

GLOBAL GUARDIAN

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Serving Malmstrom Air Force Base and Montana Air National Guard

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Missileers, crews making history



AIRMAN COLLIN SCHMIDT
341ST MISSILE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For the first time since its inception, the U.S. Air Force will have the capability to break historic ground by fielding all women missile and aircrews to complete the mission of keeping America's citizens safe and our nation's enemies at bay.

In honor of Women's History Month, 90 female missileers based out of Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, F.E. Warren AFB, Wyoming, and Malmstrom will complete a 24-hour alert. In addition, B-52 Stratofortress aircrews from Minot and Barksdale AFB, Louisiana, will participate by fielding all-female flight crews.

"The fact that we can look across our pre-departure briefing room and see a woman sitting in every seat, for every combat crew going out on nuclear alert, is in itself significant," said Col. Tom Wilcox, 341st Missile Wing commander. "Not because Team Malmstrom is fielding an all-women alert force, but because we have enough women filling combat leadership roles to take alert for the entire wing.

"It wasn't always this way,

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO/AIRMAN COLLIN SCHMIDT
2nd Lt. Alexandra Rea, 490th Missile Squadron ICBM combat crew deputy director, left, and 1st Lt. Elizabeth Guidara, 12th Missile Squadron combat crew deputy director, perform training at the Malmstrom Missile Procedures Trainer.

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GRIZZLY BEND HOURS

Coffee Shop hours:

☒ **MON.-FRI.:** 6:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Lounge Service

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Go to 341fss.com for complete details.

Making difference in others' lives

SENIOR AIRMAN JAEDA TOOKES
341ST MISSILE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

1st Lt. Jasmine Paul, 341st Operations Support Squadron, utilizes her many talents to improve the world around her, including writing a memoir and starting a nonprofit organization to benefit high school seniors searching for college education.

Paul was born and raised in Dover, Delaware, as a first generation American citizen. Her mother is from Barbados and her father from Trinidad. Both of her parents moved to the United States and joined the military to have a better life for their children.

"They're my inspiration, I look up to them," said Paul. "A lot about me is my family and my faith."

Paul started her military journey in 2012, commissioning into the Air Force through ROTC. She majored in film, and graduated early to start her master's degree in entrepreneurship from Oklahoma State University.

Paul was very active in college – running track, being a part of a sorority and even learning to speak Japanese and Arabic. But for Paul graduation almost didn't happen.

"I still remember my mom calling me freshman year and telling me to come home because we couldn't afford it," said Paul. "I told my mom I wasn't coming home until I finished my degree. I prayed and she prayed for an answer."

The following semester, the commander at her Reserve Officers' Training Corps detachment informed Paul she had a full scholarship.

Today Paul is an intercontinental ballistic missile combat crew instructor stationed at Malmstrom.

Twenty years in the military is the plan now for Paul, but she finds it changes every year.

"Things happen in life, and I don't want to be that person glued to a solid plan this early," said Paul. "I believe there are some things in life that hap-



U.S. AIR FORCE ILLUSTRATIVE PHOTO/BEAUMONT WADE AND SENIOR AIRMAN JAEDA TOOKES

1st Lt. Jasmine Paul, 341st Operations Support Squadron intercontinental ballistic missile combat crew instructor, displays her talents at Malmstrom Air Force Base. Paul uses her skills to improve the world around her, including starting a nonprofit to aid high school seniors searching for a college.

pen, but you have to be flexible."

For the first time in both their military careers, Paul and her mother will be stationed together at Dover Air Force Base later this year.

"I never would have thought in my wildest dreams I would be stationed

with my mom," said Paul.

Paul was given a once in a lifetime opportunity to administer the Oath of Enlistment to her mother when she made the rank of master sergeant.

"People in the crowd were like, 'you outrank your mom,' and I was like 'yes,

but not really,'" said Paul. "She is still mom number one."

Although about to move to another base, Paul's goals and aspirations remain the same.

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ABOUT THE GUARDIAN

The GLOBAL Guardian is a Great Falls Tribune publication that is reviewed weekly by the Malmstrom Public Affairs Office and the Vice Wing Commander. It is published by a private firm in no way connected to the U.S. Air Force. Contents of this newspaper are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

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You also may send files to tribmilitary@greatfallstribune.com or fax them to 791-1431.

Please label submissions "Attention: GLOBAL Guardian."

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APRIL 1, 2016
GRIZZLY BEND, 1100-1300

STORYTELLERS
EVERY AIRMAN HAS A STORY. WHAT'S YOURS?

RSVP to
341mw.hcworkflow@us.af.mil

Part of Wingman Month Events

Community notes

Wingman month event

Storytellers, the kickoff event for Wingman Month, will take place April 1 in the Grizzly Bend. It will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and a free lunch buffet will be included. Storytellers is a resiliency event to inspire and empower Airmen, civilians and dependents. RSVP for the event by email at 341mw.hcworkflow@us.af.mil or on the base shared drive at S:\Chapel\Storytellers.

Blood drive

The Red Cross will be holding a blood drive March 29 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the chapel annex. Appointments can be made at www.redcross-blood.org.

Post 9/11 G.I. Bill

The Education and Training Center will be hosting a Montgomery and Post 9/11 G.I. Bill discussion April 7 starting at 10 a.m. Spouses are welcome. Call 731-3531 with questions.

Formal wear available

The Malmstrom Cinderella Closet is now open and offers temporary loan of formal wear to all military personnel and their dependents with a valid military ID. Items can be picked up in Building 1145 every Tuesday from 5-6 p.m. For more information, contact the closet at MalmstromCinderellaCloset@gmail.com.

Scholarships available

Applications for the 2016 Malmstrom Spouses' Club scholarships are now open. Dependent family members pursuing their first undergraduate or graduate degree or certificate are eligible to apply. The applicant's sponsor must be stationed at or assigned to Malmstrom or the 120th Airlift Wing at the time of the award. Scholarships must be postmarked by April 1. For more information, contact the scholarship chair at MSCScholarship-Chair@gmail.com.



The Malmstrom Leadership Line is a direct link to your base's leadership. The Wing Commander and Command Chief are always ready to address your questions or concerns about issues or happenings on the base. You can ask questions by phone at 731-HELP (4357) or via e-mail at 341mwaction@malmstrom.af.mil. We'll publish questions/answers with base-wide impact, but if you'd like a personal response, you'll have to leave your name and contact information. We look forward to addressing your concerns.



An all-female alert missile crew from Malmstrom Air Force Base after a pre-departure briefing at the base in March.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO/AIRMAN COLLIN SCHMIDT

Female

Continued from Page 1

and we have further to go, but the Air Force has made great strides to build a force representative of the nation we serve," he continued.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, women make up 50.8 percent of the nation's population. Currently, women make up 19 percent of the Air Force, the highest of any service.

"To carry on the legacy of women in the Air Force is very special to me," said 1st Lt. Elizabeth Guidara, 12th Missile Squadron combat crew deputy director. "Not being afraid to take risks and taking ahold of those opportunities that present themselves are two things that I've learned to live by throughout my career."

During their assignment, the missileers will maintain a 24-hour alert shift to sustain an active alert status of our nation's intercontinental ballistic missile force. Two missileers will be on alert in each of the 45 missile alert facilities across Air Force Global Strike Command and control up to 450 ICBMs as part of the nation's nuclear deterrence.

The B-52 crews are com-



2nd Lt. Alexandra Rea, 490th Missile Squadron ICBM combat crew deputy director, left, and 1st Lt. Elizabeth Guidara, 12th Missile Squadron combat crew deputy director, undergo a training session at the Missile Procedures Trainer at Malmstrom Air Force Base.

U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO/AIRMAN COLLIN SCHMIDT



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO/AIRMAN COLLIN SCHMIDT

All-women missileer crews from Malmstrom Air Force Base gather for a pre-departure briefing before heading in the 13,800-square-mile missile complex to complete their 24-hour alert.

Female

Continued from Page 4

prised of two pilots, a weapons officer and an electronic warfare officer. They will be responsible for flying the B-52 in all-weather conditions anywhere in the world and, if needed, deliver almost any weapon in the U.S. inventory to its target.

Because of the diversity of the missileer and B-52 crew populations, for the very first time both missions will simultaneously be able to be comprised of all female crew members while operating within normal scheduling parameters.

“The goal of this day is to highlight all the women who worked hard to make a difference in public service and government jobs in the past,” said Col. Stacy Huser, 91st Operations Group commander at Minot AFB. “We’re honoring those women who have worked to gain opportunities and disavow stereotypes when they began their careers.”



