Hanford Reach
Hanford Site Employee News
March 31, 2003

Cocooned reactor opened after five years

Edye Jenkins, *Bechtel Hanford*

This wide-angle photo of the C Reactor face is one of many taken during the recent entry for surveillance and maintenance.

In December, workers entered C Reactor for the first time in five years and found it in just about the same condition it was in when they closed the doors in 1998.

The entry by Environmental Restoration Contractor employees was part of the first scheduled surveillance and maintenance visit inside C Reactor since it was placed in interim safe storage, or cocooned. It was the first of Hanford's nine plutonium production reactors to be placed in interim safe storage.

Cocooning of Hanford's surplus reactors for up to 75 years will allow time for the U.S. Department of Energy and its regulators and stakeholders to determine the final disposal method and to allow radiation levels in the reactor cores to decay to more manageable levels. It involves demolishing the facility down to the shield walls surrounding the reactor core, installing remotely monitored heat and moisture sensors and placing a new steel roof over the entire structure.

The objective of cocooning is to establish a safe, environmentally secure and stable structure that will protect the public and the environment from potential contamination while significantly reducing the surveillance and maintenance costs.

Just as they left it

"C Reactor is a radioactively contaminated facility," said Dave Baker, Bechtel Hanford area superintendent. "At the completion of the cocooning phase, radiological surveys were performed and facility conditions were noted. The five-year surveillance was performed to assess present conditions and determine if any degradation had occurred."

Bechtel Hanford manages the ER Project for the DOE Richland Operations Office. The ERC surveillance and maintenance group is responsible for maintaining Hanford's surplus contaminated facilities and waste sites in a safe and stable condition until final disposition.

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Cocooned reactor opened after five years, cont.

"With the exception of one small area of the roof flashing requiring minor repair and a small oil drip inside the structure, we found C Reactor to be in the same condition as when it was sealed in 1998," Baker said.

The recent surveillance showed that cocooning creates a safe and environmentally secure structure while significantly reducing the surveillance and maintenance costs. Based on the results, the ERC team will determine whether the five-year period can be safely extended, reducing surveillance costs even further.

Members of the surveillance and maintenance team participating in the activity included radiation control technicians, decontamination and decommissioning workers, a heavy-equipment driver, an industrial hygienist, a field supervisor, a field engineer, a project engineer and a safety representative.

Alert for hazards

Because the structure had been sealed for five years, particular attention was paid to potential hazards. "The first step was to ensure the facility was safe to enter," said Don Eckert, field supervisor. An industrial hygienist sampled air quality and a radiation control technician checked radiological conditions. "The team then toured the facility along predetermined routes to document its condition and identify maintenance requirements," said Eckert. "Once all the team's work is completed, the door will be resealed."

To document conditions inside the reactor, the team used a new high-resolution digital camera and newly developed software that make it possible to create 360-degree photographs. "The photographs will allow comparison to future observed conditions and will be used to develop a virtual tour of the facility interior," said Bob Egge, project engineer. "System users can zoom in to specific areas of interest and see them from all angles and in greater detail without having to enter the facility."

Two of Hanford's former plutonium production reactors have been cocooned. DR Reactor was cocooned in 2002. F Reactor cocooning will be completed this year. And the cocooning of D and H Reactors is scheduled for completion in 2004. ■

Annual surveillance completed on other surplus facilities

Until Hanford's former plutonium production reactors and related facilities are placed in interim safe storage or demolished, the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office requires annual surveillance and maintenance. Over the past few months, Environmental Restoration Project workers completed inspecting three reactors and about 80 related structures.

Annual surveillance activities involve a special team that tours the facilities to document their status and identify needed repairs. The annual reactor and ancillary-facility surveillances are performed over several months by radiological control technicians, decontamination-and-decommissioning workers and other field personnel. The objective of the program is to maintain these facilities in a safe and environmentally secure condition until final disposition.

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The team surveyed KE, KW and N Reactors and about 80 related N Area and K Area facilities. When N Reactor was deactivated in 1998, most of the hazardous and radioactive materials were fixed or removed from the reactor. Excess equipment and supplies were relocated, electrical power was shut off and doors to the facility were locked.

"Our annual surveillance of N Reactor and other facilities found them in a stable, safe condition," said Bechtel Hanford field supervisor Don Eckert. "We are planning to remove asbestos from vent ducting on the roof of the 109-N building to abate that potential hazard."

N Reactor made national headlines when President John F. Kennedy visited Hanford for the groundbreaking on Sept. 26, 1963, less than two months before he was assassinated. N Reactor operated from 1963 to 1987 and was the only dual-purpose reactor in the DOE complex, producing plutonium for defense and steam to generate electricity.

Project workers also successfully completed annual surveillance on deactivated KE and KW Reactors, except for the facilities that are part of the Spent Nuclear Fuel Program managed by Fluor Hanford. KE Reactor was operated from 1955 to 1971, and KW Reactor was operated from 1955 to 1970.

"With the exception of the roofs, the interiors of these facilities were in the same condition as they were a year ago," Eckert said. "We have completed repairing the KE Reactor roof and will repair the KW Reactor roof this summer."

The team is also mitigating hazards at B Reactor and enhancing its appearance to ensure public safety at the designated historic landmark. And the team performs other activities to protect people and the environment, including planning and conducting mock-up training to help reduce worker time and exposure in radioactive environments and stabilizing waste sites to prevent the potential spread of contamination. ■

Three tons of residues repackaged at PFP

Michele Gerber, *Fluor Hanford*

PFP nuclear chemical operators handle residues inside a vented "tent" structure.

This month, Fluor Hanford personnel at the Department of Energy's Plutonium Finishing Plant passed the 3-ton mark in repackaging the large collection of plutonium-bearing leftovers known as residues.

Residues are a diverse collection of scrap items dispositioned as wastes. The residues include Rocky Flats ash; Hanford ash; mixed oxide scrap; sand slag and crucible, or SS&C, that remains from the process of making plutonium metal "buttons"; at least two types of plutonium alloys scrap; and other miscellaneous plutonium-bearing scrap items from decades of weapons production at PFP. PFP employees have been repacking the residues for permanent disposal at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

The collection of residues is the largest part of the legacy plutonium-bearing materials at PFP. Of the approximately 18 metric tons of plutonium-bearing materials left at PFP when plutonium production ended in 1989, nearly 6 tons have been designated as residues.

