

# the Y-12 times

A newsletter for employees and friends of the Y-12 National Security Complex

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University of Tennessee head football coach Derek Dooley autographs a Y-12 United Way poster.

## Y-12 unites for United Way

Football isn't the only thing near and dear to Derek Dooley's heart. He's also passionate about giving to United Way. "When you give time and money, you feel a part of making a difference. It's our responsibility to have a great [United Way] team, and a great team helps others," said the head football coach at The University of Tennessee (UT) and keynote speaker at the kickoff of Y-12's 2010 United Way campaign July 26 at the New Hope Center.

Dooley admitted he wasn't sure what Y-12's mission is until he did a little research that proved to be a "humbling experience. I commend you on the work you do for our country," he told the standing-room-only crowd.

The kickoff festivities also included silent auctions for gift baskets created by various Y-12 departments. In addition to the silent auctions, bake sales, book fairs, jewelry sales, and coat and food drives are all part of the effort to top last year's donation record. Contributions from Y-12's 2009 campaign from employees, retirees and the corporation totaled \$875,090, the highest United Way contribution level ever for Y-12.

U.S. Sen. Bob Corker, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations and Energy and Natural Resources committees, was touring Y-12 (see additional details in "Around Y-12," page 7), and stopped by the kickoff event. "Thank you for what you did [for United Way] this last year," he said.

The Y-12 2010 United Way campaign committee hopes to increase the level of participation 5 percent. "Our continued focus is to increase the percentage of participation as well as to educate and increase the volunteer base of the United Way agencies we support," said Steve Sanders, this year's campaign chair.

See pages 4 and 5 for more information on the Y-12 campaign.

# Y-12 honors small businesses



Y-12 President and General Manager Darrel Kohlhorst (left) and Chief Executive Officer Jon Francisco with Action Services Group, a Knoxville-based, veteran-owned electrical and general construction contractor, sign a mentor-protégé agreement.

At Y-12's Annual Socioeconomic Program Awards luncheon held July 12, Y-12 recognized six small business subcontractors for superior performance in 2010. Four Y-12 employees were also honored as small business advocates, and five small businesses and two historically black colleges and universities graduated from Y-12's mentor-protégé program.

The small businesses honored were Tellico Electric of Lenoir City, Small Business of the Year; Environmental Dimensions of Albuquerque, N.M., Small Woman-Owned Business of the Year; Elvado Environmental of Knoxville, Small Disadvantaged Business of the Year; Oak Ridge Automotive and Industrial Supply, HUBZone Small Business of the Year; Catalyst Technology Group USA of Knoxville, Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business of the Year; and Piping Supply Co. of Chattanooga, Accelerated Vendor Inventory Delivery Supplier of the Year.

Small business advocates of the year were B&W Y-12 employees Joe Kato, Terry Lewis, Deborah Mullins and Danny Nichols.

The graduating protégés were Alabama State University, Apexio Solutions, Cavanagh Services Group, Elvado Environmental, Hadron Technologies, RAM/VITEC and Tennessee State University.

Y-12 President and General Manager Darrel Kohlhorst credited the company's small business partners in helping Y-12 reach many of its recent milestones, including work on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects.

"Because of the outstanding work of our small businesses, I'm proud to say that 77 percent of our ARRA subcontracts have gone to our small business partners," Kohlhorst said.

## Second down, two to go: Buildings razed at Biology Complex

Y-12 is set to score another victory. The second of four buildings in the Biology Complex has been demolished, and two more will go down later this year.

Eagle Construction and Environmental Services began the demolition of Building 9224 on June 9, and the next day the 10,080-square-foot facility was on the ground. Cleanup of the site followed with crews loading and hauling away approximately 50 cubic meters of debris from the remains of the 1960s-era building. On July 16, Eagle began the two-day demolition of Building 9220.

Next in line for demolition are Buildings 9769 and 9211, built in the mid-1940s. LVI Environmental Services Inc. began mobilization for those demolitions in July. The subcontractor plans to raze Buildings 9769 and 9211 using a 140-foot ultra-high-reach excavator. At four stories and 83,471 square feet, Building 9211 is the tallest and largest of the four buildings.

