

# The OTIS NOTICE

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MARCH 2021

## 102nd Force Support Squadron re-designation and change of command ceremony held

by Timothy Sandland  
102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

A formal unit re-designation and change of command ceremony for the 102nd Force Support Flight was held here, Feb. 12.

Presiding over both ceremonies was Col. Timothy Gordon, 102nd Mission Support Group commander.

“The re-designation of the force support flight to the force support squadron has been a long road and a lot of work,” said Col. Gordon, “It’s about growing the professionalism of the Airmen and expanding and improving services to the wing.”

The 102nd Force Support Squadron is responsible for providing first-class combat and community support by delivering programs supporting Airmen and family care, military and civilian personnel services, education and training, food service, lodging and fitness for the Airmen of the 102nd Intelligence Wing and their families.

Maj. Bethany Hien will become the commander of the newly-elevated squadron, succeeding Lt. Col. Kristen Moulis, who has served as commander since Sep. 2016.

Moulis is currently deployed overseas.

With the motto, “People are Our Mission” serving as their mantra, the squadron’s goal is to provide premier support to our Airmen and families through continuous improvements to enrich quality of life, education and training programs and personnel services delivery.

During the ceremony, Lt. Col. Moulis was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for her accomplishments as the squadron commander. Her husband, Maj. Michael Moulis, accepted the award on her behalf.

“It’s no coincidence that this transformation from flight to squadron all happened under the command of [Moulis]. This was her goal, this was her vision – from the very beginning of her command,” said Col. Gordon, “The accomplishments of the flight under her command are extremely noteworthy. These are tremendous, impactful accomplishments that you should be very proud of, Kristen.”



In her remarks, Lt. Col. Moulis spoke of the pride she had in the Airmen of the squadron. “The re-designation ceremony that we just witnessed is a particularly proud moment,” she said, “It’s recognition of the amazing work that is being done by these amazing airmen every day.”

“My greatest accomplishment in the last four and half years has been to serve as your commander,” she said, speaking directly to her Airmen, “They never failed to meet my challenge, and they always exceeded what I could have hoped for.”



Following the unit’s re-designation to squadron status, the formal change of command ceremony commenced.

Standing in for Lt. Col. Moulis for the passing of the guidon was Maj. Marc McAndrew, who has been serving as the acting commander of the unit.

The new squadron guidon, in its first action since being unfurled just minutes earlier, was passed to Col. Gordon by McAndrew, representing the continuity of command.

Maj. Hien then stepped up and accepted the guidon from Col. Gordon, completing the exchange and officially completing the change of command ceremonial tradition.

“Maj. Hien’s ability to get up to speed on some very complicated issues is incredibly impressive,” said Col. Gordon, “She’s enthusiastic, she’s resourceful, and she’s the right person to take the squadron to the next level of success.”

In her first remarks as squadron commander, Hien addressed the Airmen of the 102nd Force Support Squadron.

“My goal, is to take the great work that has already been done, into the future,” she said. “It is my distinct honor to serve with you and I am proud to say that I get to lead this team. I’m truly excited and eager to see what we can do together.”

Courtesy of the 102nd Intelligence Facebook

## Massachusetts military forces join together to administer vaccine

by Timothy Sandland  
102nd Intelligence Wing Public Affairs

Medical Group, supplemented by Massachusetts Army National Guard Soldiers and members of the Massachusetts Organized Militia (MAOM), came together to perform a first-run of the COVID-19 immunization process at Otis Air National Guard Base, on Jan. 28.

The initial doses of the vaccine were administered to wing leadership – the first of two, which will protect Airmen from the COVID-19 virus. The vaccine will be delivered in a phased approach – priority will begin with emergency services personnel, security forces, and medical and health care professionals.

Continuing, groups will be prioritized based on exposure risk and health factors.

“We are very fortunate to be able to start the process to vaccinate personnel assigned to JBCC,” said Col. Sean Riley, 102nd Intelligence Wing commander.

“This is truly a joint effort, the vaccination team includes both Army and Air Guardsmen and even some retired members of the guard that volunteered to come back on State Active Duty.”

The vaccine will initially be offered under an Emergency Use Authorization, and vaccinations will be voluntary until achieving full FDA approval. Initial quantities of the vaccine are limited and will be distributed as additional supply becomes available.

The vaccination plan is focused on personnel providing direct medical care, emergency services and public safety. This is followed by those providing essential installation functions and deploying forces who volunteer for inoculation according to the DoD’s phased prioritization approach.

Personnel currently receiving the vaccine are first responders such as healthcare workers, security forces, and other personnel with the highest risk for exposure.



Courtesy of the 102nd Intelligence Facebook

The vaccine will also be offered to personnel who will be deploying in the near future.

As each phase of the vaccination plan is complete, the plan will expand.

In addition to the Airmen and Soldiers from the Massachusetts National Guard, Chief Warrant Officer 5 James Girard and Master Sgt. Frank Noonan of the Massachusetts Organized Militia were on hand, assisting with the immunization process.

The MAOM assists the United States National Guard forces, assumes state missions when the National Guard is

deployed, provides emergency support during disasters and assists in color guards and funeral details.

“We are men and women who have retired and spent at least 20 years in the military, of which the last 5 years had to be in the Mass. National Guard,” said Chief Girard.

With uniforms virtually identical to their National Guard comrades, these retired Soldiers were identified by the distinctive ‘Massachusetts’ tape where ‘U. S. Army’ would normally be seen as well as a round shoulder patch depicting the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

continued on page 3

# Commander's Column

Base Cape Cod

## GREENS FIRST!

Interview by Mike Camire

With snow on the ground and freezing rain falling, I met up with Mr. Brian Arthur, the Falcon Golf Club Manager, to get an update on how MWR plans were coming along as he and his staff have worked tirelessly to improve and upgrade the course. Brian and his staff have continued with their goals of improving course conditions and playability. His "PHIL-Osophy" (Mickelson is his favorite golfer) was to build from the greens out. Despite trying to rebuild a golf course while battling the Covid 19 pandemic, they kept a persistent and positive attitude which reflected in the slow but sure return of more and more golfers coming to the base as they moved through the summer months into fall.