In original agreements with DOE and the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, only about 4 metric tons of the materials were designated as residues. However, over the ensuing years, about two metric tons of additional material have been designated residues.

"We're extremely proud of the residues team because they've been willing and able to absorb so much extra feed to repackage," said Kent Smith, Fluor Hanford's PFP deputy director. "If additional materials hadn't been moved into the residues category, this team would just about be crossing the finish line [90 percent complete] six to eight months ahead of schedule. By taking on extra tasks, the residues team has provided us a great opportunity to stabilize and repackage all the material at PFP ahead of the May 2004 deadline."

Residues packaging

Unlike some other forms of plutonium leftovers at PFP, residues already exist in stable forms and do not have to be stabilized. Residues, which generally contain lesser amounts of plutonium by volume, simply need to be repackaged into sturdy containers to meet WIPP standards for disposal. PFP thermally treats plutonium-bearing materials such as solutions and polycubes, not suitable for long-term storage, to convert them to stable forms.

Repackaging residues involves sorting, processing and transferring certain plutonium- bearing solids and dense powders into new billet cans, which are 2.7-liter slip-lid cans. The work is done inside a glovebox in the main PFP processing facility, the 234-5 Building, long known to Hanford workers as "Dash 5." The billet cans are placed inside vented and filtered plastic bags, measured to determine plutonium content, and then placed inside special 55-gallon drums known as pipe overpack containers, or POCs.

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Three tons of residues repackaged at PFP, cont.

The stainless-steel-lined POCs hold one to four billet cans and have secondary HEPA (high-efficiency particulate air) filtration. The POCs are destined for disposal as transuranic waste at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. Shipments to WIPP are expected to begin in 2004.

The packaging of residues has increased dramatically over the past three years. Teams led by Brian Skeels, Fluor Hanford Residues Stabilization manager, began repackaging in fiscal year 2000, and packaged nearly a ton in FY 2001 and about 1.7 tons in FY 2002. Thus far in FY 2003, they have repackaged more than three-quarters of a ton.

In late March, residues teams completed repackaging a large category of MOX scraps and began working on another set of materials known as “Group 2 Alloys.” They also completed measuring and transferring the large SS&C residues group to Hanford’s Central Waste Complex to await shipment for permanent disposal off site.

Other PFP progress

The Residues Sub-Project is one of three major sub-projects focused on stabilization at PFP. The Thermal Stabilization Sub-Project under Rob Cantwell finished stabilizing plutonium-laced cubes of polystyrene, known as polycubes, in February, and is expected to begin washing and stabilizing oxides this spring.

Stabilizing and canning of plutonium metals and oxides, managed by Rob Gregory, was partly finished in September 2001 with completion of plutonium metals. That team is working to complete canning plutonium oxides by early 2004. The metals and oxides are being placed into new stainless-steel “3013” cans — those meeting the stringent new specifications of DOE’s Standard 3013.

In addition, planning is under way to accelerate deactivation of the 61 structures in the PFP compound. Tasks include environmental documentation and fieldwork to clean out plutonium that has been “held up” in old equipment, and size-reducing and removing old equipment. ■

SNF Project removes 200th Multi-Canister Overpack

Michele Gerber, *Fluor Hanford*

An MCO inside a shipping cask is lifted out of the K West Basin.

In mid-March, Fluor Hanford's Spent Nuclear Fuel Project sent its 200th Multi-Canister Overpack of irradiated fuel to the Canister Storage Building. With the shipment of the 201st, the project passed the halfway mark in total fuel removed from the Columbia River shoreline. MCO No. 201 brought the total amount of fuel removed from the K West Basin to 1,053 metric tons (over 2.3 million pounds) out of approximately 2,100 metric tons of fuel that were in the K Basins when the process of removing fuel began.

The K Basins are twin concrete structures, each approximately 8,400 square feet, that have held irradiated uranium fuel from Hanford's N Reactor since the 1970s. An amount equivalent to the original amount of fuel in the K West Basin has been taken out of the pool, dried and placed in dry storage in the Canister Storage Building on the Hanford Site's central plateau. Fuel from the K East Basin continues to be sent to the K West Basin for processing.

"We're elated to have turned the corner and removed more than half of the fuel," said Norm Boyter, Fluor Hanford vice president for the SNF Project. "Our workers have worked diligently, safely and carefully to reach this point, and I'm proud of every one of them. The Columbia River becomes safer every day that the SNF Project removes another MCO."

The fuel transfer system that moves fuel from the K East to the K West Basin has transferred more than 75 loads of fuel since it began operating in November 2002. It takes about two loads to fill one MCO. The loads transferred thus far represent about 20 percent of the fuel that was in the K East Basin.■

SNF Project news

The sludge/water system

The sludge/water system in the K East Basin is complete and undergoing operational training. The system will be used to remove the approximately 47 cubic meters of sludge from the K East Basin and transfer it to T Plant for interim storage as part of Hanford's transuranic waste. The system must pass both a contractor and a DOE operational readiness review, or ORR. Both ORRs are planned for April. Plans call for the sludge/water system to start transferring sludge later this spring. Sludge will continue to be removed from the K East Basin throughout 2004.

Fluor Hanford recently held a vendor forum to begin planning work to remove the approximately 7 cubic meters of sludge from the K West Basin. Although it's less in total volume than in K East, the sludge in K West is divided into five discrete streams, complicating removal. Tony Umek, Fluor Hanford deputy SNF Project manager for construction projects, briefed more than 30 contractors potentially interested in performing the work. This coming fall, Fluor Hanford may place a contract for designing and fabricating equipment to remove the sludge from the K West Basin. The contract would also include supporting the installation of the system and acceptance testing.

The schedule for removing sludge from K West is very aggressive and must support both spent-fuel removal and the deactivation of the K West Basin by October 2005.

