

## PFP meets milestone nine months early

Michele Gerber, *Fluor Hanford*

Earlier this month, Fluor Hanford personnel at the Department of Energy's Plutonium Finishing Plant completed repackaging all of the plutonium-bearing residues that were part of a major milestone set for the plant by the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board. The DNFSB milestone called for having this material processed no later than April 2004.

Residues are a diverse collection of materials: oxides and mixed oxides, called OX/MOX; sand, slag and crucible, or SS&C, remaining from the making of plutonium metal "buttons"; at least two types of alloys containing plutonium; plutonium-bearing ash; and other miscellaneous solid and powdered materials.

The residues are slated for permanent disposal at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, N.M. To expedite the shipping of the residues from PFP to WIPP, nuclear chemical operators were trained to meet WIPP certification requirements and to prepare specific data packages for WIPP. Hanford's SS&C waste was so well characterized by the PFP Residues Team that WIPP began accepting shipments this past May.

PFP's collection of residues is part of the approximately 18 metric tons of plutonium-bearing materials that were left in the historic facility when defense production ended there in 1989. In both 1994 and 2000, the DNFSB recommended timely repackaging of the residues in sturdy containers suitable for permanent disposal. Unlike some other forms of plutonium leftovers at PFP such as solutions and polycubes, residues do not have to be stabilized.

Agreements between DOE and the DNFSB designated nearly four tons of PFP's leftovers as residues to be repackaged by next April, and those have been repackaged. An additional 2 metric tons of material were subsequently designated as residues, however, and work continues on repackaging that material.

The milestone work also included nondestructive assay (measurement) of the residues, plus loading and sealing them into special stainless-steel-lined drums called pipe overpack containers, or POCs, which allow for permanent disposal.



Members of PFP's Residues Team open old containers of plutonium-bearing residues in heavy plastic bags inside a containment tent.

## PFPP meets milestone nine months early, cont.

Repackaging residues involves sorting, processing and transferring certain plutonium-bearing solids and dense powders into new billet cans. The work is done inside a glovebox in the main PFPP processing facility, the 234-5Z Building, long known to Hanford workers as “Dash 5.” The billet cans are placed inside thick bags that are vented and filtered. Then the plutonium content is measured and the cans are placed inside the overpack container. The POCs each hold one to four billet cans and have secondary HEPA (high-efficiency particulate air) filtration.

### Ash completed first

The first groups of residues to be repackaged at PFPP were two sets of plutonium-laced ash from incinerators that operated at both Hanford and Rocky Flats during the 1960s and '70s. The incinerators were run as plutonium-recovery works. They burned plutonium-contaminated combustibles such as used protective clothing, rags and glovebox debris to retrieve plutonium from the ash. The plutonium was extracted through a process that used acids to pull the plutonium out of the ash.



Repackaged plutonium-bearing residues in plastic bags sit inside a billet can inside a pipe overpack container just before final closure.

Beginning in 2000, PFPP workers repackaged nearly 550 items containing ash from Hanford’s incinerator, and more than 400 items of ash from the Rocky Flats unit. The ash was packaged into POCs and sent to Hanford’s Central Waste Complex for eventual shipment to the WIPP facility.

PFPP employees finished processing the Rocky Flats ash in March 2001, and the Hanford ash in February 2002. Shipments to the Central Waste Complex were completed the following month, nearly five months ahead of a milestone in the Tri-Party Agreement, the DOE cleanup pact with the Washington Department of Ecology and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Chris Yale, Fluor Hanford’s lead operator for what is known as the “Residues Q Shift” at PFPP, recalls that the first ash-repackaging work was very challenging. “We were a new team working together and the ash was very flighty and fine,” he said. “It would expand as the old cans were opened. The operators suggested many revisions and improvements as we did that early work. Management had an open door and an open ear, and we made changes that improved the safety and efficiency of the work.”

### SS&C, Group 1 alloys

Next came the large sub-group of residues known as sand, slag and crucible material. Special molds called crucibles made of magnesium oxide were the holders — structures in which plutonium fluoride was fired to produce buttons of plutonium metal during the weapons-production era at Hanford. The crucibles were broken to remove the buttons. “Slag” is the solid residue that was left clinging to the pieces of the crucibles after they were broken. And excess magnesium-oxide powder from the firing of the plutonium fluoride is known as “sand.”

In the SS&C repackaging work, which took place during a 10-month period during 2002, more than 1,400 cans of materials were processed into just under 800 new billet cans. The job was finished six months ahead of schedule. The SS&C repackaging involved handling a bulk weight of about 2,500 kilograms of plutonium-bearing materials, including more than 40 kilograms of plutonium.

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## **PFP meets milestone nine months early, cont. 2**

Processing of a smaller group of residues known as “Group 1 Alloys” (plutonium-aluminum alloys) was completed at about the same time.

“We have a dedicated and talented team here at PFP, including all of the technical, operations, support and administrative staff,” said Brian Skeels, Fluor Hanford residues stabilization manager. “Our team has a tremendous feeling of accomplishment.”

### **OX/MOX, Group 2 alloys**

As soon as Skeels’ team finished SS&C repackaging, it switched the “feed stream” to OX/MOX (oxide/mixed oxide) scrap. The team began repackaging the OX/MOX collection in December 2002, and is scheduled to finish in November. The OX/MOX scrap items with low plutonium content by weight will be sent to WIPP in New Mexico, while the items with more plutonium will go to the Savannah River Site.

