AEDC celebrates 70 years with open house

The AEDC “Hap Arnold Day” 70th Anniversary Celebration Open House on June 26 afforded members of the community a rare opportunity to see behind the fence and learn about the contributions the men and women of Arnold Engineering Development Complex have made to national defense and the advancement of technology.

AEDC, headquartered at Arnold Air Force Base, Tenn., was dedicated on June 25, 1951, the same date as the Air Force Henry “Hap” Arnold. In honor of the anniversary of the AFTC, which was established on June 25, 1951, the same date as the then Center. He also established the timing and opportunity and make a conscious decision between the two.”

The timing couldn’t have been better. It just so happened that one of the T-38 jets flown by the 586th Flight Test Squadron at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, was in need of a new paint scheme as the Arnold Engineering Development Complex approached its 70th anniversary. It also happened that this aircraft was set to take to the skies over the AEDC headquarters at Arnold Air Force Base during a retreat ceremony June 26.

The dark and light grey paint that preceded the Flyover debuts new paint scheme for 586 FLTS jet

See FLYOVER, page 11

FLYOVER

See FLYOVER, page 2

See OPEN HOUSE, page 2

See STEM event, page 3

Prahl charged with leading Space Test Branch

Allen undertakes 26.3-mile hike to fulfill a wish

AEDC Commander applauds community STEM event

By Jill Pickett

Arnold Community Council

By Bradley Hicks

LT. COL. JUSTIN TOLLIVER, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, SPACE TEST BRANCH, TEST DIVISION, ARNOLD ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT COMPLEX, TALKS ABOUT THE J-4 LARGE ROCKET MOTOR TEST FACILITY TO AN ATTENDEE OF THE AEDC “HAP ARNOLD DAY” 70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OPEN HOUSE, JUNE 26 AT ARNOLD AIR FORCE BASE. IN THE BACKGROUND IS THE TEXT OF J-4, USED TO TEST SOLID ROCKET ROCKETS, SUCH AS THOSE IN THE WINCHESTER 30MM, U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY JILL PICKETT

By Bradley Hicks

PRAHIL BONNER, LEFT, BYRCES SPENCER, CENTER AND BRANDON PRINCE GIVE THEIR Balsa WOOD PLANES A TOSS DURING A JUNE 26 EVENT HOSTED BY THE COFFEE AERIOILERS MODEL RC CLUB TO CONCOINCIDE WITH THE ARNOLD ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT COMPLEX 70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION. (U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO BY BRADLEY HICKS)
Smoking in government-owned/leased vehicles is strictly prohibited. Personnel are allowed to smoke in their personal vehicles when parked, not in active use, for personal business or non-business purposes, and parked 25 feet from building entry/egress points. (This policy is dated July 27, 2016)

Pursuant to Air Force Instruction (AFI) 40-102, Tobacco Free Living, e-cigs are considered to be equivalent to tobacco and are also subject to this policy. No smoking is allowed in the open spaces of government property, including common areas. Electronic Cigarettes (also known as “e-cigs”) are specifically prohibited. All tobacco is required to be disposed of in designated receptacles. Users of smokeless tobacco must flush tobacco waste down the toilet.

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 apply to Government employees. However, breaks are not associated with or part of a person’s merit factor of the purchaser, and should not be considered a benefit for any person. Breaks are intended for personal and not work-related use. All personnel are to conduct their business at Arnold AFB. An estimate of the number of employees on site at any given time is 1,075 people attended the event. COVID-19 pandemic policies necessitated the open house be a drive-thru event. Along the route, members of Team AEDC eagerly shared information about the test capabilities. Attendees could also scan QR codes on a provided map to watch videos about select facilities. These videos can be viewed at https://www.dvidshub.net/tags/video/bag-arnold-day.