This pump is part of the sludge/water system that has been completed at K East Basin.

Fuel scrap processing

A two-tiered table for processing scrap was installed in the K West Basin during the January maintenance outage. The table will allow operators to sort scrap pieces of fuel — defined as any fuel piece varying in length from a quarter of an inch to 3 inches. Scrap also includes larger pieces of fuel assemblies that are deformed and thus "unloadable" into regular fuel baskets. Any fuel piece smaller than a quarter of an inch is defined as a component of sludge.

About 14,000 pounds of scrap pieces have been collected and set aside. The scrap will be put into baskets that will be loaded into the MCOs — one to two baskets per MCO. Fluor Hanford Scrap Processing Project manager Jim Mathews expects to begin scrap processing at the end of April. ■

Hanford contractor teams come through to raise JA funds during 'Hollywood Bowl'

The leadership, enthusiasm and creative fund-raising efforts demonstrated by Hanford employees made Hollywood Bowl 2003, held Feb. 27 and 28 and March 1, a tremendous success. More than $140,000 was raised, and these funds will help to bring Junior Achievement programs to more than 7,000 local students this school year.

"Our supporters' creativity and determination never cease to amaze us! For many, this was a tough year, with layoffs, stock markets slumps, and the threat of war looming. But somehow, through all this, our bowlers made this event a bright spot in their organizations," said Fluor Hanford's John Umbarger, who is the bowling classic co-chairman and a Junior Achievement board member. "Thanks to the unsinkable enthusiasm of our tremendous Hanford employees, Hollywood Bowl was a tremendous team-building experience, uniting the Hanford area in an effort to improve the lives of thousands of local students."

The funds raised by Hollywood Bowl help to pay for classroom materials such as posters, stickers, student workbooks, activity sets, game boards, teachers' manuals and software, volunteer manuals and insurance. The money also helps pay for volunteer recruiting, training, support and recognition efforts. These funds also support continuous improvement and testing of JA's teaching materials, a key ingredient in JA success.

Fluor Hanford was the top fund-raiser, bringing in more than $23,751. Karen Welsh was the company coordinator who helped Fluor. ■

Four employees receive Life Saving Awards at PZAC meeting

Four Hanford employees came to the rescue of a driver of a pickup truck that swerved into oncoming traffic and went off the road on Jan. 7 during the morning commute. For their efforts, Fluor Hanford employees Domingo Ramirez and Max Aguilar and CH2M HILL Hanford Group employees John Feil and Tom Miller were recognized with Life Saving Awards at the Presidents' Zero Accident Council meeting March 20.

Ramirez and Aguilar were in the vehicle following the truck and they were the first on the accident scene. As they approached the truck, they observed a man in apparent medical distress. Following procedures, Ramirez and Aguilar learned in the Medic First Aid training, they called 911, checked to make sure the victim's airway was clear, and kept him in a position to prevent him from injuring himself further. Ramirez and Aguilar also checked for other injuries and possible bleeding. When he stopped to help, Miller assisted Ramirez with traffic control around the accident scene. Feil unbuckled the victim's seat belt to prevent further injury, and because the victim was shaking so badly, Feil put himself in between the victim and the steering wheel to prevent injury until emergency medical services arrived.

The PZAC Life Saving Award is designed to recognize and honor employees whose lifesaving actions exemplify the true meaning of caring and courage. Nominations are presented to the PZAC for a vote and the awards are presented at a later PZAC meeting. ■

Fluor Hanford teamster Max Aguilar, left, and CH2M HILL electrician John Feil were among four employees honored with Life Saving Awards presented by Fluor Hanford President Dave Van Leuven.

Bruckner-Lea named PNNL Woman of Achievement

Cynthia Bruckner-Lea, a scientist in the Interfacial Chemistry and Engineering Department, Fundamental Science Directorate, was selected to receive the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's 2003 Woman of Achievement award. She was selected from a field of six nominees.

Cynthia Bruckner-Lea

The award is presented annually to a woman who demonstrates achievement in her professional and personal life and in her service to the community. The nomination process takes place in January. A panel of seven judges from PNNL and the Department of Energy review the nominations in February and announce the decision in March.

This year's winner holds a Ph.D. in bioengineering. Bruckner-Lea's research at PNNL ranges from basic studies on biomolecular interactions to the integration of microsensors and fluidic systems for chemical separation and detection. She leads PNNL's biodetection project in DOE's Chemical and Biological National Security Program, and holds three patents in the area of bioana-lytical chemistry and microfluidics, with additional patents pending.

Bruckner-Lea is actively involved in the Sensor Division of the Electrochemical Society, and is the chairwoman of that division. She enjoys mentoring students and young scientists at PNNL and in the community.

The mother of three children, Bruckner-Lea volunteers to support their activities and other students through Science Bowl, as an organizer and presenter for Science Week at Badger Mountain School, and as a "Simple Machines" teacher at Children's Garden Montessori School. She is also a Mid-Columbia Science Fair judge, and she volunteers with Boys and Girls Club, is a Science Olympiad leader, and coaches fourth and seventh graders for math competitions around eastern Washington.

When she isn't working or involved with family and volunteering, Bruckner-Lea competes in marathons. She has completed more than 10 marathons including the Boston, Big Sur and Tri-Cities marathons.

Bruckner-Lea had some stiff competition for the Woman of Achievement award. The other five nominees are introduced below.

Anna Gutowska is a staff scientist in the Material Synthesis and Modification Department of the Energy Division. Gutowska earned her Ph.D. while raising two small children. At PNNL, Gutowska's responsibilities include leading major research efforts in the area of biomedical materials development for cancer treatment, cartilage repair and controlled-release drug delivery. She has been a Mid-Columbia Science Fair judge for three years, helped construct the Tri-Cities' Children Center, and supported the Hanford High School Cross Country Team, the National Parks Conservation Association and the Nature Conservancy. She also volunteers her time to Sign Inc., a local company that provides orthopedic implants to third-world countries.

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Bruckner-Lea named PNNL Woman of Achievement, cont.

