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# WELCOME

Nestled in the majestic Black Hills, Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, is 10 miles east of Rapid City and just outside of Box Elder. The base — home to the 28th Bomb Wing — is one of only two operational B-1B Lancer bases in the world.

Ellsworth is surrounded by numerous scenic sights. From the picturesque Badlands to the east, to the Black Hills in the west, to the grazing buffalo and pristine lakes of Custer State Park, this is a region of great natural beauty. Legendary sites such as the Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Crazy Horse Memorial, Fort Meade, historic Deadwood and Devils Tower are a short distance beyond the base's main gate. The area has a rich history that includes Crazy Horse, Sitting Bull, Gen. George Custer, Wild Bill Hickok, Calamity Jane and Jack "Crooked Nose" McCall to name a few.

Western South Dakota and the Black Hills offers a myriad of activities, especially for those who enjoy nature and the outdoors. Opportunities for fishing, boating, snow and water skiing, hunting, hiking and camping await those who appreciate being outdoors. Whatever the season, Ellsworth and the Black Hills can be a wonderful place to work and live.

# **POPULATION**

Ellsworth's population of approximately 6,700 includes military members, family members and civilian employees. The base's two closest neighboring cities are Box Elder with a population of approximately

9,300 and Rapid City with a population of more than 73,000. There are also about 3,800 military retirees in western South Dakota.

# **TIME ZONE**

The base and western South Dakota are on Mountain Standard Time.

# **OUICK TIPS**

This begins at your unit. Service members should report, with their sponsors, to the Rushmore Center and the 28th Force Support Squadron Customer Service section upon their arrival. Personnel will be in-processed and scheduled to attend the Right Start program or the First Term Airman Center, a mandatory briefing for all newly arrived service members designed to minimize the time and appointments needed to introduce them to the base and organization quickly. Spouses are welcome at Right Start and encouraged to attend. Right Start is at the Dakota's Club, 2838 Arnold Drive, directly behind the Shoppette. Bring all no-fee passports you may have if coming from an overseas location.

# **INCOME TAX**

There are income tax advantages associated with moving costs. Keep records and receipts on all expenses associated with a move (travel expenses; meals and lodging while traveling; meals and lodging while occupying temporary quarters; expenses attributable to the sale, purchase

or lease of a residence; etc.). Upon completing a move, see your organization's legal assistance officer who will help in preparing the proper tax forms. Many or most costs are deductible by using Internal Revenue Service forms 3903 or 3903F. Additionally, South Dakota does not have state income tax for residents.

# HOUSEHOLD GOODS SHIPMENT INFORMATION

Upon arrival, check with the Traffic Management Office regarding household goods or hold baggage shipped to Ellsworth. Call the office at (605) 385-5828/6597.

# **DRIVER'S LICENSE**

Nonresidents may operate a motor vehicle in South Dakota in accordance with general motor vehicle laws. Nonresident military personnel and dependents are exempt from South Dakota licensing requirements provided they keep their out-of-state operator's license current, properly claim legal residency in that state and the military sponsor remains on active duty. For more information, call the Department of Motor Vehicles at (605) 394-2912.

# **VEHICLE REGISTRATION**

There is no requirement for vehicles to be registered on Ellsworth AFB; however, all vehicles must have a valid state registration and be insured.

# **VEHICLE SAFETY — RULES OF THE ROAD**

Generally, all rules of the road applicable to the operation of a motor vehicle on South Dakota roads apply on Ellsworth AFB. Unless otherwise posted, the speed limit on Ellsworth is 25 mph. On streets in the housing areas, the speed limit is 15 mph and 10 mph in parking lots. Remember, the speed on the flight line is 15 mph in aircraft parking areas and on the access roads

The use of radar detectors or jammers is prohibited on Ellsworth and all other Department of Defense installations. It is legal to possess such devices in South Dakota; however, they must be turned off when driving on base.

The use of cell phones while driving is also prohibited; use of hands-free devices or Bluetooth technologies are allowed.

Open containers of alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the passenger compartment of any vehicle. Operating a vehicle on Ellsworth constitutes an implied consent to submit to a test for intoxication if requested, and refusal of testing will result in an automatic suspension

of base driving privileges. The consumed level of intoxication in South Dakota is 0.08 percent blood alcohol content.

### **FIREARMS**

South Dakota does not require registration of privately-owned firearms. Permits to carry concealed weapons are issued by the Pennington County Sheriff's Department for a nominal fee after completion of a background check. These permits, however, do not authorize an individual to carry concealed firearms on Ellsworth AFB. **Exception**: DoD officials and federal, state and local law enforcement officers are authorized to carry concealed weapons while performing official duties.

Privately-owned firearms, ammunition, fireworks and explosives are prohibited in bachelor living quarters and transient living quarters. People living in bachelor quarters are required to register their firearms with the 28th Security Forces Squadron, and are required, along with transient personnel, to store their firearms in the 28th SFS armory. People living in base housing are required to register their firearms through their unit commanders with the 28th SFS armory, and may keep their weapons and ammunition — not

to exceed 500 rounds — in their homes. Registration procedures and the list of prohibited weapons on Ellsworth AFB can be found in the Ellsworth AFB Comprehensive Protection Plan.

A privately-owned firearm may be transported in a trunk or other locked compartment of a vehicle, or within a gun case. The firearm must be unloaded while transported. The firearm may only be transported from the installation entry control point or authorized firing location, including the base firing and skeet ranges, to the place of authorized storage using the most direct route and with no stops along the route. Ammunition must be stored separately from the weapon (i.e., in the glove box or other storage compartment). **Exception**: Federal, state and local law enforcement officers are authorized to bear firearms on Ellsworth AFB while performing official duties.

# HOUSE HUNTING, PERMISSIVE TDY

For the purpose of securing nongovernment housing, personnel can take 10 days of permissive TDY from their current base and return for outprocessing, or take eight days after they check in with their new unit at Ellsworth. Contact your local personnel office and unit for details.





# 28TH BOMB WING

The 28th Bomb Wing, Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, is assigned to the 8th Air Force under Air Force Global Strike Command. The 28th Bomb Wing provides combat airpower — anytime, anywhere. Every world-class Airman is feared by our enemies and emulated by our allies. They set the standard of excellence with an unwavering focus on combat airpower. The 28th Bomb Wing is home to 27 B-1B Lancers, and in 2012, began flying MQ-9 Reaper missions.

The 28th Operations Group, the 28th Maintenance Group, the 28th Mission Support Group and the 28th Medical Group make up the 28th Bomb Wing. (See 28th Bomb Wing Organizational Chart on Page 7.)

The 28th Bomb Wing commander's staff consists of a vice commander, command chief master sergeant, director of staff, executive officer, secretary and administrative staff. The 28th Bomb Wing staff agency functions include the wing inspector general, historian, information management, protocol, public affairs, legal, chapel, equal opportunity, wing plans and programs, treaty compliance, safety, antiterrorism, information protection, sexual assault prevention and response coordinator, and the 28th Comptroller Squadron.

# 28TH OPERATIONS GROUP

The mission of the 28th Operations Group, whose motto is to "find and kill the enemy," is to provide combat-ready B-1B Lancer aircrews

for worldwide taskings, including conventional operations and power projection. Airmen in the 28th OG fly the B-1, plan and support combat operations, and develop deployment plans. Additionally, they manage the base airfield, radar approach control facilities and air traffic control tower. The group also includes a weather section, a life support flight, and flight and tower simulators.

The 28th OG Intelligence Flight provides current intelligence information and analysis ranging from strategic intelligence for the base's senior leadership to tactical-level intelligence required for combat aircrews.

The 28th OG has three squadrons under its umbrella: the 28th Operations Support Squadron, the 34th Bomb Squadron and the 37th Bomb Squadron.

# 28TH OPERATIONS SUPPORT SQUADRON

The 28th Operations Support Squadron supports all aspects of the 28th Bomb Wing's flying operations to include efficiently training for and conducting combat operations. A diverse squadron, the 28th OSS oversees airfield management, air traffic control, weather operations, intelligence analysis, combat crew communications, B-1 simulator training, aircrew flight equipment, aircrew flight records, the Belle Fourche Electronic Scoring Site, the Powder River Training Complex (PRTC) airspace, combat survival training, and weapons and tactics training.

The airfield operations flight manages and maintains the base's airfield and air traffic control operations for Ellsworth Air Force Base and Rapid City, South Dakota. This includes radar approach control (RAPCON) and the air traffic control tower. In 2008, Ellsworth launched the DoD's first noncontiguous RAPCON facility, the Dakota Air Traffic Control Facility, which controls airspace areas separated by more than 260 miles, including Rapid City Regional Airport, Ellsworth AFB, Minot Regional Airport and Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota.

The weather flight provides global weather information for all organizations on the base, including operations, maintenance and support.

The intelligence flight develops and oversees all intelligence requirements and scenario development for 28th Bomb Wing exercises, contingencies and wartime taskings. Additionally, the flight manages all aircrew and internal intelligence training in support of B-1 verifications, directs intelligence support for munitions integration and planning, and provides functional management for nearly 30 intelligence Airmen assigned within the 28th OG.

Combat crew communications manage all flight publications and secure communications to support B-1 training and combat missions.

The Mission Training Center operates and maintains two full-motion, state-of-the-art Weapons System Trainers, known as B-1 simulators, to support training for base aircrew. The simulators include the ability to virtually link to other simulators across the DoD to provide integrated multi-force training.



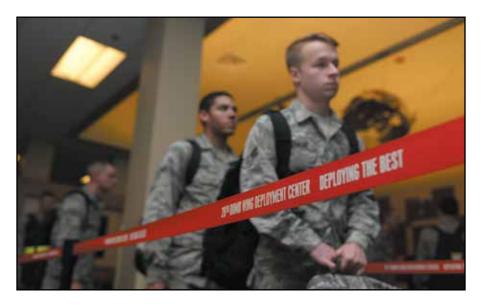
Aircrew Flight Equipment builds and maintains all mission-enabling and life-sustaining aircrew equipment, including night vision

goggles, harnesses, survival vests and aircraft ejection seat kits.

The PRTC is the largest military-use airspace in the continental U.S. When fully utilized, it can host Large Force Exercises where units can train together towards common goals and build upon strengths and weaknesses. The Belle Fourche ESS is located within PRTC and maintains and operates one of the Air Force's threat simulation sites, supporting training and combat readiness for units across the Air Force and the DoD.

The Wing Scheduling flight accomplishes long-range scheduling for the wing's B-1 aircraft, manages the wing's annual flying hour program, schedules and manages 28th Bomb Wing airspace and maintains flight records for more than 380 aircrew members.

The Weapons and Tactics flight is the wing's focal point for B-1 tactics, training and execution. The flight is responsible for ensuring wing combat readiness for worldwide operational taskings and planning and supporting combat







operations and deployments for two tactical B-1 squadrons. Additionally, it provides deployable planning and support teams for B-1 employment and maintains the ability to deploy worldwide and function autonomously at forward locations.

# 34TH BOMB SQUADRON

Known as the Thunderbirds, the 34th Bomb Squadron's mission is to defeat America's enemies across the globe at a moment's notice.

The history of the 34th BS dates back to World War I, when the U.S. Army organized the 34th Aero Squadron on June 11, 1917. During an assignment with the 17th Pursuit Group, the squadron became equipped with the P-12 biplane fighter. In 1935 and 1936, the squadron gradually transitioned from the P-12 and P-26 Peashooter to the A-17 and YA-19, which it kept until 1940 when it began flying the B-18 and the B-23 bombers.

On April 18, 1942, 34th BS crews famously flew the B-25 Mitchell from the deck of the *USS Hornet* with crews from the 37th Bomb Squadron and 432nd Attack Squadron during the Doolittle Raid against Japan. Throughout the war, the 34th BS flew bombing missions in the B-26 Invader overseas and returned to the U.S. in November 1945. The day after its





arrival, the squadron was inactivated. The 34th BS went through numerous activations and deactivations over its history. However, it was able to fly interdiction and close-air-support missions in Korea, transitioning to the B-57, the B-66, and then finally the B-52 Stratofortress.

When the unit moved to Ellsworth on April 1, 1994, it began flying the B-1. On April 1, 1997, the squadron moved again, transferring to Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. After the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States, the 34th BS was one of the first units to deploy overseas in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. On Sept. 19, 2002, the 34th BS moved back to Ellsworth from Mountain Home. As tensions rose in Iraq, the 34th BS deployed from Jan. 5 to May 15, 2003, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Southern Watch and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Since 2003, the Thunderbirds have completed numerous deployments in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Starting in 2007, the 34th BS entered a regular deployment schedule with other B-1 units, with one year at home station followed by six months deployed. On average, these deployments resulted in more than 6,000 combat hours and more than 500 combat sorties flown supporting overseas contingency operations. On March 27, 2011, the 34th BS flew the first B-1 combat mission launched from the U.S. to strike overseas targets when it participated in Operation Odyssey Dawn, flying nonstop from Ellsworth to strike targets

in Libya. The 34th BS recently deployed on Aug. 9, 2016, to Andersen Air Base, Guam, for the first B-1 deployment to the Pacific Command area of responsibility in 10 years, to support the Continuous Bomber Presence in the Pacific.

# 37TH BOMB SQUADRON

The 37th Bomb Squadron consists of approximately 70 personnel including aviators, intelligence, and aviation resource management Airmen. These Airmen enable the Tigers to remain on the leading edge of B-l employment in order to support combatant commander objectives worldwide.

The squadron is among the Air Force's most senior units. It began as the 37th Aero Squadron in June 1917, and served with the American Expeditionary Force in France during World War I. Here the unit primarily focused on training U.S. pilots to fly front-line pursuit aircraft such as the Avro 504-K, the Sopwith F-1 Camel, the DeHaviland DH-4, and the Nieuport 27.

During World War II, the squadron supported several different mission sets to include flying anti-submarine patrols, bombardment raids, and psychological operations. For a short time, the squadron served with the 28th Composite Group in 1940 and was later assigned to the 17th Bomb Group. As part of the 17th BG, the 37th BS participated in one of the most famous air raids of World War II, the Doolittle Tokyo Raid in April 1942. Three Tiger crews volunteered for the mission and



trained alongside Lt. Col. James H. "Jimmy" Doolittle in the B-25 Mitchell bombers that took off from the deck of the USS Hornet to strike targets on mainland Japan. At the conclusion of the Allied Campaign, the 37th BS was one of the rare units to participate in all three theaters of the war and attack all three Axis countries, Japan in 1942, Italy in 1943, and Germany in 1944.

After World War II concluded, the squadron deactivated. In 1950, the 37th BS reactivated as a night intruder squadron and transferred to Pusan Air Base, Korea. The 37th BS flew the B-26 Invader on night interdiction missions during the Korean War. The squadron "hunted at night, like tigers" and adopted its current patch, a Bengal tiger.

