

Partner Update

May – June 2000

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Profile

Mayor Fred Sissine

**Maryland Town
Forges Energy
Efficiency Legacy**

Fred Sissine, mayor of the City of Mount Rainier, MD and leader of its Rebuild America partnership, is seeing the fruits of his labor after years of hard work to bring about

economic revitalization and sustainable development for his City.

Mount Rainier, which is located near Washington, DC, has initiated nine measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions during the past 10 years. Six of these measures have focused on energy efficiency, while others include alternative fuel projects and tree planting to achieve carbon sequestration.

Mount Rainier is hampered by the neglect and decay common to many older, "main street" U.S. communities that have lost businesses to suburban-style shopping malls. Challenges include rising crime, declining property values, shrinking tax revenues, and escalating operating costs for police and code enforcement.

A Bootstrap Effort

Sissine presided over a "bootstrap" effort to revitalize the city with a special focus on its main street. These efforts included creation of a national

*Continued on page 11***Appalachian Town
Reinvents Itself**

The Town of Grundy, VA has said "no more" to its legacy of flooding and is moving its downtown to higher ground. Located near the Kentucky border in the heart of what was once Appalachian coal country, the town has been hit hard by the major floods of 1937, 1957, 1977 and 1993. The flood of 1977 was particularly menacing, with flood waters on Main Street rising as high as 5 feet. Merchants and retailers began to throw in the towel and

vacate the shops lining Main Street. But Grundy is the county seat and the heart of Buchanan County, and for more than 20 years its town leaders have been hammering out a plan to save it. Through an intensive local, state and federal agency collaboration, the wheels are in motion to build a new downtown for Grundy – one that incorporates energy-efficient and sustainable design practices.

The town has formed a Rebuild

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Rendering depicts view from bridge linking "old" Grundy to its new downtown.

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SOLAR SCHOOLS REPORT

In San Diego...

DOE Announces \$9.4 Million to Improve Nation's Schools



From left: San Diego School Board Member Ron Ottinger; San Diego Energy Office Executive Director Kurt Kammerer; DOE Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy Robert Gee; Euclid Elementary School Principal Mitzi Merino; San Diego City Schools Chief Administrative Officer Henry Hurley; and San Diego School Board President Ed Lopez.

Surrounded by elementary school pupils, their parents and teachers, the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy Robert Gee announced May 11 that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and state governments around the nation will pool their resources to provide \$9.4 million to lower energy costs and upgrade the energy efficiency of America's classrooms. DOE is earmarking \$4.7 million in federal funds for the EnergySmart School initiative, part of the Rebuild America program, which will be matched by an equal sum from the states.

"We can save \$1.5 billion in America's schools by using energy efficiency as a tool for improving learning conditions for our kids," said Assistant Secretary Gee.

DOE officials made the announcement during a visit to the San Diego Unified School District's Euclid Elementary School. Joined by Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alan Bersin, the Assistant Secretary awarded students, teachers and administrators with the ENERGY STAR® Buildings Label for the school's exceptional energy performance.

The San Diego Unified School District has been at the forefront of the national movement to improve student achievement by providing students and teachers with supportive classroom learning environments. A recent \$216,000 investment to improve Euclid Elementary School has already caused the school's electric bills to drop by 40 percent and energy consumption to fall 28 percent. Although the size of the elementary school has increased and utility rates have risen, the school has trimmed its utility bill by \$20,000 each year.

The investment is part of a recent capital project that will save the United School District \$5.5 million in annual utility and maintenance costs. San Diego voters also recently overwhelmingly approved a \$1.5 billion program to repair and renovate 167 schools and build 14 schools in the school district — the largest bond measure in the city's history.

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View from DC

By Mark Bailey

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) plans to issue \$17 million in State Energy Program (SEP) Special Projects Awards in July. Rebuild America programs in 23 states and American Samoa collectively will receive some \$3.3 million, roughly 20 percent, of this amount. The Special Projects Awards provide funding for select projects and are in addition to the annual SEP awards granted to each state energy office annually. These awards provide an important boost to Rebuild America's efforts to improve communities across the nation through energy efficiency. The awards are issued by DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. Here is a snapshot of what three states plan:

- A first-time Special Projects Award recipient, Utah is proceeding with two Rebuild America projects. The first planned is intended to put Utah's State Buildings Energy Efficiency Program on a fast track to advance partnership development by accessing a critical land conservation fund. The second project will support efforts by the Western Regional Coalition partnership, comprised of 18 state energy offices, to develop regional tools in addition to performance contracting to facilitate project financing.
- Florida is seeking to establish Rebuild America partnerships through *Operation: Open for Business*, an initiative that seeks to reduce disaster losses and increase energy savings for business owners in designated Project Impact communities throughout the state.
- The Minnesota Department of Commerce will take the lead role in establishing Rebuild Minnesota over the next two years and plans to hire a Rebuild America program representative to help create partnerships. The Department plans to take a gateway approach to meeting communities' energy resource and conservation needs.