The open house was also an opportunity for members of Team AEDC to share with their families where they work. “It’s not every day that we get to bring our families out,” said Nick Hibdon, programming chief, Test Engineering Section, Civil Engineering Branch, AEDC. “Getting to actually bring them out and let them see the size of what we’re dealing with and some of the capabilities that we have is really the goal for today.” At the end of the day, AEDC Commander Col. Jeffrey Garbery held a retreat ceremony, with two flyovers, for AEDC military and Department of Defense personnel. The first flyover was a T-34 Talon of the 586th Flight Test Squadron, 704th Test Group, AEDC, out of Halfmann Air Force Base, New Mexico. The second flyover was a pair of F-15 Eagles of the 94th Test Wing out of Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

Since we at Arnold aren’t on the front lines of our defense, I think a lot of times we forget what we’re here for,” Hibdon said. “We’re making sure that pilots are safe, that our weapon systems are safe, and just wanted my kids to see that and feel that a little bit. And, of course, they’re really excited because it’s just the thing of getting to see guys fly over something they’ll probably remember for a long time.”

**OPEN HOUSE from page 1**

“Arnold Air Force Base and Arnold Engineering Development Complex are really central to the way that we develop and space power for the nation,” said Col. Lincoln Bonner, chief, Test Division, AEDC. “Very nearly every high-performance aircraft and missile since 1951 in operation today in the armed services, Marine Corps and United States Air Force has parts that meet here at Arnold Air Force Base. And that’s not something that most of the public gets to or gets to see. Having the opportunity to show them that with the community, let them know how important the workforce here is to the nation, helps us better communicate and just say ‘thank you’ to the community for all that they do to help us support. Certainly, we are here to support the nation, but the community, the American taxpayer, the citizens, they’re the ones who provide for all of this, and they should know just how valuable it really is and everything that it’s done to support our national defense.”

During the open house, attendees could walk through a roped-off test route to see the facility on Arnold Air Force Base. An estimated 1,075 people attended the event. The open house was also an opportunity for Team AEDC to share with their families where they work. “It’s not every day that we get to bring our families out,” said Nick Hibdon, programming chief, Test Engineering Section, Civil Engineering Branch, AEDC. “Getting to actually bring them out and let them see the size of what we’re dealing with and some of the capabilities that we have is really the goal for today.” At the end of the day, AEDC Commander Col. Jeffrey Garbery held a retreat ceremony, with two flyovers, for AEDC military and Department of Defense personnel. The first flyover was a T-34 Talon of the 586th Flight Test Squadron, 704th Test Group, AEDC, out of Halfmann Air Force Base, New Mexico. The second flyover was a pair of F-15 Eagles of the 94th Test Wing out of Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

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Kirk Butler, right, director of operations, Ground Test Team, Hyperersonic Systems Test Branch, Test Division, Arnold Engineering Development Complex, and Maj. Scott Burrows, left, deputy branch chief, Hypersonic Systems Test Branch, speak about the branch to attendants of the AEDC “Hap Arnold Day” 70th Anniversary Celebration Open House June 26 at Arnold Air Force Base. (U.S. Air Force photo by Jill Pickett)
Hugh Horrocks
Dr. Ralph Jones
Maurice May
Alan Milhorn

ing and fixing any deficiencies
detected by the Air Force, while he was the head of Silver
dagger. Corporation’s test engineer as a test en-
engineer as someone who could get
tough things done for the Army
Corps of Engineers. He was in one of the
reasons his company was selected to
be the architect and builder of AEDC.
He was the seminal positive in-
fluence on bringing AEDC
facilities and personnel into
existence.

Dr. Ralph Jones

Dr. Jones made extensive and
substantial contributions to the
advancement of engi-
neering development and test
techniques at AEDC. He was an
early adopter of Computational
Fluid Dynamics (CFD) model-
ing and had a significant impact
in repeatability and stability re-
resulted in significant advances
in air and other fluid systems has
curate controllability to process
to provide faster and more ac-
tual improvement and test techniques
at Arnold. He was a key
manager for Pratt & Whitney where he continued
to work as a test engineer and site
manager for P&W engines
& Whitney as test engineer on the
F119 engine and was the princi-
pal lead engineer for the P&W
F135 test programs at AEDC.
He helped P&W achieve ISO
certification and after returning
to AEDC as an Air Force civil-
engineer used his experience to
help support AEDC ISO
400 series certification efforts.

