

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.

So lucky

Getting to work in the outer areas is a little harder now. But I'm not complaining. The delay caused by increased security and rigorous badge checking is a small price to pay to ensure that I get to go home to my family at night. I am so lucky!

I can't do much to help those thousands of families affected by the terrorist attack except extend my heartfelt sympathy. But I can give my support to Hanford Patrol, maybe adjust my schedule a little bit, wait in line without whining, listen to the radio while I'm waiting and remember that I get to go home tonight.

Susan Leckband
Numatec Hanford

Many thanks

On Sept. 13, I was driving on the inside lane of the Bypass Highway headed home from Hanford. My tire blew just after the Van Giesen intersection. I signaled to move to the outer lanes but could not get over because of the other drivers and vehicles.

One person saw that I was in distress. He slowed down in the center lane so that I could get into that lane, and then he moved to the outside lane for me to get over to the side of the road. He then pulled up in front of me. This gentleman's name is Carroll (Buddy) Rust.

In the meantime, a second car pulled in behind me. This young gentleman's name is Chris Foster, (can't find him on my PopFon, but he said he worked out at Hanford). Between the two of them, they helped me get my tire changed and back on the road.

I want to thank them both for being so thoughtful and I wish that there could be some kind of special safety award to be presented to them for helping out in a time of distress and danger.

A great big thank-you to you both!

Carolyn (Charlie) Hill
Fluor Hanford, Inc.

Support volunteer firefighters

The tragedy in New York and Washington, D.C., has prompted me to write this letter on behalf of the countless people on the Hanford Site who volunteer their time to local fire and rescue departments.

The people who volunteer at local fire departments and work on site at other jobs must take time from their own personal time bank or take unpaid time if they are called away from their jobs to answer a call from their fire department. They save their PTB for such occasions.

Our company does not support this activity as a community service, like the people who volunteer for the United Way campaign. The people who volunteer their time to a community fire department as firefighters or rescue personnel must take their own vacation when called out on work time while risking their lives to protect our lives and property.

I would like to suggest that the company change the policy to consider this a community service, just like volunteering for United Way and serving in the National Guard.

Or, if this is not possible, I'd like to suggest that the company set up a permanent account for site employees to donate PTB hours for volunteer firefighters and rescue people to draw on. I would certainly donate a bunch of mine if it means someone can leave work here to go put out a fire at my house, saving my animals and property.

Other opinions?

Cecilia O'Shaughnessy
Fluor Hanford

Still in shock

The events of Sept. 11 have changed my life and my children's lives forever.

I am still in shock. I can't believe that something so horrific could happen in the United States.

My oldest son is 10 and he came home from school crying uncontrollably and asked "Why?" I was not sure what to tell him. I tried to explain to him the best that I could, but I myself have been asking why. Needless to say, he has been sleeping in my room every night since. He calls me several times a day just to tell me that he loves me and make sure that I am okay.

My family has prayed every day for the victims and their families. We have also prayed for the rescue workers who put their lives on the line each day.

God Bless America.

Amy Dornbusch
Bechtel Hanford

Regular Features

Wake up

I read Ann Young's letter in the *Hanford Reach* (Sept. 10). It was great!

I work in the 300 Area and start work at 6 a.m. After you pass the intersection of Stevens and Spengler, everyone starts driving crazy. I tried one morning to keep up with the flow of traffic. I was doing 65 mph and didn't have a prayer. You had best get out of the way or you may get hurt. Most of us drive within 5 miles of the speed limit, but these people are darting in and out of lanes while overdoing the speed limit. If they don't rear-end you, then they'll sideswipe you.

Where are the Benton County Sheriffs or the Hanford Patrol? I will notice them on the road when there is very little traffic. I wish some of the Hanford Patrol would get in their private cars and run the gauntlet; then they would know.

With winter coming and the chance for icy road conditions, it makes me wonder how safe it will be to drive to the areas. If these loonies don't have respect for the other people out there now, it's going to be a real treat later.

When leaving the 300 Area I'm in a merge lane. Good luck! They stay in the left lane, or if they see you are trying to get out of the 300 Area, they will immediately leave the right-hand lane and get in the left lane. This makes easing into traffic a bit tricky.

Guess we need to wait till someone is seriously injured or killed before some folks actually wake up.

