

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

## Officials praise workers for removal of SNM

By Bill Badger

Ambassador Linton Brooks, administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration, represented the Secretary of Energy in announcing the removal of the last remaining weapons-usable plutonium and uranium metals and oxides from Rocky Flats. Also on hand for the announcement were Senator Wayne Allard and Congressmen Mark Udall and Bob Beauprez. The announcement was made at an outdoor event in front of the former PACs 2 on Aug. 19.

The congressional delegates at the SNM removal event commended the Rocky Flats work force for their steadfast dedication in making this historic accomplishment possible. "I personally want to congratulate workers at Rocky Flats for a job well done," said U.S. Senator Allard. "You are truly American heroes and veterans of the Cold War. Without you, we wouldn't be here today."

"I want to note two sets of workers I have known since I grew up in this area," said Congressman Beauprez. "First there are the families I grew up with in the Cold War era who won that battle for us. Now, we have another group of legitimate heroes, the people who are cleaning up the site. They are accomplishing what many thought was impossible, and they are doing it ahead of schedule and under budget. We should not let this achievement, their achievement, go without appropriate recognition."

"This achievement is a reminder of the hard work of the people who were employed at this facility," said Congressman Udall, "and the people who are today working hard to clean it up, make it safe, close it down and convert it for wildlife."

The historic occasion marks the end of the Rocky Flats plant as one of the preeminent nuclear weapons fabrication facilities for the United States as well as a significant risk reduction for the people of the Greater Denver Metro Area. The site is now ahead of schedule and under budget to be cleaned up and closed down by Dec. 15, 2006.

"This accomplishment is probably the most important milestone of the Rocky Flats Closure Project to date," said Department of Energy



Cameron Freiboth, RISS Project manager, tells Ambassador Brooks that it is now safe to give the order to begin demolition of PACs 2.

Rocky Flats Field Office Manager Gene Schmitt. "The men and women of Rocky Flats have devoted their lives to ensuring Rocky Flats is safe and protected. This accomplishment also saves close to \$2 million in security costs each month that can be applied directly to accomplishing more cleanup work."

"With the plutonium removed from Rocky Flats, we will focus our resources on the final demolition of the site," said Kaiser-Hill President and CEO Alan Parker. "This accomplishment will enable easier access to the former production buildings allowing faster and safer cleanup." While this milestone represents a significant accomplishment, Parker stressed that the cleanup is not over. "A great deal of difficult and complex work remains. We must still safely demolish more than 500 structures, including four former plutonium processing facilities, ship nearly 200,000 m<sup>3</sup> of transuranic, low-level radioactive and hazardous waste off site, and remediate several environmental contaminated sites."

Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham couldn't attend the event but sent his congratulations. "Rocky Flats helped the United States win the Cold War and it is no longer in the

nuclear weapons business," he said. "Rocky Flats is on a path to close under budget. The hard work of all those involved in the Rocky Flats cleanup has helped beat target dates for key milestones, and maintained the commitment to the American people of this country to shut-down and cleanup this facility. This removal of the weapons-usable material is a historic event, demonstrating what can be accomplished when DOE and its host communities work together."

### What they're saying...

#### *The Denver Post*

"DOE, contractor Kaiser-Hill and their thousands of employees have done a remarkable job cleaning up Rocky Flats, solving difficult technical problems that seemed insurmountable only a few years ago. The project is on time and within its \$7 billion budget."

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#### *The Rocky Mountain News*

"Congratulations are in order to the contractor, Kaiser-Hill and to the National Nuclear Security Administration, which helped facilitate the removal of the material to other states."

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#### *The Boulder Daily Camera*

"A once-unreachable goal is now a reality, and Rocky Flats has taken another step on the road from bomb factory to wildlife refuge. We salute everyone who helped to make it possible."

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From left, Congressmen Beauprez and Udall, Senator Allard and RFFO Manager Gene Schmitt watch as first bite is taken out of the former 371/374 Protected Area entry.

