quoted saying, “Speak softly and carry a big stick.”

The rallying cry? “Bully!” followed by the pounding of the many big sticks in the audience. Some are awarded to dignitaries, others are ceremoniously carried by squadrons, and still others are given because of hard work, a TR trademark.

JOE WEIGAND: THE MAN BEHIND TR

Weigand’s ability to move between Joe and TR is rooted in more than performance. He is a former political science graduate of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. Twice elected to head Sewanee’s student government, he had earlier been elected Governor of the American Legion Illinois Boys State and President of the American Legion Boys Nation program.

Joe later served as a graduate assistant at the Center for Governmental Studies at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois, before launching his own business as a political campaign consultant and public policy expert. He was working in public policy and running election campaigns when he began performing as Theodore Roosevelt in 2002.

ROUGH RIDER 1

The commander of the 91st Missile Wing is referred to as Roughrider 1; that position now belongs to Col. George Chapman. “You know I was Roughrider 2,” Col. Chapman explained to Joe Weigand on a recent meet and greet. “I moved from that office, the office of the deputy commander of the 91st Missile Wing, to the 20th Air Force at F.E. Warren, and now I am back in Minot as Roughrider 1,” to which TR responded quickly but respectfully, “Bully!”

After their marquee photo in the entrance area of the 91st Missile Wing Headquarters, Col. Chapman and Joe made their way to the administrative office, where Chapman showed Joe a portrait of TR in much different attire: that of a western rancher.

This was not Joe’s first visit to the 91st Missile Wing, but he and Col. Chapman had a great visit learning about each other. Often it was a challenge to determine whether Joe Weigand was in TR character or talking as himself.



Col. George Chapman, Commander of the 91st MW, greets Joe Weigand as TR at Missile Wing Headquarters.



Col Chapman and Joe discuss a photo of Teddy Roosevelt in the front office of the MW headquarters.



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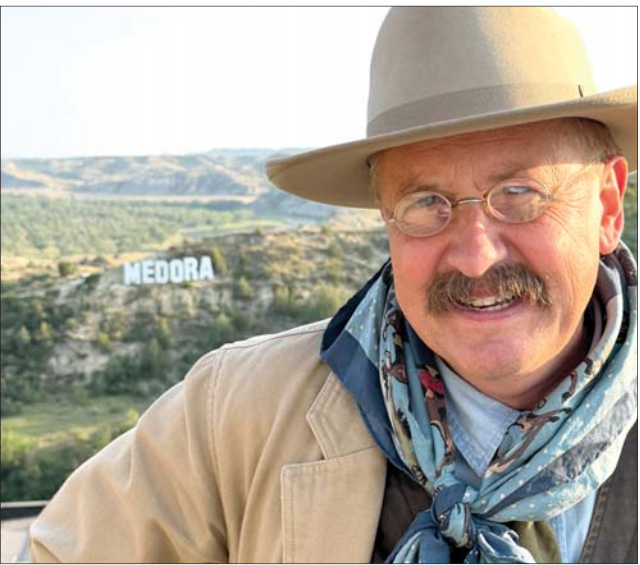
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Both Joe and Kurt love kids. “Talk to people about their kids” according to Kurt “and they are right there with you.”



Joe portraying a side that we all know about TR...he was aggressive and loved people.



TR Reprisor Kurt Skinner is spending his second full summer in Medora.

A BUSY SCHEDULE

Joe and Col. Chapman would part ways after about 45 minutes; Col. Chapman to an assembly of 91st Missile Wing personnel, and Joe to an appearance as TR at the North Dakota State Fair. With a promise to meet again soon, the two men shook hands as TR and Roughrider 1. At the North Dakota State Fair, Joe was to be President Theodore Roosevelt on stage in the Magic Place. On his walk across the fairgrounds, he would stop and converse with folks who recognized him from his Medora fame. Joe is quick to ask where a person is from, and even quicker to relate a TR experience.

Of particular favor were the kids in the audience at his appearance. One of them was fortunate enough to be given a Teddy Bear, the popular mascot of President Roosevelt.

Once his appearance was over, TR, or Joe—you choose—and I parted ways, but we both had the same destination: Medora.

THE LEGACY CONTINUES WITH A GENTLEMAN NAMED KURT

In his own words, TR reprisor Kurt Skinner says, “It’s easy to be Teddy Roosevelt in Medora.” Kurt Skinner has now assumed some of the roles of Theodore Roosevelt that Joe Weigand used to handle, and it was exciting to be part of his meet and greet at the Medora Musical on a Wednesday night. On his website is a complete summary of Kurt Skinner:

Colorado-based historian and Theodore Roosevelt historical performer Kurt Skinner takes audiences of all ages back to a time when Theodore Roosevelt embodied all the promise of the new American century. Thrill to TR’s stories of the Srenuous Life as Kurt captures the vigor, energy, and enthusiasm of the Spanish-American War hero who became America’s youngest president—informative, inspiring, patriotic, and entertaining. You will

wish TR could run for another term!

In a simple explanation, Kurt Skinner is more of the ranch-hand TR, while Joe Weigand is comfortable being TR as the bold and aggressive personality that we associate with Teddy Roosevelt.

Both Kurt and Joe are quick to locate and bring the kids in the audience into their performances. “When you talk to their kids, you engage the parents,” Skinner says, “and that certainly comes naturally to me as an educator.”

For Skinner, this is his second full summer in Medora “because Joe is kind of dialing back a bit, and he’s on the road a lot for the TR Foundation. That gives me an opportunity to be on stage as TR six days a week. It’s a busy schedule, but it can only happen here in Medora.”

ONCE A ROUGHRIDER

Kurt Skinner’s path to his role as TR really began at Minot Air Force Base, “where I was stationed in 1998,” he says. “I kind of stumbled onto Theodore Roosevelt through his great-grandson, Tweed. That started me reading his biographies and then getting into theatrical writings.”

At Minot AFB, Skinner was with the 740th Missile Squadron, known as the Vulgar Vultures. “I was first attracted to the accomplishments of Roosevelt and then the images—the strenuous life, the outdoors, the hunter, and obviously, the military service connection. The more I began to read about Theodore Roosevelt, the more I started to fall in love with the character of the man.”

Skinner said he loved what Roosevelt stood for: duty, responsible citizenship, and Americanism. “Not just a flag-waving citizen, but he showed a deep appreciation for American history and culture. He was unashamed to be proud of America and our own heritage. That was attractive. He was unafraid to be an advocate for what he knew to be right and true, to look out for

social causes.”

Through the influence of his father, Roosevelt tried to become a protector of the weak, and that took shape in his political life. He saw that through progressive reforms and had the capacity to look out for all citizens through his Square Deal.

