



WHATS INSIDE THIS WEEK:



MICRO CHIPPING CLINIC HELPS PROTECT MINOT AFB PETS

A2



MEDORA ON A BUDGET: A FAMILY GETAWAY YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO SKIP

A6



FINDING THEIR VOICE: MINOT TEENS ADVOCATE, LEAD, AND CONNECT

B5



THE BACKBONE OF TEAM MINOT

U.S. Airmen with the 5th Communications Squadron (5th CS) Communications Focal Point (CFP) work center pose for a photo at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Aug. 5, 2026. The CFP serves as a logistical hub between Team Minot Airmen and the 5th CS. See more on page A3.

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



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Microchipping Clinic Helps Protect Minot AFB Pets

NATALY ZARRELLA, NORTHERN SENTRY

Residents of Minot Air Force Base had the opportunity to better protect their pets during a Microchipping Clinic hosted by the Minot AFB Resident Council in partnership with the Animal Empowerment League on Saturday, Aug. 1. The event provided an affordable way for military families to have their pets microchipped for just \$10 per animal, helping ensure lost pets have a greater chance of being reunited with their owners.

The clinic brought together several organizations dedicated to animal welfare and responsible pet ownership. Representing the Animal Empowerment League were Executive Director Kasey Breuer and Animal Welfare Manager Lauren Rogers. In addition to organizing microchipping events, the organization works closely with the City of Minot Pound by taking in dogs, coordinating foster homes,

and helping place animals into permanent adoptive homes.

The Animal Empowerment League was joined by representatives from the Minot AFB Veterinary Clinic, who assisted pet owners with registering their animals for veterinary services, and Minot AFB Homes, which helped residents register their pets with base housing. Together, the organizations created a one-stop resource for pet owners, making it easier to complete several important steps in responsible pet ownership during a single visit.

Microchipping provides pets with a permanent form of identification that can be scanned by veterinary clinics and animal shelters if an animal is found. This greatly increases the likelihood of a lost pet being returned to its owner.

During the event, Lauren shared the story of a family whose dog was reunited with them after being



The Minot AFB Resident Council, Minot AFB Homes, and the Animal Empowerment League teamed up for a one-stop shop for pet microchipping and registration!

NORTHERN SENTRY | NATALY ZARRELLA PHOTO

missing for five years because the pet had been microchipped. The story served as a powerful reminder of the lasting value of permanent identification.

One family attending the clinic explained they were having their pet microchipped again after the animal's previous microchip had fallen out. While uncommon, this can occur if the chip is not properly implanted or if the area is disturbed before it has fully healed.

The Animal Empowerment League also offers in-home microchipping services, allowing

staff to travel directly to a pet owner's residence. The service is especially beneficial for cats and other animals that become stressed when removed from their familiar environment. The cost remains \$10 per pet, although the organization occasionally offers free or discounted clinics when sponsorships help offset expenses.

The Aug. 1 clinic resulted in 25 pets receiving microchips. Additionally, six pets were registered with Minot AFB Homes, while 10 were registered with the Minot AFB Veterinary Clinic. The

event also attracted members from outside the installation, with six off-base pets receiving microchips during the clinic.

Organizers considered the event a success and hope to continue offering similar clinics in the future, with the goal of hosting them on a quarterly basis. Through continued partnerships and community support, the organizations aim to make pet identification more accessible while increasing the chances that lost pets can safely find their way home.



Pet Microchipping Clinic allowed pet owners across Minot AFB keep their furry friends safe. CARRIE DRIVER PHOTO



Young puppy Apollo getting microchipped by Animal Empowerment League during the Minot AFB Pet Microchipping Clinic. NATALY ZARRELLA



Military members from on and off the installation to microchip their pets making the first microchipping clinic a great success which they look forward to continuing in the future. CARRIE DRIVER PHOTO

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Communications Focal Point: the backbone of keeping Team Minot online

SENIOR AIRMAN CARSON JENEY, MINOT AIR FORCE BASE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D.

At the start of the workday for a typical Airmen, you show up to your respective shop and log in to your computer. If needed, you make a phone call or two, and print something off. The 5th Communications Squadron's Communications Focal Point is responsible for Team Minot's efficient start of shift routine, ensuring we are able to log on, communicate, and execute the mission.

“Tracking, scheduling, reporting, and documenting,” said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Tyrone Hawthorne, 5th Communications Squadron Communications Focal Point noncommissioned officer in charge. “That’s our four tenets, it’s essentially what the CFP does.”

As the primary link between both the 5th Bomb Wing and 91st Missile Wing and the communications specialists within the squadron, the CFP acts as a centralized hub, triaging tickets to ensure they reach the right work centers.

"CFP is important because all the issues come through us first, like phone calls or tickets," said Hawthorne. "Once we get that, we distribute it to the other sections so the job can get done."

Not only is CFP the hub between Minot Airmen and the 5th CS, but also with higher headquarters and the base. CFP is responsible for distributing, tracking and completion of Tasking Orders (TASKORDS) issued by Air Forces Cyber and United States Cyber Command.

“Our role in the TASKORD process is to receive those directives, push them out to the production work centers, track the status of the work and report the completion of the TASKORD to higher headquarters,” said U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Shawn Ransome, 5th CS CFP section chief. “We’re the belly button when it comes to the

communication piece between us, Air Force Global Strike Command and higher entities.”

Within the 5th CS, there are two flights: Plans and Programs, and the Operations Flight. CFP falls under the Operations Flight and is responsible for directing tasks and tickets to different shops such as Radio Frequency, Network Administrator, Wing Cybersecurity, Network Infrastructure, and Client Systems, to name just a few.

“As CFP technicians, we process most of the scheduling and tasking for all of the shops within the CS,” said U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Bryan Ramirez, 5th CS CFP technician.

But triage is only part of their daily battle rhythm.

The CFP also directly manages additional administrative programs.

“The CFP handles the Local Registration Authority, who is responsible for creating and issuing SIPR accounts and tokens,” said Ransome. “They’re also responsible for the Integrated Maintenance Data System program in the unit, which is how we track maintenance on our network equipment. They also take lead during a Negligent Discharge of Classified Information incident. They coordinate with the 5th BW Information Protection, unit security managers, and higher headquarters to investigate, resolve and sanitize the spillage.”

Ultimately, the 5th CS's footprint extends far beyond the average office desktop or telephone. Their infrastructure binds the entire base and its remote locations together.

“Of course there’s NIPR, SIPR, VoIP,” said Ransome. “However, we also have E911 services, the call manager, the 5th Medical Group’s DHA systems, the weather sensors and servers, long haul network and radio services connecting the MAFs (Missile Alert Facility) back to Minot AFB, to name just a few.”

With such a vast network to defend and maintain, the CFP

relies on users to identify issues with the equipment on the network. When submitting a ticket through Enterprise Information Technology as a Service (EITAAS), clarity and detail are paramount to avoiding delays.

“One major thing that can slow down a ticket is a lack of information,” said Ransome. “When someone creates a ticket that doesn’t have enough details, the CFP cannot route that request until they get all the information needed before it’s routed to the respective work center.”

