

SELFRIDGE FLYER

Volume 5, Issue 4

"127th Wing – Your Hometown Air Force"

July/August 2022



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EDITORIAL

Mammen: 2022 Open House and Air Show 'an absolute success'

By **Brig. Gen. Rolf E. Mammen**
127th Wing Commander

Team Selfridge and Members of the Community,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for making the 2022 Selfridge Open House and Air Show an absolute success. The synergy between members of the 127th Wing and the surrounding communities was inspiring, and made this year's event one of the smoothest and most enjoyable to date.

It's difficult to articulate the pride I felt as I walked through the crowds. Each one of you were instrumental to the show's success, and I would like to highlight just a few of your many accomplishments that made this year so great, and thank you in a personal way.

I'd especially like to thank the Air Show Director, and his deputy for their dedication and leadership. You captured the vision and spirit of the 127th Wing, and set the tone for the entire show.

I would also like to thank the personnel of the 127th Operations Group and 127th Air Refueling Group. Everyone from the pilots, to the aircraft maintainers, fuels, base ops, and the tower did a fantastic job. Without the hard work of Command Post and Mission Support, most of which was behind the scenes, there would literally have been nothing in the sky for the audience to see.

The grounds personnel from the 127th Civil Engineers did a phenomenal job preparing the base for the crowd. Your leadership and attention to every detail made this year's event especially enjoyable.

The 127th Wing Safety Office, Fire Department, Security Forces, Emergency Management, and Medical personnel did a fantastic job working with first responders from surrounding communities to keep us safe and protected on and off the base. Of particular



Brig. Gen. Rolf E. Mammen

note, this year's traffic flow and parking went exceptionally well thanks to this civilian/military

partnership.

A special thanks goes to the Communications Flight who did a fantastic job setting up the sound system, and providing the radio communications and network access that linked the entire team together. Congrats on a job well done!

The Public Affairs Office did a great job creating and disseminating air show information; and a very special thanks goes to the local media outlets who amplified those messages to the community. Kudos to the air show announcer. Your knowledge of Selfridge and expertise carried the show!

I would also like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the hundreds

of volunteers, veteran's groups, the Base Community Council, and numerous area businesses who helped make the show a success. I greatly appreciate your hard work, advocacy, sponsorships, and continued support of the 127th Wing.

Most of all, I would like to thank the community for supporting their hometown Air Force at Selfridge. I hope you enjoyed the 2022 Open House and Air Show and came away with a greater understanding and appreciation of what the 127th Wing does here in the great State of Michigan and around the world.

With Sincere Gratitude,
Brig. Gen. Rolf E. Mammen
127th Wing Commander



A U.S. Air Force F-22 Raptor, Air Combat Command F-22 Demonstration Team, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, performs aerial maneuvers during the, "Selfridge Open House and Air Show," July 9, 2022. Tens of thousands of spectators observed aerial acts, explored static aircraft displays and learned more about the U.S. military's capabilities. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Dave Kujawa)

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SELFRIDGE BASE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Fred Sherrerd (Future)

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

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On the cover: An A-10 Thunderbolt II, 107th Fighter Squadron, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan, lands on a closed portion of M-2B in Alger County on June 29, 2022. The landing was part of Michigan Air National Guard led-exercise Northern Agility 22-1, successfully implementing agile combat employment by landing multiple military aircraft, then quickly conducting rearming and refueling prior to taking off again. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. David Kujawa)

SEEN AROUND SELFLEDGE



Above: Secretary of the Air Force Frank Kendall and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer recognize Senior Airman Katie Vandale, 127th Medical Group, based here on July 8, 2022. Vandale served on the state's COVID-19 response team and aided more than 100 Afghan refugee children during Operation Allies Refuge (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Terry L. Atwell)

Right: Two C-130 Hercules aircraft, 182nd Airlift Wing, Peoria, Illinois, arrived here to pick up cargo and personnel, then transport to Northern Michigan on June 28, 2022. The transport was part of Northern Agility 22-1, successfully implementing agile combat employment on June 29, 2022, by landing multiple military aircraft, then quickly rearming and refueling prior to taking off again. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Terry L. Atwell)



A firefighter with the 127th Civil Engineer Squadron's fire department, based here, responds to a simulated crash site during a major accident response exercise here on June 1, 2022. During the exercise, members of the 127th Wing were tested on readiness capabilities in the accident scenario. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Terry L. Atwell)



SEEN AROUND SELFRIDGE

An A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft, 107th Fighter Squadron, practices formation maneuvers behind a KC-135 Stratotanker, 171st Air Refueling Squadron, both based at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan, on July 8, 2022. The aircraft participated in aerial maneuvers during the, "2022 Selfridge Open House and Air Show," where they demonstrated capabilities for tens of thousands of spectators over a three-day period. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. David Kujawa)



