

ANGEL'S WINGS ONLINE

920TH RESCUE WING

JULY 2019

ON THE HOMEFRONT



Staff Sgt. Calvin Fleming Rapells down a wall during his readiness training in New York. Department of Defense hands on military training delivers joint training opportunities to increase deployment readiness for Airmen while providing key services for our American communities. See full story, pgs. 2 - 3. (Courtesy photo)

Notes of Interest

Congratulations to the 2nd Quarterly Award Winners

Airman of the Quarter,
A1C Zakkary Applegate, 920 LRS
NCO of the Quarter,
TSgt David Teems, 920 CF
SNCO of the Quarter,
MSgt Amica Perez, 920 AMDS
CGO of the Quarter,
Capt Heather Kitchens, 920 OSS
FGO of the Quarter,
Lt Col Patricia Hayden, 920 ASTS

New Mobile App Enables, Engages, Empowers Airmen

The Air Force now has an enterprise-wide mobile app designed to provide Airmen with streamlined access to information they need for their lives and careers.

Air Force Connect was one of six ideas to compete as a finalist in the 2018 Spark Tank competition, which provided the authority and funding to launch the app Air Force-wide. The app is designed to offer Air Force organizations at all levels a way to deliver timely and relevant information to Airmen, their families and members of the local community. The app is now available in the Apple App Store and Google Play. Click to read full story. 



News & Features Inside



ROTC CADETS GET BLUED

ROTC cadets from all over the nation visited Patrick Air Force Base over the summer to interact with Airmen and learn about Air Force culture, careers and missions. See story on pages 4 - 5.



WING GETS EXCEPTIONAL SUPPORT AWARD

Families of the Shield recognizes the wing for its community support and sharing wing Airmen accolades during the Valor Awards. See story page 7.



BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS

Its that time of year to keep your head on a swivel for kids and drivers that are on the roadways for going-back-to-school season. See story page 10.

FOLLOW THE
920TH RQW
ONLINE



Langley Reserve Citizen Airmen serve **American communities**



Patient administrators with the Greater Chenango Cares Innovative Readiness Training pose for a group photo July 15, 2019, at Norwich High School, Norwich, New York. IRT is a Department of Defense hands on military training opportunity that delivers joint training opportunities to increase deployment readiness while providing key services for our American communities. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Airman 1st Class Cameron Lewis)

Story by by Airman 1st Class Cameron Lewis

As community members come into Norwich High School to receive no-cost health care during the Greater Chenango Cares Innovative Readiness Training July 11 - July 20 the first faces they see are U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy patient administrators working side by side with local volunteers.

“When patients walk in the door the first people they see are us,” said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Michael Saraceno, a patient administrator with the 140th Medical Group, Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado. “We check them in, figure out which providers they need to see and with the help of local volunteers get them on the right path to receive care.”

Being the first faces patients see as they come in for care it’s up to the patient administrators to set the standards for care and customer satisfaction.

“As reserve members we are more understanding of how the civilians operate and are aware of the differences in the culture and demographics,” said U.S. Navy Lt. Neelam Panchal, the assistant officer in charge of patient administration for the Norwich site assigned to Expeditionary Medical Facility Bethesda, Maryland.

Having the understanding that the patient population in the area is different than what they would see in a typical

military medical facility they are able to change their processes to better benefit the community members looking for care.

“Throughout this IRT we have been calling the patients to remind them of their appointments for care and to inform them when their prescription glasses are ready for pick up,” said U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Marti Irizarry, the NCO in charge of patient administration for the Norwich site assigned to the 115th Medical Group, Madison, Wisconsin. “That’s something we haven’t done on any of the previous IRT’s I’ve been on.”

Where the IRT’s focus on providing real-world training in a foreign environment while simultaneously providing no-cost care, the patient administrators are gaining training they wouldn’t receive with their home unit.

For U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Fernando Paredes, a medical laboratory technician with the 507th Medical Squadron, Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma and a patient administrator for the IRT, this IRT is providing him training in a completely new career field.

