

Regular Features



LETTERS

Employees are invited to write letters of general interest on work-related topics. Anonymous letters will not be printed. We reserve the right to edit letters or not to accept letters for publication. Send your letters to the *Reach*, B3-30, or to *Hanford Reach on e-mail. Letters are limited to 300 words, and must include your name, company, work group and location. Opinions expressed are those of the author and not of DOE-RL, ORP or their contractors.

FFTF can help

I am writing in response to Mr. Nichols' letter ("Energy Suggestion," *Letters*, June 18).

There has been some talk of converting the Fast Flux Test Facility to make electricity to supply the whole Hanford Site and feed surplus to the grid. It may be a pipe dream, but we at FFTF are still living the dream. If it happens, it would be a win-win situation for all.

However, if it doesn't, and if FFTF gets the shutdown order, I hope the following doesn't happen: 1) you, or anyone close to you, does not require medical isotopes; and 2) they do not make me a member of the electrical police department, because I'll be watching you.

Bruce Gradisher
Fluor Hanford

Good commentaries

I really appreciate the recent commentaries from the Hanford Patrol ("Safety, proper identification top priorities at barricades," May 29) and the Benton County Sheriff's Office ("Close encounters of the police kind," June 18). I truly believe they are both trying to do a good job.

Jenny Caraway
HEHF

Reduce costs

If the Fluor Project Hanford team would add some flexibility to its management procedures regarding exempt employees working at home, the team could accomplish the following:

- Achieve at least 10 percent energy use reduction
- Achieve simultaneous reduction of fuel usage caused by driving to work
- Reduce electrical costs by maintaining dark offices with computers, heaters and coffee pots off

- Transfer energy cost to the employee who will incur the cost by working at home.

If Fluor were to shift to four 10-hour work days, it could:

- Minimize one ninth of its heating and cooling loads
- Decrease absenteeism and have greater productivity
- Keep the greenhouse gases in the fuel tanks of vehicles for one more day.

If the Fluor team would get rid of its unreasonable arbitrary restrictions on exempt overtime, more work would be done when it *needs* to be done (reducing craft down time because [the work is] not ready). Here are some restrictions that could be lifted:

- The restriction against claiming overtime unless it is in four-hour blocks. Let us work as directed by our manager and go home when we are done. Pay employees hour-for-hour.
- Requiring nearly an act of Congress to obtain permission for exempt overtime.
- Prohibiting the scheduling of exempt overtime. It costs \$140 per person to take an employee home. This happens if mandatory overtime is suddenly required without sufficient notice so the exempt could drive himself or herself rather than vanpool that day. For vanpooling to work, planning and scheduling must work!
- Prohibiting an exempt employee from (being paid for) working overtime if the employee had to take personal time bank hours during the week.
- Prohibiting an exempt employee from (being paid for) working overtime on a week containing a facility closure.
- Dumping the comp time. It's a joke. How are we expected to keep tabs on it and then schedule it for a full day off and keep it within the 80-hour restriction?

By the way, in the 1950s, half of the ballasts were removed from the Plutonium Finishing Plant light fixtures for energy conservation. Since then, about 80 percent of our lights have the new electronic controls installed with reduced wattage bulbs.

Lloyd Gardner
Fluor Hanford

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Feeling guilty

I'm guilty! I admit my point was not well expressed ("Richland Street Smarts," *Letters*, May 29). I deserve forty tongue lashes for being so undeservedly cruel to my fellow Tri-Citians.

But, when I read that the only folks who travel on George Washington Way live in Kennewick and Pasco, I knew that was incorrect. You see, there are at least seven people that live in Richland. There is my wife, two kids and myself; the mayor; my parents and my neighbor, Bob.

Those people, with their signs, were out there to influence the seven of us to vote for schools. (I wonder where those people live anyway?) As you can see it didn't work; the school bond failed.

I have nothing against people from the other cities. Heck, my wife is imported all the way from Pasco. My friends Lester and Darrell live in Kennewick.

Once again I apologize. The next time the bond comes up, the seven of us will vote for it so those people won't be out there with their signs anymore. Okay?

