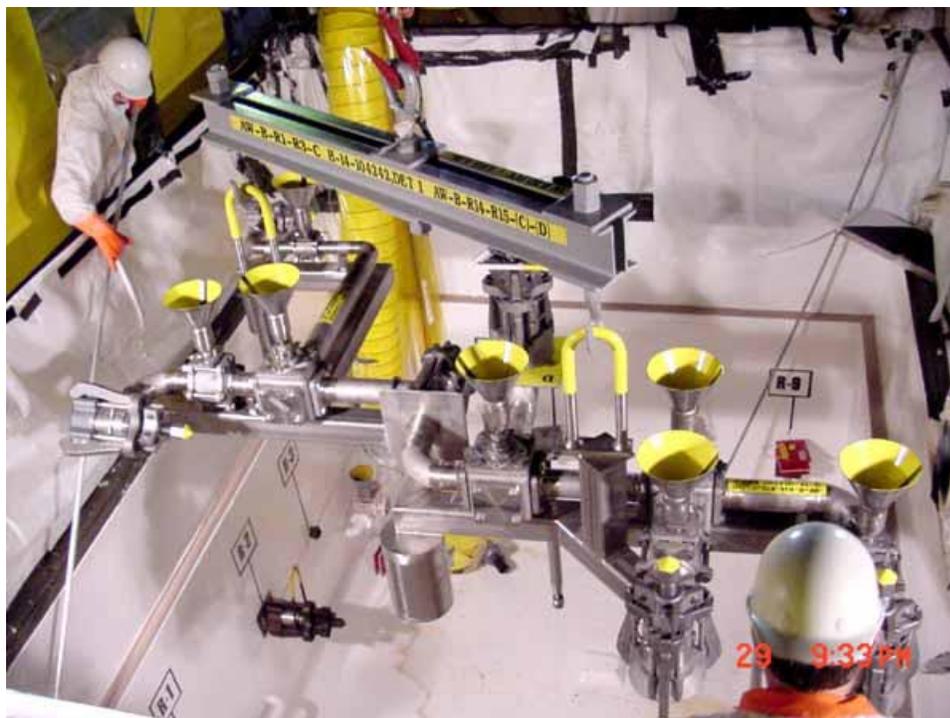


REACH

A publication of the U.S. Department of Energy for all Hanford Site employees



DOWN CAME A SPIDER: CH2M HILL Hanford Group and Fluor Federal Services employees install a new jumper manifold, called a “spider,” in a process pit in Hanford’s AW Tank Farm. The spider will direct waste transfers between tanks. The installation is part of ongoing tank-farm upgrades to prepare for delivery of waste to the planned vitrification plant.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Hanford Reach

The *Hanford Reach* is eleven years old —
today!

Today, Nov. 5, is the 11th anniversary of the *Hanford Reach*. About 550 issues have been produced since the first one appeared Nov. 5, 1990. Copies are available at the DOE Reading Room on the WSU Tri-Cities campus. Issues from the last three years are archived on the Web site at www.hanford.gov/reach/index.html.



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call the Mailroom, 375-5170

See the *Hanford Reach* on the Web at:
www.Hanford.gov/reach/index.html

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Bids sought for river corridor closure

The draft request for proposals for a Department of Energy “Phased Closure Contract” to accelerate restoration work along the Columbia River is now available. The DOE Richland Operations Office announced its availability on the Federal Business Opportunities Web site at <http://www.fedbizopps.gov/>.

“This is a critical step in our strategy to accelerate cleanup along the river and dramatically shrink the Hanford Site operational area by 2012,” said Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham. “This action also demonstrates that Hanford has risen to the challenge of getting the job of cleanup done sooner and in a more cost-effective manner — which is good for the environment, good for the community and good for taxpayers.”

The draft RFP includes several unique features:

- It pays significant fees with the potential for substantially more work, commensurate with the assumption of risks and superior performance.
- It makes the workscope, including business risks, as clear as possible.
- It takes steps to make doing work at Hanford easier and more predictable.
- It incorporates the opportunity and time for bidders to fully understand what they’re getting into.
- Rather than seeking specific DOE experience, it includes selection criteria that emphasize project-management skills, key personnel, planned corporate involvement in the project and contractor assumption of risk.
- It reduces the need for personnel with Hanford river-corridor cleanup experience in bid preparation.
- In order to attract bidders who may not be involved in Hanford cleanup or other DOE business but have successful experience with other agencies or Superfund cleanups, it actively seeks ideas on how to better use commercial “best practices.”

The work associated with the Columbia River Corridor Closure Contract includes interim safe storage or “cocooning” of six former plutonium production reactors, demolition of associated reactor structures, remediation of waste sites and demolition of aging buildings in Hanford’s 100 and 300 Areas.

A copy of the draft RFP along with associated questions and answers is available at <http://www.hanford.gov/procure/solicit/rcc/> and in the Hanford Reading Room at <http://reading-room.pnl.gov/>. DOE-RL is inviting comments on the draft RFP through Nov. 14, and intends to issue the final RFP on Jan. 23. A contract is to be awarded no later than Oct. 1, 2002. ♦

Veterans Day is for reflection, honor, respect

In 1921, an unknown World War I American soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. This site, on a hillside overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington, D.C., became the focal point of reverence for America's veterans.

Similar ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France, where an unknown soldier was buried in each nation's highest place of honor (Westminster Abbey in England and the Arc de Triomphe in France). These memorial gestures all took place on Nov. 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I fighting at 11 a.m., Nov. 11, 1918. This day became known as "Armistice Day."

