

December 2016

SELFRIDGE FLYER

127th Wing - Your Hometown Air Force



SELFRIDGE FLYER

The Selfridge Flyer is a monthly publication highlighting the citizen Airmen of Selfridge Air National Guard Base. It is produced, printed and distributed in partnership with Digital First Media.

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ASK THE COMMANDER

Strong 2016 sets stage for the centennial year

By Brig. Gen. John D. Slocum

127th Wing Commander

Perhaps 2016 should be best recorded as the year the 127th Wing let those outside of the Wing define who we are.

This year, the U.S. Air Force awarded the Wing's Citizen-Airmen with the Meritorious Unit Award, based in large part on our



Slocum

recent combat operations overseas. That award came just a few weeks after the National Guard Association of the United States designated the wing as the top flying unit in the Air National Guard. From our youngest new recruit, to our most seasoned veterans, 127th Wing Airmen have gone above and be-

We cannot imagine all the things that will transpire over our next 100 years, but I have no doubt that Team Selfridge will meet every challenge and continue to excel as they do so.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SELFRIDGE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE

yond in living the Air Force core value of Excellence in All We Do.

All this comes as we prepare to close out the first 100 years of operations at Selfridge Air National Guard Base with a centennial open house and air show on Aug. 19-20, 2017, that will not only salute our past, but will help to propel us into the future.

The 127th Wing and the 44 tenant commands at Selfridge - representing the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Border Patrol, Customs & Border Protection and more - benefit from being located in a highly-supportive community, where our friends and neighbors are truly our best partners as we work together to serve others. We

have been proud to be Michigan's Hometown Air Force for 100 years - contributing nearly \$1 billion annually to our local economy.

We cannot imagine all the things that will transpire over our next 100 years, but I have no doubt that Team Selfridge will meet every challenge and continue to excel as they do so.

As we take a moment to pause and reflect during this holiday season, I'd like to specifically highlight our military families. Our families are our single most valuable resource. This holiday season, if you know a military family, please take a moment and join me in thanking them for their service to this great nation of ours.

Brig. Gen. Slocum is the commander of the 127th Wing and base commander at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. A command pilot, he has logged more than 4,000 hours of time flying military aircraft. Currently, he flies the A-10 Thunderbolt II, an attack aircraft assigned to Selfridge.

GOT A QUESTION?

Do you have a question for Brig. Gen. Slocum? The "Ask the Commander" feature on the 127th Wing's public web site allows for emails to be sent directly to the commander's office at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. There is a link to the feature on the web site, www.127wg.af.mil; or emails may be sent directly at usaf.mi.127-wg.mbx.pa@mail.mil.

127TH WING HIGHLIGHTS (FISCAL YEAR 2016)

- Awarded the Carl A. Spaatz Award as Top Flying Unit in the Air National Guard by the National Guard Association.
- Awarded Meritorious Unit Award by USAF for superior performance in support of combat operations.

Personnel

- Deployments to Pacific, European and Central Command areas.
- Total of 1,100 Airmen deployed from Selfridge in FY16, including both operational deployments and exercises.

Facilities

- Work began on \$32.6M jet fuels storage and delivery system. To be completed in FY2017.
- Construction of traffic circle outside Main Gate, in partnership with Macomb County.

Aircraft

- Operated highest optempo KC-135 in Air National Guard.

State Partnerships

- Multiple flights to Liberia to support Michigan Army National Guard operations.
- Led ANG support to Saber Strike and related humanitarian building project in Latvia, including landing an A-10 on highway in Estonia for first time since the Cold War.
- Ongoing air traffic control familiarization program with Latvian Armed Forces at Selfridge.

Community

- Launched Selfridge Centennial Celebration, honoring 100 years of service at Selfridge.
- Supporting Michigan National Guard / Federal Emergency Management Agency response to Flint Water Crisis.

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

Cover photo: An F-35A Lightning II, painted with the markings of the 107th Fighter Squadron "Red Devils," is seen over Selfridge Air National Guard Base in this photo illustration. Selfridge is under consideration as a new home station for the F-35, a fifth generation fighter aircraft that is now entering the Air Force inventory. The 107th Fighter Squadron currently flies A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft at the base, an aircraft that the Air Force has plans to phase out in the next decade. If Selfridge is selected as an F-35 base, the new fighter would replace the A-10s at the base. Selfridge has been the home to one or more squadrons of fighter aircraft since 1917, when the base opened.