Even after a ticket is submitted, resolving the issue remains a two-way street.

“Communication is a big part,” said Hawthorne. “When my technicians reach out to get additional information, sometimes we run into an issue where users do not reply to our phone calls or emails.”

Ultimately, the behind-the-scenes vigilance of the 5th CS ensures Team Minot remains secure, connected, and combat ready always.

“Our IT network and the AFNET by extension, gets attacked every day. You don’t hear about it because your comm airmen are doing what they need to do to mitigate those threats,” said Ransome. “So next time you see a comm airman, say thank you because if they weren’t doing what they are doing, we would be offline.”



U.S. Airmen with the 5th Communications Squadron (5th CS) Communications Focal Point (CFP) work center conduct training at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Aug. 5, 2026. The CFP serves as a logistical hub between Team Minot Airmen and the 5th CS.



U.S. Airmen with the 5th Communications Squadron (5th CS) Communications Focal Point (CFP) work center conduct routine tasks at Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, Aug. 5, 2026. Within the 5th CS, there are two flights, plans and operations. Within the two flights, CFP is responsible for directing tasks and tickets to different shops such as radio frequency, network administrator, wing cybersecurity, infrastructure, and client systems, to name just a few.

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Sometimes It Just Happens...



**A VIEW FROM
OUR SIDE**
ROD WILSON
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Some days, the best local stories arrive quietly: in a sunrise, a community service project, or a classic car with a remarkable history.

START WITH A SUNRISE
An early morning drive turned into an opportunity to catch a bright red sunrise on Tuesday morning. I had an idea that this special sunrise would look spectacular over a golden-brown wheat field, and I knew just where to take the photograph.

I raced to the east side of Minot and, to be honest, I did get a nice photo, but not a great one. The time it took to reach the wheat field allowed the sun to rise quite a bit above the horizon. Maybe next time? With the smoke in the atmosphere, there will be other opportunities. That same spirit of catching a moment carried into another local effort, where a few hours of service made a practical difference for area families.

**MAGIC CITY LIONS PROVIDE
FREE VISION SCREENING**
At a recent event that provided school supplies, including backpacks, to students on base, the Magic City Lions were asked to provide free vision screening. It is a service the Magic City Lions provide to organizations that request it.



A blood red morning sun over a wheat field just east of Minot.

Four Magic City Lions staffed the vision screening, along with Dr. Josh Meschke, an optometrist and fellow member of the Magic City Lions. In all, we provided 66 screenings in two hours. Dr. Meschke provided parents with “next step” advice when they requested it.

One young couple shared that their 3-year-old, who had gone through the vision screening, did indeed have glasses, but the parents were having difficulty persuading their son to wear them. Josh reviewed the screening information and assured the parents that getting young children to wear glasses is indeed a challenge. However, “without glasses, I can’t imagine that your child sees very well,” Dr. Josh told the parents.

The youngster was not wearing glasses, and when he turned to leave, he ran smack into a door that was being held open for him. I hope the parents find a way to keep the young guy wearing his glasses.

From practical help for families, the week’s local color shifted to something with a little more celebrity shine.

ELVIS IS IN THE BUILDING
Well, at least the last car he owned is. George Masters, longtime president of the Dakota Cruisers Car Club, was contracted to detail a 1977 Lincoln Continental Mark V for Minot natives Greg and Ruby Feland. The car, documented by paperwork that came with it, was the last car Elvis Presley purchased before his untimely death in 1977. “Elvis purchased the car on April 15, 1977, at a cost of \$15,193.50,” according to Masters, “and he died in August of 1977.”

When Masters received the car at his southeast Minot shop, he decided that there was one person who would like to see it: his good friend Goldie Braaten, a long-time member of the Dakota Cruisers Car Club. Masters arranged to take the car to Trinity Nursing Home, where Braaten is a resident.

Through the Felands, Masters



Members of the Magic City Lions Club did Vision Screening at Minot Air Force Base.



The last car Elvis Pressley purchased. A 1977 Lincoln Continental Mark V.



Command Team and spouses helped with the Back-To-School Supplies Brigade event on Friday. (Front L-R) Alicia and Col John Burrell, Col George and Erin Chapman, (Back L-R) CMSgt Anthony Foerster, Amanda and Col Mike Taylor, Col Matt and Bernadette Crosman.

also gave Braaten a signature necklace they purchased at Graceland in Tennessee. For Elvis fans, the insignia of TCB with a lightning flash meant “Taking Care of Business in a Flash,” said Masters. Braaten’s reaction, of course: “I just love Elvis.”

Through Masters, the car that could have been the “last car that Elvis drove,” according to the letter that accompanied it, will continue to make marquee appearances around Minot. “And I am hoping that Elvis fans, or anyone for that matter, will enjoy having their picture taken with the car,” Masters said.

Special Note: I was able to see the car during the detailing process and, although an Elvis fan of sorts, immediately took a photo of the car in Masters’ shop. The car has a definite aura about it, and one could certainly picture Presley taking a spin around Graceland once the car arrived there. Presley gave the car to his jeweler friend, and eventually the Lincoln Continental Mark V appeared at auction, where the Felands purchased it. The car is a true treasure and already has

begun to build a new legend for itself.

Sometimes, that is how local stories seem to happen: one ordinary moment leads to another, and before long, there is something worth sharing.

SPECIAL THANK YOU’S
First to Col. George Chapman for this recent address to the Association of Air Force Missileers who recently met in Minot. Col Chapman did a great job of thanking those in attendance, many of whom served at Minot Air Force Base, for their service to their country as operators, maintenance and security personnel in the ICBM arena.

Next, a thank you to AFA Chapter 135, David C Jones Chapter, and ND State AFA President Jim Simons for presenting a \$1,000.00 check from the chapter to help with expenses for the convention. The National AFA also approved a \$3,000.00 Heritage Grant to the AAFM to help with convention expenses.

TODAY’S CHUCKLE
Puppy love: the beginning of a dog’s life.

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I hated camp; it's different now



SHE'S NOT FROM AROUND HERE
AMY ALLENDER

I never went to summer camp as a kid. In fact, the idea of camp was my nightmare.

Sleeping away from home, strange food, and sweaty kids forced to play sweaty group games? Hard pass.

I was an anxious kid. Rumors of a sleepover would make my skin crawl. I'd fluctuate between making up excuses and trying it — only to call my parents at 2 a.m. for a pickup.

My only camp experience came from TV and movies. I grew up on a steady diet of Salute Your Shorts, Heavyweights and The Parent Trap. Then, at age 23, as a young Air Force wife, I volunteered to be a counselor for a weekend retreat with our church youth group.

It was eye-opening. At one point, I actually shouted, "Twizzlers should not be used as weapons!" I left sleep-deprived, and certain that camp life wasn't for me.

But life is a funny beast. Fast forward 15 years to last summer. I found myself volunteering at Camp Hope, a ministry of Hope Forest held at Camp Bentley in Drake, North Dakota.

My kids and I went to visit for a day while my husband was away on National Guard duty. What was meant to be a 4-hour volunteer shift turned into a 4-day stay when several staff members came down sick.

