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# **"TURKEY TIME WITH THE O-LINE" AND BUCCANEERS SOCIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE HIGHLIGHT TEAM'S THANKSGIVING WEEK EFFORTS**

On Sunday, Buccaneers to Honor Local Military, Season Pass Members and Youth Football Athletes

For the 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers offensive line helped provide a Thanksgiving meal for local families in need through "**Turkey Time with the O-Line**." Made possible by a \$35,000 donation by the Buccaneers offensive line, the players distributed full Thanksgiving meals to 1,000 families on November 20. To kick off the event at AdventHealth Training Center, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers Foundation Social Justice Fund presented a \$35,000 matching grant to the nonprofit organization Feeding Tampa Bay, which will activate the

matching donation through school pantries, mobile pantries and with Feeding Tampa Bay's more than 550 agency pantries to help positively impact community members this holiday season.

Tuesday's initiative was led by Buccaneers players Caleb Benenoch, Cole Boozer, Alex Cappa, Demar Dotson, Ruben Holcomb, Ryan Jensen, Michael Liedtke, Ali Marpet, Donovan Smith, Evan Smith and Leonard Wester. Tampa Bay Buccaneers Cheerleaders, Captain Fear, and more than three-dozen Buccaneers staff and family members assisted with the distribution of full meals, which included one 14pound turkey, cranberry sauce, gravy, mashed potatoes, vegetables, pumpkin pie and



The Buccaneers O-Line gathered together on Tuesday to distribute full Thanksgiving meals to 1,000 local families for the 12<sup>th</sup> annual "Turkey Time with the O-Line."

contributions from Publix Supermarkets, including a \$20 Publix gift card, aluminum pan and storage containers. To see more from the event, visit <u>Buccaneers.com</u>.



*M.J.* Stewart (left) and Carlton Davis (right) served hot meals to families at Metropolitan Ministries on November 20.

On Tuesday, Buccaneers defensive backs **M.J. Stewart**, **Carlton Davis** and **Andrew Adams** visited Metropolitan Ministries, a faith-based organization that provides assistance for homeless families throughout the Tampa Bay area. The players helped serve hot meals, interact with youth in the Ministries' after-school program and volunteer in the holiday tent to help the Ministries' clients receive food and necessities for the holiday season. This was a return trip to Metropolitan Ministries for Davis and Stewart, who had visited in October along with the Buccaneers Rookie Club to volunteer their time with the Ministries' at-risk youths during the organization's annual Fall Festival. To see more from their efforts, visit <u>Buccaneers.com</u>.

On Sunday, when the Buccaneers host the San Francisco 49ers, the Buccaneers will continue to show support for the community by celebrating youth football during halftime, recognizing season pass members and honoring local heroes throughout gameday.

## TEAM INTRODUCTIONS AND HONORARY GUESTS OF THE GAME

For team introductions, Buccaneers' Season Pass Member **Shawn Forbes** will lead the team out of the tunnel. Following the national anthem by **Tampa Community Singers**, Buccaneers Season Pass Member **Staff Sergeant Jason Foreid** will serve as the team's Honorary Guest of the Game and will join the Buccaneers team captains at midfield for the coin toss

#### HALFTIME: YOUTH FOOTBALL SCRIMMAGE

At halftime of Sunday's contest, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers will welcome more than 125 youth football players to the field to participate in a scrimmage. Fans at Raymond James Stadium will enjoy watching the **Sarasota Sun Devils** take on the **Venice Vikings** for an exciting scrimmage on the same field as their favorite NFL team.

## HERO OF THE GAME: ARMY SERGEANT FIRST CLASS FRANK SORBERA

Before kickoff, the Buccaneers will continue a tradition with the team's military *Hero of the Game*. At every Buccaneers home game, a select military member will be stationed on the Pirate Ship in Buccaneer Cove to ready the team for action. This week, the Buccaneers will honor **United States Army Sergeant First Class Frank Sorbera**. Sorbera joined the United States Army on August 18, 1944 and was sent to Fort Belvoir, Virginia where he graduated as a Combat Engineer. His overseas deployment duties included Ordinance, Motor Sergeant, and Non-Commissioned Officer for Prisoners of War – Stockade #9 in Naples, Italy. After nearly two years serving abroad, he was stationed at Fort Dix in New Jersey as a Technical Sergeant (Automotive Maintenance Battalion). Sorbera was honorably discharged on July 3, 1949 having earned four medals: Army of Occupation Medal, Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and the EAME Campaign Medal.

## SALUTE TO SERVICE SUITE, SUPPORTED BY JABIL

At every Buccaneers home game, the team honors a distinguished group of military members with an exclusive gameday experience in the **Salute to Service Suite**, **supported by Jabil**. During a break in play, fans are encouraged to direct their attention to the pirate ship and join players and coaches in thanking local servicemen and servicewomen for their sacrifices, including:

- From the Air Force, Senior Airman Hannah Stephenson and Katriina Clegg
- From the Army, CW3 Felix Mejia and Sergeant First Class James R. Faison
- From the Coast Guard, Chief Petty Officer James Bastick and AMT1 Jason Reed
- From the Navy, Chief Petty Officer First Christopher Fisk

## TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS FOUNDATION 50/50 RAFFLE

On gameday, fans have the opportunity to participate in the **Tampa Bay Buccaneers Foundation 50/50 Raffle** while supporting a worthwhile cause. Each raffle ticket purchased will go towards a huge cash prize in which 50 percent of the net proceeds help support the team's mission to uplift the Tampa Bay community, inspire youth, and drive social change through programs that enrich the lives of families in the region. The other 50 percent will go to one lucky winner. Tickets are available at kiosks located in sections 106, 115, 131, 140 and each club level as well as mobile sellers throughout the stadium. For a complete list of rules and regulations, locate a kiosk or mobile seller on game day. To learn more, visit <u>www.buccaneers.com/5050</u>.

## TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS FOUNDATION'S 'GAMEDAY FOR KIDS' GUESTS

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers Foundation hosts 100 "Gameday for Kids" to promote academic achievement and positive behavior in children. Selected groups receive game tickets, t-shirts, food vouchers and Buccaneers flags by achieving goals set by their teachers. More than 17,000 youths and community members representing over 100 organizations from Tampa Bay have been rewarded through the annual program. This game's attendees will represent **B.T. Washington Elementary**, **Miles Elementary** and **Pizzo Elementary**.

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