The following received Special Projects Awards for fiscal year 2000: CA, CT, FL, ID, IA, MA, MN, MS, MO, NE, NV, NH, NM, NY, OH, OR, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WY, and American Samoa.

Mark Bailey is national program manager of Rebuild America.

Partnership Leaders Take Earth Day Radio Tour

Four Rebuild America partnerships participated in a radio tour during Earth Day week in April in an effort to educate the public about how saving energy and operating more efficient buildings can save communities money. Partnership leaders who rose to the occasion were Paulette Huber of Rebuild Toledo (OH); John Root of Muscatine Power & Water (IA); Michael Hoffer of Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA-Atlanta); and Mark Mikenas of Rebuild Kewanee (IL). The interviews were coordinated by Rebuild America's M&C team. The following are some highlights of what these partnership leaders addressed during their radio interviews.

During her 10-minute interview with WFRO-FM radio, Paulette Huber explained how energy audits can be effective tools for demonstrating to building owners that energy-efficiency improvements can be paid for over five years with the savings that result from the measures. Huber said Rebuild Toledo performs energy audits that are tailored to the building and factor in how the building is used — number of occupants, hours of operation, and the kind of tasks being performed on the premises. She also drew the link between saving energy and decreasing the pollution that results from the burning of fossil fuels to generate power.

John Root, Energy Services Advisor for Muscatine Power & Water (MP&W), and leader of that utility's Rebuild America partnership, and Gary Weiskamp, public relations manager for MP&W, spoke to the benefits of saving energy for their community during a 20-minute live interview with KBUR-FM radio. Root joined the MP&W one year ago and prior to that, was an energy educator and founder of the Rebuild Cedar Falls (IA)

partnership operating at the University of Northern Iowa. Root told listeners that during its first three months of operation, the MP&W partnership attracted an elementary school, a high school and 29 commercial customers that were interested in saving energy. Students in the targeted schools have been taught how to perform home energy audits with parental involvement and have completed 100 audits at present. On the commercial side, the partnership has completed building energy audits for its commercial partners and has determined that an investment of \$425,000 in energy improvements collectively will save these 29 partners \$100,000 annually.

Tapping the Talent Pool

Root noted the importance of tapping people in the community who are interested in energy efficiency — building maintenance staff, city housing managers, architects, utility representatives — to build a successful partnership. In addition to directing listeners to 1-800-DOE-3732 for information, Root invited them to visit the MP&W website: www.mpw.org.

In Atlanta, Michael Hoffer presides over BOMA's largest chapter: 1,000 members, half of whom manage buildings. During

his 10-minute live interview with WKUN-FM, he noted the potential for reducing energy consumption and emissions and saving money in the commercial sector, sharing his experience as the manager of a 50-story, 1 million square-foot tower that has 4,000 occupants. The BOMA-Atlanta partnership was "seeking ways to be more efficient energy users," he said.

Hoffer said that utility costs for commercial buildings in Atlanta run \$1.40 to \$1.50 per square foot, which puts the cost for the 1-million-square-foot building he manages at about \$1.5 million annually. Hoffer works with Georgia Power to shave one third, or \$500,000, off the building's annual utility costs.

Going into Conservation Mode

How does he do this? Hoffer explained that through prior arrangement with Georgia Power, the building periodically goes off the grid and relies on its own independent emergency generators. This requires going into "energy conservation mode" by taking steps to reduce demand, such as dimming lights and turning off motors, he explained. Noting that lighting, not air conditioning, accounts for the lion's share of a building's electricity use,

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CORRECTION:

*In the giving-credit-where-credit-is-due-department...*The March-April 2000 issue of *Partner Update* should have credited **Leanne Hoadley**, leader of Rebuild Presidio, and not her predecessor, **Laura Keresty**, as author of the article titled "Rebuild Presidio: Getting Tenants to Buy into Energy Efficiency." Contact information for Leanne is leanne_hoadley@grove.com or 415-561-2500 ext. 205. Our sincere apologies for the gaffe.



Rebuild Presidio team members front row, from left: Cyane Dandridge, Devon Danz, Maric Munn, Shelley and Liam Hamilton; back row, from left: Leanne Hoadley, Dale Sartor, Kirk Brown, June Barnard, Henry Dakin and David Coggeshall.

Energy Team 2000 Tackles Bay Area Homes



Neil McGaraghan, Energy Team 2000-San Francisco, tackles installing pipe insulation.

The Energy Team 2000/Rebuild in April partnership, a consortium of five Bay Area Christmas in April organizations, spearheaded a successful one-day blitz to install energy-efficiency improvements in over 100 homes in

the San Francisco Bay Area on April 29. More than 100 volunteers, armed with energy-efficiency training from the Energy Team 2000 partnership, took part in this effort to give an energy-efficient boost to homes owned by disabled persons, senior citizens and low-income families. Thanks to Energy Team 2000/Rebuild in April, led by Dr. Lisa Gartland, the participating homes got "the treatment" with volunteers weatherstripping windows and doors, insulating water heaters, installing compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) and low-flow showerheads, and adding other cost-effective energy and water saving devices.