Armistice Day became a national holiday in 1938. If the idealistic hope had been realized that World War I was "the war to end all wars," Nov. 11 might still be called Armistice Day. But soon after the holiday was proclaimed, war broke out in Europe. Sixteen and one-half million Americans took part — 407,000 of them died in service, more than 290,000 in battle.

Representative Edwin K. Rees of Kansas proposed to pay tribute to those who had served in World War II by changing the name of the Nov. 11 holiday from Armistice Day to Veterans Day, and making it an occasion to honor those who have served America in all wars. In 1954, President Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming Nov. 11 as Veterans Day.

As I reflect on the service of veterans before me, I am also very aware of the fact that there will be many more veterans to come. We concluded long ago that the "war to end all wars" was not World War I, and we do not know whether the last war is near; but we do know that those who serve play a vital role in assuring our freedom.

We have seen over the past few weeks what great pain evil brings to the world, and we also recognize the soothing balm that good brings. Today we have seen a different type of war, one that has taken us out of our comfort zones and placed us in the midst of the battlefield, our own back yards.

We have seen the sacrifice of life by a different type of veteran. Having been touched so closely, it allows us to feel more deeply the spirit of this country: the spirit that believes in liberty and justice for all; the spirit of courage and peace. This is the spirit the veteran has always known, and it is my hope that, as we pay tribute to our veterans, that we understand the sacrifice, love and courage of those who served and continue to serve our country.

Someone once said that the hope of the heart is a promise. Just as a child's security depends on the parent's promise to keep him or her safe, countries remain safe when neighbors keep their promises to honor their borders. The veteran has promised to protect what all in this country hold dear to their hearts. Veterans served to preserve our way of life, our freedoms for this day and the future. Let this Veterans Day be a day of reflection, honor and respect. ♦



Commentary
by

Carrie Swafford-Chube
Gulf War veteran
DOE-RL Veterans Council



2001 Veterans Day Celebrations

- Saturday, Nov. 10, 9:30 a.m. Veterans Day parade along Van Giesen in West Richland
- Saturday, Nov. 10, 11:30 a.m. Veterans' Memorial Dedication at Flat Top Park, West Richland
- Sunday, Nov. 11, 2 to 4 p.m., Veterans Day celebration at the Bryon Gjerde Auditorium at Columbia Basin College in Pasco

Day's Pay donations accepted at Hanford locations



On Thursday, Nov. 8, Hanford employees will be able to drop off Day's Pay for the USA donations at a number of locations. The tables, staffed by Hanford volunteers, will also have for sale shirts and caps embroidered with the Day's Pay for the USA logo.

Donations and shirt-sale proceeds will all go toward the local effort to buy a new ladder truck for the New York City Fire Department and toward hazardous material suits for local emergency response organizations. The shirts and caps sales are part of the Richland High School Leadership Class' fundraising effort for Day's Pay for the USA.

Employees who wish to donate funds, purchase shirts or pick up an order form may do so in the lobby of any of the buildings listed at right.

Volunteers are still needed to help staff tables. If you would like to volunteer to help staff a table at any of the buildings listed here, please contact The Volunteer Center of Benton-Franklin Counties at 582-0631.

Locations of drop-off points

- Federal Building
- 3350 George Washington Way
- 3000 George Washington Way
- 2420 Stevens
- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- EMSL
- 331 Building
- Math Building
- ISB 2
- 2400 Stevens
- ROB
- Sigma 2,3, and 5
- ETB
- 326/329 Buildings
- RTL
- MO-055/100N

In addition to Hanford Site locations, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory staff members may also donate at the Washington, D.C. office and the Marine Sciences Laboratory in Sequim.

For more information, visit the Day's Pay for the USA Internet site at <http://www.adayspayforusa.org>. ♦

Picture Pages



WORKING THE CROWD: This visiting guide dog and other “puppy pals” were a big hit at Disability Resource Expo 2001 on Oct. 25. To commemorate National Disability Awareness Month, Hanford contractors, in conjunction with the Hanford Community Diversity Council, sponsored the third annual event at the Washington State University Tri-Cities campus. The purpose of the fair was to create an awareness of the types of technology available to assist people with various disabilities.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE: Deb Fritts of CH2M HILL Hanford Group pulls weeds at The Arc of Tri-Cities during the United Way Make-a-Difference Day on Oct. 26. CHG employees mowed lawns, moved office furniture and set up computers for The Arc, while other Hanford employees helped out at United Way agencies throughout the area.

Banner reminder of lost co-worker, importance of safety

George Rangel, BHI

Kenny Robinson peered into the distance to see a massive Hanford cleanup operation in progress at the F Reactor fuel storage basin — the work of the Environmental Restoration Contractor team. But in the forefront of his mind were thoughts of an old friend.

“Miles Fisher and I worked on several projects together during the late 1980s,” said Robinson, a 10-year veteran ironworker at Hanford. “Shortly after that...he died. He was a good worker, a family man and my friend.”

In 1992, Fisher was working on a project to repair the roof over the F Reactor fuel load-out bay. A panel collapsed beneath his feet and he fell to his death.

Today, a banner in memory of Fisher serves as a reminder of the importance of safety at the site of the Bechtel Hanford-led cleanup of F Reactor, and throughout Hanford. The banner hangs at the entrance gate to F Reactor, and it reads *“Work Safely ... Your Family Needs You.”*

The ERC team is currently working to remove contaminated soil and debris from the F Reactor fuel storage basin. The basin was used to store spent nuclear fuel before it was transported to the 200 Area for chemical separation. The fuel basin cleanup is part of a larger project by the ERC team to “cocoon” F Reactor for up to 75 years.

