

## **DOE awards \$300,000 block grant to Tri-City Industrial Development Council**

Last week, the Department of Energy announced that it will award \$300,000 to the Tri-City Industrial Development Council to assist in economic-development efforts.

“The Energy Department is a good neighbor to the communities surrounding our sites,” Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said. “We will continue to work with the Tri-City Industrial Development Council and other community reuse organizations around the country to retain, expand or create jobs for workers affected by restructuring efforts.”

The grant will provide \$225,000 for program administration and \$75,000 toward the Community Image Campaign. The Community Image Campaign will involve a media strategy that identifies and works with targeted trade and travel journalists to showcase the assets of the Tri-Cities area to industry leaders and encourage them to consider the area for new plant development and business expansion.

In 1994, the economic-development organizations surrounding the Hanford Site designated TRIDEC as the Hanford Community Reuse Organization. Such organizations are recognized by DOE and can apply for funding for programs that can modify the impacts of workforce restructuring at DOE facilities and reduce community dependence on the department’s activities.

TRIDEC’s goal is to assist the communities affected by the ultimate closure of the Hanford Site, the primary employment source for more than 50 years. This goal will be accomplished through the redeployment of the highly skilled, well-trained and educated workforce by identifying and implementing programs that will develop into possible job opportunities for displaced Hanford Site workers. ■

# Fluor honored with 2003 AWB Community Service Award

On May 22, the Association of Washington Business honored the Fluor Corporation for its contributions to the community through the "Backpack Basics" project. Fluor offices in more than 25 countries on six continents participated in the project, including Fluor Hanford and Fluor Federal Services in Richland. This is the fourth AWB Community Service Award to Fluor in four years.

Through the Backpack Basics project, Fluor provided school supplies to underprivileged children all over the world. Fluor Hanford and Fluor Federal Services collected enough supplies in the Tri-cities area to fill 575 backpacks. In addition, the two Richland companies contributed \$10,000 to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Benton and Franklin counties.

Volunteers from the Fluor Community Involvement Team collected crayons, spiral notebooks, glue, rulers, pencils, pens, markers, folders and notebook paper before the beginning of the school year, and the Fluor Corporation donated the 575 backpacks to be filled. More than 70 Tri-Cities-area Fluor volunteers collected and sorted the supplies, filled the backpacks and distributed them to the children.

Fluor asked the Boys and Girls Club of Benton and Franklin Counties to join the partnership because more than 85 percent of its young members are from low-income families. "Without the Backpack Basics project, most of these children would have begun the school year without adequate school supplies," said Fluor's Lynn Tegeler, organizer of the project.

The first 275 backpacks were distributed on Aug. 14 to elementary-school children in Alaska's Delta Junction, where Fluor Federal Services has a work site staffed by Fluor's Richland-based employees. On the designated Tri-City distribution day, Aug. 22, children and their parents lined up at the Boys and Girls Club in Pasco to receive their brand-new backpacks stuffed with school supplies. Fluor's \$10,000 donation to the club was used to underwrite the \$10 annual club membership fee for children who were unable to pay.

The annual AWB Community Service Awards were presented to 25 companies during the association's board meeting in Spokane. "These companies realize the importance of being good neighbors in their communities," said AWB President Don Brunell. "All of them have invested substantial time, money and other resources to improve their corner of the state." ■



On an "off" Friday last August, more than 20 members of the Fluor Community Involvement Team, including Patty Olson (left) and Sharon Steele, worked to fill backpacks donated by Fluor Corporation for the Backpack Basics project.

## Picture Pages



**NEW ROOF FOR F REACTOR:** Greg Gales, left, and Daryl Schilperoort discuss welding the cross beams of the support structure for the F Reactor roof. Gales is an ironworker/welder with LUWA Intermech/Thompson Mechanical Constructors, Inc., which is under contract to Bechtel Hanford to construct the F Reactor roof. Roof work, the last step in cocooning the reactor, will be completed later this fiscal year. Schilperoort is the Bechtel Hanford subcontract technical representative.

**PREPARING FOR RIVERFEST:** Sue Kuntz of Bechtel and Phil Townsend of Fluor Hanford confer at Columbia Park's Playground of Dreams, where a kickoff event was held for RiverFest 2003. RiverFest begins this Friday with a pasta feed. On Saturday, June 14, all other RiverFest activities will take place, including the 10-kilometer, 5-kilometer and 1-mile runs, a non-motorized boat rally, a crafts fair, a golf tournament and other family-oriented activities. Bechtel is the "Signature Sponsor" for RiverFest 2003, and Townsend is chairman of this year's RiverFest. For information about the various activities, contact the Benton-Franklin Volunteer Center at 582-0631.