This is the second year that Christmas in April volunteers have installed energy-efficiency improvements, Gartland says. Energy Team 2000 has expanded its reach from one Bay Area Christmas in April chapter last year to include five chapters this year.

Energy Team volunteers teamed with Christmas in April volunteers to give homes a new lease on life. A San Francisco television news station filmed Energy Team volunteers adding a new CFL to a porch light, caulking cracks, and installing a water heater blanket in the home of a senior citizen living in Albany. At the heart of their coverage was Anna Allen, whose home recently had been severely vandalized and burgled while she was in the hospital recuperating from hip surgery. A military officer was on hand to present her with an American flag to replace one she received at her son's funeral that was stolen by vandals. Allen's son, a U.S. naval aviator and flight instructor at Top Gun, died during a training exercise several months ago.

Gartland notes that energy-efficiency improvements increase the affordability of a home through energy savings and can make a significant difference to individuals

and families with limited resources. Energy Team 2000's work to apply over 500 energy and water conservation measures in more than 110 homes will collectively save an estimated \$11,600 annually in homeowner's utility bills. Donating supplies or money to the Energy Team 2000 blitz were Delco Energy Services, California Water Service Co., East Bay Municipal Utility District, Habitat for Humanity, JKRL USA, Positivenergy, RSA



Kris Kinney of Energy Team 2000-South Bay, flanked by his helpers, weatherstrips a door during the April 29 blitz.

Supply; and various individuals. The Energy Team 2000 partnership supplied the volunteers.

For additional information, contact Lisa Gartland at lisa@pstvnr.com or at 510-595-7674.

Earth Day Radio Tour

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Hoffer retrofitted the lighting throughout the 10-year-old building, realizing significant savings from replacing incandescent fixtures with compact fluorescent lighting and switching from magnetic to electronic ballasts.

"The payback was tremendous," he said. Increasing the energy efficiency of commercial buildings means that Georgia Power can avoid building new plants – and it means the environment benefits from burning less coal and fuel oil and from using less hydroelectricity, Hoffer noted. Hoffer concluded his remarks by saying that Rebuild America helped small businesses as well as large businesses save energy and dollars and that it was

looking to develop relationships with more communities nationwide.

Mark Mikenas delved into areas central to Rebuild America during his 20-minute live interview with WOC-AM, including how to help businesses conserve energy and how to spur economic development by expanding on efforts underway in communities. Mikenas addressed the benefits of using energy audits as a decision-making tool to help select the buildings likely to have the best payback. He also mentioned the importance of a recent state grant award to Rebuild Kewanee that will enable the partnership to hire an energy coordinator to raise public awareness about the community benefits of energy efficiency. This community outreach effort will have a special emphasis on getting students and teachers involved in energy conservation, using contests as a vehicle to stir interest.

Rebuild America Briefs

The regions have been a hub of peer exchange activity. Here's a roundup of recent activity:

Boston Region

Over 65 participants attended Rebuild America's Boston Regional Peer Exchange at the historic Providence Biltmore Hotel in Rhode Island on April 17-19. Half of those attending were from state and community partnerships. Attendees presented innovative and creative solutions to partnership challenges. Panel discussions covered the realities and opportunities available to customers in purchasing electricity as an aggregated entity and highlighted resources available to Rebuild America partnerships. The resources panelists included speakers from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Federal Energy Management Agency, the National Main Street Program and Rebuild America. Deregulation and utility industry restructuring was addressed on a state by state basis, with utility representatives leading table discussions. This successful peer exchange will likely become an annual forum with a subsequent meeting in the spring of 2001. *For more information contact Greg Davoren, Boston Regional Team Leader at 617-565-9706.*

Denver Region

The Denver Peer Exchange drew an estimated 70 participants during its April 12-13 meeting in Lakewood, CO. The meeting



Bud Rogers of Noresco, a Rebuild America business partner, makes his point during a Denver Peer Exchange table discussion.

attracted an interesting mix of partnership leaders and their staff, Business Partners, and program and other government agency representatives at the local, state and federal levels, all of whom were listening, learning and sharing information. Topics participants addressed included understanding Rebuild America in its many forms, exploring how other

DOE initiatives tie in with Rebuild America, reaching schools effectively and EnergySmart Schools, approaching funding challenges, integrating Business Partners services with community needs and working with the press to raise awareness and communicate partnership successes, among many other topics. The Peer Exchange concluded with a tour of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory headquarters in Golden, where participants received an overview of NREL's research with solar, wind and other renewable and green building technologies, and a glimpse of what's to come. *For more information, contact Dave Waltzman at 303-275-4821.*

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New and Improved!

