Chili cook-off: no BS

Eighteen teams of happy chefs set up outdoor kitchens on Oct. 28 to showcase their chili-making talents—all to benefit the Y-12 United Way Campaign.

Even though it was a cool day, the chili warmed the tummy, and the feeling of helping lessfortunate community members warmed the soul. The event raised $2,271.25 for United Way.

Congratulations to the winning team from Business Services: "Cookin' with BS." The team, Scott Baker, Sandy Brown, Laura Deike, Penne Howard and Mary Lou Underwood, not only received the first-place award by the judges, but they also won the prestigious "People's Choice" award.

When the jury convened, the second-place winner was "Legally Hot," the Y-12 Legal Department team headed by defendant Rick Anderson. The third-place team was the "Front Office Chili" team led by Nancy Johnson.

Larry Garner of Oliver's Restaurant and Catering provided coffee and served as a judge. Other judges were Richard Esposito, publisher of The Oak Ridger; Representative Jim Hackworth and Myron Iwanski, chairman of the Anderson County Commission.

Thanks to all who organized, participated and tasted the chili for United Way. Souvenir aprons are available for $10. For more information, contact Susan Beckham (xsb; 574-4589).
The new Y-12 National Security Complex 2006 Strategic Plan has been completed and mailed to each BWXT Y-12 employee.

“We want every employee to understand the vision for the Y-12 National Security Complex and their role in achieving this vision,” explained Tom Smith, manager of Strategic Planning. “We have established core values that will be the guiding principles for our actions and strategic objectives that will lead to the realization of our vision.”

Each strategic objective has a management champion that will lead its implementation (see below).

Watch for future articles from the champions of these strategic objectives on YSource and in the BWXTymes.

--- Plan Objectives ---

| Ensure the safety, health and protection of workers, the public and the environment. (Michelle Reichert; Environment, Safety and Health) |
| Ensure the protection of the Y-12 National Security Complex. (Butch Clements; Safeguards and Security) |
| Acquire and sustain a highly educated, skilled, experienced and collaborative work force. (Debbie Shecterle; Human Resources) |
| Meet our customers’ cost, schedule and quality expectations for products and services. (Bill Reis; Defense Programs Management) |
| Create an efficient, effective and less risk-averse enterprise through simplified business and management processes. (Scott Baker; Business Services) |
| Broaden the role of the Y-12 National Security Complex in providing solutions to national security challenges. (Randy Spickard; National Security and Development Programs) |
| Transform the site, facilities and infrastructure to become a smaller, responsive, cost-effective enterprise. (Tom Smith; Strategic Planning) |
| Achieve national and international recognition as the Uranium Center of Excellence. (John Gertsen; Engineering) |

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Sherry sworn in to office

Y-12 Site Office Manager Ted Sherry (left) was sworn in Oct. 17 by Tom D’Agostino (far right), deputy administrator for Defense Programs in the National Nuclear Security Administration. Sherry became the YSO manager earlier this year after Bill Brumley retired. Sherry’s wife (not pictured) and children joined him at the ceremony held at the Y-12 National Security Complex.

10 ways to put cheer in your holiday

- Tell your family members how special they are to you.
- Use a holiday mug at work.
- Do something nice (and unexpected) for someone.
- Smile while you shop.
- Use festive-looking candles.
- Attend a holiday parade in your community.
- Volunteer to deliver meals to shut-ins.
- Ask for help when you need it.
- Hang mistletoe.
- Take time to relax with family and friends.
BWXT Y-12 receives environmental recognition

BWXT Y-12 was the recipient of Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry award and certificates for outstanding environmental accomplishments at the annual Tennessee Chamber Environmental Conference.

BWXT Y-12 received certificates for air quality, hazardous waste management, [and] solid waste management and the Environmental Excellence Award for a company with more than 250 employees.