The 37th BS joined the 28th Bomb Wing at Ellsworth AFB, in 1977, flying the B-52 Stratofortress. On Jan. 1, 1987, the squadron transitioned to its current aircraft, the B-1B Lancer more commonly called the Bone.

In December 1998, the Tigers became the first unit to employ the B-1 in combat in support of Operation Desert Fox in Iraq. One year later, Tiger crews combined with the 77th Bomb Squadron, the War Eagles, for Operation Allied Force and flew combat missions in Kosovo and Serbia.

After the events of Sept. 11, 2001, the 37th BS again roared into action alongside their sister squadron, the 34th BS, and formed the 34th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron. Flying missions to Afghanistan, the squadron executed close-air-support and deliberate strikes in an

effort to remove the Taliban from power in Afghanistan. During this time, the combined squadron flew five percent of the strike missions but released nearly 40 percent of the total bomb tonnage or more than 1,730 tons.

In March 2003, crews from the 37th BS joined forces with their sister squadron once more to employ the B-l in action during Operation Iraqi Freedom whereby numerous combat missions were flown. One mission in particular

was moments away from striking key Iraqi government leadership who managed to slip away mere minutes before weapons impact.

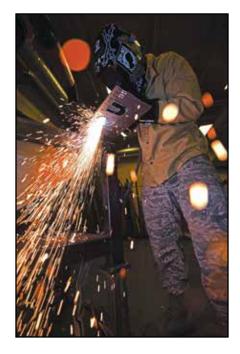
From 2007 through early 2016, the 37th BS accomplished regular deployments to the Middle East rotating among three B-1 combat units resulting in a deployment cycle of six months away and one year at home station. On average, the squadron flew more than 5,000 combat hours in approximately 500 combat sorties per deployment. In total, the squadron has deployed 11 times in support of enduring operations in the Middle East.

The Tigers completed their final rotation to the Middle East in January 2016. In six months, the Tigers supported on-call close-air-support and deliberate strikes on targets in Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan in support of Operations Inherent Resolve and Freedom's Sentinel. By the time the Tigers closed shop and the last jet lifted off for the long flight home, the squadron, with the support of the 37th Aircraft Maintenance Unit and the 28th Munitions Squadron, released 5,038 guided munitions accounting for 59 percent of the total tonnage released on Islamic State and Taliban militants. The squadron was instrumental in the liberation of the Iraqi cities of Ramadi, Sinjar and Bayji, and the Syrian city of Hasakah. To date, the Tigers released more ordnance than any other B-1 unit on a single combat deployment.









# 28TH MISSION SUPPORT GROUP

The 28th Mission Support Group provides mission-essential "city" services at home and combat support services to Airmen while deployed. The group provides essential services

for active-duty members, retirees, civilians and their families, including food services, security, vehicles, supplies, computer and telephone support, civil engineering, educational and recreational services, and personnel support. Six squadrons are under the 28th MSG umbrella: the 28th Civil Engineer Squadron, 28th Contracting Squadron, 28th Communications Squadron, 28th Logistics Readiness Squadron, 28th Security Forces Squadron and 28th Force Support Squadron.

# 28TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON

The 28th Civil Engineer Squadron provides the necessary assets and skilled personnel to prepare and sustain installations throughout the world, in times of war and peace. The squadron's dual mission is to provide quality home-station engineer services for rapid, decisive, sustainable combat support, anytime, anywhere. Additionally, the Prime Base Engineer Emergency Force (Prime BEEF) mobility teams stand ready to rapidly deploy anytime, anywhere to provide fully responsive engineer capabilities in support of our nation's contingencies. In addition to daily operations, Prime BEEF is responsible for maintaining, repairing, operating and helping the base or any installation around the world — with recovery before, during and after a peacetime or wartime disaster, or deploying a fully capable engineer force in support of contingency operations. This dual mission of war readiness and infrastructure maintenance is accomplished with a combined military and civilian workforce capable of rapid transition between missions.

Civil engineers support the installation and the Air Force mission by applying resources to accomplish required tasks in the following areas — readiness and emergency management, real property maintenance and accountability, utility services, minor construction, fire protection, explosive ordnance disposal, disaster preparedness, environmental protection, nonreal property services, and technical and management services.

The squadron consists of six flights: Engineering, Fire Protection, Installation Management, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Readiness & Emergency, and Operations.

# 28TH CONTRACTING SQUADRON

The mission of the 28th Contracting Squadron is to provide agile contracting support and business advice to Ellsworth and combatant commanders. The squadron consists of three flights:





The LGCA Acquisition flight provides contract support for commodity and service requirements. The flight oversees \$40 million in recurring service contracts, \$7 million in medical support personnel contracts, \$9 million in utilities, and an additional \$15 million in commodity purchases.

The LGCB Acquisition flight provides construction and related support to the 28th Civil Engineer Squadron. The flight oversees \$30 million and more than 100 annual requirements for construction and direct support to the 28th Bomb Wing and Ellsworth tenant units.

The LGCP Plans and Programs flight supports the base's contract Quality Assurance Program, Government Purchase Card program and Contracting Systems Support activity. The Quality Assurance Program coordinator ensures contract compliance on 14 major service contracts in a \$37 million portfolio. The government purchases a total of \$10 million in annual expenditures. This flight is also responsible for maintaining the unit's procurement database and web-based systems. The purchase card coordinator oversees nearly 200 managing accounts, 300 cards and 10,000 GPC activities.

In addition, all three flights collectively carry out congressionally mandated socio-economic programs through small business outreach events and by awarding contracts to businesses in several small business categories. Each year,

the squadron awards more than \$20 million to small businesses, which amounts to nearly 90 percent of available contract dollars. The squadron also contracts with a local Ability One contractor for another \$10 million annually, which provides jobs for people with severe disabilities. Through these programs, 28th CONS not only complies with the law, but also serves as a good community partner.

### 28TH COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON

The 28th Communications Squadron's vision to set the cyberspace standard of excellence

for the Air Force is summarized by its motto: Wired for War. The squadron provides combat-ready Airmen in support of warfighter requirements while developing cyberspace professionals focused on world-class customer support to all units assigned to Ellsworth AFB.

The squadron consists of two flights — the Operations flight and Plans and Resources flight — as well as a command section and Policy and Evaluations section.

The Operations flight consists of five sections:

- The Infrastructure Systems section manages network connectivity and sustains the base's long-haul communications circuits.
- Knowledge Operations Management supports Ellsworth with enterprise information management, records management, knowledge management and SharePoint content management functions. The Airmen of the section also manage the wing publications and forms programs, and oversee the wing Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act programs.
- The Cyber Systems Operations section sustains servers that make technology work and continue to work for Ellsworth personnel. Be it network services, BlackBerry support, applications, file storage, firewalls or anti-virus updates, the Airmen in CSO touch every user on a daily basis.
- The Airmen of the RF Transmissions section sustain numerous radio systems and the base "Giant Voice" emergency broadcast network in addition to providing public address system support. They also









maintain the base Land Mobile Radio (LMR) network and personal wireless communication systems. The Client Service Center has three missions vital to both daily information technology user services and mission systems maintenance. The heartbeat of the squadron, the Communications Focal Point maintains systems and personnel status. It also directs corrective actions in a timely manner by interfacing with external agencies' users and production work centers. The technicians provide desktop touch maintenance support along with installing and configuring software, operating systems and applications. Finally, Computer Systems Management provides cradle-to-grave management and accountability of the entire wing's IT equipment. The Operations Flight also manages base postal activities.

• The Plans and Resources flight is a small but dynamic flight with three unique and vital missions. The Plans Office provides short- and long-range communications and information planning for Ellsworth. The Wing Cybersecurity Office provides base-level cybersecurity services while managing programs which include Communications Security, Cybersecurity and TEMPEST, as well the Cyber Awareness and Electronic System Security Assessment Notice and Consent programs. Finally, the Force Development office is the central point for all training, readiness and deployment management.

The 28th CS command section includes the squadron commander, superintendent, first sergeant, secretary and unit program coordinator. The Policy and Evaluations section ensures quality maintenance and other functional area support services through evaluation, deficiency identification and trend analysis.

# 28TH LOGISTICS READINESS SQUADRON

The mission of the 28th Logistics Readiness Squadron is to provide responsive, reliable and sustainable logistics support anytime, anywhere. The squadron is made up of more than 340 professionals separated into four flights and two sections. These professionals provide support to 39 wing and tenant units with mobility readiness and operations, vehicle operations, vehicle and equipment maintenance, personal property and cargo shipments, fuel storage and distribution, supply and equipment accountability, and the war reserve materiel program, as well as maintaining B-1 spares packages and aircraft parts.

The 28th LRS Deployment and Distribution flight is the single wing authority for receiving, storing and shipping Department of Defense supplies and equipment, handling more than 20,000 different commodities valued in excess of \$174 million. The Airmen of the section manage the base U-Drive-It fleet, buses and DV vehicles. Additionally, the Deployment and Distribution flight is the wing contact for war reserve materiel management, deployment planning, training and execution, base and expeditionary support planning, sustainment,

redeployment, mobility bags, small arms weapons and wing support agreements management. This flight also manages air terminal operations, as well as provides logistics readiness deployment training for all installation personnel to carry out deployment tasks.

During contingency operations, the Deployment and Distribution flight provides wing command and control through the Deployment Control Center and the Installation Deployment Readiness Cell. The Deployment and Distribution flight is also responsible for arranging the movement and storage of personal property and providing ticketing for official travel of DoD passengers. This is the flight to contact upon arrival at Ellsworth to arrange for delivery of household goods.

The squadron's Materiel Management flight receives, stores, inventories and issues all stock listed materials for the wing. It is the focal point for all supply issues and the base-level liaison for all equipment matters. Additionally, the Materiel Management flight manages six B-1 mobility ready spares kits — valued at more than \$300 million — that are postured for deployment at a moment's notice. It also accounts for all wing mobility bags and deployable small arms valued at more than \$12 million. Lastly, the 28th LRS Materiel Management flight ensures all repairable parts get processed and routed to the proper repair facilities and briefs the 28th Maintenance Group commander and 28th BW commander daily on aircraft MICAP status.

The Management and Systems section provides the training, resources and systems required to ensure the efficient and effective operation of squadron processes. It is the primary liaison between base customers and the regional supply squadron. The flight provides interface with internal and external customers and monitors performance to ensure quality service and accountability.

The 28th LRS Vehicle Management flight is the single authority and source for maintenance and management of the installation's 630-motor vehicle fleet. The 28th LRS assigns, accounts for and maintains vehicle assets so they are safe, efficient and environmentally sound to meet the wing's needs.

The Fuels flight mission is to ensure more than 18 million gallons of quality petroleum products, cryogenics fluids and missile propellants are acquired or produced and issued safely and efficiently to using organizations annually.

# 28TH SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON

The defenders of the 28th Security Forces Squadron, whose motto is "Defender's conquer all," provides integrated defense and combat capability for Ellsworth Air Force Base, the U.S. Air Force, the DoD and combatant commanders worldwide. Whether at home station or forward deployed, members of the 28th SFS provide an impenetrable umbrella of force protection encompassing all personnel, property and resources.

The squadron is divided into five flights that handle: support staff functions (S1), ground intelligence and investigations (S2), operations and training (S3), logistics (S4), and plans and programs (S5). These staff agencies perform such roles as planning, equipping, training, directing and evaluating mission-related activities and personnel assigned to the 28th SFS. The staff also provides base support, including crime prevention, resource protection, criminal investigation and intelligence, incident reporting, visitor control, pass and registration, anti-terrorism, and reports and analysis.

Integrated defense is achieved through security patrolling, community policing, military working dog teams, a base-wide camera and alarm network, and strict installation access control. These functions work around the clock to ensure protection of the base populace and mission-critical resources. Patrols maintain an excellent relationship with the public by making contact with the base populace while on patrol in an effort to better understand their concerns about law enforcement issues.

The 28th SFS military working dog section not only provides explosive and drug detection capabilities to the base but also assists local civil authorities, as needed.

# 28TH FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON

The 28th Force Support Squadron provides services to Ellsworth's active-duty members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and their families. The 28th FSS includes the following flights: Airman and Family Services, Community Services, Force Development, Manpower and Personnel, and Sustainment Services. These flights, each with a distinct mission, combine to provide important support services to the Ellsworth community.

Following is a list of facilities and programs the 28th FSS operates and maintains for Ellsworth Airmen and their families:

- Installation Personnel Readiness
- · Military and Civilian Personnel Programs

- Manpower and Organization
- Raider Café Dining Facility
- Fuel Pit Kiosk
- Bellamy Fitness Center
- Pride Hangar
- Pine Tree Inn and Aspen Lodging
- Airman and Family Readiness Center
- Child Development Center
- Family Child Care and Youth Programs
- Education and Training Section
- · Holbrook Library
- Professional Development
- Airman Leadership School
- Arts and Crafts Center
- Auto Hobby Center
- Bandit Lanes Recreation Center
- Dakota's Club (Co-located Club)
- · Golf Course
- Marketing
- Outdoor Recreation
- Cedar Lodge Recreation Lodging
- Family Camp (FamCamp)
- Base Theater
- Base Honor Guard
- Mortuary Affairs

# **Military Personnel**

The squadron's Military Personnel Section is in the Rushmore Center, 1000 Ellsworth St., Ellsworth Air Force Base. The MPS includes the Force Management, Customer Support and Career Development sections, which provide many services, including issuing identification cards, assignments, promotions and re-enlistments. The Virtual Resource Center is on the second floor, and the customer service section is on the first floor. To reach them, call (605) 385-1286 or DSN 675-1286.

### **Civilian Personnel**

The Civilian Personnel section provides services for approximately 530 civil service positions. Most jobs are in the logistics, medical and support areas. About one quarter of the jobs serviced are wage grade (blue collar) and the rest are general schedule (white collar). Turnover in civil service jobs is somewhat limited.

Employment opportunities are best for persons already in civil service. Employment information can be obtained at www. afciviliancareers.com or by calling their information line at (800) 525-0102.

The Defense Commissary Agency, Base Exchange and nonappropriated fund jobs are serviced by their own personnel offices. Additional information can be obtained by reviewing announcements and talking with

staff members in their respective personnel offices 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

### Manpower

Located in the Rushmore Center, the Airmen in this section provide manpower and organization services to the 28th Bomb Wing and its subordinate units. This section's goal is to assist in determining the most efficient and effective use of manpower resources through development and application of objective manpower standards, Management Advisory Studies, Continuous Innovation Enhancement Programs and other manpower and organization activities.

