

Vol. 67, No. 8

Arnold AFB, Tenn.

TULLAHOMATN April 20, 2020 PERMITINO, 29

AEDC commander hosts COVID-19 town hall

By Bradley Hicks AEDC Public Affairs

Arnold Development Col. Commander Jeffrey Geraghty hosted a virtual town personnel on steps being taken answer shared among members of the remain uninfected. workforce.

risk.

town hall. "We care about your health, as well." health. We are working day and care of, then we can get as much mission activities are curtailed

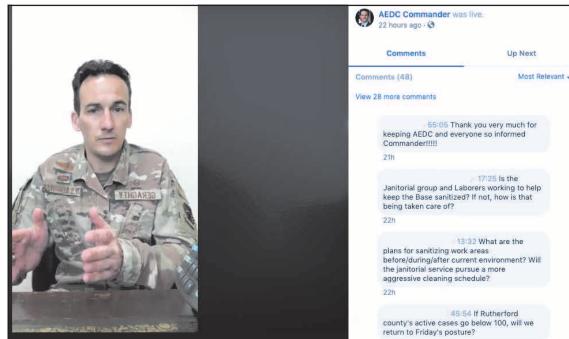
the most important parts of the mission, and then we ensure Engineering that we take care of each other Complex within Team AEDC, as well. Those are my priorities."

of the mission done as we can,

During his town hall, hall April 8 to update AEDC Geraghty said the shared goal among base leadership to mitigate COVID-19 exposure is to keep COVID-19 out of at Arnold Air Force Base, Arnold to the greatest extent employee-submitted possible and that the AEDC questions and address concerns geographically separated units

"That's still the risk The Facebook Live broadcast mitigation posture that we came less than a week after the have," he said. "That's why first positive case of COVID-19 we have the base restricted at Arnold was reported April 3 access, that type of thing. We and days after base leadership want to keep COVID-19 off announced a change in operating our base entirely. However, posture to reduce workforce we're also committed to communicating transparently "I definitely want you to and, when there is a case, know that the leadership team we are definitely going to let at AEDC cares about you," the workforce know. That's Geraghty said to open the just an effort to protect their

The decision to move Arnold night, weekends included, to try AFB to an "Operationally to make sure that we take care Urgent" posture took effect on of your health. Once that's taken April 6. In this posture, some



Arnold Engineering Development Commander (AEDC) Col. Jeffrey Geraghty conducts a virtual town hall via Facebook April 8. Geraghty provided an AEDC COVID-19 update aimed at the workforce and answered questions from AEDC team members through Facebook that were presented by AEDC Public Affairs Chief Jason Austin. (Screen capture) (This image has been altered by obscuring images and names within it for privacy reasons.)

and access to the installation surrounding counties, updating positive virus cases, 100 percent missions and support functions.

across the country and in areas with higher numbers of

is limited to those employees the base Health Protection screening was implemented required to complete critical test Condition to keep personnel on March 21 for those seeking informed on the exposure risk. entry into the base. For weeks, Arnold leaders To limit those on base coming have monitored the situation from COVID-19 "hotspots," or

See COMMANDER, page 6

Jolly Green II taken to extremes in AEDC test facility

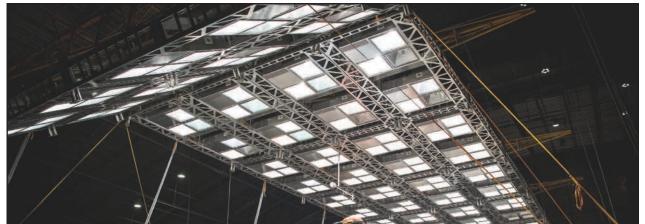
By Samuel King Jr.

BASE, Fla. – An HH-60W and rescue helicopter, Squadron trial of extremes inside the testing. April 2.

The aircraft endured

conditions was a truly EGLIN AIR FORCE unique experience as a pilot and a tester," said Jolly Green II, the Air Lt. Col. Ryan Coates, an Force's new combat search 88th Test and Evaluation pilot, who completed a month-long performed most of the "Checking McKinley Climatic Lab system performance under the stress of heat, cold, Sikorsky test heavy wind and rain will real give us real-world data

60W in the extreme



temperatures ranging from regarding the helicopter's 55,000 square foot test decisions." chamber.

punishing tests was to extreme sustainability in any aircraft operational environment.

120 degrees to minus 60 capability to perform the degrees Fahrenheit as well rescue mission worldwide as 45 mph winds coupled in various environments, with heavy rainfall. All which is exactly what of those scenarios were the operator needs to created within the lab's make solid employment

Once the lab The goal of these technicians created the environments, prove the new aircraft's aircrew would enter the and perform

"Operating the HH- See JOLLY GREEN II, page 3

An HH-60W Jolly Green II sits under bright lights used to create heat in the McKinley Climatic Lab March 19 at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The Air Force's new combat search and rescue helicopter and crews experienced temperature extremes from 120 to -60 degrees Fahrenheit as well as torrential rain during the month of testing. The tests evaluate how the aircraft and its instrumentation, electronics and crew fare under the extreme conditions it will face in the operational Air Force. (U.S. Air Force photo by Samuel King Jr.)

Donations of masks help Arnold AFB battle coronavirus



Karina, left, and Kolleen Roessig work together to make reusable cloth face masks. The sisters are making the masks to donate to help combat the spread of the coronavirus. (Courtesy photo)

By Jill Pickett

AEDC Public Affairs

Donated masks are helping keep members of the Arnold Air Force Base community as safe as possible in the face of the coronavirus threat.

masks have been donated to the base.

Fifty N95 masks were donated to Arnold AFB Fire and Emergency Services, by a retired member of the Air Force and former base employee. FES operations include an ambulance service. Crews respond to emergencies on base and provide mutual aid off base.

"We greatly appreciate the donation," said Gary Horn, an FES assistant chief. "I don't know how many times I thanked him that day when I picked the masks up."

FES has also been contacted by a local distillery to arrange a donation of a case of disinfectant.

Master Sgt. Joshua Suggs, Arnold AFB Medical Aid Station branch chief, said the cloth masks will be placed at the entrance to the Commissary to permit beneficiaries that do not have their own mask to enter the facility.