HONOR

Mack, Mason, Retka named 127th Wing's top weapons load crew

The team of Tech. Sgt. Joe Mack, Senior Airman Derrick Mason and Staff Sgt. Wes Retka have won the coveted reserved parking spots set aside for the 127th Wing's top weapons loading team.

The three Airmen, members of the 127th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, were named the weapons load crew of the year at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. The squadron conducts an annual skills competition in December - known as the "load-eo" -- in which weapons loaders at the base are judged on their knowledge,

skills and ability to properly load munitions on to an A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft at the base. The teams are graded for their technical proficiency, adherence to safety standards and for time during a munitions load. A uniform inspection is also factored into the score.

In the photo, Mack, Mason and Retka are seen moving an AIM-9 Sidewinder missile into place before loading it on to an A-10 during the competition.

The top team wins the premium parking spot for the following year.

— Tech. Sgt. Dan Heaton



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. SAMARA TAYLOR

FROM THE CITIZEN-AIRMEN OF THE 127TH WING



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTOS BY TERRY ATWELL

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season



MICHIGAN'S HOMETOWN AIR FORCE

HONORS

127th Wing names Airmen of the Year

By Tech. Sgt. Dan Heaton
127th Wing

The 127th Wing announced the 2016 Airmen of the Year at Selfridge Air National Guard Base during the wing's annual awards ceremony in early December.

The Airmen of the Year are:

- Airman 1st Class Clifford Mua, 127th Medical Group, Airman of the Year.

- Tech. Sgt. Drew Reynolds, 127th Maintenance Group, Non-commissioned Officer of the Year.

- Senior Master Sgt. Eric Bates, 127th Air Refueling Group, Senior Non-commissioned Officer of the Year.

- Master Sgt. Robin Cleaver, 127th Mission Support Group, First Sergeant of the Year.

- 1st Lt. Paige Campbell, 127th Operations Group, Company Grade Officer of the Year.

- Tech. Sg. Stuart Ingersoll, 127th Maintenance Group, Honor Guard Member of the Year.

The 127th Wing award win-

ners are forwarded to Michigan National Guard headquarters in Lansing for consideration at the state level.

In addition to the individual awards, the Bio-Environmental Engineering Office from the 127th Medical Group was awarded the 127th Wing Commander's Trophy for superior performance in 2016. The members of that team are Major Mark Rausch, 1st Lt. Michael Cox, Master Sgt. Dean Kloviski, Staff Sgt. Audrey Carlstrom and Staff Sgt. Brandon Reif.

"The achievements and dedication of these Airmen are part of what makes the 127th Wing a world class organization," said Brig. Gen. John D. Slocum, the 127th Wing commander.

The 127th Wing's annual safety award was also presented at the ceremony. The award was presented to Senior Airman Michael Fontana, a maintenance specialist with the 191st Maintenance Squadron for his work with KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft at Selfridge.



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. DAVID KUJAWA

Flanked between Brig. Gen. John D. Slocum, commander of the 127th Wing and Chief Master Sgt. Tony Whitehead, 127th Command Chief, stand the 127th Wing's Airmen of the Year winners with their awards following the 127th Wing Commander's Call ceremony at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., Dec. 3, 2016. Pictured are, from left, Whitehead; Senior Airman Michael Fontana, 127th Wing Safety Award; Tech. Sgt. Stuart Ingersoll, Honor Guard member of the year; the Bio-Environmental Engineering section from the 127th Medical Group, Major Mark Rausch, 1st Lt. Michael Cox, Master Sgt. Dean Kloviski, Staff Sgt. Audrey Carlstrom, and Staff Sgt. Brandon Reif, Commander's Trophy winners; 1st Lt. Paige Campbell, Company Grade Officer of the Year; Master Sgt. Robin Cleaver, First Sergeant of the Year; Senior Master Sgt. Eric Bates, Senior Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year; Technical Sgt. Drew Reynolds, Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year; Airman First Class Clifford Mua, Airman of the Year; and Slocum.

