

**Make it safe. Clean it up. Close it down.**

## Dedicated workers reduce storm's impact

For three days, March 18 through 20, all but essential personnel were told not to report to work. Blizzard-like conditions dumped anywhere from 2 to 6 feet of snow along the Front Range. The site was blanketed with nearly 48 inches of snow during the course of the storm – the largest snow storm in Rocky Flats' history.

Snow removal crews worked day and night to clear roads and parking lots during the storm. Others here during the storm included the Fire Department, fire dispatchers, security personnel and stationary operating engineers. ARAMARK employees also braved the storm, providing food to those charged with keeping Rocky Flats safe.

Steve Dieterle, RISS site operations manager, said, "Because of the efforts of Jim Kihlthau, Gash Electric; Ron Hayduk, K-H; and Mark Neeley, RFCSS; who worked throughout the storm, the site was able to maintain power to critical buildings and systems.

"The efforts put in by T-P Enterprises, Bartlett Services and the Fire Department during the Blizzard of 2003 were directly responsible for saving many of the buildings on site," Dieterle added.

"Not only did T-P's 15 personnel work around-the-clock from midnight Monday to 4 p.m. Friday clearing snow across the site, they



*The few pine trees at Rocky Flats serve as both shelter and food for the site's wildlife during the recent storm.*

returned on Saturday and worked for 10 more hours," said John Caves, T-P Enterprises. Bruce Deets of Bartlett Services added, "The Bartlett techs did a great job shoveling all steps and handicap ramps in a timely manner to allow all people back to work. And, when called on to shovel roofs, they gave up their Saturday and Sunday to help."

Chief Tim Parker said, "Firefighters were instrumental in reducing the snow load from

several structures. Our firefighters also assisted the Coal Creek Fire Department transporting a 5-year old dialysis patient from his home in Coal Creek Canyon to Children's Hospital."

Some Wackenhut SPOs were here for 36+ hours covering for those who couldn't dig out and come to work. The Guard Union office was set up as a sleeping area with cots and blankets.

*– Please see SEVERE STORM on Page 3*

## RISS, Construction take down B441

By Ed Bodey

The RISS Project and K-H Construction (KHC) demolished another of Rocky Flats' historic Central Avenue buildings, B441, on March 13. Like the peeling pink paint of its exterior, decommissioning prior to demolition peeled away a history not known by many Rocky Flats workers.

Since the mid-1960s, B441 housed offices. But according to RISS Area Manager Cameron Freiboth, the original mission of the 50-year-old building was as an analytical laboratory supporting B444. Used for casting and machining depleted uranium and beryllium, B444 was one of the four main production facilities along with buildings 771, 991 and 881.



*B441 was demolished March 13 by Kaiser-Hill Construction. A long-time administrative office building, it started out in 1953 as an analytical laboratory for B444.*

Nearly every decommissioning activity revealed a part of the building's past. "When the KHC asbestos abatement workers took up the floor tiles, we found sealed-off process waste drains from the former laboratory," said Freiboth. "An addition to the south side of the building was built right on top of the old process waste storage tank in the 1966-67 timeframe."

In the overhead, Freiboth said they found a myriad of abandoned natural gas, nitrogen and oxygen gas lines that once supplied the lab.

"We had to make sure they were empty. It was amazing to see that many gas lines."

Decommissioning revealed the footprint of a former locker room and showers. The hardened vaults in

the building were part of its original design. They continued to be used until just before decommissioning began last year.

"Because of its past, we took extra precautions," said Freiboth. Only minor, fixed contamination was found in one area.

### Upcoming Demolitions

By the end of the year, two other 1950s-vintage buildings along historic Central Avenue will be just that – history.

The B334 Maintenance Shop and B551 Warehouse – both built in 1953 during Rocky Flats' second wave of construction – will be demolished. The only structures standing on Central will be B122 Occupational Medicine, B121 Plant Protection, B331 – the Fire Station and Vehicle Maintenance Garage and B443, the out-of-service Steam Plant.

Building 865, a relative newcomer that was built in 1970 on the eastern end of Central, is also scheduled to be demolished by the end of the year.

