

# Prevailing Wind

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## Housing demolition rapidly brings new face, new opportunities to Selfridge



Demolition of the 900 and 700 Area Housing is ongoing at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, clearing the path for new facilities and mission growth at the century-old air base. With the enhanced use lease project recently terminated, the 127th Wing now leans forward into a fenceline-to-fenceline master plan process, incorporating growth of the Air Guard's missions at Selfridge, as well as those of current and future tenant units. For more information, see story on page 4.

# Diversity critical to National Guard success

by **Army Staff Sgt. Jim Greenhill**  
*National Guard Bureau*

Diversity is critical for the National Guard to compete in today's global environment, the chief of the National Guard Bureau said today.

"Our nation needs the most diverse workforce it can have to be the most efficient and effective ... that it can be," Gen. Craig McKinley told the Military Leadership Diversity Commission that met here in Crystal City.

"It's incumbent upon our [National Guard Bureau] team to create the atmosphere, to create the resources, to create the vision to work with the adjutants general ... to make sure that our diversity program are in line with the Department of Defense instructions and regulations," McKinley said.

Under the provisions of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, Congress established the Department of Defense Military Leadership Diversity Commission, according to the commission's Web site at <http://mldc.whs.mil>.

The commission will review issues regarding diversity in the military services and evaluate policies that provide opportunities for the promotion and advancement of minority members of the armed forces, including minority members who are senior officers.

"This is a subject that never can be declared victory upon," McKinley said. "It is a journey that must be continually applied to leadership across the services."

The Military Leadership Diversity Commission must submit a report to Congress and the president. The report will include the findings and conclusions of the commission; the recommendations of the commission for improving diversity within the armed forces; and other information and recommendations considered

appropriate by the commission.

The commission meets at a time when McKinley said some of the focus on diversity may have faded because of the operations tempo since the terrorist attacks of 9/11.

Diversity has become a more subtle and sophisticated issue than merely counting numbers by gender and race. "It's about the art - not the science - of dealing with individuals," McKinley said.

For example, operations in Afghanistan and Iraq highlight a need for troops to have a high level of cultural awareness.

"This whole subject of diversity takes on whole new meaning," McKinley said. "How we train, organize and equip our forces requires new thinking, bold approaches, bold looks so that we can be competitive in today's marketplace."

The National Guard faces a unique challenge when it comes to measuring diversity and setting standards.

"The National Guard is a decentralized organization," McKinley said. "Each state, each territory and the District [of Columbia] have different goals, aspirations and vision for how diversity is applied in each state."

He also said he is concerned that trends in the way the National Guard is geographically structured may have caused unwanted demographic changes.

"As I look around the country and I see the pockets that we recruit from, I'm a little nervous that in many of our major cities, that many of our United States Army National Guard armories have been displaced from the inner city, not allowing us therefore to recruit that demographic that we did in the 40s, the 50s, the 60s and the 70s," McKinley said. "We've moved out into the more rural areas of our states, thereby creating less of an advantage for inner city youth to take advantage of the military experience."

## Like body armor, flu vaccine aims to protect troops

by **John J. Kruzal,**

*American Forces Press Service*

Like protective equipment issued to troops downrange, the H1N1 flu vaccine is a measure the Defense Department is taking to safeguard U.S. military forces, a defense official said here Nov. 3.

"We use other treatment modalities to protect people in the same way we use body armor to protect against other threats," said Ellen P. Embrey, the acting assistant secretary of Defense for health affairs.

"The H1N1 vaccine was purchased specifically for our uniformed servicemembers so they could continue to perform their mission anywhere on the globe," she continued. "And during a pandemic, that's a real threat."

Officials at the department, which received initial allotments of the vaccine last week, said doses will be distributed in coming weeks according to a prioritized list of recipients. Vaccines first will be made available to deployed personnel, bases that receive new military accessions, such as basic training installations and the service academies, and all health-care workers assigned to

military medical treatment facilities.

Immunization for both seasonal flu and H1N1 is mandatory for all military personnel and is highly recommended for beneficiaries.

