



“THE SKYCHASER” – COMMUNITY EDITION

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for December 2018

Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond

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WING TIPS

- **SEARCH & RESCUE:** On 8 December the Wing held two simultaneous Search and Rescue Exercises (SAREX), one in West River based at Custer and one in East River based in Sioux Falls. The focus of the West River SAREX was three-fold: the training of ground teams for winter search operations, the training of aircrew members in radio-direction-finding, and the training of command staff. One highlight of the West River SAREX was a demo of the use of a drone (UAV) in ground search operations. Training for the East River SAREX focused on the same areas; ground teams, aircrew, and command staff. Some 45 SDWG personnel across the state took part as did CAP aircraft which provided air-to-ground-to-air communications training.



THESE TWO PHOTOS ILLUSTRATE THE DIFFICULTY IN LOCATING A HUMAN BEING ON THE GROUND USING A DRONE. IN THE PHOTO AT LEFT THE INDIVIDUAL WAS STANDING IN A RELATIVELY OPEN AREA. IN THE PHOTO AT RIGHT THE INDIVIDUAL WAS LYING PRONE BETWEEN TWO LARGE ROCKS



IN THE LEFT PHOTO THE WEST RIVER GROUND TEAM PREPARES FOR FIELD DEPLOYMENT AS THE DRONE (YELLOW CIRCLE) RISES FROM ITS LAUNCH PAD. IN THE RIGHT PHOTO THE WEST RIVER GROUND TEAM IS DEPLOYED (RED CIRCLE) SEEN FROM THE DRONE



- **CYBERPATRIOT ROUND 2**: Big Sioux Composite Squadron reports: Our first High School team placed 7th out of 1,152 teams in the All Service Division. Our second high school team placed 563rd out of the 1,152 teams. The Joint Sioux Falls/Brookings Middle School team placed 346th out of 840 teams in the Middle School Division. Sioux Falls Composite Squadron reports: Our first High School team placed 264th out of the 1,152 teams. Our second High School team placed 249th out of the 1152 teams in the All Services Division. The SDWG teams will compete in Round 3, the State Round, on 11-13 January.

★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Senior Member Promotions



Congratulations to Tyler Gross of Volga, a member of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron, on his promotion to the rank of Captain!



Congratulations to Michael Engelhart of Spearfish, a member of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, on his promotion to the rank of Second Lieutenant!

Cadet Officer Promotion



Congratulations to David Willison of Sioux Falls, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on his promotion to the rank of Cadet First Lieutenant!

Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Micah Healy of Mitchell and to Daniel Willison of Sioux Falls, both members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on their promotion to Cadet Senior Master Sergeant and receipt of the General Jimmy Doolittle Award!





Congratulations to Alex Crowser of Philip, a member of the Pierre Composite Squadron, on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Charles Lindbergh Award!



Congratulations to John Preston of Custer, a member of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, and to Ethan McCormick of Rapid City and Matthew Tracy of Summerset, both members of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Abigail Williams and to Emily Williams, both of Egan and both members of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron, and to Austin den Hoed of Boyden, IA, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on promotion to Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to Noah Hovland and Patience Hovland, both of Edgemont and both members of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, and to Banion Jo Niles of Hot Springs, a member of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, and Hannah Decker of Parker, Gabriel Healy of Mitchell, Mercy Healy of Mitchell, Mesha Horsa of Sioux Falls and Brayden Parke of Sioux Falls, all members of the Sioux Falls Composite squadron on promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the Arnold Award!



Congratulations to Jayda Boxley of Pierre, a member of the Pierre Composite Squadron, and to Cade Beckman and Joshua Rodgers, of Sioux Falls and both members of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on their promotion to Cadet Airman and receipt of the Curry Award!

