

April 2017

SELFRIDGE FLYER

127th Wing - Your Hometown Air Force



Base announces centennial nose art winner

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1st RACHEL BARTON



2ND SCOTT WHITESIDE



3RD MARIANNE PUPKA

SELFRIDGE FLYER

Selfridge clearly best new home for the F-35

By Mark Hackel

Macomb County Executive

When I found out that Selfridge Air National Guard Base was being considered by the federal government to house the military's newest aircraft, the F-35, Lightning II, a fifth-generation fighter, I was ecstatic. I knew without a doubt Selfridge was the perfect place for this project.

As a lifelong resident, it is obvious to me that Macomb County can fully support such an operation. We are an epicenter for the defense industry; Macomb County companies transacted over \$33.8 billion in defense business between 2000 and 2014. This means

that 63 percent of all defense business in Michigan is done right here in Macomb County.

Moreover, Selfridge's rich history demonstrates the airfield is up to the task. This year, Selfridge is celebrating 100 years of being a continually-operating airfield, starting out as a training base for World War I pilots. Currently, 3,000 full-time civilian and military personnel reside at Selfridge and are more than ready to be a part of this proposal.

To show the county's support for this plan, a couple of months ago I, along with a dedicated group of community supporters, hosted a major press event during

a Selfridge Base Community Council meeting kicking off our outreach campaign and promoting the launch of MIF35.org, a website designed to highlight all the benefits Selfridge and the community would realize if the base is able to secure the arrival of the F-35.

Over the next six months, we are committed to working hand in hand with the state of Michigan, the Michigan Defense Center, our congressional delegation, local legislators and defense partners in and around southeast Michigan to showcase Selfridge and confirm to the federal government that Macomb County is THE place to house the F-35.

LEADERSHIP



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY MSGT. DAVID KUJAWA

CIVIC FLIGHT EMPHASIZES COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Brig. Gen. John D. Slocum, 127th Wing Commander presents Bill Diehl the President of KPMG, with an inert 30MM round from an A-10 Thunderbolt II, a certificate and group photo of several community leaders who participated in a Community Leadership orientation flight at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich. April 11. The flight provides local community leaders a better understanding of the mission performed by the 127th Wing, the aircraft of the Michigan Air National Guard, and the important role Selfridge serves as a community partner.

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SELFRIDGE FLYER

Base announces centennial nose art winner

By Phillip Ulmer
127th Wing Public Affairs

Rachel Barton was named as the winning artist in the Selfridge Air National Guard Base Nose Art Contest.

Brig Gen John D. Slocum, 127th Wing Commander, Selfridge Air National Guard Base and Kris Mellebrand, Professor, Media & Communication Arts, Macomb Community College announced the winners and unveiled the nose art during a ceremony at the base Tuesday.

Barton's winning art is now painted on two aircraft from the base and serve as the official centennial logo as the base gears up for the air show and open house scheduled for August 19 and 20. She

was also awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from Macomb Community College.

Scott Whiteside, a student at Warren Mott High School earned second place and a \$600 scholarship; and Marianne Pupka, a student at Macomb Community College, took third place and a \$400 scholarship.

To celebrate the heritage of Selfridge, the base partnered with the college to develop an image to capture the base's centennial of service to the nation and the state of Michigan.

The base received 20 submissions from students of the Macomb Community College Media and Communications Arts Department and members of the base. Those who participated in the contest were

Nose art was a morale booster for the aircrews and those who worked on the flightline. The art on their aircraft unified the crew and made it unique from all others.

charged with creating art that would be distinctive, symbolic and represent the base.

The painting of art work on military aircraft dates back to World War I, when paintings were usually extravagant company or unit insignia. As the United States entered World War

Right: Winning nose art image by Rachel Barton. Barton's winning art is now painted on two aircraft from the base and serve as the official centennial logo as the base gears up for the air show and open house scheduled for August 19 and 20.

II, nose art took off. The art was typically painted on the nose of the plane, and the term "nose art" was coined. Nose art was a morale booster for the aircrews and those who worked on the flightline. The art on their aircraft unified the crew and made it unique from all others.

To learn more about the air show and open house visit: teamselfridge.com; or on Facebook at: Selfridge open house.