**COLORBLIND PERFORMS AT NMA MEETING:** The Hanford Chapter of the National Management Association will close out the year with a meeting and a party on June 11 at the Red Lion Hotel in Richland. The social hour begins at 5 p.m. The business meeting starts at 6, and dinner will be served out in the courtyard at 6:30. During the meeting, the officers of 2002-2003 will be recognized and officers for 2003-2004 will be inducted. At the conclusion of the meeting and dinner, attendees will be treated to a performance of "Colorblind" (left), one of the premier classic rock bands of the Tri-Cities. There is no charge for chapter members; the cost for guests is \$20. Make a reservation at [http://www.nma1.org/chapters/395/rsvp\\_form.htm](http://www.nma1.org/chapters/395/rsvp_form.htm) or by calling Lisa Hart at 376-3484.



# CREHST offers discounts on membership

The Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science and Technology is offering Fluor Hanford employees a \$10 discount on personal CREHST memberships. CREHST, a museum and science center, chronicles the dynamic story of the Columbia Basin and surrounding region.

CREHST was originally established as the Hanford Science Center in 1962. The museum features a variety of two- and three-dimensional exhibits and interactive, hands-on displays. From primitive irrigation systems to the development and use of robotics, visitors may enjoy a fascinating journey through the unique region of the Columbia Basin.

A membership to CREHST includes the following:

- Unlimited admission to CREHST (open 361 days each year)
- A subscription to the quarterly newsletter, *The Flow*
- An invitation to members-only premiers and events
- 10 percent discounts on purchases over \$5 in the River Store
- Priority registration for classes for adults and children
- Reduced rates on lectures, programs, classes and children's activities plus free admission for your child when he or she is visiting with school groups
- Free admission to more than 280 other museums that belong to the Association of Science-Technology, such as the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry in Portland. (Note: participating museums may have special charges for feature programs and theater presentations to which this free admission does not apply).

After just two visits to CREHST, a family of four would recoup its membership fee. For more information on CREHST, visit the Web site at [www.crehst.org](http://www.crehst.org). ■

# Killer weed no match For PNNL technology

Sue Chin, *Pacific Northwest National Laboratory*

Even the world's most powerful army can be brought down by a killer weed. Scotch Broom — a prolific, noxious weed — has invaded the Fort Lewis military base near Tacoma and is inhibiting effective troop training.

Researchers at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory recently completed a project in which remote-sensing and target-detection techniques, aided by satellite data, were applied to build a map of the locations of noxious weeds at the base.

Fort Lewis encompasses 86,000 acres of forest, prairies and wetlands and houses more than 25,000 soldiers and civilian workers. The installation has abundant high-quality training areas, including 115 live-fire ranges. Also abundant is Scotch Broom, a plant that spreads quickly and grows to 10 feet tall and higher. The weed has become an ecological problem at Fort Lewis, competing with other plants and making military training, such as field maneuvers, difficult.



**Jerry Tagestad of PNNL stands next to a Scotch Broom at Fort Lewis. The plant, an import from Europe and North Africa, can grow to 10 feet tall and higher.**

“If left unchecked, Scotch Broom can bring training to a standstill, especially for ground troops,” said Jerry Tagestad, PNNL technical lead for the project. “The weed can grow so tall that the troop movement is severely restricted.” Fort Lewis personnel have implemented measures to control the weed with mowing, burning and using biological methods, but the fast-spreading Scotch Broom bounces back quickly.

Fort Lewis officials contacted PNNL to help create an installation-wide map using satellite images to identify the location and density of the weed over the entire 135-square-mile installation. The map will be used to help guide field crews in eradicating the weeds. “Our remote-sensing staff has the breadth and depth of expertise to ‘tease’ out more information from images from multiple types and combinations of sensors,” Tagestad said.

In creating the map, PNNL staff members used images of Fort Lewis taken from a commercial satellite. The satellite is a multispectral sensor that collects energy from the visible and near-infrared regions. The staff then performed multispectral classification of the data based on the differences in the colors of the objects in the images. “We were able to sort out the Scotch Broom from other objects in the images using our expertise in data fusion, analysis and interpretation,” Tagestad said. “Our accuracy assessment, consisting of a field visit as well as a quantitative analysis using PNNL ground truth data and Fort Lewis land condition mapping data, was above 90 percent.”

Using the map PNNL created, field crews at Fort Lewis are starting to target wide areas of Scotch Broom for eradication. “The project also has opened the door for Fort Lewis staff to create an annual Scotch Broom density map for the entire installation so that they have a continuous geographic information system at their disposal,” Tagestad said. ■

# West Nile virus has infected animals in Washington, local case of human infection suspected



*Last month, the Washington State Department of Health announced that a Franklin County man was being evaluated for suspected West Nile virus infection, based on the results of preliminary tests. Because of this development, the Hanford Environmental Health Foundation is presenting information from the DOH publication 333-052, "West Nile Virus: Do You Know What's Biting You?"*

The West Nile virus is a serious illness that can affect people, horses, birds and other animals. In 1999, West Nile virus first appeared in the United States in New York City. Since then, the virus spread rapidly throughout the country. In 2002, the virus was found for the first time in birds and horses in Washington.