In late March, the Residues Team also completed measuring and transferring the large SS&C residues group to the Central Waste Complex to await shipment for permanent disposal off site. They began repackaging reduction residues and a small collection of “Group 2 alloys” in May. Recently, they started repackaging hold-up plutonium (plutonium being cleaned out of PFP equipment as part of decontamination and decommissioning), as well as a special 900-kilogram collection of OX/MOX residues.

### **Other PFP progress**

The Residues Sub-Project is one of three major sub-projects at PFP that are on track to stabilize and repackage all the material at PFP ahead of the May 2004 agreements with DOE and the DNFSB. The Thermal Stabilization Sub-Project led by Rob Cantwell finished stabilizing plutonium-laced cubes of polystyrene known as polycubes in February, and has begun washing and stabilizing oxides containing high amounts of chlorides.

A team led by Rob Gregory completed stabilizing and canning plutonium metals in September 2001 and is working to complete canning plutonium oxides by early 2004. The metals and oxides are being placed into new stainless steel “3013” cans that meet the stringent new specifications of DOE’s Standard 3013.

In addition, a team led by Bob Heineman is planning to accelerate deactivating the 61 structures in the PFP complex, while Tom Halverson leads efforts to ship stabilized plutonium away from the Hanford Site. ■

# Cleanout work begins in two major PFP production facilities

Michele Gerber, *Fluor Hanford*

Fluor Hanford workers have begun cleaning out “hold-up” plutonium-bearing material in two large buildings slated for deactivation and decommissioning (D&D) at the Plutonium Finishing Plant complex. Cleaning it out is one of the first steps in shifting work at PFP from material stabilization and packaging to D&D. When stabilization and packaging activities are finished in early 2004, all efforts at the plant will focus on D&D activities.

Hold-up material is that left in building systems such as gloveboxes, piping, process exhaust ducts, filters, sumps, pumps and other equipment. Up to 100 kilograms of hold-up material, mostly plutonium and americium, is estimated to exist throughout the various buildings of the PFP complex, with much of it residing in the main 234-5Z Building and in the Plutonium Reclamation Facility.

The U.S. Department of Energy decided that most of Hanford’s hold-up plutonium inventory, along with the systems and equipment to which it clings, will be packaged and disposed of as solid transuranic waste. Hold-up material containing higher concentrations of special nuclear material will be thermally stabilized, sealed into sturdy, triple-layered “3013” cans and placed in the PFP storage vaults for eventual shipment off the site.



**A PFP nuclear chemical operator replaces a glove on glovebox HC-9B in the 234-5Z Building to prepare for removing plutonium hold-up.**

## Cleanout a challenge

While the original baseline called for bringing the 61 buildings of the PFP complex down to slab-on-grade status by 2038, Fluor Hanford developed acceleration plans, in response to DOE’s request, to move the end date back to 2016 and then to 2009. Now, Fluor Hanford is trying to accomplish much of the D&D work even sooner. The company is concurrently removing hold-up in certain buildings, removing equipment in others and taking actions suited to different situations in the various structures.

In the 234-5Z and PRF facilities alone, D&D engineers and planners working under Fluor Hanford D&D director Bob Heineman have identified more than 120 locations with plutonium hold-up material in sufficient quantities to be recovered. Together, these facilities have more than 100,000 square feet of floor space. They have up to 10,000 linear feet of contaminated ductwork, thousands of feet of process and drain lines, vacuum and air ducts, filter boxes, process pumps and tanks, and other contaminated media. There are more than 200 contaminated gloveboxes and hoods — a hood being a generic term during early Hanford for several types of plutonium-handling equipment, sometimes including gloveboxes.

The 234-5Z structure, long known to Hanford workers as “Dash-5,” contains plutonium-bearing materials today because it served as a workhorse for the American nuclear defense complex for 40 years. It provided the final step in plutonium purification before the material was placed into weapons. Opened for business in 1949, Dash-5 was the first large-scale U.S. plutonium finishing plant. Over the years, it produced more plutonium metal than any other American facility, yielding output that was equivalent to that of DOE’s Rocky Flats and Savannah River sites combined.

In the early 1960s, the PRF was constructed to process various types of scrap left from the multifaceted plutonium handling and finishing steps that took place in Dash-5. Capturing and processing those scraps

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## Cleanout work begins in two major PFP production facilities, cont.

reclaimed untold kilograms of plutonium that could be blended into the Dash-5 “feed streams” to yield plutonium metal for weapons. PRF was so successful, and combined so many scrap recovery processes under one roof, that the Atomic Energy Commission, the predecessor agency to DOE, chose it in 1972 as the headquarters for the federal Central Scrap Management Organization. The CSMO served the dozens of AEC nuclear production and research sites and some commercial facilities by recovering plutonium in forms and quantities well beyond those produced by Hanford facilities alone.

Unfortunately, the extensive processing took its toll on the PRF, and major facility breakdowns occurred within the CSMO’s first decade. Today, the remains of its extensive missions make PRF a D&D job of almost unparalleled complexity.



Fluor Hanford D&D teams inspect equipment in the 232-Z Incinerator as part of pre-cleanout planning.

### Tackling ‘C’ Line gloveboxes

Teams under Mick Talbot, deactivation manager for the 234-5Z Building, began preparations for hold-up cleanout last fall. PFP workers have traveled to the Rocky Flats Site to gain insights into how to cut the time it takes to do cleanout work and lower dose rates to employees. “We’re interested in breakthroughs that can help us do our work safer, faster and cheaper,” said Talbot. “We’re looking at a huge D&D task here at PFP, and we want to work as smartly as we can.”

