



## VOLK FIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

POB 322 Camp Douglas WI 54618  
VFCC@JuneauCounty.com  
(608) 427-2070  
[vfccwi.org](http://vfccwi.org)

# VFCC NEWSLETTER

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### **Greetings from VFCC Chairman Terry Whipple**

Dear Members of the VFCC,

It is amazing how our world has changed in just 2 months. Even as we met for the "Night at the Museum" event in early March, I don't recall coronavirus being mentioned one time in our conversations. Now it is all consuming as we battle for normalcy in our daily lives. As the saying goes, "So far, you've survived 100% of your worst days, this too shall pass". I look forward to seeing you all again this spring and getting back to our mission in support of Volk Field.

The student tours given in the early part of the year were of such great value to our STEAM effort. Our appreciation goes out to Col May and the Volk Field staff. I also credit the members of the VFCC for their support. I would have to say, our VFCC tree is bearing fruit. Cheers to all of you!

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## **A Message From Colonel May**

Dear Founding & Cornerstone Members,

I hope you are all healthy and managing the best as can be expected during the C19 crisis. I am so grateful that we were able to come together during the Night at the Museum in early March. That evening seems like a lifetime ago at this point!



The men and women of Volk Field are doing well and focusing on preserving the health of the force to ensure we can accomplish any future missions that come our way. We have a critical role in the state and federal missions of the Wisconsin Air National Guard and strive to be ready at all times. I am currently working at Joint Forces Headquarters in Madison as a strategic planner and Lt Col Mike Western and CMSgt Conn are in charge back on base.

Thank you for being part of the Volk Field family and we look forward to seeing you all in person on the back side of this situation!

Sincerely,

Col May

DAVID W. MAY, Col, WI ANG  
Commander, Volk Field ANGB

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## **A NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM**

Wednesday, March 4, 2020, was the VFCC's Second Annual Night At The Museum event. A welcome reprieve after the winter season, it was great to see so many of you there!

In addition to the VFCC Founding Members, Advisors, and many Cornerstone Members, we were happy to have Col Kim, Commander of the Fort McCoy Garrison, join us. Jeri Volk-Barry and Kristi Kortbein, nieces of Lt Jerome Volk - whom the ANGB was named after - were also in attendance.

The Wisconsin National Guard Museum is a hidden gem - so many photos and displays from the early 1900s and throughout the century. It's open to the public Wednesdays through Saturdays from 9am-4pm and Sundays from 10am-2pm (hours may vary during the Coronavirus "Safer At Home" period).



*Special Thanks to our Sponsors who made this Event possible:*

**Scott & Wendy Sullivan,  
LumberJack Tools**

**Jim Costello,  
LYNXX Networks**

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## VOLK FIELD AIRMAN EXPERIENCE DAY

With continued efforts to inspire local youth into the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Aerospace, and Mathematics) education fields, Volk Field ANGB hosted another Airman Experience Day for high school students on March 3, 2020.

Chief MSgt Meredith Conn coordinated the day of exercises for approximately 60 students from Wonewoc and Chippewa Falls High Schools. They arrived on base at 0900 and were welcomed by Colonel David May, base Commander.

Thereafter the students were divided into six groups and rotated through various stations where they learned about:

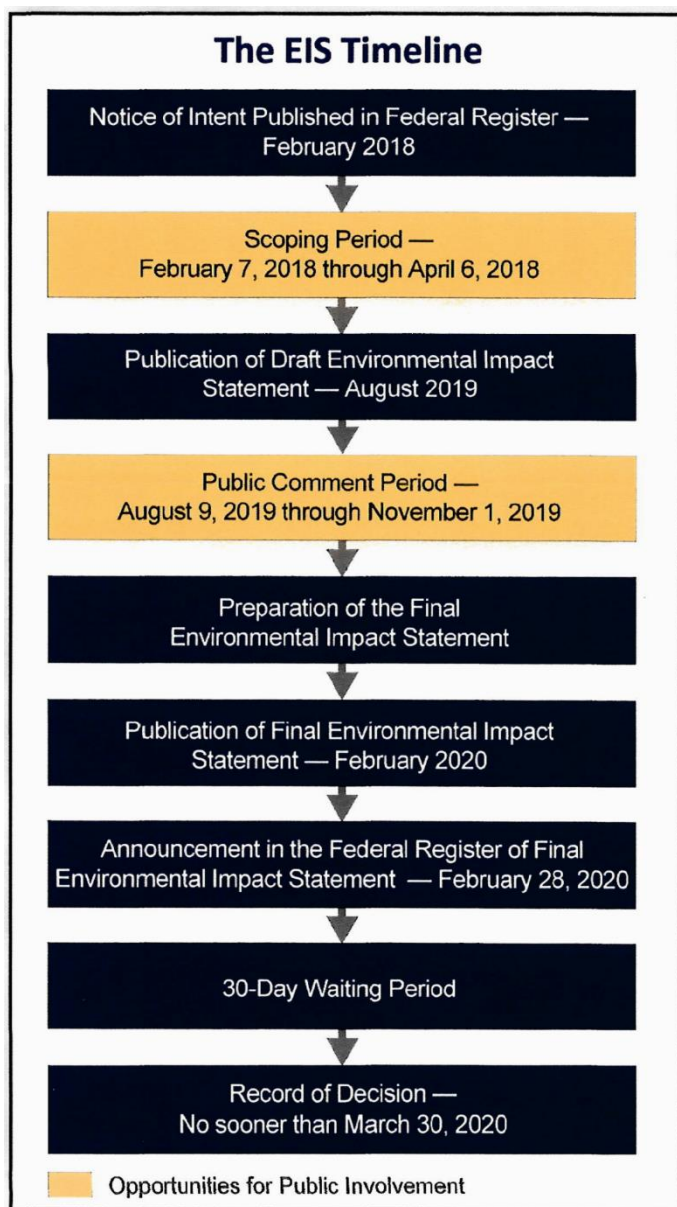
- 128 Air Control Squadron (ACS): *mobile control and reporting*
- Air Traffic Control (ATC) Tower: *takeoff and landing procedures*
- Air-to-Air Division: *air-to-air and air-to-surface warfare*
- RAPCON/ Weather Flight: *weather's impact on tactical operations*
- RQ-7 Shadow Facility: *tactical unmanned aerial systems*
- F-16 Viper: *fighter aircraft, hanger, fueling and munitions*



This event was greatly enjoyed by both the students and the base personnel. Due to popular demand, additional Volk Field Airman Experience Days had been planned for this semester on Wednesday, March 25, and Wednesday, May 27, however these have been put on hold until the COVID-19 pandemic is behind us.

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## F-35 Update



The US Air Force has created an informative website with details on the F-35 decision.

Visit [www.ANGF35EIS.com](http://www.ANGF35EIS.com) for updates.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Timeline to the left is from their recent newsletter. (Please note that it may change due to the impact the Coronavirus pandemic is having.)



## **Save the Dates\* ...**

*\*Please note all events are By Invitation Only unless specifically designated as Open to the Public. Invitations are sent via email and include an RSVP link. And of course, stay tuned throughout the Coronavirus pandemic as we will adjust dates or modes of connection as appropriate for everyone's health and safety. Thank you.*

### **CANCELLED Jaded Thunder CANCELLED**

**Tuesday, May 12, 2020**

*Due to the Safer at Home and Social Distancing orders our communities are currently under in response to the Coronavirus pandemic, and the urgent call to duty our service men and women are undergoing, we regret having to cancel this event.*

### **Northern Lightning Distinguished Visitors Day**

**Thursday, August 13, 2020**

*This special day occurs during the two week Northern Lightning Exercises in which aircraft and military personnel from around the country utilize the premiere air space at Volk Field. VFCC Cornerstone Members and other dignitaries are invited for an inside glimpse of these training exercises.*

### **Patriots Day 5K Heroes Run**

**Friday, September 11, 2020**

*This 5K Walk/Run honors all our national police and firefighter fallen heroes, and raises money to benefit their families as well as for National Honor Flights.*

### **VFCC Holiday Social**

**Date TBA in December 2020**

*A festive gathering for all Volk Field Community Council Founders, Advisors, Cornerstone Members, Base Personnel, and other Special Guests. Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails.*

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Visit our website at [www.vfccwi.org](http://www.vfccwi.org)



The primary mission of the Volk Field Community Council is to support the Volk Field Air National Guard Base's mission, relationships and initiatives with their personnel, local community, all level of public officials and all those impacting and influencing their base operations and economic impact. In addition, the VFCC commits to work with Volk Field ANGB to inspire and support the next generation of aerospace professionals, develop access to aerospace industry and careers for rural students and adults, and support aerospace networks in initiatives and opportunities.