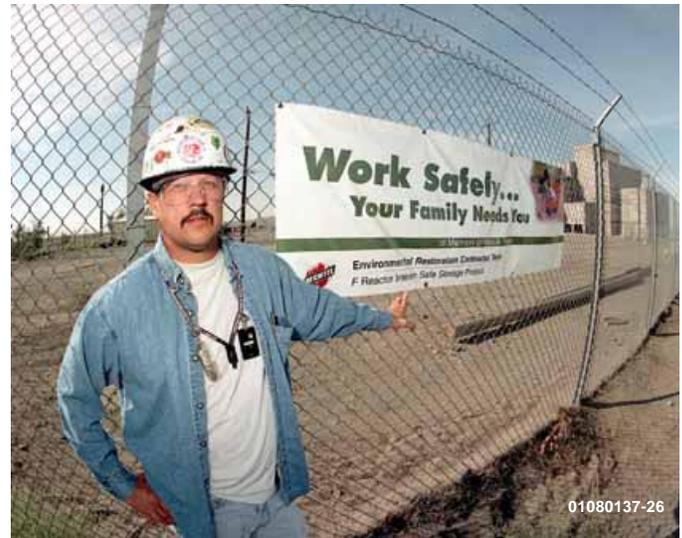
“The words really go further than just maintaining safety in the workplace,” explained Jim Tarpinian, the Bechtel Hanford manager of quality, safety and health. “Safety should be the most important focus in whatever we do, whether it’s operating a computer, operating a crane or mowing the lawn. The people closest to us depend on us safely completing those jobs.”

Robinson came up with the initial idea for the banner and presented the concept to the ERC team. Robinson worked with Tarpinian and with Tom Logan, Bechtel Hanford vice president of Operations, to promote the idea and find a prominent place for the banner.

“When Kenny came to Jim and me with the idea for a banner, I knew it was a worthwhile project,” Logan said. “Any time we can make our safety message personal, it helps to create a safer, more supportive working environment.”

Not only does the “Work Safely” banner remind workers at F Reactor about safety, but the message is a call to teamwork as well.

“Every time we step through the gate and into the work site, we know how important communication and safety are,” said Bill Allenbaugh, Bechtel Hanford site supervisor at F Reactor. “There are always inherent dangers at any workplace. But, if we can make a conscious effort to remind ourselves and one another about safety, then a lot of the risk can be significantly reduced or eliminated.” ♦



Hanford worker Kenny Robinson was the key contributor in creating a memorial safety banner in the 100F Area. In the background stands F Reactor, where a 1992 construction accident killed Miles Fisher, whose name appears on the sign. Fisher and Robinson were co-workers and friends.

Throw another rock on the fire

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory researchers have joined with scientists worldwide in a collaborative effort to pursue a massive energy reserve that, by itself, could keep America powered into the next century. But retrieving that resource poses quite a challenge. In fact, it's trapped within rock three-quarters of a mile below Alaska and Canada's frozen tundra, and in offshore locations scattered around America's coastline.

Early next year, PNNL researchers will obtain frozen core samples from the MacKenzie Delta in Canada that contain methane gas trapped in an ice-like substance called gas hydrate. These 'rock gas' samples from the Mallik Research Well may unlock clues to future U.S. energy independence if a safe and economical harvesting process can be perfected.

On the rooftop

In another energy-related development, a new diagnostic system developed at PNNL can help ensure economizer devices purchased for rooftop air-conditioning units are working at peak performance.

PNNL's diagnostician allows building managers to remotely monitor conditions like temperature and thermostat control commands. Rather than a technician climbing onto the roof, opening the air-conditioning unit and taking measurements by hand, the rooftop diagnostician records all that information and posts it on a Web page, enabling technicians to monitor the system from a desk. The constant collection of data also provides a more comprehensive view of the system's performance.

Future enhancements will include capabilities to check efficiency levels and the condition of filters and coils. The diagnostician also could be useful in monitoring chillers, boilers and substations.

Weight loss for glass

And, finally, the automotive industry could help us save energy by reducing the weight of our cars. Less weight means improved gas efficiency and lower emissions.

With today's average car sporting upwards of 150 pounds of glass, the industry has set a goal of cutting this weight by a third. The challenge is to preserve the safety and performance features.

With a dedicated suite of models and experimental tools, PNNL and its automotive and glass manufacturing partners have developed a prototype windshield that is 30 percent lighter but retains key optical, thermal and safety properties. ♦

CHG's VPP challenge game boosts safety awareness

Almost 1,100 employee-owners and subcontractors of CH2M HILL Hanford Group are getting together over breakfast to talk about safety. And they have some good news to discuss.

They are the CHG employees and subcontractors who successfully participated in the fiscal year 2001 Voluntary Protection Program challenge, an annual game that increases VPP awareness. The Voluntary Protection Program, initiated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and adopted by the Department of Energy, promotes excellence in occupational safety and health protection.

Each successful participant in the CHG VPP challenge game is invited to one of several catered breakfasts being held over a period of weeks at Building 2704-HV in the 200 Area.

"When one considers that 1,635 people had the opportunity to participate, 1,091 is an impressive number," said CHG President Fran DeLozier. "And the VPP committees and I are pleased that the fiscal year that recently ended was one that had CHG posting some equally impressive safety statistics," she added.

"What is even more impressive is that we improved on safety while accomplishing so much operationally — things like completing the waste treatment plant infrastructure early and under budget, replacing the pump in Tank AW-104, upgrading four waste transfer pits and installing 1,300 feet of double-contained transfer pipe," DeLozier said.



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CH2M HILL Hanford Group employees and subcontractors recently finished a Voluntary Protection Program safety awareness campaign at the end of a fiscal year in which CHG improved on safety while accomplishing several challenging projects. The work included replacing and operating a waste transfer pump in Tank AW-104, one of the most complex and challenging projects in the tank farms during the past 10 years.