Rosemary Weaver
Fluor Hanford

Editors' note: The Hanford Patrol does not enforce the traffic laws on the Hanford Site. Lt. Charles Kissler of the Benton County Sheriff's Office noted that last year the City of Richland annexed the land up to Horn Rapids Road. The Sheriff's Office shares the jurisdiction with the Richland Police Department. Lt. Kissler indicated that law enforcement agencies are aware of the traffic situation during the morning and evening commutes, and the Benton County Sheriff's Office is in the process of coordinating enhanced enforcement efforts with the Richland Police Department and the Washington State Patrol.

Drive defensively

Ann Young's letter (Sept. 10) received a quick comment. In her letter, Chris Hough (Sept. 17) mentioned she wants a safe commute also and questions attitudes. No matter who we are or where we drive, we can all find something about another person's driving to complain

about. Ms. Young's concern seems a valid concern.

I can only suggest to people that when traveling slower than the traffic around us, we need to be in the right-hand lane. This will allow those who want to travel faster to do so and pass right on by us without causing us any concern.

Washington State laws tell us we should not be in the left lane unless we are passing another vehicle. When we see a car in our rearview mirror gaining on us (while we are in the left lane), it tells us we need to move to the right and not create a situation where we will be passed on the right.

While we can not correct others' bad driving habits, by practicing some defensive driving we can avoid some potential problems on the drive to work and lower our stress level during our drive.

When we drive the posted speed limits and travel in the right lane, the people in a hurry to get to work will be past us in a matter of seconds and we won't let them get our day started off in a negative way.

With luck, we won't see these people on our drive home.

Rick Parsons
Fluor Hanford



Turn in time cards early before FY 2001 ends

Fiscal year 2001 ends on Sunday, and all timecards for the pay period ending Sept. 30 are required to be submitted and approved no later than 9 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 27. Employees should estimate work and absence time for the remainder of the workweek, including anticipated overtime for Saturday, Sept. 29, and Sunday, Sept. 30. The Time Information System will be available for corrections on Monday, Oct. 1. Compensation for submitted and approved corrections will appear on a future paycheck. Your understanding and cooperation is greatly appreciated. Contact Debbie Long at 376-5242 if you have questions or need more information. ♦

Features continued on page 19.

Regular Features

CLASSES



Informational meeting at City University

Learn about the graduate, undergraduate and certificate courses in project management offered by City University and certified by the Project Management Institute at a meeting on Sept. 25, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The informational meeting tomorrow will be held at City University, 303 Bradley Blvd. in Richland.

For more information, contact City University at 943-9887 or at tri-cities@cityu.edu.

Two boating safety courses offered in Richland

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is offering two different boating safety courses this fall. The one-day "Boating Safely" class will be taught at the Richland Police Department on Saturday, Sept. 29, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost for this class is \$20 per person. "Boating Skills and Seamanship" is a more advanced course meeting 7-9 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays for 13 two-hour classes at the Richland High School, Lecture Room A, beginning Monday, Oct. 15. The cost for this course is \$30 for the first student and \$10 for a friend or family member sharing the same text. For information and course registration, call 946-1727.

Safety class offered at HAMMER

D2000 Safety Solutions will offer the class listed below. The course will be held at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center and qualifies for Continuing Education Units.

- **Confined Space Train the Trainer** – Oct. 2-5. Cost is \$695. The course covers the OSHA standard 29 CFR 1910.146. The course focuses on tunnels, sewers, boilers and other spaces adequate in size and configuration for employee entry, with limited means of egress and not designed for continuous employee occupancy. Hands-on scenarios are also included. Students will conduct actual confined-space entries. To register, contact D2000 Safety Solutions at (800) 551-8763 or visit the Web site, www.d2000ss.com.

Regulatory compliance transportation classes

Duratek Federal Services, Inc. Northwest Operations will offer the following classes at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center during the first quarter of fiscal year 2002. To register for the classes contact your training coordinator.