SELFRIDGE BASE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The purpose of Selfridge Base Community Council is to continue and improve the outstanding relationship between the civilian community and the military service community centered at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Macomb County, Michigan.



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or Learn More at
SelfridgeCommunityCouncil.com



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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HOW TO ADVERTISE

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On the cover: Flanked between Brig. Gen. John D. Slocum, Commander of the 127th Wing and Kris Mellebrand, Macomb Community College's faculty member for the Media and Communication Art department, stand the three finalists with their artwork displayed for the aircraft nose art competition at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., on March 28, 2017. Pictured from the left is, first place contestant Tech. Sgt. Rachel Barton and her daughter Cordelia, Second place contestant Scott Whiteside, and third place contestant Marianne Pupka. Personnel from Selfridge and art students from the Macomb Community College competed to develop aircraft Nose Art as part of the base's centennial celebration culminating in Selfridge's air show and open house on August 19 and 20.

U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY MSGT. DAVID KUJAWA

SERVICES

Child Development Center provides quality care for military families

By Russ Dyer
Contributing Writer

"My mother is being deployed."

A decade ago this was hardly a remark I would expect to hear from a pretty five-year-old curly-haired girl, but times have indeed changed.

April has been designated the Month of the Military Child, underscoring the important role military children play in the armed forces community. Former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger established the Defense Department commemoration in 1986 as a time to applaud military families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make and the challenges they overcome.

In the spirit of the month and to learn more about those who care for the children of our military members I visited the Bryant Child Development Center, a short distance inside the Selfridge main gate. Esther, who I spoke with that day was one of about ninety children being cared for while their parents were working at various Selfridge base locations.

Although the Center is on an Air National Guard Base, it is operated by the U.S. Army's Family Morale, Welfare and Recreation office from its local headquarters at the Army's Detroit Arsenal in Warren, Mich.

Nancy Mitchell, who is the Child and Youth Services Coordinator at the Arsenal, was my guide and obviously proud of the operation as she furnished details and ushered me through the facility.

"We provide professional and caring service for the



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

Tech. Sgt. Maryann Buchholtz of the 127th Chapel Operations, and her daughter Easter take a moment to pose for a picture while engaging in the daily activities with staff members at the Bryant Child Development Center for Pre-Schoolers at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich. On the far right and left are teachers Kathi Rizzo and Micki Corder, center is the facilities Director Jeneen Castleberry.

children at a cost well below the current civilian average," she explained. "We have children here from all military services and from civilian employees working on the base."

An exception is offered to Wounded Warriors whose children are accepted regardless of their parent's employment status or location. A sliding fee scale is based on family income.

The center accepts children whose ages range from six months to five years, Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Breakfasts and lunches are provided.

Providing quality care for these children is the top priority and the staffing requirements are strict.

Prior to being hired, qualified applicants are subject to a stringent background check and receive twenty-four hours of additional training each year. This

The center accepts children whose ages range from six months to five years, Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

training is administered by a full-time on-site trainer who continually mentors and assists caregivers. Employees are far better described as teachers rather than simply babysitters.

The center is nationally accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and certified by the Department of Defense. DOD also conducts a surprise on-site week-long inspection annually where inspectors conduct a thorough scrutiny of the facility as well as interviewing parents and employees. "We never know when they will show up," Mitchell assured me.

Children are placed in

one of three departments within the center, called Infant, Toddler and Pre-school. Hallways and classrooms throughout the facility are decorated with a colorful array of signs, pictures, cartoon characters, photographs and paintings all produced by the children.

The Pre-School area is named Strong Beginning and its goal is to prepare children for their next step into Kindergarten. When Mitchell and I arrived there, nap time was ending and children were busy tidying their sheets and stowing cots back into a storage area. When they learned I wanted to speak to them, there was

CENTER » PAGE 5

Center

FROM PAGE 4

no lack of interest. When I asked a girl named Leah what she did all day, her all-encompassing response was “I play, work and nap.”

A boy proudly showed me a drawing he had made. Another girl named Fimley made me aware that she was moving to Georgia in April. And this was when little Esther announced her mother’s upcoming overseas assignment.

Caregivers Kathi Rizzo, Shawn Ogden-Waters and the children next described to me a mini science experiment they had performed earlier.

When children stirred blue food coloring into yellow egg yolks and stirred the mixture, they learned that when the two colors were combined the yolks turned green. Next they added ham

and thus commemorated the birthday of Dr. Seuss!