# B371 fire investigation continues



Years of accumulated debris, shown here after firefighters extinguished the fire in Glovebox 8, ignited as D&D workers cut a ventilation hole in the top of the glovebox.

By Bob Darr

The investigation into the May 6, 2003 glovebox fire in B371 continues. Review teams from the Department of Energy, Kaiser-Hill and the Rocky Flats Fire Department identified several key factors leading to the fire and recommendations to avoid similar occurrences in the future.

## What happened

Glovebox 8, a 4-ft. x 6-ft. x 20-ft. lift-platform-glovebox in the B371 basement, was originally used to move material from a dissolution system to an incinerator system on the floor above. The glovebox has been out of operation for approximately 16 years and the two gloveboxes, 9 and 10, flanking Glovebox 8 were decontaminated and removed within the past year.

A soft-sided containment tent surrounded Glovebox 8. The crew worked in supplied air. They were working off a scaffold that surrounded the box to cut a hole at the top to improve the airflow prior to removing the box.

The fire started as two D&D workers began cutting the ventilation hole with a nibbler. The workers had planned to cut another hole at the bottom of the glovebox in order to

remove a guillotine door and any debris from the bottom of the glovebox during size-reduction operations.

The D&D workers saw smoke in the box and responded by pouring a small amount of water based fixative onto it from the hole in the top of the box. Shortly after, they saw flames in the box and descended the scaffold to fight the fire. At about the same time, several individuals in various locations of the building notified the CCA that they smelled a burning odor, most likely because an air mover ventilating the box exhausted near the room ventilation exhaust damper.

The job supervisor reported the fire to the CCA, who called the Fire Department while the two D&D workers, supported by the Building Emergency Support Team (BEST), attempted to extinguish the fire with portable fire extinguishers. After using approximately eight to 10 chemical fire extinguishers in an unsuccessful attempt to put out the fire, the workers exited the area as the Fire Department arrived.

The Fire Department used several additional chemical and foam extinguishers without success, then obtained permission from the incident commander, with criticality safety concurrence, to use water to extinguish the fire.

## Ignition source investigated

Preliminary investigations have determined that ignition of combustible debris on the lift platform and floor of the glovebox was the most likely cause of the fire. The bottom of the box and the lift platform were littered with a large quantity of combustible debris, much of which had been there since the box was erected. Debris included a large quantity of cotton rags, a tarp, plastic bottles, HEPA filters, old yellow plastic bags, glovebox gloves, hand tools, power tools and large chains wrapped with oily, and greasy rags.

Identification of the ignition source is difficult and may be impossible. However, investigators identified several possibilities, including heated chips from a nibbler, sparks from the metal plates falling onto pyrophoric plutonium

or calcium and chemical reactions.

Dr. Craig Beyler of Hughes Associates, Inc. is leading a team that is further investigating the ignition source of the fire and is expected to report preliminary conclusions this fall. Beyler is a nationally recognized fire protection engineer and investigator who previously helped investigate the fires at the Twin Towers following the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

## Lessons Learned

Although the ignition source is still uncertain, it is clear that the fire could have been avoided had the glovebox not contained an unacceptable accumulation of combustibles according to Howard Gilpin, B371 ESH&Q manager.

"We could have done a better job of planning for this glovebox," Gilpin said. "Glovebox 8 was unique and presented unusual D&D challenges."

Among the planning improvements Gilpin identified was doing a better job of checking out the inside of the glovebox before work begins.

The preliminary findings also address the D&D workers' response to the fire. Although their attempt to extinguish the fire helped contain the flames to the glovebox and prevent the fire from spreading, the workers put themselves at risk.

"Any fire should be immediately reported to the Fire Department by using a fire phone, manual pull station or by calling 2911," Gilpin said. "Then notify supervision and the building CCA. Workers who are trained in using fire extinguishers may attempt to extinguish small fires if they don't feel that they are in danger."