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO/STAFF SGT. DELIA MARCHICK

From left, Staff Sgt. Joann Kubon, 12th Missile Squadron aviation resource manager; Staff Sgt. Lauren Cerda, 341st Security Forces Support Squadron training instructor; 1st Lt. Sheila Koebel, 12th Missile Squadron ICBM operator; Staff Sgt. Dearetha Nelson, 341st Security Forces Support Squadron training instructor, and Capt. Morgan McNabb, 341st Medical Operations Squadron family advocacy officer, with their children. Each mother has chosen to balance serving in the military while breast-feeding a child.

Malmstrom trailblazes support for breast feeding

2ND LT. ANNABEL MONROE
341ST MISSILE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Directly following maternity leave, I reported to Airman Leadership School as a senior airman in 2011. I timidly asked if it would be possible for me to graduate while taking breaks to pump breast milk for my newborn son. The commandant and my instructor allowed me an additional five minutes to previously scheduled breaks, twice a day and explained that I would still be able to graduate.

My instructor worked to find an appropriate place. The place was a large storage closet, with a lock and use of the instructor's refrigerator.

This story is not mine alone. Some have had better accommodations, but others have had worse.

It was after the birth of my second child, five years later, that I began researching breast-feeding, parenting and military service. Now a newly-commissioned second lieutenant, I sought to learn the histo-

ry of motherhood in the military, what the regulations say, medical recommendations and how we can support breast-feeding mothers.

I found that I wasn't alone in my search for information and support. There were women across the wing, in many groups who also looked for support in their breast-feeding journey.

Staff Sgt. Lauren Cerda, 341st Security Forces Support Squadron training instructor, balances the realities of military service and motherhood.

"Balancing your job and being a mother can be tough. Sometimes you feel like you're missing things with your child. Breast-feeding offers that special mommy-baby bonding," said Cerda.

A group of 10 women came together to discuss their experiences.

"You have to learn to balance mission requirements and your personal goals for family," said 1st Lt. Sheila Koebel, 12th Missile Squadron ICBM operator.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/BEAU WADE

"You have to learn to balance mission requirements and ... family," said 1st Lt. Sheila Koebel, 12th Missile Squadron ICBM operator, with son, Lincoln.

In my research, I found that before 1972 a pregnant woman was simply involuntarily discharged from military service. Since World War II "an enrolled woman...will be discharged if

she becomes pregnant...Pregnancy will be included on the daily sick report as sickness 'not in the line of duty.'"

See **SUPPORT**, Page 7

Support

Continued from Page 6

It wasn't until 1975 that military women initiated litigation against an executive order recommending discharge and the 2nd District Court found involuntary discharges due to pregnancy a violation of constitutional rights.

The next decade brought a maternity uniform to women serving while pregnant. Up until this point, women simply reported for duty in civilian clothes when they outgrew their service uniforms.

During the 2000s, women returned to duty six weeks after pregnancy and to normal operations, to include deployments and physical fitness requirements, after only six months.

Air Force Instruction 44-102, "Medical Care Management,"

was revised in 2012 to include a breast-feeding policy recommending arrangement of work schedules that allow 15 to 30 minute breaks, every three to four hours in an area providing adequate privacy and cleanliness, excluding restrooms.

Initiatives like the Career Intermission Program, which allows top performing Airmen a conditional separation for up to three years, enables the flexibility to manage short-term conflicts between service responsibilities and life priorities. This retains valuable Air Force members who desire to focus on family or other professional goals.

In 2015 women in the Air Force were authorized one year from the birth of a child to be exempt from deployments and return to physical fitness standards. This year the Pentagon set maternity leave to 12 weeks across the Department of Defense.

Today, women make up 19



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO/BEAU WADE

Capt. Morgan McNabb, 341st Medical Operations Squadron family advocacy officer, with son, Dominic, benefits from revision of Air Force Instruction 44-102, "Medical Care Management" in 2012 to include breast-feeding policy.

percent of the Air Force. The way was paved by the first women in and out of combat as

aviators, nurses, engineers, astronauts, but also as nurturers, caregivers and mothers.

These trailblazers led the way and I look forward to helping move even further ahead.

By collaborating with other mothers, the process of formalizing a mother's room in our wing headquarters building began in February. With support, the idea grew into a medical recommendation from the base's lactation consultant and a support policy endorsed by the wing commander.

"Working with my command and being flexible has allowed me to maintain breast-feeding while taking care of my patients to fulfill the mission," said Capt. Jessica Mahan, 341st Medical Operations Squadron family nurse practitioner.

In recognition of the well documented, evidence-based health advantages of breast-feeding for both infants and mothers, this progressive stance ensures all women have an adequate space to express breast milk and the opportunity to breast-feed.

Talents

Continued from Page 2

While in college, Paul interned with Michele Byrd-McPhee, executive director and founder of the Ladies of Hip-Hop Festival and directing co-founder of the Montazh Performing Arts Company, and mentor to Paul.

According to Paul, Byrd-McPhee would fly her from North Carolina, where Paul was attending school, to New York to help with the dance studio.

"I want to be able to do that for young people," said Paul. "All it takes is for someone to care, and that could just change their whole outlook on life."

According to Paul, senior year of college she did not have any money. She had scholarships, but did not realize she had to pay rent along with electricity, water and gas.

"I ended up living in my car for two months," said Paul. "I would either be in my car or on someone's couch."

One of Paul's friends told her to come live with her in a four-bedroom house for only \$200 with rent and utilities included.

"That's what I needed," said Paul. "It was a struggle, but now looking back I am glad I

went through that. I appreciate all the things I have, and take nothing for granted."

Paul plans to open a nonprofit organization for young kids called "Where to Start." According to Paul, the idea behind it is to give high school seniors about to graduate a foundation of what to do, who to look to or where to go next.

"I have been thinking and praying about starting "Where to Start" in Delaware," said Paul. "I am from there, and I know the mindset. I want to be able to encourage (future generations) to do better."

Some young people are never taught how to manage money, budget it or even invest it.

Paul learned about how to manage money from her father, "I always thought he was cheap growing up, but I also didn't pay attention to what he was saying either," said Paul.

It wasn't until Paul was much older, that she started managing her money better. She was \$40,000 in debt and paid it off in a year and a half.

"You don't have to be a slave to the dollar, you can invest in yourself," said Paul. "It is more than just dollars and figures, you have to get to the root of the problem."

Paul started a financial trial run three months ago with three lieutenants in her squad-

ron. According to Paul, one of the lieutenants has \$25,000 in debt, and will pay it all off this year.

"It's possible, you just have to change your mindset toward money," said Paul.

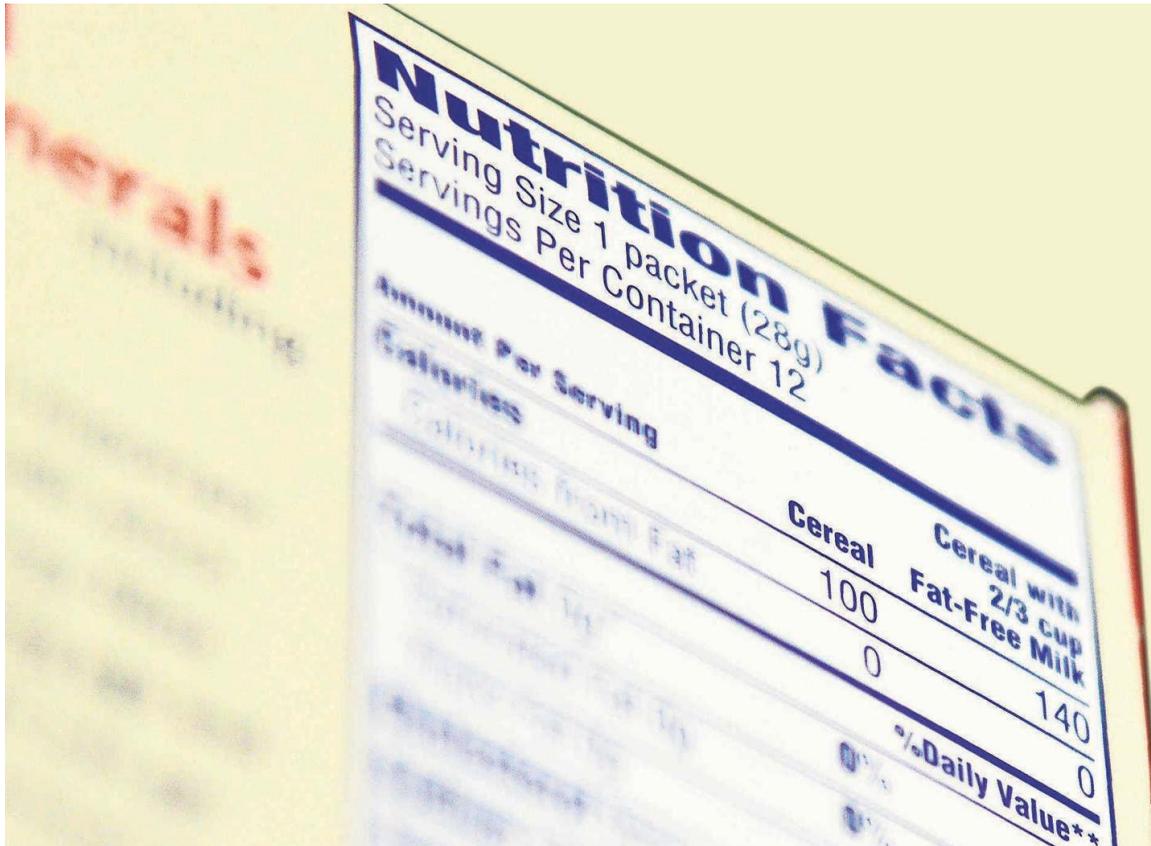
Paul wrote a book in the works of being published called, "Peace Differed," because she felt like people were trying to differ her peace. According to Paul, the book started as a resource for young high school seniors trying to get scholarships and find resources for internships.

