

REACH



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

'Day's Pay' effort will buy fire truck for New York

Todd Nelson, BHI

Farmer Margaret Hue was sitting on her tractor after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, sorting through some strong emotions — surprise, shock, anger, sorrow and depression. She knew almost everyone felt the same things, but she was surprised to learn that even a couple of weeks later a majority of Americans still felt as depressed as did she.

She had heard about the Day's Pay effort in World War II, and her thoughts kept coming back to that as a way to make a difference. "As did nearly everyone else, I wanted to help," Hue said. "There were many groups soliciting funds to respond to the attacks. But I wanted to do something tangible, and people kept talking about the World War II Day's Pay effort. Then I saw on the news a fire truck being lifted from the rubble of the World Trade Center."



Photo courtesy of M. Peterson

New York City lost nearly 90 emergency service vehicles in the collapse of the World Trade Center towers. The Day's Pay for the USA effort will raise \$1 million to purchase a 75-foot ladder truck similar to this one being pulled from the rubble. It will also purchase hazardous material response suits for emergency response organizations in the Tri-Cities region.

As Hue studied the issue, she found out that New York lost nearly 90 emergency service vehicles on Sept. 11. New York — like most cities — is self-insured and faces a \$47 million bill to replace the destroyed vehicles.

Kelly Watson of Richland was one of the many people sympathetic to Hue's desire to do something tangible — so much so that Watson agreed to help mobilize others in the community.

Their plan — "A Day's Pay for the USA" — was unveiled exactly one month after the attack and will be carried out on Thursday, Nov. 8.

Continued on page 2.

'Day's Pay' effort will buy fire truck for New York, cont.

Two-pronged plan

The campaign has two parts. The first objective is to raise \$1 million to buy a new fire truck for New York, as well as some hazardous material response equipment for the regional Tri-Cities Fire Association. "We're doing this by asking Tri-Citians to donate a day's pay on Thursday, Nov. 8," said Hue. At Hanford, it's estimated that about \$2 million would be raised if everyone gave day's pay.

The second part of the plan is to stimulate the local economy by promoting a "shop Tri-Cities" day. On that day, participating merchants will give a portion of their day's sales toward the Day's Pay effort.

"Even though we weren't directly affected by the attacks, we're feeling the impact through our economy," said Watson. "We can help counter that effect by making Thursday, Nov. 8, the biggest shopping day of the year."

Several Hanford contractors are offering payroll deductions for employees who want to contribute to the Day's Pay for the USA effort. Bechtel Hanford, Bechtel National, CH2M HILL Hanford and Eberline Services Hanford are offering employees a chance to make a one-time contribution through payroll deduction or allowing them to spread the deductions over an eight-week period.

No overhead

Other Hanford contractor employees will have the opportunity to make cash contributions, and Hanford volunteers are helping organize and run the campaign.

Contributions may also be made at any Banner Bank. Send checks to "TCFA — Days Pay USA, Banner Bank, 8200 Gage Blvd., Richland, WA 99352. The Tri-County Fire Association is sponsoring the campaign so that all contributions are tax-deductible.

Through Oct. 31, Fluor Project Hanford team employees may also cash out their Personal Time Bank hours and mail that money to the disaster relief agency of their choice, including Day's Pay for the USA.

In addition, all the money donated will go toward the fire truck and equipment. "We wanted to make sure that every cent donated went directly toward relief and none toward overhead or administration," said Hue. "Everyone working on this effort is donating their time." Any costs will be covered by the sale of T-shirts with the Day's Pay for the USA logo.

Volunteers are still needed for many tasks, including helping to staff tables at key Hanford locations to collect donations. To volunteer, contact The Volunteer Center of Benton and Franklin Counties at 582-0631.

Any business that would like to participate may call the Richland Chamber of Commerce at 946-1651. ♦



The Day's Pay concept harkens from World War II, when 51,000 Hanford Engineering Works employees contributed \$300,000 to purchase a B-17 for the war effort. A mural depicting the plane, christened "Day's Pay," is on the wall of the Art Dawald Gymnasium at Richland High.

Be vigilant, watch for suspicious mail

Because of the threat of biological terrorism such as the spread of anthrax or other biological agents, there is an increasing need to be wary of suspicious mail.