Every manager has a team leader he or she can count on and Brian found his TB-12 (sorry, I couldn't avoid a Brady reference) in Mr. Al Comeau. Al is a 40-plus year industry veteran and lifetime member of the Golf Course Superintendent Association. Over the years, Al has become a master at doing more with less. Brian lauds Al's efforts as "He has been an integral part of getting the golf course turned around." Both men have been able to stay focused on the game plan, and are charging ahead like Dustin Johnson coming down the back nine! Together, their work ethic and dedication formed a winning score card!

On the technical side of things, much of the success in 2020 with greens repairs was a result of multiple aerations including top-dressing, over-seeding, and subsequent water management. Courtesy of their new aerator that was purchased at the end of the season, the team will continue in improving the overall health of the greens, surrounds, and tees in the 2021 season. Also added to the arsenal last year were two new mowers and a bunker rake that were integral in the final transformation and playability of the course that was witnessed in the fall. Along with the ever-improving course conditions, new signage will help golfers get around easily and efficiently, as well as twenty shiny new electric golf carts that just recently arrived.

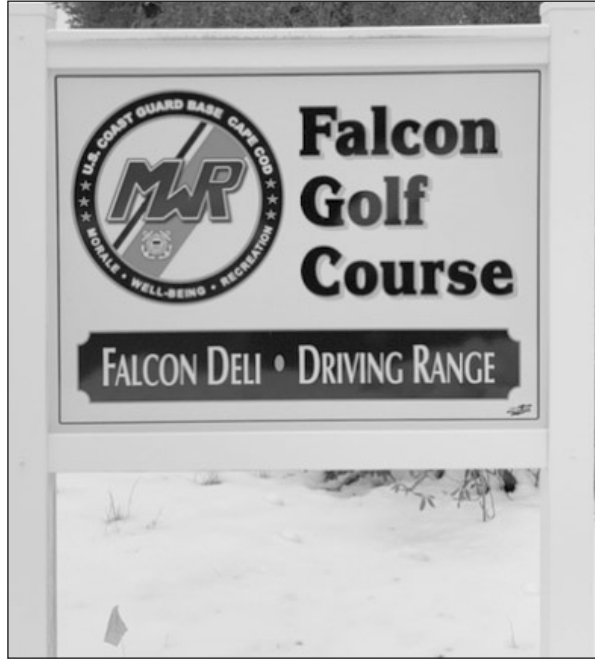
MWR is hoping to continue to expand the volume of golfers on the base by running additional leagues and

tournaments during the season. A good example of this success has been the staple Coast Guard League graciously run by Freddy O'Connor on Wednesday nights. Showing good promise and support, the league members loved the improvements they saw, and after starting with just 11 golfers they quickly grew to 18, and are now looking ahead to the 2021 season expecting 29 golfers. They also have a few other initiatives coming our way, like the annual Commanders' Cup in the fall that pits the various branches of active military and base employees against one another for JBCC's top golf bragging rights. The inaugural Cup was held last fall with a team from Coast Guard Air Station Cape Cod taking home the hardware.

Brian is also excited to announce an exclusive relationship with Callaway Golf for 2021. Look for discounted merchandise and apparel arriving this spring! Additionally, he's excited to further add Jay Johnson into the mix. Last year Jay was an integral part of the youth golf program, and this season will be expanding his time at the Falcon. Jay is a certified teaching professional and member of the United States Golf Teacher's Federation who will build upon the services offered at the Falcon by providing lessons, clinics and club fitting sessions.

We finished up the discussion with Brian telling me that it's all these "little" things that have led to BIG results. It was the continued support of the MWR Director, Ms. Tanya Molina, the BCC Command and the growing patron base that propelled improvements to the course, as well as continued growth in play and memberships in 2021. Leadership is proud of the improvements the team has made in such a short time, and have enjoyed the reinvigoration of support by active-duty and long-time patrons who clearly have a fondness and appreciation for the Falcon. We are eagerly wishing the snow away, and looking forward to the promising year ahead!

If you would like to join a league or be added to our email list to stay up-to-date on events and course availability, go to the Coast Guard website (mwrcapcod.com), head over to the Falcon, or contact Brian directly at 508-968-6781 or at brian.w.arthur@uscg.mil.



Sign of the times? Despite the cold weather and snow - Falcon Golf Course Manager Brian Arthur is hopeful for an early Spring filled with holes in one... (on the course, not in the sign!)

Photo by: Mike Camire



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## Father and daughter serve together with Massachusetts National Guard in Nation's Capital

Story & photo by U.S. Army Capt. John Quinn

WASHINGTON – It's one thing to follow in the footsteps of a military family, it's another to have the opportunity to serve on the same mission as your daughter. Staff Sgt. Roberto Alicea, of the 1166th Transportation Company, and his daughter, Pvt. Felicia Alicea, of the 747th Military Police Company, are both activated as part of Task Force Freedom. The task force is a 700-person element of Soldiers and Airmen from Massachusetts and Vermont, which is currently supporting the U.S. Secret Service. The pair normally serve in units with different missions, and this is the first time either has worked together.

"The biggest reward about serving with Felicia is knowing that she's out there doing what she loves -- that is helping people, following her family's footsteps and trying to make this world a better place to live in," Roberto Alicea said. "While in D.C., I would love to have the opportunity to work side-by-side with Felicia."

While deployed, they are serving in separate units, and on alternating shifts, so it's possible they will not get the chance to work together. Nonetheless, they're excited to have the opportunity to see each other.

"One of the neatest experiences of this trip so far has been walking past the White House and being so close," Felicia Alicea said. "I hope to snag a picture in front of it with my dad if I can. That would be pretty legendary."

She said this experience is something she will never forget or take for granted.

Roberto Alicea, who works as a firefighter during the week, has served 14 of his 16 years of service with the National Guard, and he recently re-enlisted for six years prior to starting this mission.

Felicia Alicea has served for a little more than a year before her unit was called up on Jan. 26.

"Her decision to join the military caught my wife and I by surprise, but it made us very proud that we at least had a child who wanted to follow our footsteps," Roberto Alicea said.

With current and former military members in her family, Felicia Alicea said her father was one of the major influences in deciding to join the military.