#### **NAF Human Resource Section**

The Human Resource Section is dedicated to the nonappropriated fund personnel needs of the squadron. The 28th FSS employs approximately 200 nonappropriated fund employees in a variety of areas, including crafts and trades, administrative and technical positions.











Transition assistance personnel and military spouses who accompany their sponsor to Ellsworth have preference for job referrals. The human resource office staff may be contacted at (605) 385-2465 or DSN 675-2465. Employment information is found at www.nafjobs.org.

# **Airman and Family Readiness Center**

The Air Force realizes there is a direct correlation between a member's quality of life and their ability to successfully accomplish the mission. The Airman and Family Readiness Center is the focal point for personal preparedness and quality of life enhancement. The A&FRC is open to all active-duty members, DoD civilians, retirees and their families. The A&FRC collaborates with base agencies to help foster a sense of community, family adaptation, and personnel and family readiness. Its team of consultants and technicians serves as liaison to squadrons to help identify and resolve quality-of-life issues for individuals and families. The A&FRC has an extensive information and referral network to help individuals connect to the right resource.

The A&FRC promotes resiliency in both the individual and family. These services may be direct or indirect with emphasis on readiness and retention. Some activities and services A&FRC performs include the following:

- Readiness prepares individuals and families for separation and offers preplanning and support during deployments, temporary duty assignments or remote tours, and reintegration.
- Personal and Family Financial Readiness strives to help customers maximize their purchasing power, improve their standard of living, reduce stress and anxiety during financial crisis, and increase resiliency.
- Personal Work Life provides comprehensive individual and family assessments, skills-development classes, support groups and activities that assist families in adapting to the military lifestyle.
- Employment works with individuals either one-on-one or in a group with career planning, job search workshops and job referral networks. The Volunteer Program functions as the base community's focal point for utilizing the President's Volunteer Service Award program. Air Force Aid Society offers assistance during emergencies in the form of interest-free loans and grants. Additional services include Give Parents a Break, Child Care for Volunteers,

Child Care for permanent change of station (inbound or outbound, 20 hours per child and open to all ranks), Car Care Because We Care, Respite Care and Bundles for Babies.

- · Relocation Assistance provides individualized assistance, training, information and referral to inbound and outbound personnel and their families.
- Special Needs works with individuals enrolled in the Exceptional Family Member Program through partnerships with the base medical treatment facility, assignments section, youth center and child development center.
- The School Liaison Office helps connect parents, schools and the military by providing direct assistance to parents in all matters to do with kindergarten through high school students.
- Transition Assistance equips separating and retiring military and civilian personnel and their families with the skills and knowledge necessary for a smooth, successful transition into the private sector.
- · Casualty Assistance assists family members of deceased active-duty personnel and retired military members from all branches of service.
- Air Force Wounded Warrior ensures wounded, seriously ill and injured Airmen requiring long-term medical care or a medical or physical evaluation receive

nonmedical services, reintegration and transition support.

• Air Force Families Forever ensures family members of deceased Airmen are provided with immediate and long-term bereavement care, service and support.

# **Education and Training Section**

The Education and Training Section has educational information ranging from high school remediation to graduate-level courses. National American University and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University offer degree programs on-base. Several other schools are available in the nearby area, in addition to military-friendly colleges available online.

Adult continuing education, including English as a second language and the GED high school equivalency certificate, is offered through the Career Learning Center in Rapid City. Western Dakota Technical Institute provides a variety of vocational-technical programs such as mechanics, drafting and medical fields. The Oglala Lakota College offers twoand four-year degrees with majors that include education and Native American studies.

NAU offers on-base classes ranging from an associate to a master's degree. It has an extended campus on-base to serve the needs of military and civilian students within the Rapid City area. Most classes are conducted on base and carry resident credit. NAU is also the on-base national testing center for CLEP and DSSTs.

The South Dakota School of Mines and Technology campus is in Rapid City. The school is nationally recognized, with a full range

pre-health. Courses are scheduled primarily during the day with some evening classes available. The University of South Dakota and South Dakota State University have a combined nursing school near the SDSM&T campus, with course work from the two-year level through a master's degree, including nurse practitioner.

The Black Hills State University in Rapid City houses six state schools (BHSU, SDSU, USD, DSU, NSU and SDSM&T), offering a variety of degrees and programs.

The Base Education and Training Center offers professional counseling and guidance, including information on Air Force tuition assistance, GI Bill benefits, financial aid programs and choosing career or education goals. College offices, both on and off base, also provide advisement and assistance. Resources are also available at the base library.

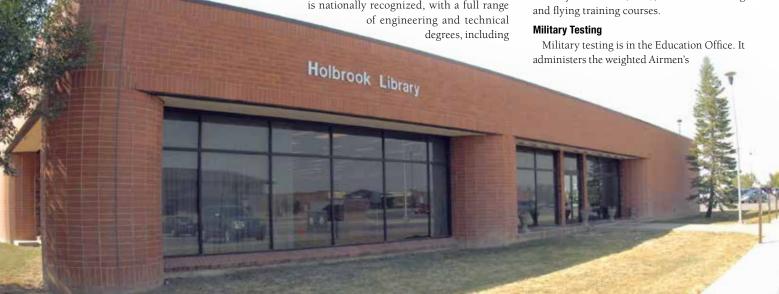
Counseling services are available by calling (605) 385-2308 or DSN 675-2308 or by visiting the offices in the Rushmore Center, Suite 2500.

#### **Civilian Training**

This office is responsible for all newcomers and follow-up training required for civilians assigned to Ellsworth Air Force Base. Annually organizations can request training for their civilian employees.

# **Formal Training**

Formal Training is in the Education Office. The Formal Training office is responsible for the oversight of all Air Force directed and funded formal military training. Examples of these trainings are in-residence professional military education (PME), technical training









promotion exams, Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB), Defense Language Aptitude Battery, Defense Language Proficiency Test, Air Force Officer Qualification Test, Test of Basic Aviation Skills, Tailor Adaptive Personality Assessment System and Electronic Data Processing Test.

# **Holbrook Library**

The Holbrook Library is open to all active-duty members and their dependents, retirees and DoD civilians and their dependents. Students enrolled in classes through the Base Education Office also have access to the library and its resources.

The library's collection of 51,000 items includes best sellers (fiction and nonfiction), children's books, young adult books, the United States Air Force Chief of Staff Reading List, travel info, audio books and South Dakota history. Additionally, the library subscribes to many periodicals and newspapers, covering subjects from finance to woodworking.

Approximately 1,500 educational and recreational DVDs in the audiovisual collection, along with a collection of CLEP and

DANTES study guides. The library's Online Public Access Catalog is available 24/7 to all patrons at www.ellsworthfss.com/recreation/holbrook-library. Twenty personal computers are available for research, email and other internet browsing. There are four NIPR computers, and all computers are common access card accessible. The reference collection includes a wide variety of materials, which support on-base and distance education programs and courses. Items (print or audio) obtained through our Interlibrary Loan Program may be checked out for two weeks then must be returned to the loaning library.

Electronic resources include Overdrive (e-reader materials, fiction audio, music, video and nonfiction), research databases (EBSCO and GALE) and language materials provided online by Transparent Language. Test preparation materials (CLEP and DANTES) and Tutor. com are also available.

Holbrook Library also houses the ZINIO Online database which has 650 e-reader magazines, all current and past issues (from Newsweek to Knitting). A scanner is available for customer use; the library provides free printing (up to 10 pages per visit). Five iPad Airs are available for active-duty member's use and



checkout. Children have access to five Amazon Fire HDs for in-house use only.

Little Warrior's Story Time is for our youngest readers, and a summer reading program is available for children and adults during school vacation. For more information, call (605) 385-1688 or DSN 675-1688.

# **Professional Development Section**

Providing a range of services helping Airmen prepare and enhance their career is the mission of the Professional Development Section. Services provided by this section are the career assistance advisor, all enlisted professional enhancement courses and the First Term Airman Center. The Career Assistance Advisor (CAA) is available to assist Airmen with all matters concerning their military career. Advisors provide information and assistance to Airmen throughout their military career, whether they are looking into a new Air Force specialty code or are trying to decide whether to continue serving or to separate.

The Professional Development Section offers professional enhancement through the NCO Professional Education (NCOPE) and the Senior NCO Professional Education (SNCOPE) course providing NCOs with a bridge between



their professional military education schools. The PE courses ensure NCOs are provided with continuing education in the areas of leadership, communications and the profession of arms.

For all new first-term Airmen arriving on station, FTAC serves as a transition from the systematic and regimented training environment into the operational, hands-on employment of the skills, knowledge and training gained from technical school. For more information, call (605) 385-2367 or DSN 675-2367.

# **Airman Leadership School**

The mission of the ALS after school is to prepare senior Airmen for positions of greater responsibility by broadening their leadership and managerial capabilities. The school is in the Samuel O. Turner Professional Military Education Center and is fully equipped to support the five-week course. The ALS faculty stands ready to instruct as many as 48 students per class, producing an average of 256 graduates each year.

ALS is an Air Force educational program implemented at the base level that prepares senior Airmen for positions of greater responsibility. It provides many of the leadership skills required of supervisors and reporting officials throughout the Air Force. ALS enhances the development of senior airmen by strengthening their ability to lead, follow and manage while they gain a broader understanding of the military profession.

The ALS program consists of 164 hours of primarily guided discussion classroom methodology, experiential activities and exercises, and case studies. The Community College of the Air Force grants college credits for course completion. The course consists of five Air University core areas: profession of arms, warfare studies, leadership studies, international security studies and communication studies. The administrative and commandant's time round out the course. For more information, call (605) 385-1680 or DSN 675-1680.

# The Raider Café Dining Facility

The Raider Café is part of the Food Transformation Initiative (FTI) partnering Airmen with Sodexo contracted chef and personnel to provide a wide variety of options to include made-to-order breakfasts, entrees, UFood grill, sub-style deli, "Simply to Go," soup, salad bar and smoothies. Breakfast is served from 6 to 9 a.m., grab-and-go is available from 9 to 10:30 a.m., lunch is served from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., grab-and-go is available from



1:30 to 4:30 p.m., dinner is served from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. and midnight meal is served from 11 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., Monday through Friday and open until 1 a.m. on Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

# The Fuel Pit Flight Line Kiosk

The Fuel Pit Flight Line Kiosk, serving nearly 500 customers daily, mainly focuses on flight line personnel convenience; however, it is also open to the entire Ellsworth community. The facility is open from 11 p.m. Sunday through 8 p.m. Friday and offers four hot meals daily. "Simply to Go" meals are available between hot meal periods. Flight meals should be ordered at the Raider Cafe dining facility.

The Fuel Pit is within the 34th Bomb Squadron at 1899 Bergstrom Drive, Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, 57706.

For more information, call (605) 385-3663 or DSN 675-3663 or visit www.usafdining-ellsworth.catertrax.com.

### **Bellamy Fitness Center**

The Bellamy Fitness Center is equipped to meet the needs of physical fitness enthusiasts, sports participants and individuals interested in obtaining or maintaining a healthy and fit lifestyle. The center serves active-duty members, retirees, DoD civilians and their families. Fitness center staff offers 70 classes monthly, conducts special events monthly and offers eight intramural/

recreational sports cores while serving an average of 675 customers daily. The fitness center features the new Fitness on Demand KIOSK systems, a state-of-the-art weight and cardiovascular room, three racquetball courts, two Wally ball courts, two basketball courts, an indoor running track, a group exercise room, a parent-child workout room, steam and sauna rooms, and 24/7 fitness access for eligible customers who register.

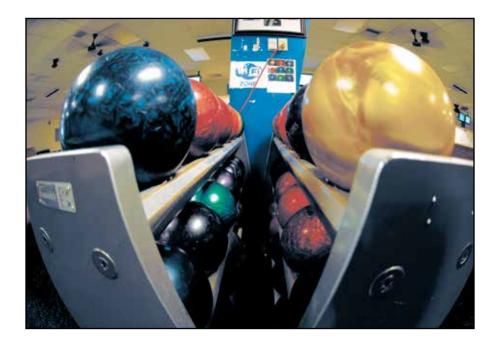
The Bellamy Fitness Center also provides management oversight of the 60,000-square-foot Pride Hangar fitness complex. This large-scale facility is geographically separated from the main center and encompasses an indoor, artificial turf athletic field and a four-lane collegiate running track. The facility was recognized as the 2012 Best Fitness and Sports Program and earned a five-star rating for demonstrating superior achievement in the areas of operations, programs, training, facilities and customer service. For more information, call (605) 385-2266 or DSN 675-2266.

# Pine Tree Inn

The Pine Tree Inn lodging operation manages 69 bed spaces/hotel rooms for all incoming and outgoing PCS personnel and provides lodging for transient military members. The hotel has a business center in the main facility and wireless internet available for all guests.







Visitors must check-in at the Pine Tree Inn, which is the main building of the Ellsworth lodging operation.

Four pet-friendly temporary lodging facility (TLF) units are available. Due to heavy demand for lodging accommodations from June through August, it is strongly recommended to make lodging arrangements through the reservations desk at (605) 385-2844 or DSN 675-2844.

# **Bandit Lanes Recreation Center**

Bandit Lanes features 16 Brunswick lanes, a snack bar and a pro shop. Competitive leagues bowl almost every night except Saturday. Saturday nights, cosmic bowling is open for all base members. Parties may also be reserved for cosmic bowling. Open bowling is available every day and features special pricing. Special events are offered periodically. Ellsworth has active men's, women's and youth associations, which sponsor events throughout the year. The snack bar offers a complete breakfast, lunch and dinner menu. The pro shop provides a complete line of bowling items, including balls, bags, shoes and a large selection of bowling aids. Co-located are community center activities for young military members, including a video game room with PlayStation, Xbox and Nintendo consoles. Pool tables, dart boards, a foosball table and a pingpong table are free to use, offering opportunities for participation in leagues and tournaments. There is a lounge with a big-screen television and a limited number of videos. Wi-Fi is available in

the facility. The center was selected 2008 ACC Bowling Program of the Year. For more information, call (605) 385-2536 or DSN 675-2536.

# Dakota's (Co-located Club)

Dakota's is an all-ranks club with separate lounges for enlisted and officer personnel. A Friday night social hour offers many drink specials. The club has a buffet and full menu for lunch Monday through Friday. Regular programs include family events, Texas Hold'em games, Wednesday Trivia night, Friday social hours, Friday night dinner and musical entertainment. The club has a large ballroom area that seats 300 people. It can be reserved for official and personal functions. Catering is also available.

Membership is available to all ranks and civilian equivalents. For more information, call (605) 385-1764 or DSN 675-1764.