That girl who hated camp was suddenly sold on the idea. So much so that this year, I volunteered ahead of time.

This summer, I taught a daily skills class. For 45 minutes each day, I taught 15 campers the art of simple card tricks and doodling easy illusions.

Watching a kid's face light up after seeing a card trick for the first time was one of my favorite parts of the week. They couldn't believe they were about to learn how to do it — and then they couldn't believe how easy it was.

The idea for our class was simple: Give kids everyday materials they can use to connect with others and start conversations long after they leave camp.

I wasn't sure if kids would love it or hate it. But the idea took off.



Every day, kids wanted more. They practiced together, showed off for counselors and even found me during free time for bonus lessons.

In the middle of it all, friendships formed and important conversations happened. That's more magical than any card trick I can teach.

Something special occurs when our hands are busy, we're away from screens, and allow ourselves to be present in the "real world" — without distraction. In that space, nearly anything can become a catalyst for connection.

Spending a whole week immersed in "the moment" felt like a luxury of the best kind. I worked hard in the weeks leading up to camp to finish a pile of freelance projects so I could be mostly unplugged for the week.

As for the campers, nobody under 18 has a phone at camp. They turn in their devices when they arrive—even young staff members do the same. Adult staff reduce their phone use to the bare minimum.

It was incredible. At the beginning of the week, everyone is out of their routine. Kids don't know the schedule. They don't know each other yet. Some are nervous about being away from home — or, as a few kids told me, nervous about being bored without their phones.

But by the end of the week, I didn't hear anyone talking about what they were missing.

I heard them talking about what they were doing.

They played. They ran. They learned. They made friends. They

faced boredom and discomfort. And then they discovered what to do with that space.

I left camp sunburned, bug-bitten and exhausted, lamenting that late-night book sessions with my kids and early-morning chapel were coming to an end. I also left thinking about how I can carry the intentionality of camp week into the rest of my year.

We can't opt out of the digital world. Much of modern life requires a screen, including most of my own work. But we are capable of self-awareness and self-discipline. We can create boundaries that work for us, even if those boundaries look different from someone else's.

I left reminded that I need better boundaries because life off-screen, in the full color feels utterly amazing. I want my kids to understand this, too, and I want to be better at modeling it for them.

Sometimes the best thing we can do for ourselves and our kids is creating opportunities to be fully present.

And sometimes being fully present means putting down the phone, tolerating the discomfort of not knowing what to do with our hands, and seeing what we can create with nothing more than a notebook or a deck of cards.

Come back next week when I talk about creating boundaries for our health and wellness with Cornerstone Chiropractic. For more stories of life in North Dakota, or to connect with me, head to amyallender.com or find @heyminot on social media.

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WRITER’S NOTE:

There’s so much to do in Medora that it simply couldn’t all fit into one article! Next week, I’ll highlight some of the higher-end experiences that are well worth the splurge.



The roof of the Teddy Roosevelt National Library can be walked on and is covered in natural grasses.

Medora on a Budget: A Family Getaway You Can’t Afford to Skip

ERIN BEENE, NORTHERN SENTRY

Medora is one of my favorite places on earth. And I’ve lived in Europe and Hawaii, so that’s saying something.

During the two years I lived in North Dakota, my family and I visited Medora at least five times. It was magical every time. This time my daughter and I flew out to visit once again and experience the new features. Although the town is small, it has everything you need for a fabulous getaway, and the best part is that you can experience much of it without spending big bucks.

So, I’m going to share how to make a trip to Medora both amazing and affordable. You won’t be able to blame the cost for skipping it!

STAY AT THE CAMPGROUND

There are several places to stay in Medora, but one of the most affordable is the Medora Campground. I’ve personally stayed there several times, and they offer water-and-electricity sites, traditional campsites, RV sites and even covered wagons you can rent for the night, complete with air conditioning!

The bathrooms are clean, and there’s a fun playground on site for kids, making it a great budget-friendly option for families.

EXPLORE THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK

To keep your days occupied, head about a mile from the campground to Theodore Roosevelt National Park. This is a must-see. You can spot rolling buttes, wild horses, bison, prairie dogs and beautiful landscapes throughout the park.

You can hike, explore overlooks or simply take a scenic drive through the park. There’s something for

everyone, regardless of age or ability.

And the best part? Military members can get an annual National Parks pass for FREE! Just show your military ID at the entrance and you’re in. That’s a pretty great deal.

ENJOY MEDORA FOR FREE

After spending a few hours exploring the park, head into town. Window shopping, checking out quirky shops and grabbing a tasty treat doesn’t have to cost much either. The town is small enough that you won’t wear out even the youngest legs.

At the edge of town, Point to Point Park offers plenty to keep kids busy for free. The jumping pillow, splash pad and huge wooden playscape can easily provide hours of entertainment. There’s also plenty of seating for parents to relax and enjoy the scenery while

the kids play.

Tired of walking? This year, Medora added a free trolley that makes a loop through town, stopping at the national park, ticket center, Medora Musical and campground. Walking is certainly an option, but I loved hopping on the trolley, saving my steps and taking in the sights. Our driver even shared some local history along the way.

DON’T SKIP THE MEDORA MUSICAL

If you’ve heard of Medora, you’ve probably heard of the Medora Musical. I cannot stress enough how much I think this should be part of your trip. The show is set against the Badlands with the sunset as a backdrop, and it is truly magical. It’s one of those experiences you just shouldn’t miss.



The best evening of your summer will be spent in Medora.



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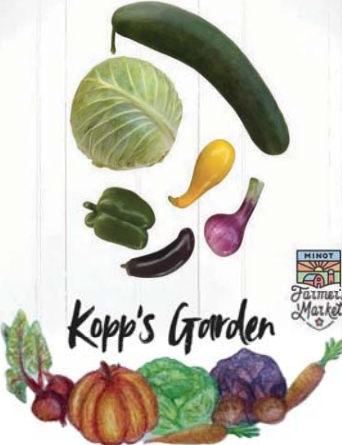
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Watermelon,	



Medora’s new free trolley gives rides to vistors all over town!



Theodore Roosevelt National Park is free for military members!

Tickets aren’t free, but deals are easy to find. Kids are free on select nights, including Sundays, so check the schedule when planning your trip. The Musical also hosts a free Military Night each summer for military members and their families. This year, it was July 12, so check the schedule if you’re planning for next summer.



The Medora Musical is the highlight of every visit, learn how to get tickets for cheap!

And if you can’t make Military Night, military members can get 50% off tickets any day of the year. Ticket prices vary, and there really aren’t many bad seats. Get whatever fits your budget (even some tickets can be around \$10) and go. You won’t regret it.

VISIT THE THEODORE ROOSEVELT PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

My last plug for an affordable Medora trip is the brand-new Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library. We were blown away (literally, because the wind was brutal that day) and figuratively by this incredible building. Located right near the Medora Musical, the library is worth checking out simply for its modern architecture, walkable sloped roof and incredible views.

I think going inside is absolutely worth it if you can fit it into your budget. For larger families, admission can add up, but there is a military discount. Matt Briney, Chief Communications officer at the Library, also told me they are working toward having a military

day next year where military members could visit for free. That has not been confirmed yet, but it’s something to watch for.