Mike Wingfield
DynCorp Tri-Cities Services

Had enough

I think the *Reach* has allotted too much time and space for the responses to "Effective Strategy?" (Letter, May 21). Let's put an end to this and get to the bottom line. Traffic safety is the real issue.

Regardless of the reason, when people line streets with signs and placards of any form, for whatever the issue, they need to understand that this can cause problems with the safe flow of traffic, and they need to act accordingly. The drivers have an equal responsibility to not let this type of activity affect their driving.

Where the driver is from, or what the signs and placards are for, is irrelevant.

Dennis Humphreys
DOE-RL

Memorable story

Michele Gerber's article in the June 18 *Reach* on Bruce Katayama's Hanford history, "Hanford engineer worked here 50 years," was excellent!

I loved the way she intertwined Bruce's own history with that of the site's.

Thanks so much to Michele and the *Reach* for becoming involved with the effort to recognize this very special person.

Elaine Collins-Meenan
Fluor Hanford

Read it all

Michele Gerber's story of Bruce Katayama's 50 years at Hanford was outstanding.

I have always enjoyed Michele's articles on Hanford history, but once I started Bruce's story I had to read it all. It was a great mix of his personal input and how it relates to today's work at Hanford.

John Perkins
*Duratek Federal Services
of Hanford*

324 celebrity

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know what a wonderful job Michele Gerber did on the Hanford article about Bruce Katayama. The people here at 324 are delighted with the story; we feel like we have a celebrity on board! I appreciate all the time and effort that went into making it a great story in honor of Bruce. We think the world of him and your story said it all in a wonderful way. Thanks to Michele for putting her heart into this one.

Kathy K. Schneider
Fluor Hanford

Regular Features



Children's book drive starts today

Local television station KNDU, along with The Reading Foundation and Bechtel, are holding the first-ever KNDU Children's Book Drive from June 25 through 29. KNDU is committed to giving every child the tools they need to succeed through Success By Six and community efforts such as this book drive.

New or "gently used" children's books may be dropped off in the lobby of 3350 George Washington Way, the Waste Treatment Plant lobby (3000 George Washington Way), KNDU TV, United Way, or The Reading Foundation. Books will be collected and distributed to local children who may otherwise go without books to read in their homes.

Bechtel is partnering with KNDU-TV for the Success By Six program. The goal of Success By Six is to create a community where all children, by the age of six, have the mental, physical and emotional foundation needed to grow into healthy, productive members of the community

CHG employees to attend day-long safety awareness gathering

CH2M HILL Hanford Group is dedicating an entire day to its "Communicate the Commitment 2001" program to promote safety awareness and convey the priority the company places on safe work practices. From 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on June 29, CHG and subcontractor employees will take a day away from their normal work schedules to gather at Richland High School to participate in sessions on defensive driving, DuPont's "Safety Training Observation Program (STOP)," a VPP Hanford Squares game and a discussion led by senior staff members on the CHG mission and new contract. A catered barbecue lunch will be provided. Visit the Communicate the Commitment 2001 Web site at <http://aptfpg03.rl.gov/cthec/index.htm> for more detailed information.

CREHST sponsors Richland walking tour

The Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science and Technology is sponsoring a walking tour of central Richland's alphabet houses on Saturday, June 30. The tour will be led by Richard Nordgren, and will last two hours. Participants should wear sturdy shoes and check in at CREHST, 95 Lee Blvd., at 9 a.m. The cost is \$5 for members of CREHST and \$7 for non-members. Advance registration is required. Call CREHST at 943-9000.

HAMMER's Learning Resource Center closed for holiday

The Learning Resource Center at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center will be closed for the Independence Day holiday on July 4 and 5. If you need safety material for the following week, please make your requests no later than Monday, July 2. For information, call Janette Pettey at 376-2884 or the Learning Resource Center at 373-3443.

Evening for the Angels celebration July 13

The fifth Evening for the Angels, a musical tribute for the Tri-Cities Chaplaincy and Hospice House, will be held at 8 p.m., July 13, in the courtyard of the Richland Red Lion Hotel. The entertainment will feature Broadway hits and classic opera performed by tenor Erich Buchholz of Chicago and soprano Jennifer Jacobson of Dallas. Fine chocolates, champagne, wine and sparkling cider will be served. Tickets cost \$35. For information, contact the Tri-Cities Chaplaincy at 783-7416.