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BEST PRACTICE

A Safety Culture

Chief Master Sgt. Walter Escoe
127th Wing Safety Office

Have you notice how embedded safety is in our everyday lives? When we leave home, a friends' house and even the job at the end of the day, often there are two words spoken to us as we depart: "Be safe" or "Drive safely."



Escoe

Throughout our day-to-day activities phrases such as these resonate in our lives. They are a constant reminder the world we live in can be an unsafe place at times. "Be careful walking down the stairs." "Be careful driving." "The floor is slippery; be careful crossing." Such phrases are part of the safety culture we have built

in our lives and our world. Our safety practices have been ingrained in us; through work, home, on vacation and at play. For us military folks, the Air Force has given us a tool known as Risk Management, which is essential in managing risk at play, on vacation and work. The steps of the risk management process are key components of safety.

Air Force Instruction 90-802 provides us an overarching framework for risk management and establishes the requirement to integrate and sustain risk management throughout the AF as a risk reduction process. The process aid us in identifying and controlling safety and health hazards as well as making informed decisions. Even on vacation or at play, the risk management process is part of our lives though we use it a bit

more unconsciously in those situation.

You might be asking where is this going; why do we tell our friends to "Be safe?" In most cases, the person delivering such an utterance is speaking from experience. He or she is sharing wisdom compiled over time, things that have happened to them when certain conditions or circumstances exist.

The word "safety" means: "the condition of being safe from undergoing or causing hurt, injury or loss." Undergo means "to experience or endure something."

By imparting this information it sometimes aid us in avoiding the same mistake. Their advice is a snap shot of a lesson learned. As an example, they may have traveled down a set of

wet stairs, slipped and learned that the hand rail should be held while traversing up or down wet stairs. Hence the statement "Be careful, stairs are wet." This information is prevalent because it also tells us that there could be risk associated with moving up and down wet stairs. Of course wet stairs alone may not be the sole cause of a slip and fall and certainly stairs don't have to be wet to trip and fall. There could be other contributing factors that contribute to injuries associated with stairs, such as the shoe type, the finish on the stairs or the construction of the steps. Then there is something as small as holding the hand rail when walking up and down stairs. So much utterance and all for what?

The reason, then, for all the uttering of "Be safe" is pretty obvious to me; our safety is important to a lot of folks for a lot of reasons. Let's focus on the employer. The employer would want you to be safe because you run the operation -- without you nothing would get done. It's also far more cost effective

for the employer to have you at work drawing a wage then sitting at home drawing a wage. OSHA fines to employers can be costly for violation; not to mention civil law suits that can occur for employer wrong doing. Makes sense?

Here is another little gee-whiz as to why the employer cares about our safety: Prior to 1970 some employers didn't give much thought to working conditions in their work places -- profit was the focal point and all else went unchecked across our nation. Regulations for safety were nonexistence and many folks were being subjected to amputations, chemical exposures and even killed in work place related mishaps -- without any compensation to the victim or family members.

Imagine losing a hand, foot or even an eye because a piece of equipment wasn't safe. Couple that with being told you no long have a job when you try to return. Believe it or not these things were happening. Knowing this bit of information, now

SAFETY » PAGE 11



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TRAINING

Airmen bolster base security force

Tech Sgt. Dan Heaton
127th Wing

A group of 127th Wing Airmen at Selfridge Air National Guard Base recently completed specialized training to allow them to serve as augmentees to the Security Forces Airmen who typically provide law enforcement and security services on the base.

The augmentees could be utilized during a major emergency or other scenario on the base.

“The training that these Airmen received is not intended to certify them as law enforcement officers, but to give them the basics so that they would be able to provide support working alongside one of our fully-trained Security Forces Airmen,” explained Lt. Col. Richard Walmsley, commander of the 127th Security Forces Squadron. “Our wing motto is ‘We Stand Ready’ and the augmentee Airmen help us to live up to that responsibility.”

The augmentees, all volunteers from various squadrons around the base, were guided in packed week of classroom and hands-on training covering the gamut of Security Forces operations.

The augmentees are living up to the long-time U.S. military standard that Airmen are Airmen first, and practitioners of their particular career specialty second. In other words, all Airmen subscribe to the Air Force core value of placing of the needs of the service before their own needs.