Those four buildings comprise the Biology Complex deactivation and demolition (D&D) project, one of three American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) D&D projects at Y-12. The demolition of Building 9735 in Engineering Row took place in February. The third D&D project, deactivation of the Building 9206 Filter House, is under way and ahead of schedule.

"Our D&D projects are going well," said Jim Blair, project manager for the ARRA D&D projects at Y-12. "We completed the 9735 demolition three months ahead of schedule, and the Biology D&D is also ahead of schedule."



The Recovery Act provided funds for the demolition of four buildings in the Biology Complex. Building 9224 (shown here) was the first to be torn down.

# Jobs now, hopes for the future



## Meet James Hampton and Matt Hensley

James Hampton and Matt Hensley are just two of more than 100 temporary workers hired for Y-12's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects. Both appreciate having a good job during tough economic times and, as with many of the temporary ARRA employees, have hopes their current jobs will lead to permanence and security.

As demolition activities at nearby East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) continued toward completion, Hampton saw the end of the road coming for his job there. Hampton hopes his future now lies with Y-12. An experienced millwright (or outside mechanic) by trade, Hampton worked to expand his experience over the years, gaining training and certification as a truck driver, crane operator and welder. Getting his foot in the door at ETTP as a janitor, Hampton quickly began using his craft skills, and he hopes his job as an ARRA shuttle and truck driver will open up similar opportunities at Y-12.

For Matt Hensley, having a job at Y-12 has brought about several positive changes, including a benefits package and educational opportunities.

Hensley, a nightshift shuttle driver, has a degree in history and once wanted to teach high school students. But like Hampton and many others, he now hopes his ARRA-funded temporary job will lead to permanent employment at Y-12. He would like to continue his education through the educational assistance program that Y-12 is offering to ARRA temporary workers and hopes to earn his master's degree. With plans to start school in the fall, Hensley wants to someday use his education in a permanent position at Y-12.



James Hampton (left) and Matt Hensley are two of more than 100 temporary workers hired for ARRA projects.

## Meet Terry Fox

Terry Fox knew it was coming. Like millions of other Americans, the volatile economy had put his job on the line.

"B&W Clinch River was getting ready to lay off, and I was one who was going," Fox said. "I have a wife and child. I didn't want to go on unemployment, so I applied at Y-12 for the first job available."

Seeing signs of the impending layoff, Fox secured a temporary laborer position with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act projects at Y-12. When an opening for a permanent position became available, he applied and got it.

Having worked at Y-12 for nearly nine months, Fox said the emphasis on safety really stands out. "Y-12 goes above and beyond with safety," he said. "The training was tough, but once I got out to the work site, I started understanding it even more."

He also has noticed "a lot of signs" in buildings in which he has worked. "You really need to read the postings," he said, "because one room you're working in may be totally different than another."

"I believe they [B&W Y-12] work really hard to protect us. They let us know where we can and can't go," Fox said. In some areas, personal protective equipment is optional; however, Fox always chooses to use it.

"I'd rather be dressed out and know I'm protected," he said.



# Building 9731 open to the public for the first time



Nearly 1,400 people from across the country lined up at Y-12 in June for an exclusive, first-time public look at Building 9731. The building was the first to be completed on the site in 1943, and today it houses the only remaining alpha calutron magnets in the world. Tour participants were able to see inside the recently renovated building to view the magnets, which were used for separating the isotopes of uranium.