Barbara Reichmuth is a senior research engineer II in Engineered Systems, and recently led the technical support team as project manager for the Cleanup, Constraints and Challenges Team, which became the model for the regulator cooperation mandated by DOE in its review of the Office of Environmental Manage-ment's cleanup effort. Reichmuth has a history of effective leadership roles in other Hanford contractor companies. She is an active member of the community and is especially involved in Leadership Tri-Cities and the activities of her two young children.

Teresa Schlotman is a project administrator in the Radiochemical Science and Engineering Group, where she is responsible for planning, scheduling, and tracking self-assessments in the Radiochemical Processing Laboratory. She is the point of contact for audits, training, bioassay, dosimeter, medical exam, facilities, property, and space issues. In 1999, she earned a four-year business degree, with a minor in Human Resources and Management, by attending school in the evenings for seven years, while working full-time and raising three children. Schlotman is involved in many Team Battelle projects. She also is the youth-group director in her church, helps coach AAU girls' basketball, and volunteers with Columbia Industries, Washington State Migrant Council Job Training, Salvation Army and Union Gospel Mission.

Marilyn Steele is a senior technician in the Radiochemical Sciences and Engineering Group, where she processes specialized radiochemical analytical procedures and techniques in the Chemical Measurement Center. Steele raised three children and helped them to earn bachelor of science degrees. She is a strong community contributor, participating in the Battelle Singles Club, Tri Cities Tumbleweed Music Festival, Blue Mountain Square Dance and Benton County 4-H. She also is active in the Junior Achievement program and her church singles group.

Dorothy Stewart is a senior project manager in the Field Hydrology and Chemistry Department, where she manages the 3.1 M analytical portion of the Hanford Groundwater Monitoring Project for DOE. Stewart has 30 years' experience in microbiological research and environmental compliance. Stewart's community service includes the following positions: Miss Tri-Cities Scholarship Pageant Director; a board member of the Tri-City Water Follies Association; a member of the Three Rivers Children's Orthopedic Guild; chairman of the Mid-Columbia Regional Ballet board; the president of Preceptor Rho, a Beta Sigma Phi cultural and service organization; and the Richland City Council president. ■

Employees collecting items for troop care packages

Employees of Hanford's Waste Treatment Plant Project are spearheading an effort to help out American troops deployed to foreign countries. The drive is being coordinated by WTP Procurement employees, who are gathering and shipping badly needed toiletries and other small items to military personnel.

"There is a great need for the simple items we take for granted, such as toilet paper, toothpaste and deodorant," said Mona Gautreaux of WTP Procurement. "These items are not always available, and when they are you have to stand in line for hours to get them."

Gautreaux's son and daughter-in-law have both been deployed. Thomas Gautreaux is in the Fourth ID Division Heavy Artillery, currently on "hold" status waiting for orders. Greta Gautreaux, a field medic, has been in Kuwait since January. The Gautreauxs have a seven-month-old daughter, Lisa, who is staying with relatives.

Mona Gautreaux's son Thomas and daughter-in-law Greta have both been deployed oversees to take part in the Iraqi conflict.

Gautreaux is gathering names and addresses of friends and fellow employees who have been deployed. She's also gathering donations of hotel-size or sample-size toiletry items to package and ship to military personnel. During past military deployments, people were able to ship letters and care packages to unnamed soldiers. However, because of concerns about the mailing of anthrax, only packages addressed to specific personnel with address information will be delivered.

These items are needed:

- empty shoeboxes for shipping
- baby wipes
- chewing gum
- disposable razors (military personnel must shave every day to ensure a proper fit of their chemical-biological warfare masks)
- moisturizing liquid soap or shower gel for shaving
- hand and body lotions
- paper, pens and air-mail envelopes for writing
- beef jerky
- snacks that can be carried easily (not large bags)
- baggies that seal, to keep dust out of personal items and to carry snacks in
- waterless hand sanitizers
- small tubes of toothpaste
- travel-size soaps, shampoos, conditioners, etc.

Money for shipping costs can also be donated. Because of the high temperatures in the areas where many troops are located, aerosol spray cans cannot be sent. Chocolates are also not advised, as they melt.

Donations should be sent to:

U.S. Troop Care Package
P.O. Box 3445
Tri-Cities, WA 99302

Names and addresses of military personnel to receive care packages can also be sent to this address.

"We're not doing this for the war — we're doing this to support our people, our friends and family that are in need," said Gautreaux. "That's what family and friends are for."

For more information on how you can help, visit the Web site **http://operationmilitary pride. org/ packages.html.** ■

Help your heart, increase flexibility, build strength

Hanford Environmental Health Foundation staff

When most people think about fitness, the first question they usually ask is, “Where do I start?” Exercise can sometimes appear difficult, awkward and time-consuming. You can see how exercise can help you become fit if you look at the essential parts of fitness:

- cardiovascular health, which refers to the condition of a person’s heart and blood vessels after aerobic conditioning
- flexibility, which is gained by increasing range of motion of the joints and muscles in the body
- strength, which comes from training the muscles
- endurance, gained over time from consistent fitness training.

The most successful exercise programs combine all these fitness essentials.

Aerobics and your heart

Exercises that strengthen the heart are called “aerobic” exercises. This type of exercise increases the heart’s power and efficiency and improves the body’s use of oxygen. Examples of aerobic exercises include brisk walking, running, bicycling and swimming. All these aerobic exercises should be performed for at least 20 to 30 minutes at a pace that is brisk but does not make you short of breath. Remember to include a five-minute warm-up and five-minute cool-down, too.

Stretching is important too

The most effective way to increase the body’s flexibility is to do regular stretching exercises. This kind of exercise can improve the body’s range of motion within a relatively short time. It feels good and may help you increase your strength. Remember to stretch slowly, without bouncing, holding each stretch for at least 20 seconds. Breathe normally during a stretch.

Building your strength

Muscle strength can be improved by forcing the muscles to work against increasing amounts of resistance. The most common methods of building muscle strength are lifting weights and using specially designed resistance machines. Be sure to warm up before doing any strengthening exercises. Work up to three sets of 10 repetitions each, resting between sets.