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CALENDAR continued

Tuition assistance available for child care center

Applications for the tuition assistance program at the non-profit Learning Landscape Child Care Center are now available. To be eligible, you must have a child enrolled or on the waiting list for enrollment. Tuition assistance is applicable only to tuition at the Learning Landscape Center, and is allocated for the 12-month period beginning Sept. 1.

Contact Arlene Tortoso, the Tuition Assistance Committee chair, at 373-9631. Applications are also available at the Learning Landscape Center at 1167 Jadwin Ave., Richland. Submit your completed application to the following address by July 16: Learning Landscape Tuition Assistance Program, P. O. Box 1618, Richland, WA 99352.

Seminar to discuss history and opportunities for learning at Hanford

The Computational Science & Engineering Technical Network will present a general seminar, "Hanford Site, our neighbors are within Reach," on Tuesday, July 17, 3-4:30 p.m. at the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory Auditorium on the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory campus. Speakers Roy Gephart and Tom Page, both of PNNL, will touch on the history of the Hanford Site and opportunities to learn about science, mathematics, engineering and technology at the site. ♦



NEWS BRIEFS

Timecards are due early for week ending July 1

Because of the facility closure day on Wednesday, July 4, the Fluor Project Hanford and CHG payroll for the week ending July 1 will be processed on Friday, June 29. Employees and managers are requested to have all timecards for the week ending July 1 submitted and approved by 9 a.m. on Thursday, June 28, for CH2M HILL Hanford Group and 9 a.m. Friday, June 29, for DynCorp Tri-Cities Services, Duratek, Day & Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford, Fluor Hanford and Numatec Hanford.

Employees should estimate their work time through the end of their workweek, including any scheduled or anticipated overtime for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Managers who will be unavailable to approve timecards by the deadlines mentioned above should delegate approval using the Manage Delegate feature in the Time Information System.

The TIS will be unavailable for corrections until Tuesday, July 3. All corrections for the week ending July 1 will be included in a future payroll processing.

Your cooperation with the schedule above will ensure processing and distribution of paychecks as scheduled. If you have questions or need assistance contact Todd Beyers at 376-2815. ♦

Regular Features



Training for RCT candidates to begin July 10

From July 10 through Sept. 29, EXITECH Columbia Corporation will offer a Radiological Controls Technician Fundamentals Academics training program on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 5:30 to 9:30 p.m., and on Saturdays, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. RCT Fundamentals Academics training consists of 13 subjects beginning with mathematics and algebra and ending with radiation detection theory. Training will be conducted in the classroom, and through practical and hands-on exercises.

RCT Fundamentals Academics training is the first phase of a generic, two-phased Department of Energy RCT Initial training program that is designed to prepare RCT candidates for work at DOE facilities. ECC expects to offer the second phase of training, RCT Site Academics, from October to December.

The cost of this course is \$3,876. Payment terms are available. Enrollment is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about this training program or about pursuing a career in the radiological controls field, contact ECC at 946-2573 or send an e-mail message to kadamson@excol.com.

D2000 offers trenching and excavation classes

D2000 Safety Solutions will offer Trenching and Excavation for Competent Persons courses at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center three times this year. Classes begin at 7:30 a.m. and will be held Tuesday, June 26, through Thursday, June 28, TSB Annex Room 2; Monday, July 23, through Wednesday, July 25, TSB Annex Room 1; or Monday, Oct. 22, through Wednesday, Oct. 24, TSB Annex Room 1.

The hands-on course is designed to meet the requirements of 29 CFR 1926.650. Students successfully completing the program receive a certificate of completion. The class has been reviewed and approved for 2.4 CEUs by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training. The course cost is \$595 per person. Class size is limited to 25. Students may register by phoning Vicky DeMoss at (800) 551-8763.

USQ class offered in July

The Department of Energy Richland Operations Office will sponsor the Epsilon Solutions Systems' Unreviewed Safety Questions class to be held July 17 to 19 at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center in room 15. The price is \$813 per person.