There are *no* credible threats to either the Department of Energy or the Hanford Site, but we should all be vigilant.

Here is a Centers for Disease Control Web site that provides important information regarding the handling of suspicious mail and the hazards associated with potential anthrax contamination: <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/DocumentsApp/Anthrax/10122001Handle/10122001Handle.asp>.

If you discover any suspicious mail, discontinue handling the material, follow the guidance provided by the CDC and call 911 immediately. If you have concerns regarding the daily handling of mail, please contact your management or your safety representative. ♦

United Way reaches 56 percent of its goal for 2001

Bryan Kidder, FH

This year's United Way campaign has reached 56 percent of its fund-raising goal, and the Hanford Division leads the way in giving, announced Gail Greager at an Oct. 11 progress-reporting luncheon. Greager is director of Resource Development for the United Way of Benton and Franklin Counties.



The total pledged to date in the United Way campaign is \$2.4 million. This is approximately 56 percent of the 2001 fund-raising goal of \$4.25 million.

For the Hanford sector, the pacesetter campaigns netted pledges of \$1.63 million. More forms are still coming in from those companies still completing their drives, so this number will continue to grow. Several Hanford companies include their corporate donations as matches to employee gifts or as a single corporate gift.

Also, still to be added to the United Way total is the matching contribution of Williams Gas Pipeline. This dollar-for-dollar match is offered nationally to United Way organizations for the increases in each individual's dollar pledge turned in by Oct. 1. Those new dollars must be paid by March 31, 2002.

Matched dollars paid after March 31 will go toward next year's United Way campaign. ♦

HLAN outage planned Nov. 3 for major network upgrade

Have you ever wondered how your PC workstation connects to other computers on the Hanford Local Area Network? When you type a Web address such as **www.microsoft.com** in a browser address window, your PC just connects to the correct computer many miles or perhaps half a world away.

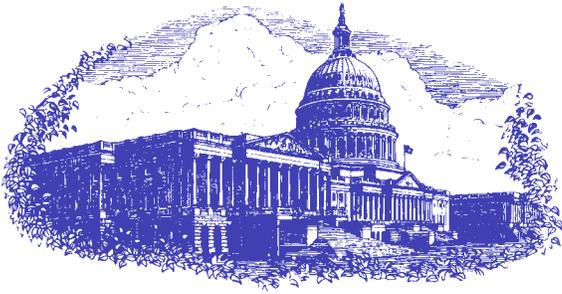
It truly isn't magic. Every computer connected to the Internet, or even to the HLAN, has a unique TCP/IP address assigned to it. A server running Domain Name Service, or DNS, maintains a cross reference of common names like **www.microsoft.com** with their associated TCP/IP addresses. When you enter the name in your browser, you are connected behind the scenes to the correct computer through its TCP/IP address.

This may seem like it's only computer trivia, and you may wonder why it deserves mention in the *Hanford Reach*. Well, Lockheed Martin Services is about to upgrade both the HLAN hardware and software running DNS services.

An HLAN outage has been scheduled from 7 a.m. until midnight on Nov. 3. It will affect every computer at Hanford that is network connected. For most of us, the effect will be nearly invisible. However, for those who work on Saturday, Nov. 3, or who use computers that are turned on all the time (for data acquisition or process control), this will have a *big* effect.

Toward the end of October, you will be receiving several e-mail messages reminding you to turn off your PC when you leave work on Nov. 1 (or Nov. 2 for those of you who work the "off" Friday). If you don't do this, your PC won't connect to the HLAN on Monday morning. A simple reboot, however, will fix you up.

If you have any questions or concerns, e-mail them to ^HLAN Upgrades. ♦



Students encouraged to enter VFW essay contest

Oct. 31 is the deadline for young people to submit their patriotic written or audio essays for the Veterans of Foreign Wars contests for middle and high school students. This year, children of Hanford employees are eligible to win prizes donated by Hanford contractors, in addition to the local district, state and national categories of the VFW contest.

An essay contest with the theme "Is Freedom Really Free?" is for seventh and eighth grade students. The first-place national winner receives a \$10,000 U.S. Savings Bond and a trip to Washington D.C. The Voice of Democracy audio essay contest is for ninth through twelfth grade students. The first-place national winner in this competition receives a \$25,000 scholarship and the second-place winner receives a \$16,000 scholarship.