Fitness program

The key to fitness is to begin slowly and work gradually toward greater flexibility, strength and endurance. Try to schedule exercise at least three times a week for about 20 to 30 minutes each time and include a mix of the fitness essentials — aerobics, stretching and strength-building. Also remember to warm up for a few minutes before exercising and to cool down for a few minutes at the end of each workout.

If you have an existing medical condition or a family history of heart disease, check with your personal medical provider before beginning an exercise program. Take the first step toward a fitter, healthier body by incorporating these essentials into your life.

If you would like additional information on exercise or would like to schedule a presentation for your group, contact HEHF Health Education Services at 373-3720 or send an e-mail message to *HEHF Health Education Services. ■

Safety presentations

Fluor Hanford Safety and Hanford Environmental Health Foundation Health Education Services are teaming to present several “Make Your Move” presentations on understanding fitness and exercise. Attendance at one of these presentations will meet the April safety meeting attendance requirement for Fluor Hanford employees. For further information, call Carol Powe of Fluor Hanford Safety at 376-8886, or Judi Staley of HEHF Health Education Services at 372-0097. Fluor Hanford work groups that cannot attend the scheduled presentations may call HEHF Health Education Services at 373-3729 to schedule a more convenient time.

‘Make your Move’ schedule

- Tuesday, April 8, Federal Building, room 142, 10-11 a.m.
- Thursday, April 10, 2420 Stevens Center, room 153, 9-10 a.m.
- Wednesday, April 16, MO-293, 100K, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
- Thursday, April 17, MO-278, 200W, 9-10 a.m.
- Thursday, April 17, 2101-M, Bijou, 200E, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- Monday, April 21, MO-250, 200W, 8-9 a.m.
- Wednesday, April 23, 3763, 300 Area, 9-10 a.m.
- Wednesday, April 23, 4706, 302, 400 Area, 10:30-11:30 a.m

Crystal Apples honor teachers

On March 13, 20 local teachers were honored at the fifth annual Tri-City Crystal Apple Awards program at the Richland Red Lion Hotel. The program was started in 1999 and has honored 80 local teachers to date for their positive impacts on the lives of students. The award is sponsored each year by the Department of Energy, Hanford contractors and more than 40 other community businesses and organizations. More than 300 people attended the event this year.

The teachers represented all seven local school districts. Kennewick, Columbia Burbank, Richland, Pasco, Finley, North Franklin and Kiona-Benton school districts all had award winners. Superintendents present cash awards along with the "Crystal Apples," certificates and other gifts.

Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, Governor Gary Locke, Congressman Doc Hastings, State Agriculture Secretary Valoria Loveland and DOE Richland Operations Office manager Keith Klein each applauded the winners by video, letter or in person.

At the end of the ceremony, a Special Achievement Award was presented to a very surprised Daryl Francis of Hanford Environmental Health Foundation for his long-standing support of education and his special focus on the Tri-Tech Skills Center in Kennewick.

"Our community and our children are indeed blessed to have such dedicated educators like these 21 individuals," said event organizer and master of ceremonies John Umbarger of Fluor Hanford.

Charter Communications is now airing the event Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8 p.m. on a local-access cable channel. ■

HEHF's Daryl Francis accepts a Special Achievement Award.

Security Ed Challenge

Take the correct actions when downloading software

Do you know the correct two actions to take when downloading from the Internet files or software that have limitations ?

Before downloading files or software from the Internet, you must first review any disclaimers, copyrights or licensing agreements associated with the software or files*. If there are limitations then:

A. Notify your immediate manager
B. Change your password
C. Contact the General Counsel's Office** so that they may review the terms for use and determine whether you can lawfully use the software on your government computer
D. Restart your computer.

Send an e-mail message to C. E. (Chet) Braswell with the correct answer(s) and put "Ed's Internet Software" in the subject line. Or clip this article, circle the correct answers, add your name and HID number and send to Security Education at MSIN L4-09. Prizes will be awarded to randomly drawn correct entries. The names of prizewinners and the correct answer will appear in a future issue of the *Hanford Reach*.

Special Kudos to Lynn Gates of Fluor Hanford who wrote this Security Ed Challenge. For her efforts, Security Ed presented her with a wireless door alarm to use when traveling. If you have any challenges you would like Security Ed to consider, e-mail them to Security Ed at ^Security Ed or send them by plant mail to Security Ed at L4-09.

Submitted By _____Hanford ID No. _____

Mailstop _____

*Source: HNF PRO-598 "Exchange and Receipt of Information Via the Internet."

** Some contractors require contact with their Information Security office in lieu of General Counsel.

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.

Anniversary issue kudos

Just finished reading your article, "The Hanford Site celebrates 60 years of protecting America," (March 24). What a great piece of writing and pictures! You are to be complimented on this effort.

My father and father-in-law were part of the 1943-1960 workforce and were extremely proud of the effort that went into the Hanford Site.

Again, congratulations on a fine piece of work.

Cliff Ledford
Fluor Hanford

➢ **Editors' note:** Hanford history buff Don Sorenson assisted the *Hanford Reach* staff with locating the photos from Hanford's early years in the 1940s. Thanks to Sorenson, some of the men, women and children who shaped the site's history were introduced to our readers.

Be patient with increased security

You know everyone has a job to do. And each job is important to the success of our world as we know it.

Waste Management personnel pick up waste. McDonald's employees wrap burgers. Nurses take temperatures. Accountants balance books. And the Hanford Patrol officers are doing their job for our protection and the protection of the site. Perhaps a heartfelt "Thank you!" instead of belligerence and irritation should be voiced next time you see a Patrol officer. Your cooperation, patience and appreciation at the Hanford barricades and other site gates during these times of increased security conditions will be most appreciated.

Here are some tips to make access faster and easier:

- If your security badge is faded or facial changes have occurred (change in facial hair or hair color), get the badge replaced.
- Carry only what you need in your vehicle. Clean out your vehicle on Sunday night, making sure to take out any prohibited articles such as ammunition, guns, alcohol, cameras, etc. that you may have left in there from your vacation or weekend adventure. Check and clean out other compartments within the vehicle as well.
- If you have a toolbox in the back of your car or pickup, have the toolbox lid unlocked and ready for inspection prior to arriving at the barricade.
- If you have a vehicle with dark windows, roll the windows down. Include the passenger and rear side windows, so the Patrol officer can see inside. For a sport utility vehicle, van or pickup with a darkened back window, ensure it is unlocked for easy opening.
- Gather your passengers' badges as they enter your vehicle when you pick them up. That way you are prepared and don't cause a delay at the barricade while your passengers find and remove their badges.