West Nile virus is almost always spread to people by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected after feeding on birds that carry the virus. West Nile virus is not spread by direct contact with infected people or animals. As we learn more about the virus, we may discover other routes of infection.

The risk of humans getting West Nile virus is very low, but anyone can become infected. People over 50 years of age have the highest risk of serious illness.

Most people who are infected with West Nile virus will not get sick. About one in five people will have mild symptoms such as fever, headache and body aches. Even fewer, about one in 150 people infected, will have more severe symptoms including headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, paralysis and coma. If you have any of these symptoms, contact your health-care provider.

## Avoid mosquitoes

There is no human vaccine for West Nile virus. The best way to protect yourself is to avoid mosquitoes and take the following steps:

- Make sure windows and doors are "bug tight." Repair or replace screens.
- If possible, stay indoors at dawn and dusk, when mosquitoes are most active.
- Wear a long-sleeve shirt, long pants, and a hat when going into mosquito-infested areas, such as wetlands or woods.
- Use mosquito repellent when necessary. Read the label and carefully follow instructions. Take special care when using repellent on children.

Here are some suggestions to discourage mosquitoes from living

*Continued on page 7.*

## More information

For more information on the West Nile virus and human health, check out the following Web sites:

- Washington State Department of Health  
[www.doh.wa.gov/wnv](http://www.doh.wa.gov/wnv)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
[www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/qa/insect\\_repellent.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/qa/insect_repellent.htm), [www.cdc.gov/niosh/westnileupd.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/westnileupd.html)

For more information on the West Nile virus and animal health, check out the following Web sites:

- Washington State Department of Agriculture  
[www.wa.gov/agr/FoodAnimal/AnimalHealth/WNVdefault.htm](http://www.wa.gov/agr/FoodAnimal/AnimalHealth/WNVdefault.htm)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture,  
[www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/wnv/wnv.html](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/lpa/issues/wnv/wnv.html)

For more information call:

- Washington State (toll-free) at (866) 78VIRUS
- CDC toll-free (TTY) (866) 874-2646.

## West Nile virus, cont.

and breeding in your home and yard:

- Empty anything that holds standing water — old tires, buckets, plastic covers, flowerpots, and toys.
- Change the water in your birdbaths, fountains, wading pools and animal troughs at least twice a week.
- Recycle unused containers that can collect water — bottles, cans, and buckets.
- Make sure roof gutters drain properly, and clean clogged gutters in the spring and fall.
- Fix leaky outdoor faucets and sprinklers.

Insect repellents that contain N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide, known as DEET, are the most effective in keeping mosquitoes away. DEET products come in lotions, creams, gels, sprays and towelettes. Take care using products containing DEET. Read and follow instructions on the label. Do not over-use repellents.

### **Bird and livestock infection**

When the West Nile virus infects certain wild birds, including crows, jays, ravens and magpies, they become sick and die from infection. An increase in the number of dead birds may be an indication of West Nile virus in your community.

You can help by reporting dead crows and other birds to your local health department's environmental health program. Look in the phone book under County Government - Health. Certain dead birds will be tested to monitor for West Nile virus. While there is no current evidence that you can get West Nile virus from handling dead birds, avoid bare-handed contact. Use gloves or double plastic bags to place the carcass in a garbage can.

West Nile virus can cause serious illness in horses and donkeys. Though most horses do not get sick, about one in three horses that do get sick will die. To protect your horses, ask your veterinarian about the West Nile virus vaccine for horses. Follow the same steps above to reduce places where mosquitoes live and breed near horse pastures and barns. It is rare that West Nile virus will cause illness in dogs, cats and other animals.

In our area, state and local health departments are working to identify West Nile virus before an outbreak by:

- monitoring for West Nile virus by trapping and identifying mosquitoes
- tracking the number of dead bird reports
- collecting specific species of dead birds for laboratory testing
- notifying health-care providers to look for and report symptoms in patients
- notifying veterinarians to look for and report horses and other animals with signs of West Nile virus. ■

## Make Your Move

# Take the stairs — and other lifestyle changes to increase fitness



*Perhaps you don't have time to exercise or you just don't like the idea of exercise for its own sake. Here are some ideas for increasing your exercise without actually "exercising."*

*Check off the ones you can do. Put a star by the ones you already do and pat yourself on the back — you're already exercising. Then add your own ideas for "non-exercise" fitness on the lines provided.*

### *The 'non-exercise' fitness quiz*

#### **Activate your daily routine**

- Take the stairs. (Okay, if you work on the top floor, take two or three flights of stairs and then get on the elevator.)
- Ride a bicycle or walk to work. (Too far? Park a block or two away from work, or at the far end of the parking lot.)
- Take a walk at lunch time or get into a lunch-time fitness program.
- Make a coffee break a stretch break.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Be more active at home**

- Use a push lawnmower and other hand-gardening tools.
- Get rid of the TV remote. (Better yet, get rid of the TV.)
- Save electricity. How many household labor-saving devices can you unplug? \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Walk**

- Around your neighborhood. You'll meet people.
- To any destination that's within your limit.
- To the nearest public transit stop. You'll save money *and* wear and tear on your car.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted By \_\_\_\_\_

Hanford ID Number \_\_\_\_\_ Mailstop \_\_\_\_\_

*Continued on page 9.*



## Make Your Move, cont.

### Prioritize fitness

Fitness doesn't require a huge time commitment. Aerobic exercise — just 20 to 30 minutes, three times a week — can make a big difference in the health of your heart and how you feel.