Returning to Hanford, the teams started removing hold-up material in HC-7C, a long, tall and narrow glovebox that is part of the historic Remote Mechanical “C” Line. This line is a 180-foot-long automated plutonium finishing and fabrication system installed in the 234-5Z Building in the mid-1950s as part of Hanford’s Cold War build-up. “We chose this box,” said Talbot, “because it presented straightforward challenges and served as a good opportunity for us to test our D&D concepts. Also, HC-7C did not present as great a contamination hazard to workers as will some other equipment.”

When pre-job walk-downs revealed that about a third of the bottom shielding around the HC-7C glovebox was missing, project engineer Brad Norman coordinated the design and installation of new leaded-plastic shielding to reduce radiological dose rates to workers. PFP maintenance teams capped piping leading to the glovebox to prevent liquids from inadvertently getting in, and modified electrical and mechanical systems as appropriate.

Then, teams of nuclear chemical operators, radiological control technicians, pipefitters, millwrights, electricians and others tackled the interior of HC-7C. They removed waste consisting of glass tanks, valves, agitators, piping and other equipment and placed it in 55-gallon containers. By the time the removal efforts were finished in April, they had logged valuable field experience to apply to the more challenging hold-up removal in other gloveboxes.

After conducting an extensive post-job review to identify lessons learned in the HC-7C tasks, Talbot’s crews began work this past spring on glovebox HC-9B, also part of the head end of the old “C” Line. HC-9B is more than 13 feet tall, has three interior levels packed with equipment and “sweeps” (loose contaminated material),

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## Cleanout work begins in two major PFP production facilities, cont. 2

and is estimated to contain more hold-up plutonium than HC-7C. "It has equipment that presents more challenges and a radiation dose that significantly complicates the work," said legacy hold-up removal project manager Jim Lilly. "At the same time, it represents an important step in transitioning PFP, so working on it is exciting."

Cleanout of HC-9B is expected to be completed late this year.

### PRF cleanout begins

This past spring, cleanout crews under Leo Aranda began preparing to remove hold-up material in five large gloveboxes in the "miscellaneous treatment" area of the PRF. PRF is estimated to contain a third of all the hold-up material in the PFP complex.

Nuclear chemical operators Tony Clark, Donnie Lapierre and Shawn Wilson recently participated in re-gloving some of the glovebox ports in the miscellaneous treatment area, and started waste seal-outs in July. The work requires full personal protective clothing and is done under hot and cramped conditions. Further, everything had to be done by hand — without the use of electrical tools — to limit intrusive work on old equipment that hadn't been fully analyzed using modern safety criteria.

However difficult the work was, Clark is positive about the effort because, he said, "The workers helped plan the job and review the criticality documentation, and managers listened to our suggestions. In this work, the entire team made an effort to link the people in the field with those preparing the paper. As a result, we have a very workable project."

### 232-Z, 241-Z to start soon

At the same time that physical cleanout work is beginning in the 234-5Z and PRF facilities, Fluor Hanford teams are preparing to clean out the 232-Z Incinerator Building and the 241-Z Liquid Waste Storage Facility. That work is to begin in October.

The small 232-Z facility burned plutonium-bearing solid waste and then used an acid leachate system to retrieve plutonium from the ashes during the 1960s and 1970s. It still contains the huge "burning hood," cyclone separators for the ashes, bricks, the old conveyor system and several grams of plutonium. DOE and Fluor Hanford plans call for demolishing the structure by 2006.

The 241-Z structure, which handled PFP's liquid waste discharges for nearly 50 years, contains five below-grade cells with highly contaminated tanks, sumps, an agitator and piping. Cleaning out this facility presents special challenges because each of the cells is a confined space where work must be done wearing supplied-air respirators. Plans call for demolishing the 241-Z structures by 2007.

These two structures are on the leading edge of a large, fast-track D&D effort that will sweep through the PFP complex in the next few years. "We're doing the planning and training as thoroughly as we can," said Steve Norton, deactivation manager for both the 232-Z and 241-Z facilities. "We have talented and dedicated operators, radiological control technicians, crafts personnel and others who are working very hard in tackling this formidable work." ■

  
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# Hanford-White Bluffs reunion may be the last

Don Sorenson, *Fluor Hanford*

Life in the Priest Rapids Valley was simple before World War II. People worked hard for the things they needed, and they appreciated the hard work of others. With water from the Hanford Power and Irrigation Company, the valley had been transformed from arid desert land to lush farms in the early part of the century.

A line from an article in the *White Bluffs Spokesman* summarized life in the small towns of Hanford, White Bluffs, Cold Creek and Vernita: "The people in this valley are so happy here they really don't have a need for lawyers."

Their paradise was lost in March of 1943. The federal government, in a race to develop atomic weapons, issued a condemnation order. Residents were given 30 days to accept the appraised value of their homes and move away to make room for an important war project. There was no time to nurture crops already planted, or even to say proper goodbyes to lifelong friends.

They started coming back in 1968, when the secrecy surrounding Hanford's defense-production mission was relaxed enough to allow visitors to the old town sites. Annual reunions have been held since then.

Many former residents who are still living are no longer able to attend these annual get-togethers, however, so the Hanford-White Bluffs reunion this year, on the weekend of Aug. 2, may be one of the last.

At Richland's Shilo Inn, the families shared memories and photographs. Former residents — with sadness in their voices — told younger generations what life was like in the valley before the war. From a bus, they pointed out where their farms and orchards were, and got off the bus to stand where their homes had stood.

