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Issue Highlights ...

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ONCE IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCE FUELS STUDENT’S PASSION
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This year Honeywell celebrates its 70th Anniversary in managing and operating the Kansas City National Security Campus for the National Nuclear Security Administration. Honeywell is the only contractor to solely manage and operate an NNSA site since its inception. Over the decades, the names may have changed from Bendix to AlliedSignal to Honeywell, but the mission has remained the same.

To kick off the year-long celebration, employees were greeted by vintage newsboys and newsgirls with newspapers featuring content from both the first Bendix News and present day news about our 70th anniversary activities.

It all started when the Atomic Energy Commission selected Kansas City as the site for a new facility to be operated by the Bendix Corporation under a prime contract, which was signed on February 14, 1949.

The sense of urgency was palpable in the early months. The first employees were hired in March and were faced with the task of getting the former WWII engine plant ready for its new role. First on the checklist was the removal of tons of sugar and tires at the facility. By April 19, three machines were wired and were ready for operation.

On April 21, the first part – an ordinary machined bushing – was produced. That simple part was the forerunner to the highly sophisticated and complicated components built in the years that followed.

The first employees were hired in 1949. He visited the KCNSC in February to share his memories of how it all started. From receiving his job offer through a telegram to his starting wage of $.90/hour, current employees were surprised to hear on how much has changed in 70 years. But perhaps what was most surprising, was how little has changed in regards to employees’ consistent passion about the mission and willingness to overcome challenges as a team.

Industry Day engages mission-critical suppliers

On March 12, we welcomed more than 150 suppliers to our first-ever KCNSC Industry Day. The day was full of collaboration with our critical supply base and provided a deeper understanding about our mission.

Gen. John Nichols, Commander of the 509th Bomb Wing at Whiteman AFB, gave an inspiring keynote address on bringing together military and civilian professionals to accomplish key national security objectives.

Every day we rely on a network of trusted suppliers and partners essential to meeting our national security mission. Through information sessions and 1:1 meetings, our suppliers gained insights on how their role contributes to our overall readiness and how we can work better together as demands on the enterprise continue to increase.

U.S. Navy thanks employees for extending the life of the W76 warhead

Vice Admiral Johnny Wolfe, Strategic Systems Programs Director for the U.S. Navy, made a stop in Kansas City to thank employees for two decades of enterprise-wide collaboration on the W76-1 Life Extension Program (LEP).

Earlier this year, the NNSA celebrated the completion of the Program of Record for the W76-1 LEP at the Pantex Plant in Amarillo, Texas. The W76-1 is a refurbished W76-0 warhead, which is a submarine-launched ballistic missile system first introduced into the stockpile for the U.S. Navy in 1978. This LEP has strengthened the safety and security of the United States by extending the warhead’s service life from 20 years to 60 years.

The LEP has been underway since October 1998 and every one of the Nuclear Security Enterprise’s labs, plants, and sites contributed to this major modernization program.

Hiring surge leads in new office lease

We’re adding another office building to accommodate our growing workforce. Future workload projections keep rising and Honeywell has been hiring non-stop to keep up with the need for additional employees.

Honeywell is leasing approximately 80,000 sq. ft. of office space at 9221 Ward Parkway in Kansas City, Missouri. The office space will accommodate approximately 400 employees.

In 2017, Honeywell leased additional space in Overland Park, Kansas, to add to our capacity at the Kansas City National Security Campus in southeast Kansas City, Missouri. By the end of 2019, Honeywell expects to reach 5,000 employees, which also includes 300 employees in Albuquerque, NM.
Electromagnetic launchers improve environmental testing

Learn more about our research in electromagnetic launchers in the environmental test laboratories. These launchers convert large amounts of electrical energy into mechanical energy in a short period of time.

The KCNSC environmental test laboratory conducts product testing ranging from vibration and mechanical shock testing to altitude, humidity and accelerated stress testing. The purpose of this testing is to expose components to dynamic environments that are similar to what they will actually see in their lifetimes. Engineers create a variety of environmental conditions including wide ranges of pressures and temperatures, acceleration and vibration, and impulsive and oscillatory shocks.