If admission isn’t in the budget, don’t worry. You can still explore the exterior, take in the views of Theodore Roosevelt National Park and walk across the rooftop, which is covered in native plant life and designed to feel like the building is part of the landscape.

My preteen daughter, who is usually pretty hard to impress, didn’t want to leave. If that tells you anything, go see it.

JUST GO

Your time in North Dakota isn’t complete until you’ve spent a summer evening watching the sunset over Medora.

It’s beautiful, charming and surprisingly affordable for families. Whether you go this summer or start planning next summer’s trip, put Medora on your list.

You won’t be disappointed.

**more details about Medora & the Musical: <https://northernsentry.com/2022/06/24/medora-is-a-must/>*



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Dorm Dinner Brings Smiles

ROD WILSON, NORTHERN SENTRY

Teaming up for another year of bringing smiles and a welcome change of cuisine to Minot Air Force Base dormitory residents, The Northern SENTRY and North Star Community Credit Union hosted a “Straight From Italy” themed dorm dinner several different dishes for dorm residents to choose from during the August Dorm Dinner. With Noodles and Company once again providing the catered meal, attendees could choose from traditional spaghetti and meatballs, Spicy Korean Steak Noodles, or a vegan option without steak. After a very warm week, temperatures settled into the 80s rather than climbing into triple digits, making outdoor dining a comfortable option. Ted Bolton, publisher of The Northern SENTRY, said serving those who serve is always enjoyable. “You

get to talk to so many folks, find out where they are from and how they are doing in North Dakota. It’s a nice event we enjoy doing once a year.” The Minot AFB branch manager for North Star Community Credit Union, Randie Ova said, “This is our fourth year serving a dorm dinner. It’s a good way to say thank you.” In the outside seating area, Col. John Burrell and Chief Scott Bradbury visited and shared dinner with some of those in attendance. Several of those in attendance played BINGO and solved trivia questions and were awarded prizes. The Chaplain Corps at Minot Air Force Base arranges and organizes the monthly dorm dinners, with different Minot community groups pitching in to provide and serve the meal.



It was a great day to dine outdoors.



Thanks to North Star Community Credit Union staff for helping with August Dorm Dinner.



North Star Community Credit Union serving those in line for dinner.



Northern SENTRY’s Ted Bolton and Col Burrell at August Dorm Dinner held August 5, 2026.

NOTES ON BEING SAFE

Safe + Sound challenges can build a safer workplace

Lisa Gonzales
Air Force Safety Center
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. -- Since 2012, the Department of the Air Force has partnered with OSHA in the Safe + Sound week campaign. This partnership encourages members to maintain a culture where safety is an operational priority that directly supports mission readiness. The use of the Safe + Sound campaign elements in the workplace help prevent injuries that take our civilian work force out of their critical roles and active-duty personnel out of the fight. The intent is to ensure value added safety programs and processes are maintained and ready for every mission. This year’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s annual Safe + Sound campaign runs from August 10-16. The nationwide campaign helps workplaces focus on proactive safety, bringing employees and supervisors at all levels together to identify and eliminate hazards before harm occurs. Safe + Sound is built on three core elements that are designed to be flexible for both industrial settings and military operational environments. Management Leadership element: Ensures resources, time and delegated authority are given to safety programs, it’s a top-down commitment from commanders, directors and senior leaders demonstrating that it is not a check-box core value, but a commitment to support a vital safety and health programs and encourage employees to develop the same mindset. Worker Participation element: Leverages the frontline expertise of workers performing the mission in identifying and reporting risks and hazards to leadership. Involving workers at the onset of developing safety programs and identifying potential hazards associated with their workplaces ensures their buy in and makes them vested in the process. Find and Fix Hazards element: It’s a systematic approach to identifying, evaluating, and controlling workplace hazards that will directly reduce mishaps and preserve combat capability. By using a proactive systematic approach, keeping up with emerging technologies, processes while training new workers on hazards of the job before they cause an injury or illness, is far more effective. Complacency is one of the Department of the Air Force’s

operational risks. When personnel become overly familiar with routine tasks (e.g., flight line operations, munitions handling or any job), the focus on their surroundings and personal safety can slip. In fiscal year 2025, the DAF saw 4,032 on-duty injuries with aircraft maintenance ranking at the top. The Safe + Sound campaign focus is to combat complacency by encouraging members to participate in challenges like “Crisis Communication,” “Find 4” or “Safety Shout-Out”. These are intended to empower members to halt operations if they spot a hazard, this helps to keep a safety mindset at the forefront of the mission. The operational readiness of the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Space Force relies heavily on individual safety, discipline, and training. By making adherence to safety standards as a common practice during training, Airmen and Guardians preserve critical combat capabilities, increase aircraft availability, and keep preventable mishaps from occurring. Prioritizing workplace safety has a direct effect on safeguarding our most valuable military assets. This proven, valued

process ensures both branches maintain the combined strength and lethality required to deter adversaries and win future conflicts. During this time members can ensure there are ways to communicate when natural disasters occur and establish a baseline decision model on when to evacuate, stay put or wait for further instructions. Worker involvement provides an opportunity to expand on crisis communications and refine or build escape plans. It’s a good time to review and update safety programs, re-evaluate your workplace for hazards. If a hazard is identified, fix it or report it to someone who can. “Building a strong safety culture within a unit or work center pays dividends in manpower and resources. said Keith Lear, chief, DAF Occupational Safety. “By working together to identify and fix hazards, by making safety processes a part of our culture, we support each other, the mission and the Department of the Air Force.” To get involved in the DAF’s Safe + Sound campaign challenges check out the website: <https://www.safety.af.mil/Divisions/Occupational-Safety-Division/Safe-Sound/>



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Even though we’ve lived in North Dakota for 7 years, this year’s State Fair was his very first time trying a Taco in a Bag! He absolutely LOVED IT! It was definitely worth the wait. North Dakota, you officially won him over!

AMY FELICIANO PHOTO



Hurbie the mounted Moose and my daughter Kendall at the ND State Fair

BRITTANY LOHAN PHOTO

Kuhn family (Cecilia, Rowan, Rianne and Mitchell) walked in the NDSF as a family for the 219th Happy Hooligans!

RIANNE KUHN PHOTO



The fair is one of our favorite summer traditions since moving to Minot.