U.S. Coast Guard leadership of Ninth Coast Guard District, Cleveland, and Air Station Detroit, based here, salute the flag during a change of command ceremony June 10, 2022. During the ceremony, Cmdr. G. Andrew Clayton took command of the unit from Capt. Mark Lay. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Terry L. Atwell)



Airmen from the 127th Wing, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan, arrive at Sawyer International Airport, Gwinn, Michigan, on June 27, 2022. The troop arrival was part of Northern Agility 22-1, a Michigan Air National Guard-led exercise that tested the rapid insertion of an expeditionary wing into a bare-base environment, establishing logistics and communications to enhance the ability to operate in austere locations. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Scott Thompson)

TRAINING

Northern Agility exercise series showcases Air Force's Agile Combat Employment

By Bruce Huffman

127th Wing Public Affairs

During exercise "Northern Agility 22-1" in northern Michigan, June 27-29, 127th Wing A-Staff planners developed numerous military responses to an imaginary attack, on an imaginary island, countering with not-so-imaginary weaponry, tactics and innovative technologies developed to support long range combat missions.

Building on last year's highway landing in Michigan, NA 22-1 showcased the Air Force's Agile Combat Employment (ACE) doctrine, specifically the ability to conduct Integrated Combat Turns (ICT). This proof of concept demonstrates the Air Force's ability to refuel and arm running aircraft in an austere location, reducing ground time and launching planes back into the fight quickly. ICTs also help conceal air assets during conflict, and provide military leaders with additional capabilities to project air power where needed.

During the exercise, the Michigan Air National Guard's (ANG) 127th Wing at Selfridge ANG Base; 1st Special Operations Group, Hurlburt Field, Florida and 6th Special Operations Squadron, Duke Field, Florida; the Air Force Reserve's 919th Special Operations Wing, Duke Field; the Oklahoma ANG's 137th Special Operations Wing, Will Rogers ANG Base; and the Maryland ANG's 175th Fighter Wing, Warfield ANG Base, worked together to land eight A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft, one C-145A aircraft, one C-146 aircraft, one MC-12W aircraft, and one U-28A aircraft on Highway M-28 in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, east of the city of Munising.

"A lot of extraordinary things happened during this exercise, including the use of Lead-Wing Concepts during planning and execution phases," said Col. Matthew (Fumble) Robins, com-



Members of the 127th Maintenance Group, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan, conduct integrated combat turn activities on an A-10 Thunderbolt II on a closed portion of M-28 in Alger County, Michigan on June 29, 2022. The landing was part of Michigan Air National Guard led-exercise Northern Agility 22-1, successfully implementing agile combat employment by landing multiple military aircraft, then quickly conducting rearming and refueling activities prior to taking off again. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Chelsea E. FitzPatrick)

mander, 127th Wing Operations Group.

"Organizing a Wing Air Staff to execute mission command with our assigned and adjacent mission partners allowed us to efficiently adjust daily operations. It also allowed us to effectively practice centralized command (at a notional Joint Task Force) with distributed control (at the Wing) and decentralized execution (by Airmen in work centers, forward operating sites, and airborne). Coupled with reduced footprints

enabled by cross-trained Airmen and innovative integration of capabilities like ADM-160s and integrated combat turns, the Air Force has a real game changer for combatant commanders."

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. CQ Brown, Jr., published a white paper in 2020 titled: "Accelerate Change or Lose." In the document, Brown states that to defeat tomorrow's adversaries, Airmen need to think outside the box, and leaders need to embrace change and create an atmosphere

that inspires new ideas and innovation.

During NA 22-1, the Kelly Johnson Joint All-Domain Innovation Center teamed up with industry partners to demonstrate numerous technologies for augmented reality to enhance the multi-capable Airman concept, rapid integration of the Command & Control ecosystem, Synthetic Aperture Radar, Advanced Threat Detection and Visualization and other capabilities. One of the latest experimental inno-

vation tools, virtual reality goggles, advances the Multi-Capable Airman concept (MCA). The goggles are designed to help prop up the maintenance and logistics tail during forward deployments. The virtual reality goggles link down-range personnel with master maintainers and other support personnel back in garrison. The support team uses VR to help deployed personnel solve logistics and maintenance issues and other problems that may be beyond the deployed personnel's expertise.

"None of our training activities could happen without the incredible partnerships the Michigan ANG has with our communities, civil agencies, and business owners across northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula," said Maj. Gen. Paul Rogers, adjutant general of the Michigan National Guard and director of the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

"With Northern Agility 22-1, Michigan is moving Agile Combat Employment forward for the U.S. Air Force while integrating technologies from leading-edge companies and industries across the country. It demonstrates that when it comes to bringing that culture of hard work and innovation together for experimentation and development, Michigan is the place to be."

Michigan's 17,000 square miles of dedicated military air space, some of which is over portions of Lake Huron, make it an ideal location to conduct a realistic all-domain island defense scenario like NA 22-1.