Hazardous work

DeLozier said the work of managing, characterizing, stabilizing and retrieving highly radioactive tank waste involves the four most hazardous occupations at Hanford — nuclear chemical operators, pipefitters, radiological control technicians and electricians. "Yet, by working safely and looking out for each other, CHG was able to reduce its recordable injury and illness rate by 20 percent in FY 2001," she said.

DeLozier also reported that CHG reduced its lost and restricted workday case rate from 0.46 to 0.34 and the safety cost index rate by 44 percent, from \$18.88 per 100 hours worked to \$8.45 per 100 hours worked.

Injuries and lost and restricted workdays were not the only CHG safety statistics that improved over the previous year. The number of reportable radiological skin and clothing contaminations dropped by more than 70 percent to only four for the entire 12-month period. "In general, our numbers of reportable and recordable safety incidents are low, but even one incident is one too many," DeLozier said.

DeLozier said while CHG's fiscal year 2001 numbers compare favorably with DOE contractors across the nation, CHG managers and employees are not being complacent, and she expects the numbers to continue to improve. "If you are not continually improving, you're going backward," she said.

All CHG employees are being trained in the Safety Training Observation Program, called STOP, developed by the DuPont Company. This program teaches that all accidents are preventable. It is designed to develop workers' skills to identify safe and unsafe situations and interact with each other about all aspects of safety. ♦

Facts you should know about bioterrorism

Recent events concern many workers on the Hanford Site. Until the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, dealing with the idea of receiving a potentially life-threatening disease by exposure through the mail was unfathomable.

The government has been concerned about biological warfare for many years, and has continued research in counter-measures. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has been instrumental in developing responses to bioterrorism.

The CDC has identified four agents most likely to be used in a bioterrorist attack — anthrax, botulism, plague and smallpox. Here are some of the facts about each agent.

Anthrax

Three diseases are caused by anthrax: inhalational (lung), cutaneous (skin), and intestinal anthrax. Symptoms of the disease usually occur within two to seven days after exposure to the bacteria.

- Inhalation symptoms are initially similar to the common cold or flu, but then in time lead to severe respiratory problems.
- Cutaneous anthrax causes skin lesions.
- Intestinal symptoms include nausea, loss of appetite, vomiting and fever.

Infection can be prevented with antibiotics; however, the treatment must begin as soon as possible. The lung, or inhalational, form is the most likely result of a bioterrorist exposure. Anthrax is not spread from person to person.

Botulism

There are three main types of botulism: foodborne, infant and wound. Symptoms begin within six hours to two weeks (most commonly 12 to 36 hours), and include:

- Double vision, blurred vision, drooping eyelids
- Slurred speech, difficulty swallowing, dry mouth
- Muscle weakness that spreads from the top down through the body.

The CDC maintains a supply of antitoxin; however, treatment should begin as soon as possible. Botulism also is not spread from person-to-person contact.

Plague

Pneumonic (lung) plague is the most common type of plague, and is found in rodents and fleas. The onset of symptoms is fairly rapid and includes:

- Fever
- Headache
- Weakness
- Bloody cough or watery sputum.

Continued on page 12.

Facts you should know about bioterrorism, cont.

Early treatment with antibiotics is essential. Plague can be spread from one person to another through respiratory droplets (i.e., face-to-face contact with the ill patient must occur).

Smallpox

Smallpox is viral disease that has been eradicated, but some countries have maintained cultures of smallpox to be used as a bioterrorism agent. Symptoms usually begin between seven and 17 days following exposure, and include:

- High fever
- Fatigue
- Head and back aches
- A characteristic rash on the face, arms and legs which results in scabs that dry up and fall off.

There is no proven treatment, although 70 percent of those infected do recover. For those who have received smallpox vaccinations (routine vaccinations ended in 1972), the immunity has probably not remained effective. Work is in progress to produce a new smallpox vaccine.

Smallpox can spread through person-to-person contact. The first week of illness is the most infectious period; however, risk of transmission remains until all the scabs have fallen off.

To learn more about the efforts of the CDC or for more information on the diseases discussed in this article, visit the CDC Web site at www.cdc.gov. ♦

Protect yourself

A simple technique to minimize exposure to any infectious agent is to wash your hands with soap and water several times each day. Be aware of your environment. If something or someone looks out of place, unusual or suspicious, call 9-1-1 immediately. Never attempt to move or handle any item that is deemed suspicious.

If you are handling mail, remember that the following are characteristics of suspicious packages and letters:

- Excessive postage
- Oily stains, discoloration or odor
- No return address
- Excessive weight
- Uneven envelope
- Excessive tape, string or other bindings
- Postmark and return address cities that do not match.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also offers advice on how to handle suspicious packages:

- **Unopened packages with threatening markings** — do not open. Place in a plastic bag or cover the package, leave the room and close off the area. List everyone in the area and call 9-1-1.
- **Envelopes with visible powder** — do not attempt to clean or remove powder. Cover the package, leave the room, remove contaminated clothing, shower, list everyone in the room and call 9-1-1.
- **Aerosols** — turn off vents and fans if possible. Leave the area, close the door, section off the area, list everyone present and call 9-1-1.

With any potential health risk, apply caution when working. If there is any doubt, contact 9-1-1 or your law enforcement professionals. For health concerns, contact Hanford Environmental Health Foundation or the Benton-Franklin County Public Health District. ♦

PNNL strengthens collaborations through fiber optics

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory is strengthening its collaborations with regional research and development organizations by establishing a fiber-optic connection to the Pacific Northwest GigaPOP (PNWGP) in Seattle. PNWGP connects high-performance international and federal research networks with universities, research organizations and leading research and development and new-media enterprises throughout Washington, Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and British Columbia.