In high school, Paul was a "B" student, and was treated differently than the other students with better grades. When time came for Paul to go to college, she was sent through hoops.

Paul was told she should try cosmetology school or community college.

"I struggled finding resources and help for college," said Paul. "I wanted to write a book, because it is OK to be average, you're not always going to be great."

"Even though you are not in the best place, it does not mean that is where you are going to stay," she continued. "I just hope to inspire and encourage (others), so they won't have to go through what I went through."



U.S. AIR FORCE GRAPHIC/AIRMAN DANIEL BROSAM

National Nutrition Month is an annual education and information campaign in March by the Academy of Nutrition Dietetics. The campaign focuses attention on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits.

‘Savor the Flavor of Eating Right’

AIRMAN DANIEL BROSAM
341ST MISSILE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

March is National Nutrition Month, but it doesn't mean it's the only time to eat right. Proper nutrition is important to be able to perform effectively and efficiently each day.

According to eatright.org, National Nutrition Month is a nutrition education and information campaign created annually in March by the Academy of Nutrition Dietetics. The campaign focuses attention on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits.

The theme for 2016 is “Savor

the Flavor of Eating Right” which encourages everyone to take time to enjoy food traditions and appreciate the pleasures, great flavors and social experiences food can add to our lives.

While the taste of food can surely be enjoyed, it is also important to focus on keeping the body strong and healthy.

Matt Lewis, 341st Medical Operations Squadron health promotion dietitian, said nutrition is important in preventative maintenance for the body.

“Eating healthy means aiming for a variety of foods from each food group to ensure that

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Autism-screening app funded by Navy

JENNIFER MCDERMOTT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PROVIDENCE, R.I. - The Navy is paying for research into an app to screen for autism in the hopes that it could eventually be tweaked to look for signs of post-traumatic stress disorder.

While developmental and trauma disorders might at first appear strange bedfellows, the researchers and a PTSD expert for the VA say it could be an exciting new direction.

Facial expressions can indicate the presence of autism, PTSD and other disorders. The Autism & Beyond app uses a smartphone camera and an algorithm to read children's facial expressions and assess their emotional responses.

The app, which uses a gener-

The app, which uses a general algorithm, could be expanded to PTSD to monitor people over time if speech and other signals are taken into account.

al algorithm, could be expanded to PTSD to monitor people over time if speech and other signals are taken into account, according to Pedja Neskovic, who oversees the project in the Office of Naval Research.

“It can find patterns, not just in facial expressions but in different kinds of data sets, such as brain signals and speech, and it can be used on a continuous basis,” he said. “It's a completely new world.”

William Unger, a PTSD ex-

pert and clinical psychologist at the Providence VA Medical Center, said he sees potential for an app to be used to help screen for PTSD if it can prove reliable for a large population over time. It's always good to have additional tools, he said.

“This is a technology in its infancy. You don't know where it will go,” he said.

M. David Rudd, an expert in suicide prevention and PTSD in

See AUTISM, Page 9

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Zika virus: What you need to know

341ST MEDICAL GROUP PUBLIC HEALTH

The Zika virus is transmitted to people through the bite of an infected *Aedes* species mosquito (*A. Aegypti* and *A. albopictus*). These are the same mosquitoes that spread dengue and chikungunya viruses. These mosquitoes are aggressive daytime biters, but can also bite at night. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on a person already infected with the virus. Infected mosquitoes can then spread the virus to other people through bites. Zika virus may also be spread by an individual through sexual contact,

through a blood transfusion or from a mother to her fetus during pregnancy.

There have been reports of a serious birth defect of the brain called microcephaly in babies of mothers who were infected with the Zika virus while pregnant. Knowledge of the link between Zika and birth defects is evolving, but until more is known the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend special precautions for pregnant women. Pregnant women in any trimester should consider postponing travel to any area where Zika virus is spreading. Individuals traveling to one of the following

areas should talk to their health care provider first and strictly follow steps to prevent mosquito bites during the trip.

Zika virus outbreaks are currently occurring in Central America, South America, the Oceania/Pacific Islands and Africa. As of March 9, 2016, there have been 193 disease cases reported in the United States. All of these cases were travel related. There have not been any cases of locally transmitted Zika virus in the U.S., however the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands have had 173 cases of local mosquito-borne transmission of Zika

virus.

The Zika virus is not currently found in the U.S., although the U.S. mainland does have the *Aedes* species mosquitoes that can become infected with and spread Zika virus. These mosquitoes are found primarily in the south-eastern areas of the U.S., ranging as far north as Nebraska and New Jersey and as far west as Texas. The CDC anticipates that the number of Zika virus cases among travelers visiting or returning to the U.S. will likely increase. These imported cases may result in the local spread of the Zika virus in some areas of the U.S.

Zika virus illness is usually mild with symptoms lasting for several days to a week after being bitten by an infected mosquito. About one in five people infected with Zika virus develop symptoms. The most common symptoms of Zika are fever, rash, joint pain or conjunctivitis (red eyes). Other common symptoms include muscle pain and headache. The incubation period, the time from exposure to symptoms, for the Zika virus disease is not known, but is likely to be a few days to a week. People usually do not get sick enough to go to

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Autism

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military personnel, is skeptical. Rudd said he can't see the extrapolation to PTSD, calling it "a pretty big gap to leap." He worries about an app rendering erroneous results, a concern Unger also expressed.

"It's the introduction of technology where technology is not particularly needed and not particularly useful," said Rudd, president of the University of Memphis. "As a society, this is what we do. It's kind of the medicalization of a problem that's emotional and interpersonal in nature. I just don't get it."

The Navy has been working with the researcher who developed the algorithm for the app, Guillermo Sapiro, for about 20 years, supporting his research on image processing and data analysis. The Navy has invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in the app, Neskovic said.

PTSD often goes undiagnosed. Patients might not recognize the link between their symptoms and a traumatic event they experienced or might not be willing to talk about that event, while sometimes symptoms are obscured by other issues, according to research published by the American Academy of Family

Physicians.

Some veterans don't want to feel like there's something wrong with them and try to cope on their own, Unger said.

The app, as it's designed for autism, shows funny videos designed to make children smile, laugh or express emotions. The way their head, lips, eyes and nose move is recorded, encoded and analyzed. If a child isn't responding, that's also classified.

Duke University is studying whether it's feasible for caregivers to screen kids for autism using a mobile phone at home. The app can be downloaded for free. Unlike a tool like WebMD, for which the user needs to identify symp-

toms and know the right questions to ask, the app does the behavior analysis automatically. The user just has to watch the videos, said Sapiro, an electrical engineering professor at Duke. He stressed that the app isn't meant to replace specialists; it's a pre-screening tool.

The institutional review board at Duke approved the research. The initial results show that people are willing to use the app, and they're sending high-quality, usable videos, Sapiro said. Neskovic and Sapiro envision developing a PTSD app within five years. They're investigating whether it could also possibly reveal signs of mild traumatic brain injury and depression.