Elsewhere on site, other notable buildings scheduled for demolition include B790, the Radiation Calibrations Laboratory west of B771, and possibly B991 – the first building to be completed on site in 1952 for final assembly of weapons components.

### What's in this issue?

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# Legacy waste pilot shows promise

By Lara Harrison

Rows of cargo containers filled with low-level waste packed in the early 1980s line the B664 courtyard. For 20 years or more, the area, officially designated as the 444C waste storage area, housed more than 190 cargo containers filled with debris waste like step-off pad trash, metal and protective clothing.

This waste is called legacy waste because it was generated in the pre-closure era. Legacy waste presents one of the largest challenges facing Material Stewardship. Some 10,000 containers face an uncertain fate. Do workers go through the costly, time-consuming process – not to mention the safety risk – of repackaging all of these containers so they meet today's waste disposal criteria? Or, is there another way to approach this issue?

Enter Pete Sauer, who worked at Rocky Flats in the late 1990s for RMRS, and then went to England to work for BNFL. In 2002, Alan Rodgers, project manager for Waste and Transportation for Material Stewardship, brought Sauer back to Rocky Flats to focus on alternatives to repackaging legacy waste.

Sauer is spearheading the 444C Retrieval/Legacy Waste Repackaging Project that will hand over the 664 courtyard to decommissioning activity by the end of December 2003. A legacy waste pilot program, if successful, will mean that the majority of the 10,000 containers will not have to be repackaged. Instead, they can be loaded as is into cargo containers and shipped to Envirocare, the disposal site for most of Rocky Flats' low-level mixed waste. While the site has historically shipped all low-level waste to the Nevada Test Site, the pilot program opens a new disposal conduit for low-level debris at Envirocare. Initial shipments began in March.

The 444C Retrieval Project Team developed a new certification methodology that avoids the repackaging process when the waste is processed for bulk disposal at Envirocare. Key is the fact that Envirocare Waste Acceptance Criteria does not place any distinction on when the waste was generated. Envirocare can accept any waste that meets physical, chemical and radiological properties identified in an approved disposal profile. Envirocare also performs statistical sampling on all waste shipped to its facility. Repackaging is, therefore, not an issue.

"We have all of the characterization records on this waste," explained Sauer. "Through collaboration between Waste Systems, Waste Certification and the Accelerated Waste Solutions Team, we've developed a streamlined process that assures compliance. While initial plans called for repackaging all legacy waste, we now have a means to screen waste for disposal at Envirocare prior to sentencing waste to repackaging. Obviously, that which doesn't successfully screen will need repackaging,



Legacy low-level waste is stored in 198 cargo containers lining the B664 courtyard. Material Stewardship is planning to have the courtyard empty by September of this year and turning the space over to RISS.

but initial projections indicate there is an appreciable inventory that can ship as is – definitely ALARA in practice."

If this pilot works, it demonstrates exactly the type of innovation required to close Rocky Flats by 2006. Repackaging these drums would take two years of two-shift operations, expose workers to unnecessary radiological and industrial hazards and cost twice the amount it would to ship the waste as is, or about \$1,700 per cubic meter for repackaging alone. But Rocky Flats isn't home free yet.

"We still face the significant challenge of using existing characterization data to prove we meet Envirocare's license requirements. We know 92 percent of the waste complies, but in some cases our assay records are not specific enough. We have to prove the new certification methodology works so we can continue shipping," said Sauer.

Through the use of existing site Radiological Safety Procedures and execution of a radiological characterization-sampling plan during repackaging operations, we'll gain information we need to fully open the Envirocare pipeline. By late summer, we should be able to ship to both

– Please see LEGACY WASTE on Page 4

## THIS & THAT

### 24-Hour Fitness offers employees on-site enrollment

By Stephanie Davis

John Chamberlin of 24-Hour Fitness will hold an on-site enrollment period for all employees Thursday, April 3, from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in B060. Stop by to ask questions or enroll in the membership program. New members will receive a free 24-Hour Fitness locker bag while supplies last.