The more Skinner read about Roosevelt, the more he began to appreciate Roosevelt’s quieter side. The caricature of Roosevelt is all bombast and constant energy. Someone described him as a locomotive in trousers, and certainly he was that, but he was also an accomplished ornithologist. The very skill sets required for a bird watcher—quietness, steadiness, and attention to the sounds of nature—were also part of Roosevelt’s character. He would spend up to an hour in nature, and he was also a book lover and a family man. It was the whole package for Theodore Roosevelt.

A book that became one of the best sellers of the time was a collection of letters he wrote about his children, published shortly after his death.

FINAL THOUGHTS

For both Weigand and Skinner, there are reasons they are drawn to the TR legacy and reasons they continue to love what they do.

“The individual responses of audience members,” Weigand says, “the joy that’s brought to their faces. It’s so gratifying to hear from them that they really enjoyed themselves when they were in that show. I get to tell them 45 minutes to an hour of stories about Theodore Roosevelt. I think that’s a wonderful thing to do.”

“I actually like kids, and that really helps. When you pay attention to the children, then you actually have the parents’ attention. Parents appreciate when people don’t talk past their children, and they appreciate when we take the time to address the children as persons. I always try to do that,” Skinner says. “You get to be Theodore Roosevelt

for a while with those kids.”

I was able to watch a young lady watching Joe Weigand on stage at Brunch With The President. When the performance ended, I asked her about her interest in the show. She looked at me with wide, beaming

eyes and excitement and said, “I just love Teddy Roosevelt. He’s my favorite president!” I felt a tear come to the corner of my eye. I don’t know how I could have said it better.

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Trident Drinkery

Relax, Meet Friends & Enjoy A Moment

ROD WILSON, NORTHERN SENTRY

A CORNER WITH HISTORY

The corner of 4th Avenue and 20th Street Northwest has had a history. A longtime friend, Harley Schmidt, was once giving me a ride home as we passed the building. “You know that building’s been there a long time,” said Harley. “It was there back when I was a kid. It was a grocery store, you know, 4th Avenue Foods.”

Some 49 years ago, when we moved into the neighborhood, the building was indeed 4th Avenue Foods. Known for how cold the milk was in the coolers, 4th Avenue was not really a large grocery store, but more of a convenient stop on your way home to pick up a couple of items that may have been forgotten on this week’s grocery list.

Though most everyone can tell you about 4th Avenue Foods, not many can remember when the store closed and the building began to fall into disrepair.

BRINGING IT BACK TO LIFE

That decline set the stage for a new chapter when new owners

Terri and Justin Martin moved to Minot from Colorado and began the long process of bringing the 4th Avenue Foods building back to life. “It was sad,” said Terri. “The building was a neighborhood destination.” But time and vacancy had taken its toll on the building, and so the renovation would take time and vision.

Their vision would lead them to an idea: a neighborhood beer and wine bar. “A place where neighbors could get together and share a drink, or two,” laughed Justin, “with no pressure.”

Their vision and idea came to fruition a few months later when Trident Drinkery was born.

TRIDENT DRINKERY IS BORN

The Trident was created as a neighborhood gathering place for Minot — a warm, easygoing spot where people can slow down, meet friends, try something new, and feel at home.

“I look around today, and already a lot of the people in the Trident are regulars,” said Justin. “And we

really haven’t been open all that long.”

But that is what makes Trident Drinkery so special. If you are a regular and you choose to invite someone to share a beer or a glass of wine, you do so with confidence.

The folks behind the bar? “We knew we would be the ones that work and make this place (Trident Drinkery) what it is,” said Terri. “When we came up with the idea, we always knew it would be our vision, our dream, and of course our business.”

Both Terri and Justin expressed that The Trident (Drinkery) is a family business. “We live in and love Minot,” reflects Terri.

“The trident symbol is incredibly personal for us,” continues Terri. “It is a symbol of family, friendship, and community.”

According to Terri and Justin, the neighborhood bar has been a vanishing institution for too long.

And as all neighborhood bars proclaim...come join us and know that you are a stranger only once.



Terri & Justin Martin opened The Trident Drinkery as a neighborhood destination in northwest Minot.



Located at 2022 4th Avenue NW, Trident Drinkery is located in what once was the 4th Avenue Foods building.



The back bar of the Trident Drinkery complete with logo.





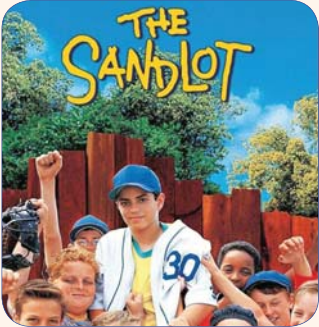
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GENERATIONS OF SERVICE



HOPE ANDERSON

Having grown up in Minot and after spending the majority of my adult life here, I have taken my bikes to Val's Cyclery many times over the years for repairs. I knew that they sold bikes and repaired them, but didn't know about their other services until recently.

The first of these services and one that everyone can utilize in some way is their sharpening service. Did you know that you should have your kitchen knives sharpened two times per year? I had no idea of this fact before meeting with Rory Schell, second generation owner of Val's Cyclery in downtown Minot. Schell suggests that people bring their knives in once in the spring to have them ready for grilling season and again in the fall in preparation for the holidays.

From kitchen knives to chainsaw blades and quilting shears to ice auger blades, they can sharpen just about anything that is starting to get a little dull. Ice auger blades are something that previously has been an item that has been said to be unsharpenable, but Schell has a process that he has perfected and has gained the attention of people around the state and the country, who send him their blades to be sharpened, when everyone else said it was impossible.

It is incredibly convenient to bring items in to be sharpened. You don't even need to schedule an appointment. Just bring the items in and then they will contact you when ready for pickup. It is so easy!

In addition to their sharpening services, they also offer bicycle repairs. From yearly tune ups to major repairs, their skilled service technicians can get your bike ready for your adventures. Val's can tune and repair any brand of bike. I can attest to their attention to detail and customer service from the bike servicing they have done for my family's bikes over the years.

If you are in the market for a new bike, exercise equipment or other accessories, Val's offers bicycles for all ages, e-bikes, rowers, treadmills,

recumbents, headphones, bike helmets, and so much more. Their knowledgeable staff can help you find exactly what you are looking for to get you moving. You will truly be amazed at all they have to offer.