Among the security volunteers was Airman 1st Class Clifford Mua, who typically works as a logistics specialist in the 127th Medical Group. In his civilian job, Mua works for DK Security, a contract firm that provides security services at Michigan



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

Above: Airman 1st Class Clifford Mua fires an M-16 rifle during weapons qualification at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. Mua, who typically works in medical logistics for the 127th Wing at the base, is also an augmentee of the 127th Security Forces Squadron.

Middle: Tech. Sgt. Steven Marcotte, the unit training manager for the 127th Security Forces Squadron at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, provides instruction on how to handcuff a suspect to a fellow group of Airmen who serve as augmentees to the Security Forces Squadron.

National Guard Joint Forces Headquarters in Lansing, where Mua works, at Selfridge and other locations.

“I have a real interest in law enforcement,” said Mua, who was recently selected as the 127th Wing’s Airman of the Year. “I want to be a team player, so an opportunity to help out our Security Forces Squadron allowed me to do that.”

Walmsley said that another opportunity for Airmen to be trained as Security Forces augmentees will take place in 2017.



Top right: Tech. Sgt. Steven Marcotte, the unit training manager for the 127th Security Forces Squadron at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, provides instruction on how to correctly use handcuffs to Airman 1st Class Anthony Bandy, an emergency management specialist on the base. Bandy was receiving the training to allow him to be able to serve as an augmentee to the Security Forces Squadron.

Bottom left: Tech. Sgt. Steven Marcotte, the unit training manager for the 127th Security Forces Squadron at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, provides instruction on how to deal with a criminal suspect to Airman 1st Class Anthony Bandy, an emergency management specialist on the base. Bandy was receiving the training to allow him to be able to serve as an augmentee to the Security Forces Squadron. The training was conducted in a video simulation area, using special weapons equipped with light sensors, allowing the trainees to engage in various law enforcement and security scenarios in a controlled environment.



FACILITIES

Meet Joint Reserve Intelligence Center - Detroit

By Petty Officer 2nd Class
Lauren Mullins
JRIC-Detroit

Joint Reserve Intelligence Center-Detroit (JRIC) is located on the Selfridge Air National Guard Base. The multi-million dollar facility was renovated in September 2013, expanding the facility from 5,800 square feet to 15,000, from 55 workstations to 228, and creating a new multipurpose training area with three networks and 24 workstations. This expansion opened many doors for joint exercise and operations.



Jordan

The JRIC is one of more than 40 separate commands and organizations that make up Team Selfridge. The current commander is Navy Lt. Christopher Jordan.

“The project’s completion also marked the beginning of a far-ranging opportunity for more than 250 military intelligence professionals to support a wide array of missions and projects buttressing requirements and objectives around the world,” said Todd Parsons, a field support engineer who worked on the expansion project.

JRIC Detroit’s location at Selfridge has a rich history.

The facility was used as administration and training facilities for office in support of Navy P-3 Orion aircraft, which were assigned to Selfridge from 1976 to 1994. At that time, the Navy Reserve’s VP-93 squadron operated the P-3s at Selfridge. The building was also used by VR-62 (squadron C-9) and Naval Air Facility-Detroit. The building provided medical and dental offices, as well as space for the aircraft intermediate maintenance department. In 2003, Naval Air Reserve Center merged all aviation units. In 2006, the Naval Air Reserve Center would re-designate to become the Naval Operations Support Center (NOSC). In 2011, the NOSC would move to building 1409, and the Joint Re-



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. DAVID KUJAWA

The Sailors, Soldiers and Marine of the US European Command Joint Analytic Center’s Detroit detachment are seen in a command photo taken in December. Known as EUCOM-JAC, the command is a component of the Joint Reserve Intelligence Center-Detroit at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. The group is commanded by Navy Cmdr. Joseph Cubba, who is in front of the group on the left of the photo.

“The project’s completion also marked the beginning of a far-ranging opportunity for more than 250 military intelligence professionals to support a wide array of missions and projects buttressing requirements and objectives around the world.”

Todd Parsons, a field support engineer who worked on the expansion project.

serve Intelligence Center would take over building 1408.

“There were times when there was civilian training taking place in the Detroit Building offering them general military training and Red Cross training. There were also civilian instructors that taught aviation mechanics and repair,” said Steven Cook, a supply technician and facility manager who began working at NOSC in 2008.