DANA BERGER PHOTO

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SUDOKU PUZZLE

Solution to puzzle on page B10

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

CROSSWORD
SOLUTION

Solution to last weeks crossword

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Across

1. Patsies
5. Vietnam neighbor
9. Botanist's specialty
14. Repeated three times, a war film
15. "--- La Douce"
16. Unpaid factory worker
17. Attraction of a sort
20. Dr. King, for one
21. Disposition
22. Unwelcome obligations
23. Like some collegiate walls
25. Quirks
26. Cubes, spheres and the like
28. Look for, as compliments
29. Links item
32. Jumps at a rink
33. Mayoral assistant
34. Star turn at La Scala
35. Parts of some diets
38. Terminer's partner
39. Places for training
40. Girder fastener
41. Positive message
42. In proverbs it's more
43. Takes the tiller
44. Stein and Stiller
45. Knocks silly
46. Accustomed to
49. Wide-mouthed jug
50. San Juan aunt
53. Ore sources
56. Not yet eliminated
57. Abrupt closure
58. Subsistence
59. Apportioned (with "out")
60. Fourth of July, for example
61. Theologies

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		
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38							39					40		
41					42					43				
					44					45				
46	47	48						49				50	51	52
53							54					55		
56							57					58		
59							60					61		

Down

1. Luminary
2. First-rate
3. Exclusive rights
4. "Cheers" character
5. Start of a Poitier title
6. Packing heat
7. Arabian gulf
8. Wilt
9. Gallic
10. Yoga position
11. "The Mikado" wraps
12. Pastel shade
13. Places of withdrawal
18. In the thick of
19. White sounds
24. More loathsome
25. Bay of Fundy attractions
26. Stomping place?
27. Daisy variety
28. Celluloids
29. Mockeries
30. Place to get down from
31. Bridge positions
33. Deep chasm
34. "Men in Black" menace
36. Sometimes it's hidden
37. Mr. Toscanini
42. Gave a wolfish look
43. Treeless plain
44. Symbol over a vowel
45. It might be broken during aerobics
46. Scholar of Islamic law
47. Northern-flowing river
48. Part of BTU
49. "So Big" author Ferber
51. Couple in a column
52. Some snakes
54. Sixties drug
55. Kind of boot

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Finding Their Voice: Minot Teens Advocate, Lead, and Connect

FATIMZAHRA ELBOUAB, NORTHERN SENTRY INTERN

For some teens, finding their voice starts with stepping outside their comfort zone.

This summer, teens from the Minot Air Force Base Youth Center did just that through two national leadership opportunities, connecting with other youth, advocating for their communities, and discovering their potential as leaders.

Four Minot teens were selected to participate in the Summit for America's Youth (SAY) for the first time along with the National Keystone Conference, joining Boys & Girls Club youth from across the country. Milania Gomez, Gavin Kennedy, Kinley Coster, and Fatimazahra Elbouab were selected to attend the Summit for America's Youth, while Kellum Marshall, Milania Gomez, Youness Elbouab, and Fatimazahra Elbouab were selected to attend the National Keystone Conference.

According to Mr. Jacorryn "Jay" Wyatt, teen coordinator at the Minot AFB Youth Center, SAY was designed to empower teens to create an advocacy project aimed at addressing an issue within their community. During the Summit, teens built their civic leadership skills, received advocacy training, and had the opportunity to present their community projects directly to U.S. lawmakers on Capitol Hill.

As one of fewer than 10 military-affiliated Boys & Girls Clubs represented at the Summit, the Minot AFB Youth Center sent the 4 selected teens to Washington, D.C. for the Summit, where they met with North Dakota Senators Kevin Cramer and John Hoeven, along with Representative Julie Fedorchak to discuss their advocacy project. The project they brought to the table focused on solutions to substance abuse among local youth.

"This [topic] is important to me because so many people I care about and many others struggle with quitting, whether it's drinking, smoking, or vaping," 15-year-old Minot teen Kinley Coster said.

Wyatt said giving military youth a voice in D.C. was especially important because they can advocate for the military teen population that can sometimes feel "abandoned, unsupported, and unheard."

For Gavin Kennedy, age 15, meeting with lawmakers was one of the most memorable parts of the



Sen. Kevin Cramer poses with Minot AFB youth after discussing their Summit for America's Youth project in the U.S. Capitol.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KEVIN CRAMER

Summit. "It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and if I had the chance to do it again, I would."

The experience also showed teens that their age doesn't prevent them from contributing to important conversations.

"It made me realize that young people can have conversations with lawmakers and actually have our voices heard," Milania Gomez said.

Wyatt also noted a change in the teens' confidence throughout the week.

"At the start of the summit, the majority of the teens were nervous to interact with others and be the voice that represents their club," Wyatt said. However, by the end of the week, he saw teens volunteering for leadership opportunities and representing their clubs with confidence.

Those lessons continued at the National Keystone Conference in Orlando, Florida, where Boys & Girls Club teens came together to explore community issues, build relationships, and celebrate their individual Keystone clubs.

It provided an opportunity to meet others who understood aspects of military life firsthand.

"One of the most meaningful conversations I had was with another military youth about our experiences," Gomez said. "It was nice talking to someone who understood parts of my life without

me having to explain everything."

The conference also pushed students to become more comfortable meeting new people and trying unfamiliar activities.

"When I went into the conference, I was expecting a lot of pressure and stress, but I felt that I had a lot of fun," Kellum Marshall, a Minot teen, said.

For Youness Elbouab, the conference reinforced his understanding of leadership.

"A good leader isn't someone who is loud or bossy. A good leader is someone who listens to ideas, pushes others to their limits, and serves as the shoulder that others can lean on during times of hardship," Elbouab explained.

Wyatt hopes the experiences will encourage the teens to continue identifying and addressing issues in their own communities, giving youth the "blueprint" needed to create meaningful change after returning home. Ultimately, he believes the programs reinforce the importance of character and service.

From preparing their project for SAY to fundraising to attend the National Keystone Conference, the lesson was simple: being young doesn't mean being powerless.

Their voices can reach a youth center, a community, a congressional office, and, with the right opportunity, the national stage.



Minot's Keystone Conference group enjoys a day at Magic Kingdom in Orlando, Florida, spending time together outside of the conference.



The four selected Minot AFB teens pose in front of the 2026 Keystone theme, "Move the Tide, Raise the Temp," in Orlando, Florida.

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PreK and Grades 1-5

Tuesday, August 18th

11:30am-12:00pm: Last name A-E

12:00pm-12:30pm: Last name F-L

12:30pm-1:00pm: Last name M-Z

- Drop off supplies
- Drop off completed medication forms/medications in Office
- Meet teachers and staff

Teacher assignments will be sent to you through Parentsquare

Friday, August 14th at 4:00pm



Upcoming Events

15 AUG

PEPSI PLAY DAY AT OAK PARK
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Oak Park

1300 4th Ave NW, Minot

The Minot Park District and Northern Bottling are teaming up to celebrate 75 years of Pepsi and their long-standing partnership by hosting Pepsi Play Day on Friday, August 15, from 2:00pm to 5:00pm at Oak Park.

This free community event will feature food trucks, yard games, Pepsi beverages, and plenty of family-friendly fun as Minot Parks and Northern Bottling celebrate a partnership that has helped support parks, programs, and the Minot community for generations.

Guests of all ages are encouraged to attend and enjoy an afternoon of games, food, refreshments, and community celebration.