A footnote to the story surfaced later when I contacted Esther’s mother, Tech. Sgt. Maryann Buchholtz, from the 127th Wing’s Chaplains Office. She explained that Esther is autistic, but has shown great improvement during the recent years when she has spent her weekdays at the Bryant facility. Buchholtz credits her daughter’s improvement in large part to the care and loving attention shown by her caregivers at the center.

Russ Dyer has lived in Clinton Township since 1974 when he retired from the Marine Corps as a Lieutenant Colonel. Originally from upstate New York, his last duty assignment was commanding officer of the Marine Air Reserve Training Detachment at Selfridge.

RECOGNITION

Walker receives personal coin of excellence for career span

Earvin Walker is a title 5 employee of the 127th Wing Civil Engineering Squadron is a jack-of-all-trades. Having served the Wing as a master carpenter for more than 27 years, he has done it all from masonry and roofing to carpets and paint.

“I began my career 27 years ago while raising three young boys, Walker said.”

Now that his boys are older and grown, he is able to relax and really enjoy his work.

Walker dabbles in all aspects of the carpentry duties and is considered the “Rembrandt” of painters



on the base. His finishing touches span nearly every building, room, and hallway within the wing.

“I really enjoy what I do,” he said. “I think this is more of an art than just a job.”

Earvin Walker has served the 127th Wing Civil Engineering Squadron as a master carpenter for more than 27 years, at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

US AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY MSGT. DAVID KUJAWA

Recently Brig. Gen. John Slocum, Commander of the 127th Wing Commander, presented Walker with his personal coin for excellence for the work Walker completed in the Headquarters building.

“I was much honored to have received a special coin from the general himself,” Walker said.

Vietnam Veteran, Board Vice Chair advocates for credit union members

Edward Cotter Jr. served in Vietnam as an Army MP Sentry Dog Handler in the Central Highlands area of An Khe then moved to the coastal area, Tuy Hoa, for his final few months.



Ed Cotter, Board Vice Chairman FreeStar Financial Credit Union

Cotter competed for and was selected for Battalion Soldier of the Quarter. He is a Life Member of the VFW Bruce Post 1146 and Disabled American Veterans organization. Cotter joined the Human Resources department at Selfridge after the war, and later retired as Director of Civilian Personnel.

Cotter began volunteering at FreeStar Financial Credit Union in

1992 as an auditor on the Supervisory Committee. He became a member of the Board of Directors in 1993 and

Campaigning for the enactment of legislation favorable to credit unions helps us keep fees low and offer competitive rates on loans and mortgages.

was appointed Vice Chairman in 2015. “I was in leadership roles at the Fraternal Order of Police and American

Federation of Government Employee’s Union, so it was a natural transition to the board position,” said Cotter.

Cotter advocates for FreeStar Financial at Governmental Affairs Committee events in Lansing and Washington D.C. “Our mission to keep credit unions tax exempt and to promote data security were key messages we brought to legislators,” noted Cotter. “Campaigning for the enactment of legislation favorable to credit unions helps us keep fees low and offer competitive rates on loans and mortgages.”

“Ed’s contributions over the last 25 years have been a tremendous asset to the credit union’s members and employees. He is a critical extension of our Human Resources team,” said Drema Isaac, President and CEO. “Ed’s expertise is integral in ensuring the credit union is providing competitive wages



Cotter with dog, King, in An Khe, Vietnam circa 1970

and benefits,” Isaac added. “We have tremendous gratitude for Ed’s dedicated service to our credit union and our country.”



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HISTORY

Enlisted Heritage House honors enlisted core

By Penny Carroll
Contributing Writer

Hundreds of military housing homes have been demolished at Selfridge Air National Guard Base since the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure re-located the active duty component which was responsible for housing Soldiers, Airmen, Marines, Sailors and Coast Guardsmen at the 100 year old facility.

Less than a hundred houses remain, all former senior officers quarters wedged between Lake Saint Clair and the Selfridge Golf Course. The fate of the remaining houses remains unclear. Except for one, Quarters One.

One of the oldest buildings at Selfridge Air National Guard Base has a new lease on life. It has been designated for renovation and use as the Enlisted Heritage House.