“Now, more than ever, high-performance network connections are essential tools to the success in our research,” said Ray Bair, associate director of Computational Sciences and Mathematics at PNNL. “By allowing information to be transferred more quickly, we believe that the resources available to us through our high-speed OC-3 connection to the Pacific Northwest GigaPOP will enable the PNNL staff to work more closely with our collaborators and provide them with better access to computing and data resources at PNNL.”

The OC-3 also completes a higher-speed connection to the Department of Energy’s Energy Science Network, known as ESnet. “This will be of great value to PNNL’s leading-edge research for DOE,” said Bair, “including the agency’s Scientific Discovery through Advanced Computing program, the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory and our global change research.”

PNNL’s collaborators at the PNWGP include the University of Washington, Oregon Health and Science University, the Defense Research and Energy Network and the universities of Alaska, Montana, Idaho and Montana State.

“The Cell Systems Initiative of the University of Washington and PNNL have signed an agreement to create a joint program in cell signaling,” said Joseph Duncan, chief operations and IT officer for the program at the University of Washington. “This joint program focuses on providing high-bandwidth online collaboration tools and resources to cell biology researchers nationwide and, by extension, worldwide. The PNNL connection to the Pacific Northwest GigaPOP is crucial to the success of this joint program.”

For more information on the Pacific Northwest GigaPOP, see www.pnw-gigapop.net. ♦

Animals provide joyful therapy for kids with disabilities

Cheryl Coppinger, CHG

A child walks down the drive toward her family's car, ready for the ride home. She turns back with a wistful look. "Is there something I can do for you?" I ask.

"Yes," she replies. "I want to see the dog."

Two short whistles and Shilo is at my side. Ashley approaches and Shilo rolls over, offering her belly. Ashley makes a couple of tentative strokes and then gives Shilo a vigorous rub. Smiling and proud, Ashley feels her accomplishment.

Normal, everyday behavior for some, maybe, but not for Ashley. A year ago, the sight of Shilo or animals in general produced extreme anxiety. Today Ashley not only embraces the opportunity, but she rides a full-size horse with authority.

Ashley looks forward to Monday nights and her appointed time in the saddle. She is masterful as she guides her horse around the arena, building confidence as her abilities mature.

Picture Brian, a budding teenager with downcast eyes who withdraws from his surroundings. He mounts Sham without a word to begin his first riding lesson.

Ten minutes into the session, the riding instructor brings Brian and the horse back to the arena fence. "Brian's going to ride bareback," she says. I jump to get the proper equipment, but then I'm told bareback means exactly that — no riding pad or other assists, just bareback. Brian dismounts, the saddle is quickly removed and he's on the horse again.

Just as quickly, Brian leans over his horse's neck and embraces him. Fear is not what we see — we witness, instead, a boy and a horse bonding. Quietly, Brian extends himself to the point of lying completely stretched out and relaxed. He and Sham have become one.

With spotters on both sides, Sham is asked to walk forward. Brian smiles. Forty minutes later, his lesson ends and — just as wordlessly — Brian gets down.

The following week, Brian begins his lesson — again bareback. Once more he lies down and rides, moving his head from one side of Sham's neck to the other. No fear is evidenced. He just wants to feel the horse and all his movements.

The instructor stops and asks Brian to sit up and turn around backwards. Without hesitation, Brian swings around and, just as quickly, lies down again. His head on Sham's rump, legs slightly crossed over his neck, Brian is comfortable.

Sham steps forward. As he does, Brian reaches down and takes hold of Sham's flanks on both sides. The instructor and I gasp, for most horses would now buck or move away from the hands. But I look into Sham's eyes and see understanding, acceptance and love. Sham realizes the significances of Brian's trust and his desire to embrace Sham's every move.



Katelyn has discovered that life's simple pleasures include interactions with horses.

Animals provide joyful therapy for kids with disabilities, cont.

Katelyn arrives, smiling, with her mother. She's dressed in her finest western wear. Mother and child approach the arena where a horse named Coque patiently awaits. Immediately the smile vanishes, however, as Shilo barks and the terrified Katelyn covers her ears.

A quick word and Shilo is silenced, but Katelyn faces another challenge; a riding helmet is necessary and she's afraid of the buckling process. Gently, the helmet is buckled and Katelyn walks up the ramp to mount her horse.

She's picked up and placed in the saddle. The exhilaration is almost overwhelming, and then Coque walks forward. Katelyn is riding. All anxiety is gone, and she's riding.

I look back, and her mom is openly weeping. It's hard to believe that for years everyone has denied Katelyn this simple pleasure. Her parents have looked and looked for a way to fulfill the dream that is now being realized.

Eighteen months later, Katelyn doesn't shudder when a helmet is buckled on her head, nor does she pay any attention when Shilo barks. She notices the barking, but doesn't need to cover her ears.

These three children may not seem remarkable, but they are. Each has a disability to deal with daily — a constant reminder that he or she can't do what other children take for granted.

They've joined a riding program designed for individuals with disabilities. The program is called SHAM, for Special Horses Aiding Miracles. The horse Sham and his neighing buddies, Shilo the dog, and a menagerie of goats and other animals give these special children love, acceptance and the ability to take control. Nothing equals the pride of knowing that a 1,000-pound animal is responding to your commands.

These wonderful animals are my "children." They have a unique understanding and acceptance of individuals with disabilities. They want to be a part of the lives of the young people who come to ride weekly. ♦

For years, Coppinger also has regularly hosted the clients of The Arc of Tri-Cities for riding sessions at her area ranch, with the help of volunteers from Hanford's National Management Association chapter and other Hanford groups. The Arc is a United Way agency that helps the developmentally disabled.