All Rocky Flats employees are eligible for a discounted corporate membership to 24-Hour Fitness clubs. No contract or long-term commitment is required and employees can terminate their membership at any time without penalty. All enrollments must be processed through

Chamberlin, at 720-629-3327.

Corporate membership savings include:

- No enrollment fee (\$296 savings)
- Discounted one-time processing fee of \$29 (normally \$79)
- Discounted monthly dues of \$39 for access to all 24-Hour Fitness/Sport locations or \$31 for access to one of three 24-Hour Fitness

locations (Boulder, Littleton or DTC clubs only).

Corporate enrollment days are also available every Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Broomfield club located at the corner of 120th Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard. Contact Chamberlin at 720-629-3327 to make an appointment.

#### IT employees join CH2M HILL

By Bill Badger

As of March 1, 85 DynCorp, 10 Kaiser-Hill and seven other subcontractor employees began receiving their paychecks from CH2M HILL. While their employer may be new, their work remains the same. All 102 Information Technology employees are now in a unified IT organization focusing solely on closure services.

The restructuring of the IT group not only retains a skilled work force under a single provider, it provides a cost savings of nearly \$5 million in IT services through closure.

"We have become a more cohesive organization," said John Caterham, managing vice president for CH2M HILL Communication group. "Our staff now has the opportunity for continued employment beyond closure."

#### Congratulations Safe Sites for more than 1 million hours without a lost workday!

Safe Sites of Colorado LLC achieved a significant safety milestone over the past two years.

SSOC personnel completed more than 1 million hours of work without a lost workday accident. SSOC personnel support the B371/374, B707, B776/777, RISS, Material Stewardship and Safety, Engineering & Quality Programs projects.

Thanks to all SSOC employees for their constant vigilance and dedication to safety while providing valuable support to site closure.

#### Don't get caught short! With your help, Endvision will follow

With all the moves off and on site in the next few months, keeping the correct number of papers delivered to all the right places will be a bit of a challenge. You can help!

Please call x5416 or e-mail to the editor any changes that need to be made to keep the paper coming to you wherever you are.

Thanks for your cooperation.



# FDNY hero visits Rocky Flats

By Bob Darr

When the North Tower of the World Trade Center collapsed on Sept. 11, 2001, Fire Department of New York (FDNY) Battalion Commander Richard Picciotto was inside. He, along with a handful of rescue personnel and one civilian, was on a stairway between the sixth and seventh floors.



Chief Richard Picciotto, FDNY, author of *Last Man Down*, shares his account of the response to the World Trade Center attack with employees on April 1 and 2.

Chief Picciotto tells the harrowing story of an American hero, a man who thought nothing of himself and gave nearly everything during one of our nation's darkest hours. His story is said to shake and inspire audiences to the core.

He shares his account of that tragic day with Rocky Flats employees at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on April 1 and 2, in the B750 cafeteria.

K-H Industrial Safety Manager Mark Zachary said, "His story provides invaluable lessons in safety, teamwork and disaster-type situations."

Picciotto is a former New York City police officer and has served the FDNY for 28 years as a fire marshal, arson investigator, lieutenant and captain prior to becoming a chief in 1992. For the past nine years he has presided over Battalion 11, covering Manhattan's Upper West Side. He has received numerous departmental awards and commendations for bravery and meritorious service.

On the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, Picciotto answered the call heard around the world. In minutes he was at ground zero of the worst terrorist attack ever on American soil. He found himself inside the North Tower for the second

time in his career, where he had responded to the 1993 World Trade Center attack.

Leading rescue efforts in the dark and smoky stairwells, Picciotto and his crew heard and felt the South Tower collapse. He made the call to evacuate firefighters and rescue workers while he stayed behind with a skeleton team to assist a group of disabled and infirm civilians struggling to escape the inferno. Then the North Tower came down.

Picciotto, surviving members of his team and a 59-year-old grandmother were buried for more than four hours while they sent out Mayday calls on their radios. They finally contacted a firefighter on the ground and a search party was dispatched. When help arrived, Picciotto climbed nearly four stories to escape the rubble and organized the rescue of the others before walking to safety.