Cooperation and preparation keep things rolling along, moods even and tensions low. Keep yourself in control, be prepared, and remember — everyone has a job to do.

LeeAnn Kasparek
Bechtel Hanford

CLASSES

Peak Performance offers courses at HAMMER

Instructors Rick Martinez and Larry Birckhead of Peak Performance Systems, Inc. will offer two training sessions at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. To register for either of these offerings, please contact Rick Martinez, 627-3273, or Libby Sickler via e-mail at Libby_J_Sickler@rl.gov and provide student name and P-Card billing information.

- **Resolving Differences with Others** — April 30, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. in classroom 28 of the Administration Building. This one-day class gives you the power and the tools of the professional mediator. The process and techniques you will learn are becoming core competencies for employees in many companies. The instructors have been certified by the Mediation Training Institute International (**www.mediationworks.com**). The cost is $245 per person.

Classes continued on next page.

CLASSES continued

- **Cheetah Meetings: Good Meetings Guaranteed!** — May 2, 7:30-11:30 a.m., in classroom 15 of the Administration Building. You will learn proven techniques for holding effective meetings that build teams, and that get the results desired. Included are all the forms, assessments and procedures you and your team will need along with some potent tools that will dramatically improve your meetings. The cost is $150 per person.

OSHA Region X classes

In conjunction with the Voluntary Protection Program Association Annual Conference, the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center will offer the following Occupational Safety and Health Administration Region X classes on May 6.

- **Permit Entry Confined Spaces** — 8 a.m.-5 p.m. This course covers the duties of entrant, attendant, supervisor and rescue team. Case histories are presented along with demonstrations of accidents. Testing and ventilation will be stressed. The cost is $165. The presenter is Rick Gleason of Prezant Associates.
- **Sampling for Hazardous Materials** — 8 a.m.-5 p.m. This awareness-level course will address regulatory issues. Air, soil, and water sampling, as well as sampling methodology, are covered. The cost is $165. The presenter is Maura Doherty of Marine & Environmental Testing.
- **Homeland Defense - Bio-Terrorism** — 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Using a risk- management approach, attendees will learn how to protect their company from a terrorist attack. Students conduct a vulnerability assessment and threat analysis to determine possible dangers in their facility. The cost is $80. The presenter is Joseph Teeples of We're Into Safety.

To register for any of these sessions, contact Lynda Stoneberg at (360) 902-5554 or at ston235@lni.wa.gov.

MicroShield course offered May 6-8

Project Enhancement Corporation will conduct a MicroShield course, all-inclusive level, at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center May 6-8. MicroShield is used for analysis involving gamma and X-ray radiation. The software has been applied to problems involving shielding design, waste calculations, decontamination effectiveness, source inference, ALARA decisions and many other situations where exposure of personnel or equipment is to be analyzed. The cost is $1,050 per participant. The course offers 10 continuing education credits for certified health physicists in the recertification program. To register or for more information, contact Yvonne Miller at (240) 686-3059 or at ymiller@pec1.net. ✦

SHOEMOBILE

300 Area

along fence east of Wisconsin Street

March 31	1-4 p.m.	Sound Safety
April 21	2-5 p.m.	BC Sales

100K Area

parking lot south of MO-401

April 22	7-10 a.m.	BC Sales

200 East Area

northeast gravel parking lot of 2101-M

April 1	7 a.m.-12 p.m.	Sound Safety
April 22	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	BC Sales

200 West Area

parking lot east of MO-281

April 1	1-4 p.m.	Sound Safety
April 22	2-5 p.m.	BC Sales

Features continued on next page.

CALENDAR

AQP/ASQ scholarship applications available

Applications for the local chapters of the Association for Quality and Participation (AQP) and American Society for Quality (ASQ) $1,000 scholarship are being accepted now through April 15. The scholarship will be awarded to a college-bound high school senior pursuing a career in a field related to quality and participation. Applicants must be seniors, graduating from high school in Benton or Franklin County, with an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher and a combined SAT score greater than 1,000. The application process includes a written essay as well as submittal of two letters of recommendation. For more information, check the AQP Web site at **http://www.3-cities.com/~gates/AQP_ASQscholar ship.html**.

Conference for office professionals - April 15-16

Registration is open now through April 8 for the 17th Annual Hanford Office Professionals Training and Development Conference, April 15-16 at the Royal Hotel (formally the Tower Inn) on George Washington Way in Richland. The two-day conference has identical programs each day to allow flexibility in scheduling companies and participants. "Learning Curve for a Lifetime" is the conference theme. JoAnne Nai-che of nai-che & associates, inc., will provide the morning motivation; Scott Lerch of Microsoft will discuss smart living in the digital decade; Kathy Dechter will punch up your punctuation; and Barry Weaver of the U.S. Department of Energy will "Lighten up" the afternoon. The conference can accommodate up to 200 participants each day. Limited seating is available for each company, so register early. For more information, visit the Web site at **www.hanford.gov/misc_info/professional/index.html**. The conference is hosted by Fluor Federal Services and Eberline Services Hanford.

May 10 golf tournament to benefit Girl Scouts

Girl Scouts Mid-Columbia Council is holding the Fourth Annual Girl Scout Golf Classic Tournament on May 10 at the Tri-City Country Club in Kennewick. The Girl Scouts Mid-Columbia Council supports programs for girls — camps, sports activities, cultural and science and engineering events — in more than 14 counties in Washington and northern Oregon, including the Tri Cities. The shotgun start is at 1 p.m. Entry fees are $100 per player, $400 per foursome. Prizes will be awarded. A silent auction will be held. For more information, call the council office at 783-7721.