“The house will be used to recognize, support and honor the enlisted members, past, present and future, of the 127th Wing,” said retired Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Fetty, one of the organizers, and current president of the Enlisted Heritage House organization.

Quarters One, officially designated as Building 409, served for decades as the home for field grade officers, groups of nurses and finally general officers assigned to both Selfridge and to the Detroit Arsenal complex in nearby Warren, Mich.

Built during a major period of construction at Selfridge, Quarters One was completed in January 1935 for a cost of \$14,615. Since 2006, the home has been vacant, as a result of a Department of Defense realignment plan that no longer authorized the use of on-base housing at Selfridge.

A small group of dedi-



Pictured above and below: Military members, retirees, spouses and family members have all volunteered countless hours cleaning, sanding, painting, fixing and upgrading equipment as part of the renovation process.

While Quarters One was not originally built specifically for use as a home for generals or commanders, from 1977 to 2006, it was exclusively used by general officers, beginning with the arrival of Army Maj. Gen. Oscar Decker, who was the commanding general of the Army Tank Command at the Detroit Arsenal.



The nonprofit organization Enlisted Heritage House developed and sells coins on their website to help raise the \$20,000 needed to completely renovate the building to be used as meeting space and a place to honor the heritage of all enlisted members.

cated retirees, spouses and current Guardsmen have taken the lead and chartered the not-for-profit Enlisted Heritage House to renovate the house and to support the enlisted men and women at Selfridge.

“We’ve been putting in our time, sweat and love to this project,” says retired Chief Master Sergeant Mike Carroll. “The painting projects are almost complete, and next we’ll focus on the floors, which may require donations.”

When complete later this year, the first floor will be a meeting space for the 127th Wing’s Chiefs Council, Noncommissioned Officers Council and similar organizations. A heritage room, featuring photos and other information about the contributions of Michigan Air National Guard enlisted Airmen, is planned and various artifacts will be placed throughout the building.

There are also future plans to host each of the other service branches in



“The house will be used to recognize, support and honor the enlisted members, past, present and future, of the 127th Wing.”

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Fetty

separate rooms, as well as set up space for a satellite correspondence training center for the Air National Guard.

Selfridge opened as an active duty military air base in the summer of 1917 during

World War I. Following the war, the base was originally slated for closure. In 1922, it became a “permanent” base, leading to a wave of construction in the late 1920s and early 1930s. Many of those buildings continue to

serve as the nucleus of the base today, including several hangars and base operations. The base became an Air National Guard facility in 1971.

This privately funded project receives no money from the government. To help raise funds for the nearly \$20,000 still needed to complete the renovation the nonprofit has created an Enlisted Heritage Centennial challenge coin that sells for \$15 each, available from their website.

SELFRIDGE FLYER

Selfridge Civil Air Patrol Cadets respond to multi-vehicle accident

By Max Onderik

Civil Air Patrol

While driving home after a long day of classes and a Civil Air Patrol meeting, two cadets from the 176th Selfridge Composite Squadron sprang into action when two cars collided in front of them March 30.

Cadet 2nd Lt. Sam Aldea, 17, and Cadet Airman Thomas Heath, 14, members of the 176th Selfridge Composite Squadron, went about their daily routine that rainy Thursday evening. The two attended classes at their respective schools, did their homework, and then attended their weekly patrol meeting at Selfridge that evening. However, their daily routine doesn't normally include emergency response.

Aldea and Heath were driving home when they witnessed the multi-vehicle accident. The first vehicle swerved, struck a second vehicle, and ended up on the embankment on I-94 near 10 Mile road, near St. Clair Shores.

Given their training, skills, and knowledge, they were both quick to respond. They swiftly pulled to the shoulder of the highway, ensured scene safety, and began their assessment of the two people in

the most damaged vehicle. Aldea, utilizing his medical skills, identified himself as a trained search and rescue medic, gained consent, and began his assessment of the first patient. He established that she was alert and oriented, with only minor injuries. He moved to the second patient, whose injuries appeared to be more severe. Aldea gained consent and treated the injuries that he could.

During the same time, Heath, who is trained in First Aid and CPR, provided frequent checks on the first patient, ensuring she was safe and stabilized. After his assessment, Aldea spoke with 911 dispatch, reported the location of the accident, and provided them with the injuries of the two patients. He was able to get additional support from the local fire department and EMS agency, all within 10 minutes of the accident happening.