The JRIC building honors this heritage of naval aviation service

at the base, by sporting the message “FLY NAVY” painted on the top of the building.

JRIC Detroit supports 250 drilling reservists, guardsmen, full time intelligence professionals, and contractors who support commands at the operational and tactical level. Specifically, JRIC Detroit supports the missions of the Defense Intelligence Agency; US European (EUCOM); National Security Agency, and Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC). These JRIC Detroit tenants provide



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY JOHN BRANDENBURG

The Joint Reserve Intelligence Center-Detroit at Selfridge Air National Guard Base is seen on a snowy December afternoon.

multi-source intelligence to their supported commands both as drilling reservists and as full time intelligence professionals. Additionally, JRIC Detroit hosts Personnel Recovery Command and Control (PRC2) who provide operational

support, training, education, oversight, guidance, analysis, and technology integration to enable commanders, forces and individuals to prevent, prepare for, and respond to isolating events. JRIC Detroit

UPGRADES

Selfridge considered for nation's newest fighter aircraft

By Tech. Sgt. Dan Heaton

127th Wing

The Air Force has selected Selfridge Air National Guard Base as one of five locations being considered for the F-35A Lightning, the nation's newest fighter aircraft.

If selected, the F-35 would likely replace the A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft now assigned to the base and flown by the 107th Fighter Squadron, Michigan Air National Guard.

"We are confident that we have made a very strong case that it is in the best interest of the nation

to locate the F-35 at Selfridge," said Maj. Gen. Gregory J. Vadnais, the adjutant general of Michigan. "Given the infrastructure at Selfridge and at our northern Michigan training facilities in Alpena and Grayling, it just makes sense, both operationally and fiscally, to base the F-35 in Michigan."



Vadnais

The Air Force announced the finalists for consideration for the F-35 basing after a comprehensive review of mission requirements (weather, airspace and training range availability), capacity (sufficient hanger and ramp space, and facility considerations), environmental requirements, and cost factors at bases across the country. A review team will visit the five bases, January through March, and submit its final recommendation this Spring.

"Given that the fighter operations building and munitions facility at Selfridge are both less than 10 years old and that adequate hangar space for fighter aircraft already exists at Selfridge, there is a strong case to be made that the base could quickly adapt to the new mission requirements with minimal costs," said Brig. Gen. John D. Slocum, commander of the Michigan Air National Guard's 127th Wing, which is the host unit at



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

Photo illustration shows what an F-35 Lightning II might look like if it was painted with the markings of the 107th Fighter Squadron that is based at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

Selfridge.

"But our greatest assets are the skilled group of Airmen - pilots, maintainers and all the related support personnel - who have proven themselves to be among the best in the Air Force," Slocum said, noting that in 2016 the 127th Wing was awarded the Carl A. Spaatz Trophy as the top flying unit in the Air National Guard, followed by an Air Force Meritorious Unit Award, signifying superior performance in combat operations. "Our Airmen

are truly building on a 100-year record of fighter aircraft excellence here at Selfridge," he said. "We have the know-how and the necessary drive to be able to quickly adapt to and excel at the F-35 mission."

If selected as a future F-35 base, the new aircraft likely would begin to arrive at Selfridge in 2022.

Fighter aircraft have a long history at Selfridge. The base opened in the early days of World War I, when fighter aircraft were

"We are confident that we have made a very strong case that it is in the best interest of the nation to locate the F-35 at Selfridge."

Maj. Gen. Gregory J. Vadnais

still called "pursuit aeroplanes" and featured canvas-covered wings and propellers. Since that time, Selfridge Airmen have repeatedly risen to the challenge of adapting to the latest technology to take wing. That was perhaps

best demonstrated during the last fighter aircraft transition, when the 127th Wing moved from flying F-16 Falcons to the current A-10s in 2009 and 2010.