Nutrition

Continued from Page 8

we get the nutrients our body needs on a consistent basis," said Lewis. "The nutrients we eat are like instructions for our bodies to use which allow the processes in our bodies to function properly and if we are lacking in those nutrients, we increase the risk for diseases and cancers."

Lewis said it is fine to eat most foods as long as they are eaten in moderation and the body is still being fueled with other necessary foods.

"You should look at the big picture of your overall intake," said Lewis. "Are you reaching

your macro and micro nutrient goals, exceeding needed energy intake or taking in foods that are nutritionally empty too often? Try to aim for nutritionally full foods regularly and allow yourself that treat on occasion to help fill satisfaction and cravings."

Lewis added that the diets individuals choose to follow should not be looked at as temporary but lifestyle changes which follow dietary guidelines.

"We all get to make our own choices when it comes to how we want to treat our bodies," said Lewis. "If you want the health benefits of a good nutritious diet, you should aim to consistently eat healthy."

Cinderella's Closet open for business

AIRMAN COLLIN SCHMIDT
341ST MISSILE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Buying a high-fashion dress for a special event can be a costly endeavor for those who have their hard-earned money going to life expenses and necessities. In the Air Force, with many events for Airmen and their families to attend, the balance between buying a beautiful dress and covering the next car payment can be very delicate.

Luckily for Airmen and dependents at Malmstrom, Cinderella's Closet is only a short drive away.

"Cinderella's Closet is a place for women and children to come and look for dresses to borrow for the price of dry cleaning," said Tech. Sgt. Jenny Johnson-Newman, 341st Medical Operations Squadron NCO in charge of health management. "Military functions and special events can become expensive and the CC was created to try to help offset the cost."

The closet offers youth, teen and women's dresses for every occasion from formal settings to proms, weddings and receptions, with many more styles available to fit any need.

All items can be borrowed up to 14 days prior to an event and must be returned dry cleaned with the dry cleaner's signature attached within 10 days after the event.

"We have dresses for all occasions as well as some shoes and purses," said Johnson-Newman. "We gladly accept donations as well. At the moment, we are just getting started and soon we hope to get more inventory."

Currently, the closet is open every Tuesday from 5 to 6 p.m. at Building 1145 and is ran by Johnson-Newman and Staff Sgt. Sheena Young, 341st Missile Wing command chief executive.

"The closet really helps families save money rather than going out and buying a whole new dress that is just worn once and sits in a closet,"



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO/AIRMAN COLLIN SCHMIDT

Staff Sgt. Sheena Young, 341st Missile Wing command chief executive, top, and Tech. Sgt. Jenny Johnson-Newman, 341st Medical Operations Squadron NCO in charge of health management, at Cinderella's Closet.

said Young.

"If you plan on attending a formal event such as an Annual Awards Banquet or Airmen Leadership School graduation and you or your significant other need an evening gown to wear, you can borrow a dress from the closet for just the cost of dry cleaning, it's as easy as that," she continued.

Young and Johnson-Newman

hope to expand their store hours to accommodate more customers. All military personnel and dependents with a valid military ID are welcome to use the store.

For more information on rentals, attire or to make a donation, contact the closet at MalmstromCinderellaCloset@gmail.com

GREAT FALLS EVENTS

Easter egg hunts: Hop on over to another event every day

TRACI ROSENBAUM

TROSENBAUM@GREATFALLSTRIBUNE.COM

Families have many options this weekend for celebrating Easter, with egg hunts featuring enough candy to make kids happy and dentists happier.

Great Falls Rescue Mission

The Great Falls Rescue Mission is expecting more than 500 excited children for its annual Easter egg hunt and plan to feed at least 700 during its Easter luncheon in Central Park at the Montana ExpoPark. This year's Easter egg hunt for kids 12 and younger takes place at 11:30 a.m. Friday, March 25, immediately followed by the luncheon in the Trades and Industries Building. Both are free and open to the public.

In a recent news release, Rescue Mission Director Jim Kizer said, "This celebration gives us the opportunity to invite needy families to join us for family fun and in celebrating the hope of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the true meaning of Easter."

The event relies on donations from the community, and the following items are needed: ham, canned corn and fruit cocktail, dinner rolls, Easter baskets and small individually wrapped candy for Easter eggs. Donations can be dropped off at the back door of the Men's Shelter located at 326 2nd Ave. S.

Those interested in volunteer opportunities can visit www.greatfallsrescuemission.org and click on the "How to Help" link or call Debbie at 761-2653.

City of Great Falls

The city's annual Easter Egg Hunt is back again this year!

The event takes place at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 26, at the south end of Gibson Park. The

See **EGG HUNTS**, Page 14

City of Great Falls Easter Egg Hunt for children through age 9 includes candy-filled eggs, prizes and the Easter Bunny. Admission is free. 11 a.m. Gibson Park. 1st Avenue North and Park Drive. 771-1265.

EASTER EGG HUNT: Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt includes games and treats. 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. New Hope Lutheran Church.

3125 5th Ave. S. 315-1203.

EASTER EGG HUNT: Crossroads Memorial sixth annual Easter Eggstravaganza Community Easter Egg Hunt features areas divided for age groups 1-3 years, 4-7 years and 8-10 years. The hunt is free. 11 a.m. to noon Montana Park. Fox Farm Road and 18th Avenue Southwest. 453-5925.

EGG HUNT: Easter Egg Fun fea-

tures snacks, crafts, toddler egg hunt for ages 5 and younger and a visit from the Easter Bunny. 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Children's Museum of Montana. 22 Railroad Square. 452-6661.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27

BREAKFAST: Veterans of Foreign Wars breakfast includes pancakes, bacon, sausage, eggs, bis-

cuits and gravy and more. Breakfast costs \$8.50. 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. VFW. 4123 10th Ave. S. 454-1166.

BRIDGE LIGHTS: The blue lights on the historic 10th Street Bridge are on in honor of Easter. The lights are on every Friday, Saturday and holidays at dark. Great Falls. 452-5492.

CLASS: Wall Muraling NYC Sub-

way with Alma Winberry is at Creative Center of 4 West. Class is free. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Columbus Center. 1601 2nd Ave. N. 453-4133.

EASTER BREAKFAST: Easter Breakfast includes made-to-order omelets and pancakes, full breakfast bar, coffee and juice. Breakfast costs \$10 and \$5 for children 9 and younger. 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Elks Lodge. 500 1st

Ave. S. 454-1305.

EASTER EGG HUNT: Showdown Easter Egg Hunt includes prizes and candy. 12:30 p.m. Showdown Ski Area. 2850 U.S. Highway 89 S.

EASTER EGG HUNT: Holiday Inn Easter Egg Hunt is for adults and children. Each hunt category features golden egg, prizes and a visit from the Easter Bunny. 1

p.m. Holiday Inn. 400 10th Ave. S. 727-7200.

EASTER EGG HUNT: Set Free/STAR Radio Easter Egg Hunt features an egg hunt for ages 0-3 at noon and ages 4-9 at 12:30 p.m. along with puppets and the Easter Bunny. Gibson Park. 1st Avenue North and Park Drive. 453-4479.

MONDAY, MARCH 28

BOOK DONATIONS: Community of Readers Book Drive is seeking new or gently used books for ages birth to 18. Books are delivered to Play Fair For Children at the Community Recreation Center and Summer Read 6 Program. Donations can be dropped off at Steel Etc., Great Falls Recreation Center and the Great Falls Tribune through April 1. Great Falls. 899-1505.

CALL FOR DONATIONS: The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary is in need of donations such as linens, jewelry, glassware, books, silver, toys and dolls, gently used Christmas items, clothing, furniture, pictures, vintage clothing and hats in good condition for their annual Collectible Sale. No exercise equipment. Please mark "women's auxiliary" on items. Pick-up is available. Salvation Army Thrift Store. 4910 10th Ave. S. 868-2928 or 452-2425.

CLASS: Bonnie Flaherty teaches Oil Painting. Registration is required. Class runs March 28-April 25. Class costs \$104. 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Great Falls College-MSU. 2100 16th Ave. S. 771-4300.

CLASS: Adult indoor golf lessons focus on individual attention, long and short game fundamentals, specialized shots and video error correction. Registration is required. Class costs \$75. Great Falls. 771-1265.