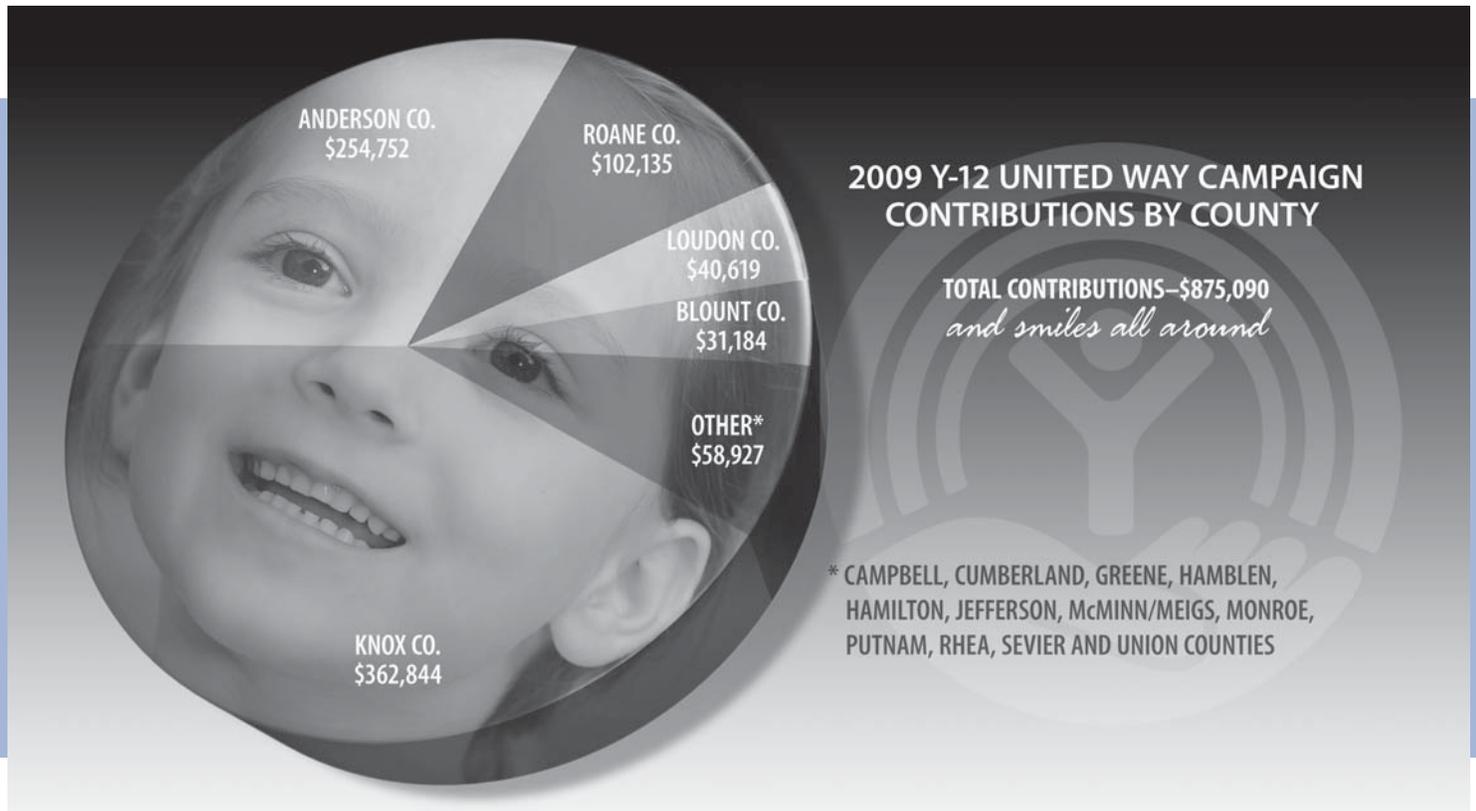
The historic tour, part of Oak Ridge's Secret City Festival, was enhanced by its knowledgeable hosts, Martin Skinner and Jane Greer Puckett. Both of these Y-12 retirees worked in Building 9731 during its early days of experimentation with isotopes. Skinner, a former electrical engineer, designed the historic display that demonstrates how a calutron functions.

When Puckett came to Oak Ridge in 1943, she was put in charge of keeping the data for the uranium separation process. She also taught other women the statistical data process for the Y-12 calutrons. That group grew from a few in the beginning to 30 or 40 that worked around the clock in three shifts.

Although the details of the Manhattan Project were kept secret, Puckett and her group had an idea of the bigger context of World War II. "It was top-top-top secret. When people asked what I did for a living, I told them I was making little red wagons," Puckett said.

About the experience of hosting the tours in her former workplace, Puckett said, "It was a treat to get to reminisce about my time in Building 9731. It brought back lots of good memories, and telling my story was a joy to me. I was blessed to be a part of such a monumental time."

Y-12 retirees and former calutron girls Betty Whitehead, left, and Dorothy Spoon, right, join tour host Jane Greer Puckett, center, as they recall their time at Y-12.