Make a list of the things that you spend 20 to 30 minutes a week doing. Is aerobic exercise one of them? Why not shorten the time you spend on other items, or eliminate one of them and add an aerobic exercise? Put it at the top of your list and schedule time for it.

Aerobic exercise includes bicycling, swimming, brisk walking, running, dancing — anything that gets your heart beating faster.

What are some aerobic exercises you might be willing to try?

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Complete this form by answering the questions and suggesting activities for yourself. The completed form is worth five points for "Make Your Move" participants. Send to: Judi Staley, HEHF Health Education Services, H1-04 .

Submitted By \_\_\_\_\_

Hanford ID Number \_\_\_\_\_ Mailstop \_\_\_\_\_

## Answers to last week's quiz

Here are the answers to the word scramble that appeared in the June 2 issue of the *Hanford Reach*.

- |                  |                   |              |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 1.aerobic        | 10. health        | 19. activity |
| 2.self-esteem    | 11. sleep         | 20. snack    |
| 3.make your move | 12. warm-up       |              |
| 4.goals          | 13. fad diet      |              |
| 5.fun            | 14. family        |              |
| 6.relaxation     | 15. breakfast     |              |
| 7.lifestyle      | 16. friends       |              |
| 8.relationship   | 17. social system |              |
| 9.strength       | 18. flexibility   |              |

# Fluor paralegal keeps Coast Guard volunteers afloat

Dan Neiderhiser is an employee of the Fluor Hanford Legal Department during the workday. On evenings and weekends, however, he's a commodore.

As commodore of District 13 of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Neiderhiser's responsibilities include oversight of almost 1,900 auxiliary members and their equipment in the district that covers Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana. The equipment pool he oversees includes a variety of personally owned auxiliary members' boats, an aircraft wing and numerous radio communication systems that link the auxiliary organization to the Coast Guard as a "force multiplier." The USCG has 36,000 active-duty and 7,000 reserve members, and the auxiliary complements the force with an additional 35,000 volunteers across the United States.



*Commodore Neiderhiser*

Congress chartered the USCG Auxiliary in 1939, authorizing members to perform a shallow-water coastal watch along U.S. shores, including the vast inland river and lake transportation system. The primary goal of the auxiliary is to promote boating safety through education and inspections of vessels and navigational aids, as well as to conduct search-and-rescue missions. With the recent transition from the Department of Transportation to the Department of Homeland Security, the USCG Auxiliary is the only civilian force-multiplier organization attached to the new homeland-security agency.

Fluor Hanford Managing General Counsel Jennifer Curtis said she heartily supports Neiderhiser's involvement in community safety activities and his service as a leader in the Coast Guard Auxiliary. "Such work performed in his off-hours contributes measurably to Dan's professional and personal growth," Curtis said. "And it has an indirect but beneficial effect on his job performance. Our country, our community and Fluor Hanford are indeed fortunate to have Dan Neiderhiser as both a volunteer and a colleague." ■



*Fluor employee Neiderhiser*

# PNNL finds exposure to estrogen cuts fish fertility

Staci Maloof, *Pacific Northwest National Laboratory*

While several studies have focused on how estrogen from contraceptives may alter sex organs of juvenile fish, few studies have analyzed how exposure to estrogen affects adult fish as they make their way through rivers, lakes and streams to spawn. Now, a study by scientists at the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory suggests that, when adult male fish are exposed to low concentrations of a synthetic estrogen, even for a short term, their fertility can drop by as much as half.

The study, conducted by PNNL and the University of Idaho, appears in the June issue of *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*.

Previous research reported that high concentrations of estrogen could change sex organs, causing juvenile male fish to develop female organs. Estrogen is an active ingredient in most oral contraceptives and often finds its way into surface waters through sewer systems. The PNNL study looked at the impact of a synthetic estrogen called ethynylestradiol, which is the chemical in oral contraceptives.

Irvin Schultz, the PNNL toxicologist who led the study, said the research shows that the impacts are not limited to juvenile fish. "We can see that adult fish aren't immune to the effects of estrogen in waterways," Schultz said. "Even short-term exposure to low levels of synthetic estrogen can impact their fertility. Our results indicate that the fertility of a healthy male trout that has developed normally still can be affected if that exposure takes place during a critical sexual maturation stage before spawning."