National Security Crossroads region enables smart network

The National Security Crossroads is a strategic initiative conceptualized by Honeywell to bring awareness to the unique national security and commercial defense assets across Kansas and Missouri to better support responsiveness and resiliency for our NNSA mission. The concept has gained considerable interest from state and federal leaders across Kansas and Missouri who see the Crossroads as a differentiated means to drive economic growth throughout the region. Members in the Crossroads will share best practices across on important topics such as: workforce development, security clearances, hiring veterans, cyber security, supply chain management, innovation, and others supporting critical reach back for a whole of government, best value solution.

A National Security Crossroads is a means for federal agencies to draw in potential partners and suppliers who can strengthen national security and velocity through an affiliated network. Benefits include: connecting with veterans and national security hiring needs throughout the region; promoting awareness of like-minded missions and developing reach back for scale, agility, responsiveness; enabling open innovation initiatives for technology disruption; attracting other like-minded agencies, partners and suppliers to the Crossroads to build depth and resiliency to the region which supports national security.

The Crossroads will enable a smart network of partners to leverage contacts and information effectively throughout the region, rather than rely on one-to-one interactions which are inefficient and cost prohibitive. By smartly partnering together, there is the opportunity to leverage best practices, lower operating costs and create and sustain technological and operational advantages that together exceed what can be done separately.
Honeywell Lean Specialist Olivia Ighoyivwi and Lieutenant Darwin DuPree were two of 15 Kansas Citians honored as Black Achievers at the 2019 Black Achievers Society Awards dinner on January 17. The annual event serves as part of the city-wide celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Olivia began her Honeywell career in Program Management in 2012. Over a year ago she began her current role as a Lean Specialist within Mission Assurance, where she serves as a leader, instructor and facilitator to create a culture that enables continuous improvement across the organization. In addition to her role, she serves as the Cultural Awareness Chair with the Honeywell Black Employees Network (HBEN). Olivia is active in her church, where she serves in various roles and local community.

Lt. DuPree joined Honeywell in 2011 and currently serves as a Training Lieutenant for Protective Force. He provides leadership training to the protective force officers, dispatchers and command staff to ensure effective execution of federal and institutional requirements. Prior to joining Honeywell, Lt. DuPree worked in several roles with the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department and the Scottsdale Police Department in Scottsdale, Ariz. He received numerous awards, including an Achievement and Life Safety Award from the City of Scottsdale for thwarting a bank robbery and chasing down a suspect with a bomb. Lt. DuPree is a father to three children and makes time to give to the community and to those in need. He has participated in several volunteer activities and works with individuals with disabilities and other outreach programs for the betterment of his family and community. Congratulations Olivia and Darwin!

Training programs receive industry recognition
for Talent Development Kansas City Chapter Excellence in Practice awards.

Tyrone Dixon won the Performance Improvement category for implementing the Mission Ready Mock Factory, a training program that allows new employees to practice their skills in soldering or machining as operators and inspectors while waiting on a security clearance. More than 200 employees have completed the program, resulting in a 100 percent decrease in unproductive hours.

Employee Spotlight: The City Cowboy

Historians estimate that one in four cowboys was black in the late 1800s in America, yet few know their story. One Honeywell employee at the KCNSC shining a spotlight on this topic is Trae Q. L. Venerable, Health, Safety, & Environment Engineer. Last year he published two children’s books about African American Cowboys. “It took me about two years of research to complete the books because a lack of records on African American cowboys in the 1800s and early 1900s,” says Trae. But he didn’t have to do a lot of research on ranching as he is a 4th generation cattle rancher of African and Native American descent. His dad’s family was in hog farming until recently, and his mom’s side continues to ranch cattle, horses and hunting dogs. While Trae still gets to the 2,000+ acre ranch in Southern Missouri, he lives in Olathe, Kansas.

“Ma’s dad calls me the ‘city cowboy,’” says Trae, who earned a bachelor’s degree in safety management with a minor in fire science from the University of Central Missouri. “For over 60 years, my grandpa has been raising Tennessee Walking Horses and breeding roan hounds and labs.”

