

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

DOE-HQ helps fund Workforce Transition

By John Corsi

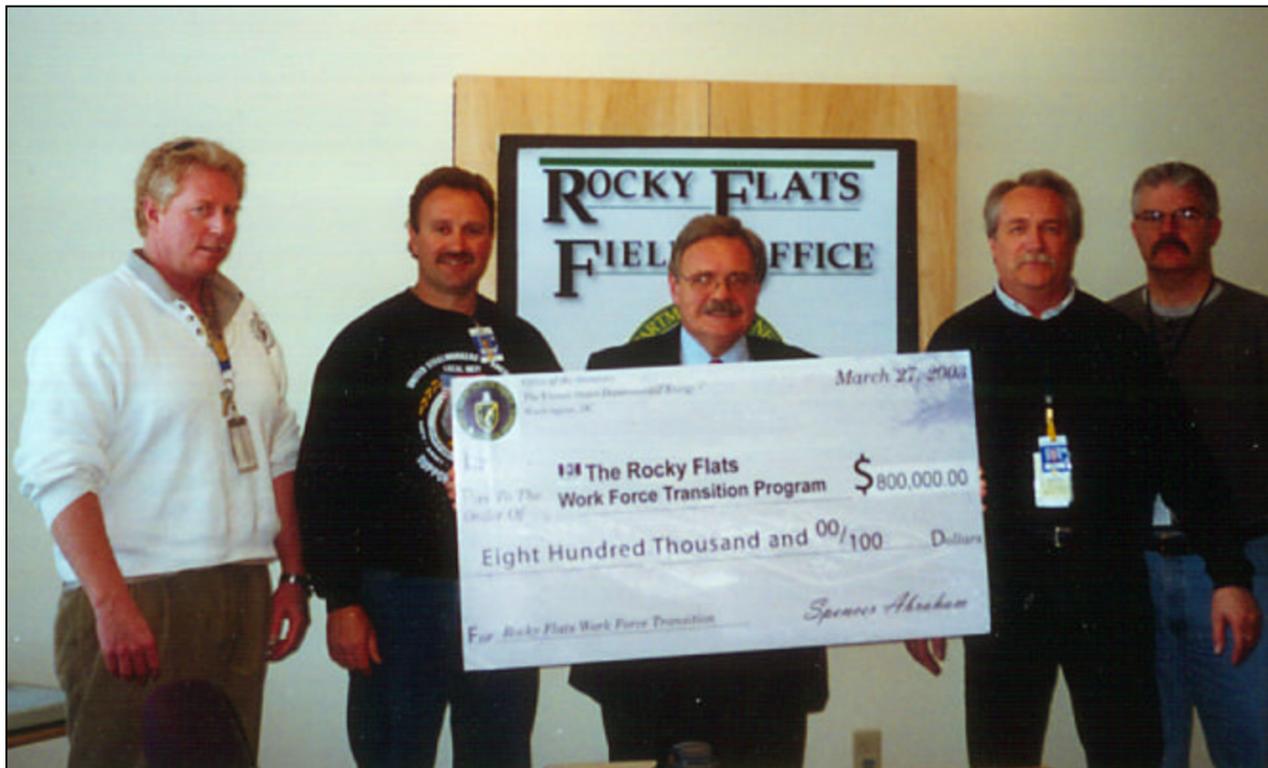
Michael Owen, director of DOE Headquarters Worker and Community Transition, visited the Rocky Flats Mountain View Facility March 28, to meet with site management, local unions and stakeholders on issues associated with site closure and the new DOE Office of Legacy Management and Workforce Transition. During the visit, he committed \$800,000 to fund the new Kaiser-Hill Workforce Transition Program and the enhanced Career Transition Center (CTC).

"My office is responsible for softening the impact of downsizing at sites such as Rocky Flats," Owen said. "These funds are intended to help each worker prepare for their next job or career."

"The money will directly pay for many of the resources and services being offered through the enhanced CTC such as career counseling, resume development, the entrepreneurial resource program and educational training programs. It will also help fund Spherion, the professional outplacement firm managing the CTC," said Owen.

He is the Secretary of Energy's designee to lead the new Office of Legacy Management. The Office will be responsible for the long-term care of former nuclear weapons production sites, such as Rocky Flats, following the completion of the cleanup and closure mission. Once Rocky Flats is closed, the Office will be responsible for site surveillance, maintenance functions and worker benefits.