"As we moved through that transition, we learned that we

F-35 LIGHTNING II

- **Primary Function:** Multi-role fighter

- **Prime Contractor:** Lockheed Martin

- **Power Plant:**

One Pratt & Whitney F135-PW-100 turbo fan engine

- **Thrust:**

43,000 pounds

- **Wingspan:**

35 feet (10.7 meters)

- **Length:**

51 feet (15.7 meters)

- **Height:**

14 feet (4.38 meters)

- **Maximum Takeoff Weight:**

70,000 pound class

- **Fuel Capacity:**

Internal: 18,498 pounds

- **Payload:**

18,000 pounds (8,160 kilograms)

- **Speed:** Mach 1.6 (~1,200 mph)

- **Range:**

More than 1,350 miles with internal fuel (1,200+ nautical miles), unlimited with aerial refueling

- **Ceiling:**

Above 50,000 feet (15 kilometers)

- **Armament:**

Internal and external capability.

- **Munitions carried vary based on mission requirements.**

Crew: One

were going to be needed in Afghanistan earlier than originally planned," said Maj. Gen. Leonard Isabelle, Jr., commander of the Michigan Air National Guard and a former F-16 pilot who was serving as the commander of the 127th Operations Group, overseeing the transition at the time. "Our people buckled down and became mission-ready six months ahead of schedule. We were able to deploy overseas and complete our mission thanks to a lot of hard work and focus. Many of those same Airmen continue to serve today in our fighter and maintenance squadrons. It gives me great pride, and great comfort, to know that they are eagerly

"But our greatest assets are the skilled group of Airmen - pilots, maintainers and all the related support personnel - who have proven themselves to be among the best in the Air Force."

*Brig. Gen. John D. Slocum,
commander of the Michigan Air
National Guard's 127th Wing*

awaiting this next challenge."

More than 600 personnel, roughly 180 full-time positions and 450 part-time (traditional Guardsmen), are engaged in A-10 operations at Selfridge. It is expected that if the F-35 is located at the base that the local employment levels would remain mostly unchanged.

The 127th Wing, Michigan Air National Guard, is the largest unit assigned to Selfridge. The wing flies the KC-135 Stratotanker, an air-to-air refueling platform, in addition to the A-10. In total, about 1,700 people are assigned to the 127th Wing.

The base as a whole includes about 1,700 full-time military and civilian employees and about 2,600 part-time military personnel in the National Guard or Reserve. The base generates nearly \$1 billion annually in economic impact to the local community.

About the F-35 Lightning II Fighter Aircraft The F-35A is the U.S. Air Force's latest fifth-generation fighter. It will replace the U.S. Air Force's aging fleet of F-16 Fighting Falcons and A-10 Thunderbolt II's, which have been the primary fighter aircraft for more than 20 years. Additionally, it will bring an enhanced capability to survive in the advanced threat environment in which it was designed to operate. With its aerodynamic performance and advanced integrated avionics, the F-35A will provide next-generation stealth, enhanced situational awareness, and reduced vulnerability for the United States and allied nations.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Anniversaries Highlight 2017

By Tech. Sgt. Dan Heaton

127th Wing

From major awards to a centennial anniversary, accolades and milestones are piling up for the Airmen of the 127th Wing.

The wing was recently awarded the Carl A. Spaatz Trophy by the National Guard Association of the United States, honoring the 127th Wing as the top flying unit in the Air National Guard. Looking ahead to 2017, the wing will lead the celebration of 100 years of operation of Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

Here's a look at some of the key milestones marked by the wing in 2016 and 2017:

Spaatz Trophy:

The award highlights not only the sterling safety record of the wing - more than 23 years without a Class A Mishap - and the pass-with-flying-colors nature of last year's operational readiness inspection of our KC-135 enterprise, but acknowledges the extensive combat flight operations of the wing in 2015. Both A-10 and KC-135 units successfully completed lengthy, high-tempo deployments to CENTCOM in 2015 - the largest combat deployment of the 127th Wing since the Korean War. The Spaatz Trophy fits in nicely with the upcoming centennial for Selfridge: Spaatz was the commander of the 1st Pursuit Group at the base in the 1920s, before becoming the first Air Force chief of staff in 1947.

107FS Birthday:

On May 7, 2016, the 107th Fighter Squadron turned 90 years old. The unit received official federal recognition on that day in 1926, making it one of the oldest continuously operating flying units in the U.S. military. The 107th would later be designated as the successor to a previous 107th Aero Squadron, which had begun operations on Aug. 27, 1917, and operated for the duration of World War I.