His book, *Last Man Down*, is a tribute to the 343 firefighters and nearly 3,000 civilians that lay dead in the rubble that surrounded him that day. Critics called it a heartfelt remembrance of a day of infamy and profound humanity. The book was an immediate *New York Times* best seller upon its release in May 2002.

## Being prepared for an emergency

By Pat Buffer

We live in a different world than we did before Sept. 11, 2001.

We are more conscious of our vulnerabilities, more appreciative of our freedoms and more aware that we have a personal responsibility for the safety of our families, our neighbors and our nation.

We now must live with the threat of terrorism, just as an earlier generation lived with the Cold War. More terrorist attacks could happen and we should be prepared. A terrorist attack could prevent access to home, food and money.

We all have a personal responsibility to be ready. Remember the preparations for Y2K? Remember the 1960s and the Cuban missile crisis, the building of bomb shelters and the duck-and-cover campaigns of the Cold War?

Federal homeland security officials are urging that all Americans prepare to ensure their own survival in the event of a natural disaster or terrorist attack.

### Citizen preparedness

On March 7, Michael Brown, acting undersecretary of Homeland Security for Emergency Preparedness and Response, stopped in Denver as part of a multi-state tour to help the new Homeland Security Department roll out a citizen preparedness campaign. The campaign promotes the federal Web site, [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov), and the toll-free number, 1-800BE-READY, that were established last month to help people prepare for possible terrorist attacks.

Brown, who is also director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, noted that Coloradans understand that when a snowstorm hits, particularly in the mountains, the power may be out for several days, so they tend to be prepared.

We also learned from the Sept. 11 World Trade Center attack that citizens must be prepared to take care of themselves during a crisis, leaving first responders free to do life-saving tasks.

### Home security strategy

The one essential ingredient of a home security strategy is a contact plan – know how to get in touch with relatives and family members, especially children, in case of an emergency. A plan should include a designated meeting site in the event your home is unavailable – a school or church, for instance. You should also have someone identified to care for your children in case you are unable to reach them. You should keep life, property, health and other insurance policies current, and know their terms and store copies of these and other important documents in a waterproof/fireproof container.

### Disaster kit

The Office of Homeland Security recommends that citizens develop a standard disaster kit.

- Three days' worth of non-perishable food items and water (one gallon per person per day), along with a manual can opener and disposable food service items;
- first aid kit, medicines and sanitation supplies;
- personal hygiene items, including toilet paper;
- shut-off wrench (to turn off household gas and water);
- plastic garbage bags and ties;
- map of your area to locate shelters and protection services;
- a battery-powered radio or TV and extra batteries;
- flashlights and extra batteries;
- scissors, duct tape and plastic sheeting.

### Plans for your pets

Make plans for the care of your pets. Most emergency shelters do not allow them. Find out before a disaster which hotels/motels allow pets and the location of pet boarding facilities. Find out if friends or family could get to your pets if you cannot. Be sure your pet has proper identification tags securely fastened to its collar. An emergency kit for your pet should include the items listed below, and you should provide the

kit to whomever assumes responsibility for your pet during a disaster.

- A secure pet carrier or leash;
- food and water;
- can opener, food dishes;
- medications and veterinary records;
- information sheet with pet's name and information such as behavior problems.

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## SEVERE STORM

– continued from Page 1

Some guards cooked meals for those who were required to remain at their posts. The guards and their command elements (lieutenants, captains) helped people dig out their vehicles and helped with other emergencies during the storm. Complicating matters, the site went to SECON-II Monday night, requiring more stringent safeguards and security measures, including staffing all gate entrances.

The K-H Payroll department braved the first day of the blizzard to ensure K-H, SSOC, WSLLC and RFCSS would receive their paychecks on schedule.

Friday, March 21, it was back to work for most. However, due to heavy roof-top snow, personnel in buildings 115, 116, 131 and the T130 trailer complex were directed to remain home until work crews could assess the safety of buildings. These buildings have been inspected by two independent structural engineers and, with the exception of T130C, have been deemed safe for occupancy. The east side roof of T130C partially collapsed under the weight of the snow. Occupants of T130C have been relocated to other site locations.