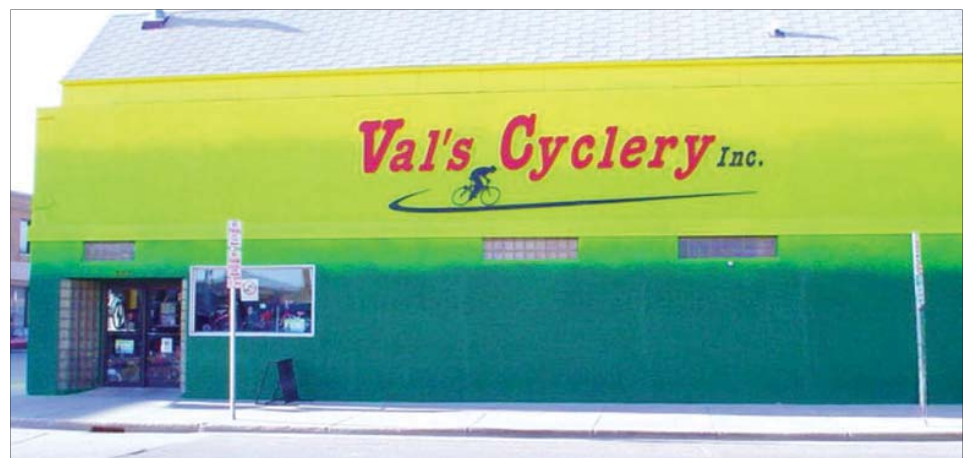
Val's Cyclery is located on the corner of Central Avenue and 3rd Street in downtown Minot. With its gradated green and yellow exterior, you will not miss it, but even more interesting than the colorful paint color is the history behind the business. Val Schell opened Val's Cyclery 64 years ago and trained his sons in the business. In 1982, he became partners in the business with his sons and eventually they bought Val out. In 2012, Rory Schell bought out his brother, and has since been training his own sons to someday take over the business. A three generation family business whose focus is on customer service and satisfaction. Schell said one of his favorite things is that he has had customers for decades. From the time their parents bring them in for their first bike and then as adults coming in for sharpening services, bike repairs, upgrades, etc, Schell has enjoyed getting to know these lifelong customers.

If you are looking for a way to get outdoors, stay active, and get to know other people, Wednesday and Thursday bike rides are the perfect option. Every Wednesday night, a group meets in the front of the store and they go for a ride. It can be up to 50 people and they do anywhere from 10 mile to 25 mile rides. You can be a beginner or advanced and there are people who can help you perfect your skills. It is fun for the whole family. Thursdays, they often meet at the Bison Plant Trail for a ride and will even go for rides in the winter months. It is an excellent opportunity to get to know others in the community and have fun. Sometimes they even offer food!

You can find Val's Cyclery on Facebook at ValsCyclery and they are also in the process of

finishing up their website: www.valscyclery.com. Stop in at 222 E. Central Ave. or call 701-839-4817. You will be greeted with a smile, treated to excellent customer service, and will

feel good knowing that your purchase from this local business was greatly appreciated. Don't forget, it's time to get those knives sharpened and your bike in for its yearly tune up!



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More Than a Fair, It’s Tradition

VERONICA KELLERMAN, NORTHERN SENTRY

For nine days each July, our community welcomes hundreds of thousands of visitors from across the state and beyond to experience everything that makes North Dakota so special. This year’s fair, held July 17-25, continued a tradition that generations have looked forward to year after year. Whether you’ve attended since childhood or you’re experiencing it for the very first time, there’s something about the fair that leaves a lasting impression. The North Dakota State Fair isn’t just another event on the calendar. It’s tradition.

Ask five people what keeps them coming back, and you’ll probably get five different answers.

Some will tell you it’s the concerts under the summer sky. There’s something special about hearing thousands of people singing along together, followed by the roar of the crowd every time an artist mentions they’re happy to be in Minot.

Other fair goers won’t leave without grabbing their favorite fair food. The famous 12-foot corn dogs, strawberry funnel cakes, and jalapeño pizza have become traditions all on their own. Even if it means standing in a long line, the Rudy Family will tell you it’s worth every minute.

For many kids, the fair is pure magic.

The bright lights, carnival rides, games, prizes, and excitement seem to wait around every corner. Small business owner of Everlinked by Kelsey, military spouse Kelsey Rudy shared that for her 3-year-old daughter Avery, “Particularly she loves going on every year is the carousel, where she can pick her favorite animal to ride!”

Some of the best fair moments can be found walking through the livestock barns and seeing months of dedication proudly displayed by local youth. Veteran and military spouse Corrin Bruce shared, “We also spent a bunch of time in the 4-H area with all the animals. All of the farmers and people are so kind and sweet to inform us and give



Local to MAFB, The Bruce and The Kellerman Families rush to ride as many rides as they possibly could during the free ride time for the military. Mission Successful. Smiles and laughter acquired.

us information about the animals.” She said it quickly became her favorite part of the fair, a place that reminded her of home while navigating a remote PCS to Minot.

Handmade quilts, Beautiful woodworking, Incredible photography and Fresh baked goods. Artwork that reflects the creativity and talent found throughout North Dakota. These displays often don’t receive the same attention as the rides or concerts, but they deserve just as much appreciation. They represent countless hours of dedication and passion.

Complete strangers strike up conversations while admiring the same display. Families pause to encourage young exhibitors. Volunteers greet visitors with smiles. Before you know it, those strangers begin to feel more like neighbors.

That’s what makes the North Dakota State Fair so much more than entertainment.

It’s military families making memories together before another PCS changes their address. It’s small business owners proudly sharing products they’ve poured their

hearts into creating. It’s volunteers giving their time because they believe in serving their community. It’s emergency personnel quietly working behind the scenes to keep everyone safe while allowing thousands of people to simply enjoy themselves.

We’re simply people gathered together to celebrate a season, support one another, and enjoy one of North Dakota’s greatest traditions.

Year after year, the North Dakota State Fair welcomes more than 300,000 visitors while celebrating the agriculture, businesses, talent, and people that make this state unique. It serves as a reminder that community isn’t something we talk about, it’s something we experience together.

So when next July rolls around, I encourage you to slow down.

Watch the kids laugh as they climb onto their favorite ride. Cheer for the young exhibitors showing animals they’ve spent months raising. Try something



E5 Staff Sgt Andrew Rudy and his 3 year old daughter, Avery get to enjoy a carousel ride at the ND State Fair.



Veteran and military spouse Corrin Bruce admiring a Highland Cow in the Stables. The Highland Cows are famous for their long, shaggy coats and wide, sweeping horns. Which just happens to be Mrs. Bruce’s favorite animal.



Pictured is a local Military child from MAFB. Avery was able to experience her first face painting. Her Mother Kelsey Rudy believes it will be a continued tradition for years to come.

you’ve never eaten before. Support a local vendor. Take a little extra time to admire the exhibits. Strike up a conversation with the person standing beside you.