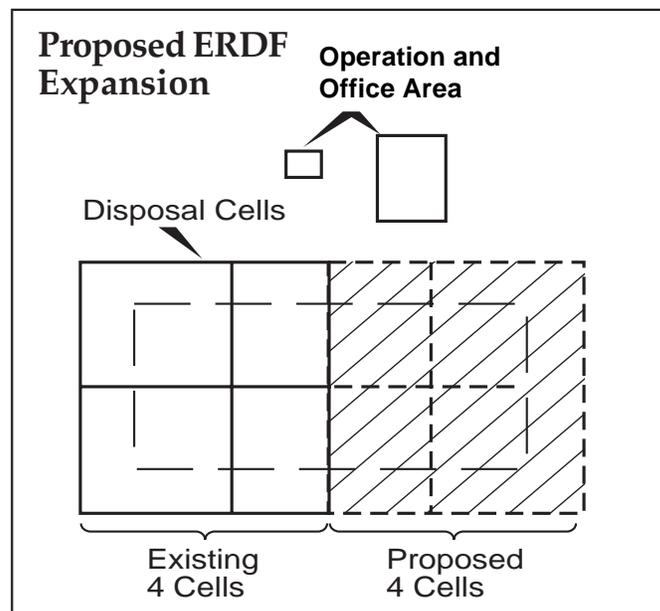
Entries may be mailed to Jim Spracklen at A7-50 or Guy Schein at A7-75, or delivered to the Federal Building to either Spracklen in room 703 or Schein in room 760. Rules and entry forms for the contests are available on the VFW Web site, www.vfw.org, or you can contact Spracklen or Schein. ♦

ERDF expanding with four more disposal cells

Nancy Myers, BHI

By January 2005, it is estimated that the existing disposal cells at the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility on Hanford's central plateau will reach their current capacity. As a result, the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency propose to add four more cells that will double the capacity of ERDF, which is now 5.2 million tons.

There is an estimated 10 million tons of waste along the Columbia River corridor. The Bechtel Hanford-led Environmental Restoration Contractor team has removed 3.2 million tons of contaminated soil and debris from the 100 and 300 Areas and safely disposed of the waste at the ERDF.



"We are proposing to amend the record of decision to support future Hanford Site cleanup activities by broadening use and operation of ERDF," said Dave Einan, the EPA project manager.

The proposed amendment has two components. The first component is to move forward with ERDF's Phase III that includes constructing four additional cells on an as-needed basis with approval from EPA and the Washington State Department of Ecology. The new cells would be constructed using the current disposal design, and would be located within the area already designated in the record of decision.

The second component allows the option of staging remediation waste at ERDF before treatment and disposal. "Conducting staging activities at ERDF should increase efficiency, reduce costs and provide a secure location for the waste," said Vern Dronen, the Bechtel Hanford project manager for Remedial Action and Waste Disposal.

"The ability to stage waste at the ERDF will allow waste from the 300 Area burial grounds, as well as other locations, to be moved to a secure area away from the Columbia River while awaiting treatment and disposal," said Owen Robertson, DOE-RL project manager for Remedial Action and Waste Disposal.

A record of decision signed in January 1995 authorized construction of ERDF to support timely removal and disposal of contaminants from various locations at the Hanford Site by the ERC team. Based on public values, the agencies committed to expand ERDF on an as-needed basis.

The draft *Proposed Plan for an Amendment to the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility Record of Decision* (DOE/RL-2001-44) is available for public comment from Oct. 29 through Nov. 27. To request a copy of the document, or for further information, contact Dave Einan at the EPA at 376-3883 or via e-mail to einan.david@epa.gov. ♦

CHG begins new conduct-of-operations initiative

Geoff Tyree, CHG

CH2M HILL Hanford Group is taking steps to further enhance the way it operates the tank farms with improvements to its conduct-of-operations program. CHG will soon provide new training to its tank-farms workforce, drawing on managers and first-line supervisors to present material on good practices for operations.

In the next few weeks, approximately 500 CHG employees, including nuclear chemical operators, health physics technicians and maintenance and program employees will begin to receive the training.

