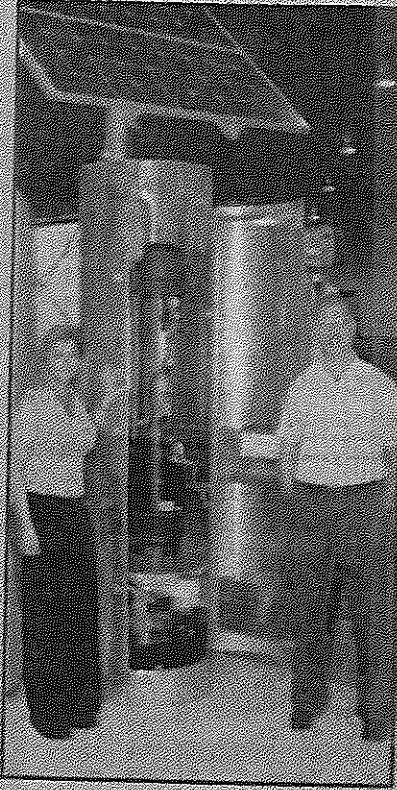


# Tribune-Democrat

LA JUNTA & THE ARKANSAS VALLEY'S SOURCE OF NEWS SINCE 1896

## Official launch



A water purification company will officially launch its manufacturing facility in Rocky Ford this week.

— PAGE 6

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## Unit delivers pure water around the world

*Innovative Water Technologies announces launch of Rocky Ford manufacturing plant*

By Candi Hill  
TRIBUNE-DEMOCRAT

Imagine a world with good, pure, disease-free drinking water.

For many of the people in the United States, safe drinking water is part of their lifestyle. For others around the world, pure, safe drinking water is part of their dreams.

But one company is helping to make safe drinking water a reality around the world.

And that company is manufacturing the product in Rocky Ford.

Innovative Water Technologies, owned by Jack and Carmen Barker and based in Dumont, Colo., is the patent-holder of the Sunspring™ water unit that helps purify water. The portable Sunspring™ system uses solar energy and requires minimal maintenance. It provides up to 5,000 gallons of water per day and removes greater than 99 percent of bacteria from the water.

The Sunspring™ system features the GE Homespring™ Central Water Filtration System. The Barkers teamed up with GE

### Want to go?

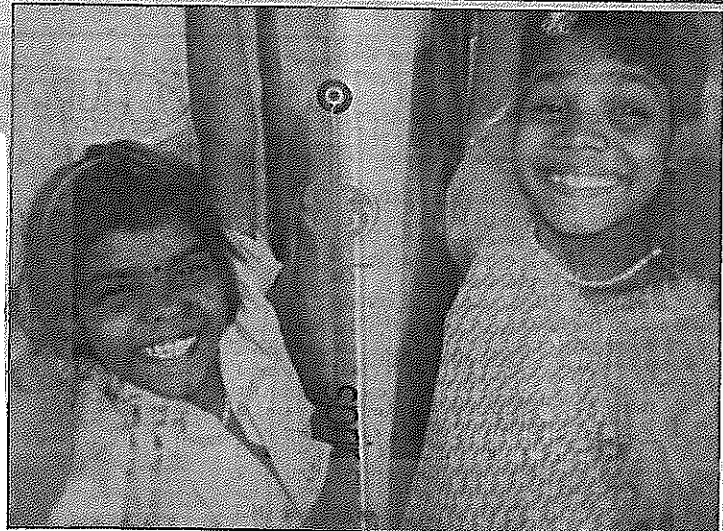
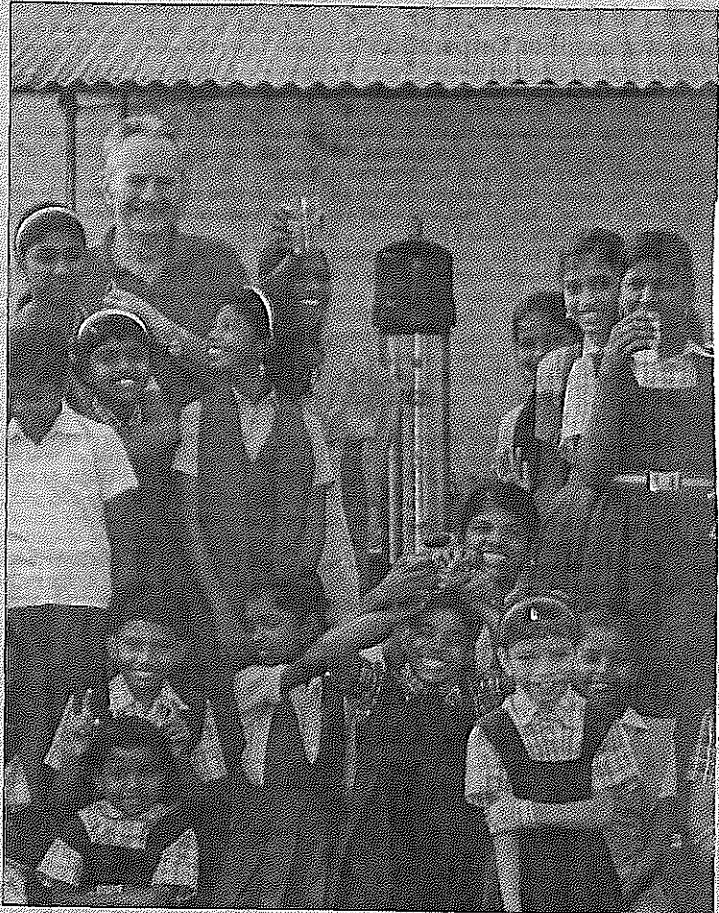
**Innovative Water Technologies will launch its new manufacturing facility with an open house from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, May 29, at 29625 Industrial Park Rd. in Rocky Ford. Tours of the facility will be given; there will be a Sunspring™ demonstration and refreshments. For more information call 254-4426.**