But if the initial attempt isn't immediately successful after using one or two extinguishers, stop and safely evacuate the area. The Fire Protection Program recently mailed fire extinguisher brochures to all site personnel reinforcing the requirement to use only one or two extinguishers.

Questions concerning the fire can be directed to Howard Gilpin, x3701, or Bruce Campbell, x7642.

## Projects receive safety incentives

By Jeanna Blatt

"We are doing a really good job – both projects have gone more than a year without a lost workday," said Ron Blea industrial hygiene & safety manager for 707/776/777 projects. "We would like to continue at this pace through the completion of the project." Four foremen received recognition through the new sitewide safety incentive program sponsored by SE&QP and managed under Mark Zachary site safety director.

Awards were given for their safe attitude, communication, awareness and performance. Blea reminded the foremen that they set the tone for safety in the field, that no injury is acceptable and the goal is zero injuries. He emphasized the importance of Stop Work Authority when work cannot be performed safely. All the crew members working for the foremen also received spe-



Ron Blea, IH&S manager for B707 and B776/777 projects hands out safety incentive awards to recipients at the monthly safety IH&S supervisor safety meeting, (counter clockwise) Jim Ehlers, Patrick Sierra, Tim Knight and Anthony Digallonardo.

cial recognition and a safety incentive awards. Awards included a mini-color TV, Carabiner Compass Watch, Laser Level Construction

Kit and MAGLITE flashlight. Kudos for the 707/776/777 Projects for making safety a way of life and a habit to live by.

## emvision

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# Martinez receives HENAAC award

The Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Corporation (HENAAC) and TECHNICA Magazine announced that Kaiser-Hill Vice President and CFO Len Martinez will be honored with the prestigious HENAAC award in the category of Executive Excellence. He is the first non-engineer/scientist to be selected for this award.

Martinez, along with winners in other categories will receive the award on Oct. 17, 2003 in Austin, Texas. President Bush is scheduled to be the keynote speaker. The Secretary of Energy and other government dignitaries are expected to attend.

Martinez knows first-hand that hard work and perseverance can lead to success. He was born in Oakland, Calif. in 1946 – the son of a migrant farm worker. His father, the 12th of 13 children was a first generation Hispanic American and was the first in his family to graduate from high school. Len graduated from high school at the early age of 16 and took a few courses at City College before enlisting in the military.

Upon returning from active duty, he enrolled in the Academy of Stenographic Arts

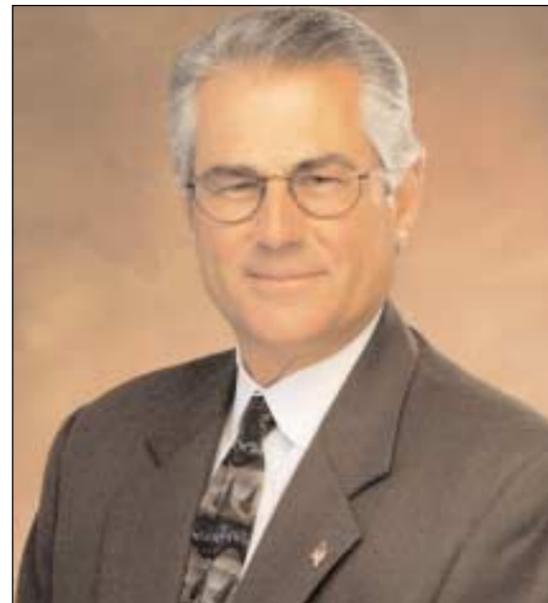
in San Francisco, hoping to become a court reporter. However, at 19 years old, he was too young to be licensed by the State of California. Instead, he took a job with Southern Pacific Company and then later with Kaiser Engineers.