“The new training is an enhancement to the proven methods used to educate tank-farm employees, including existing training, day-to-day instruction and operational readiness reviews prior to specific projects in the field,” said Bill Ross, CHG vice president of Nuclear Operations. Ross is leading the conduct-of-operations improvement initiative.

“This training will give our employees the extra edge, and it will increase the margin of safety on this important work for the Department of Energy,” said Ross.

Achieving excellence

The training was designed by grouping concepts in the tank farms *Conduct of Operations Manual* into modules that should take no longer than an hour each to complete. The modules will cover several functional areas identified by the Department of Energy for achieving excellence in the operation of DOE facilities.

The first module will cover communications and independent verification. Independent verification is a practice for ensuring that more than one person checks critical systems and equipment before use.

First-line supervisors and managers will present the modules to small groups of employees, using case studies. The material will include issues identified by past operations, “programmatic lessons learned” and the DOE occurrence notification system.

“We’ve had conduct-of-operations training on an individual basis,” said Ross. “This new initiative puts the operations managers in a leadership role to promote and foster improvements in CHG conduct of operations.”

Learning from mistakes

One of the case studies on independent verification covers a situation in the early 1990s at a non-Hanford DOE facility where radioactive waste was transferred to the wrong tank. A trainee, under the supervision of a qualified operator, was lining up a waste transfer between tanks, which included ensuring that transfer valves were in the proper position. In this case, both the trainee and the operator failed to verify that a valve was closed, as required by procedure, and waste was sent to a third tank.

The inadvertent transfer did not cause any personnel injury or equipment damage. However, under different conditions and the mixing of different waste, more serious consequences could have occurred.

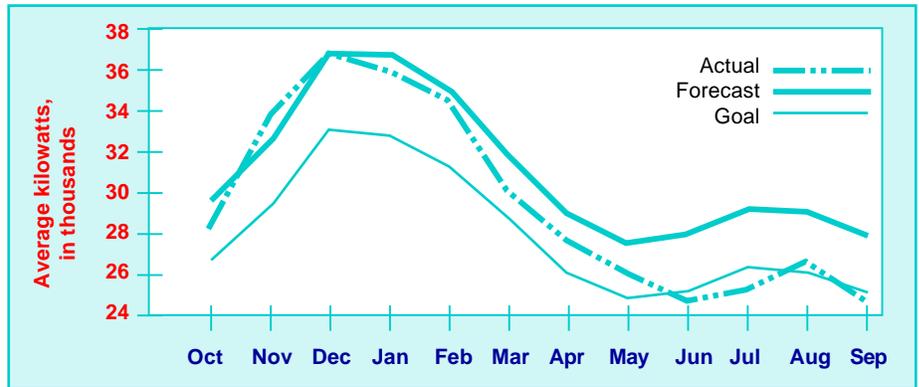
During conduct-of-operations training, tank farms employees will analyze the case studies and discuss how to prevent similar occurrences at Hanford’s tank farms. ♦



Nuclear chemical operators, health physics technicians, maintenance personnel and other tank farms employees will soon receive new training in conduct of operations. The initiative by CH2M HILL Hanford Group will further enhance its efforts to safely store and retrieve millions of gallons of radioactive and hazardous waste for the DOE Office of River Protection.

Hanford energy reduction continues on track

Oct. 1 marked the beginning of a two-year period in which the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office is committed to reducing Hanford Site energy consumption by 10 percent (“Hanford Site prepares for high energy costs,” *Hanford Reach*, June 11, 2001)



BPA Electricity Consumption, Hanford Site, FY01

Low water levels behind Northwest dams, plus tight supplies and unprecedented wholesale price increases led to the DOE-RL agreement with

the Bonneville Power Administration to pursue ambitious energy conservation goals. The Hanford target is a reduction of 3.13 megawatts, or 10 percent of the previous average load of 31.3 megawatts.

So, how well have we done since the first *Reach* article last June? The accompanying chart documents our progress to date — the actual electrical consumption in fiscal year 2001 versus the DOE-RL and Bonneville Power goal of a 10 percent reduction.