“BWXT Y-12 has truly demonstrated, by these projects and other projects in past years, their environmental awareness and stewardship and was selected a number of ‘Achievement Certificates’ and for the Environmental Excellence award,” said Wayne Scharber, vice-president for Environmental Affairs for the Tennessee Chamber.

—Condensed from The Oak Ridger, Nov. 2

More than 35 walkers represented Y-12 at the recent American Diabetes Association walk through Market Square in Knoxville.

Human Resources’ Armenda Blake chaired the Y-12 team and thanked her team members for their hard work. “We had a great team this year and went beyond our $5,000 goal!” exclaimed Blake. “So far, Y-12 has raised $6,477. That’s almost three times what we raised last year!”

Several people walked in memory or honor of a loved one or friend with diabetes. ADA supports basic and clinical diabetes research aimed at preventing, treating and curing diabetes for the 20.8 million children and adults in the United States who have diabetes.

Y-12 team exceeds ADA goal

Because of recent, tragic shootings in three United States schools, our nation is keenly focused on school safety, the topic of a special Presidential Summit held in October. Y-12’s Butch Clements and Ricky Strohschein were invited to attend that summit, representing Safeguards and Security and the Vulnerability Assessment Resource Center.

In 2005, VARC developed the Vulnerability Assessment in U.S. Schools workshop. That workshop has been presented to Florida law enforcement, and in November a pilot program was offered for Tennessee law enforcement officers, school resource officers and school administrators. This effort supporting Tennessee schools has been made possible through the VARC and Law Enforcement Innovation Center partnership and was the key to Y-12’s involvement in the President’s summit.

Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and Education Secretary Margaret Spellings gathered 150 leading experts and stakeholders in the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Md., to discuss how federal, state and local governments can work together with schools, communities and families to ensure that our schools are safe places for students to learn.

Clements and Strohschein heard President Bush say, “… this is a nationwide effort to help people who are responsible protect our children … In many ways, I’m sorry we’re having this meeting. In other ways, I know how important it is that we’re having this meeting … it’s best to be proactive, and that’s what this meeting is.”

The conference offered four panel sessions: Preventing Violence in Schools, Prepared Schools and Communities are Safer, Helping Schools Heal and Recover and Working Together to Make our Schools Safe.
Accountable Classified Electronic Media Team

Subcontract Management Oversight Team
Kem Branum, Samuel Easterling, Barbara Hood, Thomas A. Morris, Ronald Wantland

DT-23 SARP Team
Jim Anderson, Paul Bales, Sanford Bloom, Noel Cramer, John DeClue, Rick Dixon, Dale Dyslin, Monty Goins, Chuck Heathery, Steve McClanahan, Kathie McKeenan, Nancy Smith, Thomas Tallant

Y-12 Personal Annunciation Device Team
Peter Angelo, Richard Bell, Tom Berg, Lee Bzorgi, Kevin Carroll, Doug Craig, Mike Cruse, Paul DeMint, Beth Eckerman, Michael Ellis, Kevin Finney, Carolyn Fogelman, David Harvey, James Henry, Earl Knoch, Don LaMaster, Raymond Lawson, Gary Mason, George McPeters, Steven Mead, John Miller IV, Tommy Rhea, Jim Youkin

Y-12 Manufacturing Dismantlement Team

Production Design and Estimating Project Team
Eric Angros, Ron Barnett, David Bunton, Tom Cady, Edward Churnetski, Amy DeMint, Susan Derrington, Nicholas Eastman, Lionel Farr, Tom Fisher, Neville Howell, Tom Insalaco, George Jones, Steve Lambson, John Leckey, Brad Martel, Steve McTeer, Glenn Northcutt, Lawrence O’Rouke, Sam Robinson, Bill Rogerson, James Rollins, Kevin Sanford, Atif Shaikh, John Stephens, Phil Stone, David Thomason, Mike Thress, Mike Waldrop, Al Woods