Rebuild America Web Site Gets a Makeover

Rebuild America's presence on the web has been strengthened considerably with the launch of our revamped website. The rejuvenated web site offers useful information and serves as a powerful tool for Rebuild America program staff.

The goal was to provide a full-service web site, filled with timely news on community partnerships, program activities, events and milestones, and useful tools to help move partnership projects from start to completion. It has been designed to be fully interactive, allowing partnership representatives and program team staff access into a secured area where they may edit, add and download information at any time.

We hope that new features such as "Shoptalk," an on-line discussion area in the "Toolbox" section, and "FAQ's," an on-line question & answer forum, will provide valuable information for

questions you have been meaning to ask, but haven't. Housed in the "News + Events" section are a number of new features. The "Calendar of Events" allows users to see by month what events, conferences, and workshops are taking place around the country. Current and past issues of *Partner Update*, Flash Reports and Partnership Close-Ups are also available on-line as Adobe Acrobat PDF documents for easy viewing and downloading. "Toolbox" also offers visitors a range of resources to choose from — free software, the Action Plan guidebook, links to customer service or useful websites.

We encourage you to visit www.eren.doe.gov/buildings/rebuild and try out the new features. Send us your feedback on "Shoptalk".

Solar Schools Report

Solar Ambitions: Schools Network Gains Foothold



From left: Glen Kizer, West Virginia Gov. Cecil Underwood and Washington Lands Elementary School Principal Marian Kajfez.

School may be out for the summer, but not for Rebuild America program representatives and partnership leaders who work year round to strengthen schools in communities across the nation. One example is an informal K-12 EnergySmart Schools team that is taking shape in the Denver region. Central to this effort are Dave Waltzman, Denver Region team leader; Jamey Evans, Million Solar Roofs Initiative program manager; Glen Kizer, leader of the 1500 Days Central Ohio Partnership; and Alyssa Newman, Denver Region program representative. Kizer has been active in introducing schools in the eastern U.S. to solar energy and helps to pull the players together to install ground-mounted photovoltaic (PV) arrays in a number of schools. He also helps organize dedications for the solar arrays that attract press attention and spread the word about the benefits of introducing renewable technologies to our schools. To date, he has worked with schools in Ohio, West Virginia, and Indiana to install and dedicate ground-mounted solar arrays.

Denver Region Makes Inroads

Kizer, who is also president of the Foundation for Environmental Education, gets additional bounce out of educating the public about renewable technologies such as solar through a series of programs he produces for PBS. (See *West Virginia School Goes Solar* story, this issue.) Newman believed the Denver Region could benefit from Kizer's approach and has been collaborating with him and a growing group of state energy offices, community entities, utility representatives, non-profits, and business partners to create a model school with a PV array in each state in the region. To date, solar panels have been installed in schools and a daycare center in Texas, New Mexico and Colorado and activity is underway in six other states in the region, according to Newman. Central and Southwest Power, recently acquired by American Electric Power, is dismantling a solar research park, and will be deploying

approximately 80 1-kilowatt solar panels to benefit Rebuild America partnerships in their service territory. The team hopes to establish similar relationships with other utilities and business partners.

School Connections

The regional K-12 team is working on a 2-year plan to connect the schools in the Rebuild America network. They are presently working to increase efficiencies in schools and renewables activity by linking peers, according to Newman. For example, one effort puts teachers, principals and utility representatives from Ohio schools that have installed solar arrays in touch with their counterparts in Texas for an information exchange. The Rebuild America schools team is also assisting participating schools in incorporating energy efficiency and renewable energy lessons into the curriculum. The team also consults with schools on the merits of ground-mounted vs. rooftop systems, and other benefits associated with bringing a solar project to a community.

"A ground-mounted system is preferred because it provides a better learning environment," Newman says. "It makes a greater impact when you can see it or touch it."

For additional information, contact Alyssa Newman at Alyssa_Newman@nrel.gov or at 303-275-4810 or Glen Kizer at GKizer@centurysurety.com.



Children from Longfellow Elementary School in Westerville, OH attend the dedication of a solar panel array for their school, which is part of the Million Solar Roofs initiative. Westerville has been named a Rebuild America community.

Solar Schools Report

City of Kingsville Partners With DOE on Solar Energy Project

It's a first for Texas: Using solar power to help meet a school's energy needs and seizing the opportunity to teach students about renewable energy. The Kingsville City Commission and Chamber of Commerce (TX), the lead partners in **Rebuild Kingsville** — in cooperation with the Department of Energy's (DOE) **Rebuild America** program and **Million Solar Roofs** initiative, Central and South West Electric Utility Corporation (CSW), Central Power and Light Company (CPL), the Foundation for Environmental Education, and the Kingsville Independent School District — is partnering in an exciting community-based project that's designed to save energy and serve as a teaching tool.

A formal dedication ceremony for the installed solar project at the Gillett Intermediate School in Kingsville on April 18 drew government and business community representatives and 600 students who roared in approval as Gillett Intermediate School Principal Oscar H. Acosta officially took possession of the system.