Hugh Horrocks

Horrocks made significant
and exceptionally valuable con-	ributions throughout his ca-
career as a test engineer and site
manager for Pratt & Whitney at AEDC.
He continually pushed
AEDC to improve how they handled and installed
engine systems in test cells, contributi-
ng to reducing engine mount
time from weeks to days. His focus helped initiate major
standardization efforts across the
AEDC Engine Test Facility
with respect to engine han-
dling, care, engine thrust stand
mounting systems, instrumenta-
tion and service systems in-
terfaces and instrumentation
database interfaces.
He often dealt with a
test data load with four to five
P&W engines in AEDC test cells at the
time. He also led the
effort to bring commercial
gene test engine to AEDC
starting in the late-1980s to
the early-1990s with the P&W4090 series of large
generators.

Maurice May

May provided exception-
ally valuable contributions to
AEDC during a nearly half-
century career. Originally working for ABO as a test engineer on the
P&W F100 engine, he became a
browsor in the use of computer
math models at AEDC. In 1977, he
accepted a position with Pratt &
Whitney where he continued
supporting F100 engine testing at Arnold. He was a key P&W
interface with airborne and
weapon systems manufacturers.
He was later involved in the
F119 engine and was the princi-
pal lead engineer for the P&W
F135 test programs at AEDC.

Ron Wood

Wood is an instrumentation
specialist whose technical skills
have significantly contributed
to the success of the aerospace
test community at AEDC and his
experience in analog circuitry was a key asset in the
transition to digital electronic
from the mid-1980s to the
mid-1990s. He focused on
developing small-factor cir-
cuit boards and surface mount
golden techniques that
provided engineers with oppor-
tunities to design novel
approaches to useful
circuit boards and surface mount
equipment that ultimately
put AEDC at the forefront of
microwave system
manufacturing and propulsion
systems health monitor-
ing. Those systems supported
NASA in the development of
health monitoring systems in
tests the Space Shuttle’s
main engines.

Maj. Gen. Leif Sverdrup

Sverdrup earned him national recognition, putting
him on an aerobatics demonstration
during which he
handled and installed
turbofan engines in test cells,
and current AEDC Fellows.

Col. Lincoln Bonner, chief of the Arnold Engineering Development Complex Test Division, helps his son Solomon, right, ready his balsa wood airplane for a practice toss during a June 26 event hosted by the Coffee Airfoilers Model RC Club to coincide with the AEDC 70th anniversary celebration held at the aircraft. Youth participants in the event were tasked with assembling small balsa wood airplanes, with top prizes going to those whose planes flew the farthest or the longest, and received launch time. The event was intended to promote science/technology, engineering and mathemat-
ics, or STEM, interest among students taking part. (U.S. Air Force photo by Bradley Hicks)

There were two first-place and two second-place winners. Those earning sec-
ond-place honors were Will Jenkins, with a flight of 41 feet, and Majid Bonner, with a flight of 44 feet. The first-place winners
were Brandon Prince, with a flight of 125 feet, and Bryce Speck, with a flight of
129.5 feet. While this was the first STEM-focused event the Coffee
Airfoilers hosted, Cleveland said it won’t be the last. The club is planning to hold a similar event in the fall.

To date, 107 people have
been inducted as AEDC Fel-
loons. In late 2016, the Arnold Community Council, a 501(c)
nonprofit corporate entity formed in 2000 to sup-
port AEDC, took over respon-
sibility for the AEDC Fellows Program.
The ACC AEDC Fellows committee, headed by for-
nor Maj. Gen. Mike Wiedemer
Commander, re-
names submitted by past
and present personnel and
current AEDC Fellows.
A beautiful vista or a crashing waterfall is often the reward sought by hikers, but Shannon Allen undertook a recent hike to grant a wish for a child.