“Being a patient administrator on this trip gives me a better understanding of how the whole process works up front,” said Paredes. “From the initial interaction with the patients to solving any issues they may have and finally gathering all the information at the end of services provided.”

As a team, the patient administrators are able to assist each other and help each other grow so they can perform to the best of their abilities when they are called to service.

“With the different services working cohesively together we are able to learn from each other by sharing experiences unique to each branch,” said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Kristina Zorin, a patient administrator assigned to the 920th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia.

Right: Staff Sgt. Rebekah Furches, 920th Aerospace Medicine Squadron medical technician, serves a New York community member during her readiness training in July. (Courtesy photo)

The no-cost medical, dental, optometry, and veterinary services will be provided at the Norwich High School from now to July 19th 8am - 5pm and July 20th 8am - 12pm.

“We treat everyone that comes in for care with the respect and kindness they deserve,” said Panchal. “We want you to feel comfortable receiving our services and to refer others to receive the care as well.”



Team Rescue Blues Cadets to Air Force Culture



Above Photos: ROTC cadets from all over the nation converged at Patrick Air Force Base, Florida to interact with active duty and Reserve Airmen to learn about Air Force missions, careers and culture. The cadets came in three waves that lasted a little more than a week throughout the summer. During their time with the 920th Rescue Wing, they were treated to an up close look at combat rescue aircraft and got to experience a flight in an HC-130N combat king aircraft.

Center and Top Right Photos: Guardian Angel Airmen gave a portion of the cadets a glimpse into pararescue physical training on PAFB's beach. They spent several morning hours putting the cadets through grueling physical exercises to show them the endurance required to save lives.

Above photos: Wing Commander, Col. Kurt Matthews, gives an overview of the 920th Rescue Wing's mission of combat search and rescue during a one-on-one meeting the cadets.

Langley Airmen Get Keys After Makeover



Story and photo by SrA Brandon Kalloo Sanes

The 920th Aerospace Medicine Squadron was handed the keys to their newly renovated building at Joint Base Langley - Eustis, Virginia, July 15.

Senior Master Sgt. Helena McGhee, 920 AMDS superintendent. "It means a lot because the building we were working out of was slated to be demolished years ago. I want to thank our chain of command for making this happen," she said

According to McGhee, the old site doesn't have air conditioning, which was a struggle during summers and winters. She explained that the new location also offers much needed confidential space for doctor/patient medical discussions.

The new building spans the length of several small buses and is three stories tall.

According to 920th AMDS commander, Col. Robyn Caudle, they now have room to better care for the eight geographically separated units they serve.

Her team of approximately 60 reservists provide medical care for more than 800 military service members. Flight physicals, optometry and dentistry are a few of their specialties.

The 920th AMDS is a geographically separated unit as part of the 920th Rescue Wing.



Many new drivers have added to the traffic flow during back to school. Ensure you and your children are extra aware to keep everyone safe. More tips can be read on page 9. Mission first, safety always.

Families of the Shield awards wing



Above: Retired Melbourne Police Officer, John Pasko, Founder of Families of the Shield, awarded Col. Kurt Matthews, 920th Rescue Wing Commander, left, and Chief Master Sgt. Randy Wells, 301st Rescue Squadron Chief Enlisted Manager, right, with Exceptional Support Awards. The wing submitted multiple heroic Airmen that were recognized during last year's Valor Awards. Photos by SrA Cali Elliott

Families of the Shield is a non profit organization to garner support and raise awareness for police officers killed or injured in the line of duty. It's a broad-based collaborative community initiative that assists law enforcement officers and their family members, while addressing other community needs. The founder, Retired Melbourne Police Officer John Pasko, stopped by in mid July to award the wing with Exceptional Support Awards for supporting the efforts of the FOS mission.

The core goals of the organization are to aid those who are in dire need of financial, emotional and other support services, in efforts to add stability to those who see our assistance in their time of need.