In a controlled laboratory experiment, PNNL scientists at the lab's Marine Sciences Laboratory in Sequim, Wash., exposed adult male rainbow trout for 62 days to three different concentrations of ethynylestradiol — 10, 100 and 1,000 nanograms per liter of water. The sperm of exposed fish were harvested, and then used in a controlled in-vitro fertilization process with eggs from a healthy female rainbow trout. After 28 days, a measurable decrease in fertilization was observed in the treated trout compared with a control group.

In some experiments, a 50 percent decrease in fertilization capability was noted in semen collected from the trout exposed to the lowest of the three concentrations. For example, in an experiment using 50,000 sperm for one egg, the exposed fish had 22 percent fertilization compared with 45 percent fertilization of the control fish.

That impact is important, say researchers, because 10 nanograms per liter is a level found in some surface water samples.

Schultz and his colleagues, including co-author Jim Nagler of the University of Idaho, studied the possible mechanisms for reduced fertility, specifically sperm motility and decreased hormone levels. While they were able to rule out sperm motility as the mechanism, their research revealed increased — not decreased — hormone levels in the blood plasma of fish exposed to 10 nanograms per liter of ethynylestradiol. But hormone levels did decrease in fish exposed to the larger concentration of 100 nanograms.

"While other research has shown the visible change that can take place when young male fish are exposed to high levels of estrogen, we're suggesting that low and short-term exposure can have just as significant — but not physically observable — effects," Schultz said. ■

# FH employees are speaking up for safe environment

Donna Martinez, *Fluor Hanford*

More than 200 issues were raised and successfully resolved through the Fluor Hanford Employee Concerns Program over the past year. The attention employees and managers continue to give to workplace issues is an invaluable tool in making this a better and safer place to work.

We wish to recognize and thank those of you who helped contribute to our safety-conscious work environment.

To contact us, visit our Web site at [http://www.ri.gov/hr/empcon/ecp\\_home.htm](http://www.ri.gov/hr/empcon/ecp_home.htm), fax your question to 376-3049, or call Jim Murphy at 376-9329, Nancy Conrad at 376-5583 or Donna Martinez at 376-8595. ■

## These are some of the subject areas in which issues have been resolved:

- Road maintenance
- Conflict of interest
- Exterior lighting
- Lock and tag
- Asbestos abatement
- Facility air quality
- Ergonomic assessments
- Emergency drill participation
- Traffic lights for emergency vehicles
- Circuit-breaker usage
- Work-control training
- Workplace
- Misuse of government property
- Facility HEPA systems
- Computer security
- Motor-vehicle safety
- Interpretation of procedures
- Radiation-control issues
- Hoisting and rigging safety
- Stop-work authority
- Equipment maintenance
- Manager/employee mediation

## Security Ed Challenge



# Bomb threat card useful to record other threatening phone calls

The Hanford Bomb Threat card (form number BD-9100-201)\* is a useful tool that prompts you on what questions to ask and what critical information is needed by emergency and security personnel. In addition to documenting bomb threats, the card can also be used to document harassing or threatening phone calls.

### Take the Security Ed Challenge:

If you receive a bomb threat, what are the first two immediate notifications you should make?

- A. Emergency Services at 911
- B. Co-worker
- C. Manager
- D. Building emergency director or building warden

Do you know the answers? Send an e-mail message with the two notices you should make if you receive a bomb threat (indicate "Ed's Emergency Notification" in the subject line) to C. E. (Chet) Braswell, or clip this article, circle the correct answers, add your name and HID number and send your response to Security Education at L4-09. Prizes will be awarded to randomly drawn correct entries. The names of prizewinners and the correct answer will appear in a future *Hanford Reach* article.

**\*NOTE:** The Pacific Northwest National Laboratory has a "Checklist for Threatening Phone Calls" and a 24-hour emergency number of 375-2400.

If you would like more copies of the Bomb Threat Card, contact Craig Lansing or Chet Braswell. CH2M HILL Hanford Group employees can contact Jeff McNeill.

Submitted By \_\_\_\_\_ Hanford ID No. \_\_\_\_\_

Mailstop \_\_\_\_\_



**Congratulations to Mac Knight of Fluor Hanford, the winner of the May 19 Security Ed Challenge. Knight won a MiniMag Light for correctly identifying that the Rattlesnake Barricade restricts the entrance and exit of trucks that are larger than 1 ton.**

If you are interested in learning more on barricades, please go to the Security Operations section of the PHMC Safeguards and Security Web page at <http://apweb02.rl.gov/phmc/sas>.

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.

## 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.

### Be attentive to, respectful of flaggers

I just read the announcement from DOE regarding the Stevens Drive improvements.

My wife is one of the “flaggers” on the project, and I appreciated the paragraph requesting Hanford drivers to obey the signs and “traffic-control” personnel. As the announcement states, they are there to assist movement through the project in a safe and timely manner.

I would add they are not there to be cussed at, yelled at or flipped off! My wife has come home many days with stories of how rude and obnoxious people can be.

