

# BIG SKY FLYER



Vol. XXXVIII No. 3  
March 5, 2016

Useful links: [120th AW Website](#) [Facebook](#) [Airmen Resources](#) [Family Programs](#) [AMC Website](#) [ESGR](#)



## Command Information

Col. Thomas Mora

120th Airlift Wing Vice Commander

Why all the talk about leadership?

I often get asked, why the military spends so much time and energy talking about leadership, I don't lead anyone.

While the first part of this statement is true, that the military and private sector spend a lot of time on leadership, I disagree with the idea that a person may not be a leader.

The leadership focus is due to the fact that we are all leaders. At its core, leadership is an intense journey into self-awareness. It is about how much you are willing to learn about yourself, and how willing you are to adapt to your increasing knowledge of self. Leadership is also a test of tension, how much tension you can bear without being influenced negatively.

[CLICK FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)



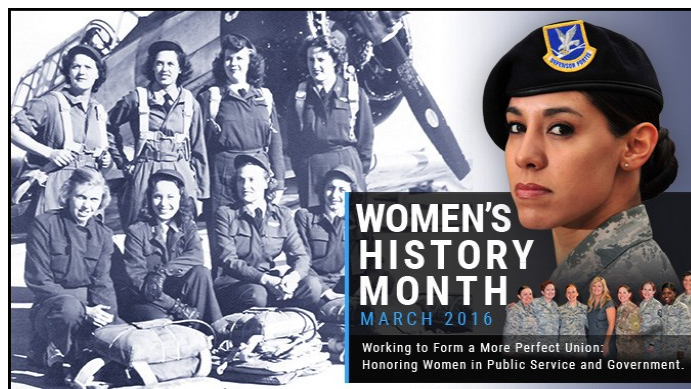
## MTANG to host USAF Thunderbirds in 2017

By Maj. Maureen Maphies

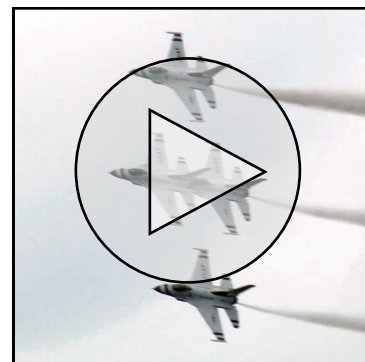
The Montana Air National Guard is proud to announce the United States Air Force Thunderbirds Jet Demonstration Team has honored a request to perform at an open house at the 120th Airlift Wing in July 2017 to help commemorate the 70th anniversary of the MTANG and the United States Air Force.

The 120th AW is in the initial planning stages to host the Thunderbirds and will be working with the 341st Missile Wing from Malmstrom Air Force Base and other military organizations in the state as partners to support the event. MTANG will also be coordinating with civic organizations and government agencies over the coming months to make the 2017 Open House a success for the military and the community.

Further details on additional air show performers, specific dates and times will be released in late 2016 or early 2017 as information becomes available during the planning process.



## Video: Thunderbirds perform at USAF Academy graduation



## AFCLC offers free distance learning courses

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

The Air Force Culture and Language Center (AFCLC) is offering two distance learning courses, "Introduction to Culture," and "Cross-Cultural Communication." The classes provide three semester hours of either social science or elective credits accepted by the Community College of the Air Force.

The spring session enrollment window for "Introduction to Culture" is March 1-14. This course is begins March 24 and run through June 29.

"Intro to Cross-Cultural Communication" is offered during the summer session. The course enrollment period is April 5-18. The course begins April 28 and runs through August 3.

Complete course descriptions and enrollment instructions can be found at the [AFCLC website](#).



**SAPR program seeks Victim Advocates**

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

The 120th Airlift Wing Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) is looking for a few good men and women to become victim advocates (VA) for the wing's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program (SAPR).

Maj. Maureen Maphies said three to four additional VAs are needed to volunteer to serve in the additional duty as a coordinator of services for the survivors of sexual assaults.

VAs do not use their personal training days to serve in this position. Additional days are made available by the 120 AW or the National Guard Bureau.

[CLICK FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)

**120th Sustainment Services shine at Silver Flag**

By Master Sgt. Crystal Hoffman

Fifteen Airmen from the Montana Air National Guard's 120th Sustainment Services Flight and three members of the 219th REDHORSE Squadron traveled via C-130 to Dobbins Air Reserve Base to participate in Silver Flag



Feb. 20-26.

The Airmen honed

their skills at engaging in real-world base support from preparing and opening a bare-base operation to transitioning to a sustainment operation.

[CLICK FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)

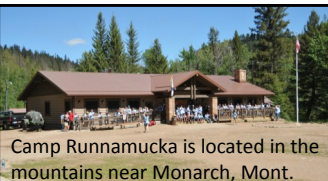
**Military kids camps and events announced**

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

The Montana National Guard Child and Youth Program Coordinator has announced the 2016 events and camps to be held for children of military members.

Sara Cease would like guard parents to be aware of the many free opportunities available to their children beginning in April and running

[CLICK FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)



Camp Runnamucka is located in the mountains near Monarch, Mont.

**Brown bag lunch seminars held at 120AW**

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

25 members of the 120th Airlift Wing attended the first brown bag lunch seminar hosted by 120 AW Commander Col. Lee Smith February 24.



The lunchtime event provides wing leadership the opportunity to share new information and their insight with Airmen.

[CLICK FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)

**Big Sky Flyer Staff**  
**120th AW Commander:**  
 Col. Lee Smith  
**Public Affairs Officers:**  
 Maj. Maureen Maphies  
 1st Lt. Robin Allen  
**PA Superintendent:**  
 Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson  
**Journalists:**  
 Tech. Sgt. Christy Mason  
 Tech. Sgt. Michael Touchette  
 Staff Sgt. Lindsay Soulsby  
 Senior Airman Nikolas Asmussen

**Contact Us**  
**Do you have a story or photo idea? Let us know!**  
 Office phone: 791-2226  
 Email: usaf.mt.120-aw.mbx.pa-public-affairs@mail.mil  
 www.Facebook.com/120Vigilantes

**History of the Montana Air National Guard (Scanned negative from the photograph archives)**



Montana Governor Tim Babcock and Montana Army National Guard Sergeant First Class Ray Johnson hold the new distinctive Montana National Guard license plate to be displayed on the governor's car in this photograph taken May 5, 1966.

The number 1 plate was issued to the governor, who also serves as the commander in chief of the Montana National Guard.

Babcock served as Governor of Montana from 1962 to 1969.

**GO FOR GREEN**  
Eating well to perform



**February UTA Dining Facility menu**

- Saturday-Bourbon Style**  
 Chicken Breast, Corned Beef, Parsley Buttered Potatoes, Steamed Rice, Steamed Cabbage, Carrots
- Soup-Split Pea**
- Desserts-White Cake with Leprechaun Frosting, Peach Crisp, Parfaits, Jello, Soft Serve Ice Cream Bar**
- Sunday-Chicken Cacciatore, Roast Beef, Beef Gravy, Steamed Rice, Mashed Potatoes, Peas, Cauliflower**