The class is intended for DOE and DOE contractor personnel who are involved with the preparation, review, and approval processes for Unreviewed Safety Questions. This course is endorsed by the DOE Office of Nuclear Safety Policy and Standards. Students will be taught the requirements and intent of 10 CFR Part 830, "Nuclear Safety Management," Regulation subpart B 830.203, DOE G 424.X-X, "Implementation Guide for Use in Addressing Unreviewed Safety Question Requirements," DOE Order 5480.21, "Unreviewed Safety Questions," and the December 1992 DOE "Interpretation of DOE 5480.21."

Visit the Parallax Web site at <http://www.parallax-engr.com> for a detailed course description and to obtain the registration form. To register, submit the completed form and payment to Parallax, A2-32, FED/239. For more information call the DOE Training Administration Office at 376-8284. ♦

Regular Features



H.anford **E**.mployee **R**.ecreation **O**.rganization

SEND YOUR TICKET REQUESTS TO THE LISTED TICKET SELLER – To ensure that you receive your ticket promptly, send your request with your check to the appropriate ticket seller. It saves the ticket sellers' time, and your tickets will be sent to you the same day.

SUGGESTIONS WELCOME — If you have an event or travel/trip destination that you would like HERO to consider, or one that you would like to host, send an e-mail message to your area representative with specifics. Although HERO cannot guarantee your suggestion will be offered, all reasonable suggestions will be considered.

HERO POLICY FOR NSF CHECKS — Associated NSF bank fees will be passed on to check issuers. HERO will not absorb the cost.

AREA REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED — Area representatives are needed for the 600/400, 200E Area and Yakima. If you are interested, if your company is part of the Fluor Project Hanford team and if you have your manager's approval, e-mail Jackie Roderick and Phyllis Roha.

TOWER OF POWER CONCERT — Thursday evening, July 26, outdoors at the Red Lion Hotel. Gold tickets are \$32, silver tickets are \$23 and bronze tickets are \$18. Send checks made payable to "Quality Events" to Linda Meigs (H3-12) or Tricia Poland (T5-04).

NIGHT AT THE OASIS (WATERWORKS) – Aug. 10, from 7-10 p.m., \$6 per person, children age 3 and under are free. Details to follow. Nancie Simon is the contact for this event.

SILVERWOOD THEME PARK — Check out HERO's Intranet Web site for a complete schedule of days and times. Adult tickets are \$18.50 (normally \$25.30), youth (ages 3-7) and senior (65 and over) tickets are \$10 (normally \$16.87). Send checks made payable to "HERO" to Linda Meigs (H3-12), Tricia Poland (T5-04) or Nancie Simon (S7-64). Personal checks for purchases in excess of \$250 will not be accepted. Send a cashier's check or money order for payments in excess of \$250. No cash, please!

DUST DEVIL SPECIAL OFFER — Purchase a single-season package and you'll receive free parking at Tri-Cities Stadium (save \$75). Purchase club seats (full- or half-season) and you'll receive a bus trip to Seattle's Safeco Field to attend a Mariners game with other HERO members! Package pricing: club seats \$380-\$532 (all 38 home games), half-season club seats \$266 (19 games) and single-season \$190-\$266 (all 38 home games). Call 544-8789 and mention you're a HERO employee!

DISCOUNTED MOVIE TICKETS — Limit increased to 10 per purchase. Carmike tickets are \$4.50 each with restrictions applying only to Sony DDS movies. Regal tickets are \$5 each and applicable restrictions are identified in the *Tri-City Herald* with a star. Yakima Mercy tickets are \$5 each with no restrictions. For Regal or Carmike tickets, send checks made payable to "HERO" to Linda Meigs (H3-12), Linda Sheehan (T4-40), Nancy Zeuge (X3-74), Michelle Brown-Palmore (A7-51) or Patti Boothe (T6-04). For Yakima Mercy tickets, send checks to Flu Garza (T4-01) or Nancy Zeuge (X3-74).

PENDLETON ROUND UP – Sept. 15. We will have 100 tickets at \$13 each. Details to follow when tickets are available.