Years from now, you may not remember exactly what you ate or which ride was your favorite.

But you’ll probably remember how it felt.

You’ll remember the laughter, the music, the smell of fair food in the air, and the feeling of being surrounded by a community that comes together year after year.

Because that’s what the North Dakota State Fair has always done best.



The Bruce Family had the pleasure of attending the rodeo on the evening of Military day at the ND State Fair. Matt Bruce’s smile showed exactly how much fun he had! His favorite part was bull riding, a Bull Rider in the making.

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A LOOK BACK

THIS WEEK IN USAF HISTORY

AIR FORCE DAY PROCLAMATION SIGNED BY TRUMAN
AUGUST 1, 1947

President Truman signs the Presidential Proclamation designating August 1, 1946 as Air Force Day. With him are Gen. Carl A. Spaatz, Commanding General of the Army Air Forces, and Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, Deputy Commander of the AAF. (USAF Photo)

On August 1, 1947, President Truman signed a proclamation observing the first Air Force Day, which celebrated military airpower in the aftermath of World War II. At the time, the Army Air Forces were in charge of the nation’s airpower, and the United States was beginning to understand the true potential of military air endeavours. The USAF would branch into its own service nearly one month later. Truman addressed the nation after proclaiming the first Air Force Day, saying “I remind all of our citizens that the air power of the nation is essential to the preservation of our liberty, and that the continued development of the science of air transportation is vital to the trade and commerce of a peaceful world.” The last official AFD was observed on August 1, 1949.

Information courtesy of: [afd.defense.gov / militarybenefits.info /](http://afd.defense.gov/militarybenefits.info/)

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SUDOKU Solution to puzzle on page B10

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

CROSSWORD SOLUTION Solution to last weeks crossword

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

- Across
- 1. Water jug
 - 5. Lump
 - 9. Orchard fruit
 - 14. Biblical "you"
 - 15. Roof projection
 - 16. Ventured
 - 17. Asserted
 - 19. Accompanying
 - 20. Bother
 - 21. Invitation abbr.
 - 23. Ike's monogram
 - 24. Endure
 - 26. Had breakfast
 - 28. Teach
 - 32. Guaranteed
 - 36. Carson's successor
 - 37. Oscar winner ____ Berry
 - 39. Ramble
 - 40. Move slowly
 - 41. Cow's cry
 - 42. Prophecy
 - 43. Floor covering
 - 44. Wood spinner
 - 46. Breathe quickly
 - 47. Ralph Waldo ____
 - 49. Emphasizes
 - 51. Conger
 - 52. Norway's capital
 - 53. Commercials
 - 56. Pincer
 - 58. Interior
 - 63. Trivial
 - 65. Scrutinized
 - 67. Ridiculous
 - 68. Monster's loch
 - 69. Highest point
 - 70. Bus station
 - 71. Wood source
 - 72. Slender

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20							21		22			23		
				24		25			26		27			
28	29	30	31				32				33	34	35	
36					37		38				39			
40						41					42			
43					44				45		46			
47					48				49		50			
				51				52						
53	54	55		56		57			58		59	60	61	62
63			64			65	66							
67						68					69			
70						71					72			

- Down
- 1. Engrave with acid
 - 2. Horse command
 - 3. Many years
 - 4. Furrows
 - 5. Under
 - 6. Boy
 - 7. Public
 - 8. Flower plots
 - 9. Modifies
 - 10. Sidekick
 - 11. Goad
 - 12. Let borrow
 - 13. Blade part
 - 18. "____ Enchanted" (movie)
 - 22. Flower holder
 - 25. Sailor
 - 27. Spain's continent
 - 28. Upper crust
 - 29. Jeans material
 - 30. ____ Sam
 - 31. Stick together
 - 32. Luau greetings
 - 33. Nero, e.g.
 - 34. Happening
 - 35. Small depressions
 - 38. Batch
 - 44. Lounge about
 - 45. Overshadow
 - 48. Confidential
 - 50. Pine ____
 - 52. Proprietor
 - 53. In the middle of
 - 54. Eat in style
 - 55. Break suddenly
 - 57. Isn't, slangily
 - 59. Begone!
 - 60. Hankering
 - 61. Actress ____ Moore
 - 62. Eve's garden
 - 64. Artist Yoko ____
 - 66. Compass pt.

Local Cravings Restaurant Guide

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

Badlands Restaurant & Bar

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

Bone's BBQ Smokehouse & Grill

437 N Broadway, Minot
Phone: 701.838.9140
www.bonesbbqminot.com

Culver's Restaurant

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

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HELD OVER

THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA 2

(2026) Satire, Workplace Drama, Comedy (PG-13)

HELD OVER

MICHAEL

(2026) Docudrama, Showbiz Drama (PG-13)

HELD OVER

MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE

(2026) Super Hero, Adventure, Fantasy (PG-13)

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Family outing at a 4th of July picnic at the state park.

Fun at Oak Park.

KARIN JUNG PHOTO

LAUREN THORNTON PHOTO



July 4th 2026. TSgt Travis Nygaard worked all day and evening, got off work just in time for the fun fireworks filled show in town.

Enjoying watermelon.

LINDSAY NYGAARD PHOTO

TINA MEISSNER PHOTO



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Upcoming Events

02 AUG

ARTS IN THE CITY:
DANIEL STARKS, ANDREW EMMEL & DARRYL HICKS TRIO
4:000 PM

Oak Park, 1300 4th Ave NW, Minot, ND

We're closing out the summer season with one final evening of live music in Oak Park — and it's a good one. Join us for a night of local music, food trucks, vendors, community, and summer memories as we wrap up another season of Arts in the City: Sundays in the Park.

LIVE MUSIC: 4PM – Daniel Starks, 5:30PM – Andrew Emmel, 7PM – Darryl Hicks Trio. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, family, friends, and enjoy one more summer night in the park with us.

Plus: • Vendors • Food Trucks • Family-Friendly Fun • Free Will Donation • All Ages Welcome. Presented by Minot Area Council of the Arts



For more information:
Facebook / Minot Area Council of the Arts / Events

07 AUG

MOVIE IN THE PARK:
ZOOTOPIA 2
SUNSET (9:30 PM)

Roosevelt Park Zoo
1219 Burdick Expressway E, Minot

Movies in the Park 2026 – Where movies meet moonlight! Join us at Roosevelt Park Zoo for a special showing under the stars! Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, and your favorite people.