Take the time to protect sensitive information



A recent Operations Security (OPSEC) Working Group found sensitive information at Hanford that was carelessly mixed with other paper waste in recycle bins. The material should not have been there. Fortunately, the OPSEC Working Group discovered the documents before they left the site.

Reviews determined that the responsible individuals or departments that improperly discarded the sensitive information were aware they should not have done so. Some did not take the time, while cleaning out their desks or files, to review the documents for sensitivity before placing them in the recycle bins. Some thought the information was old and no longer pertinent. Some were not sure if the information was sensitive, but did not take the time to shred the information or have it reviewed.

The key to having a successful OPSEC program is awareness. Although much of the information we produce is not sensitive, some documents and information are sensitive and could be used by an adversary or competitor to our disadvantage.

The events of Sept. 11 and subsequent concerns have increased our need to safeguard sensitive information. Before placing a document in the recycle bin, ask yourself, "Would this information be useful to an adversary, terrorist or competitor, or would it be embarrassing to the company or an employee?"

If you are not sure of the sensitivity of the information or the document, treat it as sensitive. Take the time to properly dispose of sensitive material by shredding it. Managers should consider purchasing additional strip shredders and strategically placing them for maximum use — near copy machines, recycle bins or in offices.

In addition, managers should provide awareness training to their personnel on the handling and disposing of sensitive information. Managers should also consider removing recycle bins from areas where sensitive information is repeatedly disposed of improperly.

Should an OPSEC concern arise, talk to your manager. The problem can usually be fixed there. If you need additional assistance, contact Byron Beck at 376-3660 or an OPSEC Working Group member. ♦

Ordering of hand tools through eStore available Nov. 12

Effective, Monday, Nov. 12, you can order hand tools, drills and abrasives from the Stellar Industrial Internet Web site and use a P-Card to make the purchase. Orders on the Just in Time contract will no longer be allowed in BMS PassPort.

The last day to enter orders for these products in BMS PassPort is Thursday, Nov. 8. Any order you enter in BMS PassPort after this date will be canceled, and you will be contacted and requested to re-order on the Stellar Web site. The last day that returns will be accepted for these items is Thursday, Nov. 8.

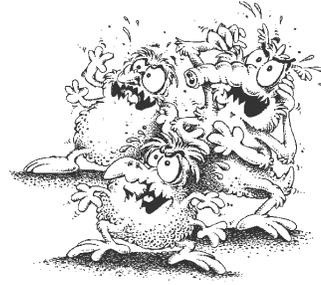
You must have a P-Card and be set up on the Stellar site to use this new ordering method. All current P-Card holders will be automatically set up.

You can meet the Stellar Industrial representatives and learn how to use this new eStore site for ordering hand tools by attending one of the four training sessions at 2430 Stevens, room 121, at 7:15–8:30 a.m. or 2:45-4 p.m. on Nov. 7 or Nov. 8.

To make a reservation to attend a training session, send an e-mail message to eStore Support. If you need more information, visit the eStore Web page, <http://www.rl.gov/pmm/internal/iwanttobuy/estore.html> and click on Hand Tools, Drills and Abrasives. ♦

Flu Shot Schedule

Area	Date	Time	Building	Room
100N	Nov. 5	10 a.m.-2 p.m.	1103-N	Conference Room C4
400	Nov. 6	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	4706	Conference Room 302
100KW	Nov. 8	12:30-6:30 p.m.	MO-500	Conference Room East
Battelle	Nov. 9	9 a.m. -3 p.m.	Battelle Auditorium	Lobby
200E	Nov. 12	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	2101-M	Cosmos/Bijou Room
300	Nov. 13	9 a.m.-2 p.m.	3763	Conference Room
200W	Nov. 15	11 a.m.-5 p.m.	MO-287	Conference Room A-111
Battelle	Dec. 3	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Battelle Auditorium	Lobby
Bechtel	Dec. 4	9 a. m.-1 p.m.	Bechtel Building, 3350 G.W. Way	Assembly Room
Stevens Center	Dec. 5	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	2440 Stevens	Conference Room 1200
Federal Building	Dec. 6	9 a.m.-2 p.m.	825 Jadwin	Auditorium



Get your flu shot now!

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.

Badge checking tip

I'm concerned about the safety of the patrol officers as drivers attempt to remove and replace badges from badge holders.

I suggest that we encourage drivers not to use badge holders, but simply clip their badges to their lanyards. That way, drivers can keep their attention on the road and the location of the patrol officers.

Bill Dixon

CH2M HILL Hanford Group

Dim your lights

I am concerned about the Hanford Patrol Officers on duty at the barricades during the morning commute.

It must be difficult for these officers to check badges and cars with all the headlights shining at them. Let's all give them a break and turn our headlights down and turn on our interior lights.

Larry Hebert

CH2M HILL Hanford Group

✍️ Editors' note: Hebert is right. At night and during hours of low visibility, if a vehicle's windows are rolled up and it is dark inside, most light reflects back at the patrol officer. The lighting contrast adds to time to each stop as the patrol officer must adjust to the light as he or she checks badges and inspects vehicles. The Department of Energy Richland Operations Office offers the following advice to commuters approaching the barricades:

- Stay in your lane.
- Obey the speed limit.
- Use parking lights only as you approach the gate.
- Turn on your interior dome light.
- Have security badges ready.
- Roll down your window if you've got tinted or fogged glass.
- Be prepared to stop.

More Patrol officers?

In the morning on Oct.24, my vanpool was only two minutes behind our regular scheduled time of departure. Our general leave time from the bus lot, at the railroad repair shop on Stevens Ave, is 6:10 a.m. But what a surprise it was to get to the Wye Barricade.