# **Prairie Ridge Golf Course**

Ellsworth's Prairie Ridge Golf Course is a regulation nine-hole facility that earned distinction as the 2007 Air Combat Command Golf Program of the Year. The course is outside the main gate and has a championship layout. It measures 3,400 yards and is a par-36 course. The pro shop offers name-brand equipment and apparel to suit any golfer's needs. Custom-made clubs and golf lessons are available upon request. The practice areas offer natural and artificial grass hitting areas. There are two practice putting greens and practice sand traps, as well as chipping and pitching areas. The golf course can be reached at (605) 923-4999.

# **Outdoor Recreation Program**

The 28th FSS Outdoor Recreation Program provides activities for Ellsworth residents



throughout the year. The activities are designed to introduce people to the outdoors through whitewater rafting, rock climbing, canoeing, horseback riding, skiing and backpacking. Programs include fishing tournaments, volksmarches, a boating safety course, hunting and fishing seminars, ski trips to Colorado and Montana, scenic trips through the Black Hills of South Dakota and Wyoming, whitewater adventures in Colorado and other activities throughout the year.

A small Information, Tickets and Tours counter offers discount tickets to several major attractions in the Midwest and West Coast. Tickets and Tours also has many brochures on local attractions. Tour buses provide trips to Deadwood, the Mall of America in Minnesota and seasonal excursions to various sporting events in the Denver and Minneapolis areas. South Dakota hunting and fishing licenses are also available.

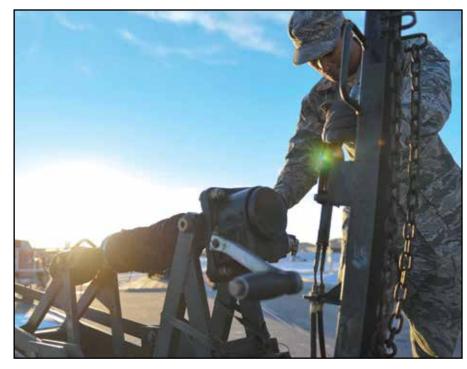
The staff also oversees FamCamp, located just inside the base's Patriot Gate. It's within easy walking distance of the Shoppette. Each site is equipped with water and electricity hookups as well as picnic tables and grills. On-site is an enclosed facility, which houses a laundry room and showers. Space is limited, and stays are limited to 30 days. Reservations can be made during the operating season.

A new addition to the Outdoor Recreation Program is Rec Lodge. This 48-room lodge offers many creature comforts including a spacious living room, bedroom with a queen bed, cable TV, full refrigerator, microwave, Wi-Fi access and free washer and dryers. It is conveniently located near the Shoppette and Dakota's Club. This facility is open year-round and reservations can be made at any time.

The skeet and trap range is north of the base firing range and is fully operational with two trap and two skeet ranges. Both intramural and recreational leagues are conducted throughout the year, as well as open times by appointment for a small fee per round. Rod & Gun Club membership is available, offering 24-hour access to the Doolittle Indoor Archery Range and the outdoor archery range just across the street from skeet and trap.

The staff also oversees the equipment checkout area, which features one of the widest varieties of rental equipment in the area, a 25-yard outdoor swimming pool with waterslide and kiddie pool, a 32-foot rock climbing wall in the Pride Hanger,











an 18-hole disc golf course adjacent the base lakes and a recreational vehicle outdoor storage area. To find out more about the outdoor recreation program, call (605) 385-2997 or DSN 675-2997.

# **Skills Development Center**

The Skills Development Center, selected 2012 Air Combat Command Program of the Year, houses the Auto Hobby Shop, the Arts and Crafts Center, and a special occasion gift shop in a single facility. Auto hobby enthusiasts have access to 14 stalls (four of which have hoists), two wash stalls, engine rebuild stalls, a welding stall and an outdoor RV. There is also a two-bay spray car wash. A wide variety of tools are available, as well as an experienced staff to assist customers.

Services available include tire balancing and rotating, brake drum and rotor turning, battery charging, air conditioning service, radiator repair and a pressure tank for cleaning auto parts. Customers may also use lube, oil and filter services. The center also offers wrecker service for road emergencies (for which there is a fee).

A store stocks related repair items, including oil, oil filters, gear lubes, transmission fluid and hose clamps. Other repair parts, automotive paint and body repair materials, as well as customizing parts, are available through the store by special order.

The Auto Hobby Center also manages the Resale Lot where vehicles can be placed for sale. Registration is required prior to displaying each vehicle. Contact the auto hobby center at (605) 385-2900 or DSN 675-2900.

Located in the same facility is the Arts and Crafts Center, which offers a full range of learning and advanced skills activities for the do-it-yourself hobbyist and crafts person. The frame shop provides instruction in measuring and fitting, glass-cutting, matting techniques and frame-cutting tools. For the not-so-adventuresome, custom orders are taken and a trained staff member can create a beautiful frame to complete a customer's artwork. A retail area in the frame shop features limited-edition prints by well-known artists. The Arts and Crafts Center staff can be reached at (605) 385-2901 or DSN 675-2901.

# Youth Center

The Youth Center offers many recreational activities for youth, including sports programs (basketball, T-ball and soccer), instructional classes (tae kwon do, piano and more) and drop-in activities (pool, foosball, ping-pong, electronic and table games, etc.). In addition, experienced staff members also provide science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) opportunities for youth.

Participants ages six to 18 years old must pay a small fee for all the activities that await them. A full-sized basketball court, extensive game room and monthly contests provide a recreational outlet for most youths. The Youth Center also has junior teen time and a standalone Teen Center offering a variety of fun, recreational and life skills building activities. The Youth Center offers a before- and after-school program, primarily for elementary students, during the school year. During the summer months, an exciting summer day camp program provides structured full-day care for elementary school students. Questions, concerns or inquiries may be directed to (605) 385-2277 or DSN 675-2277.

# **Child Development Program**

The Child Development Program offers activities for children 6 weeks old through 5 years old. The program is designed to promote the physical, social, emotional, intellectual and language development of children, while nurturing their self-esteem and creativity. A daily schedule ensures a healthy balance of all types of activities in each age group. The Child Development Center (CDC) participates in the USDA Child and Adult Food Program with menus posted in each area. Space is limited to 204 children, which includes contract full-day care and hourly care. Reservations for hourly care can be made up to one week in advance. Hours are 6:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Child Development Program at Ellsworth is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. For more information, call (605) 385-2488 or DSN 675-2488.

# **Family Child Care Program**

The Family Child Care Program is an alternative form of child care for children 6 weeks old through 12 years old. The program is designed to help ensure the health and safety of children in licensed day care homes. The licensed home care providers provide Returning Home Care and Extended Duty Care through specially funded programs to help military members meet the mission requirements while having their children in a quality child care program. Adults wishing to offer day care in base housing are required, by Air Force Instruction 34-144, to apply for licensing from the 28th Mission Support Group commander through the Family Child Care coordinator. Providing home day care without doing so could result in termination of base housing privileges. For information and specific requirements, call (605) 385-4270 or DSN 675-4270.

# 28TH MAINTENANCE GROUP

The 28th Maintenance Group is responsible for generating airpower for the 28th Bomb Wing. The group maintains fleet health and availability of 27 combat-coded B-1B Lancers, associated support equipment and munitions, supporting annual flying and training programs, as well as Joint Chiefs of Staff and contingency taskings. The group leads and manages the production of a 1,500-member workforce comprised of three squadrons and one flight with annual organizational maintenance and reparable support division budgets

exceeding \$91.5 million, aircraft and weapons valued at more than \$8.9 billion and real property worth \$332.5 million.

# 28TH AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE SOUADRON

The 28th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron is the largest squadron in the 28th Bomb Wing with more than 700 Airmen and contractors who maintain and support 29 B-1s. The 34th and 37th Aircraft Maintenance Units provide direct maintenance support to the 34th and 37th Bomb Squadrons at home and deployed, with maintenance equipment support from the Support Flight. The squadron performs all on-equipment maintenance, weapons loading and support activities, generating combat and flying training sorties for B-1 aircrews at home and around the world.

# 28TH MAINTENANCE SQUADRON

The 28th Maintenance Squadron combines avionics, aircraft systems and equipment maintenance, fabrication and non-destructive inspection capabilities into one squadron consisting of seven flights with more than 460 assigned personnel. The squadron has contract oversight of Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratories and Transient Alert activities and is responsible for all off-equipment maintenance and heavy repairs, supporting 29 combat-coded B-1s and related subsystems. The 28th MXS also manages the base's Crashed,

Damaged, Disabled Aircraft Repair program, which is responsible for a five-state area of operations. Finally, the squadron maintains approximately 660 pieces of aerospace ground equipment, as well as spare aircraft engines and engine test cell operations to support Joint Chiefs of Staff operational taskings.

**ORGANIZATIONS** 

# 28TH MUNITIONS SQUADRON

The 28th Munitions Squadron provides conventional munitions, armament systems and trained munitions personnel, supporting 29 B-1s assigned to the 28th Bomb Wing. The squadron consists of more than 250 professionals working in four flights supporting the 34th and 37th Bomb Squadrons and one National Guard unit. The squadron is responsible for 1,629 munitions line items worth \$259 million, 630,662 pounds net explosive weight, 89 facilities and a 647-acre munitions storage area.

# 28TH MEDICAL GROUP

The 28th Medical Group (MDG) provides outpatient medical care to active-duty members, retirees and their families. The medical professionals provide a wide range of services and programs, including a family health clinic, women's health clinic, optometry clinic, dental clinic, flight and operational medicine clinic, physical therapy clinic, health promotion office, mental health and public health clinic.









Ancillary services are provided through the pharmacy, laboratory, radiology, allergy and immunizations. The 28th MDG also provides veterinary services for routine vaccinations and treatment of minor illnesses for dogs and cats belonging to active-duty and retired military personnel through the veterinary clinic. The two squadrons that make up the 28th MDG are the 28th Medical Support Squadron and the 28th Medical Operations Squadron. The 28th MDG is closed for readiness training from 2 to 4:30 p.m. every third Wednesday of the month.

# ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PROGRAM

The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment (ADAPT) program office schedules, coordinates and conducts evaluations of active-duty personnel involved in substance abuse incidents. It also directly oversees and implements treatment plans with individualized regimens for all active-duty substance abuse clients. Such plans may include intensive outpatient rehabilitation and individual or group counseling sessions. The ADAPT program also conducts alcohol and drug education and awareness briefings at a variety of venues on and off base.

# BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OPTIMIZATION PROGRAM

The Behavioral Health Optimization Program (BHOP) is available to all beneficiaries within the primary care clinics as a part of overall good health care. The purpose of this service is to offer assistance when habits, behaviors, stress, worry or emotional concerns about physical or other life problems are interfering

with someone's daily life. The Internal Behavioral Health Consultant (IBCH) is a mental health professional who is embedded in the Family Health Clinic and adds another facet to your complete health care needs. To schedule an appointment with BHOP, call the appointment line at (605) 385-6700.

# DENTAL CLINIC

Routine dental care is available for active-duty members. Services include dental exams, cleanings, restorative dentistry (fillings), oral surgery, endodontics (root canals), crowns, bridges, treatment of gum disease and supporting structures. Family members may be seen on an emergency basis only, for relief of pain, and are strongly encouraged to enroll in the TRICARE Family Member Dental Plan. For more information, visit www.mybenefits. metlife.com or call (855) 638-8371.

# FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM

The Family Advocacy Program specializes in the prevention, evaluation and treatment of family maltreatment through three program components: Family Maltreatment, Outreach and the New Parent Support Program. The Outreach component provides education-based family-related programs to military personnel and their beneficiaries. Briefings are conducted for commanders, first sergeants, other base agencies and military personnel regarding family-related programs and services. Family education is offered through parenting classes, couples communication classes and support groups.

The New Parent Support Program offers a variety of educational and support services for

active-duty members and their beneficiaries who are expecting or who have children 36 months or younger. Limited marital and family therapy is available for active-duty members and their families who meet eligibility criteria.

The Family Maltreatment component provides both consultation and treatment to families involved in family maltreatment, as well as consultation to commanders and first sergeants regarding an active-duty member's involvement in a suspected or known case of family maltreatment, their subsequent treatment and prognosis, and safety issues of family members or victims.

During duty hours, call (605) 385-3660 for a Family Advocacy appointment or to report possible maltreatment.

# FAMILY HEALTH CLINIC

The Family Health Clinic provides acute, chronic and preventive care for enrolled beneficiaries. Walk-in hours (only for pregnancy tests, follow-up wart treatments and strep throat cultures) are 7:30 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. To make an appointment, see the below guidance under the "Scheduling an Appointment" section.

# FLIGHT AND OPERATIONAL MEDICINE CLINIC

The Flight and Operational Medicine Clinic is available to active-duty members on flying status and family members, ages 12 and older. The Flight and Operational Medicine Clinic also provides services for colonels and above, as well as chief master sergeants and their families.

# **HEALTH PROMOTION**

Formerly called the Health and Wellness Center (HAWC), the office offers Airmen and eligible base members resources and tools to lead a balanced, healthy and active lifestyle. We have evidenced-based programs to help members quit tobacco and maintain and/or lose weight. The health promotion office also offers a variety of physical activity classes. The Health Promotion team consists of the Health Promotion Manager and a Registered Dietician. For more information, call (605) 385-6250 or pick up a Health Promotion calendar at the Bellamy Fitness Center.

# **IMMUNIZATIONS**

Immunizations provides all adult and child-hood vaccinations. Aero Allergy testing is available by referral only.

# MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC

The Mental Health Clinic (MHC) provides a wide range of mental health services for all active-duty personnel and, when availability permits, family members of active-duty members, and retirees. The 28th MDG MHC provides mental health evaluations, consultations, individual treatment, couples counseling, group therapy and emergency intervention. The MHC conducts consultations for squadron commanders and first sergeants regarding active-duty members' treatment, prognosis and administrative status. In addition, the MHC provides education and awareness briefings on mental health topics at a variety of venues on and off base.

Mental Health services for family members of active-duty members, retirees and their family members are available through TRICARE. Contact United Healthcare Military & Veterans for TRICARE at (877) 988-9378 or visit www.uhcmilitarywest.com for a list of participating mental health providers in the local community and to learn how mental health benefits work. To schedule an appointment in the MHC, call the appointment line at (605) 385-6700. A primary care provider referral is not required. After duty hours, call (605) 385-6700.

# **PEDIATRICS CLINIC**

The Pediatrics Clinic provides acute, chronic and preventive care for enrolled beneficiaries. Walk-in hours (only for follow-up wart treatments, follow-up suture removal, and Strep throat cultures) are 7:30 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. To make an appointment, see the below guidance under the "Scheduling an Appointment" section.