Fish-tagging crew wanted at Hanford town site

A crew of four to six people (over age 16) is needed for up to 12 days starting approximately May 12 to assist the Yakama Indian Nation in tagging 200,000 juvenile wild fall chinook salmon at the old Hanford town site at Hanford. No prior experience is necessary. Wages are $9.50 per hour. Weekend work may be required. For further information, please contact the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission at (503) 238-3566 or via e-mail at tagfish@critfc.org.

'Healthy Ways to Healthy Days' seminar in April

The CH2M HILL Hanford Group Administrative Accident Prevention Council and the Hanford Environmental Health Foundation are sponsoring a "Healthy Ways to Healthy Days" information seminar to be held in April. The seminar will cover topics such as improved health, good nutrition, good sleep habits and exercise. Alanna Brandon of HEHF will demonstrate exercises that can be done in the office to relieve stress and to help with ergonomics. The seminar will be held on Thursday, April 3, at 2440 Stevens, room 1305-ABC, 3-4 p.m. and on Wednesday, April 9, in the 200 East Area, 2704-HV, room G-206, 1-2 p.m.

Calendar continued on page 19.

CALENDAR continued

Astronomy Club event on April 4

The Tri-City Astronomy Club will sponsor a public star gaze on April 4 from 7 to 10 p.m. in Lynwood Loop Park in north Richland. Club members will have telescopes set up to view the moon, Jupiter, Saturn, and other celestial objects. The planet Mercury may be visible to those who come early — just after the 6:30 p.m. sunset. Families and children are welcome. If it is cloudy, the club will reschedule for the next night, at the same time and location. For more information, contact Roy Gephart at roy.gephart@pnl.gov or at 376-1421.

April 8 AQP/ASQ meeting features of ISO 14000

At the April 8 meeting of the local Association for Quality and Participation and the American Society for Quality at the Richland Shilo Inn, James L. Smith and Dominic Canazaro of Bechtel National will discuss International Standards Organization 14000 — why it was developed, its benefits, and what ISO 14000 can teach quality professionals. Check-in and networking start at 5:30 p.m., the buffet dinner is at 6, and the presentation is at 7. The cost is $16 for AQP and ASQ members, $18 for non-members, or $5 for presentation only. Make your reservation by April 3. Call 372-1442, send an e-mail to lynn_l_gates@rl.gov, or register via the AQP chapter's Web site at **http://www.3-cities.com/~gates/AQPQuest. htm**. Click on "What's Next" for additional information about the program, speakers and the dinner menu.

NMA Fashion Show scheduled for April 24

The Hanford Chapter of the National Management Association will hold a fashion show and wine-tasting on April 24 at the Red Lion Hotel in Richland to raise funds to support community youth programs such as the Boys and Girls Club, Mid-Columbia Science Camp, Crystal Apple Awards, Washington Business Week, Partners and Pals, Junior Achievement and the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. The social begins at 7 p.m. and the fashion show is 7:30-8:30. Wine-tasting will precede and follow the fashion show. Tickets are $15 for the fashion show only, $25 for the fashion show and wine-tasting, and $10 for donation and an opportunity to win door prizes. Contact Brenda Pangborn at 372-3841 or Karen Welsh at 376-2151 to purchase tickets.

Volunteers needed to judge student business projects

Judges are needed to judge Pasco High School students' business projects during Enterprise 2003, May 1 and 2. Enterprise 2003 is a week-long program in which all Pasco High School juniors form mock companies and learn to make decisions about product development, marketing and finances. Volunteers are needed to judge marketing presentations on May 1, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Trade, Recreation and Agricultural Center in Pasco; stockholder presentations on May 2, 8-10:30 a.m. at Pasco High School; and trade shows May 2, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at TRAC. For more information, contact Kelly Greenhalgh at 547-5581, ext. 4612.

Donate blood at HAMMER May 7

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive on Wednesday, May 7, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the vehicle bay of the Al Alm Building at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. Call Libby Sickler at 376-7117 to schedule an appointment.■

Features continued on next page.

Regular Features

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

GENERAL INFO & ACTIVITIES

MAIL YOUR TICKET REQUESTS TO THE APPROPRIATE LISTED TICKET SELLER — It saves the ticket sellers' time and your tickets will be sent to you the same day. Do not combine the charge for tickets to two different events on the same check. If you do, it will be returned.

HRA DISCOUNTS — Log on to **http://apweb02.rl.gov/hrd/** to see the discounts list.

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

POSITION ON THE HERO BOARD — The position of 100 Area representative on the HERO Board is vacant. If you would like to apply and have your manager's consent, send an e-mail message to Phyllis Roha.

SKI BLUEWOOD — Lift ticket vouchers are $27 for adults, $23 for students (with valid ASB card), $20 for children (in first through eighth grade) and seniors (65 years and older). These prices reflect a $3 discount. Send your check payable HERO to Tricia Poland (T5-04).

DISCOUNTED MOVIE TICKETS — Limit now 10 per purchase. Carmike tickets are $5 each with restrictions applying only to Sony DDS movies. Regal tickets are $5.50 each and applicable restrictions are identified in the *Tri-City Herald* with a star. Yakima Mercy tickets are $5 each with no restrictions. Regal and Carmike tickets are valid in Seattle and Spokane as well as the Tri-Cities. For Regal or Carmike tickets, send checks (no cash) made payable to HERO to Linda Meigs (H3-12), Linda Sheehan (T4-40), Nancy Zeuge (X3-74), Michelle Brown-Palmore (A7-51), Ginny Wallace (S7-03), Marta Cabellero (S5-14) or Patti Boothe (T6-04). Sunnyside Movie Theater is now offering tickets for two admissions for one show, for $9.50 with no show restrictions. These tickets are also good for Ellensburg and Walla Walla. For Yakima Mercy or Sunnyside tickets, send checks (no cash) to Nancy Zeuge (X3-74), Jim Hopfinger (S7-39) or Tricia Poland (T5-04).

YAKIMA CHRISTMAS PARTY — You have shown some interest and shared some ideas but our Yakima HERO representative is still looking for input to re-establish the Yakima Christmas Party for 2003. Contact Jim Hopfinger by e-mail or at 376-1499 with any suggestions.

