

BIG SKY FLYER



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Command Information

Col. Mark Snyder

120th Medical Group Commander

Greetings from the 120th Medical Group, home of the Big Sky Medics, the best medical group in the Air National Guard!

If you haven't heard, the 120th MDG was recently recognized by the National Guard Bureau as being the number one medical group in the Air National Guard, out of 73 total medical units. We are proud to continue the tradition of the 120th Airlift Wing's outstanding performance in the execution of our many missions to serve the Montana Air National Guard, our state, and our nation.

The medical group is a dynamic organization of 62 dedicated professionals, made up predominantly of Drill Status Guardsmen and backed up by six full-time airmen, who hail from all over Montana and the [CLICK FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)



Total force takes on Air Force Marathon

By Staff Sgt. Lindsey Soulsby

Training has begun for 17 runners in preparation for the 20th annual Air Force Marathon scheduled Sept. 17 at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio.

Maj. Michael Loy, 120th Airlift Wing maintenance group operations officer and marathon troop commander, collected a team representing the total force to include members from the 120th AW; Joint Force Headquarters, Helena; 341st Missile Wing, Malmstrom Air Force Base and the Army National Guard.

While participating individually, Loy is creating a team mentality with group running opportunities.

"I communicate with them and set up days where we can run," Loy said. "The USAF Marathon page has different running plans. Everybody that wasn't training for a marathon found a plan and is actively working."

The team is comprised of a variety of ranks with first-time and veteran marathoners.

"I run four days during the week and on the weekend I'll do a 10-mile run," said Senior Airman Kristan Hall, 341st MW emergency management technician. "I run about 40 miles a week."

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Above: Montana Air National Guard members train for the Air Force Marathon by putting their shoes to the pavement. Below: 2nd Lt. Tammy Wajer and 2nd Lt. Caressa Hewitt train at the Great Falls International Airport.



Featured video—Heritage Field static aircraft display

By Staff Sgt. Nikolas Asmussen



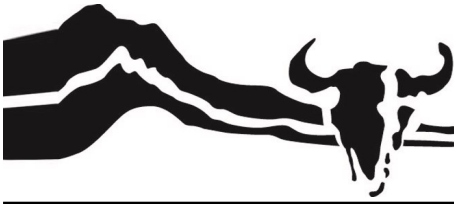
Building the crew—the flight engineers

By Tech. Sgt. Michael Touchette

(The second in a five-part series)

When a vehicle develops mechanical problems while driving cross country AAA recommends exiting onto the far right shoulder, as far off the road as possible, turning on the emergency flashers, raising the vehicle's hood and remaining in the vehicle until a road service provider arrives.

That is not something that can be done when the cross-country trip in a C-130 aircraft [CLICK FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)



EXCELLENCE

INTEGRITY

SERVICE

Quarterly awards presented

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

120th Airlift Wing personnel identified as top performers for the third quarter of fiscal year 2016 were presented with awards during the regularly scheduled drill August 13.

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120th Airlift Wing Commander Col. Lee Smith and 120th AW Command Chief, Chief Master Sgt. Steven Lynch, present the Airman of the Quarter Award to Staff Sgt. Jedidiah Polk.

120th MDG top rated

By Staff Sgt. Lindsey Soulsby

The 120th Medical Group was rated the top medical group in the Air National Guard for 2015 after an inspection by the National Guard Bureau Joint Surgeon's Office.

Nine areas at the clinic were inspected without the unit's knowledge.

"We weren't actually preparing for any type of inspection," said Chief Master Sgt. Tom Meredith, 120th Medical Group superintendent. "This award was won based on our day to day operations, following the (Air Force instructions) and doing things right

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3rd generation Airman joins MTANG

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson

Tyler LaPierre stood in the cargo hold of a C-130 Hercules transport aircraft parked on the ramp of the 120th Airlift Wing, raised his right hand and repeated the oath of enlistment in front of his family and future coworkers the afternoon of August 31.

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Services personnel train in the great outdoors

By Senior Master Sgt. Eric Peterson



Members of the 120th Services Sustainment Flight received much of their formal training outside during the three-day drill held on base August 6-8 at the 120th Airlift Wing.

The services professionals cooked meals using their new [CLICK FOR COMPLETE STORY](#)

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50 years ago—the history of the MTANG
(Scanned negative researched from the film files of the 120th Airlift Wing Public Affairs Office)



An F-102 Delta Dagger fighter aircraft flies over F-89J Scorpion fighter aircraft parked on the Montana Air National Guard ramp at the Great Falls International Airport Sept. 19, 1966.

The MTANG was completing an aircraft conversion to the delta wing aircraft after flying Scorpion variants for more than 10 years. The wing would be assigned the F-102 until 1972 when it began a conversion to the F-106 Delta Dart.

GO FOR GREEN
Eating well to perform



September RSD lunch menu

Saturday-Mustard Dill Fish, Parmesan Crusted Pork Chops, Scalloped Potatoes, Broccoli Rice Confetti, Peas, Summer Squash

Sunday-Chicken and Dumplings, Salisbury Steak, Harvest Blend Rice, Mashed Potatoes, Steamed Carrots, Corn, Brown Gravy

Soup-Tomato Florentine

Dessert-Apple Pie, Cookies, Parfaits, Jello, Soft Serve Ice Cream Bar