# PHYSICAL THERAPY

Orthopedic musculoskeletal physical therapy services are available to active-duty and dependents on space-available basis.

# **PUBLIC HEALTH**

Public Health is open 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. It offers services to enrolled beneficiaries. Services address: deployments, occupational health, travelers medicine, entomology, food/public facility inspections and communicable disease control.

# SCHEDULING AN APPOINTMENT

During normal duty hours, the 28th MDG appointment line is (605) 385-6700, option 1. Phone lines are open 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.,

Monday through Friday for active-duty members and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. for non-active-duty members.

Appointments will be scheduled as follows:

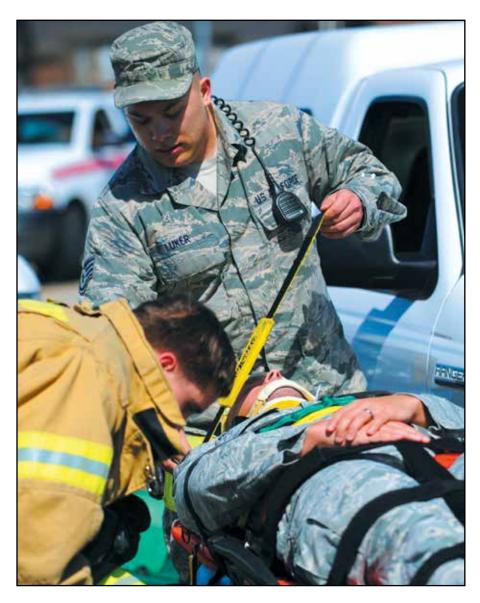
- Acute Care Scheduled or referred within 24 hours.
- Routine Care Scheduled within seven days.
- Well and Follow-up Appointments Scheduled within 28 days.

For routine and well appointments, personnel may receive a phone call with an audio and personal reminder two days prior to the appointment. If a person requires medical care downtown, such as with a specialist (e.g., orthopedist, audiologist, etc.) they should

contact their primary care provider prior to making an appointment. People who go to the specialist without contacting their primary care provider first may have to pay for that visit. If personnel or their family have a true medical emergency (defined as a threat to life, limb, eyesight or unrelieved pain) they should call 911 or seek care at the nearest medical facility. They should then contact their primary care provider as soon as possible to let them know why a visit to the ER was required and inform them if the ER physician wants the patient to see any civilian specialty provider.

**ORGANIZATIONS** 

For acute concerns that need intervention to prevent the deterioration of a person's health prior to the next duty day, call the after-hours







line at (605) 385-6700 to receive an urgent care referral. Retroactive urgent care referrals will not be made and must be attained prior to going to an urgent care facility.

# TRICARE

**Prime:** While mandatory for active-duty members, family members of active-duty personnel and retirees younger than 65 are encouraged to take advantage of this little-to-no-cost option. A primary care provider will be assigned to you, and your family and will work to ensure your overall well-being. If the type of care required is not offered by the primary care provider, he or she will refer you or your family member to a specialist in the TRICARE civilian network.

**Standard:** TRICARE Standard is available to family members and retirees. This option is more costly; however, it provides for greater flexibility when utilizing civilian providers.

**Extra:** Part of the TRICARE Standard option, TRICARE Extra offers a lower cost share when family members see TRICARE network civilian health care providers and facilities.

To determine which TRICARE plan is the right choice, visit www.uhcmilitarywest.com or call toll free (877) 988-9378.

**Importance of DEERS:** Much of the Military Health System's information concerning active-duty members, retirees and their families is retrieved from the Defense Enrollment

Eligibility and Reporting System (DEERS) maintained by the Military Personnel Element. Verify this information is accurate and up-to-date to ensure referrals and other health-related correspondence is sent to you in a timely manner; personnel should review their DEERS information for accuracy every three months.

# TRICARE BRIEFINGS

TRICARE offers many briefings to the beneficiary community, including newcomers' briefings, Heart Link briefings, Medical Right Start briefings, reunion briefings, pre-deployment briefings and various briefings at squadron commander's calls.

Beneficiaries should also sign up for email alerts with TRICARE by going to the Department of Defense Health Affairs web page at www.tricare.mil.

**Heart Link:** The Heart Link briefing is managed by the Airman and Family Readiness Center and is focused on family members.

**Medical Right Start:** This briefing is mandatory for all newly assigned active-duty members. Family members are highly encouraged to attend. It is offered once a month in conjunction with the 28th Bomb Wing Right Start program.

**Commander's Calls:** TRICARE is always available to brief at Commander's Calls to

update members on new TRICARE policies or services.

One of the first things Airmen should do when arriving at Ellsworth is enroll in TRICARE Prime at the 28 MDG. The TRICARE contractor for the TRICARE West Region is United Healthcare Military & Veterans. To enroll, call (877) 988-9378 or go to www. dmdc.osd.mil/appj/bwe.

### VETERINARY TREATMENT FACILITY

The Veterinary Treatment Facility is open 7:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Services include: wellness exams (vaccines, microchips, heartworm tests, etc.), sick call appointments, laboratory work, X-rays and anesthetic procedures including dental procedures (cleanings, extractions, etc.), spays, neuters and mass removals. This is not an emergency clinic. Clients will be referred to a 24-hour civilian veterinary clinic if more advanced care or after-hours care is in the best interest of their pet.

# **WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINIC**

The Women's Health Clinic provides routine and preventative gynecological care for women ages 14 to 64.

# Aerospace Medicine Flight Clinic

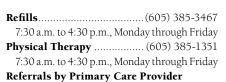
Appointments............ (605) 385-6700/3663, option 2, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, closed every Wednesday afternoon for training

**Diagnostic Imaging**......(605) 385-3444 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

# Family Health Clinic

**Appointments**......(605) 385-6700, option 2 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday





.....(605) 385-6700

# United Healthcare Military & Veterans

**Veterinary Clinic**......(605) 385-1589 8 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4 p.m., Monday through Thursday, 8 to 11:30 a.m. Friday

# TENANT UNITS

time zones

# 89TH ATTACK SQUADRON

The 89th Attack Squadron, the newest operational squadron at Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota, was reactivated Oct. 1, 2011. The 89th ATKS mission is to "find, exploit and neutralize the enemy." Aircrew in the 89th ATKS remotely employ MQ-9 Reaper aircraft from ground control facilities at Ellsworth in support of worldwide combatant commander requirements.

The lineage of the 89th ATKS dates back to 1917, where it was first organized as the 89th Aero Squadron operating out of Kelly Field, Texas. During World War I, the unit deployed to Colombey-les-Belles and Chatillon-sur-Seine, France. During this period the unit constructed facilities, maintained aircraft and trained observers in the "Zone of Advance."

The squadron was demobilized May 19, 1919, reorganized in 1936 as the 89th Observation Squadron, and later re-designated as the 89th Reconnaissance Squadron. Additionally, unit re-designations include: 432nd Bombardment Squadron (1942), 432nd Bomb Squadron (2007), 432nd Attack Squadron (2011) and 89th Attack Squadron (2016).

In 1942, the 89th Reconnaissance Squadron was one of four units assigned to the 17th Bombardment Group, from which several members were selected to fly the infamous "Doolittle Raid" on Tokyo, Japan. Additionally, the unit was awarded two Distinguished Unit Citations for action in Europe: Jan. 13, 1944, for action over Ciampino, Italy, and April 10, 1945, for action over Schweinfurt, Germany. Over the past century, the unit has employed several aircraft including the Brequet 14, B-18 Bolo, B-23 Dragon, B-25 Mitchell, B-26 Marauder and currently the MQ-9 Reaper.



The 89th ATKS continues a proud heritage of supporting the national security of the United States by providing combatant commanders with actionable precision reconnaissance capabilities for time-critical targets, air interdiction, close-air support and strike coordination.

### AIR FORCE FINANCIAL SERVICES CENTER

Opened Sept. 14, 2007, the Air Force Financial Services Center provides travel pay services and support to Air Force active duty and reserve personnel, as well as Department of the Air Force civilian personnel across the Air Force through the centralized processing of travel claims.

# AMERICAN RED CROSS

The Black Hills Area Chapter of the American Red Cross, at 1221 N. Maple Ave. in Rapid City, provides a broad range of services to military members, their families and the communities of western South Dakota. The staff works closely with the base Airman and Family Readiness Center and 28th Medical Group. Through the Services to Armed Forces program, the Red Cross offers assistance with emergency communications, personal and family coping skills, information referrals and advocacy for active-duty military members and their families. The Black Hills Area Chapter offers training courses including first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, automated external defibrillator use, baby-sitting and an array of disaster response courses for Red Cross volunteers. The local Red Cross also provides disaster response and relief throughout western South Dakota.

# DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY DISPOSITION SERVICES

The Defense Logistics Agency Disposition Services field office at Ellsworth is a satellite office. Central DLA offices are at Fort Riley, Kansas, and maintain administrative and operational responsibility for this site in South Dakota. The primary mission of DLADS is the receipt of all excess, surplus and recyclable property from Department of Defense activities in South Dakota. Redistribution of this property to the warfighters, federal government agencies, and authorized state and local recipients is the primary objective of DLADS.

# **DEFENSE SECURITY SERVICE**

The Defense Security Service, formerly known as the Defense Investigative Service, plays a crucial role in safeguarding our nation's security. As a Department of Defense agency, DSS makes its contribution to the National Security Community by conducting personnel security investigations, providing industrial security products and services, and offering comprehensive security education and training to Department of Defense and other government entities. To complement its three primary missions — the Personnel Security Investigations Program, the Industrial Security Program, and the Security Education, Training and Awareness Program — DSS offers the advantage of integrating counterintelligence into its core security disciplines through its training programs, policy development and operational support to its field elements.



# HOUSING

The Ellsworth Housing Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. During non-duty hours, current on-base information is available at www.ellsworth.af.mil and off-base housing information is available at www.HOMES.mil.

# **MILITARY FAMILY HOUSING**

The Ellsworth Housing Office is located at 299 Sturgis Ave., and government personnel are available 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. All housing on base is privatized, owned and managed by Balfour Beatty Communities (BBC) under the Military Housing Privatization Initiative. BBC personnel are co-located in the Housing Office, and are available 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday noon to 4 p.m. During non-duty hours, current base housing information is available at www.ellsworth.af.mil and www. ellsworthafbhomes.com. Homes and apartments for rent by local property managers can be viewed at www.HOMES.mil.

# PRIVATIZED BASE HOUSING

As of June 2016, privatized housing at Ellsworth AFB totaled 497 housing units. There are three separate housing areas on base:

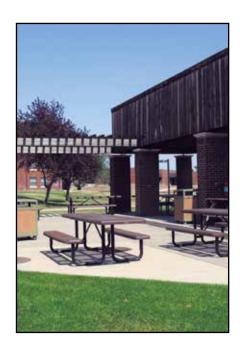
 Prairie View Estates, constructed in 2004, has 40 four-bedroom units and 60 three-bedroom units for junior enlisted.

- Rushmore Heights, constructed between 2006-2009, has 131 four-bedroom units for junior enlisted, 14 four-bedroom units for senior NCOs, 17 four-bedroom units for company grade officers, five prestige four-bedroom units for chief master sergeants, seven three-bedroom units and five four-bedroom units for field grade officers, and four senior officer four-bedroom units.
- Black Hills Estates finished construction in 2016, resulting in just under 500 housing units on the installation.

All active-duty military members who are eligible for basic allowance for housing at the "with" dependent rate are eligible for military family housing. To apply for housing, service members must complete both a DD Form 1746 (DoD Housing Application) and a BBC application for housing. We recommend inbound members contact BBC in advance of their arrival to start the application process or assigned members visit the Ellsworth Housing Office to begin the application process. BBC manages the waitlists, and all inquiries regarding status on the waiting list or approximate waiting times for housing can be answered by calling (605) 923-9000.

# **OFF-BASE HOUSING**

To assist newcomers or individuals looking for off-base housing, the DoD manages www.HOMES.mil where local property managers wishing





Ellsworth Housing

Office .....(605) 385-2570

# RUSHMORE & PRAIRIE VIEW

Diversified Services
Contracting ......(605) 923-5808

# **BALFOUR BEATTY**

Management Office .....(605) 923-9000



to market specifically to military members can list their properties. The listings contain information such as house size, location, pictures, pet requirements, cost, contact numbers, security deposits and lease terms. Government personnel at the Housing Office are available to assist both newcomers and assigned personnel with finding adequate off-base housing. Please call (605) 385-2570 to request a list of resources for finding suitable rentals, school links and other area information. The Fair Housing Act of 1968 makes discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin illegal in regard to sale or rental of most housing. Government personnel are tasked to address any suspected or validated violations of this law.

# **DORMS**

There are six hospitality suites available for single, unaccompanied Airmen (E-4 and below) who arrive at Ellsworth after normal



duty hours. Unaccompanied housing at Ellsworth is available for all single Airmen in the ranks of E-1 through E-4. Unaccompanied Housing Management hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Airmen dorm leaders can be reached at (605) 385-2567 during normal duty hours.

There are 742 rooms in six dormitories, all single occupancy. Each dorm has one game room (card and pool tables, dart boards), one kitchen, one laundry room and at least four TV rooms. High-definition cable and Wi-Fi are installed in each first-floor dayroom.

Individual dorm rooms are pre-wired for cable television, high-speed cable internet and phone; these services may be acquired through contract with a local vendor, Midcontinent Communications. Airmen dorm leaders can provide contact information and assist with questions regarding private communication services.





# **BASE COMMUNITY SERVICES**

# **COMMISSARY**

The base commissary is a modern, well-stocked facility, meeting the needs of active-duty members, retirees and their families. The store is at 2649 LeMay Blvd. Commissary hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday. The commissary is closed Mondays and holidays.

# **BASE EXCHANGE COMPLEX**

The Exchange is directly across from the commissary. The complex includes the main store, an optical shop, military clothing and sales, a barbershop and a beauty shop. A food court featuring a variety of eating establishments is also available.

The Exchange hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday. It is closed on holidays. Hours of operation for stores and shops within the complex vary.

# SHOPPETTE

The Shoppette, at 2932 Arnold Drive, has self-serve gas pumps, many convenience store items and a video rental service. Hours are 5 a.m. to 1 a.m. Self-service gas pumps are available 24/7 for credit or debit card transactions.

# THE B-ONE YARD

The B-One Yard combines the Base Thrift Shop and Airman's Attic, whose primary missions are to lend a helping hand to junior enlisted personnel. Both services are co-located. For more information, call (605) 385-5383.

# SENTINEL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Sentinel Federal Credit Union is connected to the main exchange. It's a full-service financial institution, here to meet the needs of military members and their families.