Allen, the National Environmental Policy Act, Natural and Cultural Resources planner for Arnold Air Force Base, and hundreds of others trained for months to be able to complete the Make-A-Wish Foundation Alabama Trailblaze Challenge, a 26.3-mile hike on the Pinhoti Trail in Alabama in a single day. As part of the challenge, hikers commit to raising a minimum of $2,500 to be able to guarantee a wish for a child.

As a cancer survivor, Allen can attest to the spirit-lifting power of having a dream fulfilled during a difficult time. She and her husband took a trip to the West Coast after her surgery to remove breast cancer before undergoing the rest of her treatment. “I only had short stays in the hospital, but so many doctor and treatment appointments I can’t count them,” Allen said. “It just fills up your life. Anything to break the monotony is a welcome distraction, even just for a little while. Some of these children are in the hospital for years! I think granting them their special wish can make a huge difference in their treatment success and their happiness.”

Just like a granted wish for a child can also lift the spirits of their parents, Allen said it benefited her husband as well. “We were both so stressed out after my breast cancer diagnosis, with the uncertainty behind treatment success and just the physical pain of surgery and treatment,” she said. “Even though the trip was my idea to help me mentally prepare for treatment, he was happy for the escape from reality.”

Allen and a couple of friends she met while pursuing a master’s degree learned about the challenge through Facebook a few years ago, but at the time, the length of the hike and training schedule seemed daunting. “Those of us with young children thought it would be better to wait a few years so that we would have enough time to train and ensure a successful hike,” Allen said. “Our kids are old enough now that we have been able to adequately train this spring and have often included them on our hikes.”

The Make-A-Wish Foundation Alabama Trailblaze Challenge program provides a months-long training program of hikes on trails in Alabama to help participants with novice to advanced skill levels succeed in completing the hike. Some other Make-A-Wish chapters also hold Trailblaze Challenge events of varying lengths.

Hiking is nothing new to Allen. She started hiking as a child, is a former trail runner and has spent many days in the woods as a wildlife biologist. “I love the solitude, the unexpectedness, the exercise and not being inside at my desk,” Allen said.

To prepare for the challenge hike, Allen increased the length and frequency of her hikes. “Getting together has always been difficult since we are so spread out, but we have been hiking together for 15 years and are familiar with each other’s strengths and weaknesses,” Allen said. “We also keep each other laughing – essential on this long hike.”

Allen undertakes 26.3-mile hike to fulfill a wish

By Jill Pickett

AEDC Public Affairs

Allen undertakes 26.3-mile hike to fulfill a wish by Jill Pickett

Shannon Allen, the National Environmental Policy Act, Natural and Cultural Resources Planner for Arnold Air Force Base, crosses the Chinabee Creek while hiking part of the Pinhoti Trail in Alabama during the Make-A-Wish Foundation Alabama Trailblaze Challenge, May 1. (Courtesy photo)
All grills are only to be used outside. A man was burned trying to re-light a charcoal grill. Keep children and pets at least 3 feet away from grilling and fire preparations. Never add charcoal starter fluid or any non-approved fuel to a grill. Let coals cool completely before disposing of in a metal container. Gas grills should be placed at least 3 feet away from overhanging branches. Keep children and pets at least 3 feet away. Do not allow grease to build up; it can ignite. Never leave the grill unattended. Charcoal Grills: When starting your charcoal fire, never add starter fluid under the Ford name at Ford in 1919. Edward G. Kingsford developed a charcoal-maker out of the wood scraps that were being discarded. He suggested to Ford that a charcoal-furnace manufacturing facility be established to process and sell charcoal under the Ford name at Ford dealerships. Never allow grease to build up; it can ignite. Let coals cool completely before disposing of in a metal container. Gas grills should be placed at least 3 feet away from overhanging branches. Keep children and pets at least 3 feet away. Do not allow grease to build up; it can ignite. Never leave the grill unattended.