"Our system to manufacture and distribute, and then put shots in arms, is the priority of the government. And (the Defense Department) has been participating with HHS very closely to ensure that we acquire sufficient vaccine to protect the U.S. military's ability to perform its mission globally," Ms. Embrey said, referring to the Health and Human Services Department.

Ms. Embrey noted that the department has long used vaccinations -- against anthrax, small pox and seasonal flu, for example -- to protect the force and preserve its ability to perform its mission.

"The H1N1 virus is unique because it targets young, healthy people 24 and under and the average age of our force is 24," she said. "So this is particularly important to us that we have the ability to protect the majority of the people who are preserving the national security of this country because if they're down they can't perform."

**"Flu" Continued, page 3**



The Official  
Newspaper  
of the 127th  
Wing

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# Air Guard members are flexible, adaptable to change, says Wyatt

By Master Sgt. Mike R. Smith  
National Guard Bureau

The Air National Guard still provides the best bang for the buck because of the ability and flexibility of its Airmen, the reserve component's director told hundreds of Air Guard enlisted members in Dallas today.

"We will leverage those to provide the country with the most affordable, the best trained, the most highly experienced combat-capable force that we have ever been," Lt. Gen. Harry Wyatt III said at the Air Guard's annual enlisted symposium. "The challenge is to take it to the next level, and that's where you come in."

Wyatt told the audience of enlisted leaders from the nation's 54 states and territories to use the event as one building block toward that goal.

He commented on the symposium's theme, "Send Me."

"When you think about where we are at this time in history and what we have gone through in the last several years to get to this point, one of the things that sticks out in my mind is the great volunteerism of the Air National Guard, of our people raising their hands and saying 'send me,'" he said.

He said the Air Guard had endured much since 9/11, including base realignment and closure recommendations, a reset, changes in

its command staff and in the nation's elected officials, and in new defense and security strategies.

"There are considerable challenges out there," he said.

He said that imagination, networking and working with both Air and Army Guard members in their states postures the Air Guard for the future.

Trying to balance the force means change, he said, and whenever there is change there is opportunity.

"What a perfect opportunity for the Guard and what a perfect opportunity for the Air National Guard, we are exactly where we want to be," he said "... but the biggest part of that change is what you as individuals do and what you in your units do to bring our people along so that they can be the adaptable, flexible Airmen that we need to lead in the future."

Wyatt also addressed that message to younger Airmen, calling them the "leaders of tomorrow."

"[They] will position and shape the Air National Guard, so that it continues to be a relevant, reliable, always ready, always there, force that we have always been and always will be," he said. "We can't look backward; we have to look forward," he said. "We learn from our experiences, and go forward from there."

## "Flu" continued from page 2

The department also has received several hundred vaccines from Health and Human Services for defense civilians, Ms. Embrey said. Because vaccines may be coming in relatively small numbers initially, local commanders will be responsible for determining how supplies are distributed.

"It will be up to the local commanders to determine the best balance of mission preservation and addressing the individuals who are at high risk of getting the flu whether they're a civilian in our workforce, and according to CDC, we should be paying closest attention to those at highest risk," she said, referring to the Centers for Disease Control.

"As additional allotments come in over the

next several weeks, there will be sufficient vaccines to give to anyone who would like to have it," she added.

Ms. Embrey said Health and Human Services allocated additional vaccines for retirees, family members and other individuals living overseas.

"So if you live in those locations and you want a shot, please come in, or if you're at high risk, please come in and get your shots now because those are being distributed as we speak," she said. "This vaccine is safe, it's effective, it's (Food and Drug Administration) approved. If this vaccine is available in your area -- get it."

# Enhanced Use Lease Terminated

By Capt. Penny Carroll  
127th Public Affairs

The old Army housing apartments and duplexes are coming down steadily here and the enhanced use lease project is now officially terminated. What does the future Selfridge ANGB look like?