Arnold Engineering Development Both N95 masks and reusable cloths Complex Commander Col. Jeffrey Geraghty, in line with the Defense Commissary Agency's guidance, issued a directive that effective April 10 all Base Exchange and Commissary patrons must wear face coverings while in the facilities.

> "I love it anytime someone offers to step up and volunteer or donate something. More so during a time of crisis," Suggs said. "It's heartwarming to see people are thinking of others, even during these scary times.

> > See DONATIONS, page 6



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Asset Management Branch continuously improving test infrastructure maintenance program and readiness

By James Myers

Chief, Asset Management Branch

While continuing to operate active test cells, resurrecting test cells that have been dormant for ment budgetary constraints, the several years and adding additional test capabilities to the increased test workload of the mission areas, the TSS Asset Management Branch is in lock step with the National Aerospace Solutions (NAS) Asset Health Assurance branch to strive to decrease maintenance costs while increasing reliability of the assets through reliability centered maintenance (RCM).

RCM is defined as a systematic, disciplined process for establishing the appropriate maintenance plan for an asset/system to minimize the probability of failures.

In reference to his AEDC Strategy 2020, Col. Jeffrey Geraghty, AEDC Commander, specifies three focus area priorities: 1. Pursue Mission Excellence, 2. Invest in our People and 3. Im- to increase intervals for intrusive dated, or even created if it does not prove and Sustain the Complex. PMs on large motors, valves and With the challenge of a limited sustainment budget, we must fo- technologies by the Condition age of the vast majority of AEDC's ing the Complex.

increasing the capacity and reliability of AEDC's facilities.

To work within the sustain-TSSA asset managers along with their NAS counterparts are continuously striving to reduce the number of legacy preventive maintenance (PM) actions and increase the intervals between inspections if warranted. They are also identifying critical spares to have on hand to reduce downtime, and improve planning and scheduling processes, which remaintenance approach of run-tofailure for some equipment is justified based on the cost to PM a component as compared to quickly replacing it once it fails, but it is imperative that a proper stock level is maintained to support the asset.

of the sustainment program while to monitor real time condition of assets. The value of applying these predictive technologies while commissioning a new or rebuilt asset aides in understanding the normal life cycle of operation and trending analyses when approaching a decline or change in how the asset is operating. This method pays large dividends of bringing the equipment out of service based on asset health instead of calendar based PM intervals. The long term goal is to increase the number of assets utilizing the CBM tools as a proactive means to address health sults in more efficient sustainment issues early thus reducing number for maintaining the assets. The of failures resulting in more uptime of equipment to support the Program has currently aided test mission.

Another aspect of the RCM implementation is item management. Standardization of components across the complex is key to reducing the amount of critical spare parts required to keep on hand. Bill Another significant focus is of materials are reviewed and upexist, so that correct parts are orpumps while utilizing predictive dered and kept in stock. Due to the

cus on reducing the overall cost Based Maintenance (CBM) group equipment that has been in operation for the last sixty plus years, vendor sources have diminished and made it challenging to support equipment with limited to no suppliers. Some components in inventory have shelf lives that have to be monitored and mechanical equipment that has to be maintained with PMs, such as motors, pumps and gearboxes, to keep them in optimal operational status for when they get put into operation. Lessons learned over time have indicated a need for spending the time to keep stocked parts in serviceable condition and only maintaining what is required.

> The Service Life Extension AEDC immensely in bringing much needed attention to the aging facility infrastructure in support of the test mission. With sustainment budgets decreasing over the last decade, we, government and contractor alike, must continue to find ways to sustain the aging complex to support an ever increasing test workload in support of AEDC's priority of Improving and Sustain-

Offices closed, activities canceled at Arnold AFB in response to coronavirus

By AEDC Public Affairs

In response to the CO-VID-19 pandemic, officials at Arnold Air Force Base have moved to cancel activities and close offices and facilities across the base. These temporary changes have been imposed to limit possible community transmission of the virus.

Base personnel are asked to avoid non-mission essential mass gatherings, parties, speaking events and other functions at this time.

Announced closures/ cancellations at this time include:

- The Arnold AFB Medical Aid Station. Those requiring immediate medical assistance are • Arnold AFB Fitness • Recycling asked to visit their nearest emergency room.
- The Arnold AFB Legal Office. The office will remain closed for an • Arnold Lakeside Center unknown duration for legal assistance, tax appointments and general customer service assistance.
- Financial Assistance ٠
- Ascend Federal Credit Union branch on base • Café 100 in the Admin- • Mulligan's Grill restauistration and Engineer-
- ing Building Food trucks •
- Center
 - Fitness room on the 4th floor of the A&E Building

 - Leadership Gossick Center
 - Wingo Inn ٠
 - Outdoor • including Marina, Fam-

and Crocket Cove

- · Arnold Golf Course
- rant
- The barbershop located in the A&E Building
- - All Arnold AFB Services events and trips have been canceled until further notice.

The Defense Commissary Agency and Base Exchange at Arnold AFB Recreation, remain open. To gain access to the ments are made.

Camp, Dogwood Ridge installation visitors, including, Commissary and Base Exchange patrons, must first pass an enhanced screening process, which includes questions related to exposure to coronavirus, current health status and recent travel history. More details can be found at https://www.arnold.

af.mil/coronavirus. Patrons must also wear face coverings while in either facility.

This list will be updated as additional announce-



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Core Values

• Integrity first Service before self • Excellence in all we do



Vision

"NAS delivers the best aerospace testing capabilities today and in the future.'

Values

· Ethics. We are uncompromising in our integrity, honesty, and fairness, Safety & Health. We are relentless in keeping people safe from harm, and we provide a safe and healthy work

environment. Security. We are disciplined and vigilant in protecting sensitive AEDC information and ensuring system integrity to support national security and our customers. Excellence. We thrive on challenge, accomplishment, and mission success Quality. We are passionate about doing our work right the first time.

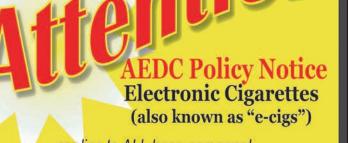
· People. We have a mission-focused, inclusive workforce who have a diverse skill set, are committed to success demonstrate innovation and have a can do attitude.

 Culture. Our team is proud of our diversity, inclusiveness, and collaborative work environment. We are proud of what we do and how we do it.