Not since the blizzard in 1979 has work been suspended for more than two consecutive days. Two other blizzards hit the site hard: one during the holiday shutdown in 1982 and the other in 1997, when high winds and 30 inches of snow left more than 100 people marooned over the weekend when relief shifts could not make it in.



# LEGACY WASTE

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Nevada and Envirocare at a rate sufficient to meet the closure deadline.

"At that point, the project boils down to a logistical management problem of being able to load trucks and ship waste out of here fast enough," said Sauer.

In anticipation of these final challenges, 664 Operations personnel are using Integrated Safety Management to devise more efficient ways to ship the waste, such as developing a new pallet to make loading easier and faster.

After a successful records review, the pilot program's first step included the shipment of 2,700 containers. By the end of June, 1,000 more containers will be shipped and by the end of December another 5,000 should be completed. K-H Construction completed construction of a new repackaging facility in Tent 5 on the 750 Pad. The 750 Pad Waste Operations group is

poised to complete the formal readiness demonstration and start repackaging/sampling operations in April.

Sauer is hopeful that all but about 8 percent of the 10,000 containers will not require repackaging prior to shipment for disposal. The 8 percent represents waste that is non-compliant to any disposal site and cannot be corrected by bulk overpacking. These contain nonconforming items such as liquids, circuit boards, unvented aerosol canisters and leaded gloves of unknown rubber thickness. Also included in the projected repackaging inventory are those containers where available characterization information does not support direct shipment and a physical examination and content verification by 750 Pad hazard reduction technicians is necessary prior to shipment for disposal.

## en~~vi~~sion

is published every other Wednesday for the benefit of all Rocky Flats employees. We invite your letters to the editor, story suggestions and comments. The deadline for approved stories is 10 a.m. on the Monday following AWS-Friday.

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**Rocky Flats Photography Department**

**Rocky Flats Trucking Department**

# declassifieds

## AUTOMOBILES/ MOTORCYCLES

1987 Toyota Camry, high mileage, needs new headlight and tires, \$500 or best offer. Chuck, 303-420-2076.

1988 S10 Blazer, 2-door, 4x4, V-6, looks and runs great, extremely clean inside and out, low miles, new emissions, \$2,250. Bob 303-746-0483.

1989 Honda Accord, 2-door, 4 cylinder, 5-speed, great gas mileage, very nice car, great stereo w/8 disc changer, new emissions. \$1,650. Bob, 303-772-2821.

1993 Ford Explorer 4X4, good condition, runs great, \$3,400 or best offer, Brock, 303-212-0592.

1994 Toyota 4X4 Xtra Cab pickup, manual V6, AC, cruise, CD, new tires, very clean. Geoff, 720-540-5949.

1997 Harley Davidson Ultra Classic, 60,000 miles, AM/FM cassette, CB, cruise control, new top-end, extended warranty, \$12,000. Tex, 720-540-0653.

1999 F250 Super Duty Extended Cab, long bed, Triton V8, all leather, power everything, sprayed-on bed liner, 102,000 highway miles, all maintenance current. Paulette, 303-489-0792.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Two front row center, mezzanine tick-

ets, Colorado Ballet's "Bodies of Work," Saturday, April 26, 7:30 p.m. Mary, 303-439-7232.

Gated dog enclosure, 10 ft. x 6 ft. x 4 ft. high, aluminum posts, hurricane fencing, free-standing, like new, \$100 or best offer. Dick, 303-466-2443.

Turkey frier set, still in box, fry thermometer, 160,000 btu, 2-gal. pan w/strainer basket, originally \$80, asking \$40. Linda, 303-451-8973.

Ski boots, Salomon SX-92 Equipe, men's 13, \$25; Spyder ski wear stretch ski pants, men's lg., \$25. Rob, 303-279-6960.

Binoculars, Nikon Mountaineer II, 10x25, like new, \$150. Gary, 303-745-4581.

Gary Fisher mountain bike, smaller frame, new last year, just tuned, \$200. Roger, 720-898-5231.