A woman was lighting a grill and ran over a hot coal that had just been poured out of a grill and burned her foot. A boy was playing football at home and ran into a hot grill. If you use your grill once or twice a summer for hot dogs and burgers or if you use one every day for elaborate meals like stuffed pork loin and vegetable kabobs, grills are a great tool for keeping memories and helping keep the house cooler too. Just always remember safety first. Take care of each other.
Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass. – A Hanscom team recently completed demonstrations that tested new techniques on tactical data links to increase data sharing in contested environments and improve warfighter readiness. The Tactical Data Link Enhancements Team, located at Hanscom Air Force Base, believes it to be a relatively new capability in a live, contested environment. “Heimdall provides a critical capability to existing tactical data link technology, which improves real-time information sharing and overall fighter performance in highly contested, near-peer environments.”

The team is planning additional testing and development, but no future dates have been set. The team is planning additional testing and development, but no future dates have been set.

We wanted to test this critical capability in a live, contested environment and afflicts almost every aspect of life from personal cellular phones and Wi-Fi to advanced technology used in military applications. The EMS is a sovereign national resource that exists as part of an intangible mission under a wing commander dedicated to what McAuliffe believes was the most comprehensive and robust threat environment of its type, to date.

Prior to the month and a half of integration and testing, the team collaborated with over a dozen organizations to conduct what McAuliffe believes was the most comprehensive and robust threat environment of its type, to date.

Speaking on the installation of the hardware, McAuliffe believes it to be a relatively straightforward process, lasting only three days to outfit the 3-13C. If the system is fielded, the team is planning additional testing and development, but no future dates have been set.

The 350th Electronic Warfare Group is charged with ensuring Airmen can continue to fight and win in the EMS.”

The standup also ensures all Air Force electronic warfare and EMS capabilities are consolidated at one location.

The 350th Electronic Warfare Group will move from the 35th Wing to the 35th SWW. In order to remain competitive and in line with the National Defense Strategy, the 350th SWW will help the Air Force rethink its EW capabilities and plan for future requirements. Over time, the wars will mature, evolve and expand its EMS capabilities to provide spectrum warfare capabilities.

The Air Force will conduct further environmental analyses before making a final basing decision for the wing’s permanent location, expected in spring 2022.

“Members of the Tactical Data Link Enhancements Team, located at Hanscom Air Force Base, pose in front of an F-15 at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, in May. The team was conducting tests of their Heimdall tactical data link technology, which improves real-time information sharing and overall fighter performance in highly contested, near-peer environments. (Courtesy photo)
the AFNet Sustainment and Operations, analysis and pilots are pushing the boundaries of F-35 combat operational testing. The United States Operational Test Team (UOTT) is partnered with Air Force Operational Test Center, proving the perimeter, for a modern software-based perimeter with Capt. Christopher Kodama, a Branch engineer, at the Lantern, also known as the Air Combat Command Directorate of Cyberspace and Information Dominance to define combat system like the F-35, cyber operations. The UOTT also contains analysts focused on increasing cyber threat identification and mitigation along with improving recovery capabilities while remaining agile for the future of operational (tests), especially the next phase of operational testing for the F-35 in fall 2021.

By Jessica Casserly
Director of Communications
Public Affairs

HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE, Mass.—Personnel from the AFNet Sustainment and Operations Branch at Hanscom Air Force Base, Massachusetts, National Institute of Standards and Technology special publications and the Department of Defense’s Defense reference architecture helped establish a new strategy, and it’s now a DOD requirement that any new system include a zero-trust architecture model.