· Relationships. We build positive, longterm business relationships through trust, respect, and collaboration.

 Innovation. We overcome challenges through creativity, perseverance, technology, and flexibility. We actively seek to continually improve.

 Sustainability. We plan and act for the long term benefit of our communities and our environment.



applies to ALL base personnel (Military, DoD Civilians, Contractors, Visitors)

Pursuant to Air Force Instruction (AFI) 40-102, Tobacco Free Living, e-cigs are considered to be equivalent to tobacco products; however,e-cigs are not restricted to DTAs and are allowed to be used outdoors at a minimum distance of 25 feet from building entry/egress points.



Smoking Policy

- The following revised Arnold AFB smoking policy is effective immediately and applies to all individuals on Arnold AFB.
- 2. Traditional Tobacco products (e.g. cigars and cigarettes):
 - a. Smoking is permitted solely in Designated Tobacco Areas (DTAs) identified by designated signage. If no signage exists, smoking is not permitted in that area. It is the responsibility of all smokers to keep DTAs clean of cigarette butts.
 - b. Tobacco use on the Arnold AFB Golf Course is permitted, but discouraged based on the health hazards of tobacco use and secondhand smoke. No smoking is permitted within 50 feet of golf course buildings except in the approved DTA.
 - c. Smoking in government-owned/leased vehicles is strictly prohibited. Personnel are allowed to smoke in their personal vehicles at any time; however, at no time will personnel discard cigarette butts outside their vehicle.
 - d. For government employees, the fact that a person smokes has no bearing on the number of breaks they may take. Breaks should be taken in accordance with the current supervisory and personnel policies that afford all employees the same break opportunities consistent with good work practices and accomplishment of the mission.
- 3. Smokeless Tobacco products (e.g. snuff and dip):

Smokeless tobacco products are not to be restricted to DTAs. Smokeless tobacco use will be permitted in all workplace areas (inside and out) subject to reasonable safety and sanitary conditions. Specifically, containers of tobacco waste product, including sealed containers, must not be left unattended or disposed of in trash receptacles. Users of smokeless tobacco must flush tobacco waste down the toilet.

4 Electronic Cigarettes (also known as "e-cigs"):

Pursuant to Air Force Instruction (AFI) 40-102, Tobacco Free Living, e-cigs are considered to be equivalent to tobacco products; however, e-cigs are not restricted to DTAs and are allowed to be used outdoors at a minimum distance of 25 feet from building entry/egress points. (This policy is dated July 27, 2016)



Air Force Social Media Guide

Download this social media guide online!



the Air Force is doing on social media!

The Air Force Social Media Program includes key social networking websites where the Air Force engages with Airmen, families and the general public. Here are a few links to official Air Force social media pages:

Social Media Directory

Air Force Live Blog http://airforcelive.dodlive.mil

Facebook http://www.facebook.com/usairforce

Flickr http://www.flickr.com/usairforce

Twitter http://www.twitter.com/usairforce

YouTube http://www.youtube.com/afbluetube

Vine (for mobile iOS, Android devices) @usairforce

Instagram http://instagram.com/officialusairforce

Action Line

Team AEDC.

I believe in free and open communications with our Team AEDC employees, and that's why we have the Action Line available. People can use the Action Line to clear up rumors, ask questions, suggest ideas on improvements, enter complaints or get other issues off their chests.

The Action Line has been expanded to include an option for your ideas, comments, or suggestions on the AcqDemo personnel system. Simply call the normal x6000 commander's action line. You will then be prompted to select option 1 for the Commander's Action Line or Option 2 for the AcqDemo line. They can access the Action Line via the AEDC intranet home page and by calling 931-454-6000.

Although the Action Line is always available, the best and fastest way to get things resolved is by using your chain of command or by contacting the organization directly involved. I encourage everyone to go that route first, then if the situation isn't made right, give us a chance.

Col. Jeffrey Geraghty **AEDC Commander**

Tunnel 9 executing mission during COVID-19 pandemic

By Deidre Moon

AEDC Public Affairs

Arnold Engineering Development Complex leadership at the White Oak site and Hypervelocity Wind Tunnel 9 have been implementing mitigation measures several weeks.

According to Gregory Fox, Tunnel 9 Branch Manager for the contractor, the mitigation efforts continue to change daily.

the mission during this crisis, several changes have been made to limit exposure," Fox said. "Meetings have been reduced in size or eliminated and alternate means of communication are being used, such as teleconferencthe phone and email more.

For the wind tunnel facility and plant, occupancy limits have been placed on the control rooms to only allow the minimum required to execute this current test program, which is below the limit of 10, and to keep spacing protective equipment)."

Fox added that his personnel are adjusting to these new requirements and are looking out for one another.

"They are waiting their turn or communicating if they need to enter an area for mission-critical

are reviewed prior to execution by the team to figure out how to maintain the spacing required and still get the job done. Any risks are understood and if required, a mitigation plan developed for approval."

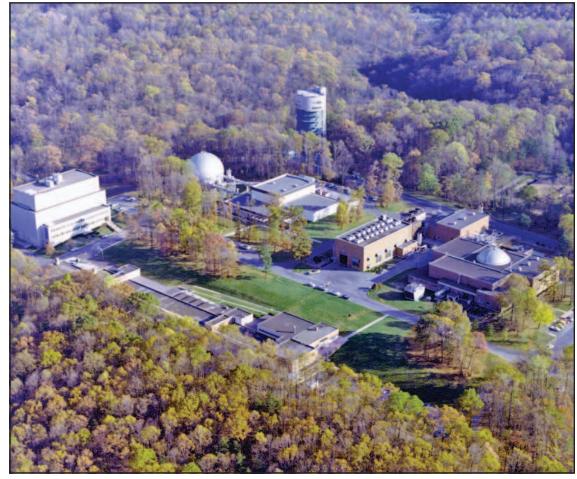
The Tunnel 9 team is also against COVID-19 over the last looking ahead at what may be coming next and making assessments.

"While execution of some Test Operations and Sustainment tasks is slower due to them having to be done in series rather than parallel, the team is execut-"In order to be able to execute ing the test while maintaining safety and focus," Fox said.