As their children and grandchildren listened to their stories, the displaced people of the Priest Rapids Valley knew their small place in history will be remembered long after they're gone. ■



Participants in this year's Hanford-White Bluffs reunion pause to examine displays and take a close look at the bank building that is still standing after being abandoned 60 years ago.



# Suggestions to the Value Creation mailbox boost cost-effectiveness for Fluor

Since its inception in April, Fluor Hanford employees have offered suggestions on a wide variety of subjects through the Value Creation mailbox. Ideas for reducing costs of safety glasses, adjusting lighting in parking lots, increasing the availability of computers for bargaining-unit employees and eliminating some landscaping and greenery across the site to help reduce maintenance costs are but a few of the suggestions that employees have brought to Fluor Hanford's attention.

When a Fluor Hanford employee submits an idea or suggestion via an e-mail message to the Value Creation mailbox at ^FH Value Creation, the idea will be assessed by a senior manager, and the sender will receive a response within five business days on the feasibility of implementing the suggestion. In most cases, the new ideas have brought about changes "from the way things have always been done," and have involved employees in helping the Fluor Hanford team to work more efficiently and cost-effectively.

"We must focus on ways to increase our efficiency and reduce costs," said Dave Van Leuven, president and chief executive officer of Fluor Hanford. "That translates into identifying and eliminating unnecessary tasks and obsolete practices, and looking for opportunities to improve our processes, both technical and business. We implemented the Fluor Hanford Value Creation mailbox as a means of listening to suggestions from our employees that may help toward this effort."

Jerry Gridley, who recently submitted a suggestion to the Value Creation mailbox on landscape maintenance, said, "I was a little skeptical of the Value Creation mailbox, thinking it would be like a lot of other programs we have seen, but the way my issue was handled has given me new hope that we now have a system that works. I am truly excited to see what kinds of positive changes Fluor Hanford can implement as a result of suggestions sent to the Value Creation mailbox."

Fluor Hanford employees may send their ideas and suggestions in an e-mail message to ^FH Value Creation. Contact Karen Welsh at 376-2151 for more information. ■

## Picture Pages



FFTF managers Steve Doebler (left, above) and Stan Scott serve lunch to others at the facility on July 31 as FFTF celebrates the achievement of a million safe work hours.

Dean Pollick above, (left) and Scott Higgins of the Fast Flux Test Facility's Examination and Decontamination Services team — shown here outside the Interim Examination and Maintenance Cell in the reactor containment area — are proud to be part of the facility's integrated safety program.

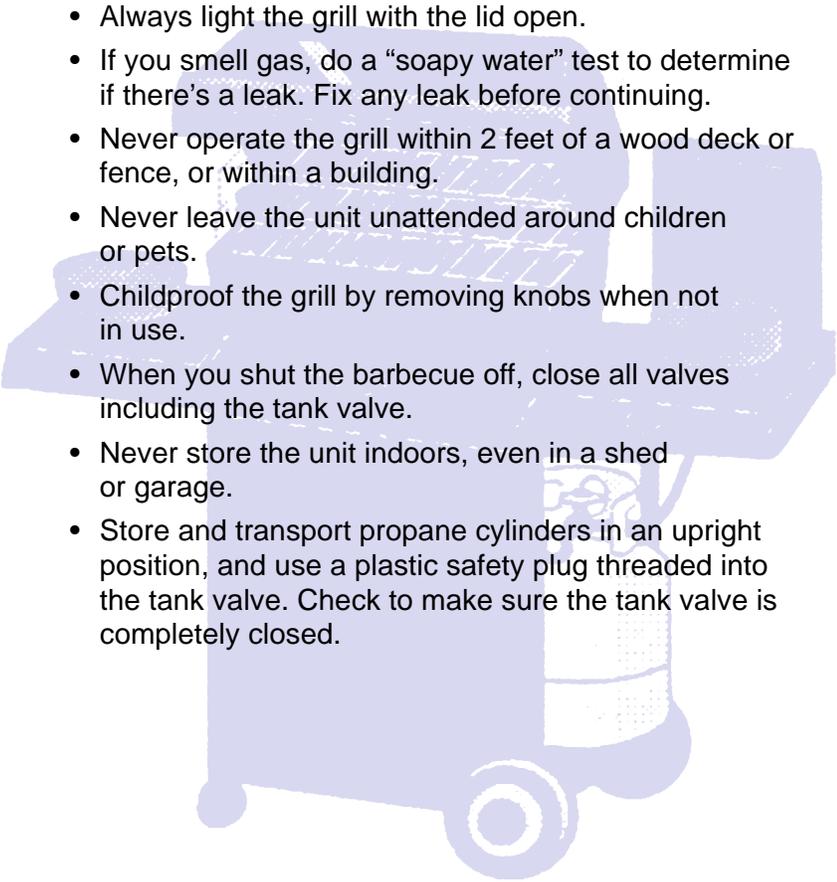
### HELPING KIDS GET BACK TO SCHOOL:

Doris Ayres (center) of Fluor Hanford gets some help from Abi Stanley, granddaughter of Mary Davenport (background) in filling backpacks with school supplies as part of Fluor's global volunteer project called "Backpack Basics." The backpacks will go to local children of the Boys and Girls Clubs and to kids near Fluor's Alaska project site. The Fluor Foundation donated 675 backpacks and employees are collecting the supplies. The collection period ends this Thursday.