For more information:

Facebook/ Minot Parks/ Events

20 AUG

EMMY WOODS & THE RED PINE RAMBLERS & LILA BEA 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

21-22 AUG

FJORD FOLK FEST
SEE WEBSITE

Minot Municipal Auditorium,

420 3rd Ave SW

Fjord Folk Fest is a family-friendly celebration of Scandinavian heritage featuring the traditions of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, and the Faroe Islands. Enjoy two days of: Live music, folk dancing, storytelling, and Nordic entertainment across two stages. Traditional Scandinavian favorites like lefse, meatballs, lutefisk, pastries, and more. Shop 40+ retail and food vendors. Live artisan demonstrations featuring traditional Nordic crafts. Hands-on classes covering rosemaling, folklore, traditional foods, history, and Scandinavian heritage Viking encounters, living history, troll story time, and family-friendly activities for kids. Tickets: \$15 (ages 12+), \$5 (ages 4-11), ages 3 & under free. More information to come.



For more information:

<https://www.fjordfolkfest.com/>

YOUR RIDE TO SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION NIGHT FOR MPS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



MPS School Year 2026-2027 bus transportation information for High School Students on Minot AFB. Hosted by MPS Transportation Director, Barry Brooks. Attendance is optional, but encouraged.

17 August 2026
7:00PM - 8:00PM

Jimmy Doolittle
Center

School Liaison Office
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North Dakota awards Base Enhancement Grants supporting mission readiness and military community partnership

NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

BISMARCK, N.D. — The North Dakota Department of Commerce today announced the award of \$1 million through the Base Enhancement Grant Program to strengthen military missions and support community partnerships at Minot Air Force Base, Grand Forks Air Force Base and the Fargo Air National Guard.

The program, created by the 69th Legislative Assembly through Senate Bill 2018, invests in initiatives that improve installation readiness, community integration, strategic positioning, quality of life and long-term mission sustainability.

Awards for the 2025-27 biennium are distributed as follows:

- \$600,000 in Minot for projects that support operations tied to Minot Air Force Base and advance preparation for Sentinel-related needs
- \$250,000 in Grand Forks for initiatives that enhance strategic capabilities at Grand Forks Air Force Base and build community partnerships
- \$150,000 in Fargo for efforts that strengthen the mission of the North Dakota Air National Guard and expand readiness and family support programming

“These grants reflect our commitment to strong defense communities and the important role they play in national security,” said Gov. Kelly Armstrong. “Continued investment in local partnerships ensures our installations remain competitive, resilient and ready for the future.”

The awards reinforce North Dakota’s national reputation as a military-friendly state recognized for supporting service members, veterans and defense communities. The announcement also aligns with America’s 250th anniversary, marking a moment to honor the nation’s defense heritage while investing in the future of U.S. airpower.

Projects funded through the program will be implemented during the biennium from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027. Grantees must document expenditures, provide regular progress updates and submit a final report by July 15, 2027.

For more information on the Base Enhancement Grant Program, visit <https://www.commerce.nd.gov/services-assistance/grant-programs/base-enhancement-grant-program>

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Kim Fundingsland

Lest you think I fell off a dock and hit my head on my fishing boat, it is with complete honesty that I am about to freely reveal, in complete detail, precise facts of a very important and personal nature.

I have not been coerced, am not under the influence of drugs of any kind and have not been promised any favors in exchange for what I am about to disclose. True, I am a fisherman, a necessary disclosure regarding my commitment to honesty.

No, this story is not about the big one that got away. I caught them, honest, but rather a confession in this very public forum. I am taking responsibility for my actions. Total accountability. Well, at least the count part.

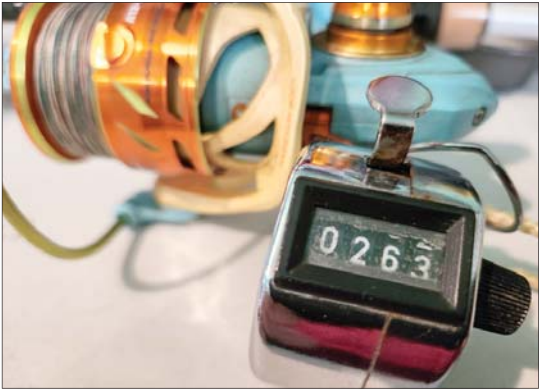
Enough introduction and intrigue. I promised facts and I will deliver them, even at the risk of you, dear reader, reaching a conclusion that I am indeed some sort of waterlogged nutball.

About five or six years ago I began counting each cast I made with a fishing rod. Not every day on the water, but many of them. This I did without the knowledge of my fishing companions, except for occasionally mumbling numbers aloud that made no sense to my fellow fishermen who understandably surmised they should choose their fishing partners more carefully.

It was just over four years ago, and several fishing companions later, that I came clean. I purchased a counter and wore it in such a fashion that it soon became part of my casting regimen. Every time I made a cast I pushed the button on the counter. At the end of each fishing day, I simply read the number off the counter and entered it into a journal.

Weird behavior, I know, especially since I had no idea what I was going to do with the information. As I soon discovered however, fishermen being as they are, that is, always trying to outwit and outsmart their fishing companions with some new lure or technique, became intimidated by what they perceived as a completely surprising and innovative tactic.

Of course, they could only speculate in their minds



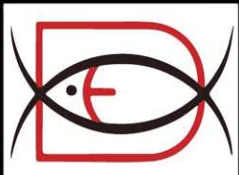
how I must be utilizing the information to further my fishing success. I could see their nervousness grow with each click of the counter. So certain were they of their fishing prowess, they dared not inquire, an act that might reveal their true wisdom as fishermen.

Ahh, the joy that was mine as they struggled to decipher this mystery method that I alone understood, which I did not. No matter. At last, I had realized a use for the goofy habit of counting casts! The silly practice elevated me considerably in the eyes of fellow fishermen and confidence is the name of the game on the water.

Really though, intermittently studying data accumulated from 45,627 casts from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2023, several patterns emerged that I have used to my advantage. Things like making too many casts with a lure that is not producing results. With few exceptions, 25 casts per lure without catching a fish is my limit now.

Muskie fishing statistics are particularly telling. Several times I’ve caught two or three muskies in 15-20 casts, then none for several hundred more. An example – one time I caught muskies on cast 8 and 14, then went zero for 356. There it was on paper, proof that stubbornness doesn’t always work when fishing.

My advice to anglers is to buy a simple counter, use it and say nothing. Your fishing partners will believe you have an advantage over them and will lose focus trying to figure out exactly what it is. The hook is set. Priceless.



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More Than a Festival: Fjord Folk Fest Invites Everyone to Experience Scandinavian Culture

HOPE ANDERSON

When people hear “Scandinavian festival,” they often assume it’s only for those with Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, Finnish, or Icelandic ancestry, but the organizers of the first-ever Fjord Folk Fest hope to change that perception.

“This isn’t just a celebration of where people came from,” organizers say. “It’s a celebration of traditions that bring people together, which is very much a Scandinavian concept.”

Inspired by the Scandinavian concept of folk, meaning “the people”, Fjord Folk Fest is designed to welcome everyone, whether your family has lived in North Dakota for generations or you’ve never tasted lefse before.

Visitors can expect artisan vendors, handcrafted goods, Scandinavian-inspired food, live demonstrations, music, storytelling, and activities for all ages. You might even find yourself in the presence of a viking or a troll (or two).