Roosevelt Park Zoo

All movies start at sunset (around 9:30pm)

Sponsored by First International Ban



For more information:
Facebook / Minot Parks / Events

10 AUG

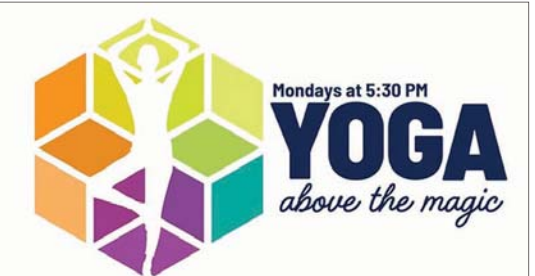
YOGA ABOVE THE MAGIC
5:30 PM

Magic City Discovery Center,
1545 1st Street NW, Minot

Yoga Above the Magic connects body, breath, and mind and is designed for all levels of fitness and experience. This class focuses on improving balance, flexibility, and overall body strength. Classes begin with a tai chi and sun salutation warm-up followed by a flow of poses, with options that allow you to honor and challenge you where you are in your yoga journey. The class closes in savasana with a calming meditation. Class themes include gratitude, kindness, letting go, and friendship.

Cost: \$15 for Non-Members, \$13.50 for MCDC Members, and \$12 for MCDC Military Members

Instructor: Terry Eckmann



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

13 AUG

JESSIE VEEDER & CHRIS BASDEN AT LEVITT AMP MINOT MUSIC SERIES
5:00 PM

Citizens Alley, 3 1st St SE Suite 2

The Levitt AMP Minot Music Series brings free live music to downtown Minot at Citizens Alley. Join us for an evening of live performances featuring local, regional, and national artists in a welcoming outdoor setting. Each concert includes more than just music—enjoy local vendors, food and beverages, and family-friendly activities that make it easy to spend the whole evening downtown. Bring a lawn chair, meet up with friends, and experience the energy of summer nights in Minot.

Concerts take place on select Thursdays throughout June, July, and August 2026 at Citizens Alley in downtown Minot.

Free to attend. All ages welcome.



For more information:
Facebook / Citizens Alley / Events

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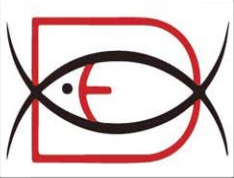


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Folds of Honor Raises Money for Scholarships

ROD WILSON, NORTHERN SENTRY



(L to R) Capt Alex Mullen, Capt Anthony Richards, SSgt Candice Lacewell, 1st Lt Ashley Manzano (all 91 OSS volunteers), Dusty Wald, Lt. Col Nick Gydesen, Cape Hunter Carrithers, Capt Jacob Brown- 91 OSS Commanders, John Butz

Honorary Commanders help connect Magic City Beverage, the 91st OSS and the Minot community in support of military families.

Folds of Honor received a major fundraising boost at the North Dakota State Fair, where Budweiser and Magic City Beverage each donated \$5,000 to support scholarships for the spouses and children of fallen or disabled U.S. service members.

The event was tied to Budweiser's 150th anniversary and featured the Anheuser-Busch Clydesdales' full hitch in front of the grandstand. According to Dusty Wald, co-owner of Magic City Beverage, Budweiser requested the partnership with Folds of Honor as part of the anniversary celebration.

Rocky Stickmann, a former hostage during the Iran hostage crisis who Wald said was held captive for 444 days, also attended the check presentation. Stickmann



Check in table manned by Capt Alex Mullen, 91 OSS volunteer.

gave a short presentation on behalf of Folds of Honor. Bismarck native Alece Blazek, a four-year Folds of Honor scholarship recipient, also attended and shared how

the scholarship helped pay her college tuition.

Magic City Beverage also hosted a fundraising event attended by members of the Minot community, with all proceeds going directly to Folds of Honor. Lt. Col. Nick Gydesen of the 91st Operations Support Squadron estimated that 300 to 400 people attended, based on photos taken that evening.

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(L to R)- Alece Blazek, Bismarck, 4 Year Recipient of a Folds of Honor Scholarship, John Butz- Co-owner Magic City Beverage, Dusty Wald-Co owner Magic City Beverage, Lt. Col Nick Gydesen- 91 OSS Commander, Rocky Sickmann-Folds of Honor



The effort was strengthened by the Honorary Commander connection between Gydesen and Wald. Wald’s father, Pat Butz, served as honorary commander of the 91st OSS beginning in the mid-1990s. When Butz retired from Magic City Beverage, he also retired from the Honorary Commander program, and the role was passed to Wald. Gydesen, who knew the Butz family from his earlier time in Minot, later returned as commander of the 91st OSS, helping continue the long-standing relationship between Magic City Beverage and

the squadron. As the Folds of Honor event was being planned, Wald reached out to Gydesen for volunteer support. Members of the 91st OSS helped greet guests, pour samples and support the evening’s activities. “I think everyone had a lot of fun,” Gydesen said. Together, the fundraising effort highlighted how the Honorary Commander program can strengthen community partnerships while supporting military families through organizations like Folds of Honor.

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NORTHERN CELEBRATIONS
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THOSE COVETED COFFEE MUGS
Kim Fundingsland

I've noticed that many coffee drinkers have a weird relationship with their favorite coffee mugs. They cling to them as if their very lives were dependent upon it. Strange. Hmmm. As I write these lines, I confess to you, dear reader, that my favorite coffee mug is but a few inches away. That means I hereby, in a very public way, include myself among those who I previously expressed reservations regarding their highly caffeinated behavior, namely their relationship with a material vessel akin to some sort of false idol. As I throw my complete effort into this written word, I do so with the knowledge that many of you will be reading this, favorite coffee mug in hand, or perhaps just inches away. You are my incentive, my inspiration, to freely share what perhaps may not actually be a shortcoming, but rather something worthy of the highest honor bestowed upon those who cling to a favorite coffee mug. I have no clue what that honor might be, or who or what organization might bestow it, but you have my utmost assurance that I am infinitely qualified to receive it. You see, I have gone to unusual lengths to maintain the integrity and admiration of coffee mug fanciers everywhere. I'm certain that distinct qualification must be written in the official coffee drinker's code somewhere. It should be noted that I am not completely possessed with this coffee mug business. Partially maybe, but not completely. I don't have any selfies of me and my favorite coffee mug standing in front of the great pyramids of Egypt or on the slopes of Mount Everest. I suppose I would, just have never been to those places. Nevertheless, my lack of worldly travels aside, I have taken my coveted coffee mug as far south as Florida where the sun turns Norwegian skin red in minutes, and as far north as the northern reaches of Saskatchewan where the sun sets for only an hour or two. This is not just any coffee mug we're talking about here. Please, stay with me as I reveal a bit of history that helps explain my fondness for, of all things, a coffee mug. The mug about which I am writing came into my possession, lawfully, when I purchased it at a C-Store which was promoting the sales of coffee to its customers. Buy a mug, get coffee for half price for a year. I quickly calculated I'd come out ahead on that deal in short order, and I did. Problem was though, that mug was dropped, banged around, left on the roof of my vehicle, misplaced for a time, and otherwise frightfully abused far beyond what any coffee mug should endure. I had replaced shattered and broken lids a couple of times. The dents became a sort of "Red Badge of Courage", but the chipped paint began to seriously degrade the appearance of what had become my favorite coffee mug. Now what? An ingenious plan was needed to save that mug from the dumpster, a fearful fate that I determined would have had an unknown effect on me, and one which I didn't wish to discover. I sought some advice from a friend, a known craftsman skilled in various methods of painting.