August History Minute



Homestead Air Force Base, Florida was severely impacted by 160 mile per hour winds due to a Category 5 Hurricane named Andrew that devastated the area in August of 1992. (Courtesy photo)

Like much of the surrounding communities, Homestead Air Force Base, Florida received the full fury of a category 5 hurricane named Andrew, leaving it in complete ruin in August of 1992.

The threat of the pending Category 5 forced the 301st Rescue Squadron (prior to it becoming what it is today, the 920th Rescue Wing) to evacuate its six HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopters and five HC-130 King combat-rescue aircraft from Homestead Air Force Base, where they were based at the time, which ultimately saved them from the storm's 160 mph Category 5 winds.

In the storm's aftermath, there was no electric or water, and the fire rescue hangar had collapsed on two of the helicopters.

Further, members of the 301st suffered property damage. Some had significant damage to their homes and others lost everything they owned, but they still reported for duty the day following the storm.

Augmented by their parent wing, the 939th Air Rescue Wing, and the 304th Air Rescue Squadron, the 301st airlifted civilians with medical emergencies and searched

house-to-house for missing and injured persons. From Aug 24-Sept 11, they conducted 150 humanitarian flights, saving 137 lives. They also delivered several tons of food and water to hurricane survivors, helped Florida Power and Light determine the extent of the damage, and were the sole provider for refueling capabilities, which were all accomplished in air on the 301st's C-130s.

The facilities at Homestead had been totally destroyed so the unit salvaged what they could and relocated to Tamiami Airport, which had also been devastated by the storm. The 301st stayed in emergency trailers and used a grass airfield at Tamiami. At first, they had no communication, no water, no fuel deliveries, no support services, and no housing or meal facilities. The 307th Red Horse responded by providing resources, including mobile kitchens and tents. The C-130s stayed at Patrick AFB because they could not be supported at the airport.

In the months following the storm, the fate of Homestead remained undetermined. The 301st had already relocated its C-130s and ultimately transferred

five Pave Hawks and 350 members to Patrick AFB as well. They arrived on Jan. 9, 1993.

The 301st received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for their Hurricane Andrew response. It was presented by Brigadier General James Sehorn from Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command on Feb. 20, 1993 in the Patrick AFB Theater. This was the first time the squadron was able to assemble in one location since the storm had destroyed Homestead AFB the year prior. Members also received a total of 38 Air Medals, 36 Air Force Commendation Medals, and 19 Achievement Medals for their actions during the devastating hurricane.

The unit's permanent change of status took place on September of 1993, making the 301st's relocation to Patrick AFB official and permanent. There aren't as many of them as before, but you can still find folks from Homestead within the wing. These things we do, that others may live.

Airmen contribute to human space-flight from Apollo to tomorrow



By Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

What's the first thought or word that comes to your mind when you hear Apollo 11? Is it NASA, moon landing, Armstrong or Aldrin?

While all of those are perfectly logical and correct answers, there's one response that's equally as valid, though not often given: U.S. Air Force or Airmen.

From Air Force Col. Nick Hague, who is currently aboard the International Space Station, all the way back to Buzz Aldrin, who was a U.S. Air Force fighter pilot in the Korean War, Airmen are among the more than 60% of astronauts who came from the uniformed service.

However, the Air Force's long, multifaceted relationship with NASA's human spaceflight program extends well beyond simply serving as a source of Astronauts.

North American X-15

The X-15 hypersonic research program was a joint effort between the Air Force and NASA at Edwards Air Force Base, California, that resulted in information that set the foundations to the success of the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo and other space shuttle programs.



In addition to providing five of the 12 pilots who flew the X-15, the Air Force contributed two modified B-52 Stratofortress bomber aircraft used as launch platforms for the X-15. These B-52s, known as "The High and Mighty One" and "The Challenger" were joined in supporting the program by C-130 Hercules and C-47 Skytrain cargo aircraft as well as F-100 Super Sabre, F-104 Starfighter and F-5 Freedom Fighter chase planes.