- Advanced Mixed Waste Shipper Certification Training (Course No. 020078) — Oct. 1-4
- Basic Hazardous Materials Transportation Training, Mod 1 (Course No. 020064) — Nov. 12-14
- Basic Hazardous Waste Transportation Training, Mod 2 (Course No. 020068) — Nov. 14
- Basic Radioactive Materials Transportation Training, Mod 3 (Course No. 020059) — Nov. 15-16
- Hazardous Materials General Awareness Transportation Training (Course No. 020075) — Oct. 9, Oct. 23, Nov. 8 or Dec. 11
- Advanced Radioactive Material Shipper Certification Training (Course No. 020069) — Dec. 18-20
- Hazardous Materials Driver's Training (Course No. 020077) — Oct. 10 or 24
- Introduction to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (Course No. 020083) — Nov. 7
- Advanced Hazardous Waste Shipper Certification Training (Course No. 020159) — Nov. 27-29
- Load Securement of HazMat for Drivers and Shippers (Course No. 050410) — Dec. 12

Continuing Training offered at HAMMER

The Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center offers Continuing Training Offering Plan sessions regularly. There is no charge for participation in the sessions, but students must register in advance. Register online at <http://www.rl.gov/trs/ctop/ctop.htm>. Click on the selected session and complete the registration form, or send an e-mail message to Vikki Ballew with student name, Hanford identification number, organization name (not code), company name, session date and session title. Upcoming sessions include:

- **A Hands-on Approach to Procedure Process Training** – Oct. 17, 7:30 a.m. in room 11. This interactive session provides an example of how one organization used a novel approach to provide procedure compliance expectations training.

Continued on page 20.

Regular Features



CLASSES continued

- **Integrated Training Electronic Matrix (ITEM)** – Dec. 5, 7:30 a.m. in room 16. ITEM is the site-wide program for tracking training requirements. This session includes a general overview of ITEM, discusses how to access various reports and provides an explanation of the role instructional staff members may play in providing input that feeds into the system. ♦



CALENDAR

Prehistory and ethnohistory of Hanford Site

The Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society will kick off its fall program series on Tuesday, Sept. 25, when Tom Marceau, archaeologist and cultural resources supervisor for Bechtel Hanford, will present “Prehistory and Ethnohistory: Interpreting the Past on the Hanford Site.” The general meeting and program is open to the public and will begin at 7 p.m. at the Kennewick First Lutheran Church on the corner of Hwy 395 and Yelm Street in Kennewick. For more information call 588-4025.

Integration Project Expert Panel to meet

Eight nationally recognized technical experts will meet Sept. 26-28 at the Bechtel Building in Richland to review work and progress on Hanford’s Groundwater/Vadose Zone Integration Project. The Integration Project integrates all Hanford activities that affect the soil, groundwater and Columbia River, and is managed by Bechtel Hanford. The experts meet periodically as members of the Integration Project Expert Panel.

At the Wednesday session, public, stakeholder, tribal nation and regulator input will be received from 1 to 2:30 p.m. On Thursday, the stakeholder input period will be 3:15 - 4 p.m., and Friday’s half-day concluding meeting will include an input period from 3:15 to 4 p.m. The Expert Panel welcomes public comment during those times.

All meetings will be held at the Bechtel Building, 3350 George Washington Way in Richland. A building-access badge is required, and U.S. citizens with photo identification may obtain a badge at the reception desk. Information about the Expert Panel and the Integration Project is available on the Internet at <http://www.bhi-erc.com/projects/vadose/>.

Mid-Columbia Symphony season begins Sept. 29

The Mid-Columbia Symphony begins its 57th season at 8 p.m. on Sept. 29 at the Richland High School auditorium with a concert celebrating the music of Spain. The concert “Viva España!” will feature performances by classical guitarist Steven Novacek, the symphony and the Tri-City Dance Association. CH2M HILL Hanford Group is sponsoring the concert with a \$10,000 grant. Tickets for this concert and season tickets may be purchased at the symphony office at 1407 Goethals in Richland, the WestCoast Hotel in Kennewick, or at Crest Hallmark in Pasco. For further information, call the symphony office at 943-6602.

Walk for Diabetes to take place Sept. 29

The third annual America’s Walk for Diabetes, sponsored by the Mid-Columbia District of the American Diabetes Association, will start at Howard Amon Park in Richland on Saturday, Sept. 29. Participants will meet at 8 a.m. at the “fingernail” to check in. The walk is from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will conclude with local entertainment and an “Aussie” lunch, courtesy of the Outback Steakhouse. For more information, to donate or to sign up as a walker, sponsor or volunteer, call the American Diabetes Association at 943-0858.

Oct. 6 walk to raise money for Special Olympics

Special Olympics athletes in Washington need your help. On Oct. 6, join walkers across the state to help raise money to make it possible for thousands of individuals with mental retardation to experience the joy, exhilaration, teamwork and challenge that come from participating in organized sports. In the Tri-Cities, the Special Olympics walk will take place from 8:30 to 11 a.m. in Columbia Park. Contact Pat L. Davis at 373-6030 for more information.