One woman came through with a cell phone stuck to her ear and complained about the lack of warning signs. She had just passed a mile of signs and cones.

Every year dozens of flaggers are killed in the United States because of inattentive drivers. Please give them your attention and respect. Just as you do, they have families to go home to after the end of a long, hot day.

**Ron Bricker**  
*Fluor Hanford*

### Life easy for Sheriff's Department

I suppose if I were a county sheriff's deputy I would be glad to patrol the Hanford Site. There are no strangers. Everybody has their name around their neck. There's no chance of one of the officers getting a gun pulled on him and no alcohol problems, so there is no dealing with drunks — all these items are prohibited on the Hanford Site. All they have to do is catch unsuspecting Hanford workers cruising 5 miles per hour over the speed limit.

Yes, life is good at Hanford, for the Sheriff's Department. Meanwhile, the Hanford road rally continues daily on Highway 24 between Yakima and Hanford.

**Noel Hinojosa**  
*Fluor Hanford*



### CALENDAR

### 'Putting a lid on Chernobyl' is PMI meeting topic

The topic of the June 10 meeting of the Columbia River Basin Chapter of the Project Management Institute at the Richland Shilo Inn is “Putting a Lid on Chernobyl.” Eric Schmieman of Battelle is the speaker. Networking begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner is at 6:30 and the program begins at 7. The cost is \$17 for members and \$20 for guests. Make your reservation online at <http://www.crb-pmi.org/id41.html> by noon today, June 9.

### Learn to use the Hanford Technical Library

On June 12, Hanford Technical Library staff members will conduct two seminars on using the Internet and library resources. Both seminars take place in room 101R of the Consolidated Information Center on the Washington State University campus Tri-Cities.

“How to Search the Internet” will be offered 12-1 p.m. and will help you discover how to search the Internet quickly and efficiently, review the similarities and differences among popular search engines, and learn where to go when the search engines are not providing what you want. For more information, contact Melissa McBurney at 372-7439 or at [melissa.mcburney@pnl.gov](mailto:melissa.mcburney@pnl.gov), or Cheryl Wiborg at 372-7432 or at [cheryl.wiborg@pnl.gov](mailto:cheryl.wiborg@pnl.gov).

“Library Resources and Library Tour” will take place 1-2:30 p.m. and you will learn how to use the library's electronic services to find the information you need when you need it — all from your desktop. This seminar is particularly useful for new employees. For more information, contact Cheryl Wiborg at 372-7432 or at [cheryl.wiborg@pnl.gov](mailto:cheryl.wiborg@pnl.gov), or Yung Harbison at 372-7453 or at [yung.harbison@pnl.gov](mailto:yung.harbison@pnl.gov).

### Donate blood in June at two locations

Hanford workers have two opportunities to donate blood in June. On June 11, the American Red

*Calendar continued on next page.*

# Regular Features



## CALENDAR continued

Cross bloodmobile will be in the PFP parking lot from 9:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. To schedule an appointment to give blood, contact Patrick Jenkins by e-mail or call 373-6221. On June 12, the blood drawing will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Federal Building. Registration will take place in the lobby, with the drawing in the bloodmobile in the parking lot north of the building. To schedule an appointment, call the American Red Cross at (800) 787-9691. Walk-ins are always welcome.

### **PFP's 'Heavy Metal Daze' car show, fund-raiser**

The Plutonium Finishing Plant's "Heavy Metal Daze" car, truck and bike show and barbecue has been rescheduled to June 18, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the south parking lot. The event was originally slated for June 19, but the date was changed because of an emergency drill. The flyers bear the incorrect date. All money raised during the show will be donated to the Columbia Basin Domestic Violence Services. Awards will be given in the following categories: motorcycle, hot rod, truck, import, bone stock, work in progress and best of show. For more information, call Shawn Wilson at 373-3435, Don Sorenson at 373-5935, Bill Allen at 373-2286 or Henry Ownby at 373-1761.

### **Conference on plutonium in Albuquerque**

The Science 2003 Conference — The Plutonium Futures — will be held July 6-10 in Albuquerque, N.M. The third in a series, this conference will provide an international forum for presenting and discussing current research on physical and chemical properties and environmental interactions of plutonium and other actinide elements. Register before June 5 and save \$100. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.lanl.gov/pu2003>.