"I am glad to see DOE



Site representatives from left: Bruce Carr, Steelworkers, Tony DeMaiori president United Steelworkers Local 8031, Dan Chesshir president Rocky Flats Security Officers Independent Union Local 1 and John Whitney vice president Rocky Flats Security Officers Independent Union Local 1 receive a check from Michael Owen DOE-HQ (center) to fund the K-H Workforce Transition Program and the CTC.

Headquarters, RFFO and Kaiser-Hill jointly acknowledge the tremendous service the Rocky Flats workforce is doing for the community, Colorado and the country," said United Steelworkers of America Local 8031 president Tony DeMaiori. "We served on the front line of the Cold War and are now proudly and safely cleaning up Rocky Flats. Our workforce will be a great asset to many local businesses and we need to help each worker successfully transition to their next stage in life."

"Our guardforce is likely the first group impacted by site clo-

sure. I appreciate any assistance these funds will provide our guards as our mission at Rocky Flats is diminished once the Special Nuclear Materials are safely removed from the site," said Dan Chesshir, president of the Rocky Flats Security Officers Independent Union Local 1. "We have provided a valuable duty to the Rocky Flats Closure Project."

To date, more than 1,000 Rocky Flats employees have taken advantage of the Workforce Transition Orientation that provides a broad overview of the services and resources available through the CTC.

All eligible employees, including Kaiser-Hill Company, Safe Sites of Colorado, Wackenhut Services, Rocky Flats Closure Site Services and lower-tier subcontractor employees are encouraged to take advantage of the orientation. However, these services are not available to fixed-price subcontractors and Building and Construction Trades employees. Periodic updates on the Workforce Transition Program will be offered in future publications of *Endvision*. Please call the CTC at x8400, with any questions.



Site digs out from blizzard

Rocky Flats received nearly 48 inches of snow during the blizzard of 2003. For the first time in the history of the site, work for all but essential personnel was suspended for three days. Thanks to the hard work of those who braved the storm, most employees were able to return to work on Friday. **For more information on the site's response to the storm, see page 3.**

What's in this issue?

Minding Your Business	Page 2
Employees help in storm	Page 3
B707 tackles INEEL crates	Page 3
NIOSH meeting	Page 4
Support for troops	Page 4
Declassifieds	Page 4

Minding **YOUR** Business

Rocky Flats is creating many new jobs in the community – small businesses owned and operated by our own employees. The Rocky Flats entrepreneurial resource program is helping many launch and fulfill their dreams – 400 employees have gone through the program since 1995.

Sometimes getting a business venture off the ground means holding multiple jobs until your idea takes off. Sometimes starting a business takes more of a commitment, like quitting your current job and committing all your resources toward your venture such as time, hard earned savings and even getting your family and friends involved.

This column will recognize Rocky Flats employees going the extra mile to achieve their dreams. If you have started a business or know of someone we should spotlight, please contact the *Endvision* staff and we will highlight them in upcoming editions of “Minding YOUR Business.”

The future's cookin' for Matjazic



Peggy Matjazic proudly displays her cookbook that has led to a new line of foods.

By Bill Badger

By day, she is an RCT in Building 771 by night, a writer. Her recipe for success rose out of a wedding gift she made for her daughter and son-in-law.

Peggy Matjazic has worked at Rocky Flats for 20 years and in Building 771 for the last 11. Much of her spare time, however, was spent writing a cookbook for her daughter Michelle Kelly.

Matjazic began compiling her daughter's gift by writing to friends and family on the wedding list asking for their favorite recipes. She asked them to include a bit of family history, a humorous story or marital advice.

Somewhere along the line, compiling the cookbook took on a life of its own for Matjazic who collected a total of 287 recipes.

For Matjazic, the cookbook is more than just a compilation of recipes; it is a gift of life and hope. Her daughter, Michelle, has lupus. Twenty-five percent of the proceeds from the sale of the “*Family*

and Friends Cookbook” will go to the Lupus Foundation of Colorado to fund research. The Foundation's mission is to improve the quality of life for people affected by lupus and to promote efforts for the diagnosis, treatment, prevention and cure of lupus.

“My favorites are the old family recipes,” relishes Matjazic.

“One in particular is for Date Nut Bars which my grandmother made for her cousin overseas in World War II.” The cookbook includes simple, everyday recipes for

— Please see **COOKIN'** on Page 4

Wave of the Future

By Jeanna Blatt

Do you dare to make your dreams come true?

Rocky Flats' changing skyline is a constant reminder for employees to start looking at new work opportunities as each of our missions come to an end. Dwight Houser, a project manager for B776/777 is making his dreams reality.