The project began last January when CSW/CPL donated and installed six energy-efficient photovoltaic panels on the school grounds. The 1.2 kilowatt solar panel array is directly connected

to the main electrical grid of the school building. The system provides students with an opportunity to learn from the computer-generated solar data that is collected. All Gillett students have access to computers and may view output from the solar-energy project and other online information. [To view information from the project, visit www.kvisd.esc2.net.]

Science teachers have incorporated the solar energy panels and the curriculum provided by the partnership into its normal studies. "We are learning from this project along with our students," noted one Gillett science teacher.

The project has strong backing from Kingsville Mayor **Phil Esquivel**, who stresses its importance in teaching children about energy efficiency. **Will Thierry**, area business manager for CPL, says Gillett students now have "the opportunity to explore first-hand the possibilities of renewable energy technology which could be a viable source of energy in the future."

For additional information, contact Alyssa Newman at Alyssa_Newman@nrel.gov or at 303-275-4810 or Joe Cisneros at the Kingsville Chamber of Commerce at 361-592-6438.

West Virginia School Goes Solar

A West Virginia elementary school is the first school in the state to participate in the U.S. Department of Energy's **EnergySmart Schools** and **Million Solar Roofs Schools** initiatives.

Washington Lands Elementary School, West Virginia's first school to install a solar electricity system, dedicated the system on May 15 amid a colorful fanfare of songs and skits about the sun and speeches about the system's educational value.

The school, which has 365 students, installed the system through the **Learning from Light!** program, a cooperative effort of energy suppliers, federal and state governments, local communities and other partners to help schools worldwide install solar energy systems and teach their students about energy resources.

The **AstroPower** system installed at Washington Lands Elementary School is a 1,000-watt system consisting of two panels measuring 84-by-96 inches each. The ground-mounted system is electrically connected to the school building. Internet-based software developed by American Electric Power (AEP) allows students, teachers and others to click on to www.aep.com/environment/solar to track the school's energy demand and the amount of energy supplied by the solar panels.

Students break into solar song at the dedication of a PV panel array at Washington Lands Elementary School



Enhanced math and science comprehension among students is a desired outcome of the installation and the network created on AEP's web site.

The solar electricity system was funded by AEP's Kammer-Mitchell power plant. Washington Lands Elementary School will be highlighted in a 30-minute television documentary produced by the Foundation for Environmental Education, which is spearheaded by **Glen Kizer**, leader of the **1500 Days Central Ohio Partnership**. The documentary will be featured on public television later this year and will be distributed to schools nationwide. *For more information, contact Glen Kizer at GKizer@centurysurety.com.*

Snapshot



Paul Johnson is the Seattle Regional Team Leader for Rebuild America.

Vital Statistics:
Lives in the

Magnolia section of Seattle with his wife of 20 years, Kathy, and two dogs. Received a B.A. from Georgetown in history and has done some graduate work in Public Administration.

Current Role with Rebuild America:
A Team Leader for Rebuild America in the Seattle Region since the early days of the program's development. Recently

promoted and is transitioning into a new job as Director of Regional Partnerships for his office. Supervises a staff responsible for all community, federal and industrial programs operated through the Seattle Regional Office. Is seeking ways to integrate Rebuild America activities with other work performed by members of his team.

Most Rewarding Aspect of your Work: Working with an incredible network of creative, high-energy people. My work in Peer Exchange activities in my region has been particularly rewarding.

How did you become involved in Rebuild: I was involved in designing the original program about six years ago at DOE headquarters, liked what I saw, and

decided to join the program.

What has been your greatest Rebuild America Challenge: Being sure that we can meet the needs and exceed the expectations of our many Rebuild America partnerships.

What do you do in your spare time?
Antiquing and gardening.

Favorite book, movie, TV show: Any Sue Grafton novel and any program on The History Channel.

What would be your dream job if you weren't doing what you're doing now? I'd do the same thing I'm doing now – working with communities as a member of the private sector.



Rebuild Fulton Helps Community Celebrate Dutch Heritage

Rebuild Fulton, IL joined the City of Fulton, elected officials and a crowd of more than 1,000 at the dedication of an authentic 92-foot windmill from the Netherlands to celebrate the community's Dutch heritage on May 6. The dedication took place during Fulton's Dutch Days Festival, an eagerly anticipated annual event that attracted an estimated 10,000 celebrants.

The dedication drew regional television coverage from two Davenport, IA area stations, Moline Public Television and AT&T Cable. Newspapers from as far away as Peoria, which is about 75 miles from Fulton, covered the dedication.

Through Rebuild Fulton, the City plans to use the windmill as an educational tool and will explore its potential for generating electricity to light the Fulton Great River Walk in downtown Fulton.

For over 20 years this predominantly Dutch community has sought to erect an authentic windmill to celebrate its ancestry.