To help keep the site safe, visitors have been postponed or canceled and all non-mission essential deliveries or subcontracts that can wait are doing so. If onsite mission critical deliveries are es, Skype meetings, and using required, a mitigation plan is put in place for each occurrence.

> Hand sanitizer and wipes have been strategically placed around Tunnel 9 and are being utilized by the employees. The janitorial staff onsite has also increased its cleaning schedule.

"The theme here is to keep without the use of PPE (personal COVID-19 out of the site and keep everyone safe while at work," Fox said. "The team is Site Director, Joseph Coblish, under pressure but overall understands the why and does not want any exposure so they are very accommodating to these changes. Keeping the site clean is important since the location of the fa-



Leadership at the Hypervelocity Wind Tunnel 9, located at White Oak, Maryland has implemented mitigation measures against COVID-19. (U.S. Air Force file photo)

number-of-cases criteria."

AEDC White Oak Air Force added his deep appreciation to time.

"I am extremely proud of the entire Tunnel 9 team for their ability to rapidly respond

hotspot counties in terms of the demic safety countermeasures test mission. I truly appreciate while at work, as well as in their at White Oak for all they do to personal lives," Coblish said. "Even with all of the additional the crew during this difficult pressures that seem to be hap- ery County, Maryland, where pening almost on a daily basis Tunnel 9 is located, had 566 living in a COVID-19 hotspot, they continue to professionally execute our important National reasons," he said. "Daily tasks cility is inside and surrounded by to the evolving COVID-19 pan- Defense Strategy hypersonic statewide.

imposed on them both onsite every one of our team members make this happen each day."

> As of April 3, Montgomconfirmed cases of COVID-19, with Maryland having 2,758 confirmed COVID-19 cases

NAS, Chugach, AEMTC delay start of negotiations

By Kathy Jacobsen AEDC Public Affairs

Negotiations between National Aerospace Solutions, Chugach and the Air Engineerbut due to COVID-19, are delaved.

with more than 1,600 people. be at least 15-16 people in my have a good working relation-

Arnold AFB. Chugach Federal Solutions is also part of the negotiation process as a teaming subcontractor of NAS.

"Because of the social dising Metal Trades Council were tancing, we're delaying our nescheduled to begin last week, gotiations," said Alvin Cleek, president of the AEMTC. "It's to limit travel and in-person just too many people who re- meetings to groups of no more NAS is the largest contrac- ally need to meet in person and than 10 people. tor at Arnold Air Force Base discuss concerns. There would

AEMTC is the largest union at group alone who must be there."

NAS (and Chugach) requested the postponement after conditions involving COVID-19 worsened and only essential personnel involved in testing were allowed on base and Tennessee's governor asked people

said Mike Hollowell, NAS Operations and Maintenance functional manager. "It is much easier to negotiate across the table in person than by some other method. Meeting face-to-face allows everyone to be heard and their concerns addressed."

craft people who support the says an extension to the con-"We want to continue to mission at AEDC. The team tract has been proposed and is includes 12 different unions - under review.

ship between us and the union," carpenters, electricians, ironworkers, laborers, operating engineers, pipefitters, painters, instrument technicians, machinists, boilermakers, sheet metal workers and teamsters (storekeepers and truck drivers).

The current contract ends AEMTC has more than 600 at midnight June 30. Hollowell

various test procedures. The Thorough exhaust removal is crew would execute their a critical part of maintaining preflight checklists and perform the tasks to see if the extreme conditions needed for chamber conditions affected any of the testing, according to lab avionics, electronics, engine technicians working on the test. and other systems.

subjects themselves. Their own reactions and movements were evaluated in the harsh cold-weather gear worn by the other items. aircrew is much bulkier than the pilots could easily reach all thicker cold-weather gear.

A significant amount of the test schedule was dedicated to break-down, create, and recreate again for each new test environment. Technicians worked continuously to go from a superheated 100-degree desert icebox in only three days.

"McKinley Laboratory maintains quickness evaluation. and technical proficiency by retaining our own staff of highly a joint effort between Sikorsky, experienced welders, machinists, electricians, experts, test assembly personnel and refrigeration operators," said William Higdon, the lab's technical advisor. "Our Sikorsky's West Palm Beach main mission is to support the facility. warfighter and to ensure any environment they encounter in Rescue Helicopter continued the field; their equipment has amidst the chaos of COVID-19," already been proven in those Lt. Col. Wayne Dirkes, the 413th extremes."

remove the aircraft's exhaust. through challenges."

controlled temperature

The design of the ventilation The aircrew performing system meant the aircraft's the procedures were also test blades were removed for the duration of the testing. The lab's in-house fabrication shop also specially designed brackets for environment. For example, the the aircraft's weapons among

"Successful completion of a standard flight suit. One of this test is absolutely shared the evaluations was to ensure with the Sikorsky and McKinley teams," said Ben Walker, the of the aircraft controls in the lead 413th Flight Test Squadron test engineer for the effort and Air Force PALACE Acquire journeyman. "Everyone preparing the chamber worked together extremely for the extreme conditions. well and we completed on McKinley's lab professionals time and on budget. I am very thankful for this opportunity to perform exciting engineering work, while also supporting the warfighter."

After testing in the climatic condition to a below freezing lab, the HH-60W will return to Sikorsky's test facility in Climatic West Palm Beach for further The HH-60W developmental test program is the 413th FLTS, the 88th TES instrumentation and Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center. Test aircraft are primarily split between Duke Field here and

"Testing on the Combat FLTS operations officer. "While The Jolly Green II created the situation could change at any some unique challenges for moment, we have not lost any McKinley Lab personnel. The test schedule thus far. That is lab technicians created a system a testament to the entire team's specifically for the HH-60W to attitude and willingness to work



An HH-60W Jolly Green II sits in a frozen chamber in the McKinley Climatic Lab March 19 at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The Air Force's new combat search and rescue helicopter and crews experienced temperature extremes from 120 to -60 degrees Fahrenheit as well as torrential rain during the month of testing. The tests evaluate how the aircraft and its instrumentation, electronics and crew fare under the extreme conditions it will face in the operational Air Force. (U.S. Air Force photo by Samuel King Jr.)