Houser's family and close friends have spent the last eight years working on Ocean Motion International (OMI), a family-owned company with big humanitarian ideals.

Family members developed a unique pump that uses the power of ocean waves to pro-

duce high volumes of pressurized seawater. Their patented, combined-energy system creates drinking water (around 20 million gallons a day) by reverse osmosis, power generation (approximately 50 megawatts) via hydro-turbines, and hydrogen through the electrolysis process – all without the use of fossil fuels.

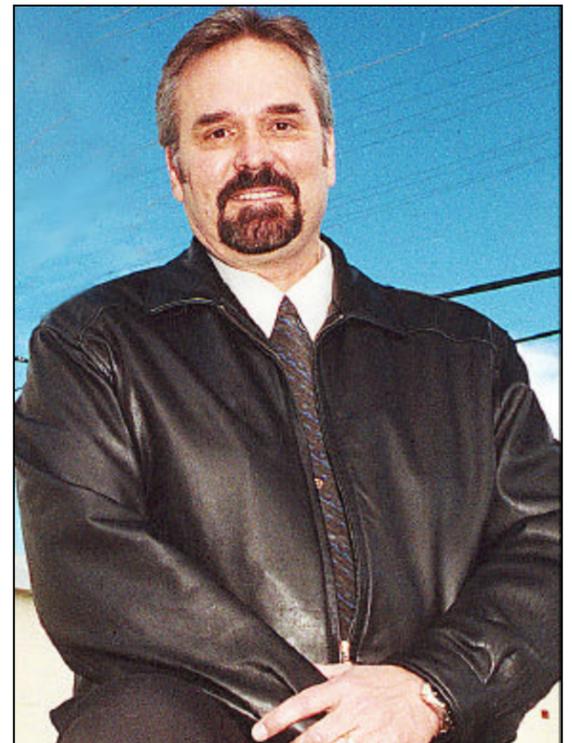
During the early years of development, OMI won first place honors in U.C. Berkeley's Civil Engineering and Naval Architectural Design competition.

Although, OMI has received international interest in the design, Houser believes

California may be the first state to benefit from their process. California, which is suffering from a severe drought, has six desalination plants that are currently inactive.

“The California Coastal Commission is currently developing environmental impact statements for 13 sites,” said Houser. Once completed, OMI will assist in the building of a pilot plant on one or more of these sites. More recently, OMI provided a 1/20-scaled prototype to the University of Oregon's, Hinsdale Laboratory for

— Please see **WAVE** on Page 4



Dwight Houser project manager for B776/777, plans on using his innovative ideas to produce clean drinking water and hydrogen after he leaves Rocky Flats.

Alice continues to train responders

By Jackie Powers

Beginning April 4, employees Ron and Alice Brace's new company Respirator Tru-Fit Services will be staffed full time. Alice is retiring, so she

can manage their new business. Ron will remain at the site for a little while longer.

Before coming to Rocky Flats, they operated their own business, Adco Fire Protection

Services for 13 years. Then one day a company in California offered to buy Adco at a price that was too good to turn down. So, they sold it. Not long after selling, they had an opportunity to go to work in the Fire Department.

The Brace's both started in Fire Prevention on the same day 10 years ago. Three years later, Ron transferred to Fire Dispatch and at about the same time Alice transferred to Fire Training. Ron worked the platoon shift. Alice worked five days a week.

Having different schedules for so many years was tough. However, both have



Alice Brace retired from the Fire Department on April 2 to manage her new business – Respirator Tru-Fit.

— Please see **BRACE** on Page 4

endvision

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.

Vol. 9, No. 7, April 9, 2003

Editor: Jackie Powers, 303-966-5416
Mail stop T117A, Cube 59
jackie.powers@rfets.gov

Contributing to this issue:

Bill Badger
Jeanna Blatt
Pat Buffer

John Corsi
Jennifer Thompson

**Rocky Flats Photography Department
Rocky Flats Trucking Department**



Employees get site moving after storm

By Bill Badger

The March 26 issue of *Endvision* reported that the blizzard of 2003 was the largest in Rocky Flats history. Cleaning up after the snowfall and getting operations back on track took the efforts of everyone who braved the storm.

Snowplow crews were stretched to the limit by the amount of the snowfall. In the end, they were able to clear site roads, parking lots and sidewalks faster than the Jefferson County crews cleared Highway 93 and Indiana Boulevard.