While North Dakota has one of the strongest Scandinavian heritages in the United States, the festival is less about genealogy and more about sharing a culture known for craftsmanship, hospitality, and finding joy in everyday life.

“Many of the traditions we celebrate are universal,” organizers explain. “Gathering around food.

Making things with your hands. Spending time with family. Slowing down enough to enjoy simple moments. Those are values that connect us all.”

The festival also offers an opportunity to discover the stories behind familiar North Dakota traditions. Since coming to North Dakota, you may have heard words that sound a little unusual like lefse, krumkake, uffda, and more. This just might be your opportunity to find out what these things are and how they could become a tradition in your own life.

Visitors will find answers through demonstrations, conversations with artisans, and hands-on experiences that make Scandinavian culture approachable and fun. Plus add hourly entertainment on two stages and you can fill your entire day with the sights and sounds of Scandinavia.

Of course, no Scandinavian celebration would be complete without food. From fresh lefse and

Nordic treats to traditional baked goods and modern Scandinavian-inspired flavors, guests can sample the tastes that generations of immigrants brought to the prairie more than 140 years ago.

Whether you’re reconnecting with your heritage or simply looking for a unique family outing, Fjord Folk Fest offers something for everyone and the prices cannot be beat for an entire day of entertainment. Ticket prices are \$15 for ages 12 and older, \$5 for ages 4-11, and free for children under 4 years old.

You don’t have to have Scandinavian roots to appreciate Scandinavian values like slowing down, spending time together, making something beautiful by hand, or enjoying good food. That’s what Fjord Folk Fest is all about and we invite you to share in the traditions on August 21 and 22 at the Minot Municipal Auditorium. For more information or to purchase your ticket, go to www.fjordfolkfest.com



Nightly Dances
8:00pm-10:00pm

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DATES: August 21 & 22, 2026 | Minot, North Dakota
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General Admission (Ages 12+): \$15 | Ages 4-11: \$5 | 3 and Under: Free
Advance Tickets Available at www.fjordfolkfest.com/tickets



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SUDOKU SOLUTION

PUZZLE ON PAGE B3

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

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MINOT STATE UNIVERSITY –
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TITUS & PHILEMON *Everyday adventures of Titus and Philemon and their owner Joe.*



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

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A long weekend in Saskatchewan



UPSIDE DOWN UNDER

MARVIN BAKER

Until last weekend, it had been more than six years since I'd been in Canada. I had my car in the Western Canadian Nationals Car Show, but the car show isn't the story, although it was stunning in and of itself.

This is about the community of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan and how the community responded the four days I spent there.

I was by myself when I arrived at the Super 8 Hotel, but when I left, I felt I had friends all over the city, which has about the same population as Minot and is situated along the Trans Canada Highway about 50 miles west of Regina.

Local radio station CHAB calls Moose Jaw "the friendly city," and I can see why. People went out of their way to accommodate this American stranger who was in town for the car show.

But when I told people who I am and where I'm from, it got even better. I got to Moose Jaw a day early so I made it a point to get around town. Whether it was filling gas, getting supplies at Canadian Tire, eating at Tim Horton's, stopping in to the Chamber of Commerce or even asking for directions on a downtown street, it was as if there was a red carpet in front of me.

Here are some examples.

The car show was just outside of town, but I didn't have an address. I saw a guy walking down the sidewalk so I asked him where the Anderson complex was. Not only did he tell me, he said his cousin was hosting the show and asked me if there was anything else he could do for me while I'm in Moose Jaw.

On Friday night, there was a meet and greet for the car show. I was standing in a food line like everyone else. A lady behind me asked me if I was a celebrity and that she thought I looked like a celebrity. I told her no, but I would play along with it.

She asked me who I really am and when I told her, I suddenly had friends all around me. It was an amazing feeling to be able to relax and have some fun amongst people I've never seen before.

One of the guys who was there

for the car show, asked me how I was being treated in Moose Jaw. I described something similar to what you just read. He said, "good, because we all want you to enjoy your stay."

A woman was selling merchandise at the meet and greet. She asked me where I was from and when I told her, I got this response. "Thank you for coming to Moose Jaw. We just love you guys (Americans). God bless you for being here."

I stopped in to Canadian Tire to get a cooler because Saturday was brutally hot. I asked an employee where the restroom was and not only did he tell me, he walked with me to the door to make sure I found it and struck up a conversation about the hot weather.

At one point, I was just standing in the hotel lobby and a man came in and proceeded to tell the lady working behind the desk that he just loved the Trans Am in the parking lot and he just had to take a picture of it. He said he'd really like to take it for a spin.

At that point, I reached in my pocket and handed him the keys. He didn't know what to say, but finally admitted he was shocked the owner was standing right there. He told me he was a construction foreman who was staying in the same hotel. He said he has a thing for Trans Ams and Camaros.

The breakfast room was really busy so I asked an elderly couple if I could sit with them. They agreed and asked me who I am. I told them my name and he said his name is Baker too. Turns out their names are Jim and Laura Baker. We had quite a conversation about numerous topics including Baker family history.

But this next example is what really sealed the weekend for me. Several people stopped by my car at the show and started asking me questions about it. There was a young man in the group roughly 16 or 17 years old. He said he really likes third-generation Trans Ams and hopes he gets one some day. He asked me if the car is for sale. I told him no, but put my hand on his shoulder and said everything is for sale if the price is right.

Then, his dad asked me how people were treating me in Moose Jaw and I told him the city has really gone above and beyond on my behalf and I gave several examples.

The young man who liked my car, just shrugged his shoulders, looked at his mom and then said to me, "That's just being Canadian."

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by Patricia Stockdill

FISHING:
Lake Sakakawea elevation, Aug. 10: 1,826.69 feet above mean sea level (MSL); 17,100 cubic feet per second (CFS) Garrison Dam average daily releases.
Devils Lake elevation: 1,450.12 feet above mean sea level (MSL).
Stump Lake elevation: 1,449.99 MSL.

- N.D. Game & Fish Dept. game wardens: No new reports.
- Devils Lake, Woodland Resort, Devils Lake: Fair to good walleye activity.
- Lake Metigoshe, Four Seasons, Bottineau: Continued bluegill success throughout the day with a few walleyes in the evening and occasional nice-sized pike.
- Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Cenex Bait & Tackle, Garrison: East end of Lake Sakakawea remains fair to good for walleye. Move around, working a variety of depths and presentations.
- Lake Sakakawea/Lake Audubon, Hwy. 83 Lawn & Leisure, Garrison: Fair to good walleye activity on the east end of Lake Sakakawea working humps around Mallard Island or Old Highway 83 in 25 to 30 feet with slow death hooks or spinners and nightcrawlers. Also try mouths of Steinke or Centennial bays. Some nice salmon coming from the south side of the east end with a few more starting to show up. Look for increasing activity as fall approaches and fish move up to spawn. Some walleye activity on Lake Audubon but lots of weeds so work out past the weeds in 25 to 35 feet.
- Lake Sakakawea, Indian Hills Resort, Garrison: Walleye moved out a little deeper into 20 to 27 feet but work the same presentations with overall fair success.
- Lake Sakakawea, New Town: Success slowed a little but overall still fair walleye activity in the Van Hook Arm working 5 feet out to 30 feet with lindy rigs and nightcrawlers.
- Lake Sakakawea, Van Hook Bait & Tackle, New Town: Walleye moved deeper in the Van Hook Arm with anglers working 20 to 26 feet.