# Journey to journeyman includes a stop along the way

As some carpenter apprentices at Y-12 enter the “junior year” of their apprenticeships, they may begin envisioning their near-future roles as journeymen. Two third-year apprentices recently got to enhance their experience by attending a conference at the United Brotherhood of Carpenters (UBC) International Training Center in Las Vegas.

UBC (Local 50) picked five apprentices who were excelling in the program. Two apprentices, Brandon Turner and Brett Spradlen, represented Y-12 at the conference. Carpenter Wayne Jobe explained, “Unlike some first- and second-year apprentices, third-year apprentices have made a commitment to stay in the industry and trade.”

Turner and Spradlen were able to tour the International Training Center and attend discussions with UBC officers. In addition to learning UBC and carpentry history, the educational sessions were focused on customer service, productivity, skill and attitude.

The conference made an impression on the apprentices as well. “This was a great experience for me to learn more about the UBC. I also realized how fortunate I am to be serving my apprenticeship here at Y-12,” said Spradlen. “The conference was great, and the International Training Center was incredible,” said Turner.

When asked what advice these soon-to-be journeymen can give newer apprentices, their answers were very similar—hard work and attitude. “At the conference, we had sessions with UBC officers, a panel of union contractors and several training coordinators from all over the United States and Canada. Each one pointed out good attitude as one of the most important attributes they look for in an apprentice,” said Turner. Spradlen advised, “Learn as much as you can while serving your apprenticeship, because you will be teaching young men and women your trade one day.”



Third-year apprentices Brandon Turner and Brett Spradlen were chosen to attend a conference at the UBC International Training Center in Las Vegas.

## Touring for charity

A group of Y-12 employees toured several local organizations in mid-June that receive funds from United Way. Bridget Correll Wallen, Public and Governmental Affairs, coordinated the tour with Lisa Lanphear from United Way-Anderson County and Diana Knobloch from United Way-Roane County. Many of the Y-12 employees on the tour were United Way coordinators. The tour was designed to give employees a firsthand view of the types of organizations United Way supports and the services those organizations provide.

Ben Cumberland, Facility Management and Programs, attended the tour as the United Way coordinator for his department. “I’ve lived in Knoxville most of my life, but visiting the Volunteer Ministry Center was a real eye-opener. I’d never seen that side of my community. There is important work done there,” Cumberland said.

The tour also included stops at the Michael Dunn Center, Great Starts, the Renaissance Terrace Assisted Living Center, Emory Valley Dental Clinic, the Ecumenical Storehouse and the Children’s Museum of Oak Ridge. As a result of the tour, a series of stories appeared on YSource, allowing other employees to understand how United Way dollars are spent.

The tour illustrated how United Way organizations work in concert to address community problems and to help provide for area residents. Understanding where United Way dollars go is key to making informed decisions about personal contributions.

The Y-12 United Way Campaign kicked off July 26.

## Louise Presley— heritage volunteer



Visitors to the Fall Heritage Festival Sept. 24 and 25 in Townsend could catch a glimpse of Y-12 retiree Louise Presley and her husband, Bob, in period clothing.

Louise Presley, who retired from Y-12 in 2000, can be persuasive when it comes to historical preservation. She puts that talent to good use for the Great Smoky Mountain Heritage Center. Year-round, she helps raise funds for educational programs and the building of exhibits.

The nonprofit center, which opened in Townsend in 2006, is a collection of hands-on displays celebrating the cultural heritage of East Tennessee and the Great Smoky Mountains. Louise said she has felt a special connection to Townsend since she and husband Bob (of Engineering) began camping there years ago. Then when they bought a home in Seymour to be closer to their granddaughter, volunteering became more convenient.

At the center are gallery exhibits, historic cabins furnished with period furniture, an amphitheater for concerts and mountain music, and Native American games for children.

“Volunteering at the center is almost like bringing up a child,” Louise said, “we can see it take shape and continue to grow.”

The annual Fall Heritage Festival is an especially good time to visit. Activities harken back to long-ago blue-ribbon county fairs, with a greased pig contest and skillet throw, baked goods/can goods competition, hearth cook demonstrations, show of chicken breeds, and more. Event information can be found at [www.gsmheritagecenter.org](http://www.gsmheritagecenter.org).