“Regardless of their normal work assignments, if they showed up to work during the storm, we put a snow shovel in their hands,” said Steve Dieterle, RISS site operations manager. RISS Deputy Project Manager Frank Gibbs concurred, “A number of managers were even seen on the roofs of several buildings personally leading the shoveling.” It was reported that Kaiser-Hill Vice President and Project Manager Denny Ferrera was sighted wielding a shovel on top of buildings 131 and 115 with a cigar firmly clamped between his teeth.

A RISS recognition

breakfast was held on April 1 for the T-P Enterprises, Bartlett, Gash, Rocky Flats Closure Site Services (RFCSS), ARAMARK and Kaiser-Hill employees who battled Mother Nature’s fury during the blizzard.

“With the amount of snow, the potential for injury was real, but the workers did an outstanding job and they did it safely,” said RFCSS General Manager Jim Williams. “We had people come out on Monday night and not leave until Saturday. They slept on the floor and ate cold sandwiches just to get the site open again.”

Kaiser-Hill Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Nancy Tuor acknowledged the efforts of the employees at the recognition breakfast. “We appreciate the sacrifice you made to get the plant back to work,” she said. Many of the employees who were here during the storm were away from their families for several days. Tuor expressed her thanks and extended her gratitude to all employees who worked during the blizzard.



From left: Keith Hon, Robert Millward, Ernest Shackelford and Bill Brokaw with the garage kept the snow plows and equipment running during the storm.



From left: Bryon Guthrie, Mitch Giddens, Randy Sullivan, Bert Ferguson, Mike Kendall and Joe Kust with the Fire Department not only shoveled snow off many of the roofs but were creative in using a bucket truck to reach snow in high places.

B707 repack crew tackles INEEL crates

By Jennifer Thompson

On March 11, the repack crew in B707 closed the book on 12 sludge drums. The crew safely removed the drums from their metal crates, replaced their archaic lids with new vented lids, and placed the drums in 85-gallon drum overpacks for transfer to Material Stewardship.

The work was completed safely and ahead of schedule thanks to the outstanding efforts of the work crew and supervisor Mike Digiallonardo and support from Brian Murray of IH&S, Bronn Strange for hoisting and rigging, and Radiological Operations.

“The repack crew really came together on this one; they attacked a tough job and in spite of a delayed start, finished the work ahead of schedule for the team,” said 707/776/777 Waste Manager Mike Plankinton.

Known as the “INEEL sludge crates,” these two crates containing 12 drums posed quite the challenge.

Packaged at Rocky Flats in the 1970s, buried at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEEL), exhumed in the mid-80s and sent back to Rocky Flats to B776 for gas generation testing in 1986, the infamous INEEL sludge drums have a long and mottled history.

In the 17 years the crates sat in B776, they were crit infracted, posted for hydrogen and fire concern and cordoned off – a legacy waste package too troublesome to handle.

But thanks to a cooperative effort between the B707/776/777 waste repack team and the Material Stewardship organization, these waste drums are on the path to disposal. The overpacked drums were transferred to Material Stewardship on March 13. Core sampling will be conducted on at least two of the drums and then Material Stewardship will safely disposition all 12 drums and send them to their final resting place in the salt caverns at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

But the story has only just begun for the B707/776/777 waste repackaging team. They have more than 150 legacy waste items – including more than 20 gloveboxes – to handle over the next nine to 12 months – all with their own stories and challenges. The repackaging work will be performed in a newly constructed 16 x 25-foot soft-sided containment in Module A. The tent is designed to be used with chemical decontamination, sand blasting, and supplied breathing air – to handle anything the repackaging team may encounter.



Above - Jon Cassel installs new vented lid on a sludge drum in the large repack soft-sided Containment in B707 Module A.



Left - inside view – INEEL sludge drum is checked for organics, hydrogen and radiation.



Cookin' – entertaining, snacking, gifts or for building family traditions.

With the help of her husband, Rudy, and the Morris Cookbook Press in Kearny Neb., the “*Family and Friends Cookbook*” was published in early November. The book includes a stand and retails for \$22.50 at Coomer’s Craft Mall in Littleton and Arvada and will soon be available at the Coomer’s in Aurora.

It can also be purchased from the Lupus Foundation for \$20 plus tax, or directly

from Matjazic.

Now that entrepreneurship is in her blood, Matjazic is also working with a local food packaging company to package her dips, soups and dessert mixes, including: Chive & Garlic Dip; Bacon, Tomato & Horseradish Dip; Hot & Spicy Mexican Dip; Spinach & Onion Dip; Potato Soup; Corn Chowder Soup; Southwest Bean Soup; Grandma Kelly’s Apple Cake; and Mom’s Magic Brownies. Matjazic says the dips and soups are as good as homemade, but more convenient.