Once the fire department arrived on scene, the cadets provided their assessment of the two patients, and the fire department went to work. The firefighter/paramedics in addition to the responding EMS agency were very thankful and appreciative of their response to the scene and the in-

CIVIL AIR PATROL

Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a nonprofit organization with 61,000 members nationwide, operating a fleet of 560 aircraft. CAP, in its Air Force auxiliary role, performs 90 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and is credited with saving an average of 80 lives annually. Its volunteers also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. The 176th Selfridge Composite Squadron meets on Thursday nights from 6:30 – 7 p.m. on the base at Hangar 9W. Visit www.gocivilairpatrol.com or www.capvolunteernow.com for more information.

formation that they provided.

These two individuals utilized their knowledge, skills, and training to provide aid to these individuals who were clearly in a time



PHOTO COURTESY OF SANG CAP

Providing emergency services during a multi-vehicle accident on Interstate-94 last month were Civil Air Patrol Cadets Thomas Heath, 14, of Grosse Pointe Park and Sam Aldea, 17, of St. Clair Shores.

of need. Despite the down pouring rain and rush of adrenaline, both cadets responded appropriately and professionally to the scene that emerged right in front

of them. While humbled about their response, their actions displayed true courage, epitomizing the "First There, So That Others May Live" motto.

AT WORK



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTOS BY TSGT. RACHEL BARTON

Left: Senior Airman Ruggirello and Senior Airman Staub, Logistics Management Specialists with Michigan Air National Guard's 127th Logistics Readiness Squadron, conduct a parts inventory at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich. On February 23rd, 2017. The 127th LRS is responsible for the movement of parts for the 127th Wings two airframes, the A-10 Thunderbolt II and KC-135 stratotanker as well as other supplies and parts needed by the wing.



Above: Master Sgt. Nathan Henkle, and Tech. Sgt. Drew Reynolds, Egress Technicians with the 127th Maintenance Squadron, perform maintenance on an A-10 ejection seat at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich. On February 24th, 2017.

PROGRESS

Fuels specialists prep for new delivery system

By Tech. Sgt. Dan Heaton

127th Wing Public Affairs

Even as a new \$32.6 million fuels storage and delivery system at Selfridge Air National Guard Base is being constructed, aircraft are still flying — meaning fuels troops at the base remain actively engaged using the existing systems at the base.

“Most of the components of the new system will be the same, but there will be more pipes, more pumps, more filters — just more of everything to test and maintain,” said Senior Airman Zachary Watts, a fuels specialist with the 127th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

Watts previously worked on a fuel system very similar to the new one being built at Selfridge, when Watts was assigned to another Air Force base.

“We still approach it the same — safety is first, ensuring everyone has the right training,” he said.

When the new system is constructed — it is scheduled to be finished this fall — the KC-135 Stratotankers assigned to the base will “pull up to the pump” to be refueled. Fueling the KC-135s is a major undertaking at Selfridge or any Air Force

Base. The aircraft, used to re-fuel other aircraft while in flight, can carry about 30,000 gallons of jet fuel on a full load. Currently, fuels specialists at the base use trucks, with a capacity of 6,000 gallons, to deliver fuel to the aircraft.

Once the new fuel system at the base is complete, when the KC-135s pull up to the refueling station, a pump cart will be used to interface between the fuel hydrant and the aircraft. Trucks will continue to be used to deliver fuel to smaller aircraft at the base.

Staff Sgt. Joey Fowler, an Ohio native, recently re-located to Selfridge. He’s been a fuels specialist in the Air Force for about nine years.

“It is a good time to come in, with a new system coming on line,” he said. “I’m excited to be here.”

Fowler said he enjoys working in the POL — petroleum, oils & lubricants — career field in the Air Force.

“Everyone in fuels, every place I have been, they are just the type of people I enjoy being around,” he said. “We can get busy in a hurry, but when there is time to slow it down, they’re just good people to be with.”

“Working with something new, it’s always a challenge. But our team is up to it,” he said.



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN RYAN ZESKI

Staff Sgt. Joey Fowler, 127th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels distribution specialist, opens a tank issue valve at the fuels storage facility at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., April 8. The valve allows fuel to flow from the mail holding tank into the fuel distribution trucks.