My favorite coffee mug is a hand-painted gem that has been dropped, banged around, misplaced, had its lid replaced, and usually goes wherever I go. Kim Fundingsland Photo

Not knowing what the outcome would be, but cautiously optimistic, I applied a couple of primer coats to my previously described coffee mug. That I followed with two coats of dull green paint, all of this over the top of the mug's former maroon color. It is here that things became quite problematic. You see, I make no claim to having any artistic ability, yet wished to personalize my coveted coffee mug. I tried several free hand drawings to test my ability. All were miserable failures, sad confirmation of what I already knew. Still, I remained the owner of a dull green coffee mug much in need of improvement. I devised a plan that I thought I could execute. Even if not up to artistic standards, I reasoned, and expected, my coffee mug would be very much my doing and therefore a valued asset. What I came up with was a combination of tracing my favorite home-made fishing lures and a mixture of actual innovative painting. Perfect? Nope. But it's my creation, and both a reflection of my lack of ability as an artist and my passion for fishing. Plus, it is one of a kind and, like a loyal dog, will follow me anywhere. Really though, it has no other choice.

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2026 Back-to-School Backpack Brigade

On Friday, August 7th, 2026 families will receive backpacks, school supplies, and a \$30 gift card from Operation Homefront. The gift card is a new initiative that places autonomy in parent(s)/guardian(s) hands with regard to the purchase of additional school supplies. Isn't that great?! Every year, the event improves in some way and I couldn't be happier to host it – providing 40 organizations table space and time to inform, educate, and engage with our military-connected families.

If you did not register, please still come! There will be free resources, supplies, and vision screenings. Representatives from educational agencies on base and in town are also on site to share their offerings, which aim to enhance and support your student's school year. Lastly, I will ensure the SY 26/27 calendar for the Minot Public Schools District and Glenburn Public School District are readily available.

Let's enter another year of student learning confidently – prepared and poised to succeed! If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to reach out at mafb.school.liaison@us.af.mil.

The information in this article is



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



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The Minot Spouses Club Invites you to their Kickoff Event!

MINOT SPOUSES CLUB

The Minot Spouses Club is excited to announce the kickoff event of the 2026-2027 season with the annual Membership Drive and Welcome Social! Whether you are a returning member or new to the area, this is a great opportunity to meet fellow spouses, learn about the club, and discover all that MSC has to offer.

The event will take place on Saturday, August 8th 2026 from 2:00pm - 4:00pm at 256 Spruce Street MAFB (Housing Office). Please note that child care will not be available.

During the event, attendees can register for their MSC 2026-2027 membership and hear from the club's leadership on this term's initiatives. Lively group activities are also planned as well as a dirty soda bar and light snacks. More information will be provided about signing up for Little Clubs, volunteering at the Minot AFB Thrift Store and Cinderella's Boutique, and purchasing MSC attire at close to 50% off!

Guests and members have the

opportunity to win multiple prizes which include a FREE annual membership for the 2026-2027 season or a \$15 gift certificate to the Minot AFB Thrift Store. *Prizes can only be won at the event for those present.

Spouses who are eligible to become members include but are not limited to: Spouses of active duty, National Guard, or Reserve members of the U.S. Armed Forces assigned to Minot AFB, spouses of retired or deceased U.S. Armed Forces members living in the Minot area, spouses of active or retired Civil Service employees at Minot AFB, adult relatives living full-time with the family of an AD service member stationed at Minot AFB.

Membership dues are based on the dependent sponsor's rank. Prices start at \$25 for E1-E4 and go up from there. Membership is available to retirees as well. Participants may pay dues with an online payment using Zeffy in the link below at your convenience or with cash or check during

registration.

The Minot Spouses Club is a welcoming community to meet military spouses from all ranks and backgrounds.

Membership perks include:

- Access to 10 socials and special events throughout the season
 - The chance to join interest groups ("Little Clubs") such as Bunco, The Small Business Club, The Coffee Brew Crew, and Mah Jongg
 - Opportunities to build friendships, explore new interests, and grow your leadership skills
- The club also offers support during major life events and access to a members-only Facebook group.

To learn more or register, please go to <https://linktr.ee/minotspousesclub> or visit us on Facebook or Instagram.

We look forward to meeting everyone soon!

This is a private organization. It is not a part of the Department of War or any of its components and has no governmental status.

MINOT SPOUSES CLUB ANNUAL

Membership Drive & Welcome Social

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8TH
2:00PM - 4:00PM
MAFB HOUSING OFFICE - 256 SPRUCE STREET



Minot Spouses Club welcomed returning members, new members, and guests during the 2025-2026 Membership Drive and Welcome Social.

1951-2026 A HISTORY OF INNOVATION

1951-2026 A HISTORY OF INNOVATION

COMMUNITY TOUR

August 9 • 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Carpio Fire Department Pancake Breakfast
Main Street, Carpio
Free bottled water and giveaways

August 11 • 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Burlington Books and Coffee Uffda Bean Coffeehouse, Burlington Free 16 oz. drink from Uffda Bean The Ward County Bookmobile 10:30-11:30 a.m.	August 11 • 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Butte Community Luncheon Butte Senior Center Free lunch and giveaways
--	--

August 12 • 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. | Granville Pie Social
Memorial Diner, Granville
Free dessert

August 13 • 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. | Berthold Kickball Night
Berthold Park
Free dessert and giveaways

Please celebrate with us at the gathering near you!