An HH-60W Jolly Green II gets hit with 45 mph winds and drenched under 130 gallons-perminute rain in the McKinley Climatic Lab April 1 at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The Air Force's new combat search and rescue helicopter and crews experienced temperature extremes from 120 to -60 degrees Fahrenheit as well as torrential rain during the month of testing. The tests evaluate how the aircraft and its instrumentation, electronics and crew fare under the extreme conditions it will face in the operational Air Force. (U.S. Air Force photo by Samuel King Jr.)

Local Air Force advocates attend AFMC events

By Bradley Hicks AEDC Public Affairs

in Locals serving an organization that advocates for local Air Force bases, Air Force Materiel Command and the Air Force as a whole joined Arnold Engineering Development Complex leadership recently to attend the AFMC Senior Leader Conference and the AFMC Annual Excellence Awards banquet.

Tullahoma Utilities Authority President Brian Skelton and local businessman Mike Niederhauser, members of the AFMC's Civic Leader Program, along with AEDC Commander Col. Jeffrey Geraghty and AEDC Superintendent Chief Master Sgt. Robert Heckman, attended the events held last month at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

Along with advocacy, the purpose of the Civic Leader Program is for its members to ascertain information from AFMC leadership to share in their communities. According to AFMC, CLP members from bases are included in almost all across the country meet twice annually to hear updates on AFMC and Air Force issues.

Conference, the CLP members



Mike Niederhauser, left, and Brian Skelton, third from left, members of the Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) Civic Leader Program were joined by Arnold Engineering Development Complex (AEDC) leadership in attendance of the AFMC Annual Excellence Awards Banquet, at AEDC," Skelton said. "For March 11 at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Also pictured from right are AEDC Superin- him to be the Civilian Category tendent Chief Master Sgt. Robert Heckman, AEDC Commander Col. Jeffrey Geraghty, Air Force Test Center (AFTC) Commander Maj. Gen. Christopher Azzano, Arnold Air Force Base engineer and AFMC Annual Excellence Award nominee Yancee Burchett, Burchett's wife Liz and AFTC Executive Director Dr. Eileen Bjorkman. (Courtesy photo)

of the sessions and meetings provided with leadership across AFMC," Niederhauser the opportunity Skelton said. "We learn a lot to interface with AFMC encouraged all of us to get to from across all of the AFMC Force' perspective at times."

The conference Skelton

also known for the better part of a and decade.

"Gen. Bunch has "At the Senior Leader from these meetings and also Commander Gen. Arnold know our fellow AFMC Base like Yancee Burchett who provide an 'outside of the Air W. Bunch Jr., who Skelton CLP member," Niederhauser continue to bring forth good, and Niederhauser have each said. "With these friendships, innovative ideas."

we have worked together for a common goal, especially with our fellow test members."

Skelton and Niederhauser were two of the approximately 20 CLP members who attended the Senior Leader Conference, held March 10-12, and the awards banquet, which was held on March 11 and honored the top AFMC Airmen for 2019.

Geraghty, Heckman, Skelton and Niederhauser were on hand to show their support for Yancee Burchett, an engineer at Arnold AFB. Burchett was among the AFMC Annual Excellence Awards nominees for Civilian Category II. Burchett was named the AEDC Civilian Category II winner during the AEDC Annual Awards ceremony in February.

"Yancee is a fine engineer II nominee means that he not only was the cream of the crop at AEDC but also across the entire Air Force Test Center command. Mike Niederhauser and I were very impressed with him. We know that AEDC is in great shape with future leaders

Water update: Arnold AFB Water is Safe to Drink

By AEDC Bioenvironmental Engineering

During routine potable water sampling on base in June 2017, AEDC Bioenvironmental Engineering discovered drinking water sources which had elevated levels of lead in the potable drinking water. The Environmental Protection Agency action level is any detection above 15 parts per billion (ppb), or 0.015 milligrams of lead per liter of water (mg/L). These sources have been repeatable results below the established labeled, the water fountains have been action levels. Bi-weekly water quality disconnected and personnel in those parameter samples (pH, alkalinity, buildings have been notified of this calcium, conductivity, temperature,

of corrosion inhibitors that promote the formation of insoluble scales that prevent lead and copper from leaching from pipes into the drinking water. AEDC Bioenvironmental Engineering expects to see results of this treatment in future lead testing.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation has assigned 20 specific sampling sites which will be tested every six months until Arnold AFB can demonstrate into the water, especially hot water.

MCLG, The or mg/L. It is the level of a contaminant system must follow. in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. AEDC Public Affairs at 931-454-4204.

as pH adjustment and the addition fixtures with lead solder, from which MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. significant amounts of lead can enter The action level for lead is 0.015 mg/L. It is the concentration of a contaminant maximum which, if exceeded, triggers treatment contaminant level goal for lead is zero or other requirements which a water

For media-related questions contact

issue.

water is of concern, but the limits that were detected, do not pose an immediate health risk to the base population. The Bioenvironmental Engineering team's priority is to protect the health and safety of the consumers of drinking water on base.

This plan includes:

- 1. Recommendation of utilizing an optimized corrosion control treatment (treating the water to make it less likely that lead will dissolve into the water)
- 2. Evaluation of source water treatment (ensuring that lead concentration in Arnold Air Force Base drinking water is below the EPA action level)
- 3. Institute a public education program All aspects of the plan have been implemented and AEDC Bioenvironmental Engineering continues to monitor the progress.

It is common for facilities built before 1986 to have detectable levels of lead because they are more likely to have been built using lead pipes. The Arnold AFB water chemistry lab is EPA certified to analyze drinking water. Immediately following the high results, a technical team sampled 100 percent of all drinking fountains, ice machines and food preparation sinks for lead. Sources with high lead rates were immediately removed from service. Additionally, water coolers identified for having lead components and those in industrial areas were removed from service. All of the replacement coolers have been installed.

If you are concerned about lead in water sources at your home, contact your local water provider or visit EPA's website at www.epa.gov/lead to find out how to get tested for lead.

For further protection of our drinking water, equipment for corrosion control treatment is being installed. Corrosion control treatments will begin after the beginning of the year. Optimal Corrosion Control Treatment includes techniques such

and in the future corrosion inhibitors) Any detectable level of lead in the continue every two weeks. Results are submitted to the TDEC.

> For more information call the water utility at 931-454-6066 or **Bioenvironmental Engineering at 931-**454-5351.

For Your Information

According to the EPA, lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources, and will affect individuals differently.