"He is a major reason why I decided to join and why I feel so proud to follow in his, and many others' footsteps," she said, adding that she's always looked up to her father for



U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Roberto Alicea, of the 1166th Transportation Company, and his daughter, Pvt. Felicia Alicea, of the 747th Military Police Company.

his heroism, duty and pride in serving the community. Felicia Alicea says that her father is not the only one to influence her. She said that her mother, Kim, a former U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard Soldier, remains "one of the biggest motivators and supporters in our lives." "My mother back home has been nothing but amazing in supporting and helping us be ready and as prepared as possible for this mission here in D.C.," she said, adding that she even provided them with extra snacks, hand sanitizer and coffee for the mission.

"I feel very lucky to have the support system from both her and my dad that I do every day," she said.

Felicia Alicea said that being part of this mission allows her father, and other Soldiers and Airmen, to see into the Father - Daughterworld of the military police.

"Sometimes, I suspect he even may be a little jealous he didn't try it out," Felicia Alicea said. "We do some really cool stuff."

Overall, Felicia had said that taking part in the mission has been a positive experience.

"Being able to serve with my father has been nothing but awesome," Felicia Alicea said. "When I put on the uniform, it makes me so proud to know I have such a great role model."

# VETERANS SPOTLIGHT

## John Stryker Meyer , Green Beret

by Wayne Soares  
waynesoares1@gmail.com

This week's Veterans Spotlight, John Stryker Meyer would immediately dismiss any type of homage that is put in his direction, preferring in his own humble way to direct it towards the soldiers he served with. Mr. Meyer served two tours of duty in Vietnam (a total of 19 months) as a Green Beret under the aegis of the top secret Military Assistance Command – Studies and Observation Group. After years of ultra-secrecy, he is finally able to tell his story.

Mr. Meyer grew up in Trenton, NJ and did his basic training right down the road at Fort Dix. There is simply not enough room in this column to tell Mr. Meyer's complete story, so we fast forward to a meeting his sergeant major had with he and his fellow Green Berets getting ready for his first mission. "The sergeant major told us straight out... when we went across the fence (into Laos, Cambodia and North Vietnam)... no dog tags, diaries, photos, love letters, nothing.....if we got killed the United States Government would deny having anything to do with us" he recalled. How did this set with him? "it was time to go to work....I'm a real Green Beret..... this is what we're getting paid for.... this is IT....doing top secret missions where nobody goes but us....I was ready" he remembered. There was no science in preparing for the next mission; "you shower, shave, grab something to eat, maybe place some cards, go to bed and get ready for tomorrow" he said

Because of the sever danger of each mission, Mr. Meyer said his unit had to be extremely close. "You tried to prevent casualties....directions had to be specific on extractions (taking troops out) and bombardments....I carried a radio and called in the air strikes.....we'd pop smoke or use mirrors.....some airstrikes came extremely close to us" he recalled. Even the intensity and instincts kicked in during recreational football. "Our quarterback was a Special Ops Green Beret....was set to pass, then saw a defensive player coming from his right side, grabbed the guy hard and drove his head into the sand....thankfully it wasn't at an angle.....you break somebody's neck when drive their head into the ground at an angle" he said matter-



of-factly. Mr. Meyer spoke of many RON (Remain Over Night) experiences in the jungle. "There are things you considered and were aware of, at ALL times....we made a circle where you could always reach out and touch another guy.....you trust your teammates and sleep when you're supposed to.....I slept light....the morning dew falling from trees would wake me up.....we once heard a Tiger prowling around but it left us alone" he remembered.

He continued, "we had a Green Beret officer assigned to us.....never should have been a leader.....came down from the big brass.....no experience in our type of warfare....got two good Vietnamese soldiers on my team killed and we were pissed....he never respected the enemy which proved fatal." Mr. Meyer also shared a moment that would make

you shudder. "One night, the jungle was deadly quiet, except when the wind stirred.....my heart began to pound and pound.....every time the wind stirred the NVA soldier got closer....then, after the wind stirred, I heard a movement very close to me....the NVA soldier touched the tip of my jungle boot....I heard a slight gasp.....had a death grip on my CAR-15....had it on single shot.....it felt like an eternity, then the wind blew softly again....I heard the NVA soldier move back....he was so cool....I couldn't see him and wondered if he knew I had my gun pointed at him.....didn't dare shoot

as I didn't want to alert the NVA's buddies that were most likely near.....every time the wind blew the tree branches, he moved....followed him to a creek and he moved out with two other NVA's. every time the wind blew."

Mr. Meyer shared two final thoughts; "I have the highest level of respect for the South Vietnamese Kingbee Helicopter pilots.....they were fearless....put their lives on the line.....got shot up....some got killed saving us" he recalled. His thoughts on going home? "I was bitterly torn.....guys I had to leave.....terribly painful....I was alive because of my 'little people'...that's a term of the greatest level of respect for my Vietnamese soldiers....I would have done it all over again" he said with great pride. John Stryker Meyer, thank you for your service to our great country and welcome home.

## COMMUNITY

### 4 Ways to Uplift Small Businesses in Your Community

(StatePoint) With nearly half of all Americans employed by a small business, these establishments need our support more than ever.

According to the latest Wells Fargo/Gallup Small Business Index, 46 percent of business owners surveyed have seen a drop in revenue over the past 12 months, with some entrepreneurs seeing even more severe impact.

"Small businesses are at the heart of our communities and the key to millions of jobs," says Steve Troutner, head of Small Business, Wells Fargo. "Keeping spending dollars in local communities is an impactful way to rally around small business owners."

Wells Fargo is sharing four ways to uplift small businesses near you:

1. Shop local. While one-stop shopping on leading e-commerce sites can be tempting, the simple act of purchasing something from your favorite local retailer can go a long way in keeping business afloat and money in your community. Returning or exchanging gifts? Ask for store credit instead of cash. It helps keep money with a small business and makes their cash flow more stable.

Many shops have safety measures in place, such as limiting occupancy or offering contactless pick-up.

2. Eat local. Support your neighbors by dining at locally-owned establishments. Getting takeout or having food delivered? Order directly from the restaurant rather than through third-party sites that take a cut. When it comes to food shopping, opt for neighborhood grocers, which often carry produce from small family-owned farms and

other locally-sourced goods. Many offer the same curbside pickup and delivery options as major chains.