CLASS: Stitch n' Bitch class at Creative Center of 4 West. Admission is free. 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Columbus Center. 1601 2nd Ave. N. 727-7453.

CLASS: Swimming lessons are for ages 6 months and older and for all ability levels. Class times are 4 p.m.-4:45 p.m. or 5 p.m.-5:45 p.m. The two-week class costs \$40. Morony Natatorium Pool. 111 12th St. N. 452-3733 or 771-1265.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

BINGO: Bingo includes big special games and payouts. Dinner is available from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Bingo is at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free. Elks Lodge. 500 1st Ave. S. 454-1305.

CALL TO ARTISTS: Downtown

Great Falls Association is seeking artwork for Music on the Mo Community Market and Family Festival. Art submission deadline is 2 p.m. on April 1. Great Falls. 453-6151.

CLASS: Dan Price teaches Drawing for Seniors ages 60 and older. Participants draw using a variety of media. Registration is required. Class runs every Tuesday. Class is free. 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art. 1400 1st Ave. N. 727-8255.

CLASS: Pizazz Tasty Tuesday features a Lunch and Learn class. Participants receive a main course, recipe and preparation instructions. Registration is required. The 45-minute class costs \$15. Noon Pizazz. 403 Central. 452-6724.

CLASS: Patrick Volkmar teaches Woodworking. Registration is required. The three-session class costs \$99. 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. North Middle School. 2601 8th St. N.E. 771-4300.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

BINGO: Play bingo. Food is available at 5 p.m. Admission is free. 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Loyal Order of Moose Family Center. 401 21st St. N. 452-5420.

BOOKMOBILE: The Great Falls Public Library Bookmobile stops from 9 to 10 a.m. at Big Stone Colony, from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. at Centerville School, from 11:30 a.m. noon at Belt Library, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at Pleasant Valley Colony and from 2:15 to 2:45 p.m. at Monarch Post Office. Great Falls. 453-0349.

CLASS: Carol Newall teaching Jewelry Making class at Creative Center of 4 West. Class costs \$5. 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Columbus Center. 1601 2nd Ave. N. 590-3042.

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

ARMCHAIR TRAVELER: The Armchair Traveler series features "Taiwan, China, Marriage and Immigration," with Annette Schipf. Admission is free. 7 p.m. Great Falls Public Library. 301 2nd Ave. N. 453-0349.

BOOK DONATIONS: Community of Readers Book Drive is seeking new or gently used books for ages birth to 18. Books are delivered to Play Fair For Children at the Community Recreation Center and Summer Read 6 Program. Donations can be dropped off at Steel Etc., Great Falls Recreation Center and the Great Falls Tribune through April 1. Great Falls.

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TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Toddlers and pre-school-age kids race to fill their baskets and bags with eggs on the lawn outside the Trades and Industries Building at Montana ExpoPark during last year's Great Falls Rescue Mission Easter Egg Hunt. More than 500 kids are expected at this year's hunt, for kids 12 and younger, at 11:30 a.m. Friday, March 25.

Egg hunts

Continued from Page 12

hunt features more than 6,000 eggs filled with candy and special prizes for kids up to age 9 and special treats for all participants. The age divisions include: 1-3, 4-6 and 7-9.

The Easter Bunny will be making a guest appearance so don't forget your basket.

The city of Great Falls Park and Recreation would like to thank Jimmy and Debbie Filipowicz for making this Easter tradition possible for a sixth year with their generous financial donation.

When the event was in danger of being canceled six years ago due to a loss in funding, Jimmy and Debbie Filipowicz and Steel Etc. stepped forward and offered to pay all expenses associated with the Easter Egg Hunt. With their combined funding, Park and Recreation was able to improve an already great event and continue a long-standing tradition.

"We are fortunate to have a community that cares about events like these," said Deputy Park and Recreation Director Patty Rearden in a recent news release, "and we're appreciative for businesses like Steel Etc., and owners like Jimmy and Debbie Filipowicz. Jimmy and Debbie's generosity and compassion for children and making Great Falls a great place to live, never ceases to amaze me."

In the same news release, Jimmy Filipowicz explained why his business stepped up to sponsor the event.

"The Easter Egg Hunt is a great event for children and the community," he said. "We didn't hesitate to offer our support in 2011, and entering into our sixth year, we are more committed than ever. It's rewarding to feel the excitement in the air and to



TRIBUNE PHOTO/RION SANDERS

The Great Falls Easter egg hunt gets underway in Gibson Park at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 26.

see the great time the kids have. I have a soft heart when it comes to kids and we want to see this annual tradition continue. The community has been good to our business, and we want to give back."

KMON's Jim Sargent and K-99's Nick Northern will emcee the Easter Egg Hunt and, together with the Easter Bunny, provide fun and entertainment

throughout the day.

For more information, contact Park and Recreation at 771-1265.

Set Free Ministries

The Set Free/STARadio Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, March 27, also takes place in Gibson Park for kids ages 0-9. Ages 0-3 start at noon and ages 4-9 start about 12:30.

More than 40,000 candy-filled eggs and hundreds of eggs filled with certificates to Burger King, McDonald's, and Pizza Hut are up for grabs.

Tons of prizes for each age group – including gift cards to Cold Stone Creamery – will be handed out, plus larger grand prizes such as bicycles. A puppet show and the Easter Bunny also put in appearances.

For more information, call 453-4479.

Showdown Ski Area

For ski bums young and old, Showdown Ski Area near Neihart holds its own Easter Egg Hunt at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 27. The event includes prizes and candy.

Call Showdown at 406-236-5522 for more information.

Continued from Previous Page

899-1505.

BOWHUNTER EDUCATION:

Registration for bowhunter education course is for ages 12-17 and first time bowhunters. Classes begin April 5. The class is free. 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Fish, Wildlife & Parks. 4600 Giant Springs Road. 454-5840.

CALL TO ARTISTS: Downtown Great Falls Association is seeking artwork for Music on the Mo Community Market and Family Festival. Art submission deadline is 2 p.m. on April 1. Great Falls. 453-6151.

CLASS: Alma Winberry teaches Basket Weaving at Creative Center of 4 West. Class costs \$5. 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Columbus Center. 1601 2nd Ave. N. 453-

4133.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

ART SHOW: Veteran's Art Show includes pottery and canvas paintings as part of Military Sexual Trauma Awareness month. Art is in room 33. 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art. 1400 1st Ave. N. 452-9048.

ART WALK: First Friday Art

Walk features art, music and refreshments at various downtown locations. Admission is free. 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Great Falls.

AUTO BODY TRADE SHOW: Montana Collision Repair Association Conference and Trade Show features what is new in the auto body industry. Admission is free. 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Montana ExpoPark Trades

Industries building. 400 3rd St. N.W. 590-5614.

BAR BINGO: Bar bingo includes 50-cent cards and raffles at 6:30 p.m. Hamburgers are available at 5 p.m. Eagles Lodge. 1501 9th St. S. 761-9209.

BOOKMOBILE: The Great Falls Public Library Bookmobile stops from 9 to 9:45 a.m. at Centene Children's Center, from 10 to 10:45 a.m. at St.

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Thomas Child Center, from 10:55 to 11:40 a.m. at The Lodge, from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Eagles Manor Retirement Home, from 12:40 to 1:25 p.m. Wee Disciples School, from 1:30 to 2:15 p.m. at Beehive Homes and from 2:20 to 2:35 p.m. at Benefit Skilled Nursing Home. Great Falls. 453-0349.

BURGER FRY: Fraternal Order Of Eagles Auxiliary features hamburgers, cheeseburgers and fish sandwiches with a side dish. Proceeds benefit various charities. Dinner costs \$3-\$6. 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Eagles Lodge. 1501 9th St. S. 761-9209.

CLASS: Bonnie Seaburg and Linda Nelson teach Make and Take Cared Design. Participants learn to make a greeting card using patterns, stamping and embellishing. Class costs \$5. 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Studio 706 Art Gallery. 706 7th Ave. S. 727-0637.

CLASS: Music Together music program is for children birth to age 7. Registration is required. Bass Clef School of Music. 205 9th Ave. S. 952-0166.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2

ADOPTATHON: Pet Paw-See's adoptathon is for cats and dogs in need of a good home. Proceeds help defray medical costs for animals in foster care. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Petco. 1601 Market Place Drive. 231-1132.

AUTO BODY TRADE SHOW: Montana Collision Repair Association Conference and Trade Show features what is new in the auto body industry. Admission is free. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Montana ExpoPark Trades Industries building. 400 3rd St. N.W. 590-5614.