Senior Airman Zachary Watts, 127th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels distribution specialist, disconnects a fuel line from a fuel distribution truck at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., April 8.



Senior Airman Zachary Watts, 127th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels distribution specialist, monitors controls as fuel is loaded into a fuel distribution truck at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., April 8. Currently, fuels specialists at the base use trucks, with a capacity of 6,000 gallons, to deliver fuel to the aircraft.



Staff Sgt. Joey Fowler and Senior Airman Zachary Watts, 127th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels distribution specialists, monitor a fuels distribution truck while as much as 6,000 gallons of fuel are pumped into the truck at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., April 8.



A valve meter shows exactly how many gallons of fuel is being pumped from the main holding cell into a fuel distribution truck at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., April 8. Currently, fuels specialists at the base use trucks, with a capacity of 6,000 gallons, to deliver fuel to the aircraft.



Staff Sgt. Joey Fowler, 127th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels distribution specialist, responds to a radio call using a land mobile radio at the fuels storage facility at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., April 8.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Selfridge base store named best worldwide

The Selfridge Air National Guard Base Exchange is no longer just the best place for military families to shop in the Selfridge community—it's the best in the world.

Last month, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service presented the Selfridge Exchange with its highest honor for operational excellence, the Director/CEO Cup.

General Manager Ken Lowell received a trophy honoring the achievement during the Exchange Main Store Managers/General Managers Conference in Frisco, Texas. The award was presented by Director/CEO Tom Shull; Deputy Di-

rector Mike Immler; President/CMO Ana Middleton; Chief Operating Officer Dave Nelson; and Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Luis Reyes, the Exchange's senior enlisted advisor.

"I am humbled to receive this award on behalf of all the associates who work to make Selfridge a model Exchange," Lowell said. "Our customers are heroes, and there's no better feeling than getting up every day to give them the care, dedication and service they deserve."

Every year, the Director/CEO Cup honors one Exchange in each size category (Small, Medium, Large) for expert customer

service, leadership, business results, community support and command validation for partnerships and engagement. The Selfridge Exchange won in the Small Exchange category.

To win the award, the Selfridge Exchange promoted three associates; hired 13 new employees; participated in command, environmental, Base Community Counsel and Military Spouses Club meetings; and hosted community events such as the Exchange 121st anniversary celebration, a concession holiday bazaar, the Selfridge Community Health Fair and a joint Veterans Day pizza event with the 127th Fighter Wing.



PHOTO BY MATT NACHTRIEB

Selfridge Air National Guard Base Exchange General Manager Ken Lowell is awarded the Director/CEO Cup on March 7 during the Exchange Main Store General Managers Conference in Frisco, Texas. From left; Deputy Director Mike Immler; Director/CEO Tom Shull; Lowell; Chief Operating Officer Dave Nelson; President/CMO Ana Middleton; and Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Luis Reyes, the Exchange's senior enlisted advisor.

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RECOGNITION

Coast Guard women continue to strengthen, shape service

By Coast Guard LT
Robby Chavez

Air Station Detroit

March was Women's history month and in general, the United States Coast Guard is the often forgotten about military branch. Suffice to say, few people recognize the importance and value of how women have strengthened and shaped our service through history.

At the start of WWII, it was evident that women would be needed to ensure a U.S. victory so President Franklin Roosevelt signed Public Law 772 creating the Women's Reserve of the Coast Guard. The SPARs "Semper Paratus-Always Ready," named for the Coast Guard's motto, were officially the first women to serve in the Coast Guard.

The Coast Guard has always valued the willingness of its people to be forward leaning and in the spring of 1977, it began placing women on high-endurance Coast Guard Cutters. In an unprecedented move, the Coast Guard placed the highly capable LTJG Beverly Kelley in command of USCG Cutter Cape Newagen, a 95-foot patrol boat based out of Maui, Hawaii; she was the first woman to command a military ship.

We were the first service to proudly offer all jobs to women, and today, women fill every type of job in the Coast Guard, including AST Chief Jody Williams who is a Rescue Swimmer, and GM1 Nicole Cimino, a gunners mate who was recently



PHOTO COURTESY COAST GUARD AIR STATION DETROIT
Women aviators of Coast Guard Air Stations across the nation participated in the Women in Aviation event at Lake Buena Vista, Fla. in March.

named the Coast Guard's Reserve Enlisted Petty Officer of the Year.