UPCOMING TRIPS

- **Canadian Rockies Train Tour** — May 9-17. The price is $2,199 pp including round-trip airfare from Pasco. Price includes 14 meals, tours, transfers and taxes. Payment is due as soon as possible. Fly to Vancouver, British Columbia, and explore the beautiful Canadian Rockies by train. Visit Kamloops, Jasper, Ice Fields Parkway, Lake Louise, Banff and Calgary. Visit **http://apweb02.rl.gov/hero/activities.cfm** for more information or contact Phyllis Roha at 376-6413 or by e-mail.

- **New Orleans Getaway** — May 19-23. $1,099 ppdo includes airfare, lodging and six meals during this five-day getaway to the "Jazz Capital of the World." A deposit of $160 per person will reserve your spot. Contact Linda Meigs for details.

- **French Riviera** — Oct. 6-15. The price is $2,284 pp for twin, $2,254 pp for triple and $2,584 for single. A deposit of $430 is due to hold your space, and the balance is due July 23. Credit cards are accepted. Tour the French Riviera, Italian Riviera, Monaco, St. Tropez, Cannes, Grasse and Nice. We will fly round-trip from Pasco. We only have to unpack once as we will be staying in Nice and taking day trips to all the other exciting places. There will be free time also to do your own exploring. Included are seven breakfasts and five dinners. Start saving now for an exciting adventure. E-mail Nancie Simon or call 373-2587 for more information.

- **Disney World/Disney Cruise** — Oct. 19-26. The price ranges from $1,302 to $1,852 ppdo, depending on the type of room you want. The price includes round-trip airfare from Pasco, four days in Walt Disney World with entrance into all the parks, a three-day cruise to the Bahamas and Castaway Cay (Disney's private island), taxes and transfers. Don't wait to send in a $250 per person deposit to hold your spot. Contact Jim Hopfinger for more information.

- **Reflections of Italy** — Departure date is Nov. 3. $2,782 ppdo includes airfare, lodging and 13 meals during this 10-day journey to Italy, beginning in Rome, "the Eternal City." A deposit of $430 per person will reserve your spot, with final payment due Sept. 4. Contact Linda Meigs for details.

Hero continued on next page.

HERO continued

• **San Antonio Christmas** – Dec. 8-12. The price is $1,229 pp for twin, $1,209 pp for triple and $1,599 for singles. Includes round-trip airfare from Seattle, transfers, three breakfasts, and three dinners. A cancellation waiver and travel insurance are available for an additional $60. Highlights of the trip will be Paseo Del Rio, the Alamo, a Mexican marketplace, the LBJ Ranch, Cavern Carolers and Fiesta De Las Luminarias. A deposit of $100 is due by July 31. Contact Cheri McGee for details.

• **Switzerland** — Nov. 3-11. The price is $1,879 pp including round-trip airfare from Pasco. Price includes 11 meals, tours, transfers and taxes. A $250 deposit is due May 3 and the balance is due Sept. 4. The medieval city of Bern is our host city. Highlights of the tour include the Swiss Parliament, the famous Bear Pit, the Rose Gardens, Lake Geneva and the medieval Castle of Chillon. Enjoy breathtaking Alpine views with a ride on the Panoramic Express Train to Gstaad. Then on to Interlaken, Grindewald, Zurich, Burgdorf Castle, Lucerne and an optional tour to Germany and the mystical Black Forest. Visit **http://apweb02.rl.gov/hero/activities.cfm** or contact Phyllis Roha at 376-6413 or by e-mail for more information. ✦

VANPOOLS

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

Day and Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford reminds employees to wear their badges. Vanpool and carpool drivers are responsible for ensuring their passengers are badged. If a passenger forgets his or her security badge, access is denied at the barricade. The individual is required to go to a badging station for a temporary badge or go home to retrieve the badge. For more information visit the Safeguards and Security Web page at **http://apweb02.rl.gov/phmc/sas**.

KENNEWICK

Riders wanted for Van No.123 to 200E, 8x9s shift. Safe, dependable and friendly. Current stops are Huntington Transit Station, Federal Building, 2750-E, MO-414 2704-HV, and 2701-HV. Call **Eric** at 373-4497 or at 735-6755 (home). 3/31

Vanpool No. 97 has an opening for one 8x9 rider. Leaves from Shopko in Kennewick with a pick-up at the Federal Building in Richland and drops off at 2750-E and 2704-HV. Rate as low as $54.20 per month. Call **Mike Bryden** at 373-4624. 3/24

RICHLAND

Vanpool No. 195, 8x9, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. from Richland to 200E has an opening. Picks up along George Washington Way, Jadwin Avenue north of Van Giesen St., 7-Eleven on George Washington Way and 2440 Stevens south parking lot. Stops at 272-AW, 2750-E, CSB and 2704-HV locations. Candidate riders from 2704-HV or CSB must be willing to be an occasional back-up driver from 2750-E. Call **Richard** at 372-0755. 3/31

Spacious seating available for 8x9 riders to 200W on Van No. 117. Roundtrip from parking lot adjacent to 1019 Wright in Richland. E-mail or call **Gary Bush** at 372-2531. 3/31

Gas prices cutting into your budget? Catch our van and save. We start at Chuck E Cheese, stop by the Federal Building, and drop off at 2753, 2719-EA, WESF, CSB, and 2704-HV. Call **Barb** at 373-2006 or **Beth** at 376-0971. 3/31

8x9 vanpool to 200E needs a rider. Rate as low as $33.50 per month. Leaves former Hanford bus lot (across from 2440 Stevens) at 6:25 a.m. and drops off at 2750-E and MO-276 (behind 2750-E). Arrives at bus lot at 5 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays and at 4 p.m. on Fridays worked. Contact **Dave Hedengren** at 373-5094. 3/24

ZILLAH

Looking for a vanpool or carpool from Zillah area to 100K, 8x9s, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Will also consider catching a ride with a van or car coming from Yakima/Moxee areas. Contact **Nancy Zeuge** by e-mail or at 373-3651. 3/24 ✦