Non-Destructive Laser Gas Sampling Relocation Facility Project Team
Bob Bonner, Kathy Bracic, Bruce Epperson, Pam Gorman, Gene Hess, Dennis Moorman, Ken Nicklas, Dean Shipley, John Stuck

Weld Development Team
Harold Beaty, Robert Bridges, David Brummitt, Stacy Grant, Jim Hackworth, Carl Hoth, Matt Johnson, George Lamance, Bud Leete, Gary Lewis, Matt Marsicek, Valerie Newman, Ken Nicklas, Sam Robinson, Ron Roddy, Edward Stocksbury, Tom Thrasher, Mike Waldrop, Rick Watts

Development of New Tack Cloth
Ron Simandl

Security Upgrades Project Team

2005 NNSA Awards of Excellence recipients
TRU Contaminated Enriched Uranium Processing Team
Scott Ammons, Brian Andrews, Perry Anthony, Greg Bledsoe, Brenda Brewster,
Cynthia Gunn, Mae Harris, Travis Hawn, Cheryl Henderson, David Keebler,
Ken Lucterhand, Joey Marlow, Kathy Martin, Sherman Meadows,
Tom Metheney, Johnnie Moore, Bob Peak, Wayne Porter, Doug Ritter,
Tim Tallent, Jim Thompson, Bill Tindal, Tom Tinker; Wayne Turner,
Bryan Vandergriff, Tulley Widner

Forecast Model Team
Terri Hall, Bud Leete

Remotely Operated Weapon System Team
Junior Davis, Bud Hockett, Andy Huff, Bill Leinart, Sonja Lomax, Steve Lynn,
Ronald Sentell, Bob Sharp, Johnny Sharp, Dean Sheridan, Doug Smathers,
Brigham Thomas, Mike Williams

Y-12 Program Controls Team
Martha Barker, Sandra Booker; Fran Bowers, Larry Canter; Jannis Cline,
Sam Cook Jr., Keith Crane, Del Dreke, Ken Evans, Donna Ficek,
Armando Garza, Beverly Gibson, Joy Grubb, Cindy Helle, Tammi Hodges,
Edie Hummel, Kerri Hunskarkerstannard, Cathy Jennings, Brian Martin,
Larry Metcalf, Rebecca Montreuil, Debbie Morris, Kathy Perry, Robyn Rose,
Errol Scogin, Candy Slagle, James Snead, Daniel Stitt, Mark Turner; Jim Wagoner,
Cherrie Wiles, Richard Young

Low Equity Disposition Team
Scott Abston, Glen Culver, Matt Frost, Eric Helms, Ed Kelly, Rodney Patton,
Gary Person, Brennan Thompson

Modernization of Atomic Spectrometry Team
Tom Adams, Vicki Belt, Gerald Devault, George Larson, Ann Likens, Darrin Mann,
Greg Schaff

Emergency Management Information System Upgrade Implementation Team
Faye Ashe, John Bolling, Janet Bradshaw, Tony Charles, Michael Faulcon, Robert Gee,
Tim Hickerson, Teresa Lawlor, Steve Trotter

Prototype Caster Team
James Antrican, Samuel Babb, Pamela Gorman, Traci Inman, Samuel Lariviere,
Alan Moore, Brian Neal, Edward Ripley, Quinton Smiddy, Keith Weatherly

Component Life Modeling Team
John Kirkpatrick, John Leckey

Plant Maintenance Special Cleanup Crew Team
Johnny Anderson, Ed Bishop, Charlie Boruff, William Copeland, Johnny Diden,
Chuck Flood, Brian Goins, Jonathan Goodman, Lynn Goodwin, Joe Griffin,
Speed Hensley, Maurice Hundley, Ed Laugherty, Doug Lawson, Jerry Moore,
Vernon Nelson, Ronnie Phillips, Steve Poling, David Raby, Keith Rader, Wade Ray,
Doug Sexton, Larry Thomas, Dennis Watson, Larry Wattenbarger, Curtis White,
Rick Wright