Louise may love keeping the past alive, but she knows the value of modern creature comforts. “I’m not into rustic living,” she said. “If we do any camping, I need my bathroom, television and air conditioning.”

## Y-12 Clinton office

Employees may not realize that Y-12 is in the business of selling yo-yos, rulers and pencils. While these items can’t be seen on the production line, they can be bought and sold using faux money at Y-12’s new booth at Junior Achievement’s (JA’s) BizTown in Clinton.

At JA BizTown, fifth-grade students from throughout East Tennessee learn how to connect the dots between what they learn in school and what happens in the real world. They operate banks, manage restaurants, write checks and run a radio station all in a day’s time.

In the weeks leading up to their BizTown experience, the students participate in lessons about topics ranging from paying taxes and electing officials to philanthropy and creating a business plan. Then they put the lessons into practice on a day-long field trip to the facility.

Each booth at BizTown is sponsored by a company or organization. At the Y-12 booth BizMart, students advertise and sell BizTown souvenirs and products; they also can test out a model Y-12 glovebox.

Even though a trip to BizTown is a learning experience, the kids seem to have a blast. Jackson Spurling, son of Y-12 employees Robert and Heidi Spurling, served as mayor for his class’s day at BizTown.

“My favorite part was being sworn in as mayor in the town square,” Jackson said. “I learned how to write checks, get loans from the bank and work in a business where I earn money to pay bills.”

JA BizTown is teaching kids valuable life lessons ... one fifth-grade class at a time.



At JA BizTown, fifth-grade students manage the Y-12 store. Students spend a full day operating a simulated city’s commerce as business owners and employees. Y-12 has committed to a three-year \$25,000 sponsorship of JA BizTown.

# Around Y-12 ...

- **U.S. Sen. Bob Corker, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations and Energy and Natural Resources committees, visited Y-12 July 26.** It was the first stop of his tour of U.S. nuclear weapons facilities to assess their modernization plans as the Senate considers a new U.S.-Russia Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty. Corker said the country creates “a safer world by investing in modernization.”
- **Y-12 has won an R&D 100 Award for the Modulated Tool-Path Chip Breaking System developed in partnership with the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC).** Bill Barkman and Ed Babelay of Applied Technologies are the Y-12 inventors. The editors of *R&D Magazine* announced in July the winners of the 48th Annual R&D 100 Awards, which salute the 100 most technologically significant products introduced into the marketplace over the past year. “UNCC and Y-12 have had a long-term relationship in the development of advanced machining applications, and this award is proof positive of the important output of that relationship,” said Tammy Graham of Y-12’s Office of Technology Transfer.
- **As part of Innovation Valley’s Educators in the Workplace summer program, more than 40 teachers visited engineers and toured labs at Y-12** in July, getting hands-on demonstrations of Y-12 inventions and learning whether their teaching matches the requirements of the workplace.
- **The National Nuclear Security Administration announced in June it plans to extend the management contracts at Y-12 and the Pantex plant in Texas for one year.** These extensions, to end Sept. 30, 2011, are intended to give the federal agency more time to complete the competitive contract process for a new contract, which will combine the management of Y-12 and Pantex and possibly include the tritium operations at the Savannah River Site in South Carolina.
- **The International Technical Publications Competition of the Society for Technical Communication notified Y-12 in June that *The Y-12 Times* won an international merit award for consistently meeting high standards.** “This newsletter is the employees’ newsletter,” President and General Manager Darrel Kohlhorst said, “and it shares the good news of the many jobs that take place throughout the site. Congratulations to all employees.”
- **Sponsors of the eighth annual Secret City Festival were honored recently at the New Hope Center. B&W Y-12 was the largest corporate sponsor of the event.** “The Secret City Festival is a great event,” said Darrel Kohlhorst, Y-12 president and general manager. “Every year it just gets better. It has its own momentum, its own inertia. We’re celebrating the right thing for the right reasons.”
- **Twenty Y-12 employees volunteered at Ijams Nature Center’s WaterFest in June.** The annual festival teaches children about the importance of maintaining healthy watersheds. At the end of the event, some of the Y-12 volunteers walked to the trailhead of the B&W Y-12-sponsored North Cove Trail on the grounds of Ijams Nature Center, located in Knoxville. The trail is open to the public.
- **The Innovation Valley Technology Council (IVTC) presented its spring scholarship to Joshua Leonard, a 2010 graduate of Bearden High School. The \$2,500 award, sponsored by the Y-12 Office of Technology Commercialization and Partnerships, was presented by Kathy Barber, chair of the IVTC education committee, and Tom Berg, director of Y-12’s Partnerships and Operations.**
- **Terry Nore of Safeguards, Security and Emergency Services was awarded the Excellence in Emergency Management Award at the annual U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Emergency Management Issues Special Interest Group meeting held in Las Vegas in May.** This award is given to one DOE contractor employee and recognizes individuals for outstanding service to the emergency management profession.

## SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

### AUGUST

#### 48 years

Applied Technologies: **Matthew J. O’Hara**

#### 42 years

Production: **David P. Bryant**

#### 41 years

Engineering: **James A. Burgess** and

**Loren E. Carey**

Radiological Control: **Boyd T. Gose Jr.** and

**Danny P. Rowan**

#### 40 years

Facility Management and Programs: **Albert McLendon Jr.**

Maintenance Support: **Clarence G. Pickel**

Production: **Arnold R. Hawkins** and

**Tulley G. Widner**

#### 35 years

Production: **Jennifer T. Delmonte** and

**Paul H. Hight**

Resource Management: **Terence L. Heath**

#### 30 years

Applied Technologies: **Kenneth D.**

**Nicklas**

Communications Services: **David R.**

**Baumgardner**

Information Technology: **Richard W. Illick**

Production: **Sanford G. Narramore** and

**Bernard E. Phifer Jr.**

Programs and Quality: **James L. Garrett**

Radiological Control: **Robert W. Oliver**

Resource Management: **David E. Wright**

#### 25 years

Engineering: **Wilma A. McNabb**

#### 20 years

Applied Technologies: **Edward B. Ripley**

Budgets: **Tony K. O’Dell**

Emergency Services: **Shana M. Peterson**

Engineering: **Alan W. Lewis**

Environmental Compliance: **Terry K.**

**Cothron** and **Stanton T. Duke**

Information Technology: **Pamela L.**

**Irminger** and **Forrest V. Schwengels II**

Production: **Alan K. Ladd** and **Steven B.**

**Whitehead**

Radiological Control: **Brenda K. Brewster,**

**James R. Morgan, Shirley A. Robinson**

and **Daniel W. Shelton**

**5K Race & Fun Walk**  
to benefit Volunteer  
Ministry Center

**Oct. 2**

7 a.m.,  
World's Fair Park Festival Lawn

Contact: Eddie or Elaine Warren  
574-2416/241-4541

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Steve Little views his results on the scales after completing another week on the LA Weight Loss program. Little has lost more than 45 pounds.

## LiveWise helps employees slim down

Did you know Y-12 is now less 7.5 employees but no one left the payroll? How can this be? It's the amount of weight lost by the 78 participants in the LiveWise weight management programs. These big losers have lost more than 1,300 pounds.

Steve Little, vice president of Facilities, Infrastructure and Services, has been a participant in LA Weight Loss since the program began on-site in February. He attributes some of his success to setting goals. "I think it's important to have many milestones so you can have some successes along the way," Little said. "I was a little more than pleased to discover that I can now fit into a 2XL shirt. Now my goal was and still is to get down to an XL, but I'm pleased with the progress I've made so far."

Teri Spradlen of Information and Records has also been participating in the Weight Watchers program since February. She recently hit the halfway mark to her ultimate goal. "I've lost 55.8 pounds so far. My cholesterol is way down, and I was a borderline diabetic, but that seems to be under control better."

Spradlen said having the classes at work helps tremendously. "The program at work has helped in several ways—convenience, support of friends and a little friendly competition between me and my supervisor, Donna Lawson." Lawson is participating in the LA Weight Loss program and has lost 31.4 pounds. "We both are trying really hard and it seems to be paying off," Spradlen said.

No matter the weight loss total, it seems the weight management programs are slimming down employees and making them feel better.