Following the Base Realignment and Closure commission of 2005, the Air Force identified property and assets available for development which were not considered excess because of base security, standoff distances and encroachment concerns at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. Enhanced-use leasing was the best opportunity to develop this land and property for use with the most flexibility for control by the Air Force, at that time. The EUL proposals called for development of senior housing and medical facilities, as well as other administrative-type private development that would bring in private industry that would be compatible with Selfridge missions and security constraints.

However, the National Guard Bureau and the Air Force recently determined the retention of the underutilized space is now more essential to maintain for the Department of Defense (DoD) and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) missions at Selfridge ANGB.

Lt. Col. Mac Crawford, Selfridge Land-use and Facilities Director and Acting 127th Mission Support Group Commander explains, "It became apparent through the more than 2 years of EUL planning that there is significant DoD and DHS interest in growing existing--or bedding down new--federal missions at Selfridge. With this new information, it became obvious to our government development team that we needed to develop this underutilized property for critical military and homeland security usages."

The next step in the future growth of the base includes the base host unit, the 127th Wing, taking a step back in the development planning process beginning with the creation of a comprehensive--fenceline-to-fenceline--base master plan, which will take into account these outside military and homeland security interests as well as their own.

Base Commander, Brig. Gen. Michael Peplinski, described the EUL termination action to local community leaders in a letter dated October 15, "Selfridge Air National Guard Base houses a large amount of missions, people, assets, and property – all of which must be protected. Two

and a half years ago, EUL was the best option with the greatest flexibility for the use and growth of missions at our base while focusing on reutilization of property vacated by the Army Garrison per BRAC 2005.

"Now, we are moving forward on a statement of work for a robust installation master plan for Selfridge, taking into account current missions here and the growth of our current DoD and DHS tenants and others who have expressed an interest in coming to Selfridge."

One example of this interest is the moving of U.S. Army Soldiers, Civilians and Contractors of the TACOM Life Cycle Management Command and TARDEC to vacant space at Selfridge. Hundreds of Army associates have moved into various areas of the base with organizations such as Joint Combat Support Systems and the Joint Robotics Project Office.

These moves have been necessary to accommodate the expanding missions at the Detroit Arsenal in Warren, Michigan, and the U.S. Army Garrison at Detroit Arsenal has reviewed additional facilities at Selfridge that could be used to support even more growth of those agencies.

The Army leadership has been integrally involved with the 127<sup>th</sup> Wing to ensure their requests are considered in the new base master plan, supporting the overall infrastructure framework and complimenting the various missions at Selfridge.

The end-result allows the 127th Wing to focus on pushing forward with the possibilities of long and short term shared use with other federal agencies, creating a campus providing for a stronger joint installation with increased security and encroachment protection for Selfridge ANGB.

According to Lt. Col. Crawford, "We have a tremendous opportunity going forward to capitalize on the strengths of our installation, and to create a future Selfridge composed of a synergistic team of DoD and DHS components uniquely positioned to successfully wage the war on terrorism both at home and abroad. If we are successful in this effort--and I believe we will be--we will have created what could well be considered the standard-bearer of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century military installation."

**Starting in early Oct. 2009, old housing units at Selfridge Air National Guard Base will begin to be taken down. The demolition project has been planned for years, first with the US Army Garrison; but the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure commission moved the Garrison out of SANGB and the project moved to the responsibility of the 127th Wing, Michigan Air National Guard.**

*photo by John S. Swanson, 127th Public Affairs*



# CCA Training 2.0

**By TSgt. Dan Heaton**  
*127th Public Affairs*

Most days, when TSgt. Rosario Recchia puts on her Air Force uniform, her job is to serve as an administrative specialist. She did that for 16 years with the Air Force Reserve and for the past two years with the Michigan Air National Guard. But on the first Saturday in October, Recchia left the paperwork behind and led a team created to help Airmen survive a chemical warfare attack.

“Yes, this is training, but if anyone thinks training isn’t important, you just have to think that we could be called anytime to do this and your life might depend on it,” Recchia said.