## **FFS offers propane barbecue safety tips**

For employees using propane grills for barbecuing, Fluor Federal Services has issued the following safety guidelines:

- Always light the grill with the lid open.
  - If you smell gas, do a “soapy water” test to determine if there’s a leak. Fix any leak before continuing.
  - Never operate the grill within 2 feet of a wood deck or fence, or within a building.
  - Never leave the unit unattended around children or pets.
  - Childproof the grill by removing knobs when not in use.
  - When you shut the barbecue off, close all valves including the tank valve.
  - Never store the unit indoors, even in a shed or garage.
  - Store and transport propane cylinders in an upright position, and use a plastic safety plug threaded into the tank valve. Check to make sure the tank valve is completely closed.
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## Security Ed Challenge

# Consumers are first line of defense in preventing identity fraud

The Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Federal Trade Commission and the National Consumers League recently held a press conference to remind the public that consumers are the first line of defense in preventing identity fraud. The latest trend in e-mail fraud is criminals sending unsolicited e-mails with corporate logos telling the recipient that the company lost their consumer data files and will delete their account unless they update private information such as account numbers, social security numbers and passwords. Do not fall for these scams! Legitimate companies will not ask for this type of information via e-mail messages.



**Take the Security Ed Challenge:** What three steps can you take to protect yourself if you receive an unsolicited e-mail and the sender asks for personal information; announces that you have won a prize, but you need to pay shipping fees or taxes; or needs your bank account number to transfer large sums of money from a third-world country?

- A. Delete the e-mail.
- B. Answer the e-mail.
- C. Call the company's customer service department on a known phone number to verify the message.
- D. Do not click on e-mail hyperlinks; they can take you to phony Web pages. Instead go to a known company Internet address to verify the message.

Do you know the answers? Send an e-mail message with the three steps you can take to protect yourself from e-mail identity fraud schemes (indicate "Ed's Scam Prevention" in the subject line) to C. E. (Chet) Braswell, or clip this article, circle the correct answers, add your name and Hanford identification 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.

For information on identity fraud, go to the Federal Trade Commission's Web page at <http://www.FTC.gov>.

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

Mailstop \_\_\_\_\_

**Congratulations to Sam Baker of Fluor Hanford, winner of the July 21 Security Ed Challenge, "Bomb Threat Notification." Baker won a MiniMag light for correctly answering that if you receive a bomb threat call, you should take down the information, try not to hang up the phone (if possible use another phone to notify authorities) and take a look around for suspicious objects as you evacuate.**

**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



## Newsbriefs

### PTB transfer approved for Howell

Diane Howell, a secretary in the Project Maintenance Center, was approved to receive personal time bank transferred hours. Howell's mother was recently hospitalized and will require assistance during her recovery. Fluor Project Hanford employees who would like to transfer PTB hours to Howell should complete a PTB/Vacation Transfer Request form (Site Form A-6002-807) and send it to Cherie H. Smith, Fluor Hanford Workforce Services, H8-69. Time must be transferred in one-hour increments.

### Recycle your athletic shoes and help WSU qualify for a new sports court

Got a worn-out pair of athletic shoes that you haven't been able to part with yet? Recycle those shoes before Aug. 27 and help Washington State University at Pullman qualify for a grant for a new sports court made of recycled athletic shoes. Recycle any brand of athletic shoes by dropping them off at any of the collection centers listed below.

- Washington State University Tri-Cities, 2710 University Drive in Richland, near the bookstore in the east wing and in the student lounge
- Columbia Center Mall, near the information desk
- Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 640 N. Columbia Center Blvd., Kennewick
- St. Vincent DePauls Store, 1401 W. Kennewick Avenue, Kennewick
- The drop box placed at the recycling location behind the fire station in South Richland, corner of Keene Road and Gage Boulevard.

Collection drives are also occurring at Energy Northwest, whose point-of-contact is Sharon Bond, 377-4339, and at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, whose point-of-contact is Judith Johannesen at 375-4489.

Your recycled shoes will help WSU reach the goal of 5,500 pairs needed to qualify for the grant. WSU Re-use-a-Shoe Program has collected 4,200 pairs so far. ♦



## Kudos, cont.

### Four ERC teams receive pollution prevention honors

Representatives of the U.S. Department of Energy's Richland Operations Office, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Ecology were on hand recently to recognize four teams for winning DOE National Pollution Prevention Awards.

More than 80 Environmental Restoration Contractor employees made up the four teams that won three awards for work at Hanford and one award for work with the DOE Oak Ridge Office of Assets Utilization.

"It is obvious by the wide variety of groups represented here today that the outstanding success earned through the ERC Pollution Prevention Program is indeed a team effort," said Beth Bilson at the recognition event. Bilson is the DOE assistant manager for River Corridor. "The success you've demonstrated at Hanford is recognized and serves to raise the bar for the rest of the DOE complex."

The ERC teams received Pollution Prevention Awards for the ERC Pollution Prevention and Waste Management Program; for new software to procure goods with recycled and recovered materials; for the Advanced Characterization System; and for efforts to support DOE's Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse Program.