3. Uplift diverse-owned businesses. Keep in mind that minority- and women-owned businesses have been hard hit by COVID-19. Many are counting on your patronage to survive.

To help entrepreneurs stay open and support local jobs, Wells Fargo is deploying approximately \$400 million from its Open for Business Fund to nonprofits serving small businesses. The initiative focuses on increasing access to training and flexible capital that businesses can use for rent, utilities, payroll and other business needs. If you are a business owner looking for assistance and resources, visit [wellsfargo.com/shoplocal](https://www.wellsfargo.com/shoplocal) to learn more.

4. Shine a light on your favorite business. Whether it's expanding outdoor patios and installing heat lamps or updating tech to facilitate contactless checkout, small businesses have had to get creative to stay relevant. One simple way of supporting businesses as they make these changes is to follow them on social media and give positive reviews on websites like Yelp.

As part of its "Many hearts. One community" campaign, Wells Fargo is highlighting the determination, resilience and creativity that so many small business have shown this past year.

"Community has meant everything to me," says Kadijatu Ahene, owner of Dija's Touch Designs, which benefitted from Wells Fargo and Local Initiatives Support Corporation working together. "The challenges we're dealing with have brought us closer. Whether its friends and neighbors checking on me and my girls, delivering food and more, COVID has reminded us that we need each other to move forward in unity."

## Vaccine *continued from page 1*

"When the [pandemic] first hit, we were asked to come back," said Chief Girard. "We come in when asked and it's purely voluntary,"

The dedication and professionalism shown by these militia members is evidence of their years of service and experience – the militia allows them an opportunity to continue that service.

The participation from all parts of the Massachusetts military machine make one point abundantly clear – the importance of this mission to vaccinate the troops is paramount. Ensuring our service members are protected will guarantee continued support of operations such as Task Force Raptor, where more than 180 Soldiers and Airmen who possessed civilian medical training were called up to serve and join the commonwealth's fight against COVID-19 early last year.

Millions have received COVID-19 vaccines in the United States. These vaccines have undergone the most intensive monitoring in U.S. history to make sure that the vaccines are safe.

"These vaccines were tested in clinical trials involving tens of thousands of people to make sure they meet safety standards," said Chief Master Sgt. Cynthia Thomas, 102 MDG superintendent. "There were no serious safety concerns."

While some people don't have any side effects after getting a COVID-19 vaccine, many will have mild side effects after COVID-19 vaccination, like pain or swelling at the injection site, a headache, chills, or fever.

These reactions are normal and show the vaccine is working.

"For me getting the vaccine as soon as I could was an easy decision," said Col. Riley, "The more vaccines we are able to administer will keep our people protected, increasing our readiness and ensure we can support any state or federal mission taskings we receive."

Wing personnel should expect to receive notifications from their chain of command as more shipments of the vaccine are received based on their priority in the phased vaccination plan.

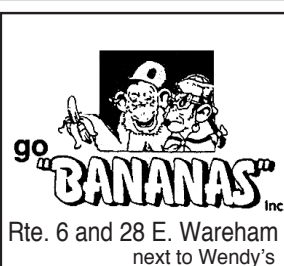
Although immunizations are underway, it is important that everyone continues to wear masks, maintain personal hygiene and practice social distancing. According to the Centers for Disease Control, COVID precautions will still be necessary until a large portion of the population is vaccinated and the vaccine is proven to provide long-term protection.

The combination of COVID-19 vaccination and following CDC's recommendations to protect yourself and others offers the best protection from COVID-19.

### ATTENTION

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# THE LONG ROAD “HOME”

Masked Crusaders upset Fireballers in finals to capture the 2020 Base Cape Cod “Covid Cup” Bowling championship

By: Mike Camire

Just about a year ago we were clueless to the terms social distancing, mandatory masking, self-quarantine, travel bans, “zoom” meetings, vaccines and our new best friend – hand sanitizer. We were rolling and bowling and having a good old time enjoying our recreational activities with our friends. Then Covid-19 surfaced and turned not only our “play time” upside down, but our real world was suddenly very dangerous and chaotic. There are and were certainly things much bigger and more important than a silly bowling league, but eventually when things settled down some it was clear we’d have another new term – the “New Normal.” That meant no bowling, the winter league of 2020 was postponed and it took a full eight months of progress and protocols to get back on the lanes and yes, it finally happened on November 4th!

We were fortunate that things were safe enough and stable enough, using proper precautions to get back to our fun little bowling league. The season progressed with a few stop and restarts, as we were just extra caution under the watch full eye of League Coordinator Mitch Weathers. The Fireballers finished the season in first place, just edging out the Masked Crusaders by a few points to capture the Nr.



**Champs! It took a year to get a full season in, but the Masked Crusaders defeated the Wolf Pack in Round 1 and then beat out the 1st place Fireballers (by just 17 pins) to capture the Coast Guard Base Cape Cod 2020 “Covid Cup” Bowling championship - (L-R) Jimbo Mayou, Tom Barnes, Mike Camire and Mitch Weathers, not pictured: Cliff Jaeger.** Photo by: Chuck Williams



**The Fireballers took 2nd place in the 2020 Base Cape Cod “Covid Cup” Bowling championship (L-R) Schaun Dion, Walt Stecchi, League Coord. Mitch Weathers, Nick Stecchi and Donny Thompson.** Photo: M Camire



**The Pinheads, ever the good sports pose with their 4th place “Trophy” a can of strike zone spray - crazy fun loving team! (L-R) - Joe Fraher, Zack Foley, Mike O’Brien and Doug Foley.** Photo: M Camire

## \$250 REWARD

Airman Jerry Carroll won 2nd Place in THE AIR FORCE SHORT STORY CONTEST at Otis AFB in 1962 (Probably in the Fall). His picture of being handed his \$15 prize by Colonel T.E. Harwell and Ms. Sheehan (Otis Librarian) were in The Otis Notice, his copy was lost in a fire. Now that he is ready to begin a career in writing, this picture and copy would be helpful from an old 1962 Otis Notice. Jerry Carroll 334 480 4072