Kevin Maguire, the branch’s lead architect, said this concept is a paradigm shift in how the Air Force approaches systems integration. "The architecture we have now, we’ve focused on hardening our network and then trusting networks connected to a C2 card," he said. "But with zero-trust, we can extend that security to any network in the world, because we don’t start off with the premise that we trust everything at the time of a transaction and we build different levels of trust depending on how healthy the machine is and the user identity." ACC is developing the concept for the AF to move forward on zero-trust, the AFNet Sustainment and Operations Branch is leading the effort. The Platform One team is tackling the security, development, and operation pieces Maguire said. "Based on the strategy’s approach, Ray is leading a team of engineers that is building a micro-segmented zero-trust boundary," he said. Raju Ranjan, an engineer from the Innovation Center, proved the concept could reduce these issues by as much as two or three times less than the current price," he said. The Massachusetts National Guard’s 21st Cyber Protection Battalion recently spent a week at the Lantern, also known as the Hanscom Collaboration and Innovation Center, proving the value proposition for micro-segmentation work designed to help increase the project’s security, said Lt. Col. Damon Edwards, the Lantern’s director. "I’ve been in the field, chief technology officer for the ACC Directorate of Cyberspace and Information Dominance, emphasized the need for innovation, which this project is for the DOD," he told the author. "It’s an architecture adapted from cloud-based technologies used by the Air Force Platform One team that has never been seen on legacy networks in the DOD, that we know of," he said. "It’s reducing a lot of modern concepts of DevSecOps, such as automation and orchestration necessary for zero to exist. The work that Raju is leading at Hanscom is pretty groundbreaking, and the partnership that we’ve been working with the United States Operational Test Team, or UOTT, and Air Force Operational Test Center, move forward.

Tenacious, the author’s boundary stack significantly cost, and this concept could reduce these issues by as much as two or three times less than the current price," he said. The Massachusetts National Guard’s 21st Cyber Protection Battalion recently spent a week at the Lantern, also known as the Hanscom Collaboration and Innovation Center, proving the value proposition for micro-segmentation work designed to help increase the project’s security, said Lt. Col. Damon Edwards, the Lantern’s director. "I’ve been in the field, chief technology officer for the ACC Directorate of Cyberspace and Information Dominance, emphasized the need for innovation, which this project is for the DOD," he told the author. "It’s an architecture adapted from cloud-based technologies used by the Air Force Platform One team that has never been seen on legacy networks in the DOD, that we know of," he said. "It’s reducing a lot of modern concepts of DevSecOps, such as automation and orchestration necessary for zero to exist. The work that Raju is leading at Hanscom is pretty groundbreaking, and the partnership that we’ve been working with the United States Operational Test Team, or UOTT, and Air Force Operational Test Center, move forward.

"The team at Hanscom is helping transition zero-trust from a buzzword to reality," Haselhorst said. "The truly innovative solutions they’re bringing to this project is exactly the success we need to succeed in a future fight." The project is currently in the early days of a multi-year phase, with many collaborators, including ACC, and ACC’s Space Force, the Air Force’s Information Warfare, the Cyber Security Command, and MICL for example, the first part of the project is moving forward.

Haselhorst said the project’s most important, and perhaps the most important, to the airframe’s operational testing, especially the next phase of operational testing for the F-35 in fall 2021. His role has been to guide an FC's budget submission that should allow the funds needed to move forward.
2nd Lt. Paul McCormack hands out information about the Propulsion Test Branch, Test Division, AEDC, during the AEDC “Hap Arnold Day” 70th Anniversary Celebration Open House June 26 at Arnold AFB.

A detail of uniformed Airmen of Arnold Engineering Development Complex salute during a retreat ceremony after the AEDC “Hap Arnold Day” 70th Anniversary Celebration Open House June 26 at Arnold AFB.

Col. Lincoln Bonner, right, chief, Test Division, Arnold Engineering Development Complex, and other members of Team AEDC share information about the Aerodynamics Test Branch of the Test Division during the AEDC “Hap Arnold Day” 70th Anniversary Celebration Open House June 26 at Arnold AFB.