Staying in the right hand lane, we managed to get to within 500 feet of the bend. At this point, traffic had to merge with the left hand lane. From this point, it took from 6:26 to 6:50 a.m. for us to get through the Wye Barricade. Had we elected to stay in the left hand lane we would have been there quite a bit longer.

Our vanpool works the P, Q 8x9s. Since the heightened security as a result of the events of Sept. 11, we have only experienced this kind of delay one other time, when the Rattlesnake Barricade was shut down.

Was this delay because of:

- A change in procedure for searching vehicles that day?
- A difference between shifts in the checking of badges and vehicles?
- The lack of manpower to staff the gates with enough personal at these times of high traffic flow, because the Department of Energy has cut the budget for staffing ability?

A few co-workers and I believe the latter to be the case. In this time of heightened security, and a declared state of war against terrorism, does it not make sense to increase the manpower needs?

Some of my vanpool members feel that we should leave earlier. Well, how early is early enough when the flow of traffic is different with each day?

Clinton Curtis

Fluor Hanford

✍️ Editors' note: According to Hanford Patrol Chief Greg McDowell, a tractor-trailer rig and some other large vehicles arrived at the Wye Barricade at the same time during the morning commute on Oct. 24. In addition, the barricade was short staffed that day. The slow down at the barricade prompted many Hanford employees to express their concerns and offer suggestions.

One suggestion that was implemented to alleviate the traffic problems was to establish a Vanpool express lane. Other large vehicles are directed to a separate search area. Hanford personnel who schedule large tractor-trailer deliveries are encouraged to have them arrive at the barricades after 8 a.m.

Letters continued on next page

Regular Features

"As far as funding for Patrol, there have been no budget cuts. However, there has been no increase, either. We are already in the process of hiring more security police officers. It takes up to six months before they are actually out on post. The entire U.S. government is currently operating on a 'continuing resolution.' We are incurring additional labor costs every day we maintain this enhanced security posture. We are staffing a number of additional posts and it is all done on volunteer overtime. With rare exception, the employees are appreciative and understanding of our position. So, I'd like to thank the employees for their patience and understanding as we go through this transition." McDowell said.

If you have specific viable suggestions for the operation of the Wye Barricade during the morning rush hour, contact the site traffic engineer, Dave Penfield. ♦

CALENDAR



Cranes for Peace Project

Help our community express its yearning for peace in the world by participating in the Cranes for Peace project at the Richland Public Library. One thousand cranes will be folded from paper and hung throughout the library as a symbol of hope and peace. After the holidays, the cranes will be sent to the Peace Park in Seattle. You can participate by folding cranes or donating (used, one side blank) paper, 8-1/2 by 11 inches. If you would like to learn how or join others in folding cranes, attend one of the following sessions in the children's department at the Richland Public Library:

- Nov. 6 or Nov. 20 at 11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.
- Nov. 10 at 2:30 p.m.
- Nov. 13 or Nov. 27 at 11 a.m.
- Nov. 14 or Nov. 28 at 7 p.m.
- Nov. 15 or Nov. 29 at 10:30 a.m.

For more information on the history of the paper cranes for peace, visit <http://he.net/~sparker/cranes.html>. For more information on the local program, contact the children's department in the library at 942-7452.

"Building Leadership Skills" seminar series

Bill Hillar will lecture on "Premeditated Leadership" Nov. 9 at the Tri-Cities Coliseum Founders Club. The workshop begins at 8 a.m. with a continental breakfast. The presentation is at 8:30, lunch and networking at 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$50 per person or \$40 for members of the sponsoring organizations: Na-

tional Management Association, Leadership Tri-Cities, or the *Tri-City Herald*. For reservations, call Doug Bragg at 373-6330.

Nov. 13 AQP meeting

Jamie Cox, director of The Empowerment Group, will share strategies for improving resiliency, leadership and productivity at the Nov. 13 meeting of the local chapter of the Association for Quality and Participation at the Richland Shilo Inn. The networking and social hour begins at 5 p.m., the buffet dinner at 6 and the presentation at 7. The price is \$16 for AQP or ASQ members, \$19 for non-members, or \$5 for the presentation only. Make your reservation by Nov. 8. Call 547-6548 or register through the chapter's Web site at <http://www.3-cities.com/~gates/AQPQuest.htm>.

Indoor Air Quality Program

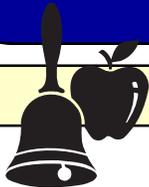
Did you know that indoor air is more polluted than the outdoor air? The Benton Franklin Health District and the City of Richland are sponsoring a free Indoor Air Quality workshop to be held at 7 p.m. on Nov. 14 in the Council Chambers inside Richland City Hall. This program will highlight the areas in your home where dust, molds and other irritants hide. The program will offer no-cost and low-cost solutions. Chemical use, storage and disposal and using less hazardous alternatives will be discussed.

Events celebrate Native American Heritage Month

Native American Heritage Month is observed in November, and the Department of Energy is sponsoring these activities:

- The Richland Library will host storytelling on Nov. 7, beginning at 7 p.m. Dr. John Cox, a Cow Creek Umpqua, will be the storyteller.
- An 8-kilometer fun run will be held on Nov. 18 at 1 p.m. at the Big Cross Course in Pasco. Call Ernest at 375-3809 for more details.
- Tulle mat house display, tee-pee set up, storytelling, and flintknapping and spear throwing demonstrations will take place from 1 to 5 p.m. on Nov. 17 at the Richland Public Library.
- An 8-kilometer fun run will be held Nov. 18 at 1 p.m. at the Big Cross Course in Pasco. Registration is \$5. Commemorative T-shirts are \$8.
- Tri-Cities libraries will feature Native American culture displays throughout the month. ♦

Regular Features



CLASSES

MicroShield course offered at HAMMER Nov. 6-8

Project Enhancement Corporation will conduct a comprehensive training course for users and potential users of MicroShield Nov. 6-8 at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. MicroShield software is used for analysis involving gamma and X-ray radiation. The cost is \$950. Call Yvonne Miller at (301) 668-7177 to register.

