

SELFRIDGE FLYER

Volume 3, Issue 4

"127th Wing Your Hometown Air Force"

July 2020





NICKEL & SAPH, INC.
INSURANCE AGENCY

**Proud Member Of The
SANG Base Community Council**

**44 Macomb Place
Mount Clemens, MI 48043
586-463-4573**

Stephen Saph Sr. - stephen@nickelsaph.com

Stephen Saph Jr. - stephenjr@nickelsaph.com

*Public Entities • Municipalities • Road Commissions
Commercial Business • Non-Profits • Special Districts*

CHANGE OF COMMAND

AS Detroit welcomes new CO

By Tech. Sgt. Chelsea E. FitzPatrick
127th Wing Public Affairs

The members of U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Detroit welcomed a new commanding officer last month, when Capt. Jared E. King relinquished command to Cmdr. Mark L. Lay on June 29, 2020.

Once an Army aviation officer, Lay joined the Coast Guard in 2001 with eight years of military aviation experience under his belt. He was of the first aviators selected for qualification in the Sikorsky MH-60T Jayhawk, a multi-mission, twin-engine, medium-range helicopter meant for search and rescue, law enforcement, military

readiness and marine environmental protection missions. Most recently, he served as commanding officer of the Coast Guard Aviation Logistics Center where he led the Medium Range Recovery Product line.

Air Station Detroit's primary missions are search and rescue, law enforcement, domestic icebreaking operations, marine environmental protection, rotary wing air intercept and mission support for more than 200 local, state and federal agencies. The area of responsibility includes more than 1,100 miles of shoreline from Saginaw Bay, Michigan to the St. Lawrence Seaway.

The Coast Guard commemorates the 230th anniversary of its inception, August 4.



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY MUNNAF H. JOARDER

U.S. Coast Guard Rear Adm. Donna L. Cottrell, Ninth District commander, Cleveland, Ohio, presides over a change of command ceremony on July 1, 2020. Capt. Jared E. King (left) relinquished control of Air Station Detroit to Cmdr. Mark L. Lay (right) during a socially distanced ceremony.



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY TERRY L. ATWELL

Brig. Gen. Rolf Mammen, commander of the 127th Wing and Selfridge Air National Guard Base, hosts Sterling Heights Mayor Mike Taylor (center), accompanied by City Manager Mark Manderpool (left), Community Relations Director, Melanie Davis, and Economic Development Advisor Luke Bonner (right) to the base July 15, 2020. Governor Gretchen Whitmer and Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel have endorsed a nomination request for Sterling Heights to be considered for the future headquarters for the United States Space Command. Sterling Heights officials toured the base to gain more familiarity with the installation and to better understand how Selfridge is uniquely qualified to support the U.S. Space Command.

SELFRIDGE FLYER

Volume 3, Issue 4



SELFRIDGE BASE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Presidents

Mark Zuccaro (Current)
Drema Isaac (Future)

The Selfridge Base Community Council's mission is to continue improving outstanding relationships between both the civilian and military-service communities centered at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

Wing Commander

Brig. Gen. Rolf E. Mammen

Vice Wing Commander

Col. Alice Clark

Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant

Chief Master Sgt. Richard Gordon

127TH WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

Chief of Public Affairs

C. Phillip Ulmer

Chief of Community Relations

Tracy Morris

Public Affairs Officer

Capt. Cammy Alberts

Public Affairs Staff

Master Sgt. David Kujawa
Tech. Sgt. Dan Heaton
Tech. Sgt. Chelsea E. FitzPatrick
Staff Sgt. Samara Taylor
Staff Sgt. Andrew Schumann
Mr. Terry Atwell
Mr. Munaf Joarder

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

The Selfridge Flyer is a publication of the Selfridge Base Community Council and is not an official publication of the Department of Defense. Contents of the Selfridge Flyer are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the DoD, or Digital First Media.

Published by MediaNews Group, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force.

On the cover: An Airman from the 191st Maintenance Squadron places an engine cover on a KC-135 Stratotanker engine while wearing chemical warfare protective equipment at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, June 7, 2020. Michigan Air National Guard Airmen train for numerous different contingency scenarios as part of their mission to be America's modern-day Minutemen. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Dan Heaton)

SEEN AROUND SELFRIDGE

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer speaks to members of the Michigan National Guard Detachment 1, B Company, 3-238 General Support Aviation Battalion, known also as the "Motor City Muscle," after a socially distanced Deployment Ceremony, June 19, 2020, at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. The Michigan National Guard Detachment 1, B Company, 3-238 General Support Aviation Battalion will deploy as part of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard's 28th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade.

U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. JACOB CESSNA



Brig. Gen. Rolf Mammen, 127th Wing commander, salutes U.S. Vice President Mike Pence as he disembarks from Air Force Two at Selfridge Air National Guard Base on June 18, 2020. While in Michigan, Pence delivered remarks at Casadei Structural Steel, Inc., and toured Chardam Gear Company, both in Sterling Heights.

U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY MUNNAF H. JOARDER



Staff Sgt. Tanner Ban, Senior Airman Jacob Wedemeyer and Staff Sgt Cory Jones, all munitions specialists, 127th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, load inert munitions onto an A-10 Thunderbolt II on July 14, 2020 during a training exercise. Michigan's citizen-Airmen continually train on their systems to maintain their certifications and ensure readiness.