Will Jenkins, center, was a second-place winner in the Coffee Airfoilers Model RC Club June 26 airplane toss competition hosted by the club to coincide with the Arnold Engineering Development Complex 70th anniversary. Also pictured are AEDC Commander Col. Jeffrey Geraghty, right, and AEDC Vice Director Jason Coker. (U.S. Air Force photos by Bradley Hicks)

Miland Bonner, center, was a second-place winner in the Coffee Airfoilers Model RC Club June 26 airplane toss competition hosted by the club to coincide with the Arnold Engineering Development Complex 70th anniversary. Also pictured are AEDC Commander Col. Jeffrey Geraghty, right, and AEDC Vice Director Jason Coker.

Bryce Spencer, center, was a first-place winner in the Coffee Airfoilers Model RC Club June 26 airplane toss competition hosted by the club to coincide with the Arnold Engineering Development Complex 70th anniversary. Also pictured are AEDC Commander Col. Jeffrey Geraghty, right, and AEDC Vice Director Jason Coker.

A giant birthday card celebrating the 70th anniversary of the dedication of Arnold Engineering Development Complex sits on display June 26 during the AEDC “Hap Arnold Day” 70th Anniversary Celebration Open House at Arnold Air Force Base. (U.S. Air Force photos by Jill Pickett)

Col. Jeffrey Geraghty, commander, AEDC, addresses AEDC military and Department of Defense personnel gathered for a retreat ceremony.

A pair of F-15 Eagles from the 96th Test Wing out of Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, fly over Arnold AFB during a retreat ceremony.

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Giant birthday cards celebrating the 70th anniversary of the dedication of Arnold Engineering Development Complex sit on display June 26 during the AEDC “Hap Arnold Day” 70th Anniversary Celebration Open House at Arnold Air Force Base. (U.S. Air Force photos by Jill Pickett)

A detail of uniformed Airmen of Arnold Engineering Development Complex salute during a retreat ceremony after the AEDC “Hap Arnold Day” 70th Anniversary Celebration Open House June 26 at Arnold AFB.

Col. Jeffrey Geraghty, commander, AEDC, addresses AEDC military and Department of Defense personnel gathered for a retreat ceremony.

A pair of F-15 Eagles from the 96th Test Wing out of Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, fly over Arnold AFB during a retreat ceremony.
Enlightened online ordering/curbside delivery service moving to all stores

By Rick Brink
DeCA Public Affairs

FORT LEE, Va. – It’s not an overstatement to say that the new and improved Commissary CLICK2GO™ is, well, very much new and improved.

Now featuring online payment and more product information than ever before, the online ordering/curbside delivery service is being expanded to all state-side commissaries by the end of the year, and to overseas stores soon thereafter.

“We’ve learned a lot about what our customers want during our initial 11-store rollout the past two years, and thanks to recent innovations to our e-commerce platform we’ve made tremendous service and user-interface improvements that customers expect in today’s retail environment,” said Bill Moore, director and CEO of the Defense Commissary Agency. “We’re going to deliver this great service to all commissaries as quickly as possible.”

Because of grocery shopping trends, DeCA has been galvanized to bring online ordering, payment and pick-up options to all commissary-eligible patrons.

The Food Marketing Institute recently reported that online grocery shopping has escalated to previously unpredictable rates since the COVID-19 pandemic broke out. PMI had estimated that 20 percent of all U.S. grocery shopping would be done online by 2023. However, the rate of e-grocery sales expected to occur over a 10-year timeframe actually occurred in just six months.

Here’s a brief rundown of Commissary CLICK2GO’s new features:

- Improved navigation and search functions to help customers plan healthy meals and take care of their family’s needs
- Enhanced product information
- Robust recipe features
- Featured sales and promotions
- Upgraded mobile-friendly experience, to include saving order history for ease in re-ordering desired products
- Online payment

“Perhaps the most significant enhancement is online payments,” Moore added. “You place your order and pay online, and then it’s simply a matter of driving up to the curbside delivery area of your commissary to have your groceries loaded into your vehicle – that’s a streamlined process our customers expect in this information age.”