Continued on page 21.



Regular Features

CALENDAR continued

Customer service is focus of Oct. 9 AQP meeting

The Oct. 9 meeting of the local chapter of the Association for Quality and Participation at the Richland Shilo Inn will feature Fred Almeida, owner and spa director of Nouveau Skin Care and Day Spa. Almeida will share strategies for customer satisfaction and quality in a service industry. The networking and social hour begins at 5 p.m., the buffet is at 6, and the presentation starts at 7. The cost is \$16 for AQP or American Society for Quality members, \$19 for non-members or \$5 for the presentation only. Make your reservations by Oct. 4. Call 547-6548 or register through the chapter's Web site at <http://www.3-cities.com/~gates/AQPQuest.htm>.

Ready, set, walk in the Heart Walk Oct. 13

The Tri-Cities American Heart Association Heart Walk 2001 will be held on Saturday, Oct. 13, beginning in Howard Amon Park in Richland. Registration for the five-kilometer walk (3.1 miles) will take place at the "fingernail" at 9 a.m., and the walk will start at 10 a.m.

Funds raised in the Heart Walk support the lifesaving work of the American Heart Association, Northwest Affiliate, which is dedicated to the reduction of disability and death resulting from heart disease and stroke.

If you are interested in participating in this year's Heart Walk as a team captain, as a walker in the event or as a financial supporter of the walkers, contact Dale Denham at 376-8550, Katie Larson at 375-3698; Jim Lilly at 373-3329; Jeff Pratt at 373-3035 or Karen Welsh at 376-2151. ♦

OOPS

A typo appeared in the Safeguards and Security Web site URL (*Hanford Reach*, Sept. 17, "Deer strikes account for most Hanford highway accidents.")

The correct Web address is:
http://www.rl.gov/sas/pg5_oper/pg54/pg54deer.htm.



Battelle Staff Association offers NBA tickets

The Battelle Staff Association is providing Department of Energy and other Hanford contractor employees the opportunity to purchase tickets to premium Seattle SuperSonics National Basketball Association games in the 2001-2002 season. A very limited number of tickets for upper level seats in the \$20 section (with various discounts depending on the game) are available to the following weekend games:

- Nov. 30 – against the World Champion Los Angeles Lakers
- Feb. 16 – against the Boston Celtics
- March 15 – against the Washington Wizards and the possible return of legendary Michael Jordan
- March 29 – against the San Antonio Spurs
- April 5 – against the New York Knicks.

For further information, price and ticket reservations, contact Gregor Hanson at 375-2737. ♦



VAN POOLS

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

Vanpool No.196 (formerly No. 72) has openings, 8x9 schedule. Picks up at homes or convenient stops on a route that does not affect current drive times from Kennewick. Streets on route now are in vicinity of Vancouver and 36th, 27th and Olympia, 19th and Olympia, 4th and Vancouver, Clearwater and Morain, West Hood, Edison and Canal, 2440 Stevens. Drops off in 200E Area at 2750, WESF, and 2704-HV. Call **John** at 372-0223 or send an e-mail message to R J II (John) Townley. 9/17

Continued on page 22.

Regular Features



VANPOOLS continued

KENNEWICK, cont.

8x9 vanpool from Richland Wye to 200W, serving commuters from Richland and Kennewick, has an opening. We stop at 222-S, MO-279, T Plant, WRAP and MO-720. Call **Fred Sargent** at 373-2106. 9/24

Rider needed for Ben Franklin vanpool to 200W. Picks up along 10th St. at Rainier and 17th, and at the Kennewick Shopko. Drops off at MO-281, MO-279, T Plant and WRAP. Call **Debbie** at 372-2698 for more information. 9/24

RICHLAND

Vanpool No.195 to 200E has openings for three riders and/or drivers. Vanpool originates in North Richland. Low rates. Contact either **Marge Petty** at 372-3577 or **Don Caldwell** at 372-1417. 9/17

Vanpool to 200W needs riders, 8x9 schedule. Leaves Wright Avenue at 6:10 a.m. Leave the driving to us this winter. Contact **Gary Bush** at 372-2531 or **Bobbie Lorenzen** at 373-2119. 9/17

WEST RICHLAND

Vanpool No 120 to 200E needs one 8x9 rider. Leaves Flat Top Park at 6:10 a.m. Drops off at 2750-E, WESF, 2727 and 2025-EA. Contact **Marion** at 372-0383. 9/24 ♦