Installation of New Film Processors Team
Joe Blotzer, Carl Cardwell, Mitch Gunn, Gary Hackworth, Craig Hamilton, Bill Hodge Jr.,
Mark Hopkins, Cliff Sluss, Ben Witt

Equipment Test and Inspection Label Maker Implementation Team
Becky Basler, Richard Fleenor, John Harris, Pam Johnson, Mike Krug, Carl Schermerhorn

Successful year for dismantlement program

The Dismantlement and Disposition Program exceeded its entire FY 2006 baseline and challenge targets for dismantling retired weapons. Faced with a difficult task to drastically increase the rate and number of dismantlements to meet the National Nuclear Security Administration commitments under international treaty obligations, the program called upon the skills and dedication of people from Manufacturing; Engineering; Planning, Integration and Control, and many other groups to achieve a nearly tenfold dismantlement increase.

In the process, this effort supported the Y-12 modernization efforts to implement the NNSA’s Complex 2030 vision, all of which was cause for a celebration.

In early October, the team celebrated its FY 2006 achievements with a luncheon.

The program manager said, “Meeting these goals allowed Y-12 to free much needed storage space and send waste off-site. The Dismantlement and Disposition Program’s success also provided materials that will be used elsewhere within Y-12.”

Once criticized for maintaining a modest, sometimes stop-and-go pace, the FY 2006 dismantlement effort demonstrated that Y-12 can sustain a high rate of work, operating safely and securely to meet its mission needs.

President and General Manager George Dials told team members that continuing to meet or exceed customer expectations will help secure Y-12’s future.
Ride the thunder

Y-12 employees come from a variety of backgrounds that are beneficial to their current jobs and help meet the Y-12 mission. Don Abell, a photographer in Public Affairs and Communications, had a job that many dream of—he was a U.S. Air Force Thunderbird.

“I lived the Thunderbird saying, ‘We rode the thunder.’ I flew in Jet 7. Its position in formation was behind and under Jet 4,” Abell said.

Abell was in the “Photo Chase Jet” and photographed formations during flight. “The back seat of the jet was my office.”

From 1980 through 1983, Abell joined his fellow Ambassadors in Blue (their official team name is The USAF Aerial Demonstration Squadron, Ambassadors in Blue—”The Thunderbirds”) on flights as an aerial photographer. He photographed all flights and activities for publicity purposes.

Abell says it’s an honor to be a Thunderbird. “Only about 2 percent of Air Force members ever make it to the Thunderbirds. They must be nominated and hand-picked to be a team member.”

Being a Thunderbird—named such because of the strong Native American culture and folklore found at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona, the group’s home base—helped Abell in his job as a Y-12 photographer by making him more aware of details. He said, “No job is too small or too big, but above all, teamwork is important in all you do.”

Dedication is also something Abell and his team members had to have to be successful because they were on the road 230 days per year flying in air shows. While family time was scarce, family did play a role. “Wives are known as ‘Thunder Brides.’ Team members are close-knit and consider each other ‘Brother Birds’ and ‘Sister Birds,’” explained Abell.

Don’t ask Abell if he can take you up in a jet. The answer is a quick no. “I’m retired from the Air Force, and I can’t even fly in a jet anymore!”

Reminder: holiday time

Employees on the 4/10 schedule need to make up two hours either in the January business month (exempt employees) or in the payroll week beginning Dec. 25 (nonexempt employees). Either payroll may use vacation for the two hours.

Do you agree?

Environmental survey results from the Environmental Management booth at Safety Expo 2006 have been tallied. The survey was completed by 247 employees. Contact Wayne McMahon (eih; 574-1711) if you have questions about the results.