“Progress against the 10 percent reduction goal, so far, is a good news story,” reported John Wood, Fluor Hanford vice president of Hanford Site Operations, in a message to managers. “Up until the warm weather in August, we appeared to be tracking below the 10 percent goal,” he wrote, adding that adverse weather could easily undo our progress. “We should be cautious to not backslide on conservation measures,” he said.

Employees should continue to monitor the use of lights, computers, printers and other equipment. Project managers should follow up on conservation commitments and report their status to David S. Kelly, who is coordinating energy conservation programs within the Fluor Project Hanford team and is also working with other site contractors. Any new electrical loads or changes in load projections should be communicated to Jim Uecker of Electrical Utilities.

Bonneville Power Administration funding is available for projects seeking to initiate energy conservation measures that are not otherwise funded. According to Wood, the site has tentative approval for BPA funding of a water-pump replacement project in the 300 Area and a lighting photocell-control upgrade at the Fast Flux Test Facility. Other initiatives are in the works.

If you identify an energy conservation project that has a payback period of less than 10 years or will drastically reduce the power consumption at your facility over the next two years, you are asked to contact Kelly via e-mail. According to Wood, there will be engineering assistance available for preparing project proposals.

Any steps we take to reduce energy use on site, besides helping to ease the current energy crisis, will also help mitigate the impacts of increased energy costs and possibly save dollars that can be redirected to cleanup work. ♦

Richland firm finds new uses for old tires

With help from Fluor Hanford, the Port of Benton and others in the community, a new Richland business aims to take a sizeable bite out of a mounting problem — what to do with tons of discarded tires that pose health threats to the public and cause concern among the state’s landfill planners and permitting agencies. Millions of old tires, discarded at an alarming rate, are in the state’s landfills. Millions more are dumped illegally, littering the landscape.

Northwest Tire Recycling Products, Inc. opened its doors to the public in an Oct. 11 dedication ceremony attended by representatives of state agencies, port districts and the cities and counties of the region. Tire retailers were also on hand to witness the demonstration of a process that will turn old tires into useful products. The company demonstrated an innovative, patented and environmentally friendly method of processing used tires into a variety of usable forms.

Environmental specialist Jim Penor of Northwest Tire Recycling said the process, called the “Enviro-Block System,” yields an engineered uniform bale containing 100 tires compressed into a space the size of a couple of office desks, but weighing about a ton.

The bales can be used for erosion control, drainage for dairy farms and feedlots, fish habitat, road construction and sound barriers. Penor said the company hopes to produce as many as 32 bales per eight-hour daily shift, and may add additional shifts in the future.

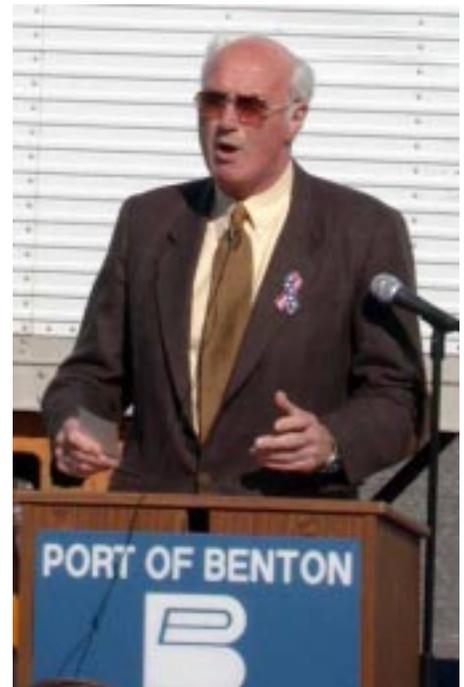
The Northwest Tire Recycling plant is on land near the Hanford Site that was transferred to the Port of Benton by the Department of Energy. Fluor Hanford played a key role in supporting the company, both financially and as a mentor, in its efforts to begin operations. Other contributors were Community First Bank and the Benton-Franklin Council of Governments.

“Fluor Hanford, while entrusted with the significant responsibilities associated with Hanford cleanup, is also actively engaged in and committed to economic development,” explained Fluor Hanford President Keith Thomson. “The establishment of Northwest Tire Recycling, in addition to its ecological benefit, is an example of Fluor Hanford’s commitment to helping spur new businesses in this area.”