Well into a career in the engineering industry, at 25, Martinez went back to college. Attending the University of San Francisco at night and working during the day to support his family he graduated with a degree in human relations and organizational behavior.

Martinez has been active in various organizations including the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Minority Business Economic Development Council and the Latin American Education Foundation.

Most recently in the Denver area, Martinez serves on the Denver Northwest Metro Chamber of Commerce and as a board member of the American Red Cross Mile High Chapter.

HENAAC was established in 1989 to honor the contributions of outstanding Hispanic American science, engineering and technology professionals. Corporations, government agen-



Vice President and Director of Administration and CFO Len Martinez will receive the prestigious HENAAC award.

cies, academic institutions, the military and the business community have submitted thousands of nominees over the last 15 years for this very prestigious recognition.

Other winners include scientists and engineers from Motorola, NASA Ames Research Center, Northrup Grumman Space Technology, Raytheon Missile Systems, IBM, the Dow Chemical Company and the U.S. Navy and Air Force.

## K-H Golf Tournament scores big for charity

By Bill Badger

The fifth annual Kaiser-Hill golf tournament raised more than \$47,000 for the American Red Cross on Aug. 1. This brings total contributions for local charities raised by all the Kaiser-Hill golf tournaments to more than \$123,800.

"This tournament grows more successful each year because of the personal commitment from all the volunteers, players and sponsors," said Len Martinez, Kaiser-Hill vice president and director of Administration, CFO and tournament coordinator. "The time and money donated for the tournament is invaluable in supporting the many relief services the American Red Cross offers."

Christine Benero, CEO of the American Red Cross Mile High Chapter, was on hand to accept the donation.

"We are so moved by the outpouring of support for the Red Cross evident in the thousands of dollars raised by the Kaiser-Hill Golf Tournament. It's efforts like this that help us continue to provide critical services to the thousands of people in our communities whose lives are disrupted when disaster strikes," said Benero. "Thank you Kaiser-Hill for helping us to always be there when we are needed."

Corporate sponsors for the tournament, which was held at Indian Peaks Golf Course in Lafayette, included: Kaiser-Hill Company; The Alpha Group and Associates; Aureus Consulting; Bartlett Services Inc.; Cast Transportation; CH2M Hill; Cisco; E2 Consulting Engineers; ECC and Resource Technologies Group; Envirocare of Utah, Inc.; Gash Electric; MACTEC; MDM and Demco; Nextel; Onyx Special Services; Petersen Inc.; Rocky Flats Closure Site Services; Rothgerber; Johnson and Lyons; Source One; Safe Sites of Colorado; UniTech; URS; Wackenhut; and Washington Group.

## Carter makes successful transition



By Jackie Powers

When faced with her pending layoff, Judy Carter, administrative assistant for the K-H Construction group jumped into action. She admits that dealing with the reality of leaving Rocky Flats and being without work was difficult. However, she didn't let much time pass before she started looking for work.

Carter's search took commitment and perseverance. In addition to her full-time job at Rocky Flats, she spent between 10 and 15 hours per week pursuing future employment including researching local companies, making cold calls to potential employers and checking between 30 to 40 Websites a day for new openings.

During the first few weeks of her search, she used the services available at [www.KHcareer.com](http://www.KHcareer.com) to update her resume. Once the basic resume was developed online, she worked with a counselor at the Career Transition Center to tailor her resume to specific jobs.

"I chose to work with the same counselor throughout my job search. Tom O'Connor, a CTC counselor with Spherion and I clicked. His advice and insights were invaluable," said Carter. "Once my resume was complete, the real work started. I researched companies I thought I might be interested in working for.

Then I went to their Website and posted my resume."

During her four-month search, Carter's hard work netted about 10 interviews with local companies. She used the interviews to not only sell herself, but also to decide if she wanted to work for the company.

"I turned the interview process around," said Carter. "Everyone always asks, where do you see yourself in five years? I asked the interviewer the same question and was surprised at how many didn't have any idea where they wanted to be in five years. For me, this was a sign that the company may not have opportunities for upward mobility or that the person may not like the company."