**The Wolf Pack captured 3rd place in the bowling league playoffs (L-R) - Nick Johnson, Ethan Crabtree, Chuck Williams and Don Dwyer.** Photo: M Camire

### Puzzle Solutions

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L	A	M	A	F	R	A	C	T	I	O	N	
M	O	L	A	R	O	G	L	E	C	L	O	P
A	I	O	L	I	O	U	S	T	A	I	R	Y
O	N	E	T	E	A	S	O	M	A			

1 Seed in the playoffs, the Crusaders would be the Nr. 2 Seed, The Wolfpack the Nr. 3 Seed and the Pinheads were the Nr. 4 Seed. All were trying to capture the 2020 “Covid Cup” championship trophy. The playoff format features the teams playing two games head to head, a point is awarded for each string/game that is won. If the two teams split the games, then the total pin fall for each team is counted to determine the winner and who advances to the next round.

continued on page 6



**Good form! The Masked Crusaders Jimbo “Gotta be the Shoes” Mayou led his team to the CG Base Cape Cod “Covid Cup” Bowling Championship with a 147 average including games of 150 & 159 in the finals as they narrowly defeated the Fireballers by 17 pins to win the title.** Photo: M Camire

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Air Force Global Strike Command bombers perform the Super Bowl LV flyover at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Fla., Feb. 7, 2021. The trifecta was the first of its kind as it included a B-1B Lancer from Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D., a B-2 Spirit from Whiteman AFB, Mo., and a B-52H Stratofortress from Minot AFB, N.D.

U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jacob B. Wrightsman



## Super Bowl LV flyover took months of planning, coordination

*Air Force Global Strike Command Public Affairs*

For fans watching the Super Bowl Feb. 7, the Air Force Global Strike Command tri-bomber flyover over Raymond James Stadium in Tampa, Florida, lasted seconds.

For the team planning this historic event, however – the first flyover of a major sporting event featuring a B-1B Lancer, B-2 Spirit and B-52 Stratofortress – the flyover has taken months of hard work.

“We started doing our initial planning for this flyover back in March of 2020,” said Katie Spencer, Sports Outreach Program manager and Aerial Events coordinator for the Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs Office. “The bomber trifecta flyover is something that Carla Pampe, the AFGSC chief of civic outreach, had been pitching to us for about four years, and this year it worked out for us to do it.”

Spencer and her team worked with Pampe to get the flyover approved by Gen. Timothy Ray, the AFGSC commander. Once the flyover was approved at the major command level, Maj. Kendall Smith, the Directorate of Operations’ Command lead, Bomber Force Management, began coordinating with the bomber units to see who was available to support the event.

“I reached out to all of our bomb wings and began working with them to see who had operational commitments that might conflict with the Super Bowl date,” Smith said. “Then the wing commanders all got together to decide which wings would actually fly the event, and which units would send aircrew and maintainers to Tampa to represent the Air Force and AFGSC in media interviews on the ground.”

After the units doing the flyover and static display in Tampa were selected, operational planning could begin.

Lt. Col. Chris McAlear is the chief of the Air Combat Command Aerial Events Branch, and for the Super Bowl, served as the ground controller who vectors the aircraft in for the actual flyover.

“This flyover took a lot of extra coordination, because we were working with three different wings at three different bases. Normally you’re working with one unit who is used to doing these types of flyovers, so it was a new dynamic for us,” McAlear said. “Once we got the final aircrews selected and got the times from the NFL on when the National Anthem would end, I put together a detailed event briefing for the three flying crews.”

This briefing included maps of the area around the stadium, the staging area where the bombers would come together prior to the flyover, videos of the run in to the stadium, altitudes, time on target and more.

“It’s basically everything the aircrews would need to know to get them safely in and out of the flyover area,” McAlear said. “In addition, we had to coordinate with the tanker aircraft at MacDill (Air Force Base) to schedule (KC-135 Stratotankers) for refueling of the flyover aircraft, so in all, a lot of teamwork.”

The flyover also meant a lot of planning at each wing supporting the event, because for each aircraft flying, there was a backup aircraft in case of maintenance issues.

“We have contingency plans in place with backups for all three aircraft, so that means a lot of coordination with aircrew and maintainers on the ground,” Smith said. “There were

literally hundreds of Airmen involved in supporting this event from throughout the command.”

In the month leading up to the big event, aircrews and maintainers supporting the flyover were media trained by their public affairs teams at home station, and interviews were done at each base prior to the actual Super Bowl event.

“One of the reasons we do flyovers in the Air Force is to inspire patriotism and future generations of aviation enthusiasts, and our aircrew and maintainers are great messengers to share the Air Force story,” said Jennifer Bentley, chief of policy and public outreach for the Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs Office. “This is also an amazing way to showcase the capabilities of our aircraft to the American public.”

In the end, Bentley hoped all the effort and coordination that took place would culminate in a flawless flyover of Super Bowl LV.

“As the bombers soar over Super Bowl LV this year, the public will see a showcase of American airpower, and hopefully feel inspired and proud,” she said. “But this flyover is also a testament to the hundreds of Airman and civilians behind the scenes who worked months and long hours to make it happen.”

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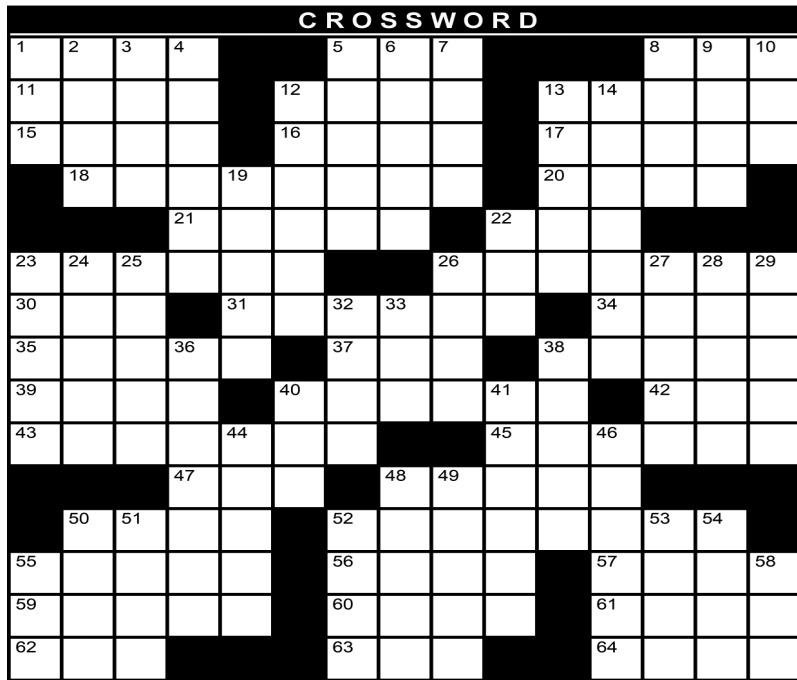
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ACROSS