Originally used to grind flour in Holland, the windmill symbolizes the past and represents Fulton's future. The City views the windmill as an opportunity to educate the community about the benefits of renewable energy and to stimulate the

local economy through tourism, notes Joan Boyer, Fulton City administrator and leader of Rebuild Fulton.

Fulton Mayor Paul Kikkema and Burt Bulder, CEO of Lowland's Management, the company that helped Fulton obtain the windmill, unveiled the official name of the windmill at the dedication: de Immigrant. Rachel Ottens, an 11-year-old area resident, submitted the winning name. Deputy Consulate General of the Netherlands Hans Hageman released the brake on the windmill to allow the sail to turn.

The \$790,000 installation of the windmill was funded by the Illinois Department of Commerce and the Community Affairs Tourism Department. Visitors may purchase personalized bricks to pave the walkway leading to the windmill. Their contributions help fund the installation of working grindstones that will demonstrate how the original windmill ground flour and wheat. The working windmill would serve as a demonstration project for area schools and neighboring communities.

For additional information, contact Joan Boyer at 815-589-2616 or Geri Perrotte of DOE's Chicago Regional Office at 312-886-8597, or e-mail geri.perrotte@hq.doe.gov.



Upcoming Events

July

July 9-12 - *Rural, Small School Superintendents Conference*, Killington, VT (Killington Grand Resort). Sponsored by the American Association of School Administrators. Visit www.aasa.org/events/events.htm.

July 14-18 - *NACo Annual Conference*, Charlotte, NC. Contact John McGillicuddy at 704-336-2597 or e-mail mcgiljp@co.mecklenburg.nc.us.

July 16-18 - *APPA 2000 Educational Conference & 87th Annual Meeting* Fort Worth, TX (Fort Worth Convention Center). Visit www.appa.org.

July 16-20 - *National Council of State Legislatures 26th Annual Meeting*, Chicago. Visit www.ncsl.org.

July 17-20 - *Energy Leadership in the 21st Century*, SEP's 2000 All-States Meeting, Burlington, VT (Sheraton Burlington). Contact Carol Ault, D&R International at 301-589-0100.

July 19-21 - *11th Annual National Schools Facilities Workshop*, San Antonio, TX (The Menger Hotel). Visit www.tasanet.org.

July 20-22 - *Southeastern Builders Show*, Orlando, FL (Orange County Convention Center). Contact Pat Love, ORNL at 423-574-4346.

July 23-28 - *GlobeEx - The Global Energy Exposition - ENERGEX2000*, Las Vegas, NV (Riviera Hotel Convention Center). Contact Kathleen Moon, 619-294-2999, ext. 145, kmoon@pgi.com.

July 27-30 - *NAHRO Summer Conference*, Salt Lake City, UT. Visit www.nahro.org/conference/index.html.

Business Partners Met in Henderson

Rebuild America Business Partners were put to the test on June 13 at the Business Partners Forum in Henderson, NV. At the invitation of the City of Henderson leadership, the Business Partners rolled up their sleeves and contributed some “real life” energy-efficiency and renewable solutions for the City of Henderson, one of Nevada’s fastest growing communities.

The downside to the City’s accelerated rate of growth is that energy demands are likely to outpace supplies, and Mayor Jim Gibson and Rebuild Henderson leader Skeet Fitzgerald and other local leaders are looking to the Business Partners to help them stay on course.

The Business Partners also met with the Rebuild Presidio partnership about the need to retrofit over 600 buildings on the grounds of the former Presidio military base in San Francisco. And the Town of Grundy

(VA) partnership, which is relocating its downtown to keep it safe from flooding, similarly consulted with the Business Partners about the resources required to implement its ambitious plan. (See p. 1 story in this issue.) The forum also explored how Business Partners can work with Native American tribes on energy efficiency and renewable technologies.

“The forum was structured in working groups where participants met face-to-face to address challenges,” Business Partners Team Leader Doug Avery says.

Business Partners are currently forming three working groups to address technical issues, promote awareness and education, and to develop projects to facilitate working relationships with Rebuild America partnerships.

For more information, contact Doug Avery at davery@lbl.gov.

Rebuild America Briefs

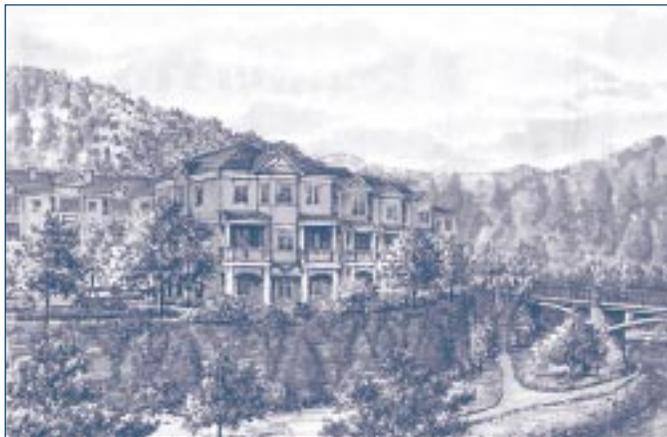
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Philadelphia Region