171ARS Birthday:

On May 24, 2016, the 171st Air Refueling Squadron turned 70 years old. After operating as the 374th Fighter Squadron during World War II, the 171st was redesignated as the 171st Fighter Squadron and assigned to the Michigan National Guard on that day in 1946.

127th Wing Birthday:

The current version of the 127th Wing is now 20 years old. The Wing was created on April 1, 1996, via the merger of the former 127th Fighter Wing and the 191st Airlift Group.

Air Force & Air National Guard Birthday:

On Sept. 18, 2016, both the Air Force and the Michigan Air National Guard marked 69 years of operations. The services were separated from the Army and Army National Guard on this day in 1947.

Selfridge Field Centennial:

On July 1, 1917, Company G, 33rd Infantry, Michigan National Guard, took possession of Selfridge Field. The property, owned by Henry Joy, president of the Packard Automobile Company, had been leased to the government for training use during World War I. The first flight at the base took place on July 8, 1917. A centennial open house & air show, Aug. 19-20, along with several other centennial events, including a Tuskegee Airmen commemoration in May, will be held to commemorate Selfridge's status as one of the oldest continuously operating military air fields in the nation.

With this combined history as our foundation, the 127th Wing is poised to continue to serve state and nation, by providing highly skilled Airmen and aircraft to Fight America's Wars, Protect the Homeland and Build Partnerships.

We Stand Ready.



107th Fighter Squadron



171st Air Refueling Squadron



Air National Guard

Looking ahead to 2017, the wing will lead the celebration of 100 years of operation of Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

REMEMBRANCE

Honor Guard Airmen honor military legacy

By Tech. Sgt. Dan Heaton
127th Wing

For Staff Sgt. Lisa Dusseljee, one word stands out above all others when she considers her service in the Michigan Air National Guard: legacy.

“My grandfather was in the Army Air Corps, my dad was in the 110th, so I feel like I have an understanding of what it means to be part of the military legacy,” Dusseljee said.

In response to her awareness of honor a proud legacy, Dusseljee volunteers to serve as a member of the 110th Attack Wing Honor Guard, which provides funeral honors for military members and Air Force veterans. She spent several days in early December at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, working with the 127th Wing Honor Guard, as Airmen from both units honed their skills as Honor Guard members.

“It is critical when we attend a funeral for one of our veterans, that they are paid the honor that they are due for their service to our nation,” Dusseljee said. “This is not something I have to do as part of my job, but I really want to be a part of this. It is important to me.”

Currently, Dusseljee serves as a member of the 110th Attack Wing, which is based at Battle Creek Air National Guard Base. She works in logistics for the 110th and has been a part of the Honor Guard for about three years.

“Most of the people who serve in the Honor Guard, I think at some level they feel that connection to the legacy of the people who served before us,” said Tech. Sgt. Shawn McKellop, who works in the Guard & Reserve Liaison Office at the Honor Guard section at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. There, he coordinates the activities of a dozen Honor Guard teams in five states in the American heartland – including those at Selfridge and in Battle Creek – that provide honors at some



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

Staff Sgt. Lisa Dusseljee, left, Tech. Sgt. Robby Carlisle, and other members of the 127th Wing and 110th Attack Wing Honor Guards practice folding an American flag during a training session. Dusseljee is a member of the 110th Attack Wing, which is based in Battle Creek. Carlisle is a member of the 127th Wing, which is based at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

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4,500 funerals in a typical year. Air National Guard members from Battle Creek and Selfridge provide almost all of the honors for Air Force veterans in the state of Michigan. At Selfridge, that amounts to close to 350 funeral details in a typical year, said Master Sgt. Ninette Marcotte, who

leads the Selfridge team.

“I really rely on my team to make this happen,” said Marcotte, who’s been part of the Honor Guard for about a dozen years. “We have about 20 Airmen at Selfridge who I can call on. Sometimes, we’ll handle 10 funerals in a week and we have



Honor Guard members practice folding a flag over a coffin during a training session at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.



Tech. Sgt. Patrick Probyn and Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Pranga, both members of the 127th Wing Honor Guard at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, practice folding an American flag during an Honor Guard training session. The two Airmen are members of the Michigan Air National Guard.

JRIC

FROM PAGE 7

also provides infrastructure and IT support to various law enforcement elements including the Dept. of Homeland Security, Dept. of Justice, and Customs and Border Protection.

