

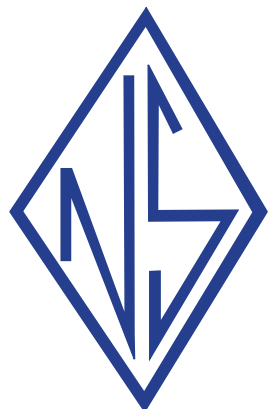
SELFLEDGE FLYER

Volume 4, Issue 1

"127th Wing – Your Hometown Air Force"

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2021





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*

EDITORIAL

Call to action

By Chief Master Sgt. Richard Gordon

127th Wing Command Chief

Despite the challenges faced together in 2020, the men and women of the 127th Wing consistently accomplished both their federal and state mission, while remaining focused, and committed, to the welfare of our Airmen.

Their contributions included hundreds of members deploying overseas, refueling airplanes over the Pacific and defending Air Bases in the Middle East. Assisting our communities - building the TCF hospital in downtown Detroit, standing-up various COVID testing sites, conducting COVID testing throughout the state, and packing food for distribution throughout Michigan communities. All while remaining committed to the mandatory training, to

fly, fix and support the flying missions.

How did this talented team of Citizen-Airmen succeed in the middle of the pandemic? One word - culture.

At the beginning of his tenure in 2019, our commander, Brig. Gen. Rolf Mammen, stressed that building and maintaining a healthy culture was his top priority. He realized the importance of recruiting talented individuals from within the communities we serve. He knows that to train and develop new recruits into the warfighters our nation needs, we must operate within a diverse and inclusive culture that promotes dignity and fairness. We need to promote a workplace where every Airman knows they are valued and their contributions are necessary for mission success. The members of this organization, the nation we

serve, and community members who support what we do should expect nothing less.

Nearly 30 years ago, I began my military career right here at Selfridge. While I've seen many ebbs and flows throughout that time, I can say without hesitation that today's culture within the 127th Wing has never been better, and our bond never stronger. I am truly excited for the future of Selfridge, and for the endless opportunities in front of our Airmen. Selfridge truly is the workplace of choice, and we are hiring!

If you or someone you know is looking for a challenge and has a desire to serve their nation and their community, with excellent pay with benefits that will last a lifetime, look no further than Selfridge. Check us out TODAY at www.127wg.ang.af.mil, or call our recruiting team at 800-432-4296.



Chief Master Sgt. Richard D. Gordon

SEEN AROUND SELFRIDGE



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

A KC-135 Stratotanker is pulled into a maintenance hangar during night flying operations at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., Dec. 17, 2020. The 127th Wing periodically schedules night missions to ensure that pilots and air crew are ready to operate in any type of environment, day or night.

SELRIDGE FLYER

Volume 4, Issue 1



SELRIDGE 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

Public Affairs Officer

Capt. Cammy Alberts

Base Visual Information Manager

Staff Sgt. Andrew Schumann

Public Affairs Staff

Master Sgt. Dan Heaton
Tech. Sgt. Chelsea E. FitzPatrick
Staff Sgt. Samara Taylor
Mr. Terry Atwell
Mr. Munnaf 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: Staff Sgt. Isaac Cross, 235th Air Traffic Control Squadron, New London Air National Guard Base, N.C. scans the airspace over sections of Michigan as part of his training at the 127th Air Traffic Control Tower here on January 4, 2021. Upon completion of training here, Cross will return to his home station as a certified Air Traffic Controller. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Munnaf Joarder)

SEEN AROUND SELFRIDGE



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY TERRY ATWELL

TOP: Sr. Master Sgt. Amanda Noble, commander support staff superintendent, 127th Wing Headquarters, was sworn in for a reenlistment term by Brig. Gen. Rolf E. Mammen, commander of the 127th Wing, on January 12, 2021 here.

RIGHT: Master Sgt. Josef Mack, a maintainer with 127th Maintenance Squadron, checks the settings in the cockpit of an A-10 Thunderbolt II prior to routine maintenance on the flight line at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., Jan. 9, 2021. The A-10 is primarily used as an air-to-ground attack platform.

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



SEEN AROUND SELFRIDGE

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

A-10 Thunderbolt III aircraft are readied for night missions at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., on the evening of Dec. 17, 2020. The Michigan Air National Guard periodically schedules night missions to ensure that personnel are ready to answer the nation's call under any conditions.



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

Crew chiefs from the 191st Maintenance Squadron apply de-icer to a KC-135 Stratotanker prior to a night mission at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., Dec. 17, 2020. The de-icer ensures that the aircraft is free of any ice or snow, allowing the aircraft to maintain its proper aerodynamic parameters in winter operations.



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

Airmen with the 191st Maintenance Squadron prepare to attach a drogue refueling basket to a KC-135 Stratotanker at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., Jan. 9, 2010. The drogue basket provides additional flexibility to the KC-135, allowing it to refuel additional types of aircraft.

FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

127 Wing Airmen receive COVID-19 vaccine

By Staff Sgt. Andrew Schumann

127th Wing Public Affairs

Approximately two dozen members of the 127th Wing began receiving the COVID-19 vaccine here on January 8, 2021, after the first shipment of vaccine arrived at the 127th Medical Group.

About two dozen of the Wing's firefighters previously received the vaccine through the local Macomb County Health Department. More doses of the vaccine are expected to be received at Selfridge on an ongoing basis in coming weeks.

"This is a vaccine unlike any other vaccine prior to now," said Tech. Sgt. Brian Faulkner, a health technician and 17-year veteran with the 127th Medical Group here. "This is the first time [vaccine producers] have had unlimited resources thrown at [vaccine development], including scientists, research, everything possible."

Faulkner has been one of the leaders in the distribution effort at the base, with duties including ordering and coordinating the supply of the vaccine, then delivering the vaccine to base Airmen and educating colleagues.

As part of the immunization process, the Airmen are provided a Center for Disease Control form, which will be used to provide for official proof of vaccination.

At present time, the vaccine is given on a voluntary basis. A priority effort was developed to allow those in high risk categories to receive their first dose.

Among the first to receive a shot at Selfridge was Senior Master Sgt. Deborah Simpson, from the 127th Force Support Squadron, who said her decision to receive the vaccine on Friday was a personal one.

"My husband got COVID in early March," she said. "He was sick with a fever for over 15 days, and he still has lingering side-effects, so, I don't want the same thing to happen to me," Simpson said. "I also want to be able to help prevent it from happening to other people."

In addressing the concerns of members who have elected not to receive the vaccine, Faulkner said he is understanding because it is a big decision to commit to, yet he's hopeful that receiving further education can improve Airmen's confidence in receiving the treatment.

"Studies have shown that the risks are very minimal at this time," Faulkner said. "Once 1.7 million doses were

given, only 23 adverse reactions were recorded, with 17 of those recipients having had an adverse vaccine reactions in the past."

Faulkner recommends members educate themselves in order to make the best decision they can.

"If there is anything [we can do to] help minimize the risk to others, we should consider it," Faulkner said.

For members who are undecided on whether or not to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, information can be obtained by calling the 127th Medical Group front desk at (586) 239-4973. A team of Medical Group professionals is ready to address any concerns, and provide the proper education.

The 127th Wing, in cooperation with the Michigan National Guard, has had an integral role in the state's fight against COVID-19. Since last Spring, teams of 127th Wing members have assisted in the build-up of the TCF Center Detroit field hospital, been working at Southeast Michigan food banks, and providing infrastructure for COVID-19 mobile test sites. As efforts shift to provide vaccinations at the base, and throughout the state, the 127th Wing continues to stand ready to respond to the state and nation.



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

Tech. Sgt. Kirsten James, a medical technician with the 127th Medical Group's bioenvironmental engineering team, administers a COVID-19 immunization to Senior Master Sgt. Robert Sutton, a defender of the 127th Security Forces Squadron, at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Jan. 8, 2021. The 127th Medical Group began administering the vaccination at Selfridge initially to the Base's first responders and other mission-essential personnel. More widespread distribution of the vaccine to base personnel is scheduled throughout the month.

AIRMAN PROFILE

Tech. Sgt. Lance Hughson

Unit name: 127 Wing Headquarters

Job title: Ground Safety Superintendent

Brief job description:

I implement the installation occupational safety program. My team and I discern attitudes, educate workers, and spotlight the safety and health matters important to members of the 127th Wing and Team Selfridge.

Number of years in military and where:

I have served for 10 and a half

years, and enlisted in the Air National Guard in November 2019. I've been stationed in Japan, Georgia and most recently at Dover Air Base in Delaware, before coming to Selfridge.

Why did you enlist?

I enlisted in the Michigan Air National Guard to continue my service close to home and family. Selfridge is a great fit for me.

What do you like most about your job?

I like that my role touches virtually every member and activity

of the Wing and Team Selfridge. There's almost nowhere we won't go and there's nobody we won't meet at some point. If you're reading this, and we haven't met -we will... Ha!

Do you think being in the military has changed you? If so, how?

Absolutely. I ate a slice of humble pie early in my career and now it's my favorite food. Service in the military accelerates maturity in everybody. It certainly did in me, and I'm a better human being for it.

Is there anything you've learned about the Guard that surprised you?

Yes. Entering the Guard after a period of Active Duty service gives me perspective. Members of Team Selfridge are true professionals and have great respect and admiration for one another. This is especially true of Headquarters.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

In 10 years, I hope to have earned the love and respect that

so many have for my supervisor, Chief Walter Escoe, who recently retired. I also look forward to starting a family during this time as well.

What do you like to do for recreation outside work? -or- what are your hobbies?

I enjoy reading books that interest me and spending time outdoors. My wife and I enjoy one another's company no matter the activity; we love kayaking and hiking. I enjoy the professional/college sports scene too.



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

Tech. Sgt. Lance Hughson

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