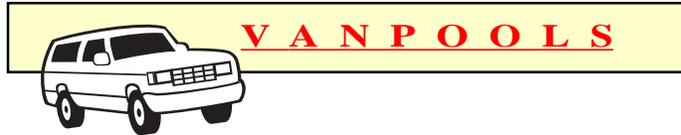
UPCOMING HERO-SPONSORED TRIPS

• **Portland Shopping Spree** – Sept. 28-30. We will leave Friday morning and return Sunday afternoon. The bus will be available on Saturday for side trips. The trip cost is \$170 ppdo for two nights' lodging at the DoubleTree Inn at Lloyd's Center and roundtrip bus. \$25 non-refundable deposit is required at signup. Final payment is due Aug. 24. Lloyd's Center features over 200 stores, 18 movie theaters and an ice skating rink. The Oregon Museum of Science and Industry and Washington Park Zoo are nearby. You are within walking distance of the Oregon Convention Center, the Rose Garden Arena and Memorial Coliseum. The MAX light rail system runs directly from the hotel to historic Old Town and downtown Portland. Downtown Portland's shopping features Meier and Frank, Abercrombie and Fitch, Saks, J. Crew and Tiffany's. Sunday brunch will be available at the hotel for \$11.99. At the time of this notice, the hotel is adding a \$3-per-room, per-night charge plus taxes in response to the energy crisis in Oregon. This charge is temporary and may not be in effect at the time of our trip in September. E-mail Marvene McChesney (T4-61) for information and deposits.

• **Puerto Vallarta, Mexico** – Nov. 6-13, \$825 ppdo, \$765 triple, \$712 quad and \$1,126 single. \$150 pp deposit required to reserve your spot. Major credit cards are accepted but there is a 3 percent added charge to the total. This trip includes eight days and seven nights accommodations at the five-star Villa del Palmar Hotel on the beach in a studio unit; roundtrip transfers from the airport to the hotel; all air taxes, hotel taxes and departure taxes. The Villa Del Palmar offers several amenities: swimming pool, restaurants and bars, tennis court, fitness center and activities, grocery store, and 100 yards of white sandy beach. *Space is limited now*, so don't wait until the last minute to reserve your spot. E-mail Sheila Kirk (T4-05).

• **European Capitals Cruise** — Sept. 7-22. Rates range from \$3,199 to \$4,081 pp depending upon cabin selection. Package includes round-trip air from Seattle, transfers, and all meals and entertainment on board. Port charges are an additional \$330 pp. E-mail Phyllis Roha for more information. ♦

Regular Features



Vanpool ads are run for two weeks. Ads must be resubmitted to run in subsequent issues of the *Hanford Reach*. The deadline for submissions is Thursday, 10 days prior to publication.

Day & Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford reminds employees to wear their badges. Vanpool and carpool drivers are responsible for ensuring riders are badged. If a passenger forgets his or her badge, Patrol must be informed at the barricades. For more information, look on the Hanford Web in the Projects and Activities section, Safeguards and Security at <http://www.rl.gov:1050/sas/pg1v3htm>.

KENNEWICK

8x9 vanpool to 200E needs additional riders. Picks up at Fred Meyer (2811 W. 10th Ave., Kennewick) and Ranch and Home (Columbia Center Blvd., Kennewick). Stops at 2750-E, MO-414, 2727-E and 2704-HV. If you are interested in a less expensive fare and are willing to be a primary driver or share in the driving responsibilities, please specify when you call. Interested riders and drivers can contact **Kristine Bowen** at 372-3667 or **Carl Kinkel** at 373-0813 for additional information. 6/25

Vanpool to 200E has opening, 8x9s. Picks up at the church on 19th and Olympia, Garfield and Albertson's on Clearwater. Drops off at 274-AW, 2750-E and 2704-HV. Call **Sue Hulsey** at 372-3752. 6/25

PASCO

Vanpool No.139 to 200E and 200W needs riders, 8x9, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Picks up at Road 100 Sleep Inn with a stop at the Federal Building in Richland. Contact **Robert Spears** at 372-0984 or **Sarah Larinaga** at 372-2826. 6/25