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 (Renville Co.), Lake Brekken (McLean Co.), and Devils Lake (Ramsey and Benson counties). Use caution and go to their information and safety precautions, (deq.nd.gov/WQ).
 - Aug. 14: Cardboard Canoe Race \$15 per team, Roosevelt Park Pool, 6:30 p.m.
 - Aug. 15 & 16: Dog Days at Scheels, Dakota Square in Minot, featuring Dock Dogs competition beginning at 10 a.m. both days and meet local doggie businesses and animal shelters, kid's Bounce House beginning at noon each day. Families and happy, well-behaved dogs welcome for free activities.
 - Aug. 15: Pepsi Play Day, Oak Park. Free family activities beginning at 2 p.m.
 - Aug. 15: Early Canada goose season opens. Go to the N.D. Game & Fish Dept. website, (gf.nd.gov), for regulations and licensing information.
 - Aug. 15: Fall crow season opens.
 - Aug. 19: Swan applications due.
 - Aug. 21 & 22: Fjord Folk Fest Scandinavian festival, Minot City Auditorium. Go to the website, (www.fjordfolkfest.com) for details.
 - Aug. 21: Yoga in the Park, Oak Park 7 p.m.
 - Aug. 22: Evening Hike Series, Sensory Hike, Fort Stevenson State Park, Garrison, 9:15 p.m.
- TOURNAMENTS:**
- Aug. 15: Lake Sakakawea, Indian Hills Resort; Lake Sakakawea, Sakakawea State Park, Upper Missouri, Lewis & Clark Bridge, Williston.
 - Aug. 21 & 22: Lake Sakakawea, 4 Bears.

Look for some success on minnows as well as nightcrawlers.

- Lake Sakakawea/Missouri River, Scott's Bait & Tackle, Pick City: Missouri River tailrace remains fair for walleye but slower in recent days and spotty. East end of Lake Sakakawea producing some salmon in deep water. Not large numbers of fish, though, but nice-sized. Try Government Bay using a variety of presentations with some success off the face of the dam. Work 80 to 120 feet. Fair walleye activity but success also slowed. Try nightcrawlers but move around to locate active fish.
- Lake Sakakawea/northwest N.D. lakes, Scenic Sports, Williston: West end of Lake Sakakawea starting to turn over with dirty, mossy water and slower walleye activity. Best success is east in the river portion around 4 Bears and Van Hook Arm. Try Shell Island in 40 feet using jigging Raps. Continued catfish success on the west end, however. Try chicken livers or shrimp-type baits. Blacktail Dam continued producing good pike numbers with a few walleye mixed in. Continued bluegill activity at Kota-Ray

Dam using small nightcrawlers.

- North-central/central N.D. lakes, Towner Hdwe. Hank, Towner: Not much activity but anglers finding number of carp in the Souris River around Towner.

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

- Lake Darling, Foxholm: Elevation, 1,597.71 MSL.
- Little Missouri River, Long X Bridge: River stage 6.84 feet; streamflow 4.87 CFS.
- Little Missouri River, Medora: River stage, 1.01 feet; streamflow, 3.92 CFS.
- Missouri River, Williston: River stage, 11.94 feet.
- Missouri River, Washburn: River stage, 9.6 feet.
- Souris River, Broadway Bridge, Minot: River stage, 41.5 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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What's Going On Minot AFB

FRIDAY14

- Summer Games 5K Kickoff, 0630-0800, McAdoo Fitness Center
- SNCO Foundation Course 700, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- Minot AFB Car & Bike Show, 0730-1900, Flightline
- Flame to Fame Burger Competition, 0800-1300, Jimmy Doolittle Center
- 12th Annual Summer Games, 0800-1630, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Esports Competition, 0830-1430, Bomber Bistro
- NFL All-Stars Meet & Greets, 1300-1430, Dome; 1530-1730, Flightline
- Striker Bash, 1630-2000, Flightline

SATURDAY15

- Minot AFB 1980 Murder Mystery Game Ends, Minot AFB Library
- Summer Reading Program Wrap-Up Party, 1300, Minot AFB Library
- Chess Club, 1200-1400, Minot AFB Library

SUNDAY16

Airmen After Hours
pool Party
summer Bash

21 Aug 26 • 1930-2130

LIVE DJ • Games • Prizes • FREE Food

chicken katsu curry, gyoza, rice, Asian cucumber salad,
Flan, & water/soda, white supplies last

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In conjunction with the
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26 AUG 2026

1630-1900

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Dive into an afternoon of PAWS,
Play, & Pet-friendly fun with ODR!

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MONDAY17

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- FTEC, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- World's Fare Week, 1030-1830, Dakota Inn Dining Facility
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Sponsorship Training, 1300-1400, M&FRC
- Your Ride to School—Transportation Information Night, 1900-2000, Jimmy Doolittle Center

TUESDAY18

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- FTEC, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- Tuition Assistance (TA) Brief, 1000, Education Center
- Game Day, 1000-1930, Minot AFB Library
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Minot AFB College Fair, 1100-1400, Minot AFB Main Exchange - Lobby Atrium
- First Duty Station Office Financial Course, 1300-1500, M&FRC
- Quiet Book Club, 1800-1930, Minot AFB Library

WEDNESDAY19

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- FTEC, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- Bundles for Babies, 0900-1030, M&FRC
- Storytime, 1030, Minot AFB Library
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center

THURSDAY20

- AFFT, 0530, McAdoo Fitness Center
- FTEC, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- Pre-Separation Briefing, 0830-1130, M&FRC
- AFFT, 1100, McAdoo Fitness Center
- Tuition Assistance (TA) Brief, 1330, Education Center
- USO Coffee Connection - Bunco, 1800-2000, Minot AFB Homes Office

KARAOKE
BATTLE

ROCKERS BAR & GRILL

28 AUG 2026

1730

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FRIDAY21

- FTEC, 0730-1600, Professional Development Center
- Airmen After Hours Pool Party, 2100-2330, Outdoor Pool

SATURDAY22

- Paintball Open Play, 1000-1400, Paintball Field, hosted by Outdoor Recreation
- Air Force Gaming—Fighting Game Series, 1300, Northern Paradise AMD, inside of Bomber Bistro
- An Evening Under the Stars with Outdoor Rec, 1600-1200, Bud Ebert Park

SPECIALS

Rockers Bar & Grill Featured Item
Nuclear Option
Burger

The B-Fifty Brew Featured Item
Watermelon Sugar Burner
and Egg Bites

Bomber Bistro Featured Item
Bahn Mi Sandwich

An evening under the stars
with Outdoor Rec.

Bud Ebert Park

1600 22 Aug - 1200 23 Aug 2026

\$75 for group of 4

Set up, tear down,
& meals are on us!

\$50 for 2

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Rough Rider Golf Course

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26 Aug

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