### **CREHST offers camps for 5th-through-8th graders**

The Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science and Technology will hold summer camps during

the week of July 28-Aug. 1 for students entering fifth and sixth grades, and during the week of Aug. 4-8 for students entering seventh and eighth grades. The theme for the summer camps will be the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery and will include scientific activities, creative crafts and artistic projects surrounding the following topics: ancestry of dogs, study of raptors, mapping and exploration skills, the nature of sound and Native American culture. The camp fee is \$40 for CREHST member families and \$55 for non-member families. For more information and to register, call CREHST at 943-9000. Participation is limited to 20 students per session. The camp will be held in Richland's Howard Amon Park near the museum. ♦

## CLASSES



### **PROTRAIN offers software training**

**Microsoft Project 2000** (\$199 per day or \$348 for both days)

- Level 1 — June 9
- Level 2 — June 10

**Primavera Project Planning** (\$425 per day)

- P-3 602 — June 23
- P-3 603 — June 24
- P-3 604 — June 25

**Crystal Reports 8** (\$249 per day or \$448 for both days)

- Introduction — June 23
- Advanced — June 24
- **Upgrading to Windows XP** — June 27 (\$249)
- **Upgrading to Office XP** — June 26 (\$169)

For more information, contact Sarah at 375-0414 or at [sarah@protrainsys.com](mailto:sarah@protrainsys.com). Group discounts are available.

### **Effective Presentations offered on June 23**

"Effective Presentations" is an eight-hour course that is ideal for anyone wanting to improve their communication skills including trainers, managers,

*Classes continued on next page.*

# Regular Features



## CLASSES continued

team leaders and committee members. This course will be presented on June 23 by Joe Estey at the Hanford Training Center. The cost is \$180 per person. To register, contact Joan Howard at 946-2102 or at [jhoward@energxfanford.com](mailto:jhoward@energxfanford.com) or Lynn Collins at 946-9654 or at [lcollins@energxfanford.com](mailto:lcollins@energxfanford.com).

### **Personal Protection Safety Measures July 29-30**

The Northwest Public Power Association is presenting "Personal Protection Safety Measures," a two-day class at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center July 29-30. This course will cover the physiology of electrical shock and treatment; the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's mandated electrical requirements; the role and use of NFPA 70E; and over 600-volt applications. Register before June 27 and pay \$1,095. The cost is \$1,145 for registrations received after June 27. To register, contact Wendy Carlson at (360) 254-0109 or visit [www.nwppa.org](http://www.nwppa.org).

### **Refresher for electrical PE exam**

A refresher course for the electrical professional engineer exam begins July 14 at Washington State University Tri-Cities. The course meets weekly on Mondays from 6 to 9 p.m. and runs through Sept. 29. Designed for those who are currently engineers, the refresher course will prepare attendees for the next Washington State Electrical Professional Engineers examination in October. Enrollment is limited. Books for the course will be available at The Bookie on the WSU Tri-Cities campus. For more information, contact Karen Davis at 372-7293 or at [kldavis@tricity.wsu.edu](mailto:kldavis@tricity.wsu.edu). ♦



## NEWSBRIEFS

### **Tuition Assistance Program applications available for child care center**

The non-profit board of directors of the Learning Landscape Child Care Center has announced that applications for the 2003 Tuition Assistance Program are available. To qualify for tuition assistance, you must have a child enrolled in the Learning Landscape Child Care Center, or you must be on the waiting list for enrollment to Learning Landscape, and meet income eligibility criteria. Tuition assistance is applicable only to tuition at Learning Landscape and is allocated for the 12-month period beginning on Sept. 1.

Applications with information on eligibility criteria are available at the Learning Landscape Child Care Center at 1167 Jadwin Ave. in Richland, or by contacting Arlene Tortoso at 373-9631 or Shannon Ortiz at 373-0908. Applications must be received by Aug. 1 at the following address:

**Learning Landscape Tuition Assistance Program**  
**P. O. Box 1618**  
**Richland, WA 99352**

The Learning Landscape Child Care Center was established to serve the needs of the Department of Energy and other federal agencies, DOE contractors, and the general public in the Tri-Cities area. ♦



## RETIREMENTS

John Allison, Ann Johnson, Claudine Riendeau, Connie Ritter and Nancie Simon are retiring from CH2M HILL Hanford Group and a party is being held in their honor on June 9, starting at 3:30 p.m. in the covered area of Leslie Groves Park. Join the Mission Control staff at this party and wish the retirees well. Donations for a retirement gift are being accepted by Karen Carlson, R2-80, or Jerry Dronen, R2-88, 2750E. ♦

*Features continued on next page.*

# Regular Features



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

## GENERAL INFO & ACTIVITIES

**POSITIONS ON THE HERO BOARD** — The HERO Board positions of 300 Area representative, secretary and vice president-social are vacant. If you would like to apply, and have your manager's consent, send an e-mail message to Phyllis Roha.

**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.

**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 Caballero (S5-14) or Patti Boothe (T6-04). Sunnyside Movie Theater is now offering tickets for two admissions for one show, for \$10.50 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).

**SILVERWOOD TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE** — The amusement park is now open through Sept. 28. The new Boulder Beach Water Park will open July 1. Discount ticket prices through HERO are \$22.50 for general admission (ages 8-64) and \$11 for children age 3 to 7 years and seniors 65 years and older. Ticket sellers are Linda Meigs (H3-12), Cheri McGee (N2-53), Nancy Zeuge (X3-74), Tricia Poland (T5-04), Marta Caballero (S5-14) and Ginny Wallace (S7-03). Please send your checks (made out to HERO) to any of these ticket sellers and your tickets will be sent back to you in the plant mail.