As part of a training exercise encompassing all 1,700 Airmen of the 127th Wing, donned their individual protective equipment – commonly referred to as “chem gear” – for large parts of their duty day as part of the Wing’s October Unit Training Assembly. In addition to all Wing Airmen performing their regular duties in the chem gear, a new Contamination Control Area (CCA) team was assembled and trained to operate the decontamination stations. Recchia was one of 11 people assigned to the team from around the base and was appointed team leader. The team worked under the supervision of a cadre of specialists from the Emergency Readiness section of the 127th Civil Engineering Squadron.

“I love my job,” said Senior Amn. Brad Moehlig, an emergency readiness specialist who was helping to train Recchia and the rest of the CCA team. “This was something I wanted to be able to do my whole life.”

As Moehlig watched, two “contaminated” Airmen went through the decontamination line. The CCA team instructed the Airmen how to scrub each other down to remove possible chemical or biological agents. Recchia moved from station to station, ensuring that the CCA team was working efficiently to keep the line moving, but not too fast that safety or the simulated decontamination process would be compromised. A pair of emergency readiness senior NCOs circulated throughout the entire exercise, making a correction here or pointing out an issue there.

MSgt. Steve Jakle, an emergency readiness specialist, said working as part of a CCA team is an additional duty for the members on it. The October exercise brought together an all-new CCA team, which spent a full day in training, wearing their chem gear in a variety of MOPP – or Mission Oriented Protective Posture – conditions, primarily MOPP Level 2 – wearing all of the gear except for the gas mask and protective gloves—or MOPP Level 4 – wearing

the full complement of protective equipment. As part of the training, 45 Airmen went through the team’s CCA, arriving in MOPP Level 4 status and simulating that they had actually been contaminated.

“There’s a lot to learn for the team,” Jakle said. “We want them to know only to have the basic knowledge, but to really be come proficient.”

For many Airmen in the 127th Wing, the Task Qualification Training (TQT) exercise wearing the protective chemical gear marked the first time wearing the new Joint Lightweight Integrated Suit Technology, or JLIST, suits. The suits are, without a doubt, less messy and not quite as hot as the previous chemical warfare suits, which often left plenty of charcoal residue behind, Jakle said.

“There’s a little bit of learning curve because the JLIST is something new, but I think this is a change that very few people will be able to complain about,” Jakle said.



*Photo by MSgt. Clarence Pence, 127th Public Affairs*

**A 107th fighter pilot and one of his crew members simulate the decontamination procedure when an Airman comes into contact with dangerous biological chemicals at the Selfridge ANGB on Oct. 4. This training takes place to prepare Airmen for the threat of biological weapons.**

# Training Underground

By 2nd Lt. Anthony J. Lesterson  
*127th Wing Public Affairs*

Imagine being lowered into the ground, slowly becoming surrounded by darkness. A feeling of solitude comes about. There is a musty stench that is reminiscent of an old leaky basement.

A handful of Airmen must go in the underground manholes here to conduct crucial repairs to underground cables and pipes that enable the use of phones, the Internet, safe running water, and other needed services that are housed underground.

Confined spaces training helps prepare these Airmen for their required duties and points out early their abilities to function in a confined underground manhole. Underground maintainers must be prepared for dangerous obstacles they may encounter while doing their duties. Anyone entering a manhole must have a partner to stay up top and keep communication to provide help if a situation becomes unsafe.



*Photo by SrA Jeremy Brownfield, 127th Public Affairs*

**127th Communication Squadron Airmen participate in confined spaces training to meet certification requirements Oct. 8, at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan. Here, Craig Shepard, cable splicer and traditional-status MSgt. in the 127th CS, raises SSgt. Steven Haven, out of the underground manhole upon completion of his training.**

“You need a good person on the outside of the manhole to monitor you,” said Craig R. Shepard, cable splicer and member of the 127th Communications Squadron here. “Someone that will notice you are face down in the water after a slip, fall and bump to the head.”

Staff Sgt. Steven Haven, 127th Communications Squadron computer maintenance technician completed his annual confined spaces training to insure he stays current with his required certification at Selfridge on Oct. 8. Following Haven, 12 firefighters from the Selfridge Fire Department took the opportunity to complete a portion of their annual training by simulating a rescue of a downed worker in a manhole; a scenario the firefighters practice monthly to maintain job proficiency.