- Nearly all respondents (99.2 percent) know Y-12 employees, subcontractors and visitors have responsibilities for protecting the environment.
- Seventy-three percent of respondents know we can make the greatest positive impact on the environment by recycling and pollution prevention.
- More than 50 percent think Waste Operations best exemplifies a commitment to environmental stewardship.
- Seventy-four percent of respondents knew P2C2 is the acronym for “Protecting the environment, Preventing pollution, Complying with requirements and Continual improvement.”
- More than half of the respondents (68 percent) maximize recycling to help Y-12 achieve environmental objectives for continual improvement.
- The majority of respondents (84 percent) recycle to help improve or protect the environment at Y-12.
- Less than 50 percent of employees surveyed could identify their division’s Environmental Officer.
Mum is still the word at Y-12

The sole purpose for Y-12’s existence in 1943 was to obtain a sufficient quantity of enriched uranium to make an atomic bomb. The material was so valuable and this project so secret that no one could even speak the word “uranium.” General Leslie Groves, leader for the Manhattan Project, had declared that any use of the term “uranium” was classified.

Groves was adamant that no one say or even write the word for fear that information would leak out about the United States’ work on an atomic device using uranium. While no one spoke or wrote the word, the atomic number for uranium was used; the numbering system used to identify Y-12 buildings started with the number “92,” which is the atomic number for uranium.

Groves did not like that at all, but what he did about it we still do today—absolutely nothing. To make an issue of the numbering system could have brought attention to the classified information and potentially sabotaged the project.

So, even today we practice the same strategy at Y-12. Mum is still the word when it comes to sharing much of what we do with others. Classified information is protected, but Y-12’s history is full of stories that if known by all can help both employees and our community better understand the significance of Y-12 to our local community, our nation and even the world.

Do you have a story to tell? Contact Ray Smith with suggestions for future stories of Y-12’s unique history and heritage (srd; 576-7781).

Deck the halls

Make plans to attend this year’s holiday celebration hosted by the Y-12 Employees’ Society. The off-site celebration will be held Dec. 14 at the Knoxville Marriott Hotel (500 Hill Ave. SE).

Join YES and your Y-12 family for food, fun and fellowship from 5 p.m. until 10 p.m. There will be fun for the entire family, including a band, children’s activity area and the jolly man himself—Santa Claus.

If you plan to attend, please contact Ala Montgomery (ahy; 574-0493) with the number of adults and children attending with you. Please include the children’s ages.

Volunteers are needed to help at the various areas. If you would like to volunteer an hour of your time, please contact Naila Howell (nsh; 574-1481).

Also, YES will be collecting nonperishable food for the Second Harvest Food Bank. Please bring two cans of nonperishable food for each person attending. Collection containers will be at the Marriott.

For employees on evening shift, YES will have an on-site celebration Dec. 13 in the cafeteria from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. Stay tuned to YSource for more details.

YES looks forward to seeing you at the celebrations!
The Infrastructure Reduction team recently returned $1 million to its customer, Y-12’s Facilities and Infrastructure Recapitalization Program. The savings resulted from two task releases completed last fiscal year that demolished more than 100,000 square feet.

In one task release to demolish five buildings, the cost was approximately $887,000 less than originally estimated. The second task release, which called for the demolition of five additional buildings, cost $113,000 less than originally estimated. These under runs made it possible to increase funding for planning efforts for FY 2008 and FY 2009 excess facilities.

Infrastructure Reduction is responsible for the multi-year task of reducing ongoing maintenance and oversight costs associated with Y-12 facilities and infrastructure by dispositioning buildings excess to current and future mission requirements. Successful implementation of facility disposition activities supports Y-12 modernization efforts, reduces the Y-12 footprint, improves site safety postures, reduces environmental concerns, reduces operating costs and improves the ability to manage the facilities’ portfolio. Both tasks were completed ahead of schedule and without a lost-time accident.

The projects were executed by a multidisciplinary team with representatives from Construction; Engineering; Facilities, Infrastructure and Services; Industrial Hygiene; Planning, Integration and Control; Quality; RADCON; Safety and Waste Management with support by procurement and demolition subcontractors.