These federal law enforcement organizations routinely utilize JRIC Detroit for classroom space, meeting space, video-teleconference capabilities and intelligence research/production. The JRIC provides direct support to the military services, combatant commands, service intelligence centers, combat support agencies, and the greater intelligence community for training, exercises and real-world operational missions.

The JRIC's full-time staff manages and executes administrative operations for both JRIC Detroit active duty staff and reserve units. The staff manages and conducts training for information warfare requirements and qualifications, as well as the Navy's general military requirements and physical readiness program. Additionally, the staff plays a vital role in coordinating with recruiters from Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana for the proper processing and scheduling of direct commissioning officer packages and interview panels.

to work with Wright-Patterson and the team in Battle Creek to make sure they are all covered. It means so much to the families we work with."

Honorably discharged Air Force veterans are entitled to a two-person Honor Guard detail at their funeral. The Honor Guard performs a flag-folding ceremony at the funeral and plays Taps at the funeral, rendering a final salute. Air Force

retirees are entitled to a similar ceremony with a four-person detail. Air Force members who die while on duty are afforded a seven-person Honor Guard.

At the Honor Guard training class at Selfridge, an instructor from Wright-Patterson and team members from both Battle Creek and Selfridge reviewed the steps of properly folding the flag, firing a rifle salute volley and other steps.

"At the training, we slow it down, talk through it and perform all the actions multiple times," McKellop said. "That way, when we get to the funeral, we are able to perform the honors precisely and properly. It can be quite emotional at times at the funeral home or at the cemetery. So it helps to run through a practice and to perform the honors with different team members in practice, so everyone is

in synch when we are out there with the families."

Funeral honor details are coordinated by local funeral homes in conjunction with the military services. Each branch of the military performs similar honors for their veterans.

Information on requesting an Air Force Honor Guard for a veteran's funeral can be found at www.88thfss.com/honorguard.html

Safety

FROM PAGE 5

what does safety mean to you?

The word "safety" means: "the condition of being safe from undergoing or causing hurt, injury or loss." Undergo means "to experience or endure something."

We place ladders up against the house to reach the roof, to save ourselves some time we go up the ladder with tools in our hands, rather than wearing a tool belt or using a bucket to transport the tools up. This can easily lead to dropped tools, allowing them to hit and injure the person supporting the ladder.

The question I would ask is who does that? Stand under a

ladder while someone climbs with tools in their hands? We all do or have done it one time or another.

How about climbing a ladder that has not been positioned correctly and no one supporting the base of the ladder, only for the ladder to slide from the position in which we incorrectly placed it? How often then do we find ourselves having to jump off the ladder to keep from ending up in an inferior position?

As a result of incidents such as the examples described, it turns out that 90% of the injuries we're involved in are our own fault.

Hopefully at this point our understanding is a bit clearer as to why folks are always saying "be safe" or "drive safely" -- most of these folks have had experience

with close calls or even been hurt by things that are commonly associated with living. Now you have some knowledge on the term safety, as stated we know it's "the condition of being safe from undergoing or causing hurt, injury or loss."

A few paragraphs back I mentioned regulations and 1970: it wasn't until the '70s that the government got involved with work place conditions and safety. Due to public outcry against rising injury and the death rates from job related injuries that government really became involved in this arena.

The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 was signed into law by President Richard M. Nixon. This law led to the establishment of the Occupational

Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), and the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

The agency was officially stood up on April 28, 1971. The purpose was to ensure safe and healthful working conditions for working men and women by setting and enforcing standards.

In addition to working standards the agency also provides training, outreach, education and assistance. On Jan. 17, 1972, the OSHA Training Institute was established to train OSHA compliance officers, private sectors and other Federal government safety personnel. In 1992, the OSHA Training Institute began partnering with colleges and

universities to conduct workplace safety classes. Since then, over 248,000 safety personnel have been trained through these education centers and in FY 2008 webinars were introduced.

So looking back on how things were and where we are now things are better. OSHA has been on Selfridge so much that I feel the agent for our region and I are kin. All the visits have been a positive experience here at Selfridge. As much as we would like to think we are in the know... there is always something else to know! Remember

OSHA is the friend who leads and guides us on to the next unknown while we pursue our American dreams, while allowing our voices are heard as and keeping us safe.

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