

This year's Jefferson Co. Home Show includes demonstrations; event will continue from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. today

BY EMILY ROTH
SENTINEL NEWS STAFF

MT. VERNON — Not even cold weather could keep attendees from the fourth annual Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce Home Show.

The Home Show ran from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and will continue from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. today at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport.

According to event organizers, the first day of the show was nothing short of success.

"It's been going really good," said Jamie Pruitt, marketing director of the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce. "We've had a lot of people come through and we have a lot of vendors that we're excited about. We have 55 vendors. When it's cold you're always kind of worried, but we have a shuttle this year that's bringing people to the front door, I rode in it, it's super warm. We've had a really good turnout."

Ryan Wellmaker of Mt. Vernon represented Anchor Garden & Rental Center.

"We've been in Mt. Vernon since 1932, we started as an ice and coal company," he said, explaining the company's history. "Then as time progressed, ice and coal was dying out and we had to start transitioning. So we transitioned to a garden and rental center. We're at the Herb and Garden Show

Please see **Show**, Page 6A

Show:

Continued From Page 1A

at the mall and we're also here too. They're focusing on the garden at the herb show, and here at the home show it's all about do-it-yourself."

Brian Dillier of Marion came from out of town to showcase JMO Mobile Modular Containers. The containers are factory-built structures and can be permanent

or relocatable.

"We've had people come in here for serious reasons and not just to look around," said Dillier. "We started this container business over 10 years ago ... just as a side company. Now we have over several hundred that are out there. We've gotten into making cabins out of them and mobile offices that people use for construction or for [a visiting relative] who needs a place to stay."

He indicated that another common use for the contain-

ers is as storm shelters.

New to the home show this year were demonstrations showcasing various activities including tae kwon do, laying wood flooring and robotics.

"A lot of people have been coming in," said Wellmaker. "I've seen people from Centralia here, people from Effingham and Vandalia. Things are really looking good. We have a good diversification. There are two hangars with around 55 booths. We were overflowing from this hangar into the next hangar."

eroth@morningsentinel.com
2-14-16



Sentinel Photo/EMILY ROTH

HOME SHOW TALK — Ryan Wellmaker, LEFT, speaks to George and Debbie Bryant on Saturday at the annual Home Show in Mt. Vernon. Wellmaker represented Anchor Garden & Rental Center.



Sentinel Photo/EMILY ROTH

MAN'S BEST FRIEND — Randy Olson brings his friend Josie to help him run the Jagger's Doggie Daycare booth during the fourth annual Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce Home Show. Olson's wife Connie owns the pet daycare.



Sentinel Photo/EMILY ROTH

CUSTOM OPTIONS — Brian Dillier of JMO Mobile Modular Containers converses with a customer on Saturday at the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce Home Show held in Mt. Vernon. Dillier spoke of different customizable options for a storage container such as a spare room or a storm shelter.



Sentinel Photo/EMILY ROTH

HOME SHOW ATTENDEES — Visitors pile in to Mt. Vernon Outland Airport Saturday for the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce Home Show. The event will continue from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. today.