Carter coordinated several Rocky Flats blood drives during her tenure at Rocky Flats. She loved the work and the people at Bonfils Blood Center, so she posted her resume on their Website. She checked back regularly to see if they had job openings. Then, in early August, Bonfils matched her resume with one of their job openings. She got a call and then an interview. The position wasn't a good fit. But, they were obviously interested in Carter. They called her back a week later with another opportunity. Judy interviewed for the position and, before she knew it, received an offer. She begins her new position with Bonfils on Sept. 2. Way to go Judy.

If you know of other transition stories, please contact the *Endvision* staff.

## Internal Dosimetry staying in B122

The Aug. 19 *Endvision* incorrectly reported that Internal Dosimetry would be moving to T130C in early September. Only Medical will be moving to T130C in September. Internal Dosimetry and the lung counter will remain in B122 until at least December 2003. Until that time, people needing lung counts or Internal Dosimetry support should go to B122.

# Dieter takes over reins in 707/776/777

By Jennifer Thompson

After three years of D&D successes in 707 and 776/777 buildings, the Rocky Flats Closure Project is bidding farewell to 707/776/777 Project Manager Mark Ferri and Deputy Project Manager Steve Dahlgren. Ferri and Dahlgren are Savannah River-bound and will be leading the nuclear decommissioning of the F Area closure under a new contract recently awarded to CH2M Hill, a Kaiser-Hill parent company.

"I am going to greatly miss the people in the 707/776/777 projects," Ferri said. "The accomplishments of this project have truly been amazing and we owe it all to the workers. They have tremendous talent and hearts of gold, and I have loved working with them."

"So, it's like this," Dahlgren said. "Our workers have kicked butt and because of their hard work, Rocky Flats has become famous instead of infamous. I am going to miss the challenges and the people of this project."

Tom Dieter will be the new Project Manager for 707/776/777 with Maurice "Hoss"

Brown as his deputy. Dieter and Brown currently run the 771 Closure Project which is nearing completion; building demolition is slated for early March 2004. Michael Swartz will manage the MACTEC contract for the final completion of B771.

"Moving from 771 to 707/776/777 is very exciting for the 771 team because of the great success and excellent performance by the Steelworkers and the management team in the 700 buildings," Dieter said. "We look forward to working with Mark Ferri's team and the challenges ahead to complete the project."

In addition to Ferri and Dahlgren, approximately 20 other 707/776/777 personnel will be transferring their D&D skills to work at the Savannah River Site.

"As Rocky Flats projects near completion, we will be looking for more and more opportunities for our work force through contracts at other Department of Energy sites," explained Vice President and Director of Administration and CFO Len Martinez. "The Rocky Flats work

force has earned itself an excellent reputation in the nuclear decommissioning industry which makes our people and their abilities very marketable at other sites."

## CTC now open Wednesdays' til 8

We are happy to announce, that the Career Transition Center in Building 060 will now be open every Wednesday for one-on-one consultant appointments and other CTC services from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Appointments and drop-ins are welcome.

You may schedule your appointment(s) through the KHeCareer.com scheduling system or by calling x8400. Full consulting services will be available in the following areas for all eligible employees: ERP and new business start-up, retraining needs, tuition reimbursement, career transition and retirement.

# declassifieds

## AUTOMOBILES/ MOTORCYCLES

1991 Ford Escort LX, 2-door, 5-speed, original owner, runs great, good condition, needs some cleaning and TLC, \$500 firm. Diana, 303-684-9670.

1993 Jeep Cherokee Country 4wd, 4-door, PW, PL, new CD, alloy wheels, towing, 98,000 miles, \$4,200 miles. Terry, 303-940-7656.