Lead can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body.

The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children.

Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults.

Lead is stored in the bones, and it can be released later in life.

During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development. The consumer can reduce their exposure to lead in drinking water by the following:

- 1. Run the cold water 15 to 30 seconds to flush out the water in the faucet body and home plumbing. This is the source of lead in almost all drinking water from a home tap.
- 1. Drink and cook with cold water only, do not use hot water for preparing baby formula.
- 2. Please note that boiling water does not reduce lead levels.

Lead is a common metal found in the environment.

Lead can also enter drinking water when service pipes that contain lead corrode, especially where the water has high acidity or low mineral content that corrodes pipes and fixtures. The most common problem is with brass or chrome-plated brass faucets and

Screening process in place before entry into Arnold AFB

By Deidre Moon AEDC Public Affairs

A screening process has been employed for authorizing entry to Arnold Air Force Base to ensure the health of Arnold Engineering Development Complex personnel during the novel coronavirus disease, or COVID-19, pandemic.

The screening procedures began March 21 and continue to be modified as necessary. As of April 6, only employees involved in executing operationally urgent operations are allowed to enter the base.

Ray Kelly, Chief of the Security Forces Office at Arnold, is working closely with Contract Security Lead Kevin Holton and his team and stated that he appreciates team's positive the attitude throughout this tumultuous time.

"They have done an amazing job remaining flexible to changing security requirements to keep the base safe," he said.

In addition to having a limited workforce, other restrictions include:

- If an individual has tested positive or has had close contact with security

breath

If an individual been to a list has "hotspot" states of outside of Tennessee or designated counties Tennessee in and neighboring states. An entire list can be found online at https:// www.arnold.af.mil/ coronavirus/.

In addition to asking personnel questions based on the above list, the security guards are using a no-touch ID card policy. The policy requires those entering the base to present their IDs to the guards to scan. The guards are also practicing social distancing as much as possible.

Kelly noted that there have been changes to the being handled.

"Non-essential deliveries have been postponed for 30 days, and there have been screening additional measures put in place for essential deliveries like food and mission- II supplies," he said.

Contract Security's the of the base.

"All of the contract guards cough or shortness of the supervisors on shift, of this situation."



Arnold Air Force Base Contract Security personnel ask individuals entering the base a series of COVID-19 screening questions as a requirement to be allowed entry to the base March 23. The questions include if individuals have tested positive for COVID-19 or have been in contact with someone who has tested posiway base deliveries are tive, locations of recent travel or if experiencing relevant symptoms. (U.S. Air Force photo by Jill Pickett)

security controllers in the **Base Defense Operations** Center, to the gate guards standing post," he said. "Gene Mittuch (project manager for the Facility Support Services contract), Kevin specific equipment and Holton, and the entire Contractor's Security In light of these leadership team has been changes, Kelly applauds instrumental in executing policies and efforts to protect the rest procedures put forth by the AEDC Commander.

"I would like to ask are the workforce to remain someone who has tested doing a tremendous job patient and flexible positive for COVID-19. remaining flexible to as there may be more • If an individual has ever-changing processes changes to procedures developed a fever, and procedures from depending on the length



Col. Charles Roberts, Chief of the Arnold Engineering Development Complex Test Support Division, observes Arnold Air Force Base Contractor Security personnel as they ask individuals entering the base a series of COVID-19 screening questions as a requirement to be allowed entry to the base March 23. The screening questions were implemented beginning March 21. Security falls under the Test Support Division. (U.S. Air Force photo by Jill Pickett) (This image was altered by obscuring badges for security purposes.)

Arnold FES taking measures to stay ready to respond in face of coronavirus

By Jill Pickett AEDC Public Affairs

recommended actions, such specific 911-call screening protective as social distancing, not questions. They can then and decontamination our FES personnel healthy respond. VanCise asks that

equipment medical care while keeping should call 911 and FES will shaking hands, etc.," said inform the responding procedures. and able to work." individuals that are sick not AEDC personnel are to be brought to the fire station, confirmed cases continues call their doctor for guidance though, as it places the entire to grow and safety measures if they feel sick. In the case FES workforce at risk of

of serious illness, they

Arnold Air Force Base Fire and Emergency Services maintains a continual state of readiness to respond to situations on base and, when needed, provide mutual aid to departments off base.

best of their ability, giving or getting the coronavirus they live with for 24 hours at a time or a patient in their care, FES team members are taking extra steps to stay at ready to answer the call.

FES Deputy Chief Daryl firefighters to the potential VanCise. "We have also of a COVID-19 situation. implemented touch-point cleaning of all surfaces and items at least twice per day." He added that all In order to prevent, to the temperature taken every 12 hours to check for a fever.

> Measures have also firefighters in reducing risk when responding to calls.

Dispatchers Emergency the Communications Center, "We have taken all the or ECC, ask callers a set of response,

In such a case, VanCise explained, the crew uses specific response "very protocols aimed at firefighters are having their minimizing crew exposure, while ensuring appropriate patient care is administered." The Tennessee to or from the co-workers been implemented to aid the Department of Health has oversight over the Arnold AFB FES ambulance service. The Department's EMS Director has provided guidance concerning personal

the count of As

change, VanCise praised the

entire FES team for their handling of the situation. "All Arnold FES personnel, to include ECC dispatchers, firefighters, fire prevention specialists management and staff, have done an outstanding job implementing these new protocols and safety measures," VanCise said. "Our goal is to provide

appropriate emergency infection.

STANDARD PRECAUTIONS



Clean your hands often with soap and water and/or hand sanitizer.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.



Avoid close contact, putting distance between yourself and other people.



Stay home if you're sick, except to get medical care.



Cover coughs and sneezes.

you are sick.

surfaces.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched

Wear a face mask if

Arnold AFB Warehouse ensures supplies flow onto base in spite of coronavirus

By Jill Pickett

AEDC Public Affairs

Sustaining operations Air Force at Arnold headquarters for Base. the Arnold Engineering Development Complex, even in a reduced capacity while in an "operationally urgent" posture due to the coronavirus, requires both people and the materials they require to carry out their jobs.

The Base Warehouse ensures those materials are received on Base and available for delivery to the workforce.

