



The Journey Museum & Learning Center  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Wild Blue Yonder - The Story of Ellsworth AFB Opening Reception**

**RAPID CITY, SD - The Journey Museum & Learning Center proudly announces its newest exhibit titled 'Wild Blue Yonder - The Story of Ellsworth AFB'. Just in time for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ellsworth Air Force Base, this exhibit celebrates the past, present and future of South Dakota's only military installation. On Friday, Oct. 20 beginning at 5 p.m., be the first to see the new exhibit at the Journey Museum & Learning Center's opening reception.**

'Wild Blue Yonder - The Story of Ellsworth AFB' opening reception is free to the public. Quasi Al-Haj, West River Director for U.S. Senator John Thune will speak on South Dakota's continuing dedication to the preservation of Ellsworth AFB. Light snacks and refreshments will be available for purchase.

This unique exhibit takes visitors on a journey through more than seven decades of Air Force history in the Black Hills. Beginning as Rapid City Army Air Base in 1942, Ellsworth Air Force Base, re-named after Brigadier General Richard Ellsworth in 1953, maintains a lasting impact within Rapid City and the surrounding community.

From the Cold War era to present day, explore the storied past of South Dakota's only military base. Learn more about the Minute Man Missile facilities, B-1 Bombers and everything in between. The exhibit includes interactive experiences, including an emblem design station.

The Journey Trading Co. is currently selling t-shirts with the original Rapid City Army Air Base design to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. T-shirts can be purchased in the museum gift shop, which will be open the night of the reception.

For more information and details about this event or others, be sure to call (605) 394-6923 or e-mail [visserv@journeymuseum.org](mailto:visserv@journeymuseum.org). You can find a full schedule of programs on our website, [www.journeymuseum.org](http://www.journeymuseum.org).

The Journey Museum & Learning Center was established in 1997 and is conveniently located in downtown Rapid City at 222 New York St., 2 blocks east of the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center right across from the Club for Boys. Make sure to visit [www.journeymuseum.org](http://www.journeymuseum.org) to find additional schedule information and be sure to 'like' us on Facebook!