as part of the Barkers' interest in their membrane technology for small water treatment systems. Eventually, Innovative Water Technologies became the master distributor of the Homespring™.

In the United States, the Sunspring™ can be used, for example, at parks and campgrounds, as well as businesses and in small communities.

But the product hasn't just gained popularity in the United States.

See WATER, page 5



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## WATER

From page 6

It has become an internationally-known life-changing product.

One of the units was sent to India where children there had never seen clear drinking water.

Once the unit was installed, the children saw — for the first time — crystal clear, safe drinking water.

According to Home of Hope, an orphanage in India, Web site [www.homeofhopeindia.org](http://www.homeofhopeindia.org), "... began installing a HomeSpring™ water purifier and the solar unit that will power its Everyone in Kochi either boils or treats the water as sewage and rain runoff contaminate the supply.

"We searched for a way to make that water drinkable, not only for the girls and their kitchen, but for the Auxilium school of 515 students in which the orphanage is housed.

"We found a GE s HomeSprings unit, then Jack and Carmen Barker of Innovative Water Technologies in Colorado devised a way to power it with two solar panels ...

"... the girls are toasting a new era: one of good, pure, disease-free drinking water."

The news spread and the Barkers are now entering into contracts with other organizations in countries around the world.

After patent (pending) the product, the Barkers began to work to promote the product. After the positive response received on the innovation, the Barkers needed to find a place to begin manufacturing the product. Jack Barker had been working with the city of Rocky Ford through his company AAA Operations that has provided assistance with the city's water and wastewater infrastructure.

When they began searching for a manufacturing home, Rocky Ford officials approached the couple — as did some larger cities up north.

Jack and Carmen talked with Rocky Ford City Manager Dan Hyatt and Economic Developer Julie Worley and both presented the Barkers with a wonderful opportunity.

The Barkers moved their manufacturing facility to 29625 Industrial Park Rd. in Rocky Ford.

The city provided some labor in prepping the building for a manufacturing facility.

"They were just good to us," Jack Barker said about their decision to set up shop in Rocky Ford. "(Dan and Julie) really are great people to work with."

For more information on Innovative Water Technologies, visit [www.innovativewh2o.com](http://www.innovativewh2o.com).



Courtesy photos | TRIBUNE - DEMOCRAT

Carmen and Jack Barker of Innovative Water Technologies stand next to the solar-powered water purification system that they have designed to help offer disease-free drinking water to people around the world. The Barkers have opened up a manufacturing facility in Rocky Ford.

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