“We only are required to do this once a year, but we make it a point to do this type of training, as well as others, on a monthly basis,” said Manny Alam, Selfridge firefighter.

A variety of dangers lurk in the dark and confined manholes that can catch even the most skilled maintenance personnel off guard. Air quality is a serious concern in any manhole and could be a fatal problem. Gases such as hydrogen and carbon dioxide are common in manholes, and if gas levels are too high, workers could lose consciousness. Slippery floors and rising water can also create an unsafe and unsanitary environment. A worker may run into unwanted visitors such as spiders, snakes, rodents and other pests. Some manholes can barely fit the average adult, but crucial repairs must still be completed.

“Not all manholes are made for human occupancy, but must be entered to make needed repairs on occasion,” said Master Sgt. John Maas, the 127th Ground Safety Manager.

Firefighters must face all these dangers while acting quickly to rescue a downed worker. During the exercise, firefighters responded to a call informing them a maintenance worker had lost consciousness in the manhole. Several fire trucks with firefighters quickly arrived on the scene pulling out the specialized rescue gear needed to pull the downed Airman out of the hole. A metal tripod standing eight feet tall created a strong foundation to hook a rope and harness to some carabineers, and to lower the rescuing fireman in the hole to bring the downed worker back up for medical attention. Two other firefighters control the rope while lowering and raising the rescuer. Medical attention is then given according to the severity of the injuries.

Manhole training at both the up and down side of the hole is important for both utility workers and first responders.

“I only do this once a year because of my job, but it keeps me prepared, said Staff Sgt. Steven Haven, 127th Communications Squadron, computer maintenance technician.

## Promotions

### Senior Airman

Cole J. Campbell, 191 MXS  
Terry J. Laraway, 191 MXS

### Staff Sergeant

Michael J. Fiolek, 191 MXS  
John J. Furnas, 191 MXS

### Technical Sergeant

Virginia D. Barnowski, 127 CS  
Thomas D. Brott, 191 MXS  
Toni M. Thompson, 127 MSG

### Master Sergeant

Richard D. Gordon, 127 SFS  
John J. Parrish Jr., 127 CS

## Retirements

TSgt. Gordon Glance, 127 MXS  
Lt. Col. Kurt Klasmeier, 171 ARS  
TSgt. George Martin, 127 MXS

## Newcomers

SrA Nick Benschoter  
SSgt Shawn Brass  
SrA Candace Damour  
SSgt. Craig Hawkins  
A1C Korrey Jurosek  
SSgt. Kimberly Lepper  
SrA Josph Masters Jr.  
SSgt. Jedd Penaflo  
SrA Robert Sarazin  
A1C Nick Van Haverbach  
A1C Stephanie Ward

# Briefly ...

### Post 9-11 GI Bill

The Department of Veterans Affairs is now accepting and processing applications for the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Complete and submit the application form available online to receive a letter explaining VA's decision regarding eligibility for the program.

Apply at: [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov) or call 1-888-GI BILL-1 to have a form mailed. Visit the Website to determine eligibility, see what benefits you may be entitled to and check out other educational program opportunities are offered.

### Holiday Financial Support

Having a hard time making ends meet? Many military members and their families deal with hardships such as: financial distress, deployment, difficulty adjusting financially after a deployment and other reasons. The Family Readiness team may be able to provide help for any member of the armed services and their family with Thanksgiving or Christmas support.

To register for help over the holidays, for a Thanksgiving Basket or Christmas support contact the Family Readiness Center at: 586-239-5583 or email at: [daheinoz@yahoo.com](mailto:daheinoz@yahoo.com). Families will have full confidentiality when applying.

### BX's Revamped Layaway Program makes it Easier to 'Shop Now, Pay Later'

Visit your local exchange and it soon becomes apparent that reports of layaway's demise have been greatly exaggerated.