There is also a branch in Box Elder along Radar Hill Road and two branches in Rapid City. The credit union offers checking accounts with no monthly fees and no minimum balance; free ATM and debit cards; 24-hour phone and online banking; and a low variable rate Visa card with no annual fee. Stop by any branch, call (605) 923-1405 or 888-923-1400 or visit www.sentinelfcu.org.

Branch hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Drive-up service is available at the Box Elder and Rapid City branches 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. All offices are closed Sunday and holidays.

# CHAPEL

The Chapel Corps provides spiritual care and the opportunity for Airmen, their families and other personnel to exercise their constitutional

**BASE COMMUNITY SERVICES** 

right to the free exercise of religion. This is accomplished through religious observances, providing pastoral care and advising leadership on spiritual, ethical, moral, morale, core values and religious accommodation issues. The chapel staff coordinates a variety of Protestant, Catholic and Jewish activities; religious education classes; Bible studies; music programs; youth, men's, women's and singles' activities; and social and humanitarian projects.

Chaplains and chaplain assistants are visible reminders of the Holy. They make every effort to visit all base organizations regularly; offer spiritual and crisis counseling; and perform weddings and pre-marriage counseling, baptisms, funerals, dedications, invocations, communions and confirmations.

Ellsworth has two chapels: the Freedom Chapel at 1554 Ellsworth St. and the Black Hills Chapel at 1192 Foulois Drive. For schedules and information, call (605) 385-1598.



# **QUICK LIST**

# **EXCHANGE COMPLEX**







# **HISTORY**

# **ELLSWORTH AFB HISTORY**

A few short weeks after the attack on Pearl Harbor, a team of U.S. Army engineers arrived in Rapid City with plans to transform a barren plateau east of town into a new Army airfield. Surveying the landscape during that cold January in 1942, they could scarcely have imagined the long-reaching effect their work would have, both on the surrounding region and for the nation's defense over the next 70 years.

In a herculean effort, workers from around the area worked swiftly to construct facilities on land adjacent to the old municipal airport. The new Rapid City Army Air Base welcomed its first B-17 Flying Fortresses in September 1942. Col. Charles Oldfield was the first commander of the base, where the Combat Crew Training School soon provided qualified B-17 aircrews desperately needed for missions in the European theater.

From September 1942, when its military runways first opened, until mission needs changed in July 1945, the field's instructors taught thousands of pilots, navigators, radio operators and gunners from nine heavy bombardment groups and numerous smaller units. All training focused on the Allied drive to overthrow the Axis powers in Europe.

Like many of the bases that sprung up across the country during the war, Rapid City Army Airfield was originally intended to be a temporary facility "for the duration." The growing nuclear threat from behind the Iron Curtain, however, quickly established Rapid City in a new role

on the front lines of the Cold War. After World War II, the base briefly trained weather-reconnaissance and combat squadrons using P-61 Black Widow, P-38 Lightning, P-51 Mustang and B-25 Mitchell aircraft. Those missions soon ended and Rapid City Army Air Field temporarily shut down from September 1946 through March 1947. When operations resumed in 1947, the base was a new United States Air Force asset. The primary unit assigned to Rapid City Air Force Base was the new 28th Bombardment Wing — flying the B-29 Superfortress.

The installation changed names a few more times during its early years. In January 1948, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Carl A. Spaatz renamed it Weaver Air Force Base in honor of Brig. Gen. Walter R. Weaver, one of the pioneers in the development of the Air Force. In June of that year, in response to overwhelming public appeals, Secretary of the Air Force Stuart Symington returned it to its previous name. The base was declared a permanent installation in early 1948.

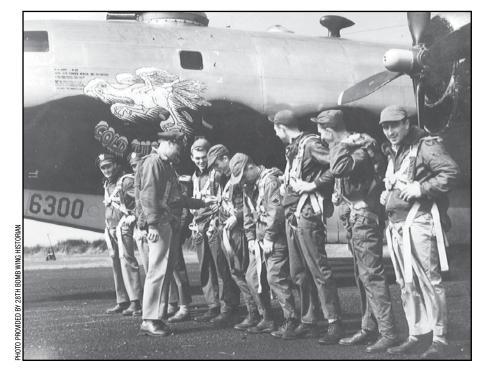
Shortly after additional runway improvements, in July 1949, the 28th BMW began conversion from B-29s to the B-36 Peacemaker. The massive B-36 Peacemaker, a 10-engine, nuclear-capable bomber dubbed the "magnesium overcast," is still the largest combat aircraft ever to see active U.S. Air Force service. This was a period of tremendous investment in base facilities, including the construction of the cavernous B-36 aircraft hangar — now known as the Pride Hangar — that remains

a regional landmark. In April 1950, the Air Staff reassigned the base from 15th Air Force to 8th Air Force.

It was also during this period that a tragedy provided the installation with its namesake. While leading a procession of RB-36s back to Rapid City following an exercise in England, Commander Brig. Gen. Richard Ellsworth and 21 other crew members of the 28th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing died in a crash over Newfoundland in March 1953. Three months later, President Dwight D. Eisenhower personally dedicated the newly renamed Ellsworth Air Force Base in honor of its fallen leader June 13, 1953.

Military organizations periodically upgrade manpower and machines to meet new national security requirements. The organizations on Ellsworth AFB have been no exception. Headquarters Strategic Air Command reassigned the 28th BMW from 8th Air Force back to 15th Air Force in October 1955. Approximately one year later, SAC set plans in motion to replace the 28th BMW B-36s with the new all-jet B-52 Stratofortress. The last B-36 left Ellsworth on May 29, 1957, and the first B-52 Stratofortress arrived 16 days later. In 1958, all base units came under the command of the 821st Strategic Aerospace Division, headquartered at Ellsworth.

The 1960s saw further expansion of Ellsworth's role as a pillar in our nuclear deterrent



strategy. In October 1960, Ellsworth entered the Space Age with the activation of the 850th Strategic Missile Squadron, initially assigned to the 28th BMW. For more than a year, this squadron prepared for the emplacement of Titan I intercontinental ballistic missiles, which finally arrived in 1962, shortly after

the activation of the 44th Strategic Missile Wing in January. At that time, Headquarters SAC also named the 44th SMW as host wing at Ellsworth.

Titan's life span was short in western South Dakota. In July 1962, SAC had effectively rendered it obsolete by activating the 66th Strategic Missile Squadron, the first of three such units slated to operate 150 Minuteman I ICBMs under the 44th SMW. The 67th Strategic Missile Squadron joined the 44th in August, followed by the 68th Strategic Missile Squadron in September 1962.

On June 1, 1971, SAC inactivated the 821st Strategic Aerospace Division. By October of that year, an upgraded Minuteman II also replaced earlier missiles. At its height, the 44th SMW consisted of three operational squadrons responsible for nearly 150 Minuteman II missiles. Ellsworth's missileers faithfully performed this difficult and often lonely duty for nearly 40 years, until the last missiles were taken offline in April 1994.

Throughout the Cold War, Ellsworth developed a reputation as "The Showplace of Strategic Air Command," standing guard with the dual nuclear deterrent of ICBMs and bomber aircraft. It carried out these vital missions from 1961 to 1994 with relatively little change. Then, the 1980s brought many new challenges.







# **HISTORY**



Two Titan I missiles stand ready to launch as a B-52 Stratofortress flies overhead.

#### **NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN**

In 1986, the base made extensive preparations to phase out the aging B-52 fleet and become the new home for the advanced B-1B Lancer. Contractors completed new unaccompanied enlisted dormitories in March, a new security police group headquarters in October and gave Ellsworth's 13,497-foot runway a much-needed facelift. In addition, they completed new aircraft maintenance facilities for the complex new bird. The last B-52H left in early 1986. In January 1987, the wing received the first of 35 B-1 bombers.

The 12th Air Division moved to Ellsworth on July 15, 1988. This organization was responsible for training B-1B, transient B-52 and the 28th BMW's KC-135 Stratotanker aircrews. Headquarters SAC activated a third wing, the 99th Strategic Weapons Wing, at Ellsworth on Aug. 10, 1989. This wing assumed primary responsibility for B-1B and B-52 advanced aircrew training.

Internationally, the destruction of the Berlin Wall in October 1989 symbolized the imminent demise of the Soviet Union over the next several months. During this transition, the Air Force also had to reshuffle its organizations and resources to meet the diminishing, although shifting, threat. Changes came quickly.

On Jan. 3, 1990, SAC redesignated the 812th Combat Support Group as the 812th Strategic Support Wing, which, for a short time, became Ellsworth's fourth wing. The 812th SSW consolidated all combat support activities into one organization. On July 31, 1990, SAC replaced the 12th Air Division with the Strategic Warfare Center, which provided operational command and administrative control over Ellsworth's subordinate units. Then, on Sept. 1, 1991, as

part of SAC's intermediate headquarters and base-level reorganization plan, SAC renamed the 28th BMW the 28th Wing, the 44th SMW the 44th Wing, and the 99th SWW the 99th Tactics and Training Wing. Ten days later, SAC inactivated both the SWC and the 812th SSW. Once again, the 28th became Ellsworth's host organization and it soon absorbed all previous 812th SSW functions. It was also during this period that, in acknowledgment of the elimination of the Warsaw Pact, the secretary of defense ordered alert operations to stand down. The decades-long Cold War was over.

On June 1, 1992, as part of the first major reorganization since the creation of the U.S. Air Force, the Air Force inactivated SAC and assigned Ellsworth's organizations (including a renamed 28th Bomb Wing) to the newly activated Air Combat Command. After less than a year under the new command, the wing's mission changed from that of strategic bombardment to one of worldwide conventional munitions delivery. The mission of the 99th Tactics and Training Wing (later to become the 99th Wing) also continued, albeit slightly modified to fit the requirements of the new force concept.

The 44th Missile Wing, however, had ably accomplished its deterrence mission. The wing permanently pulled the first missile from its silo Dec. 3, 1991. The first launch control center shut down April 6, 1992. Deactivation of the entire missile complex ended in April 1994. In keeping with its patriotic

Minuteman tradition, the 44th Missile Wing formally inactivated July 4, 1994.

In March 1994, Ellsworth welcomed the 34th Bomb Squadron, a geographically separated unit awaiting airfield upgrades before it could return to its parent organization, the 366th BW, at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. The 34th's B-1s were part one of the Air Force's composite wings, which also include F-15 Eagles, F-16 Fighting Falcons and KC-135s

Also during 1994, the Air Force selected Ellsworth as the exclusive location from which to conduct a congressionally mandated operational readiness assessment of the B-1B, known locally as "Dakota Challenge." After six months of hard work, under both peacetime and simulated wartime conditions, the 28th BW and Ellsworth passed the test "with flying colors" and proved the B-1 to be a reliable and capable weapons system — the mainstay of America's heavy bomber fleet for years to come.

In 1995, the 99th Wing also departed for a new assignment at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, although a small contingent formerly attached to that wing remained behind to continue bomber tactics training and radar munitions scoring from a handful of dispersed detachments. In the same year, one of Ellsworth's oldest units, the 77th Bomb Squadron, was inactivated. While the unit (as an administrative entity) departed to save Air Force dollars for development of new follow-on B-1 munitions, the organization's aircraft remained at



The 28th Bomb Wing's first B-1B Lancer, Wings of Freedom, arrives at Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota on Jan. 21, 1987.



Operation Enduring Freedom

Ellsworth (in a flying reserve status) under the care of its sister unit, the 37th Bomb Squadron.

A reversal of fortune occurred March 26, 1996, when an announcement was made that the 77th Bomb Squadron would soon return to Ellsworth. On April 1, 1997, the squadron again activated at Ellsworth as the geographically separated 34th Bomb Squadron completed its transfer to its home at the 366th Wing, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho. By June 1998, the 77th had six of its B-1s out of the reconstitution reserve. This number balanced those lost by the 34th Bomb Squadron.

In March 1999, the Air Force announced a reorganization plan that made Ellsworth AFB and the 28th BW partners in the new Expeditionary Air Force concept. The 28th BW was named a lead wing in the EAF. Under this plan, the 77th BS gained six additional B-1s, and Ellsworth gained about 100 more military personnel. The expeditionary forces helped the Air Force respond quickly to any worldwide crisis while making life more predictable for military members.

On Oct. 1, 2015, Ellsworth AFB and the 28th BW realigned to the Air Force Global Strike Command under Eighth Air Force, uniting all Air Force bombers under a single command. The consolidation of the five bomb wings and the Long Range Strike Bomber program under the command provides a unified voice to maintain the high standards necessary in stewardship of our nation's bomber forces.

# **OPERATION ALLIED FORCE**

It wasn't too long before Ellsworth and the 28th Bomb Wing were taking the lead in the Expeditionary Air Force concept. Five B-1s from the 28th BW joined NATO forces in Operation Allied Force and began striking military targets in Kosovo on April 1, 1999.

By the end of the conflict in June 1999, B-1s from Ellsworth flew 100 combat missions and dropped more than 1,260 tons of Mk-82 general-purpose bombs. Once again, the B-1 and Team Ellsworth proved themselves invaluable to the security of our national interests.

# **OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM**

After the events of Sept. 11, 2001, Ellsworth once again answered the call, deploying a number of B-1s in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Aircraft from the 37th Bomb Squadron at Ellsworth AFB joined additional B-1s from the 34th BS at Mountain Home AFB and formed the 34th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron. This squadron, along with other elements from Ellsworth, deployed to Diego Garcia and joined the 28th Air Expeditionary Wing where they recorded an impressive record against the terrorist factions. Their combat mission effectiveness was greater than 95 percent, and they flew 5 percent of the total strike aircraft missions. They dropped



B-1B Lancer



HISTORY

39 percent of the total tonnage of bombs, which was more than any other platform. The amount of ordnance dropped was tremendous. During their deployment, 2,974 JDAMs, 1,471 Mk-82, 135 Mk-84 and 70 CBU-87 bombs were dropped. Ellsworth personnel continue to prepare for ongoing deployments in support of operations around the globe.

# 34TH BOMB SQUADRON REPLACES THE 77TH BOMB SOUADRON

On Sept. 19, 2001, the 34th BS joined the Ellsworth team and arrived from Mountain Home AFB, Idaho. Due to a drawdown in the number of B-1 aircraft in the Air Force inventory, the 77th BS War Eagles at Ellsworth were inactivated and the Thunderbirds of the 34th BS moved to Ellsworth to take their place.

# ELLSWORTH LANDS REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT MISSION

U.S. Air Force officials announced its decision June 21, 2010, to bring the MO-9 Reaper Ground Control Station to Ellsworth. The installation gained about 280 civilian and military personnel to operate the MQ-9 Reapers. While the squadron operating the aircraft is

based at Ellsworth, the aircraft remain overseas, supporting continuing operations. The MQ-9 squadron at Ellsworth, the 89th Attack Squadron, was activated Oct. 1, 2011, and flew its first combat air patrol in May 2012.