WSU open house features graduate degrees

An open house will be held on Nov. 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the atrium of the West Building on the Washington State University Tri-Cities campus to determine the level of interest in the master of science degree program in architecture with a design-build management emphasis. This program is currently offered at WSU Spokane and is described on the Web site, www.designbuild.spokane.wsu.edu. This "executive track" program is specifically designed for practicing design and construction professionals to obtain a post-professional advanced specialization degree in design-build management. For more information, visit the Web site or contact Jaime Rice in Spokane at (509) 358-7945 or at jlrice@wsu.edu, or Mark Moreno in the Tri-Cities at 372-7297 or at mmoreno@tricity.wsu.edu.

DOE-RL sponsors training on USQs

The Department of Energy Richland Operations Office will sponsor the Epsilon Unreviewed Safety Questions class Nov. 13-15 at the Consolidated Information Center at WSU Tri-Cities. This course is intended for DOE and DOE contractor personnel who are involved with the preparation, review and approval processes for Unreviewed Safety Questions. The purpose and terminology specific to the USQ process and the key aspects of the process will be presented — specifically the inputs, key steps and outputs. The course incorporates the most recent application and implementation interpretations for this process from DOE Headquarters. The price is \$843 per person. To register, go to the Parallax Web Page at <http://www.parallax-engr.com> and then to Parallax, Inc. Training Center (DOE Training Administration Office). For more information, call Marcy George at 376-8284.

CBC Small Business Development Center offers:

- **How Good is My Business Idea?** – Nov. 5, 6-9 p.m. Instructor: Bill Henderson. Cost: \$30.
- **Considerations in Starting a Minority or HUB Business** – Nov. 15, 6-9 p.m. Instructor: Cruz Gonzalez. Cost: \$25.
- **Records and Bookkeeping** – Nov. 13, 6-9 p.m. Instructor: Ellen Bowman-Fairbanks. Cost \$30.
- **Market Research and Analysis** – Nov. 7, 6-9 p.m. Instructor: Melanie Jones. Cost: \$30.
- **Marketing Your Business** – Nov. 29, 6-9 p.m. Instructor: Melanie Jones. Cost: \$30
- **How Computers Can Help Manage Your Business** – Nov. 20, 6-9:30 p.m. Instructor: Carrel Landess. Cost: \$30. Location: Kennewick Senior Center, 500 S. Auburn, Kennewick.
- **Setting up a Payroll** – Nov. 21, 6-9 p.m. Instructor: Erica Shockley. Cost: \$30.
- **Who Needs Job Descriptions?** – Nov. 8, 6-9 p.m. Instructor: Adele Haar Redburn. Cost: \$30.
- **How to Fund Business Growth** – Nov. 27, 6-9 p.m. Instructor: Jerry Ball. Cost: \$30.

Unless otherwise noted, all classes will be held at the Tri-City Industrial Development Council at 901 North Colorado, Kennewick. To register or for more information, call 735-6222. ♦



SHOEMOBILE

Iron Age shoemobile visit rescheduled

The Iron Age Shoemobile has rescheduled its upcoming visit from Nov. 21 to Dec. 19, after learning that the November date was a site "day off." The rescheduled times and locations are listed below.

100K

parking lot south of MO-401

Dec. 19	7-8 a.m.	Iron Age
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200 East Area

gravel parking lot northeast of 2101-M

Dec. 19	9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Iron Age
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200 West Area

parking lot east of MO-281

Dec. 19	1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.	Iron Age
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Regular Features



Vanpool ads are run for two weeks. Ads must be resubmitted to run in subsequent issues of the *Hanford Reach*. Day & Zimmermann Protection Technology Hanford reminds employees to wear their badges. For more information, look on the Hanford Web in the Projects and Activities section, Safeguards and Security at <http://www.rl.gov:1050/sas/pg1v3htm>.

PASCO

Looking for two or three individuals who would like to form a carpool to 200E. Alternate driving weeks, 8x9s, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. shift, meet at central location. Call **Vanessa Cray** at 376-1791 or 543-9790. 10/29

RICHLAND

Vanpool No. 182, 8x9s, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m., is looking for two riders and one backup driver. Leaves 2440 Stevens Center at 6:20 a.m. and will drop off at 2750-E, 2704-HV Buildings and anywhere in between. Call **Rick Janecke** at 376-3677 or **Vickie Alexander** at 373-0484. 11/5

8x9 vanpool is looking for riders and a few backup drivers. We are trying to provide some comfort, and we will limit the number of people to 10. The van will start at the Park 'n Ride on Van Giesen and the Bypass Highway in Richland at 6:10 a.m. Drops off (via Highway 240) at 222-S, WSCF and 2704-HV. Contact **Patti Boothe** at 373-5637. 11/5

8x9 vanpool, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m., to 200E, has an opening. Starts at the Federal Building, picks up along Jadwin and at Hanford Bus Lot. Stops at 274-AW, 2025-EA and 2750-E. Contact **Kip** at 373-7399, **Dave** at 372-3304 or **Mandrake** at 372-0713. 10/29

Ride wanted to PFP from North Richland home, 8x9s, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Will pay \$75 per month. Call **Marilyn** at 375-1594 or 373-0311. 10/29

WEST RICHLAND

Ride wanted from Flat Top Park to MO-414 in 200E. 8x9s, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. shift. Call **Sara Helton** at 376-9253 or 967-7244. 10/29 ♦