RICHLAND

Vanpool No. 116 to 200E has an opening. 8x9s, picks up at Joe's Chevron at Jadwin and McMurray. Drops off at 2750, MO-286, 2701-HV and 2704-HV. Call **Nester Wise** at 376-6373 or 376-7266. 6/18

Vanpool No. 91 needs riders and back-up driver(s). 8x9s, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This is a door-to-door vanpool. That's right, we pick you up at home! Starts on the 500 block of Douglass Ave., to the 100 Block of Goethals, travels to Duportail, along Cottonwood Drive, over to Wright, Thayer, Van Geisen and North George Washington Way. Drops off at MO-286, 274-E, 2750-E, and maybe 2704-HV. Contact **Rich Bowen** at 373-5359. 6/18

WEST RICHLAND

Vanpool No. 120 to 200E needs two 8x9 riders. Leaves Flat Top Park at 6:10 a.m. Drops off at 2750-E, WESF and 2727. Contact **Marion** at 372-0383 or 372-0323. 6/18 ♦

Regular Features



SHOEMOBILE

100 K Area

parking lot south of MO-401

July 10	7 to 10 a.m.	BC Sales
July 25	7 to 8:30 a.m.	Iron Age

200 East Area

northeast gravel parking lot of 2101-M

July 10	11 a.m. to 1 p.m.	BC Sales
July 11	7 a.m. to noon	Sound Safety
July 25	9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Iron Age

200 West Area

parking lot east of MO-281

July 10	2 to 5 p.m.	BC Sales
July 11	1 to 4 p.m.	Sound Safety
July 25	1 to 4 p.m.	Iron Age

300 Area

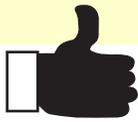
along fence east of Wisconsin Street

July 9	1 to 4 p.m.	Sound Safety
July 9	2 to 5 p.m.	BC Sales

Energy Northwest

Columbia Generating Station

July 24	3 to 7 p.m.	Iron Age
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B R A V O

Aldridge named HPS Fellow

On June 12 at a national meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, the Health Physics Society selected Theresa Aldridge to be one of the HPS Fellows for 2001. This award is given to senior members of the HPS in recognition of significant administrative, educational or scientific contributions to the profession of health physics. An HPS Fellow is a lifetime appointment in recognition of dedication to the profession and service to the society.

Aldridge has served Hanford for 31 years in health physics and radiological control with a focus on occupational and environmental health and safety. She has been with the Department of Energy's Richland Operations Office for six years and currently provides oversight of Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's Environmental Management and Radiological Control Programs.



Aldridge

Hanford Patrol, Benton County officers win top honors at SPOTC

The Hanford Patrol and the Benton County Regional SWAT offices took home a number of awards from the 29th annual Department of Energy Security Police Officer Training Competition held in Albuquerque, N.M. May 21-25.

Five individual events tested the knowledge, weapons skills, strength, agility and endurance of the competitors. Hanford Patrol security police officer Scott White had finished on top, earning the title of security police officer of the year. White is the fourth Hanford Patrol officer to win this prestigious award. Hanford Patrol officer Scott McGary (the oldest member of the team at 48) took third place. Hanford Patrol officer Robert Maier placed sixth.

In the team portion of the competition, the Hanford Patrol team of Sam Bell, Devin Shelby, Scott White, Robert Maier and Scott McGary was led by Robert Morrow. The team included a 2.5-mile team relay race and the very grueling super team event. This competition tested the team's knowledge, weapons skills, teamwork, strength, endurance and the team captain's ability to lead. Hanford Patrol finished second in the super team event and third overall.

For the first time, the Benton County regional SWAT team participated in the SPOTC law enforcement division. In the individual competition, Clay Vannoy (a former Hanford Patrol training officer, now a corporal with the Benton County Sheriff's Office) finished first and earned the title of law enforcement officer of the year. Kennewick police officer Dave Blosser finished third.

Benton County took third overall in the team event. The team members Wayne Dubois of the Benton County Sheriff's Office and Chris Guerro, Trevor White and Dave Blosser of the Kennewick Police Department were led by Steve Keane, a former Hanford Patrol training officer, now a sergeant with the BCSO. ♦