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Sunday, September 20, 2026 • 5:30pm • Minot • ND State Fair Center

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dakotahope.org/events

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Aug7

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

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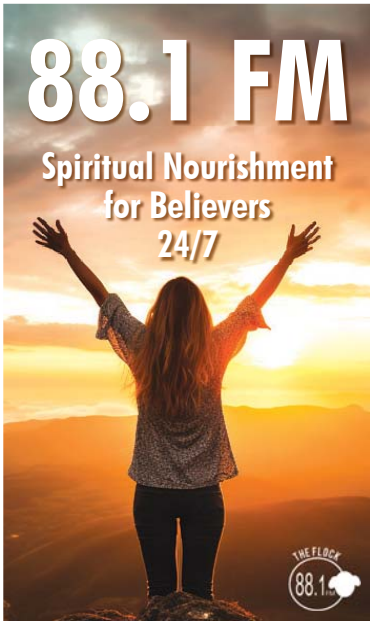
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Aug14

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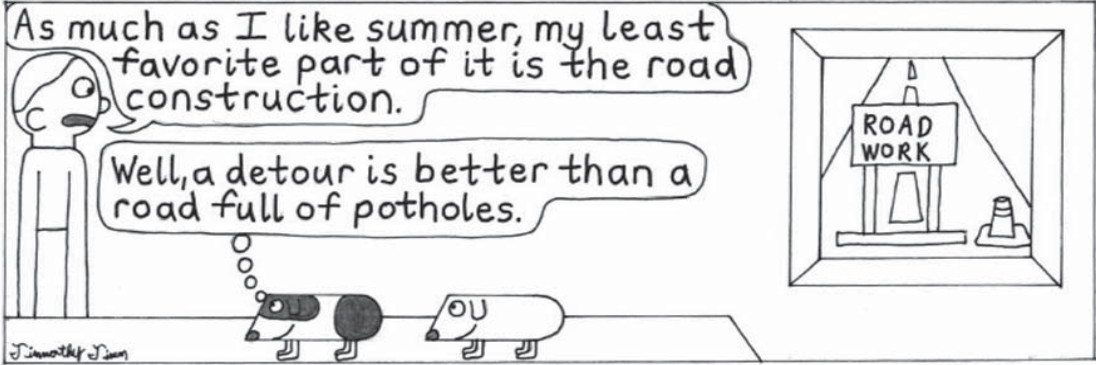
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Timothy Timm of Minot currently attends Minot State University, is a Minot High School graduate, artist, cartoonist, author and illustrator. Timm has also created other works of art that are on display in his art studio downtown located at 201 Main St. S. in Minot.

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UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE SCHOOL DISTRICT #160 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES JULY 20, 2026

The School Board of Minot Air Force Base Public School District No. 160 held an annual meeting on July 20, 2026. The meeting was conducted at the Administration Office of Memorial Middle School.

Board Members Present: Eric Fileccia, Wesley Hoffman, Anthony Foerster, Chris Tilstra, Kyle Gahring

Board Members Absent: None

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. Dr. Faul acted as temporary chairman of the annual meeting.
Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge of allegiance was recited.
Preview of the Agenda: Motion by Tilstra, seconded by Gahring to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote carried 4-0.

Reorganization of the Board, Elections:
Superintendent Dr. Scott Faul called for nominations for President of the Minot Air Force Base School District #160. Tilstra nominated Fileccia for School Board President. Hoffman seconded the nomination.

There were no other nominations. Roll call vote carried 4-0.
President Fileccia took over as chair of the meeting.
Anthony Foerster joined the meeting.
President Fileccia called for nominations for Vice President of the Minot Air Force Base School District #160. Tilstra nominated Hoffman for School Board Vice President. Gahring seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Roll call vote carried 5-0.

Public Comment: None
Superintendent Report:
Superintendent Dr. Scott Faul gave a report on the upcoming July 2026 Public Schools on Military Installations (PSMI) Assessments.

Approval of Consent Agenda:
Motion by Tilstra, seconded by Forester to approve the Consent Agenda to include the April 21, 2026 MAFB PSD #160 regular school board meeting minutes and the April, May and June 2026 financial reports as presented including the accounts payable in the amount of \$9,194,857.25. Roll call vote carried 5-0.

PSMI Assessments:
Alpha Solutions will be assessing the three MAFB schools July 27 through July 31, 2026.

Update on Busing:
The board was updated on MPS #1 taking over the Northland bus shuttle routes for the 2026-27 school year. A parent meeting has been set for August 17, 2026.

MAFB School Liaison Officer Report:
The Board reviewed a report from MAFB School Liaison Officer, Alyssa Kelly. Topics discussed include PSMI Assessments, Pre-K on MAFB and Starbase.

2026-2027 School Board Meetings:
Motion by Gahring, seconded by Hoffman to set the 2026-2027 board meeting schedule as listed as: October 5, January 19, April 27 and July 27 at 5:00 p.m. at Memorial Middle School Library as the regular date and time. Roll call vote carried 5-0.

Set 2026-2027 MAFB School Board Member Pay:
Motion by Forester, seconded by Gahring to set the 2026-2027 MAFB school board member pay at \$100 per month and \$100 per MPS #1 meeting (plus mileage) attended as Liaison. Roll call vote carried 5-0.

2026-2027 School Board Visits:
Motion by Forester, seconded by Gahring to approve the School Board visits to schools for 2026-2027. Roll call vote carried 5-0.

Pledged Securities:
Motion by Tilstra, seconded by Gahring to approve the pledged securities as of June 30, 2026 as presented. Roll call vote carried 5-0.

Designated Depositories:
Motion by Forester, seconded by Tilstra to approve the designated depositories for school district funds as presented. Roll call vote carried 5-0.

Federal Impact Aid Authorized Representative:
Motion by Hoffman, seconded by Tilstra to appoint Business Manager Laura Dokken as the 2026-2027 Federal Impact Aid Authorized Representative. Roll call vote carried 5-0.

Appoint Minot Area Workforce Academy Representative:
President Fileccia appointed Chris Tilstra to the Minot Area Workforce Academy CTE Center Board.

2025-2026 Year End Financials:
Business Manager Laura Dokken presented the 2025-2026 MAFB School District #160 General Fund and Building Fund year end financials. Revenues were \$10,154,337.29 and expenses totaled \$9,393,386.18. A final year-end financial report, which will be submitted to the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, will be brought to the next regular board meeting for approval.

2026-2027 Budget:
Business Manager Laura Dokken presented the 2026-2027 MAFB School District #160 General Fund and Building Fund budgets. Motion by Tilstra, seconded by Gahring to approve the 2026-2027 MAFB School District #160 General Fund and Building Fund budgets as presented. For the General Fund: Revenues of \$9,550,000 and expenses of \$9,708,225 and for the Building Fund: Revenues of \$50,000 and expenses of \$50,000. Roll call vote carried 5-0.