When the base posture changed April 6, the Warehouse reduced staffing in accordance with that directive, but to a level still allowing support of all the testing that was required to continue, base operations and other critical activities.

This required off base to slow the flow of goods.

"We notified vendors, carriers and subcontractors of the change in base posture," said Mike Ramsey, AEDC Test Operations and Sustainment Acquisitions Branch manager. "We asked them to hold noncritical orders and work and suspended other work."

has been assisted by the other areas on base.

"All the areas out here working have been really good about identifying those shipments that are really needed and understanding that we are on limited-scope operations," Ramsey said.

Even with reducing the incoming deliveries, the tempo for those remaining on the job has increased.

Some carriers coordination with partners hauling mixed shipments of critical and non-critical items, and both are accepted all when such a shipment hand sanitizer from local arrives.

"While this adds to the workload on the reduced staff, we do want to keep suppliers paid and working," Ramsey said. "We want to have materials available when we do return to normal operations."

The health and safety Ramsey noted this effort of Warehouse employees continues to be a priority, added with measures to mitigate the risk the coronavirus poses.

> A new Job Safety Analysis written was specifically for handling critical shipments being delivered by carriers from identified "hotspots."

> The Warehouse has been able to maintain the 6 feet of distance between people.

are Hand sanitizer and wipes, though in high demand, has been provided.

"We received some distilleries and Bechtel (parent company of TOS contractor, National Aerospace Solutions) provided some," Ramsey said.

A focus area for those supplies is the receiving area, where employees are off loading supplies and may have interactions with carriers. The Warehouse has also been distributing it to other areas on base.

Overall, Ramsey was satisfied.

"I think it's going well. The pace is of course fast, but we are able to manage it," Ramsey said. "I think they (the Warehouse team) feel good about being able to continue to support the essential testing."

National Aerospace Solutions donates supplies to local health department

By Bradley Hicks NAS Public Affairs

to the Coffee County Health hand sanitizer. Department in Manchester.

of NAS, has been providing learned NAS disaster relief from existing to company projects, such as to the best use. NAS, located throughout the country. The supplies were I'm very pleased that NAS and provided to these company its parent company Bechtel April 9. projects to serve as donations can help medical providers in first responders.

Leadership within NAS, Tighe said. the Test Operations and Sustainment contractor at

worked with Bechtel Equipment Operations To support the local fight secure multiple cases of N95 against COVID-19, National masks, nitrile gloves and have been sharing supplies. Aerospace Solutions recently coveralls in various sizes, donated a large quantity of spray bottles, disinfectants, out NAS and Bechtel were personal protection equipment toilet paper, paper towels and donating that material, they

When NAS would be supplies receiving the supplies, he inventory tasked NAS Executive Officer and fellow NAS employee CCHD were very appreciative members and agencies. at the Bechtel Equipment Justin Garrard with finding Operations center in Texas out where they would be put it to the health department

> "As part of the AEDC Team, work to combat COVID-19,"

Garrard contacted County Coffee Health

part of a 13-county COVID-19 to response group. Health care facilities within this group

"When the CCHD found General they would make sure it got needed," Garrard said.

> As the PPE arrived, Garrard Mike Hollowell delivered April 8 and two deliveries on got to social distance."

Each case

Arnold Air Force Base, Department (CCHD), which is rolls, and each case of paper office wished to express their towels contained 30 rolls. The "sincerest thanks" for the PPE health department received multiple cases of each of these items, as well as multiple cases of the sanitizer and to protect not only our staff in disinfectants.

were very grateful and said Operations shipped 1,358 members that we assess and pounds in disaster relief items treat," she said. "We are working Bechtel, the parent company Manager Dr. Rich Tighe to the best place, where it was to NAS for donation to the diligently to slow the spread of CCHD.

of the donation.

"They were over three days, making one grateful," he said. "They said, delivery on April 2, one on 'I'd give you a hug, but we've for all of your hard work and

of masks and planning coordinator and the spread of COVID-19. With to local medical facilities and the local community in their contained 10 masks, each public information officer for all of us working together to case of gloves contained 100 the Tennessee Department of protect ourselves and our fellow gloves, each case of coveralls Health South Central Regional community members, we will the contained 25 pairs, each case Office, said those at the slow the spread and lessen the of toilet paper contained 96 CCHD and the TDH regional effects of COVID-19."

provided by NAS.

"The donated masks and gloves will continue to help the health departments but also In all, Bechtel Equipment our patients and community COVID-19 and appreciate the Garrard said those at the support from local community

"We would also like to thank extremely the Arnold Air Force Base and all of the community members dedication in following the MadisonToney, assessment recommended ways to prevent

COMMANDER from page 1

the screening measures put this disease." in place March 21, helping to increased exposure risk to others protect base personnel. on base.

effective Monday was designed Health Working Group and were in large part to cut down, to figuring out ways to mitigate the encourages the mission essential people who are going to come a lot of people were even really on base and interact with each taking this seriously, our team other. I think it's been effective at AEDC was figuring out how week," Geraghty said. "There are workforce right away." many fewer people supporting

Geraghty said the posture which significantly reduces the tests positive, the area in which implemented April 6 enhances possibility of the transmission of that individual works will, if plans to close the Base Exchange operations once the COVID-19

Geraghty said the base ensure mission-critical personnel restriction policy is strong residing or commuting from and that Arnold leaders were hotspot areas do not pose an proactive in their measures to

To provide further protection, the mission on base this week, if a member of the workforce being allowed base access.

possible, be cordoned off to give the virus time to die. The area will also be cleaned in accordance with Center for Disease Control guidelines, Geraghty said.

Military personnel at Arnold "As long ago as Feb. 28, we AFB are required to wear "This new posture that was had already convened the Public cloth face masks at all times, and Geraghty said he strongly a great extent, the number of threat," Geraghty said. "Before Department of Defense civilians and contractors still working on base to do the same.

Those testing positive or based on what I've seen this to protect the health of the self-isolating must obtain doctor clearance and go 14 days without exhibiting symptoms before

or Commissary at this time. threat has diminished. However, he said base leaders protect the workforce.

"If the counties surrounding us can continue to contain the threat and these stay-at-home policies continue to work, we will able to remain in our current posture until the threat subsides," he said.