DOE and Hanford contractors submitted 10 entries for the 2003 Pollution Prevention Awards, including the four winning entries from Bechtel Hanford and four from Fluor Hanford, one from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and one from the Hanford Site Pollution Prevention Team. ♦

*Features continued on next page.*

# Regular Features



## Calendar

### **Certified Hazardous Materials Managers meet at winery Aug. 14**

The Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Manager will meet 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 14 at the Terra Blanca Winery. Keith Pilgrim, winemaker and geologist, is the host. Pilgrim will lead a tour of the winery's caves, which are used for energy-efficient wine storage. Wine tasting will follow the tour. For more information, contact Andrea Prignano by e-mail, or visit the Terra Blanca Web site at <http://www.terrablanca.com/> or the chapter's Web site at <http://users.owt.com/ewcachmm/>.

### **Learn to search the Internet**

Hanford Technical Library staff will teach you how to search the Internet on Thursday, Aug. 14, from noon to 1 p.m. in room 101R of the Consolidated Information Center on the Washington State University Tri-Cities campus. Attendees will learn 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 Mary Frances Lembo at 372-7441 or [mf.lembo@pnl.gov](mailto:mf.lembo@pnl.gov).

### **The Tri-City Young Marines seeks recruits**

The Tri-City Young Marines is looking for a few good young men and women, ages 8 to 18, to join their ranks. The group will hold a parent information night at 7 p.m. on Aug. 21 at the Wagenaar U.S. Army Reserve Center, 1011 E. Ainsworth in Pasco. Parents, relatives and guardians are invited to come along with potential recruits to learn more about the Tri-City Young Marines program. The Young Marines is a national, not-for-profit, youth-education organization that focuses on character building through a combination of self-discipline, teamwork and leadership, and promotes a healthy, drug-free lifestyle. Although the Young Marines is the U.S. Marine Corps' official youth program for the Department of Defense Drug Demand Reduction effort, the Young Marines is not a recruiting force for the U.S. Marine Corps. The program strives to instill the core values of honor,

courage and commitment adopted by the Marine Corps in each of its members. For more information, call 735-7437 in the evenings.

### **Donate blood at HAMMER on Sept. 9**

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive on Tuesday, Sept. 9 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Al Alm Building, Vehicle Bay at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. To schedule an appointment, contact Libby Sickler at 376-7117.

### **Duratek sponsors golf tournament for United Way**

The United Way scramble golf tournament, sponsored by Duratek, is scheduled for Sept. 11 at Canyon Lakes Golf Course in Kennewick. The shotgun start is at 1 p.m. All proceeds go to the United Way. For more information, visit [www.duratekinc.com](http://www.duratekinc.com), under "Client News," or contact Angie Gagnon at 376-0804.

### **Safety and Health Conference takes place Oct. 3**

"Emerging Issues in Safety and Health" is the title of the third Safety and Health Conference Oct. 3, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. The topics will emphasize the safety challenges presented by emerging issues such as an aging workforce, regulatory shifts, funding restrictions and emergency planning in today's troubled world. The Lower Columbia Basin Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers, the Tri-City Education Committee of the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association, and the Northwest Chapter of the System Safety Society are sponsoring the conference. If paid before Sept. 1, the conference fee is \$100 (\$85 for speakers, \$35 for students). After Sept. 1, the fee is \$125 (\$100 for speakers, \$45 for students). The fee includes lunch and refreshments. Attendees will receive 0.7 continuing education credits or 1 CIH Certification Maintenance Point. Eight speakers, a nationally known keynote speaker and a HAMMER tour are planned. For more information, contact John Cavanaugh at 373-9625 or at [john\\_e\\_jr\\_cavanaugh@rl.gov](mailto:john_e_jr_cavanaugh@rl.gov), or John Hinckley at 371-4408 or at [jhinckle@bechtel.com](mailto:jhinckle@bechtel.com).

*Calendar continued on next page.*

# Regular Features



## Calendar, cont

### Northwest Purchasing Conference

The National Association of Purchasing Management-Columbia Basin will host the Pacific Northwest Purchasing Conference Oct. 10-11 at the Kennewick Red Lion Hotel. The conference will feature speakers, workshops, programs and a trade show related to purchasing, materials management and supply-chain management. For more information, consult the conference program Web page at <http://www.mltweb.com/orgs/conf/schedule.htm>. ♦



## Classes

### PROTRAIN offers software training

**Primavera Enterprise version 3.5** – Aug. 5-7

#### Primavera Project Planning

- P-3 601, Aug. 18-20
- P-3 602, Aug. 21
- P-3 603, Aug. 22

#### Crystal Reports 8

- Introduction, Aug. 18
- Advanced, Aug. 19

**Word 2002 XP** — Starts the week of Aug. 20

**Access 2002 XP** — Starts the week of Aug. 25

#### MS Project 2000

- Beginning Aug. 11
- Intermediate Aug. 12

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

### D2000 Safety Systems training offered at HAMMER

D2000 Safety Systems will be offering two sessions of OSHA-approved training for fall protection and scaffolding at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. The cost for each class is \$595. Register by calling D2000 Safety Systems at (800) 551-87630.

- **Fall Arrest Systems** – Aug. 19-21. This course is designed to train the student to perform the obligations and responsibilities of an OSHA competent

person and qualified person for fall arrest systems. Students successfully completing the program receive a certificate of completion and are qualified for continuing education units.

- **Scaffolds - Competent Person** – Sept. 9-11. This class trains the employee to identify the proper ways to erect scaffolding, explains the hazards associated with scaffolding, and trains employees to recognize the responsibilities of a competent person. This training meets the OSHA criteria required for the classification of a competent person.