For full story, follow link 

Tucson Training



Guardian Angel Airmen from the 306th Rescue Squadron, at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Tucson, Arizona, freefall parachute at 6 a.m. in the Tucson, desert preparing for an overseas deployment to Africa where they are serving in a combat-search-and-rescue role for several months. Their mission is to recover isolated personnel anytime, anywhere. (U.S. Air Force photo by Andre Trinidad)

Back to School Safety Tips For All Drivers

It's that time of year again when parents and children across the country are preparing to go back to school. As part of our commitment to overall safety we would like to help you with your preparations by offering these simple safety tips.

School Zone Driving Safety Tips

- Be on the lookout for school zone signals and ALWAYS obey the speed limits.
- When entering a school zone, be sure to slow down and obey all traffic laws.
- Always stop for school busses that are loading or unloading children.
- Watch out for school crossing guards and obey their signals.
- Be aware of and watch out for children near schools, bus stops, side-walks, in the streets, in school parking lots, etc.
- Never pass other vehicles while driving in a school zone.
- Never change lanes while driving in a school zone.
- Never make U-Turns while driving in a school zone.

- Never text while driving in a school zone.
- Avoid using a cell phone, unless it is completely hands-free, while driving in a school zone.
- Unless licensed to do so, never use handicap or emergency vehicle lanes or spaces to drop off or pick up children at school.

Riding Your Bike to School

- Check with the school to make sure your child is allowed to ride their bi-cycle to school. Some schools do not allow students to ride bicycles to school until they reach a specific grade.
 - Make sure your child always wears a bicycle helmet! Failure to wear one could result in a traffic citation. Furthermore, in the event of an accident, helmets reduce the risk of head injury by as much as 85 percent.
 - Obey the rules of the road; the rules are the same for all vehicles, including bicycles.
- For more tips, click to see full story 

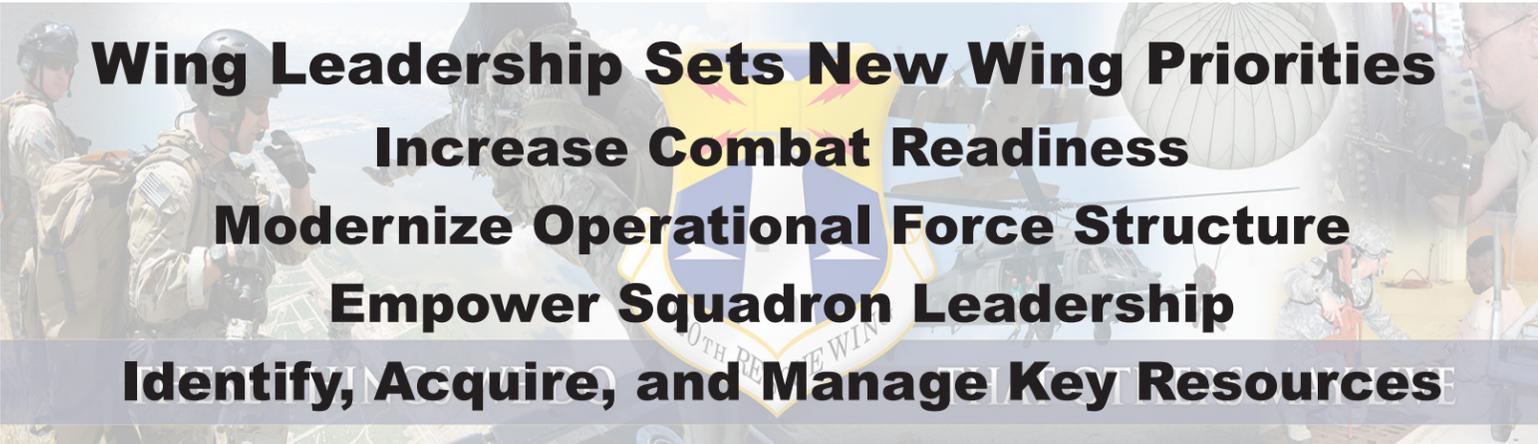
SAVE THE DATE

HC-130 Combat King Set to Retire



The 920th Rescue Wing will host an HC-130 Combat-Rescue Aircraft Retirement Event November 1 - 3, 2019. The event will provide an opportunity for past and present Air Force members associated with the HC-130 fixed-wing rescue mission to take part in a meet-n-greet social, aircraft static display, beachfront barbecue with an observation of training, and a formal dinner, along with other family-oriented activities.