Geraghty said he is looking forward to the return of business as usual at Arnold. Although the base remains in a state of risk mitigation, Geraghty said at the Arnold leadership team is thinking ahead on how to return

Geraghty said there are no the base to a state of normal

"The leadership team is will take actions as required to actively planning right now for the moment when the threat subsides to enough of a degree that we can start to reinitiate as many of the elements of the mission as we can," he said. "The leadership team is thinking it through with this basic simple question - 'How quickly and how soon could we safely get back to doing the mission to the full degree?""

> The town hall may be viewed https://www.facebook. com/AEDCCommander/ videos/3363188177065432/.

DONATIONS from page 1

"I would like to point out that there wasn't even a



request for the masks. People heard about the requirement to wear face coverings on base and they started offering assistance. To me, that is awesome."

A donation of 50 cloth masks came from a retired member of the military.

Twenty-eight cloth masks were made and donated April 10 for commissary patrons by a pair of the Air Force's very own youth. All 28 masks were used by patrons within the first hour of business. Hearing this, the youth sewed 19 more and donated them to the Commissary and Base Exchange on April 11.

AEDC Test Operations Division Chief Col. Keith Roessig's daughters, Karina and Kolleen, learned about an effort called the Million Mask Challenge from one of their former Girl Scout leaders.

"We were looking at the Million Mask Challenge and Med Threads Facebook pages and thought it was a really great way to help our community," said eighthgrader Karina.

Tullahoma. They then made Kolleen. them for children living members wear a cloth mask total. "when on base in spaces where even transient incursion of the will be overseas military 6-foot bubble is likely." So communities in Qatar and that using a cloth mask is not they added making masks, in Japan that reached out through intended to prevent the wearer the permitted colors, for the Million Mask Challenge from getting sick, but may help

Commissary patrons were pledged 30 masks to each need for primary mitigation added to their list, after hearing community. of the directive for wearing

Reusable cloth face masks made by Karina and Kolleen Roessig. The sisters are making the masks and donating them to help combat the spread of the coronavirus. (Courtesy photo)

that I'm doing something effort, the pattern they are They started with making productive and helping people using is posted on the AEDC/ masks for a nursing home in stay safe," said sixth-grader Arnold Spouse Facebook

The pair began sewing the in Arnold Village, the on- masks April 2 and had made see a need in their community base housing. After that, 101 masks as of April 10. and are helping to address it; they learned of Geraghty's They have been making 15-20 directive that all military a day with plans to make 200 the impact in the community

> Their next

masks while in those facilities. Scout Silver Award project. If by wearing a mask.

"It feels good to know you would like to join their page.

> "I love the fact that they and actually getting to see in real time," said Kristeen recipients Roessig, their mother.

It is important to note military members to their list. to request masks for their prevent the spread of the virus Base Exchange and the communities. The girls have from the wearer to others. The efforts, including social The effort is also their Girl distancing, is not eliminated

Kolleen, left, and Karina Roessig stand next to the bin of free face masks at the Arnold Air Force Commissary. Arnold Engineering Development Complex Commander Col. Jeffrey Geraghty, in line with the Defense Commissary Agency's guidance, issued a directive that effective April 10 all Base Exchange and Commissary patrons must wear face coverings while in the facilities. The donated masks include ones made by the Roessig sisters. (Courtesy photo)



Arnold Legal Office commemorates National Crime Victims' Rights Week

By Leslie McGowan Arnold AFB Legal Office

National Crime Victims' Rights crime in 2018. Week (NCVRW), April 19-25, plans to host a very special the advancement of victims' training event to meet our rights and highlight issues Special Victims Counsel and Paralegal to raise awareness by holding a training event about crime victims' issues presented by the Special Victims Crime (OVC) leads communities and rights and introduce the Counsel (SVC) May 8 at 1 p.m. community to the important in the Commander's Conference resources and services available. According to the most recent

surrounding victimization Room.

National Crime Victimization is honoring Capt. Janessa Brito, those who advocate on their Survey from the Bureau of (SVC), and Staff Sgt. Ryan Justice Statistics, about 3.3 Fleming, (SVP), who are our JA), in commemoration of older were victims of violent Air Force base assigned to AEDC/JA in advocating for the individuals and groups AEDC/JA will commemorate expanded support and services for communities affected by crime, specifically sexual assault.

> The Office for Victims of throughout the country in their annual observances of NCVRW by promoting victims' rights The Judge Advocate's office and honoring crime victims and

behalf.

This year's theme -Seek Service Awards Ceremony in Arnold Legal Office (AEDC/ million Americans age 12 or champions coming from Scott Justice | Ensure Victims' Rights Washington, D.C., to honor Inspire Hope –recognizes whose advocacy has propelled the victims' rights movement forward for the past half century, inspiring in victims and their loved ones a feeling of hope for progress, justice and healing.

OVC and the legal office encourage participation in victim-related observances throughout the year.

OVC hosts the annual National Crime Victims? outstanding individuals and programs that serve victims of crime.

For additional information about this year's NCVRW and how to assist victims in your own community, please contact the Arnold AFB Legal Office at 931-454-7814. For additional ideas on how to support victims of crime, visit OVC's website at www.ovc.gov.

NAS participates in Small Business Industry Day in Nashville

Bv Deidre Moon NAS Public Affairs

Acquisition Team members with National Aerospace Solutions, LLC, the Arnold Engineering Development Complex Test Operations and Sustainment contractor at Arnold Air Force Base, attended the 2020 Small Business Industry Day on March 5 at Tennessee State University in Nashville.

Cindy Dixon, a subcontract administrator and small business advocate, with the help of Meron Agonafir and Frances Samples, both negotiated buyers, manned the NAS exhibit at the event, which was hosted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

"As always, the event was a success," Dixon said. "We were able to meet with over 50 vendors in one or more of the socio-economic categories, capable of providing services and products that NAS acquires."

The NAS Acquisition team regularly attends Industry Day events to help educate area suppliers and subcontractors interested in conducting business with the company.



On March 5, Meron Agonafir and Frances Samples, negotiated buyers, with National Aerospace Solutions, LLC, the AEDC Test Operations and Sustainment contractor at Arnold Air Force Base, speak to an interested vendor during the 2020 Small Business Industry Day at Tennessee State University in Nashville. NAS Acquisition team members attended the event to share information about the company with small business vendors. (Courtesy photo)