The Fluor Hanford Economic Transition team, Thomson said, provided assistance with the new company’s business plan, the purchase of capital equipment and its marketing plans. ♦



Northwest Tire Recycling employees Myron Hankins, left, and Eric Garcia demonstrate the company’s process for turning old tires into dense rubber bales to be used in a variety of ways.



Fluor Hanford President Keith Thomson speaks to state and local dignitaries at the grand opening ceremony for a unique new business in Richland. “We are pleased to have the opportunity to help local entrepreneurs like Northwest Tire Recycling get started,” said Thomson.

Flu shot schedule updated, clinic added

The updated schedule for the Hanford Environmental Health Foundation flu immunization clinic appears below. Note that an additional clinic has been added on Nov. 9 at the Battelle Auditorium from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Flu Shot Schedule				
Area	Date	Time	Building	Room
100N	Nov. 5	10 a.m.-2 p.m	1103-N	
400	Nov. 6	9 a.m.-1 p.m.	4706	
100KW	Nov. 8	12:30-6:30 p.m.	MO-500	
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	
200W	Nov. 15	11 a.m.-5 p.m.	MO-287	
Battelle	Dec. 3	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	Battelle Auditorium	Lobby
Bechtel	Dec. 4	9 a. m.-1 p.m.	3350 G.W. Way	Assembly Room
Stevens Center	Dec. 5	9 a.m.-3 p.m.	2440 Stevens	Conference Room 120
Federal Building	Dec. 6	9 a.m.-2 p.m.	825 Jadwin	Auditorium

Make Scope Writer your ghost writer for SOWs

Fluor Hanford's Project Operations Center and Contracts organizations are launching the Fluor Hanford Scope Writer application, a Web-based tool that is a template for preparing Statements of Work, or SOWs.

The tool helps the two Fluor Hanford organizations meet one of their "business owners" goals by providing tools for end users that are useful in preparing adequate SOWs for obtaining services. Scope Writer contains all of the sections specified in HNF-PRO-186, *Preparation of Statement of Work*.

Scope Writer standardizes and automates the SOW writing process. It achieves this by prompting the user for answers to very clear and specific questions required to produce an adequate SOW. The automated tools provides drop-down list boxes, code-generated statements, example SOWs, online help and status messages.

The application produces a document that the user can save as a Microsoft Word document on his or her workstation. The user may then access this document and edit as necessary before attaching it to a contract requisition in BMS PassPort.

There are two distinct branches to the site:

- **Managed Task Branch** is focused on generating a Statement of Work for a managed task.
- **Shared Branch** is focused on generating a Statement of Work for a shared resource.

Users may access the application at http://www.rl.gov/pmm/scopewriter/scope_writer.html. A password is not required for using the site because it is simply a Microsoft Word template. To support the application, there is also a users' guide. This guide or the online help and manual options within Scope Writer provide the necessary illustrations to develop SOWs.

Questions or comments about Scope Writer may be sent to ^Scope Writer. ♦

Painless Punctuation session offered by Skills Lab

Do you struggle with proper punctuation? Have you been told your writing suffers from an acute case of comma-itis? Does apostrophe use confuse you? Are your e-mails, memos and letters a hodgepodge of sentence fragments and comma splices? Don't despair! Help is on the way!

Reserve your seat now for Painless Punctuation, an informational session to be held Tuesday, Nov. 13, from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. in classroom 18 of the Administration Building at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. The training is free, but space is limited and you must make a reservation by calling 376-3250.

Columbia Basin College faculty from the Skills Enhancement Lab will present the session. A partnership of the Department of Energy, CBC and HAMMER, operated by Fluor Hanford, the Skills Lab helps Hanford workers improve their reading, writing, grammar, math and spelling skills.

The Skills Lab is open for individual tutoring Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Learning Resource Center (room 4) at HAMMER.

For those interested in learning more about lab services, the Skills Lab staff will host an informal open house on Nov. 13 immediately following the punctuation class. Two other informational sessions planned for FY 2002 are "Goof-proofing your Grammar" and "Successful Spelling."