Please join us in paying tribute to the “unsung” heroes of the combat rescue mission and give them a proper retirement / sendoff, as well as reconnect / network with members of the fixed-wing rescue community. Follow our event on Facebook for updates/notifications.



Wing Leadership Sets New Wing Priorities

- Increase Combat Readiness**
- Modernize Operational Force Structure**
- Empower Squadron Leadership**
- Identify, Acquire, and Manage Key Resources**

Share Your Adventure: Help the Reserve team grow through testimony



Air Force Reserve Command Recruiting Service is going all in with a new peer referral campaign called Share Your Adventure.

This program is the lead source generator for AFRC RS with one of four people referred by current Reservists joining the Air Force Reserve and is replacing the command's Get1Now campaign.

As manning levels continue to increase for AFRC and other branches of service and the nation's economy continues to be strong, Share Your Adventure is a vital program to help recruiters gather quality leads and assure AFRC has the manning it needs to excel in its mission to fly, fight and win.

"Share Your Adventure gives Reservists the opportunity to share their story and Air Force Reserve experiences with family, friends and coworkers," said Chief Master Sgt. Michael Johnson, chief total force and strategic marketing. "People are compelled by individual testimonies. When they hear a peer sharing amazing stories and benefits about the Air Force Reserve, they can imagine themselves having those same opportunities. Share Your Adventure allows Reservists to help friends, family and coworkers achieve success."

The peer referral program process starts with an actively participating Reservist or Reserve civilian employee sharing his or her experiences with a friend, family member or co-worker. If the person is interested, the Reservist then inputs the referral's information into the Share Your Adventure program via website or mobile phone app. Reservists can create an account at any time on the website or app.

"The referral will be contacted by a qualification center E-advisor who will then go over the qualifications and pre-qualify the referral," Johnson said. "If qualified, the E-advisor will give the referral the contact information for a recruiter who covers his or her zone. Referrals will also be given the option to be transferred to the recruiter at that time."

Once the referral meets with the recruiter and is qualified,

the Reservist who submitted the lead is sent a message that the lead is qualified and the Reservist is prompted to pick an award from the awards section.

"The thought process behind the name change from Get1Now to Share Your Adventure is that Get1Now sounded like we wanted Reservists to go out and find people," Johnson said. "What we really want is for Reservists to share their stories, become that testimony and assist others who can benefit from the opportunities the Air Force Reserve has to offer."

One advantage of using the Share Your Adventure app is that Reservists don't need to have recruiter contact information on hand.

"This app gives them a tool to use when someone they share their experience with wants to go further with the process and talk to a recruiter," Johnson said. "Reservists now have a way at all times to get a referral started with their Air Force Reserve experience."

Share Your Adventure will have a new look and awards.

"We have added wireless ear buds, a virtual reality headset for smart phones, a smoothie blender, a tool kit, an Echo Dot and a personal safe," he said. "We will have marketing specialists visiting units during unit training assembly weekends to engage with Reservists on the program as well as to encourage them to download the app and register."

Johnson encouraged Reservists who submit a qualifying lead to claim their Share Your Adventure prize, saying that only about 33 percent of Reservists who have submitted a qualifying lead this year have selected an award.

For information on how to sign up for [Share Your Adventure](#), go to the website and click on "register your account here." You can also download the app from the Apple Store, or Google Play Store, by searching for "Share Your Adventure Peer Referral Program" and register there.