"Northern Michigan is one of the best places in the nation to test the agility of our force," said Brig. Gen. Bryan Teff, assistant adjutant general and Michigan Air National Guard commander. "Michigan is a champion for innovation and we are proud to host the second iteration of the Northern Agility Series," said Teff.

CHANGE OF COMMAND

Trapasso takes command of 127th Mission Support Group

By Penelope Carroll
127th Wing Public Affairs

Lieutenant Colonel Samuel D. Trapasso is the new commander of the 127th Mission Support Group (MSG) after a change of command ceremony at Selfridge Air National Guard Base (ANGB) during the 127th Wing's June drill.

Trapasso took command during a formal ceremony Saturday, June 4, 2022. He is replacing Colonel Daniel Kramer who will become the new commander of the 110th Wing in Battle Creek, Mich.

"NCOs and enlisted Airmen, become experts in your field but don't wait until you make the senior ranks to start branching out, joining committees, even exploring other AF-SCs," Trapasso said, while addressing his new enlisted force for the first time. "What you build now is what you'll be leading in very short order."

As the commander of the 127th MSG, Trapasso will lead several squadrons including the Security Forces Squadron, Communications Flight, Force Support Squadron, Logis-

tics Readiness Squadron and the Civil Engineer Squadron. More than 500 personnel are assigned to the 127th MSG.

Trapasso joined the U.S. Army in 1997. He received his commission as an infantry officer in 2002. He deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom 2004

through 2006. After a two-year service break, in 2008 he joined the Vermont Air National Guard serving in various roles. Trapasso came to Selfridge ANGB in 2017 and served here as Security Forces Squadron commander and Force Support Squadron commander.

Right: Lt. Col. Sam Trapasso renders the first salute to the 127th Mission Support Group during the MSG Change of Command ceremony at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, June 4, 2022. Trapasso took command of the 127th Mission Group at the ceremony.

U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. DREW SCHUMANN



ACCOLADES

Candice Miller named honorary Selfridge commander

First time honorary title has been given at SANGB

By Norb Franz

Macomb County Public Works Commissioner Candice S. Miller, who has been closely involved with Selfridge Air National Guard Base for more than 40 years, has been named by the Michigan National Guard as honorary commander of the Harrison Township base.

"Selfridge, its mission and dedicated personnel have been near and dear to my heart for decades. I'm deeply moved, very humbled and grateful for this unexpected honor," Miller said.

"Commissioner Miller has proven that the timeless values of loyalty, honor, integrity and personal courage are so much more than mere words, and are a living testament to the highest hopes and ideals of our nation," said U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Rolf Mammen, 127th Wing commander. "Through the years, she has served the men and women of Selfridge as a Key Spouse, community leader, U.S. Representative, an outstanding center of in-

fluence, and most importantly, as a friend."

Mammen also recognizes Miller as a personal mentor to him.

The title of base honorary commander to Miller was announced July 8 by U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Paul D. Rogers, adjutant general, Michigan National Guard, during a visit to the base by U.S. Secretary of the Air Force, Frank Kendall III. It's the first time the title of honorary commander has been given at Selfridge ANGB.

As Harrison Township supervisor in the 1980's, Miller was a local leader who fought against a push to turn the base into a joint-use facility that would have allowed for commercial use of the base. Later, Miller advocated for Selfridge to three different Base Realignment and Closure Commissions over a period of decades to ensure the base remained open.

While in Congress, Miller helped lead efforts to keep A-10 jets from being eliminated from Selfridge.

"I have been proud to work alongside many others to advo-



U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO

Air Force Brig. Gen. Rolf Mammen, 127th Wing Commander (from left); Secretary of the Air Force Frank Kendall III; Macomb County Public Works Commissioner Candice Miller; and Governor Gretchen Whitmer, as Miller was named honorary commander of Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

cate for Selfridge," Miller said. "The best part of my association with Selfridge has been the opportunity to work with the many brave men and women who have served there, proudly defending our liberty, democracy and freedom every day."

During her 14 years as a member of Congress representing Michigan's 10th District, Miller served as vice chair of the House Committee on Homeland Security and was chairman of the Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security. In 2012, she

became only the 30th person to be awarded the Harry S Truman Award for Distinguished Service in Support of National Defense. The award, presented by the National Guard Association of the United States, saluted not only a career of Miller's tireless support of the Michigan National Guard, but also her advocacy to elevate the commander of the U.S. National Guard to 4-star general rank and to a seat on the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Miller is currently a member of the Selfridge Base Community Council.

Selfridge, which is marking its 105th anniversary, is home to all five branches of the armed forces. It currently houses the A-10 Thunderbolt II and the KC-135 Stratotanker.

Miller's late husband, Donald Miller, who flew combat missions during the Vietnam War and then continued his military career in the Michigan National Guard, earned the rank of colonel and retired as Selfridge's base commander and director of operations of the Air National Guard's 127th Tactical Fighter Wing in 1988.

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



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