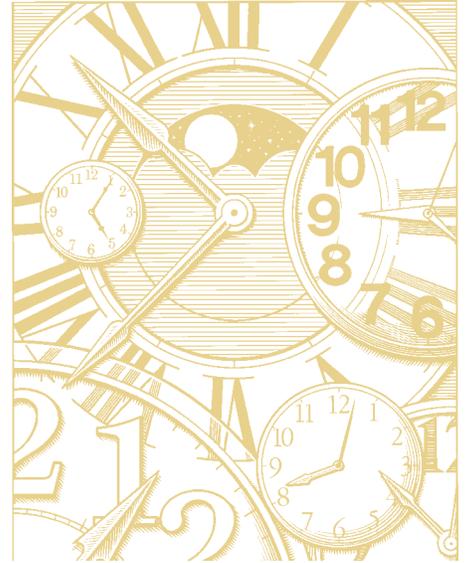
To inquire about these or to sign up for the Painless Punctuation session, call Kathy Dechter at 376-3250. ♦

How to account for hours worked during time change

Standard time will begin at 2 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 28, when clocks will be set back one hour. Employees on duty at the time will work one hour more than their scheduled shift. Salaried nonexempt and bargaining-unit employees who are eligible to be compensated need to record the additional hour on their timecards for the period ending Oct. 28.

For example, if an employee is scheduled to work a 12-hour shift starting at 6 p.m. Saturday and ending at 6:30 a.m. Sunday, the employee would record 12 regular work (or RW) hours and 1 regular work outside regular schedule (or RWO) hour for Saturday, Oct. 27. Exempt employees will record their entire shift as 12 RW.

Contact Todd Beyers at 376-2815 for more information. ♦



Picture Pages



SOLD, AMERICAN! Diane Coleman, left, and Barbara Kerr of Fluor Hanford auction off patriotic items in a hamburger and hot-dog fund-raiser held by the River Corridor Project. The event raised about \$1,600 for the American Red Cross Relief Fund. The organizers expressed an extra-special thanks to planner/scheduler Juliann Anderson, whose donation of handcrafted embroidered shirts were auctioned. Those accounted for about \$600 of the total raised. Through this and other fund-raising events, the RCP has raised more than \$2,500.

Play it safe on Halloween

Will your children or grandchildren be haunting neighborhoods for trick or treats on Halloween? Although it seems as though the number of trick-or-treaters has been decreasing, more than 75 percent of the nation's families still participate in some type of Halloween activity.

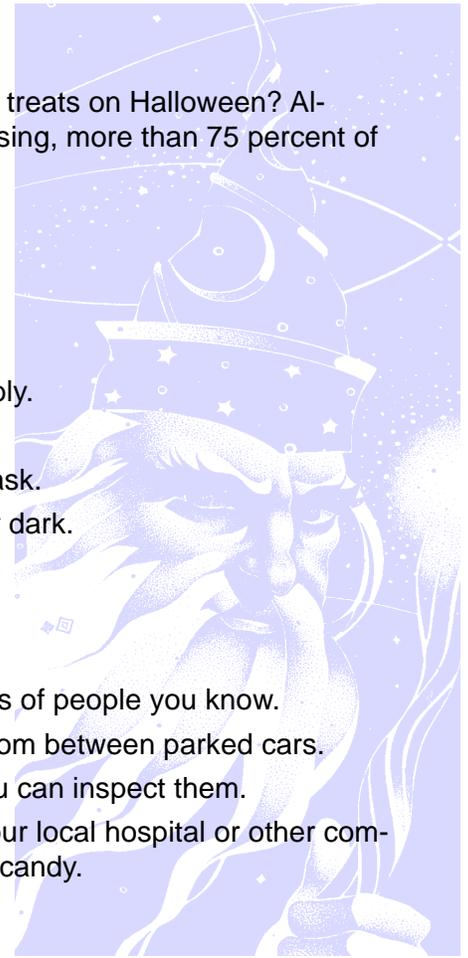
Here are some safety tips to help keep your family holiday fun:

Costumes

- Wear costumes made of flame retardant material, if possible.
- Make sure the costume is large enough to cover warm clothing comfortably.
- Wear comfortable walking shoes
- To improve visibility, paint your face with makeup instead of wearing a mask.
- Put reflective tape on Halloween bags and clothing for easy visibility after dark.