Wave – function testing in their wave

tanks. The prototype pump performed incredibly well against the motion tanks two- to 40-foot waves. Houser is looking forward to testing a 1/10 scaled pump in the next six months.

Timing is everything. In January President Bush announced a \$1.2 billion dollar fuel initiative to reduce America’s growing dependence on foreign oil. Part of the initiative will provide incentives for developing commercially viable hydrogen-powered fuel cells. Hydrogen fuel cells would allow Americans to run their cars, trucks, homes and businesses without the negative environmental impacts resulting from fossil fuels. Hydrogen from OMI could go a long way in supporting the president’s goals.

OMI recently received an expression of program interest from the Department of Energy and will apply for funding through this program. Depending on funding, Houser hopes to build a pilot plant in the next 18 to 24 months.

Employees invited to attend Worker Study Meeting

The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and researchers will be at Rocky Flats to release study results of an Epidemiologic Evaluation of Cancer and Occupational Exposures at Rocky Flats funded by NIOSH.

Employees are invited to attend the 4:30 p.m. meeting Thursday, April 17 at the Building 060 Visitor Center. The study, performed by Jim Rutenber, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, examined cancer morbidity and mortality, and any association with radiation or chemical exposures among workers employed at Rocky Flats. If you have questions, call x4546.

Brace – benefited from their experience with the Fire Department.

“Working for a large company has been good for us,” said Alice. “I’ve learned skills that will make running Respirator Tru-Fit easier. We participated in the Entrepreneurial Resource Program provided by the site.”

Alice and Ron plan to continue working in the safety arena. Their new company, Respirator Tru-Fit, provides quantitative respirator fit testing and training services for variety of businesses, including fire and police depart-

ments, state and local governments, hospitals and public utilities and safety departments.

According to Alice, National Jewish Hospital and a number of respirator sales companies provide fit testing. However, their services are usually offered during the day. In most cases, this means that firefighters and police officers have to take off from work to get the training they require.

The Brace’s retrofitted a motor home so they can take their business on the road. They plan to offer day and evening fittings working around 24-7 schedules of most responders.

Support our troops

The Kaiser-Hill Communications Department would like to recognize employees or their immediate family members, who are presently or will be in the future, serving active duty in the armed services during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Please contact Pat Buffer at x7794, or email patricia.buffer@rfets.gov to recognize these individuals in a future issue of *Endvision*.



declassifieds

ANIMALS

Female Australian shepherd/Dalmatian-mix dog, free to the right home, 5-year-old spayed loyal and gentle dog that needs a loving female owner, housebroken with current shots. Rhonda, 303-233-4099.

Four fish plus 10-gallon fish tank and all accessories (heater, pump, thermostat, etc.), \$10. Ed, 303-730-8642.

Free 55-gallon aquarium, no leaks, no cracks, top brace is broken, great for small animals/reptiles, includes cover and lights. Gaye, 303-939-9675.

AUTOMOBILES/MOTORCYCLES

1984 Honda CB 700SC Nighthawk S motorcycle, 6-speed, shaft drive, luggage rack with back rest, needs minor work, \$1,000. Clell, 303-422-4756.

1995 Explorer XLT 4x4, V6, automatic, forest green, 98,000 miles, loaded, 6-CD changer, cassette, JBL premium sound, power seats/windows/doorlock with keyless entry, sliding sunroof, alloy wheels, in great shape, \$6,500 or best offer. Brian, 303-733-0823 or 303-818-3934.

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 Dodge Ram Sport quad cab 4x4, 50,000 miles, 100,000-mile warranty included, \$19,000. Vince, 303-776-7791.

MISCELLANEOUS

Captain’s bedroom set, king-size, light bridge with mirrors, dresser with tri-mirror, lots of drawers, good shape. Gregg, 303-422-9394.

Gart’s Olympic 300-lb. weight set, in new condition, with 7-ft. bar, \$130. Jeff, 303-816-9373

Compaq IJ300, color inkjet photo printer, brand new – still in box. \$150.00 new, \$100 or best offer. Glenn, 303-920-4789.

TRAILERS/CAMPERS/BOATS

1999 Rockwood pop-up, 3 beds, slide-out, shower in and out, 3-way refrigerator, heater, water heater, toilet, two-burner gas stove in and out, \$6,500. Brian, 303-420-4107.

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/Communication 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/Carpools 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/Carpools
- Wanted

Text:

Name (first and last): _____

Home phone: _____ Site extension: _____