Men's mountain bike, 26-inch alloy wheels, 18 speeds, center-pull brakes, green steel frame, \$35; girl's beginner bicycle, 12-inch white tires, training wheels, pink frame, cute, \$12; child carrier seat with seat belt, fits most bicycles, toddler sits behind you, \$15. Leigh, 303-403-1066.

Piano, Kohler & Campbell-New York, ivory keys, red mahogany, red mahogany bench, \$650. Stacey, 303-423-0595.

Hotpoint dryer, runs perfectly, quiet, \$60. Dennis 303-458-1567.

For sale by owner: Beautiful 1992 tri-level home, north-side of Standley Lake, Westminster, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, new paint in and out, new carpet, 2-car garage, RV parking, wired workshop and backs to open space, \$269,900, must see. Kathy, 303-469-7455.

Seal-Tite diamond plate aluminum cross-bead tool box, near new, fits newer Ford truck, \$300. David, 303-651-1384.

R/C airplanes: Cadet Senior with Saito 91, Bipe with Saito 65 and radio, Bipe with Saito 91, Balsa USA 1/3-scale Stearman (no engine), make offer. Bruce, 303-467-9184.

Mantis tiller/cultivator, fold-down handlebars, lightweight, paid over \$300, \$150 or best offer; variety (walnut, cherry, oak, maple) of hardwoods, many different sizes, great for hobbyists, cheap. Pat, 303-548-1802.

Console TV, 25-in., cable ready; Sears upright vacuum cleaner; Italian leather sofa set; side table; Scandinavian bedroom set; dishes; cabinets; dresser; ladies purses and jewelry; wool carpet; stereo system; lawn mower; snow blower; grass trimmer; too many things to list and price, no reasonable offer refused, proceeds will be donated to American Cancer Society. Narendra, 303-751-4255.

Two-bedroom, one bath condo available April 1, must be age 55-plus, 88th & Pecos, sorry no pets, \$725. Pat, 303-422-3216.

Tanning bed, has facial, 24 bulbs with low hours on new bulbs, \$1,700. Mark, 303-255-3697.

## TRAILERS/CAMPERS/BOATS

Coleman pop-up camper, 89 Laramie LTD, 13 ft. opens to 21 ft., queen and double beds, heater, excellent condition, \$2,500 or best offer. Gary, 303-425-4782.

2000 SeaDoo GFX RI, 3-seater Jet Ski and 1997 Daytona 1000 Jet Ski, extremely low hours, used less than 10 times, excellent condition; two-place Shorelander trailer, \$8,500. Karen, 303-466-8978.

## VANPOOL/CARPOOLS

Vanpool openings, Longmont to site with stops in Boulder, low fares, experienced drivers, ride in comfort, arrive refreshed. Rick, 303-772-3015.

## WANTED

Bowflex with attachments. Tim, 303-972-0799, leave message.

Doggie door for large dog, sliding glass door panel. Lisa, 303-430-9020.

## Declassifieds

- Only Rocky Flats Site employees are eligible to place ads.
- Please use the form at right to submit your ad. Or send your ad via e-mail to Jackie Powers, or via the Intranet (Home Page/News & Info/Communications Division/Declassifieds).
- Ads should be no more than 20 words.
- Check category in which the ad is to be included.
- Home phone numbers must be used in the ads, except for items in the Lost/Found and Vanpools/Carpoools categories.
- Site extension must be included (in case information needs to be verified).
- Only one ad per issue (ads will not be re-run unless they are resubmitted).
- Ads for garage sales or personal businesses will not be run.
- Ads for real estate can be placed only by owners and will include the phrase "for sale by owner."
- No ads for guns/other weapons will be accepted.
- Mail or bring ads to T117A, Cube 59.
- Declassifieds are accepted on a first-come basis.
- Deadline is six working days before the desired publication date.
- Employees who submit fictitious ads will be subject to disciplinary action based on company standards of conduct.

### Category (check one)

• Animals

• Automobiles/Motorcycles

• Lost/Found

• Miscellaneous

• Trailers/Campers/Boats

• Vanpools/Carpoools

• Wanted

Text:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name (first and last): \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Site extension: \_\_\_\_\_