In fact, Army & Air Force Exchange Service BXs and PXs are reintroducing and, in some cases, expanding layaway options.

"Clothing, handbags and shoes are still eligible for 30-day layaway, but full payment on many other categories can be put off for up to 60 days when shopping the exchange," said Selfridge General Manager Dan Barriga.

Military shoppers whose Families' holiday wish list included something that sparkles or shines were able to begin making arrangements as far out as Sept. as fine jewelry can be put on layaway for up to 120 days at AAFES.

Delaying full payment might even be mom and dad's secret weapon in keeping presents under wraps this year as toys can be put on layaway up until Christmas Eve.

"Let the kids look in the attic, under the tree or even your car trunk," said Barriga. "Keeping the toys on layaway, and in the exchange's back room, can really take a lot of stress out of the holidays."

Any purchase of \$25 or more is eligible for layaway at AAFES. A 15 percent deposit on the total purchase price is required to hold a product.

Merchandise excluded from AAFES' layaway program includes clearance merchandise, computers, peripherals, major appliances, furniture, mattresses, exercise equipment, electronics \$299 and up as well as seasonal and outdoor living products.

### Pumping Up the Savings for MILITARY STAR<sup>SM</sup> Card Users

With the busy, and expensive, holiday shopping season just around the corner, Army & Air Force Exchange Service gas stations at Selfridge are helping to make sure that the fill up doesn't empty the wallet.

In addition to the five cents a gallon discount that MILITARY STAR<sup>SM</sup> Card holders already enjoy every time they fuel up, steeper discounts are being offered three times before the New Year.

On Veterans Day, Nov. 11, military shoppers using their MILITARY STAR<sup>SM</sup> Card can take advantage of 11 cents off per gallon of fuel. From Nov. 30 – Dec. 4 as well as Dec. 28 – Jan. 1, the savings soar to 20 cents per gallon for those purchasing with their MILITARY STAR<sup>SM</sup> Card.

"These discounts couldn't come at a better time," said the exchange's Shoppette Manager Kim McEdward. "Because the MILITARY STAR<sup>SM</sup> Card is an exchange product, it provides unique opportunities to deliver unprecedented savings opportunities like these to authorized drivers at Selfridge."

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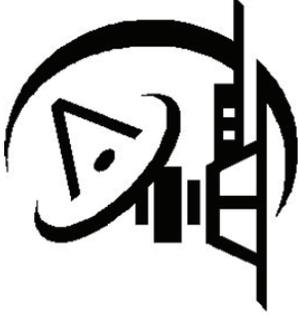
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NCOA



ALS



## Tired of CDC's... Can't get away for 6 weeks... Check this out!

Qualified NCO's and SrA can attend either the Satellite NCOA /ALS on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 1800 – 2200Hrs at Selfridge and then spend two (for ALS) to two and one half weeks (for NCOA) of In-Residence in Knoxville Tennessee to receive full in-residence credit.

**NCOA Selfridge Phase:** 23MAR– 10JUN2010

McGhee Tyson TN Phase: 14 JUN– 29 JUN 2010

Graduation Date: 29 JUN 2010

Travel dates: 13 JUN & 30 JUN 2010

**ALS Selfridge Phase:** Tentative as of now

McGhee Tyson TN Phase: tentatively 06SEP– 17SEP 2010

Graduation Date: 17 SEP 2010

Travel dates: 05 SEP & 18 SEP

### As a Satellite EPME (NCOA or ALS) student you will:

- Professionally develop yourself for leadership opportunities
- Fulfill a requirement for future promotion opportunities
- Receive one paid PT day for each night of class (1/4 of your drill pay)
  - Complete 10 hours of CCAF credit
- Wear all uniforms as directed from PT, BDU/ABU, Service and Service Dress
- Attend every class minus emergency situations/death/doctor orders
  - Maintain fitness standards

If interested you must contact your training office, First Sergeant, and Selfridge base training at DSN 273-4057. Inform them of your desire to reserve your seat for either the 2010 SAT ALS or SAT NCOA ASAP