Operation Odyssey Dawn

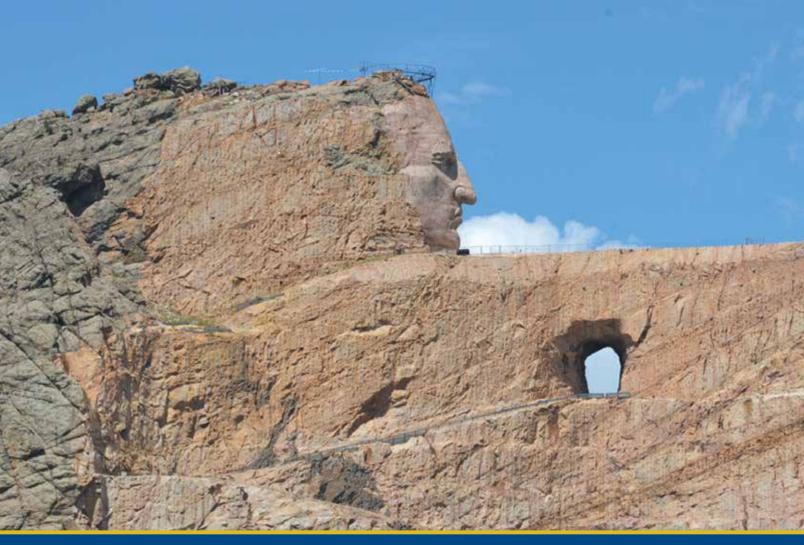
# **OPERATION ODYSSEY DAWN**

In March 2011, B-1 bombers from the 28th Bomb Wing launched from their home station of Ellsworth to strike targets in Libya in support of Operation Odyssey Dawn. With less than two days from first notice to takeoff, Ellsworth Airmen generated several aircraft and hundreds of weapons to provide the combat configuration needed halfway across the globe. This mission marked the first time the B-1 fleet launched combat sorties from the continental United States to strike targets overseas.

Today, Ellsworth Airmen continue to play a critical part in our nation's defense. B-1s from Ellsworth continually provide critical air presence, precision strike, and surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities in response to worldwide contingencies. The addition of ground control stations for MQ-9 Reaper aircraft reinforces Ellsworth's ability to adapt to emerging challenges. While the facilities and mission of the base have changed over time to meet the nation's needs, the dedication and commitment to excellence by our Airmen and their families remains as strong as it ever has been.



Operation Odyssey Dawn



# **LOCAL AREA**

# RAPID CITY

In 1874, a flow of settlers were lured into the Black Hills by the discovery of gold. Through the gold rush, industries such as logging, ranching and farming began to grow.

Rapid City was founded in 1876. It's the county seat of Pennington County and is about 30 miles from the western border of South Dakota, midway north and south, in the eastern foothills of the Black Hills. Spring-fed Rapid Creek flows through the city, paralleling the main business streets. Rapid City is the transportation center of western South Dakota. The city's elevation is about 3,240 feet above sea level.

Current estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau place Rapid City's population at more than 70,000. The city area encompasses 55.41 square miles and is the largest in the state. The city's 200-mile retail trade area has a total population of more than 450,000.

The climate is semi-arid, with excellent flying conditions, moderate winters, cool summer nights and low humidity. Average temperature is 46.6 degrees with an average annual precipitation of 55.8 inches.

Local industry includes agriculture and tourism, along with science, medical, engineering, technology, military-related and energy industries.

### **AGRICULTURE**

Agriculture is the lifeblood of South Dakota. It is the state's No. 1 industry and the No. 2 industry in western South Dakota. For the farmers

and ranchers who work the land, it is more than a job — it is a career and a way of life. Although the way things are done have changed, agriculture remains the common thread linking the citizens, businesses and communities of our area.

The rural Rapid City area is home to more than 650 working farms, making up 1,185,055 acres of farmland and producing more than 280,000 acres in cropland. The average size farm in this area is approximately 1,400 acres. Western South Dakota's No. 1 harvested crop is wheat.

Livestock production in western South Dakota is in vast abundance. The top three products are beef cattle, sheep and bison.

# NATURAL RESOURCES

The Black Hills are an emerald-green oasis towering above the endless sea of prairie that surrounds them. Ponderosa pine dominates the Black Hills forest along with the Black Hills spruce (South Dakota's state tree), trembling aspens, paper birch and other bottomland hardwood trees. Elevations reach as high as 7,300 feet, and while the geography and terrain are tremendously varied, it is invariably breathtaking. Wildlife is diverse and abundant, ranging from impressive trout fisheries to big game species like elk, bison, whitetail and mule deer, and bighorn sheep. In many ways, the Black Hills are a mixing ground of east and west, of mountains and plains, and of moist and arid climates.





LOCAL AREA



# AREA CULTURE AND BACKGROUND

Ellsworth is the largest employer in the West River region and the second-largest in the state. There are more than 750 civilians working on base. The total economic impact on the surrounding communities was nearly \$353 million in 2011. Communities within close proximity to the base are Rapid City and Box Elder.

However, this is only a small part of the contribution the Airmen of Ellsworth make to the broader community.

Ellsworth Airmen and the 28th Bomb Wing are not just next to a great community, we are part of a great community. Our approximately 8,300 Airmen and family members are dedicated to playing an active role in the welfare of the broader Black Hills — far beyond just jobs and payroll. In 2010, Ellsworth Airmen volunteered more than 37,000 hours on and



off base helping the local community. Some of their contributions include coaching children's sports and working with Honor Flight, the Make-a-Wish Foundation and many other local charities.

Today, South Dakota boasts one of the nation's most stable economies. The presence of Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse Monument, numerous other attractions and the scenic beauty of the Black Hills make tourism a major industry, particularly in the summer months. Mining, logging and agriculture also contribute to the coffers of one of the few remaining states to run at a budget surplus.

Perhaps because of the long and colorful history of the area, most citizens foster a strong sense of both community and pride. Local city and town governments reflect this attitude.

The political structure of the area is designed to meet the needs of growing communities. The "good neighbor" concept, established in Old West traditions, seems to be a governing principle for an area where people can still pay by check — with no identification required. City and county governments are active, highly participative and address issues ranging from law enforcement to environmental concerns.

Cowboy boots, pickup trucks, high plains grassland and pine-covered mountains may give Rapid City a Western flair and easy-going lifestyle, but living or visiting Rapid City also creates a striking atmosphere for music, art and drama.

The arts are an important part of the community and are growing strong thanks to dedicated support from civic-minded volunteers, educators and a government interested in supporting the variety the arts can add to city life.

Rapid City and the Black Hills area have a thriving arts and culture scene that

encompasses the values and history of our region. Rapid City's premier arts center, the Dahl, is a public facility owned by the city of Rapid City. Since it opened in 1974, the Dahl has been the center for contemporary visual arts, arts education and performing arts. The Dahl is managed by the Rapid City Arts Council, which is one of the oldest and most respected arts councils in South Dakota. The mission of the Arts Council is to bring art and people together to strengthen the community.

The Allied Arts Fund provides operation and promotional support for A Cappella Showcase, Bells of the Hills, Black Hills Chamber Music Society, Black Hills Community Theatre, Black Hills Dance Theatre, Black Hills Playhouse, Black Hills Symphony Orchestra, Dakota Artists Guild, Dakota Choral Union, Rapid City Arts Council and Rapid City Concert Association. In addition, they provide funding for other nonprofit grassroots community art projects. Together, all these groups represent the most active and established arts organizations in the Black Hills and provide more than 1,200 culturally enriching events each year.

- A Cappella Showcase presents area singers and musicians in their area concerts.
- The Bells of the Hills presents two hand bell concerts annually.
- Black Hills Chamber Music Society presents a five-concert series of chamber music for the public each year and sponsors a music enrichment program for children in the Black Hills Children's Home.
- Black Hills Community Theatre reaches out to everyone in the Black Hills, providing them with the opportunity to learn, share and experience the performing arts through participation, classes or being an audience member at quality theatrical



productions in the Black Hills. They do this by producing five Main Stage shows each year, one dinner theater fundraiser, four children's theater productions, a senior theater program that performs at various senior centers and housing complexes throughout the region, and theater project development with the Suzie Cappa Players of the Black Hills Workshop.

- Black Hills Dance Theatre provides quality in dance education, performance and experience to audiences in the Black Hills region; presents The Nutcracker Ballet biennially; and sponsors a performance from a nationally acclaimed dance company every year.
- Black Hills Playhouse presents 60 to 65 performances that serve more than 15,000 patrons. They provide hands-on educational experiences for students with employment and internships.
- Black Hills Symphony Orchestra presents a five-concert series and co-sponsors the Young Artist Competition with the Black Hills Symphony League.
- Dakota Artists Guild provides art shows at First United Methodist Church, Black Hills Community Theatre and Black Hills

Piano Gallery. They host artist workshops and sponsor youth scholarships.

 Dakota Choral Union performs annual series of four concerts with its nonauditioned choir.

- Rapid City Arts Council presents, promotes and preserves the arts through education, exhibits, performances and collections.
- Rapid City Concert Association presents an annual concert series featuring renowned, nationally known artists. Formed in 1937, it is Rapid City's oldest arts organization.

# **EDUCATION**

When it comes to education, South Dakota is wired for success. When it comes to computers, South Dakota has one of the highest computer-to-student ratios.

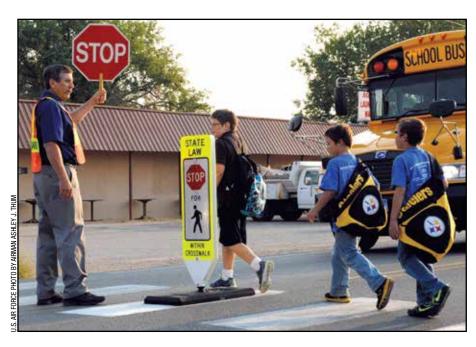
In the Black Hills, education doesn't end with high school. This region is home to two state universities, a technical institute and several private colleges.

Workers are well-educated; 29 percent of residents 25 years or over hold a bachelor's degree, while nearly 9 percent hold an advanced degree.

Incoming families are encouraged to register their children in school as soon as possible. When registering children in school, parents need to provide the record of attendance and grades from previous schools, if available, and a birth certificate for kindergarten registration. Shot records are also needed when registering kindergartners.

# **Rapid City Area Schools**

The Rapid City Area Schools district, the second-largest district in South Dakota, is







# **LOCAL AREA**

dedicated to providing students equal access to an excellent educational program, which results in their becoming responsible citizens who know how to learn, value lifelong learning and cope with life in a changing society.

With an enrollment of more than 13,000 students, the district encompasses more than 419 square miles. It consists of 15 elementary schools, five middle schools and three high schools.

The district provides multifaceted educational opportunities through regular and special classes, community education programs and extensive after-school, cocurricular activities.

Committed to community involvement, Rapid City Area Schools encourage phone calls or visits to any schools or offices.

Bus transportation is available to Rapid City Area Schools' students in first through eighth grade who live more than 2.5 miles from their assigned attendance area.

# RAPID CITY REGIONAL HOSPITAL

Regional Health is an integrated health care system with the purpose of helping patients and communities live well. The organization, with headquarters in Rapid City, provides community-based health care in more than 20 communities in two states and 32 specialty areas of medicine. As the largest private employer in western South Dakota, Regional locations and employs nearly 5,000 physicians

and caregivers. Regional Health is committed to the future of medicine, with medical training partnerships, a medical residency program, and more than 130 active research studies.

Located in Rapid City, Rapid City Regional Hospital is the largest hospital in the Regional Health system with more than 3,300 caregivers. RCRH is verified as a Level II Trauma Center by the American College of Surgeons. Along with emergency services, the hospital also provides advanced cardiac care, cancer care, behavioral health services, surgical services, rehabilitation, home health and hospice services, diagnostic imaging, obstetrics, neonatal intensive care and pediatric care. Regional Health also operates Urgent Care Clinics and specialty clinics throughout the Rapid City area.

# BLACK HILLS REGIONAL EYE INSTITUTE

The Black Hills Regional Eye Institute has been offering eye care since 1982. The institute serves the surrounding five-state region with 12 satellite locations and a modern eye care facility in Rapid City.

Experienced physicians and staff are experts in all areas of eye exams, glaucoma treatment, cataract surgery, the retina and cornea, pediatric care and strabismus, oculoplastic and refractive surgery

techniques to lessen the need for glasses or contact lenses.

# **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES** AND PROCEDURES

Off-duty Employment: The Airman and Family Readiness Center, at the Rushmore Center, provides employment assistance.

Full-time or Part-time Employment for Family Members: Rapid City Career Center has a vast listing of jobs that individuals may apply for. This agency offers an excellent beginning for military dependents looking for full- or part-time employment. For more information about the South Dakota Department of Labor and Rapid City Career Center, at 111 New York St. in Rapid City, call (605) 394-2296.

Volunteer Positions: The Airman and Family Readiness Center at Ellsworth can provide information for individuals interested in volunteer work. For more information, call the Airman and Family Readiness Center at (605) 385-4663.



U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS MATTHEW FLYNN

# **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

#### Airport

The Rapid City Regional Airport, 11 miles from Ellsworth off Highway 44, is one of the most active airports in the region. The airport has an 8,701-foot main runway and a 3,600-foot asphalt crosswind runway. Rapid City Regional Airport serves Black Hills with several commercial airlines, such as Allegiant Air, American Airlines, Delta Air Lines and United Express. Ground transportation is provided by Airport Express Shuttle, taxi and six car rental brands. For more information, call (605) 393-9924.

# **Bus Depot**

The Rapid Transit Center is at 333 Sixth St. in Rapid City. Rapid Ride provides daily bus service with routes throughout the city. For more information, call Rapid Ride at (605) 394-6631.

# LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Rapid City Police Department employs more than 140 workers composed of sworn officers and civilian personnel. The routine phone number for the Rapid City Police Department is (605) 394-4131.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

The city is serviced by the Rapid City Fire Department. The department is staffed with 135 employees. There are seven fire stations located throughout the city. The nonemergency number for the Rapid City Fire Department is (605) 394-4180.

### RECREATION

Rapid City is the gateway to the Black Hills, which offer unlimited hours of recreation, including sightseeing, hiking, camping, swimming, sailing, water skiing, fishing, spelunking, horseback riding, hunting, downhill and cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling.