1. ¿ la mode
5. Westminster broadcaster
8. Lamb's momma
11. Depression drifter
12. Alternative to truth
13. Like a Druid, e.g.
15. Verify
16. Flair
17. Avoid paying taxes
18. \*Same as power in math
20. Surrender territory
21. Mini, midi or maxi
22. Longnosed fish
23. \*Round #23 Down
26. Adverb derived from zone
30. Miner's bounty
31. Curved like a foot
34. Mother Earth to Ancient Greeks
35. Truck amounts
37. "\_\_\_ the land of the free..."
38. Hitler's Third
39. Capri, e.g.
40. Walked
42. Grande, e.g.

43. Remove scales
45. Accustomed, two words
47. Like arctic air
48. More capable
50. Tibetan priest
52. \*Part of a whole number
55. Grinding tooth
56. Stare amorously
57. Hoofbeat sound
59. Garlic mayo
60. Kick out
61. Gossamer
62. \*Pi's second digit
63. High \_\_\_
64. "Brave New World" drug

DOWN

1. Half a particular dance
2. Past tense of heave
3. Type of mountain goat
4. Body six feet under
5. Harvest helper
6. Small goose
7. Abe's coin
8. Exclamation of surprise, archaic
9. Do like fly fisherman
10. Between northeast and east
12. One who denies
13. Popular pie nut

14. \*Sum divided by count
19. Southern cuisine pods
22. Apollo to ancient Greeks
23. \*Three-dimensional object
24. Not poetry
25. Mends
26. \*Whole number between -1 and 1
27. Scottish landowner
28. In accordance with law
29. Search engine pioneer
32. Pigeon's home
33. H in British HMS
36. \*Kind of point
38. Set to zero
40. Cunning
41. Pleasing to the ear
44. Ticks and mites, taxonomically speaking
46. Short for Fredericas
48. Lock horns
49. Popular craft wood
50. Under a fig leaf?
51. Gel producing plant
52. \*0.3048 meters
53. Pasta with \_\_\_ and alio
54. "Cheers" regular
55. Cultural Revolution leader
58. Money in Myanmar

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answer on page 4

# Long Road

continued from page 4

In Round One the top seeded Fireballers took on the 4th Seeded Pinheads. On paper it might seem like an easy win for the Fireballers, but the Pinheads had a solid 1st game led by perennial star Joe "Strikes" Fraher who had a team high 144 with 2 spares and 3 strikes. The Pinheads welcomed back Phenom Zack "Fireball" Foley to the team and he did not disappoint as he had a 133 with 3 spares and 2 strikes, teammate Mike "Trips" O'Brien (2 spares 3 strikes) added a 130 while Captain Doug "Machine Gun" Foley added a 104. Their adjusted score of 708 was very respectable. The Fireballers were equal to the task as their score was 729, giving them the 1st point and a 21 pin lead going into game two. The Fireballers have some real firepower (appropriate since they ARE firefighters) led in this game by Nick "The Hammer" Stecchi who had a game high 146 with 3 spares and 3 strikes. His first three frames he had two strikes and a spare. He had plenty of support as his Dad, Walt "The Chief" had a score of 145, he had 5 spares and 2 strikes. This team is deep as Donny Thompson (3 spares, 2 strikes) added a 130 and Schaun "Calendar Boy" Dion had a 121, and he was just getting warmed up! Down a point, the Pinheads needed to win game two and win by at least 22 points to pull off the win and upset the Fireballers. The Pinheads managed a score of 699, led by Mike "Trips" (4 spares, 3 strikes) who had a team high 139 while Zack "Fireball" had six spares, marking in his first four frames, he finished with a 136. Joe "Strikes" added a 126 while Doug "Machine Gun" had a 101 score. It just wasn't enough to cool off the Fireballers who blazed to victory led by Schaun "Calendar Boy" who put up the highest score of the playoffs with a blistering 191. He started off hot and finished with a flourish, he had two straight strikes to start the game and then finished with two strikes and a spare... Mercy me! He ended up with 4 spares and 5 strikes. No wonder he's a Calendar Boy. This was no one man show either, Walt "The Chief" (4 spares, 2 strikes) added a 146. Walt opened with three straight marks, just as Nick did in the first game. Nick "The Hammer" (5 spares, 1 strike) had a 140 and Donny "T" added a 122. Their total score was 786, easily topping the Pinheads by 87 pins to give them a 2-0 win that advanced them into the finals. The final pin fall was 1515 to 1407. The Pinheads were relegated to battling it out for 3rd place in the consolation round.



**The Pinheads Joe "Strikes" Fraher maintained his status as one of the leagues top bowlers in the "Covid Cup" playoffs as he had the 2nd highest single game score at 173 and the 2nd highest average with a 152.**