### Organization Development seminar offered at WSU

The Washington State University Tri-Cities Business Department will offer a special seminar on “Organization Development,” Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:45-7 p.m. beginning Aug. 25. The seminar will cover the essentials of organization development, a process that applies behavioral science knowledge and practices to help organizations achieve greater effectiveness. Examples of organizational development activities include team building with top corporate management, structural change in a municipality and job enrichment in a manufacturing firm. A major element in the study is the topic of change — the nature of planned change, as well as leading and managing change. The instructor is Chris Wiprud. To register, contact the Registrar’s office at 372-7250 for more information.

### Project management seminar offered at WSU

The WSU Tri-Cities Business Department will offer “Management 496,” a special seminar in project management, on Mondays and Wednesdays, beginning Aug. 25, 4:15-5:30 p.m. The course will use case studies to examine the principles and practices of project management and will be linked to the Project Management Institute’s Book of Knowledge. The instructor is Andy Hesser. Contact the Registrar’s office, 372-7250, for more information.

### Groundwater and soil remediation course

The course, “Groundwater and Soil Remediation ES/RP 592,” will be offered at Washington State University Tri-Cities on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:45-7 p.m., beginning Aug. 26. The instructors are Marve Hyman

*Classes continued on next page.*

# Regular Features



## Classes, cont.

and Ed Thornton. The course includes field trips to operating remediation sites and covers the following topics: groundwater treating, soil treating, feasibility studies and remedy selection, project design, safety and health plans and cost estimating. For more information, contact Marve Hyman at 375-0222.

### Environmental regulation, waste management

Environmental Training Management Division Training, a division of Technical and Field Engineering, Inc., is offering the courses listed below in Richland. To register, or for more information, visit [www.etmdtraining.com](http://www.etmdtraining.com).

- **Waste Characterization** – Aug. 26-27. Cost is \$795. Topics covered include: materials characteristics, identifying hazardous waste, identifying polychlorinated biphenyls, identifying radioactive and mixed waste, meeting waste-acceptance criteria and waste packaging.
- **Environmental Laws and Regulations Course** – Sept. 9-11. Cost is \$595. Topics covered include: Atomic Energy Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act.
- **DOE O 435.1 Radioactive Waste Management Training** – Sept. 15-17. Cost is \$800. The course consist of five modules: introduction, overview, and goals; low-level waste; low-level waste disposal; transuranic waste; and high-level waste.
- **Management of Polychlorinated Biphenyls** – Sept. 23-25. Cost is \$780. Learning modules include background of PCB information (physical, chemical and toxicological properties) and discussion of 40 CFR 761.
- **Cleanup Site Closure: Integrating Regulatory and Administrative Activities** – Oct. 6-7. Cost is \$490. Topics covered planning, activities and documentation related to CERCLA and RCRA.

### Professional development classes offered

The Tri-Cities Technical Council, an organization that

represents local professional societies, will sponsor continuing education and professional development courses to be held 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Royal Hotel and Conference Center in Richland. The following courses are scheduled for September:

- **Pumping Systems** – Sept. 12-13. The cost is \$895 for American Society of Civil Engineers members and \$1,095 for non-members.
- **Cross-Functional Management** – Sept. 12-13. The cost is \$795 for American Institute of Chemical Engineers members and \$955 for non-members.
- **Preventing Human Error** – Sept. 12-13. The cost is \$795 for AIChE members and \$955 for non-members.
- **Biosafety** – Sept. 26. The cost is \$295 for American Industrial Hygiene Association members and \$375 for non-members.
- **Unsteady Flow in Pipeline Systems** – Sept. 26-27. The cost is \$895 for ASCE members and \$1,095 for non-members.

Registration is due four weeks ahead of the course date. Students will earn Continuing Education Units or Certification Maintenance points. To register for the AIChE courses, send checks to the Columbia Valley Section of AIChE, P.O. Box 305, Richland, WA 99352. To register for the ASCE courses, send checks to Tri-Cities Technical Council, P.O. Box 1483, Richland, WA 99352. For more information or to register for the AIHA course, contact Marve Hyman at 375-0222.

### Resource Training Institute, LLC, offers courses

The Resource Training Institute, LLC, will offer the following classes in Richland:

- **DOE O 435.1 Radioactive Waste Management Training** – Sept. 16-18, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **Cleanup Site Closure: Integrating Regulatory and Administrative Activities** — Oct. 14-15, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

To register, contact the RTI registrar at (803) 652-8830 or at [registrar@rtii.org](mailto:registrar@rtii.org). For the full course schedule visit <http://www.rtii.org>. ♦

*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. No personal checks for more than \$250 will be accepted.

**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 (S6-74) 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** — 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. Tickets are valid through Sept. 28. Ticket sellers are Linda Meigs (H3-12), Cheri McGee (N2-53), Nancy Zeuge (X3-74), Tricia Poland (T5-04), Marta Caballero (S6-74) 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.

**TRI-CITY HERO GOLF DAY** — Sept. 26 (Friday off), 8 a.m. shotgun start at the Canyon Lakes Golf Course in Kennewick. The cost is \$55 per person, which includes one-half cart, range balls, prizes and greens fees. A steak and salmon lunch will follow. Get your team together. Make your check(s) payable to HERO and send it, along with your team members' names, to Tricia Poland (T5-04) or Pat Jenkins (T5-04).

**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** — Fluor Project Hanford team employees are invited to join us Sept. 11 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. The dinner cruise in July sold out early. Make your reservations 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

• **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.

*HERO continued on next page.*

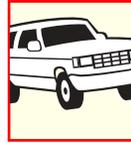
# Regular Features

• **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. 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. Contact Phyllis Roha at 376-6413 or by e-mail for more information.