BEAD SHOW: Crystal Limits Bead Show. Classes are available. Admission is free. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Hampton Inn. 2301 14th St. S.W.

BOOK READING: Gwen Florio reads from her mystery novel "Disgraced." 1 p.m. Cassiopeia Books. 721 Central Ave. 727-6350.

CRIBBAGE: Play cribbage. \$10 buy-ins. 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Eagles Lodge. 1501 9th St. S. 761-9209.

SUNDAY, APRIL 3

BEAD SHOW: Crystal Limits Bead Show. Classes are available. Admission is free. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hampton Inn. 2301 14th St. S.W.

BREAKFAST: Veterans of For-

sign Wars breakfast includes pancakes, bacon, sausage, eggs, biscuits and gravy and more. Breakfast costs \$8.50. 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. VFW Club. 4123 10th Ave. S. 454-1166.

BREAKFAST: Fraternal Order of Eagles Lodge Clown Club Breakfast features all-you-can-eat pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, hashbrowns, French toast, biscuits and gravy, coffee, juice and more. Everyone is welcome. Breakfast costs \$8. 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Eagles Lodge. 1501 9th St. S. 761-9209.

BREAKFAST: Monarch-Neihart Seniors feature an all-you-can-eat breakfast of pancakes, French toast, ham, sausage, eggs, biscuits and sausage gravy, juice and coffee. Proceeds benefit the center. Breakfast costs \$7. 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Monarch-Neihart Community Senior Center. U.S. Highway 89. 406-236-5998.

DANCE BAND: Highlites dance band performs. Hors d'oeuvres are provided. Admission is \$10. 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Elks Lodge. 500 1st Ave. S. 452-2466.

MONDAY, APRIL 4

CALL FOR DONATIONS: The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary is in need of donations such as linens, jewelry, glassware, books, silver, toys and dolls, gently used Christmas items, clothing, furniture, pictures, vintage clothing and hats in good condition for their annual Collectible Sale. No exercise equipment. Please mark "women's auxiliary" on items. Pick-up is available. Salvation Army Thrift Store. 4910 10th Ave. S. 868-2928 or 452-2425.

CLASS: Adult indoor golf lessons focus on individual attention, long and short game fundamentals, specialized shots and video error correction. Registration is required. Class costs \$75. Great Falls. 771-1265.

CLASS: Jeff Mangan Teaches Social Media for Business: Instagram, LinkedIn, Social Media Tools. Registration is required. Class runs Mondays, April 4-25. Class costs \$69. 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Great Falls College-MSU. 2100 16th Ave. S. 771-4300.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5

AUTISM EVENT: Autism Awareness Practical Strategies that Work features three presenters in the Cameron Auditorium. Visit www.eventbrite.com for free registration. 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Benefis Health System South Tower. 1101 26th St. S.

BINGO: Bingo includes big special games and payouts. Dinner is available from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Bingo is at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free. Elks Lodge. 500 1st Ave. S. 454-1305.

BRIDGE LIGHTS: The blue lights on the historic 10th Street Bridge are on in honor of Ellen Sievert's birthday by her loving children. The lights are on every Friday, Saturday and holidays at dark. Great Falls. 452-5492.

CLASS: Patrick Volkmar teaches Intro to Fishing. Registration is required. The two-session class costs \$59. 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Great Falls College-MSU. 2100 16th Ave. S. 771-4300.

CLASS: Dan Price teaches Drawing for Seniors ages 60 and older. Participants draw using a variety of media. Registration is required. Class runs every Tuesday. Class is free. 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art. 1400 1st Ave. N. 727-8255.

CLASS: Pizazz Tasty Tuesday features a Lunch and Learn class. Participants receive a main course, recipe and preparation instructions. Registration is required. The 45-minute class costs \$15. Noon Pizazz. 403 Central. 452-6724.

CLASS: A panel of experts present "Practical Strategies that Work, with Autism." Class is free. 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Benefis Health System South Tower. 1101 26th St. S. 799-1547.

COMMUNITY CONCERT: Great Falls Community Concert Association presents violinist "Tom Rigney and Flambeau." Tickets cost \$30. Student rush tickets are available for \$10 at the box office the day of the show. Visit <http://ticketing.greatfallsmt.net>. 7:30 p.m. The Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts theater. 2 Park Drive S. 455-8514.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6

BINGO: Play bingo. Food is available at 5 p.m. Admission is free. 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Loyal Order of Moose Family Center. 401 21st St. N. 452-5420.

BOOKMOBILE: The Great Falls Public Library Bookmobile stops from 9:45 to 10:30 a.m. at Fort Shaw Elementary School, from 10:45 to 11:30 a.m. at Vaughn Elementary School, from noon to 12:45 p.m. at Elm School, from 1:05 to 2:05 p.m. at Fairhaven Colony, from 2:25 to 2:55 p.m. at Wedsworth Library and from 3 to 3:15 p.m. at Pam's Daycare. Great Falls. 453-0349.

BUSY FINGERS: Busy Fingers

walk-in craft time B is for Buckaroo theme is for children 30 months through age 5 accompanied by an adult. Admission is free. 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Great Falls Public Library. 301 2nd Ave. N. 453-0349.

CLASS: Janine Tillman teaches Natural Healing for Optimum Wellness. Registration is required. Class costs \$29. 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Great Falls College-MSU. 2100 16th Ave. S. 771-4300.

CONCERT: Hector Raul Gonzales and Marco Gamboa perform Latin American spiritually conscious music on the guitar, flute and vocals. Admission is free. 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Cassiopeia Books. 721 Central Ave. 727-6350.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7

ART RECEPTION: An art reception highlights the works of the Art Association of Montana. See paintings, sculptures, pen and ink drawing and more. Admission is free. 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Great Falls Public Library. 301 2nd Ave. N. 453-0349.

BOOK DISCUSSION: Open-Books Discussion series highlights "Crossroads of Freedom: Antietam," by James McPherson and facilitated by Penny Hughes-Briant. Admission is free. 7 p.m. Great Falls Public Library. 301 2nd Ave. N. 453-0349.

BUSY FINGERS: Busy Fingers walk-in craft time B is for Buckaroo theme is for children 30 months through age 5 accompanied by an adult. Admission is free. 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Great Falls Public Library. 301 2nd Ave. N. 453-0349.

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

BAR BINGO: Bar bingo includes

50-cent cards and raffles at 6:30 p.m. Hamburgers are available at 5 p.m. Eagles Lodge. 1501 9th St. S. 761-9209.

BOOKMOBILE: The Great Falls Public Library Bookmobile stops from 9 to 9:45 a.m. at Falls Junior Academy, from 10 to 10:45 a.m. at Bright Beginnings Learning Center, from 11 to noon at Peak Preschool, from 12:15 to 1 p.m. at Brookdale Great Falls and from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. at Skyline School. Great Falls. 453-0349.

BOOK READING: S.M. Hulse reads from her novel "Black River." Admission is free. 7 p.m. Cassiopeia Books. 721 Central Ave.

BURGER FRY: Fraternal Order Of Eagles Auxiliary features hamburgers, cheeseburgers and fish sandwiches with a side dish. Proceeds benefit various charities. Dinner costs \$3-\$6. 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Eagles Lodge. 1501 9th St. S. 761-9209.

CRAFTING EVENT: Central Montana Creative Rendezvous features crafting tables to do your crafting. Reservations are required. The three-day crafting event costs \$95 and includes snacks and beverages. Heritage Inn. 1700 Fox Farm Road. 406-698-3131.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

ADOPTATHON: Pet Paw-See's adoptathon is for cats and dogs in need of a good home. Proceeds help defray medical costs for animals in foster care. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Petco. 1601 Market Place Drive. 231-1132.

ART AUCTION: The 19th annual Art Auction includes a live art auction, silent auction, quick finish, live music, cocktails and

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hors d'oeuvres. 5:30 p.m. Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art. 1400 1st Ave. N. 727-8255.

BANQUET: Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Giant Springs Chapter annual banquet includes dinner, live and silent auctions, games and raffles. Tickets cost \$70. 5 p.m. Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts convention center. 2 Park Drive S. 899-7593.

BOOK CLUB: Page Forward book discussion club highlights "Blind Your Ponies," by Stanley Gorden West. Admission is free. 10 a.m. Great Falls Public Library. 301 2nd Ave. N. 453-0349.

