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## News, Feature Stories, & Commentary

### The Air Force Strings Embark on Summer Tour

by Master Sgt. William Hurd

7/30/2015 - **Washington, D.C.** -- The Air Force Strings are looking forward to our tour of New England, Pennsylvania, and Virginia this summer. The Strings will perform in Sidney, Maine, Manchester, N.H., Portsmouth, N.H., West Hartford, Conn., Lansdale, Pa., and Orkney Springs, Va. A complete schedule is listed at the end of this article.

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### Samuel Barber, American Airman

by Senior Master Sergeant Bill Tortolano

7/24/2015 - **Washington, D.C.** -- Samuel Barber (1910 - 1981) was considered an up-and-coming composer when he was drafted into the Army in 1942. In 1943 he transferred from Special Services to the Army Air Force where he came to the attention of General Henry Harley Arnold. Commanding general of the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II, "Hap" Arnold was ahead of his time, seeking subtle ways in which to wage "influence" instead of war. He commissioned musicians, actors and artists such as Glenn Miller and Ogden Pleissner to help raise the morale of the troops at home, on the front and behind enemy lines where new music and even jazz were prohibited by the Third Reich.

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### Rock Drummer Pedals His Way to Fitness

by Master Sgt. David Foster

7/10/2015 - **Washington, D.C.** -- When thinking of The United States Air Force Band, the first thing that might pop into your head is the spectacular musical artistry that's demonstrated on a daily basis. From the lone piper on a parade field to the majestic Concert Band performing on the Capitol Steps, this organization has some of the finest musicians on the planet. But, what isn't so well known is the squadron's dedication to fitness. Here at the Band there are a large number of elite athletes. To be in the Band, one must possess a high level of musicianship.

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