Photo: M Camire

The 2nd seeded Masked Crusaders locked up with the 3rd seeded Wolf Pack with the winner advancing to the finals in the other playoff match up. Both teams got off to a slow start as everybody was adjusting to the tricky oil on the lanes. The Wolf Pack were led by Chuck "Alpha Dog" Williams (4 spares) who had a team high 120 and Ethan "Bulldog" Crabtree who had a 113. Teammates Don "Dynamite" Dwyer had a 105 and Nick Johnson had an 83, it was a little bit of a slow start and it netted them a pin fall of 651. Unfortunately for the Wolf Pack, the Masked Crusaders shook off their slow start and warmed up just enough to finish with a total pin fall of 691, giving them the a 1-0 lead and a 40 pin lead heading into game two. The Masked Crusaders were led by Mitch "Fair" Weathers (3 spares, 2 strikes) who had a team high 134. Mitch was filling in for Cliff Jaeger who could not attend. The Crusaders top bowler Jimbo "Gotta be the Shoes" Mayou got off to a slow start himself, but finished with a flourish as he nailed four straight spares and a strike for a score of 128. Mike "Coach" Camire added a 123 with 5 spares and Tom "Turkey" Barnes added a 97. They needed them all to get that all important first point of the playoffs. This first round match up went much the same way as the Fireballers – Pinheads, one team found its groove and pulled away with the decisive victory. That team was the Masked Crusaders who coincidentally put up the exact same score as the Fireballers did in their second game, a 786 score. The Wolf Pack tried to hang in there, led by a team high 132 from Ethan "Bulldog" but it was not to be. Ethan had a solid game as he had five spares, his team just could not get on track in this one. The Crusaders did find their groove led by a team high 155 from Tom "Turkey" who had 5 spares and 2 strikes. Jimbo "Gotta be the Shoes" (4 spares, 2 strikes) added a 150. Jimbo started off with two strikes, and then



**Kingpin: The Fireballers Schaun "Calendar Boy" Dion led his team to a 2nd place finish in the bowling playoffs, he had the highest average at 154 and two of the highest scores (a playoff best 191) and a 172 for a four game pin fall of 616!**

Photo: M Camire



**Meet Mr. Consistency: Nick "The Hammer" Stecchi was a top bowler for the Fireballers helping his team take first place during the regular season, he backed that up with 4 excellent performances in the playoffs as they finished second overall, Nick bowled games of 146 & 140 in the 1st round and then 149 & 157 in the finals.**

Photo: M Camire

finished 3 spares. Mitch and Mike both had 4 spares and a strike. Mitch had a 137 and Mike had a 135. The final pin fall was Masked Crusaders 1477 to 1274 for the Wolf Pack. The Crusaders advanced to the finals to take on the Fireballers and the Wolf Pack faced off against the Pinheads for 3rd place.

The 3rd place match got off to a great start as both teams put up solid scores The Wolf Pack took a 1-0 lead as they just nipped the Pinheads by ten pins, 733 to 723. Ethan Crabtree bowled like a Georgia Bulldog, ferociously knocking down pins on his way to a team high 148, the "Bulldog" had 4 spares and 2 strikes. Don "Dynamite" continued on page 7

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## HEALTH

## How and Why to Improve the Fit of Your Mask

(StatePoint) As more Americans get vaccinated against COVID-19, you may find yourself out and about more. Whether you're returning to the workplace or just getting a haircut, mask requirements may be in place in certain venues you frequent.

New Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations highlight the importance of snugly fitting masks. The good news is that innovations are helping people secure the fit of their masks, and, at the same time, solve some of the most common complaints they have when wearing them.

"As we began to wear masks in 2020, we found ourselves frustrated by things like fogging glasses and slipping masks. Our team has extensive experience solving health-related challenges and thought there had to be a way to address this," says Dave Franchino, co-founder at MaskTite, a company that makes a medical-grade, double-sided tape designed to adhere to the inside of a mask for a more secure fit.

Franchino, with his background in medical product design, set to work with his team to design a way to give people of all face sizes and shapes a fast and easy way to make every mask fit better. Made of skin-safe, medical-grade, adhesive tape, MaskTite strips eliminate common mask problems like gaps, fogging glasses and slipping, and are sized for adults and children.

Here Franchino explains how to solve some of most common mask woes, some of which you've likely experienced:

- Loose fit and slipping masks: Readjusting your mask when it starts to slip is not always possible, whether it's because you have your hands full of groceries or work tools or you simply want to avoid touching your face. Keeping the mask affixed to your face with tape can eliminate slipping when it matters most, and achieve a tighter fit, supporting the latest CDC recommendations.

- Foggy glasses: The warm air of your breath escaping from the top of your mask can quickly make glasses foggy, causing a new hazard -- an inability to see. While it can be tough to find a mask that fits securely enough to eliminate fog, applying a solution like MaskTite to the inside of your mask means you can get a proper fit and better visibility, no matter what mask you're using.

- Irritating straps: A tight-fitting mask is great in many respects, but the straps can put a strain on the backs of one's ears. Plus, there are times when mask straps can simply be in the way, such as when you're getting a haircut. Securing your mask to your face with tape means you can go strap-free.

Waterproof and hypoallergenic, MaskTite strips can improve mask fit in a variety of environments, including healthcare, schools, retail and restaurant settings, salons, offices, manufacturing and more. Packaged in a resealable, plastic pouch that's easy to throw into a pocket, purse, backpack or briefcase, they are currently available for sale through Amazon. MaskTite is made in the U.S. from U.S. materials. Learn more at MaskTite.com.

"From fogging glasses to slipping, nearly every issue that stems from wearing a mask is related to the mask's fit. For those spending a lot of time in a mask, at school, work or elsewhere, a good mask-wearing experience can make all the difference," says Franchino.

## COVID CUP BOWLING PLAYOFF AVERAGES

**The great 8:**  
(4 game averages)

1. Shaun Dion, Fireballers, 154
2. Joe Fraher, Pinheads, 152
3. Nick Stecchi, Fireballers, 148
4. Jimbo Mayou, Masked Crusaders, 147
5. Zack Foley, Pinheads, 140
6. Walt Stecchi, Fireballers 137
7. Tom Barnes, Masked Crusaders, 136
8. Ethan Crabtree, Wolf Pack, 134

**Top 3 games:**

Shaun Dion, 191 & 172  
Joe Fraher, 173

**Model of Consistency:**

Nick Stecchi, 146, 140, 149, 157

**CONGRATS on a great season!**



## The 30th anniversary of Spirit 03

**First Lt. Allison Wahnoutka, an AC-130J Ghost Rider weapon systems officer with the 4th Special Operations Squadron, places a wreath on a grave during a memorial ceremony for the 30th anniversary of Spirit 03 at Barrancas National Cemetery, Pensacola Naval Air Station, Fla., Jan. 31, 2021. Spirit 03, an AC-130H Spectre gunship with 14 crewmembers, was shot down by an Iraqi surface-to-air missile while conducting a combat mission during Operation Desert Storm.**