CARD PARTY: Play pinochle. Lunch is served and prizes are awarded at the end. Everyone is welcome. Admission is \$4. 7 p.m. Sons of Norway. 1314 7th St. S. 771-0280.

CLASS: Scheels Concealed Weapons Permit Class features instructor Bryan Wheat. Registration is required. Participants receive a \$10 Scheels gift card. Class costs \$60. Visit www.scheels.com/events. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Scheels. Holiday Village Mall. 453-7666.

CRIBBAGE: Play cribbage. \$10 buy-ins. 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Eagles Lodge. 1501 9th St. S. 761-9209.

DOCUMENTARY FILM: Local chapters of the John Birch Society present the documentary film "Shadowring." Admission is free. 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Great Falls College-MSU. 2100 16th Ave. S. 453-5573.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

BREAKFAST: VFW Auxiliary breakfast includes bacon, sausage, eggs, pancakes and biscuits and gravy. Breakfast costs \$7. 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. VFW Club. 4123 10th Ave. S. 454-1166.

BREAKFAST: The Corpus Christi Adoration Society annual Spring Fling Breakfast includes pancakes, eggs, biscuits and gravy, hashbrown casserole, sausage, ham, French toast, coffee and juice. Admission is by donation. 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Blessed Sacrament Church. 1325 Smelter Ave. N.E., Black Eagle.

CHAMBER MUSIC: The Great Falls Symphony Chamber Music series features the Cascade Quartet with pianist Karin Hancock Buer performing "Five on Fire." Tickets cost \$15 and \$5 for students or by sea-

son pass. 2 p.m. First Congregational/Christ United Methodist Church. 2900 9th Ave. S. 453-4102.

MONDAY, APRIL 11

CALL FOR DONATIONS: The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary is in need of donations such as linens, jewelry, glassware, books, silver, toys and dolls, gently used Christmas items, clothing, furniture, pictures, vintage clothing and hats in good condition for their annual Collectible Sale. No exercise equipment. Please mark "women's auxiliary" on items. Pick-up is available. Salvation Army Thrift Store. 4910 10th Ave. S. 868-2928 or 452-2425.

CLASS: Falls Aquatic Swim Team features swim lessons for beginners to experienced swimmers ages 4 and older. Registration is required. Class is on Mondays and Wednesdays or Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:15 p.m.-5 p.m. or 5 p.m.-5:45 p.m. Class costs \$60. Great Falls High School. 1900 2nd Ave. S. 217-5168.

CLASS: Swimming lessons are for ages 6 months and older and for all ability levels. Class times are 4 p.m.-4:45 p.m. or 5 p.m.-5:45 p.m. The two-week class costs \$40. Morony Natatorium Pool. 111 12th St. N. 452-3733 or 771-1265.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

BINGO: Bingo includes big special games and payouts. Dinner is available from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Bingo is at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free. Elks Lodge. 500 1st Ave. S. 454-1305.

CARD PARTY: Parish Council of Catholic Women present a card party featuring prizes for bridge and pinochle and a salad

buffet luncheon. Reservations are required. Non-card players are welcome for lunch and prizes. Tickets cost \$8. Noon Holy Spirit Catholic Church. 201 44th St. S. 453-3653.

CHAMBER MUSIC: The Great Falls Symphony Chamber Music series features the Cascade Quartet with pianist Karin Hancock Buer performing "Five on Fire." Tickets cost \$15 and \$5 for students or by season pass. 7 p.m. C.M. Russell Museum. 400 13th St. N. 453-4102.

CLASS: Dan Price teaches Drawing for Seniors ages 60 and older. Participants draw using a variety of media. Registration is required. Class runs every Tuesday. Class is free. 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art. 1400 1st Ave. N. 727-8255.

CLASS: Pizazz Tasty Tuesday features a Lunch and Learn class. Participants receive a main course, recipe and preparation instructions. Registration is required. The 45-minute class costs \$15. Noon Pizazz. 403 Central. 452-6724.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

BINGO: Play bingo. Food is available at 5 p.m. Admission is free. 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Loyal Order of Moose Family Center. 401 21st St. N. 452-5420.

BOOKMOBILE: The Great Falls Public Library Bookmobile stops from 9 to 10 a.m. at Big Stone Colony, from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. at Centerville School, from 11:30 a.m. noon at Belt Library and from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at Pleasant Valley Colony. Great Falls. 453-0349.

BOOK SIGNING: Ken Robison gives a talk and signs his book "Yankees and Rebels on the

Upper Missouri." 6 p.m. Cascade Wedsworth Hall. 13 S. Front St. 868-3635.

CLASS: Janine Tillman teaches Boost Your Energy and Immunity. Registration is required. Class costs \$29. 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Great Falls College-MSU. 2100 16th Ave. S. 771-4300.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

BLUE MAN GROUP: Broadway in Great Falls presents the Blue Man Group. The theatrical show and concert combines music, comedy and technology. Tickets cost \$67.50-\$72.50. Visit <http://ticketing.greatfalls.mt.net>. 7:30 p.m. The Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts theater. 2 Park Drive S. 455-8514.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

BAR BINGO: Bar bingo includes 50-cent cards and raffles at 6:30 p.m. Hamburgers are available at 5 p.m. Eagles Lodge. 1501 9th St. S. 761-9209.

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT: The fourth annual Craig Cummings Co-ed Memorial Basketball Tournament is in Belt and Highwood, April 15-17. Proceeds help with high school scholarships. Belt. 868-3557.

BLUE MAN GROUP: Broadway in Great Falls presents the Blue Man Group. The theatrical show and concert combines music, comedy and technology. Tickets cost \$67.50-\$72.50. Visit <http://ticketing.greatfalls.mt.net>. 7:30 p.m. The Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts theater. 2 Park Drive S. 455-8514.

BOOKMOBILE: The Great Falls Public Library Bookmobile stops from 9 to 9:45 a.m. at Centene Children's Center, from 10 to 10:45 a.m. at St.

Thomas Child Center, from 10:55 to 11:40 a.m. at The Lodge, from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Eagles Manor Retirement Home, from 12:40 to 1:25 p.m. Wee Disciples School, from 1:30 to 2:15 p.m. at Beehive Homes and from 2:20 to 2:35 p.m. at Benefit Skilled Nursing Home. Great Falls. 453-0349.

BURGER FRY: Fraternal Order Of Eagles Auxiliary features hamburgers, cheeseburgers and fish sandwiches with a side dish. Proceeds benefit various charities. Dinner costs \$3-\$6. 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Eagles Lodge. 1501 9th St. S. 761-9209.

CLASS: Growing Food Business: Opportunities Under Montana's New Food Law workshop features strategies and assistance for our local food economy. Registration is required. The workshop is free. Visit www.eventbrite.com. 9:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. Times Square. 525 Central Ave.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

ADOPTATHON: Pet Paw-See's adoptathon is for cats and dogs in need of a good home. Proceeds help defray medical costs for animals in foster care. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Petco. 1601 Market Place Drive. 231-1132.

BOOK DONATIONS: Friends of the Great Falls Public Library are taking donated books for the annual book sale. Magazines, encyclopedias, condensed Reader's Digests, text books, VHS tapes, audio cassettes and items in poor condition are not accepted. Bring book donations to the alley entrance. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Great Falls Public Library. 301 2nd Ave. N. 453-0349.

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Zika

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the hospital, and they very rarely die of Zika virus. Individuals should see their health care provider if they develop a fever, rash, joint pain or red eyes within two weeks after traveling to a place where Zika virus has been reported. Be sure to tell health care providers where travel was conduct-

ed.

The Zika virus poses no significant risk with proper use of countermeasures to prevent mosquito bites. The primary method of prevention is using insect repellants when outdoors. Other methods of prevention include wearing long sleeves and pants, using permethrin-treated clothing and gear, and reducing the amount of time spent outdoors. Staying in air-conditioned quarters with screened windows and doors, using mosquito bed nets if

The Zika virus poses no significant risk with proper use of countermeasures to prevent mosquito bites. The primary method of prevention is using insect repellants.

sleeping outdoors or in quarters without screened windows and doors, and reducing mosquito breeding areas by emptying outdoor containers that hold standing water can also help

prevent mosquito bites.

The 341st Medical Group would like to remind all travelers visiting areas outside of the U.S. that Public Health is

available to assist individuals with health threats and vaccination recommendations based on the country or countries that they are visiting. Individuals can also visit the CDC website, www.cdc.gov, and the traveler's health section to find information on health threats for country specific health threat information. For questions regarding Zika virus or other potential health threats associated with a travel location, contact Public Health at 406-731-4405.

