

JUN
2020

HANSCOM INSIGHTS NEWS & STORIES



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



Our President's Message



From all of us here at Hunt Military Communities, I want to wish all the fathers out there the sincerest Happy Father's Day. Whether you are serving far away or close to home – or supporting a spouse who is active duty – your commitment to your country and families is admirable. We look forward to honoring you this month.

In May, Hunt Military Communities teamed up with Wear Blue: Run To Remember in organizing Memorial Day virtual run/walk events in our communities. Wear Blue: Run To Remember, a national, nonprofit organization is committed to building a running community that honors the service and sacrifice of the American military.

This year, Wear Blue hosted the event as a virtual run/walk, enabling runners and walkers from all over the U.S. to continue on in the mission – to honor our nation's fallen by learning their stories, speaking their names out loud and honoring their legacies. Runners and walkers were encouraged to participate on an individual basis and became part of a living memorial to America's fallen heroes and showed support for the families they left behind. Hundreds of HMC employees and residents participated in the event across the U.S.

Thank you to all who ran, walked, and supported this worthwhile event. It is because of your dedication to the cause we are able to honor and recognize our American fallen heroes in such a thoughtful way.

Best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Ehle".

John Ehle
President
Hunt Military Communities

Yard of the Month

Starting this month, Yard of the Month will begin. Check out Facebook at the end of the month for the photos that were submitted and vote on your favorite yard/porch for June. If you would like to submit your yard or porch, submit ONE picture via email to Elizabeth.rexford@huntcompanies.com by June 24th at 4pm. One picture from every family that submits will be posted on our Facebook page, and the winner will be determined by popular vote. June not your month? Have no fear, there will be chances for yard/porch of the month in July and August as well.

Dear Class of 2020!

Hanscom Family Housing would like to CONGRATULATE all of our graduates this year! You have worked hard and pushed through, and while we are saddened that your celebrations and ceremonies have been affected by COVID-19, it does not diminish the effort you have put in nor the amazingness of you! Congratulations, graduates!



[HuntMilitaryCommunities.com](https://www.HuntMilitaryCommunities.com)



May Recap

Flower Power!

Over 1700 Yard of the Month six packs of vibrant Petunias were delivered by Hanscom Family Housing to our homes across every neighborhood. With essential staff only, we had a small crew working to deliver them as quickly as possible the week of May 18th. While we missed a few homes inadvertently, we did a second round of deliveries and were also able to give away the left over 24 packs in front of the housing office as first come, first served at the end of the week. Grass seed was available, and we know that spring planting has begun. While the base is not quite back to hopping thanks to COVID-19, in Hanscom Family Housing, the colors and yards are definitely popping with color!

Memorial Day

Memorial Day often signals celebrations and the beginning of summer for us. It is also common to see visitors in the cemeteries placing flowers for loved ones who have passed and honoring those that have fallen. Flags blowing in the breeze is a sight that often makes people stop, pause, and remember. The Wear Blue to Remember Run occurred this Memorial Day weekend, and while there was not a communal starting place, many people stood in a moment of silence, providing an intentional thanks to the fallen Military Member that they were running or walking in honor of. Here at Hanscom, we saw participants in strollers with their Service Members bib clipped to the stroller, families walking and jogging together with their Wear Blue Run to Remember shirts, and flags making their way around the base, carried by Active Duty Members and supportive spouses and children in a run, walk, and even roller blades in honor of all who have passed. One particularly powerful tribute was from a group of active duty service members from across all branches, ranks, and demographics that organized a twenty-four hour vigil on Hanscom Air Force Base from 0001 to 2359, 24 May 2020 in honor of their fallen brothers and sisters in arms. During this period, the American Flag moved continuously throughout the base housing by individuals and families who ran, road marched, and walked in honor of Memorial Day. In the spirit of the words of former President Barack Obama, "Our nation owes a debt to its fallen Heroes that we can never fully repay. But we can honor their sacrifice, and we must."

Running of the Flag

Raising awareness, morale, and welfare across the joint base, this event was a larger manifestation of smaller weekly Sunday flag runs the group started in April on base, following the local Novel Coronavirus/COVID19 isolation restrictions. The running of the flag symbolizes their unity as a group but also serves as a confidence reminder that we will persevere as a community and nation.



Recipe Corner

With our Recipe of the Month, we are striving to meet three criteria: easy to make, ingredients that are easily found, and a dish that is enjoyed by families, including our pickiest kiddos. Do you have a family favorite? Please email it to Elizabeth.rexford@huntcompanies.com for inclusion in our newsletters. This recipe comes from Leah Medlenka, military spouse and active mom that lives here on base. She found it on EatYourselfSkinny.com, and it's a family favorite.

Sweet Potato & Black Bean Quinoa Bake:

INGREDIENTS

- 4 cups sweet potatoes (1/2-inch cubes)
- 1 (15 oz) can black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 cup uncooked quinoa, rinsed
- 1 cup frozen corn, thawed
- 2 cups vegetable broth
- 1 tsp. chili powder
- 2 tsp. cumin
- 1 tsp. garlic salt
- ½ tsp. dried thyme
- ½ cup green onions, chopped

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Combine all ingredients, except for the green onions, in a 9x13 baking dish sprayed with cooking spray and bake, covered with tin foil, for 45 minutes. Remove tin foil and continue baking for an additional 15 to 20 minutes until liquid is mostly absorbed and the potatoes are tender. Remove from oven and let the casserole sit for 5 minutes so that any remaining liquid can be fully absorbed and sprinkle with green onions. Serve and enjoy!