1993 Toyota Celica GT, convertible, 115,000 miles, \$5,700 or best offer; 1999 GMC Yukon, 54,000 miles, leather and loaded, \$18,100 or best offer, leaving the country — motivated to sell. Doug, 303-403-0402.

1994 Ford Ranger Splash, 5-speed, V-6, new Michelin tires, new clutch, new CD player, dual exhaust, K&N filter, American Racing Rims, raisable hard-top, 108,000 miles. \$5,000. Justin, 303-427-8164.

1994 Honda CR125 Dirt Bike, lots of extras (Talon hub, Woody's wheel, FMF pipe). Call for additional modifications and spare parts, \$1,500 or best offer. Jim, 303-534-8452.

1997 Isuzu Rodeo, 4X4, 4-door, one owner, looks good, runs great, AC, PS, PW, keyless entry, alloy wheels, new tires, \$5,800 or best offer. Steve, 720-652-0952.

1998 VW Fox, 2-door, 4 speed, many new parts, runs strong, "cold" A/C, Michelin tires. Gary, 303-543-7735, leave message.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Rear extended rack for Polaris Sportsman 500, new, still in the box, \$125. Joe, 303-949-8192.

Fifth-wheel hitch with mounting hardware, like new, \$250; rearview mirror extensions and bug guard for up to 2000 Dodge Ram, \$50; electric clothes dryer, \$50. Billy, 720-371-4556.

Zenith TV 36" with stand; AMANA SS washer & dryer; Sears treadmill; lawn mower; snow blower; queen-size Scandinavian bedroom set; 4 folding chairs; 5 lawn chairs; small gas grill with cylinder; steel cabinet; steel shelf; office table (steel); plus many more items, too many to list, no reasonable offer refused. Narendra, 303-751-4255.

For rent, 3bdr., 2bth., remodeled duplex, vaulted ceilings, loft, deck, fireplace, W/D available, \$965. 3bdrm., 2bth., on quiet cul-de-sac, \$895, both 40 min.. from Rocky Flats, Tom, 720-810-1277.

Men's Raleigh road bicycle, red lightweight aluminum tube frame, 27-in. Araya rims, 12-speed Shimano Deore shifter, Dia Compe brakes, greenbelt-ready, \$65, shelf rack, bolts to rear bicycle frame, great for schoolbooks, \$14. Leigh, 303-403-1066.

Las Vegas time-share, available Dec. 26, 2003 – Jan. 1, 2004. \$350/wk. Dale, 303-650-5839.

Hitachi big screen projection TV, black and oak entertainment center \$1,500. 2 oak end tables and coffee table \$150. Compaq computer system, 1 year old, very nice \$300. Kip, 303-431-2101.

Oak bedroom set, queen-size bed, 2 night stands, 7 drawer low dresser, very good condition, \$200. Gislinde, 303-316-7348.

## TRAILERS/CAMPERS/ BOATS

New 2-horse trailer, black, tandem wheel and 4-wheel brakes, \$3,995. Robert, 303-427-4826.

## WANTED

Live-out Spanish speaking nanny to care for 3 children – Commerce City area. Lisa, 303-430-9020.

Roommate wanted to share house, 15 min.. from East Gate, 2 private rooms included, \$500 + 1/2 utilities. Mark, 720-272-2009.

Share nearly new executive home w/one, close to McCaslin Blvd., and South Boulder Road, private sunny garden-level, carpeted with full bath, private entrance and patio, private dining room and living room on main floor, own garage bay w/remote, share big bright kitchen and laundry, available 8/20, no smoking/no pets, looking for responsible, quiet roommate, lease till 8/04. \$700/mo., utilities included. Sally, 720-890-4954.

Roommate wanted to share mobile home in Thornton, small furnished bdrm., walk-in closet, private bath, non-smokers only, no pets, but I have a cat month-to-month, \$400 includes utilities. Jean, 303-426-7542.

## 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/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 T130B, Cube 80.
- 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: \_\_\_\_\_