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CELEBRATION 2016: Great Falls Central Catholic High School Celebration 2016 features dinner, live and silent auctions and games. Proceeds benefit the high school. Tickets cost \$60. 5:30 p.m. Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts convention center. 2 Park Drive S. 216-3344.

CHILDREN'S PLAY FAIR: Talking is Teaching Expo Children's Play Fair features age appropriate activities for ages 2-4. The expo includes take-home activities, books and games. Admission is free. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Community Recreation Center. 801 2nd Ave. N. 761-6010.

CRIBBAGE: Play cribbage. \$10 buy-ins. 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Eagles Lodge. 1501 9th St. S. 761-9209.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

BREAKFAST: Breakfast includes made-to-order omelets and pancakes, full breakfast bar, coffee and juice. Breakfast costs \$10 and \$5 for children 9 and younger. 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Elks Lodge. 500 1st Ave. S. 454-1305.

BREAKFAST: Veterans of Foreign Wars breakfast includes pancakes, bacon, sausage, eggs, biscuits and gravy and more. Breakfast costs \$8.50. 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. VFW. 4123 10th Ave. S. 454-1166.

BRIDGE LIGHTS: The blue lights on the historic 10th Street Bridge are on in memory of the anniversary of George and Laurene Engler. The lights are on every Friday, Saturday and holidays at dark. Great Falls. 452-5492.

DINNER: Dinner features chicken or steak. Dinners cost \$12-\$15. 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. VFW Club. 4123 10th Ave. S. 454-1166.

MONDAY, APRIL 18

CALL FOR DONATIONS: The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary is in need of donations such as linens, jewelry, glassware, books, silver, toys and dolls, gently used Christmas items, clothing, furniture, pictures, vintage clothing and hats in good condition for their annual Collectible Sale. No exercise equipment. Please mark "women's auxiliary" on items. Pick-up is available. Salvation Army Thrift Store. 4910 10th Ave. S. 868-2928 or 452-2425.

TUESDAY, APRIL 19

BINGO: Bingo includes big special games and payouts. Dinner is available from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Bingo is at 6:30 p.m. Admission is free. Elks Lodge. 500 1st Ave. S. 454-1305.

CLASS: Dan Price teaches Drawing for Seniors ages 60 and older. Participants draw using a variety of media. Registration is required. Class runs every Tuesday. Class is free. 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art. 1400 1st Ave. N. 727-8255.

CLASS: Pizazz Tasty Tuesday features a Lunch and Learn class. Participants receive a main course, recipe and preparation instructions. Registration is required. The 45-minute class costs \$15. Noon Pizazz. 403 Central. 452-6724.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

BINGO: Play bingo. Food is available at 5 p.m. Admission is free. 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Loyal Order of Moose Family Center. 401 21st St. N. 452-5420.

BOOKMOBILE: The Great Falls Public Library Bookmobile stops from 9:45 to 10:30 a.m. at Fort Shaw Elementary School, from 10:45 to 11:30 a.m. at Vaughn Elementary School, from noon to 12:45 p.m. at Ulm School, from 1:05 to 2:05 p.m. at Fairhaven Colony, from 2:25 to 2:55 p.m. at Wedsworth Library and from 3 to 3:15 p.m. at Pam's Daycare. Great Falls. 453-0349.

CLASS: Ron Crowder teaches Prospecting and Gem Hunting. Registration is required. The three-session class costs \$109. 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Great Falls College-MSU. 2100 16th

Ave. S. 771-4300.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

BAR BINGO: Bar bingo includes 50-cent cards and raffles at 6:30 p.m. Hamburgers are available at 5 p.m. Eagles Lodge. 1501 9th St. S. 761-9209.

BOOKMOBILE: The Great Falls Public Library Bookmobile stops from 9 to 9:45 a.m. at Falls Junior Academy, from 10 to 10:45 a.m. at Bright Beginnings Learning Center, from 11 to noon at Peak Preschool, from 12:15 to 1 p.m. at Brookdale Great Falls and from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. at Skyline School. Great Falls. 453-0349.

BURGER FRY: Fraternal Order Of Eagles Auxiliary features hamburgers, cheeseburgers and fish sandwiches with a side dish. Proceeds benefit various charities. Dinner costs \$3-\$6. 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Eagles Lodge. 1501 9th St. S. 761-9209.

CONCERT: Broadway in Great Falls presents Johnny Mathis 60th Anniversary Tour Concert featuring his hit songs "Wonderful, Wonderful," "Chances Are" and others. Tickets cost \$62-\$67. Visit <http://ticketing.greatfallsmt.net>. The Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts theater. 2 Park Drive S. 455-8514 or 452-4102.



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD / SENIOR MASTER SGT. ERIC PETERSON

Retired Lt. Col. Leonard Erickson (left) shares his experience as a World War II United States Army Air Forces navigator with 120th Airlift Wing Chaplain Lt. Col. Arthur McCaffrey at an assisted living facility in Butte. The 96-year-old Erickson was assigned to the 654th Bombardment Squadron of the 25th Bombardment Group (Reconnaissance).

WWII navigator reflects on career

SENIOR MASTER SGT. ERIC PETERSON

120TH AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Retired Lt. Col. Leonard Erickson has much to be proud of accomplishing during his 96 years of life.

The World War II navigator fought for his country in the European and Pacific theaters and returned home after the war to become a successful businessman running a grocery store in his hometown of Butte.

During the war, the United States Army Air Forces officer was assigned to the 654th Bombardment Squadron of the 25th Bombardment Group (Reconnaissance), and served as a navigator on the Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress and the De

Havilland DH-98 Mosquito.

120th Airlift Wing Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Arthur McCaffrey had the opportunity to meet with Erickson and members of his family at an assisted living facility in Butte on March 10.

During the visit, Erickson showed McCaffrey mementos of his military service – his World War II officer's service cap and silk navigator's survival map of Holland, Belgium, France and Germany.

Family members told the story of how their parents met. The young navigator met his future wife-to-be, Mona Lomax, during his first combat tour in England. Shortly afterward, he completed the required number of flying missions to be able to finish his tour and return home.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO

Erickson flew the De Havilland DH 98 Mosquito (above) and the Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress during World War II.

After corresponding with her through many letters, he made the decision to request another combat tour and return to England and to Mona. After the war ended, Erickson brought his bride home with him to Butte and began a family.

“Love drew Lieutenant Colonel Erickson from the safety of Butte and back to England,” said McCaffrey. “Love buoyed his heart as he awaited victory in Europe and then victory in Japan.”

With his loving children and

grandchildren gathered around a table he answered questions and shared memories of his illustrious military career.

McCaffrey provided historical photographs to Erickson of a DH 98 Mosquito aircraft which had been restored to the wartime markings of an USAAF aircraft. The markings included the distinctive red tail painted on the aircraft flying photoreconnaissance missions by members of his squadron.

“We had to put that on there because we used to escort the bombers all the time,” Erickson said. “We always got there at the IP (initial point of the bombing run) and went down the run before the bombers went over.

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Navigator

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The only trouble is they would shoot our bombers down coming in. So they painted (the tails) red. It just helped a lot.”

The USAAF aircraft and crew members suffered heavy losses during the war. Family

members said their father told them that 25 aircraft were once assigned to fly a mission. Erickson's aircraft was one of only four to return home to base.

According to the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force website, while nearly 8,000 DH 98 aircraft were built in Great Britain, Canada or Australia, only 140 of the Mosquitoes were transferred to the United

States to use for special wartime duty. These aircraft required a two-person crew consisting of a pilot and navigator to fly photoreconnaissance, weather information gathering or night fighter missions.

The plane was light, powerful and fast. The museum's fact sheet stated that it was built almost entirely of balsa wood and plywood. Two Rolls Royce Merlin engines powered it to

speeds up to 415 mph. Fully fueled, the Mosquito had a flight range of 1,955 miles.

Once victory in Europe was achieved, Erickson's group and its aircraft were sent to Hawaii to prepare for the war still raging in the Pacific.

“I had the honor of celebrating a true hero of World War II and the love he showed for his wife,” said McCaffrey. “It was a love that not only

endured, but grew to include his children and grandchildren. And of course, the plane that did not fail to bring him home—the mighty Mosquito.”

During McCaffrey's visit Erickson wore his brown service cap slightly canted to his right. The 654th Bombardment Squadron group photo taken over 70 years ago shows him wearing this cap in exactly the same fashion.

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