

Preliminary Results

In November 2016, a preliminary round of data was analyzed which consisted of 1,745 completed surveys for the 64-year period. While these results are not quantifiable, there were 848 cases of cancer with 414 of those cases being cancers designated as “rare.” These rare cancers account for 48.8 percent of the total cancer cases for these survey results as compared to the US rate of 25 percent for “rare” cancers. The most common cancers in this study, in order of prevalence, are breast, thyroid, prostate, and colon. Other rare cancers reported in this study include brain, bone, cervical, leukemia, and ovarian. A complete listing of more than 60 rare cancers identified in this survey is located on our website at <http://rockyflatsdownwinders.com>.

The Apicella Boys 2017 with their parents, standing left to right; Pete, Taylor, Connor, Grant, & Denise.



“We try to live and appreciate each day, despite our circumstances.”

About Us



We are the Rocky Flats Downwinders, a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization whose mission is to advocate for those impacted by living downwind from Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant. Our main goals are to bring about awareness of Rocky Flats in order to educate the community, to sensitize medical professionals regarding potential adverse health effects suffered by Downwinders, and to offer supportive services for Downwinders.

DOWN-WIND-ER: A person living downwind of a nuclear test site, weapons plant, or reactor where the risk from fallout or radiation leaks is greatest



We continue to call on the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) to solicit an independent, controlled study of Rocky Flats Downwinders.

Visit our website at <http://rockyflatsdownwinders.com/> Stay informed and join our community.

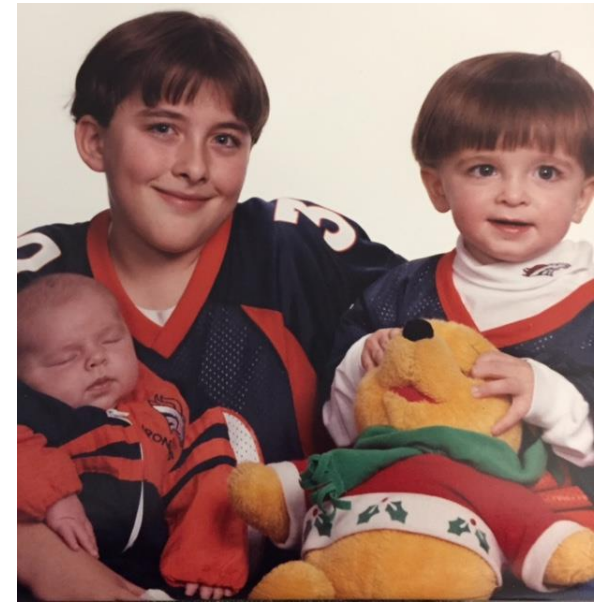
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Aguilar, J. (2016). Payouts to property owners in long-running Rocky Flats suit should start in 2017. The Denver Post. Retrieved from <http://www.denverpost.com/2016/08/08/rocky-flats-payout-property-owners/>

Meet the Apicella Boys



Christmas 1998; seated left to right; Baby Connor, Taylor, and Grant.

Playing outside was a big part of the Apicella boy's lives, and in 1996, within months of their move to Arvada, Colorado, their family began a 20-year battle with serious medical conditions. Family members struggled with a variety of medical problems including infant brainstem immaturity, hydrocephalus, seizures, chronic asthma, and tachycardia. Today, this family's medical crises continues as the children's father, Pete Apicella, is currently recovering from brain tumor surgery, and Taylor, now age 29, is recovering from thyroid cancer.

Are You Sick Too?

Are You Unaware?

Over the past six decades, thousands of residents, like the Apicella's, have been unaware of Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant and its haunting, toxic history. Located 16 miles northwest of Denver and 10 miles south of Boulder, the plant was just 5 miles from the Apicella home. The plant operated from 1952 until 1992, manufacturing plutonium fission cores used to detonate U.S. nuclear bombs. Throughout those years, industrial fires, spills, and negligent waste management practices contaminated the air, soil, sediment, groundwater, and surface water with hazardous chemicals and radioactive constituents. These hazards were so severe that in 1989, the FBI and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) raided the Department of Energy's (DOE) facility, Rocky Flats, for suspected environmental crimes. In 1992, the DOE's contractor, Rockwell International Corporation, pleaded guilty to 10 environmental crimes and paid \$18.5 million in fines. The plant was formally closed in 1992 and completed an accelerated cleanup costing just 7 billion dollars instead of the original price of \$37 billion and completed in 10 years instead of the original projected 65 years. In 2016, a \$375 million-dollar lawsuit was given preliminary approval for thousands of homeowners who lived downwind from the former Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant in the Cook v. Rockwell lawsuit. The former site is a Superfund site surrounded by a Wildlife Refuge. Currently, there is NO formal signage informing people of the plant or its history.

References

Under The 'Nuclear Shadow' Of Colorado's Rocky Flats. (2012). Fresh Air. Retrieved from <http://www.npr.org/2012/06/12/154839592/under-the-nuclear-shadow-of-colorados-rocky-flats>

Be Proactive

Thousands of individuals who lived downwind from the former Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant during the production and clean-up period, as well as, current residents in the area, are unaware and thus uninformed about the adverse effects on their health. Without this knowledge, many people are being denied an opportunity to be proactive in matters regarding their health. In an effort to address many long-standing concerns regarding high rates of illnesses in the area, Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU Denver) is conducting a health survey to determine whether there are identifiable adverse health effects experienced by former and current residents of Arvada, Westminster, Broomfield and surrounding communities. The health survey, which adheres to HIPPA guidelines, and has been approved by MSU Denver's Internal Review Board, collects health related data for those individuals living in the area from 1952 to the present.

Participate in Rocky Flats Health Study

Dr. Stephani Malin of Colorado State University (CSU) and her research assistants are interviewing Rocky Flats Downwinders who have rare cancers or families with multiple sick members. Please email her at stephanie.malin@colostate.edu to see if you are eligible to participate.

Take the Health Survey

In an effort to address many long-standing concerns regarding high rates of illnesses in the area, in 2016, Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU) began conducting a health survey to determine whether there are identifiable adverse health effects experienced by former and current residents of Arvada, Westminster, Broomfield and surrounding communities. The health survey, originally initiated by Carol Jensen at MSU, is currently overseen by Denver University (DU) professor, Dr. Bobbie Kite. It adheres to HIPPA guidelines; has been approved by MSU Denver's Internal Review Board in collecting health-related data for those individuals living in the area from 1952 to the present. If you were a resident of the areas circumscribed by the boundaries of Highway 7/168th/Arapahoe Avenue on the north, I-25 on the east, Colfax Avenue on the south, and Highway 93 on the west from 1952 to the present day, we invite you to respond to the health survey. Relatives of deceased former residents are welcome to complete the survey on behalf of their family member. This survey takes approximately 10 minutes to complete and is located on our website at rockyflatsdownwinders.com.

Boundary Map