The characters in his books are pulled from his family tree. Trae’s cousin, Bo, is the cow boss of the family, and Leroy is his grandfather on his father’s side. Trae was inspired to write the series because he noticed history books didn’t pay homage to African-American cowboys. Now he is hosting book signings and tours to bring the “forgotten cowboy” history to young students and set the record straight on black cowboys. “For way too long, the ‘forgotten cowboy’ has not been heard, and the time is now.”

Krista Seemann and Josh Martin received Outstanding Achievement recognition in the Integrated Talent Management category for the Manager Mission Possible program, which helps managers build culture, capability and engagement through people development strategies. Each year, the association recognizes individual contributors, consultants, contractors, and organizations in the Kansas City area who have illustrated industry competencies.

Congratulations to Learning & Development team members Tyler Dixon, Krista Seemann and Josh Martin for their recognition March 6 at the Association for Talent Development Kansas City Chapter Excellence in Practice awards.

Tyler Dixon won the Performance Improvement category for implementing the Mission Ready Mock Factory, a training program that allows new employees to practice their skills in soldering or machining as operators and inspectors while waiting on a security clearance. More than 200 employees have completed the program, resulting in a 100 percent decrease in unproductive hours.
Once in a lifetime experience fuels student’s passion

One of the most thrilling experiences for a dozen high school students this spring wasn’t a Spring Break vacation, but a trip to the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. As children of Honeywell employees working at the Kansas City National Security Campus, the students were eligible to apply to the annual Honeywell Leadership Challenge Academy. The program, commonly called Space Camp, is an intense five-day program where students learn what it takes to be an astronaut.

The Kansas City-based group were among nearly 300 students selected from across the globe to attend the prestigious event. The students conducted Space Shuttle missions, space walks, flight simulations and team building activities designed to enhance their interest in science, technology, engineering and math.

“It’s once in a lifetime opportunity, and the friends and bonds you create will last a lifetime,” said Zach Inman, a junior at Olathe Northwest High School. For Zach, the son of technical manager Kelly Inman, this was a twice in a lifetime opportunity. This year, he was selected for the honor of attending Space Camp as an Ambassador. In that role, Zach was tasked with additional leadership responsibilities.

“Ambassadors aren’t assigned a team, we’re always moving around from team to team to be there for the participants and help everyone be involved,” said Zach. “For some students it’s their first time in the traveling along to a different country. I helped them feel welcome, engaged, reach their full potential and have fun and have a great experience.”

In addition to the international friendships made, Zach says Space Camp also helped him solidify a career path in a technical career. He’s been involved in four-year engineering program in high school, and has always dreamed of being involved in the aviation industry. The Space Camp uses interactive technology, science-oriented workshops and team exercises to teach children of Honeywell employees between the ages of 16-18 leadership skills in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). The program is designed to build students’ leadership skills and develop their capabilities through hands-on challenges.

Science Bowl shines spotlight on bright young minds

QUESTION: A lightning bolt is seen and its accompanying thunder is heard 15 seconds later. This means the storm is likely how many miles away?

ANSWER: More than 400 students calculated mathematical equations and other science questions like this one on their path to winning the 2019 Space Bowl competition. Held on March 2 at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, the competition drew students from across Missouri and Kansas. Congratulations to Pleasant Ridge Middle School, Ladue Horton Watkins High School and Oakde North High School for winning the championship and moving on to the Department of Energy National Science Bowl competition in Washington, DC in April.

A Mentor Story: Doug and Isaiah

Senior Integrated Supply Chain Supervisor and HOPE Scholarship mentor Doug Oliphant knows when his phone pings late at night, it’s likely his mentee needs him. Doug mentors Isaiah Williams, who is enrolled in Metropolitan Community College’s Engineering Technology Program.

“My mentor, Doug, has helped me with more than I could say,” said Isaiah. “He proved to me there are people who are still willing to help, even when the odds are stacked against you.”

Isaiah says Doug plays a key role in helping him stay focused on his goals. “Doug motivates me to do better and strive higher,” said Isaiah. “He’s a life coach along with being a school mentor, helping them manage their life that may be in chaos,” said Doug. Isaiah says Doug motivates him to do better and strive higher.

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