• **Holiday in Lights cruise** — Dec. 5-7. Climb aboard the Fun Fleet of Coeur d'Alene Cruises for a holiday tour of the lighted displays featuring over a million lights. Package includes round-trip bus trip, two nights at the Coeur d'Alene Resort, breakfast both mornings and a one-hour lake cruise. Depart Friday morning, Dec. 5, and stop at the Spokane Valley Mall for Christmas shopping, then it's off to Coeur d'Alene for your evening cruise. On Saturday, you can relax at the resort, pamper yourself at the spa, shop at additional shops close to the resort, take the bus back to Spokane for more shopping or hop on a shuttle that runs to the casino in Worley, Idaho. The cost per person based on double occupancy is \$193 for an economy room, \$215 for a deluxe room, and \$238 for a premier room. A \$50 non-refundable deposit per person is due as soon as possible to reserve your spot. E-mail Phyllis Roha for more information.

• **Western Caribbean Cruise** — Dec. 7-14. Join us for a relaxing cruise to four ports in the Western Caribbean, home to crystal clear waters and white sand beaches — perfect for sunning or snorkeling. Relax on Half Moon Cay, swim with stingrays and visit the Green Sea Turtle Farm at Grand Cayman. Snorkel or visit Mayan ruins in Cozumel. Take the famous Conch Tour Train in Key West. The price starts at \$355 per person plus current port charges and government fees (approximately \$200) and airfare. Contact Tricia Poland for more information.

• **San Antonio Christmas** — Dec. 9-13. 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. ♦



## 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 while on site and be prepared to show them when passing through a barricade. Vehicle drivers are responsible for ensuring their passengers are badged prior to leaving their point of embarkation. A vehicle driver who transports an unbadged person through a barricade and the unbadged person will be issued Security Incident Notices and the unbadged person will be escorted off site. Re-entry is not allowed until a proper badge is obtained.

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## KENNEWICK

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Van No. 196 has openings for riders on its route from S. Kennewick and the Highlands to 200E. 8x9s, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. We try to pick up at homes close to established route. The route begins in the area around south 36th and Vancouver; proceeds to Clearwater, West Hood, Edison and to most locations in 200E, including 2750 and 2704-HV. Contact **John** at 372-0223. 8/11

Rider needed on vanpool to 200W. Picks up at Albertson's on Clearwater in Kennewick and Chief Joseph Middle School in Richland. Drops off at 222-S, PFP and the fab shop area. We keep the number of riders limited for comfort. Contact **Leann Spurlock** at 376-8703 or by e-mail. 8/11

Van No. 133, to 200W needs riders. 8x9s, leaves the Ben Franklin Transit Park'n Ride at 6:05 a.m. Stops at 222-S, MO-720, T Plant and MO-279. Other 200 West Area stops will be considered. Contact **Terry Vail** at 373-2092 or **Phil Wilson** at 373-2964. 8/11

Vanpool express to 200E needs riders. Departs from Albertson's on Edison and Clearwater at 6 a.m. Drops off in the vicinity of 2750, MO-384, WESF and LEF. Contact **Scott** at 372-0473 or **Max** at 373-9161. 8/4

New vanpool to 200E starting in September. Looking for riders who live in or near the east Kennewick area and commute to 2704-HV or locations in that vicinity. We are considering picking up riders at their homes. Contact **Debbie** at 372-2698. 8/4

*Vanpools continued on next page.*

# Regular Features



## Vanpools, cont.

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### PASCO

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Van No. 213 from Pasco needs riders. Leaves Desert Ice across from the Broadmoor Mall off Road 100 at 6:05 a.m. Drop-off points are 2750-E and 2704-HV (or any place along the way). Arrives back at Desert Ice about 5:15 p.m. Backup drivers appreciated. Contact **Doug Bailey** at 373-2392 or at douglas\_m\_bailey@ri.gov, or **Steve Boothe** at 376-6812 or at Stephen\_G\_Boothe@ri.gov. 8/4

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### RICHLAND

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Room for two more in carpool from Albertson's in Meadow Springs to 200E. Drops off at 2727-E and 2704-HV. 8x9s, shared driving. Contact **Kevin** at 373-4175 for details. 8/11

Vanpool Express (with a new van) to 200 E needs several riders, 8x9s. Monthly rate is as low as \$35. Leaves former Hanford bus lot (across from 2440 Stevens) at 6:25 a.m. and drops off at 2750-E local area. Will also pick up and drop off along route to and from bus lot: from Albany Ct. north on Alder, east on Bismark, north on McMurray, and north on Stevens Drive. Contact **Dave Hedengren** at 373-5094. 8/11

Van starts at Chuck E. Cheese, picks up at Federal Building and drops off at 2750-E, 2719-EA, WESF, 2704-HV and CSB. Call **Beth** at 376-0971 or **Barb** at 373-2006. 8/4

Low-cost route, Vanpool No. 195, 8x9s, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. schedule, from Richland to 200E has one opening. Starts at Mowry Square Condominiums (close to 7-Eleven at Jadwin Ave.). Picks up along Jadwin north of Van Giesen St, along George Washington Way between McMurray and Spengler, at 7-Eleven by George Washington Way and at 2420 Stevens Center. Stops at 274A-W, 2750-E, CSB, 2704-HV, and Wet Grout Facility. Call **Jon Renholds** at 373-4248, **Betty Zscheile** at 373-7282 or **Leona Aamot** at 372-3769. 8/4 ♦