Information on how the service works and the rollout status is found on commissaries.com with dedicated sections such as “How CLICK2GO Works.” First-time customers will need to create an account.

Moore said the agency-wide expansion of online ordering/curbside delivery service aligns with DeCA’s strategic goals to make the commissary benefit accessible to as much of the patron base as possible.

“Our CLICK2GO rollout has been long desired by our patrons and we fully grasp that they expect us to deliver this convenient method of grocery shopping as soon as possible – they want to know when they will see it at their commissary,” Moore said. “I can assure you that we’re working as hard as we can to make this happen as quickly as possible.

“We’ll have the schedule on our website to keep people updated as best we can,” he added. “Our promise is to get it to all U.S. stores this calendar year – maybe sooner – and we are committed to getting it to our overseas stores soon thereafter, as we work through international challenges like COVID restrictions.

“Commissary CLICK2GO builds on the vital benefit we deliver exclusively for our military community and their families – we deliver the savings but we have to improve on convenience and CLICK2GO does just that,” Moore said. “With it, patrons near and far can plan, order and pay for their purchases on-line and simply swing by the store to get them. It makes the commissary worth the trip and I envision it will enable us to eventually offer delivery – where our patrons can enjoy their hard-earned benefit from the comfort of their homes or barracks.”
Arnold AFB Milestones

40 YEARS
Robert Brin, TOS
Mark Duke, TOS

35 YEARS
Mark Brandon, TOS
Jeffrey Foster, TOS
Robertta Kologinczak, TOS
Sheila Sullivan, TOS

30 YEARS
Ferriss Blackwell, TOS
Robert Tate, TOS

25 YEARS
Paul Smith, TOS

20 YEARS
David Candle, TOS
Kay Oakle, TOS
Gregory Sandlin, TOS
Cindy Sisson, TOS

10 YEARS
Paul Garcia, TOS
Laurie Winton, TOS

5 YEARS
Joshua Keith, TOS
Steven Medos, TOS
Courtney Penny, TOS
George Trussell, FSS

INBOUND MILITARY
Maj. Bradley Brunson, AF
Maj. Nicholas Frommelt, AF
Col. Robert Lance, AF
Lt. Col. Michael Martin, AF

OUTBOUND MILITARY
Lt. Col. Michael Krauf, AF
St. Arman Travis Russell, AF
Maj. Stephen Saffire, AF

RETIREMENTS
James Brunetti, TOS
Larry Davis, AF
Holand Smith, AF
Ronald Turner, TOS
Eric Yarbo, AF

NEW HIRES
Jason Askock, TOS
Sophie Alderete, TOS
Trevor Blair, TOS
Colton Bowlin, TOS
Kevin Brewer, TOS
Tyler Campbell, TOS
Robert Clarke, TOS
William Crawford, TOS
Frank Czyzyk, TOS
Amy Duncan, AF
Trey Farres, TOS

Jason Finchum, TOS
Cael Hall, AF
Cason Hampton, TOS
Luke Henderson, TOS
William Hunter, AF
David Keys, TO
Christopher Knefe, TOS
Taylor Malley, TOS
Dathan Mclaren, TOS
Jorge Moreno, TOS

Rico Nand, TOS
William Roy, TOS
Christopher Rones, TOS
Jeffery Scissors, TOS
Jason Stacey, TOS
Carl Stroman Jr, TOS
Brian Sutton, TOS
Emily Tight, TOS
Haden Welch, AF
Zhan Wondra-Givens, TOS

Lt. Col. John McShane, right, materiel leader of the Arnold Engineering Development Complex Aerodynamics Test Branch, administers the oath of office to newly-promoted first lieutenants Ryan Gill and Riley Vaught during a promotion ceremony May 25 at Arnold Air Force Base. (U.S. Air Force photo by Jill Pickett)

Lt. Col. Michael Krauf, left, administers the oath of office to newly-promoted first lieutenant Ryan Blount during a promotion ceremony May 25 in Manchester. (Courtesy photo)