Volunteers from the Selfridge Military Air Museum drive a M4A1 Sherman Tank from the garage to a display location here on July 11, 2020. After arriving at the museum last November, the tank is on an indefinite loan to the museum. The museum was formed in 1975 by a group of officers and enlisted members to help preserve the heritage and traditions of the Michigan Air National Guard, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, and the units stationed here. The museum is open to the public Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 4:30 p.m. To visit or for more information call (586) 239-6768.

U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY MUNNAF H. JOARDER

LEADERSHIP

Ceremony recognizes four changes of commands

By Tech. Sgt. Chelsea E. FitzPatrick
127th Wing Public Affairs

The 127th Air Refueling Group held a combined Change of Command ceremony to recognize both new and changing leadership in the 127th Air Refueling Squadron. Col. James Rossi, commander of the 127th ARG, presided over a three-part ceremony where members of the audience wore face masks and many others watched from home.

“I’m afraid that this is our new normal, communicating in different ways, social distancing and masks,” Rossi said. “What’s important to take away from this event is that the mission is still getting done.”

During the ceremony, 127th Wing leadership joined in honoring the following command changes:

- Lt. Col. Donald Davenport, formerly the director of operations for the 171st Air Refueling Squadron, took command of the 191st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

- Formerly the 191st AMXS commander, Lt. Col. Brian Amara then took command of the 191st Operational Support Squadron.

- Formerly commander of the 191st Operational Support Squadron, Lt. Col. Larry Osiecki took command of the 171st Air Refueling Squadron from Lt. Col. Leah Voelker.



PHOTOS BY U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD, TERRY ATWELL

Tech. Sgt. John Diaz, command support staff, hands a guidon to Col. James Rossi, 127th Air Refueling Group commander, during a change of command ceremony on June 30, 2020.



Lt. Col. Don Davenport, center, holds the guidon for the 191st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron after taking command in a joint ceremony on June 30, 2020.

- Voelker was selected to serve in Lansing as the executive officer to the Adjutant General of the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, Maj. Gen. Paul Rogers.

“I could not be more excited for these leadership moves, not only for the individuals, but for the entire organization,” said Brig. Gen. Rolf E. Mammen, 127th Wing and Selfridge Air National Guard Base commander. “Each position change was considered in an effort to broaden the diversity of experience and to intentionally grow future senior leaders of the Michigan Guard.”

On Sept. 18, 2020, the Air Force celebrates 73 years as a separate military branch.

GRAPHIC BY CHARO GUTIERREZ,
DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY-
AIR FORCE



TRAINING

Selfridge Airmen maintain combat readiness

By Tech. Sgt. Daniel Heaton

127th Wing Public Affairs

In the first drill weekend since the coronavirus pandemic, Staff Sgt. Andrew Kolbe got checked out in the basics of the T34 turbofan jet engine, used on the A-10 Thunderbolt II at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

The training — and the combat readiness — of the Michigan Air National Guard has continued throughout the course of the pandemic. Social distancing, remote work and similar measures continue to be taken, but that has not stopped the 127th Wing from maintaining its tradition as America's Minutemen.

For Kolbe, a former jet engine mechanic on F-16 Fighting Falcons with the Ohio Air National Guard, that meant getting checked out on his new engines. As he and his trainer, Staff Sgt. Chris Fisher, worked in the engine shop, A-10s could be heard spooling up on the flight line, ready for the afternoon "go." On the other side of the world, another team of Selfridge-based Guardsman from the base's KC-135 Stratotanker units are on duty in the Middle East. Readiness continues in ways both small and large.

And for Kolbe, that meant getting checked out in the T34.

"Obviously, there's a lot of similarities, but also a lot of differences between the two," Kolbe said.

The 127th Propulsion Element keeps one T34 on a stand to be used for training purposes. Staff Sgt. Chris Fisher was working with Kolbe on the training.

"Initially, it's spending time checking a few things on the engine, just familiarizing yourself with where everything is located," Fisher said.

For the Airmen of the 127th Wing, the training — and the mission — continues, even at unusual times.



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. DAN HEATON

Staff Sgt. Andrew Kolbe works on a T34 engine alongside Staff Sgt. Chris Fisher, at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, June 6, 2020. The T34 is used on the A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft assigned to Selfridge. Kolbe was receiving upgrade training as a jet propulsion specialist with the 127th Maintenance Group.

Announcement: Combat Arms Firing Range No Trespassing Notice

By Alan Pionk

Range manager,
127th Security Forces Squadron

The 127th Security Forces Squadron firing range complex is located at Building 881/886, on the north side of Ammo Road, west of Jefferson Avenue. The range is off limits to all unauthorized personnel.

Firing operations are conducted during day and night, and can be extremely dangerous. The firing range is a no trespass area.

For more information or to gain valid entry to the range during duty hours, please contact the 127th SFS Combat Arms Range Manager, at (586) 239-4282. For after duty hours, contact the Base Defense Operations Center at (586) 239-4673.

Macomb County Schools Students and Staff

Anchor Bay Schools, Armada Area Schools, Center Line Public Schools, Chippewa Valley Schools, Clintondale Community Schools, Eastpointe Community Schools, Fitzgerald Public Schools, Fraser Public Schools, Lake Shore Public Schools, Lakeview Public Schools, L'Anse Creuse Public Schools, Mt. Clemens Community Schools, New Haven Community Schools, Richmond Community Schools, Romeo Community Schools, Roseville Community Schools, South Lake Schools, Utica Community Schools, Van Dyke Public Schools, Warren Consolidated Schools, Warren Woods Public Schools



With Gratitude for our U.S. Servicemen and Women who Sacrifice for our Freedoms



For more information about Macomb County Schools, please visit www.misd.net