The entire state of South Dakota offers excellent opportunities for the outdoor sportsman. The many rivers, lakes and streams provide habitat for bass, trout, walleye and northern pike, salmon, bluegill, perch, crappie and catfish. The fall and winter seasons offer a challenge for elk, mule and whitetail deer, American pronghorn, turkey, pheasant, quail, partridge, grouse, goose, duck, prairie chicken, dove, coyote, fox, jackrabbit, cottontail, squirrel and prairie dog.

U.S. armed forces personnel who have been continuously stationed in South Dakota for at least 90 days immediately preceding



application for a license are eligible to purchase resident licenses. License and licensing information are available from the Department of Game, Fish and Parks Licensing Office, 20641 State Highway 1806, Fort Pierre, SD 57532; the local county treasurer office; the Black Hills Center (on base); or other authorized agents. For more information, call (605) 223-7660.

# **TOURISM**

One of the most commonly heard phrases from visitors to Rapid City is: "If we had known there was so much to do and see in and around Rapid City, we'd have planned to stay longer." Nestled in the eastern foothills of the Black Hills of South Dakota, Rapid City shines as the center of this legendary mountain range. From American Indian culture and Western history to the majesty of creek-carved canyons and pine-clad granite peaks amid fine shopping and dining, you will find a wealth of opportunities in Rapid City.

Just a short drive away, you will find yourself surrounded by 2 million acres of ponderosa pine forest along with wildlife parks, breathtaking scenery and an array of outdoor recreational activities. The Black Hills are home to one of the highest concentrations of public parks, monuments and memorials in the United States. Crowned by one of America's most unwavering symbols — Mount Rushmore National Memorial — the Black Hills are also home to Wind Cave National Park, Badlands National Park, Devils Tower National Monument, Jewel Cave National Monument and Minuteman Missile Silo National Historic Site,

all within a short drive of Rapid City. Come face-to-face with mighty American bison in Custer State Park, home to the highest peak east of the Rocky Mountains. Discover American Indian culture at Crazy Horse Memorial, which will be the largest mountain carving in the world when it is completed.

Rapid City offers visitors close proximity to the outdoor adventures of the Black Hills, with all the comforts of home, including plentiful lodging options, a variety of dining experiences, unique shopping, art galleries and museums. You will also find wildlife, exotic gardens, indoor water parks, walking trails and one-of-a-kind attractions.

Rapid City offers a city tour for visitors to easily explore many of the attractions and activities throughout the community. City tour attractions are marked by signs to guide you through the city and move you to the next location. As you stroll through downtown filled with history and unique shops, you will discover life-size bronze sculptures of past United States presidents on display. You can also pick up a trolley tour that will take you to many of the attractions throughout town.

Coupled with more than 5,300 hotel rooms — from upscale downtown hotels to national chains along the interstate — and airline service from seven of the nation's busiest airports (Chicago, Dallas/Fort Worth, Denver, Las Vegas, Minneapolis, Mesa and Salt Lake City), it's easy to see why millions of people make Rapid City their vacation destination each year.





# LOCAL AREA

# WHERE TO GO, WHAT TO DO

The Rapid City Visitor Information Center is in the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center. Here you will find visitor information specialists who can help you make the most of your visit to Rapid City. Visitors can have questions answered or get help arranging the perfect activity. The Rapid City VIC is open year-round 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information about planning a vacation to Rapid City and the Black Hills of South Dakota, call 800-487-3223 for a visitor packet or download the guide at www. visitrapidcity.com.

# **Shopping**

Residents in Rapid City have access to a variety of shopping experiences. From stores at the Rushmore Mall and Rushmore Crossing to unique downtown shops, Native American arts and crafts outlets, and Black Hills gold jewelers, residents can find plenty of shopping opportunities throughout Rapid City.

# **Downtown Rapid City**

Downtown Rapid City is truly a sight to see. Nowhere is the collision of the historic and the modern as enjoyable as in downtown Rapid City. As you stroll along you will find a presidential bronze statue to greet you at each corner. There are both Native American art and the latest fashions and accessories decorating the storefront windows. Downtown offers an array of stores where you will surely find what you are looking for. Salons, clothing stores, South Dakota-made products and quaint restaurants can all be found in historic downtown Rapid City.

#### Dinina

Rapid City's selection of restaurants should satisfy anyone's taste. The aroma of both regional and international cuisine float through Rapid City and in downtown, where culinary delights range from upscale bistro dishes to cheaper eats and local brews. There is something to satisfy any palate.

# South Dakota Air and Space Museum

The South Dakota Air and Space Museum is located outside the main gate of Ellsworth AFB. The museum has inside exhibits and a gift shop. Aircraft and missile displays are outside of the museum. There are more than 1,000 items in this collection, which range from World War I to present day. A Minuteman II Training Launch Facility, located on base, can be viewed as part of an organized museum tour.

The museum is open 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily June through Labor Day and 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. the rest of the year. The indoor museum is closed in January and February and on holidays. For more information or to arrange a tour, call (605) 385-5189.

#### **City Museums**

Rapid City's museums include the Dahl Arts Center, the Sioux Indian Museum, the Journey Museum and the Museum of Geology on the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology campus, with some of the most famous fossils in the world.

The Journey, a state-of-the-art museum of world-class quality and size, provides an incredible trip through 2.5 billion years of Black Hills history. Hands-on and interactive

exhibits showcase the geography, people and events that shaped both the history and heritage of the region. It incorporates four major prehistoric and historic collections, telling the story of the western Great Plains.

#### Libraries

Rapid City's public library system has three libraries: Rapid City Public Library Downtown, Rapid City Public Library North and City Public Library East. The downtown library has 170,000 physical materials (books, periodicals, DVDs) and more than 5,000 e-books, downloadable audiobooks and videos. The library has more than 1 million circulations each year and offers a wide range of services, programs and resources. Rapid City Public Library North is a joint-use public facility inside an elementary school. Computers with Wi-Fi, a gaming station with Wii and a large collection of children's books are all available at this location. The City Public Library East at Western Dakota Tech offers great programming, online and print collections, e-books and more.

# **BOX ELDER**

# HISTORY OF BOX ELDER

The city of Box Elder serves as the gateway to the Black Hills. In the late 1800s, the future site of Box Elder was a fertile valley, luring settlers west with untold promise. Lone Tree, a few miles east of Box Elder, was originally a stop for the covered wagons and horsemen coming to the Black Hills from Fort Pierre on the Black Hills Stage and Wagon Road. Box Elder was born as a whistle-stop town in 1907 when the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad built a track from Wall to Rapid City. The new town was named after the box elder trees, which grew along the head waters of the creek that flows through the valley. Box Elder was officially incorporated as a city in 1964 during the Cold War expansion of Ellsworth AFB. Today, Box Elder is home to 9,300 people and is one of South Dakota's fastest-growing cities. The city of Box Elder, nestled between Ellsworth and Rapid City, offers city convenience with a small-town atmosphere.

# **EDUCATION**

The city of Box Elder is home to the Douglas School District, one of the finest school systems in South Dakota. The district serves more than 2,500 students with Carrousel preschool services, Badger Clark Elementary, Douglas High School, Douglas Middle School, Francis Case Elementary and Vandenberg Elementary. The



district is in western South Dakota on the edge of the Black Hills and serves students from Box Elder, Ellsworth AFB and the surrounding rural area.

Children living on Ellsworth or in the Box Elder community will attend the Douglas School System. Busing is no longer provided to school children living on base. However, the Ellsworth Youth Center offers a before- and after-school program that provides busing to and from Douglas schools for a fee. For more information about bus transportation in the surrounding Box Elder communities, contact the transportation office at (605) 923-0022. The Douglas School District administrative office can be reached at (605) 923-0000.

# LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Box Elder Police Department serves a residential population of approximately 9,300 citizens with an authorized strength of 11 full-time officers and three reserve police officers. The administrative contact phone number to the Box Elder Police Department is (605) 923-1401.

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Box Elder Volunteer Fire Department proudly protects an area of 81 square miles. They are members of the Pennington County Fire Fighter's Association and are centrally located in the city of Box Elder at 120 Box Elder Road. The VFD contact number is (605) 923-1224. The VFD also hosts area voters, as a polling station on Election Day.

# RECREATION

Box Elder offers a variety of recreational pursuits in addition to being the Gateway to the Black Hills, such as Bandit Ball Little League, a BMX track, Prairie Ridge Golf Course, a paint ball arena and several city parks.

# **SERVICES**

Box Elder has many varieties of businesses to serve your needs. For more information, contact the Box Elder Area Chamber of Commerce, which can be found online at www.facebook.com/boxeldercc.

# **LOCAL SIGHTS**

# **BLACK HILLS**

In 1775, Standing Buffalo, an Oglala Sioux, discovered an area called Paha Sapa, meaning "mountains that are black." Seen from a distance, the dense stands of pine and fir make the hills appear black against the western sky. The Black Hills were considered the center of the universe and sacred by the Sioux Indians and an oasis in the prairie by the early settlers.

Known for the gold that lured the early explorers and prospectors, the Black Hills now lure the resident and traveler to a wealth of natural wonders, more valuable than the prospectors' gold ever was.

Within the broad confines of the Black Hills National Forest, you'll find Custer State Park; two national monuments, Wind Cave and Devils Tower; one national park, Jewel Cave; one national memorial, Mount Rushmore; numerous sparkling lakes; and hundreds of miles of beautiful hiking trails. Fifty miles to the east, carved from the eroded remains of an ancient sea floor, is Badlands National Park.

# **WIND CAVE**

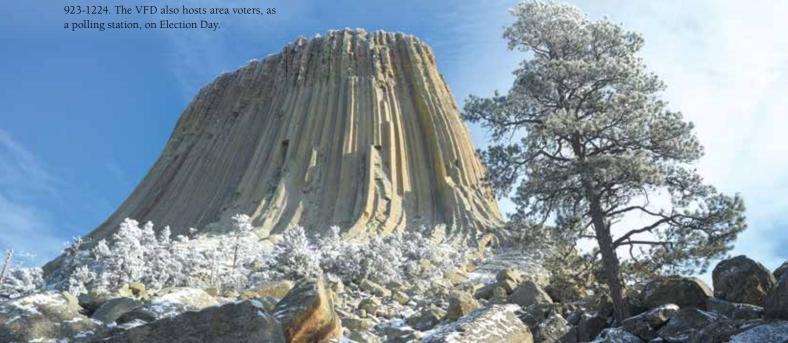
According to Sioux legend, Wind Cave is the place where the buffalo were blown from under the earth to feed the Lakota people. In reality, changing atmospheric pressure causes a constant wind to blow from the cave that will chill the unwary who fail to bring a jacket or sweater — even in the summer.

### **DEVILS TOWER**

Devils Tower is truly a natural marvel — not just a movie prop for "Close Encounters of the Third Kind." Just across the Wyoming border, Devils Tower looms over the Belle Fourche River where antelope and prairie dogs roam its base. For the truly adventurous and qualified, a quick climb up the tower with ropes and pitons will verify there are no little green men to be found.

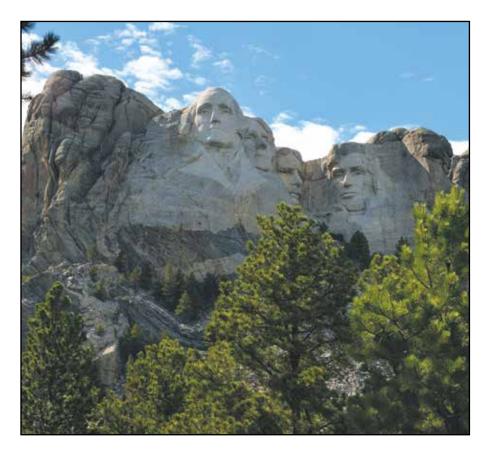
# JEWEL CAVE NATIONAL MONUMENT

Jewel Cave National Monument is reached by taking an elevator several hundred feet downward to follow the twists and turns of a cavern that is still not completely explored.





LOCAL AREA



# **BLACK HILLS NATIONAL FOREST**

Surrounding all this is the Black Hills National Forest, which offers picnic and camping areas, hiking and riding trails, and fishing and boating on the numerous streams and lakes.

# **STURGIS**

West of Rapid City is Sturgis, host of the annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally — one of the largest motorcycle rallies in the United States.

# **SPEARFISH**

The city of Spearfish, located northwest of Rapid City, offers a scenic driving route. Spearfish Canyon has several scenic natural wonders such as Bridal Veil and Roughlock Falls.

# **CUSTER STATE PARK**

Custer State Park, in the central Black Hills, is where the largest herd of wild buffalo in the nation roams free. A wildlife trail takes you through the area where the main herd grazes, and while it may seem calm, several tons of charging buffalo can go anywhere they want. If you want a closer look, use your camera or binoculars. If you desire more refined

recreation, stay at one of the four lodges that serve the park.

# **BADLANDS NATIONAL PARK**

Fifty miles east of Rapid City, away from the trees and hills, one can find a different type of beauty in the erosion-carved spires of Badlands National Park. Carved from the eroded mud of an ancient sea floor, the Badlands were so named by Native Americans and settlers for their unsuitability as habitat and the difficulties encountered in traveling through them.

# **DINOSAUR PARK**

Dinosaur Park, on Skyline Drive in Rapid City, is home to gigantic cement dinosaurs. From Dinosaur Park, one has a magnificent view of Rapid City and the Black Hills. For more information, call (605) 343-8687.

# MOUNT RUSHMORE NATIONAL MEMORIAL

A quick 45 minutes from Rapid City sits the crown jewel of the Black Hills, Mount Rushmore National Memorial. Carved from the granite of the mountain, the stone faces of Washington, Jefferson, Roosevelt and Lincoln

stare out across the Black Hills as a tribute to the men and women who helped make America what it is today. The memorial is free and is best seen in the midmorning light. However, a special lighting ceremony, held from early summer to late fall, adds special meaning to the memorial. A blend of pageantry and patriotism, the ceremony lights the memorial against the night sky.

# **CRAZY HORSE MONUMENT**

Nearby, another mountain sculpture is taking shape as Chief Crazy Horse emerges from the granite. Conceived on a vast scale, the sculpture is not on the mountain — it is the mountain. With entirely private funding, the sheer magnitude of work required and the vagaries of weather, it's no surprise that a completion date is unknown. Still, slowly but surely, the face of the Lakota chief, his outstretched arm, and the head and neck of his horse are taking shape.

# **DEADWOOD**

Further north, the old frontier town of Deadwood still thrives on the legends and ghosts of Wild Bill Hickok, Calamity Jane and Poker Alice. At Saloon No. 10, you can view historical Western and mining camp artifacts spanning more than 100 years. Both Wild Bill and Calamity Jane are buried in historic Mount Moriah Cemetery, which overlooks the town.