Several partnerships presented challenges and solutions at the first mid-Atlantic Peer Exchange, held March 27-29 in Morgantown, WV. A mix of speaker presentations and panel and table discussions served as the forum for tackling problem solving and presenting fresh and often innovative ideas. The meeting presented an opportunity to explain the Business Partners program and what it brings to Rebuild America partnerships, to discuss EnergySmart Schools, and to clarify the State Energy Program grant process and the technical assistance available from the Department of Energy national laboratories. *For more information, contact Judy Dyer at 304-558-0350 or judyd@wvdo.org; or Susan Guard, Philadelphia Regional Team Leader at 215-656-6965 or susan.guard@pro.doe.gov.*

Appalachian Town

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View from Route 460 to Grundy's new downtown.

America partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to make the most of this opportunity to create a smart downtown with a promising future. Town Manager **Chuck Crabtree** is leading the partnership.

A cost-cutting and cost-sharing collaboration among government agencies has paid big dividends. Town plans to move to safer ground got a big boost when VDOT realized it would save \$77 million if it nixed plans to bypass the town with the construction of Route 460, which will stretch across Virginia to the Kentucky border when complete. By taking the road through the existing town, VDOT could spare some of the considerable expense of blasting through mountain rock to create a bypass. Town leaders are betting that the infusion of traffic through the town will give it a new lease on life. Grundy's new downtown will be located out of the flood zone and directly across the Levisa River on a 13-acre site donated by Norfolk & Southern Railroad that will be prepared by the Corps.

Most of the 39 buildings comprising Grundy's downtown were built in the 1940s. Half of them still have inefficient coal-fired furnaces. Battered by flood waters, full of mud and beyond repair — all but a few will be torn down. VDOT plans to build a levee to protect the court house, bank, sheriff's office, post office and the historic Buchanan County House. Nearby homes that have not been abandoned or bought out in anticipation of the new road, will be floodproofed which entails positioning the HVAC system significantly higher on the building.

The new downtown will feature a mix of shops, restaurants, and office and municipal buildings arranged around an attractively landscaped pedestrian plaza. Multifamily and

single family homes will also be part of the new downtown. The partnership is working with the U.S. Department of Energy to incorporate energy-efficiency strategies into buildings in the new downtown. A bridge and a pedestrian walkway will provide the links from the existing community to the new downtown. Plans also call for developing a scenic riverwalk and pedestrian bridge along the waterfront of the old downtown.

"We're turning the river into an asset instead of a liability," he says.

Grundy Rebounds

Buchanan County has the highest unemployment rate in Virginia and Crabtree maintains that Grundy's new town will bring 400 new jobs to the town.

Grundy is rebounding not only from flooding but from a reliance on the coal industry. The town is "mined out," Crabtree says, and is working to diversify into cleaner industries. Attracting incubator businesses to the area to create business opportunities and stimulate the economy is one avenue the town is pursuing. The town has also been working with Virginia Technical Institute to make Grundy the first wireless community.

As Crabtree points out: "Running fiber optic cable in the mountains is cost prohibitive."

By collaborating with local, state and federal agencies, the plan to move Grundy's downtown to the opposite side of the river has been reduced from its original estimated cost of \$350 million to \$160 million. In addition to VDOT's savings of \$77 million by avoiding the costs of a bypass, the Corps has saved \$100 million in floodproofing costs. The town originally was to have contributed \$25 million to the project — a tall order for this economically depressed area — but given the savings realized, it can now invest those funds elsewhere.

This fall, Grundy plans to break ground on the first building in its new downtown — a fire station. The new building will incorporate an efficient electric heating and cooling system in lieu of a kerosene-fueled furnace, quality insulation, drop ceilings and a separate heating system for the garage, the training quarters and office space.

"With the Town of Grundy's Rebuild America partnership, we are striving to help the environment, reduce the impact of the energy crisis, and stimulate the economy at the same time by creating housing and jobs," Crabtree says.

For more information, e-mail [Chuck Crabtree at chuck@grundvirginia.com](mailto:Chuck.Crabtree@grundvirginia.com) or phone 540-935-2551.

Profile

Continued from page 1



Mount Rainier's City Hall incorporates a variety of energy-efficient features.

historic district, a stable funding mechanism for the business association, a new city staff position focused on economic revitalization, and a new community development corporation. With this stronger organizational structure in place, new partnerships with the state and county became possible. Mount Rainier secured major state funding under Gov. Parris Glendening's "smart growth" programs that address commercial building rehabilitation to eliminate blight.

By bringing in experts from Rebuild America, ENERGYSTAR® and other programs, Sissine helped the City's decision makers see how energy-efficient building design and technologies could substantially reduce long-term operating costs while supporting Mount Rainier's goals for main street historic preservation and economic revitalization.