**MT. ADAMS GOLF OUTING** — Get your foursomes together for the second annual HERO golf outing at Mt. Adams. Join us for a fun-filled day of golfing in Toppenish at the country club on Sept. 26 (Friday off), with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. There is no need for handicap. The cost is \$55, which includes a barbecued burger lunch, greens fees, one-half cart, goodie bag and prize fund. To sign up, make your check out to HERO and send it along with your group's names to Jim Hopfinger at S7-39.

**COLUMBIA VOYAGER DINNER CRUISE** — On July 31, join us for a relaxing, three-hour dinner cruise down the Columbia River. The price is \$30 per person and includes the cruise and an all-you-can-eat dinner buffet featuring carved baron of beef, teriyaki chicken, desserts, non-alcoholic drinks, taxes and gratuities. A no-host bar is also available. Board at 6:30 p.m. at the dock behind the Red Lion Hotel in Richland. Slowly cruise to the Cable Bridge and return to the dock at 10 p.m. Seating is limited, so don't wait. Make your reservations now by sending a check or money order, made out to HERO, to Cheri McGee at N2-53.

**SIX FLAGS WILD WAVES/ENCHANTED VILLAGE TICKETS AVAILABLE** — The parks offer 70 acres of non-stop fun for everyone. After a short drive to Federal Way (near Tacoma), enjoy more than 40 exhilarating rides and attractions in Enchanted Village, and then cool down in one of Wild Wave's 14 thrilling waterslides. Ride the surf in the gigantic 24,000-square-foot wave pool! With two parks for the price of one, it's simply the most fun you'll have all year! Discounted tickets are available through HERO for \$21 per person (ages 2 and under are free). To purchase your tickets, send checks (made payable to HERO) to Linda Meigs at H3-12.

## UPCOMING TRIPS

• **Hood River Murder Mystery Dinner Train** — Aug. 16. Reserve your table for a sumptuous dinner and a murderously funny evening filled with entertainers. Dinner includes appetizer, salad, main course and dessert. The price of \$135 per person includes round-trip bus from Tri-Cities plus the dinner train. We are filling a second bus, so hurry and send in your \$25 per-person deposit to secure your space. For more information, contact Linda Meigs (H3-12) or call Marla of Carlson Wagonlit Travel at 783-4645.

*HERO continued on next page.*

# Regular Features



• **Vacation of a lifetime, the French Riviera** — Oct. 6-15. The price is \$2,284 pp for twin, \$2,254 pp for triple and \$2,584 for single, which includes round-trip air fare from Pasco, \$120 cancellation insurance and \$85 in taxes and fees. Payment in full is due at signup. For those who have made a deposit, final payment is due July 23. Tour the French Riviera, Italian Riviera, Monaco, St. Tropez, Cannes, Grasse and Nice. 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. E-mail Nancie Simon at bearclanwa@aol.com or call 627-0657 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 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 Tricia Poland 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.

• **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 as soon as possible with the balance 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.

• **San Antonio Christmas** — Dec. 8-12. The price is \$1,289 pp for twin, \$1,269 pp for triple and \$1,659 for singles. Includes round-trip airfare from Seattle, transfers, cancellation waiver, travel insurance and six meals. 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 \$160 is due by Aug. 22. Contact Cheri McGee for details. ♦



## VAN POOLS

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.

### KENNEWICK

Van No. 141 has immediate openings for riders, 8x9 shift, to 200W, one stop at 277-W. Leaves from Fred Meyer in Kennewick, and stops at the Hanford Training Center in Richland. Please contact **Terry** at 373-5566 or **Tom** at 373-2477. 6/9

### RICHLAND

Vanpool to 200E needs several riders, 8x9s. Rate as low as \$35 per month. Leaves former Hanford bus lot (across from 2440 Stevens) at 6:25 a.m. and drops off at 2750-E. Contact **Dave Hedengren** at 373-5094. 6/9

Spacious seating is still available for several 8x9 riders to 200W aboard Van No. 117. Roundtrip from parking lot adjacent to 1019 Wright in Richland. The cost is less than that of a daily commute for one person in his or her own personal vehicle. Call or send an e-mail message to **Gary Bush** at 372-2531. 6/2

Two riders needed for Vanpool No. 216, 8x9, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m., with door-to-door delivery from Richland to 200E. Van starts on the south end of Jadwin, winds its way up Thayer and Williams, over to George Washington Way and out to 2750-E and 2704-HV (only if rider is a backup driver). Call **Michelle Calvert** at 376-5400 or **Kip George** at 373-7399. 6/2

Van No. 153 is seeking two riders. Join a van with comfortable reclining seats. Picks up in the Willowbrook, Meadow Springs and Hills West areas, including Albertson's on Gage and Leslie. Drops off in 200E, including 2704-HV. Call **Pam Powell** at 373-6200 or send an e-mail message. 6/2 ♦