Here in District 9, which covers all the Great Lakes, we have women filling roles starting at the very top: the District Commander is Rear Adm. June Ryan. At Air Station Detroit women are serving in positions such as the Operations Officer CDR Breanna Knutson, Assistant Operations Officer CDR Shana Donaldson, and helicopter flight mechanic AMT3 Lindy Butler just to name a few.

I've turned wrenches and replaced helicopter engines next to AMT2 Michaela Vargas and I've flown with amazing pilots such as LT Amanda Montour. They aren't just women, they are fellow Coasties and I couldn't be more proud to serve with such amazing people.

COLUMN

Volunteering still important today

By Chief Master Sgt.
Walter Escoe, III
Chief, Ground Safety

Many of you have heard of the organizations that feed a larger portion of our shut in elderly and disadvantaged citizen in our communities. These organizations prepare, package and deliver thousands of meals a year at no cost to the recipient.

How can they afford to provide a service of this magnitude on a constant bases and not incur huge costs? Well let me ask you this, does the word volunteerism ring a bell?

When I was a child volunteering was really a cool event for me. I spent lots of summers volun-

teering with Focus Hope in Detroit, my participation gave me a great sense of community involvement, pride and belonging. Outside of all the wonderful feelings I received, helping another human being in need was my greatest reward. For me that feeling was so powerful that I still volunteer to this day.

Our country has relied on volunteers from its start. Early colonists banded together to survive the harsh New World, forming support groups to help each other plant crops, build houses and fight disease.

Benjamin Franklin developed the first volunteer firehouse in 1736, an idea

COLUMN » PAGE 11

TOWN HALL MEETING

When: **May 1, 2017 at 6 P.M.**

Where: **Main Library
40900 Romeo Plank, Clinton Twp., MI 48038**

Topics: **Selfridge F-35 Basing, Centennial Celebration,
2017 Open House, and Q & A.**



Presenting:
Brig. Gen. John D. Slocum
Selfridge Base Commander



For additional information contact Phil Rode at 586.792.0130

RECOGNITION

Naval information force reserve names Sailor of the Year

Petty Officer Daniella B. Powell was awarded Junior Sailor of the Year for Naval Information Force Reserve Region Midwest. Powell is superb in the training environment for the personnel for not only JRIC Detroit and its reserve units, but for NOSC Detroit as well.

She helps to maintain that all training requirements are completed for all personnel and willing to help others who may require additional training for both in-rate and military training during duty hours and off-duty hours. She has also coordinated with recruiters for three states within the region for the proper processing and

LT Ryan Ayres JRIC Base Detroit officer in charge presents Petty Officer Daniella B. Powell with a certificate for qualifying as an Information Warfare Specialist.

PHOTO COURTESY JRIC DETROIT

scheduling of Direct Commissioning packages and interview panels, ensuring that there were no discrepancies.

Powell has managed the command's supply inventory for both hard line supply items as well as soft line supply items. Additionally, she has coordinated several volunteer service events for the command to participate and is the liaison for



the public affairs between the command and the 127th Wing stationed at Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

Column

FROM PAGE 10

that has become the country's norm, as more than 70 percent of all firefighters today are volunteers.

During the Revolutionary War, patriotic citizens volunteered to organize boycotts against British imports and raise funds for the war effort, and of course there were the famous minute men. As you look at the citizen Airmen of Selfridge you can still see those minute men who we call Guardsmen today.

As our nation grew, so did volunteerism. In the 19th century formal charitable organizations such as YMCA, American Red Cross and the United Way came on scene. One of the first nationwide efforts to coordinate volunteers was in response to the Great Depression, then during

World War II to support the war effort and to support those on the home front.

Our country took great pride in the role of volunteering played in our history. We are a country that once loved volunteering. However, it seems volunteering has fallen out of fashion. Nowadays only one out of four people volunteer.

In an effort of keep hope alive and bring that volunteer spirit back, I personal challenge each and every one of you to live up to our core values of Service before self with Integrity First and Excellence in all we do. Volunteer somewhere doing something. It doesn't matter how big or how small, there are lots of organizations within your community that need help. I am sure that positive behavior such as volunteering will make America Great Again.

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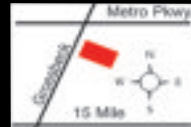
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