Announcements:
1. First Day of School – August 19, 2026
2. MAFB School Board Meeting – October 5, 2026

Adjournment:
The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

President Business Manager



by Patricia Stockdill

FISHING:

Lake Sakakawea elevation, July 27: 1,827.71 feet above mean sea level (MSL); 18,00 cubic feet per second (CFS) Garrison Dam average daily releases.

Devils Lake elevation: 1,450.38 feet above mean sea level (MSL). Stump Lake elevation: 1,450.4 MSL.

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

- Devils Lake, Woodland Resort, Devils Lake: Fair walleye activity using bottom bouncers and spinners with nightcrawlers in 10 to 15 feet. Try Pelican Lake, Doc's Hagen, 6-Mile Bay, or Black Tiger Bay. Some white bass activity casting from shore.

- Lake Darling, Karma C-Store, Ruthville: Fair walleye activity in the Van Hook Arm of Lake Sakakawea. No Lake Darling reports but be vigilant of the potential for blue-green algae in some areas of the lake.

- Lake Metigoshe, Four Seasons, Bottineau: Continued fair to good bluegill activity with nice numbers of small, non-keeper sized walleye during early morning or late evening hours.

- Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Cenex Bait & Tackle, Garrison: Move around to locate walleye on the east end of Lake Sakakawea. No reports from Lake Audubon or the Missouri River.

- Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Hwy. 83 Lawn & Leisure, Garrison: East of Lake Sakakawea producing some walleye in 25 to 30 feet working humps and areas along Old Highway 83. Occasional salmon working 100 feet over 130 feet. Fish aren't numerous but nice-sized. Work outside of the weeds on Lake Audubon for walleye.

- Lake Sakakawea, Indian Hills Resort, Garrison: Nice walleye success using nightcrawlers or leeches in 20 to 25 feet. Clear water is trending for good bass activity. Try suspending nightcrawlers near the bottom.

- Lake Sakakawea, New Town: Continued fair walleye activity in 12 to 18 feet using leeches or nightcrawlers, just work a little deeper with warm weather moving fish down.

- Lake Sakakawea, Van Hook Bait

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:

- N.D. Dept. of Environmental Quality issued blue-green algae advisory for Lake Darling, Devils Lake, and Lake Brekken (McLean Co.). Use caution and go to their for information and safety precautions, (deq.nd.gov/WVQ).
- July 31: Yoga in the Park, Oak Park, 7 p.m.
- Aug. 1 & 2: Car & Tractor Show, Pioneer Village Museum, Burlington (free) with an array of activities.
- Aug. 4: Yoga (free) in the Alley, Citizens Alley, 7 p.m.
- Aug. 5: Pronghorn applications due. Go to the N.D. Game & Fish Dept. website, (gf.nd.gov) for information and application.
- Aug. 6: Back to School Bash (free), North Hill Sports Complex with games, bounce house, face painting, & more, 10 a.m.
- Aug. 7: Movie in the Park, Zootopia (free), Oak Park, 9:30 p.m.
- Aug. 7 – 9: 10th Annual Bison Bash, Cross Ranch State Park south of Hensler. Hikes, games, and other activities celebrating the area's ecosystem and majestic bison.
- Aug. 8: 5K Color Walk Run, Roll, & Lend-A-Paw Festival, 9 a.m. Contact the Souris Valley Animal Shelter for more information.
- Aug. 8: EMS Kid Day and Lighted Boat Parade, Fort Stevenson State Park, Garrison. Family activities and emergency service personnel equipment tours and displays beginning at 4 p.m. followed by live music and evening lighted boat parade.
- Aug. 10: Yoga (free) in the Alley, Citizens Alley, 6:30 p.m.
- Aug. 14: Cardboard Canoe Race \$15 per team, Roosevelt Park Pool, 6:30 p.m.

TOURNAMENTS:

- Aug. 1 & 2: Lake Audubon, Totten Trail.
- Aug. 1: Lake Sakakawea, Fort Stevenson State Park; Lake Sakakawea, 4 Bears; Lake Sakakawea, Sakakawea State Park.
- Aug. 7 & 8: Lake Sakakawea, Fort Stevenson State Park.
- Aug. 8 & 9: Lake Sakakawea, Parshall Bay.
- Aug. 8: Devils Lake, Round Lake Bay; Lake Audubon, Cabin Sites; Lake Sakakawea, Van Hook Arm; Lake Sakakawea, White Earth Bay.
- Aug. 15: Lake Sakakawea, Indian Hills Resort; Lake Sakakawea, Sakakawea State Park.

& Tackle, New Town: No new reports.

- Lake Sakakawea/Missouri River, Scott's Bait & Tackle, Pick City: Missouri River tailrace continues producing walleye with best success in cooler early morning and late evening hours. Try nightcrawlers. Some catfish activity from shore and the wing walls. Nice night walleye bite in the chutes from boats using 3-way swivels or plastics. East end of Lake Sakakawea producing walleye in 8 to 15 feet. Try jigging Raps or crankbaits but nightcrawlers with spinners or lindy rigs remain popular. Most fishing activity is taking place in cooler early morning or evening hours. Occasional salmon from 80 feet working over 100 feet. Try flashers with squids or flies. Fish are nice-sized but not plentiful. Look for improving success as August moves along.
- Lake Sakakawea/northwest N.D. lakes, Scenic Sports, Williston: Upper end of Lake Sakakawea continues producing walleye from White Earth Bay to Antelope Flats. Try spinners with nightcrawlers or leeches. Good numbers of catfish around Lund's Landing with occasional walleye. Yellowstone and Missouri rivers producing some nice-sized catfish with a few walleye mixed

in. Blacktail Dam remains fair for pike. Look for a mix of rainbow trout and walleye from McGregor Dam.

- North-central/central N.D. lakes, Towner Hdwe. Hank, Towner: Limited reports with heat limiting angling activity.

RIVER ELEVATIONS & STREAMFLOW FOR PADDLE CRAFT ACTIVITIES (conditions can vary):

- Lake Darling, Foxholm: Elevation, 1,597.95 MSL.
- Little Missouri River, Long X Bridge: River stage, 6.96 feet; streamflow, 25.1 CFS.
- Little Missouri River, Medora: River stage, 1.09 feet.
- Missouri River, Williston: River stage, 12.99 feet.
- Missouri River, Washburn: River stage, 9.59 feet.
- Souris River, Broadway Bridge, Minot: River stage, 41.42 feet.

NUMBERS TO KNOW:

- N.D. Game and Fish Dept., main Bismarck office: (701) 328-6300, website: (<http://gf.nd.gov>).
- Report All Poachers: (701) 328-9921.



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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.

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.

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.



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