Initiatives in planning or underway in Mount Rainier include energy-efficient new construction as well as retrofit work to existing buildings. One retrofit project will incorporate green energy features into an apartment building that provides housing for low-income artists.

Green Police and Fire Stations

In 1996, the City began planning a police station that combines historic

preservation practices with a broad array of energy efficiency and other "green" design features. It serves as a good example of adaptive re-use — the blighted building was once an auto dealership.

Energy consultant John Spears of Sustainable Design, Inc., says the design goal is to reduce energy demand to least 50 percent below the ASHRAE standard. Further, the project aims to attain a "silver" rating on the guidelines for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. The design concept includes a clerestory for natural day lighting and passive solar heat gain, highly rated roof insulation, and a high-efficiency HVAC system.

In 1996, the City issued a bond to begin the project. Jack Werner of Rebuild America offered guidance on features and technical assistance. The project is moving to a detailed design phase and then to construction with completion expected by mid-2001.

Mount Rainier has also participated in planning for the construction of a new fire station for Prince Georges County. With help from County Councilman Peter Shapiro and a citizens advisory group, the City has pushed for energy-efficient measures in the building and site design. As a result, the county's architect is using the LEED criteria to plan the facility.

In March 1999, Sissine worked with the Mike Lawson of Councilman Shapiro's staff to organize a "green" building briefing for the county councilman, fire chief, and other county staff. The briefing incorporated green building experts from Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Maryland Energy Administration, U.S. Green Building Council, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of

Energy (DOE).

This led to a peer exchange visit for county officials and the project architect to a fire station renovation project in Arlington, VA, that employed the LEED criteria. One result of Prince Georges County's involvement with this project was a decision to become a Rebuild America partner earlier this year. A preliminary estimate suggested that energy-efficiency design and equipment might cut energy consumption at the fire station by as much as one-fourth to one-half the baseline, yielding savings of \$7,500 to \$15,000 per year and a CO₂ emissions reduction of between 77 tons and 154 tons per year. Construction could be finished by late-2001.

In Mount Rainier, several governmental energy-efficiency projects are now finished or in progress. Private sector involvement in residential and commercial sector projects is now getting underway.

Sissine began serving on the Mount Rainier City Council in 1990, and has served as mayor since 1993. He had previously served as president of the local historic preservation group and as secretary of the local business association. He has made presentations on economic revitalization at Maryland state conferences, testified for Gov. Glendening's smart growth legislation, and made presentations on local government energy measures and climate change at conferences sponsored by EPA and DOE.

For more information, contact Fred Sissine at 301-927-2125 or e-mail dsissi@erols.com

Total Number of Partnerships..... **265**

Total Square Feet Retrofitted..... **386** million sq. ft.

Number of States and Territories with Partnerships..... **51**



The community-spirited Southern Sustainability partnership carried the Rebuild America banner during an Earth Day event at Turkey Park in Carbondale, IL. From left: Dave Paprocki of Southern Sustainability and Ted Meiling of the City of Carbondale.

Rebuild America Welcomes 16 New Partnerships

-
- City of Central Falls, RI
 - Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council, Inc., San Juan Pueblo, NM
 - Enfield Public Schools, Enfield, CT
 - Hamilton County SEED, Webster City, IA
 - Hendricks Power Cooperative, Clayton, IN
 - Partners for Energy Efficient Redevelopment (PEER) - Salt Lake City, UT
 - Rebuild City of Idaho Falls, ID
 - Rebuild Moscow Community, ID
 - Rebuild Portland Schools, OR
 - Rebuild Scotland Public Schools, Scotland, AR
 - Saving Water & Energy Education Program, Salem, OR.
 - Tolland Public Schools, Tolland, CT
 - Town of Burrillville/Pascoag Fire District, RI
 - Town of Johnston, RI
 - Town of Shoreham, Block Island, RI
 - Warwick Public School Department and City of Warwick

Share Your Success

To submit news or story ideas, contact:

- Elise G. Rand, (202) 466-7391, or e-mail erand@pcgpr.com
- Anita Denning, (301) 588-9387, or e-mail adenning@drintl.com

To be placed on the mailing list for *Rebuild America Partner Update*, e-mail rebuildamerica@drintl.com.



Rebuild America

Rebuild America is a network of community partnerships – made up of local governments and businesses – that save money by saving energy. These voluntary partnerships, working with the U.S. Department of Energy, choose the best ways to improve the energy efficiency of commercial, government and apartment buildings. Rebuild America supports them with business and technical tools and customized assistance.

By the year 2003, Rebuild America partnerships will be involved in over 2 billion square feet of building renovations, which will save \$650 million every year in energy costs, generate \$3 billion in private community investment, create 26,000 new private sector jobs, and reduce air pollution by 1.6 million tons of carbon dioxide a year.

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State and Community Programs
U.S. Department of Energy
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