*U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Miranda Mahoney*

## Long Road *continued from page 6*

Dwyer (3 spares, 2 strikes) had a 128, Chuck "Alpha Dog" Williams (3 spares, 1 strike) had a 118 and Nick Johnson added a 109. The game was close as Joe "Strikes" Fraher was on fire, he had a game high 173, the second highest score of the playoffs. He had a strike or a spare in the first SEVEN frames, just a model of accuracy and consistency! Joe had 5 spares and 3 strikes to help keep his team in the hunt. Zack "Fireball" Foley and Mike "Trips" O'Brien both had scores of 134. To make it more symmetrical they also both had 5 spares and 1 strike. Doug "Machine Gun" Foley added an 85 and made a clutch spare and a strike in the 10th and final frame to keep the score close. The Pinheads trailed 1-0, but just needed to win game two by more than ten pins to claim 3rd place. Standing in their way was the Wolf Pack, hungry like a dog chewing on a bone, looking for more. The Pack held off the Pinheads in another close match, prevailing by the score of 713 to 678. The 2-0 win gave the Wolf Pack the 3rd place trophy and left them feeling positive about the upcoming spring league. Ethan "Bulldog" again led the way with a team high 142, he had 4 spares and 2 strikes. Don "Dynamite" added a 136 with 3 spares and 2 strikes, while Chuck "Alpha Dog" had a 106 and Nick Johnson had a 99. In the playoffs the big stars usually shine bright and that was the case for the Pinheads despite the loss as Joe "Strikes" had a game high 165. Joe had 6 spares and 2 strikes and was clutch in the end. He made a strike in the 6th frame and then finished with four straight spares. Joe ended up with a four game average of 152, which was 2nd best over-all. The Pinheads tried to close the gap as Zack "Fireball" also had a solid game with a 157, he had 2 spares and 4 strikes. They just could not keep pace with the Wolf Pack in the 2nd and final match. The final pin fall was Wolf Pack 1446 to 1301 for the Pinheads.

The finals featured the top two seeds who would be battling it out for league supremacy. The teams had been nipping at each other's heels all season. The Masked Crusaders won the preseason tourney and the Turkey Bowl while the Fireballers captured the Jingle Bowl and the all-important regular season title. You might say they were tied up at 2-2 and this would be the deciding match of the season. The Crusaders got off to a great start and pulled away for the big first game win. The pin fall was 776 to 730, with Tom "Turkey Barnes leading the way with a game high 164. Tom had 2 spares and 5 strikes. He lived up to his nickname Tom "Turkey" as he had a strike in the 9th and two more in the 10th for three straight. Tom got plenty of support as Jimbo "Gotta be the Shoes" Mayou (3 spares, 4 strikes) had a solid 150. He also finished strong, he had a strike in the 8th, a spare in the 9th and repeated that sequence in the 10th with another strike and spare. Mike "Coach" Camire had a 133 and Mitch "Fair" Weathers added a 120 as they charged ahead with a 46 pin lead going into game two. The Fireballers turned up the heat as Shaun "Calendar Boy" Dion (3 spares, 4 strikes) led the way with a game high score of 172. It was the third highest pin fall of the playoffs topped only by Joe Fraher's 173

and Shaun himself - who earlier had an incredible score of 191. Nick "The Hammer" Stecchi (4 spares, 3 strikes) also stayed hot as he had a 149. Nick had two strikes and a spare in his last three frames as he ramped up his game. Walt "The Chief" Stecchi (3 spares, 2 strikes) added a 122. Walt started off a little slow but he sure made up for it in the end as he finished the last three frames with three spares and a strike while Donny Thompson added a 100. Heading into the final game of the season the Masked Crusaders were in the driver's seat leading 1-0 and holding a 46 pin advantage for the total pin fall. This playoff was far from over though. The Fireballers have the talent and tenacity to overcome just about any odds. They did themselves proud as they rallied to take the second point by 29 pins, winning by the score of 770 to 741. Donny "T" came up with the big game for his team as he had a game high 159. He had 5 spares and 2 strikes. Keeping with the theme of closing strong he had spares in three of the last four frames. Nick "The Hammer" (2 spares, 4 strikes) was right there with him as he had another outstanding game, knocking down 157 pins. He was about as consistent as you can get the whole playoffs as evidenced by his four scores; 146, 140, 149 and finally a 157 for a four game average of 148 which was the 3rd best. Shaun "Calendar Boy" (3 spares, 3 strikes) had a 132, finishing with a strike and a spare in the 10th. His four game average was a playoff best 154, these guys can bring it! Walt "The Chief" added a 135 with 4 spares and a strike. So the teams had each won a point, sitting at 1-1, it would all come down to the over-all pin fall to decide the "Covid Cup" champion. The Masked Crusader may not have won the battle (Game 2) but they won the war of the pins as they knocked down 741, losing by 29 pins. When they were all added up it was Masked Crusaders 1,517 and the Fireballers 1,500. A 17 pin win that gave the Crusaders the final and deciding point to just barely squeeze by the Fireballers and claim the 2020 championship. Just as the top guns/bowlers came through for the Fireballers, the Crusaders top bowler came through big time in the clutch. Jimbo "Gotta be the Shoes" Mayou tied Donny Thompson for high score with a solid 159. Jimbo had SEVEN spares and one strike. In his first four frames he had 3 spares and a strike, for good measure he finished his last three frames with spares, just an outstanding performance. His 147 playoff average was 4th best. His supporting cast was not flashy, but they did just enough to hold off the Fireballers. Mitch "Fair" Weathers (5 spares) had a 130, Tom "Turkey" Barnes had a 128 and Mike "Coach" Camire had a 115. In these tight close games, every pin counts. Tom, Mike and Jimbo all had spares in their 10th and final frames, those extra pins were just enough to put them over the top and help them win the championship.

The teams all congratulated each other, picked up their hardware and started making plans for the spring season, which starts on March 10th. Special thanks to Mitch for keeping the league rolling and going along safely and to his assistant; Connie Carmen. The road was winding, it was long, it had some detours and even jammed us up some, but in the end we followed through, which resulted in a lot of fun for everyone.

And now were on to 2021!

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