Trick-or-treating

- Don't allow children to go trick-or-treating without a responsible adult.
- Trick-or-treat only in familiar neighborhoods, and preferably only at homes of people you know.
- Drive slowly through neighborhoods, and watch for children darting out from between parked cars.
- Instruct children to wait to taste their treats until they return home and you can inspect them.
- Throw away candy with a loose or broken wrapper or seal. Check with your local hospital or other community service group to see if they offer free X-ray screening of Halloween candy.
- Wash all fruit and cut into small pieces before eating it.



At home

- Keep your porch and yard clear of debris.
- Turn on outdoor lights.
- Keep your pets and infants away from the front door.
- If you use candles in your jack-o-lanterns, keep them away from items that could catch on fire. ♦

Halloween safety gift giveaway

In keeping with the commitment that safety is a 24-hour job and a value to share with your family, Fluor Hanford is offering a Halloween safety gift to its employees and their children. To receive your head bopper, candy and reflective Halloween bags, please call or e-mail the point of contact for your work location.

Central and north Richland, Stevens Center Complex, 300 Area	Deb Severin	372-3353
400 Area	Suzette Thompson	372-0958
200W Area	Sheila Kirk	373-4405
PFP	Hope Morris	373-9289
100K Area	Kim Rodrique	373-0695

Take time out for safety

Deb Severin, FH

Beginning next week, our commute to and from work will likely be in darkness, thanks to the end of daylight-saving time on Oct. 28 and the shorter days that accompany autumn and winter. Autumn can be the nicest time of the year, but it demands a lot from drivers. It's a time when you don't know what to expect from the weather, but you will need to be prepared.

It is important to remember that bad weather doesn't cause accidents. Weather conditions create driving hazards, and it is up to the driver to know how to deal with them.

Many of us have been driving for a number of years and, based on our experiences, we have a feeling of complete control. Overconfidence sets in and we begin to take unnecessary risks. We never believe that taking these risks could hurt us.

Most studies indicate that anywhere from 86 to 94 percent of all accidents can be attributed to driver error.

That's not just errors drivers make while they are on the road. There are many errors in judgment that a driver can make before he or she even turns the key in the ignition.

We all are getting an extra hour on Sunday with the time change. Why not put that extra hour to good use by giving your vehicle a pre-winter checkup?

Here are some preventive maintenance tips to make sure your vehicle is ready for fall and winter driving:

- Reset your car's clock — "fall back" one hour.
- Test your brake lights, headlights, parking lights and turn signals.
- Make sure your battery is fully charged and the connections are clean.
- Check fluid levels.
- Switch to winter-weight oil.
- Check your windshield and rear-window defrosters.
- Make sure your windshield wiper blades are in good condition.
- Clean the windows, inside and out.

- Check your tires, including the spare tire, for air pressure and for sidewall wear and tread depth. You are more likely to hydroplane if the tire pressure is low or the tread is worn.
- Make an appointment to have your mechanic check the air, fuel and emission filters and the exhaust and brake systems.

Fog and rain present some hazardous road conditions. If you must drive, prepare yourself before you leave your driveway:

- Tune in to your local radio weather station for forecasts.
- Make sure the wipers are not frozen to the glass of the windshield or rear window.
- Check your fuel level. Do you have enough fuel in case you need to take a different route to your destination?

And when you set out on wet roads with reduced visibility:

- Watch for pedestrians, cyclists and animals (deer).
- Slow down gradually and don't hit your brakes in a panic. You should always be able to stop within the distance you can see ahead.
- Don't use cruise control.
- Drive in the slow lane (to the right).
- Drive in the tire tracks of vehicles ahead of you. You are less likely to hydroplane.
- Avoid hunching forward to see.
- Never attempt to pass in fog.
- Roll down your window to listen for traffic you cannot see.
- Drive with headlights on low beam.

Remember, don't drive like you own the road. Drive like you own the car. ♦

Check out electrical equipment to keep your home fire-safe

We've reached third base in our October campaign to "Cover All Bases and Strike Out Fire."

Human error and problems associated with the equipment that provides electrical services are among the leading causes of house fires in the United States. Here is some advice from the National Fire Protection Association to help you with electrical equipment safety at home:



- Be sure your fuses and circuit breakers are rated for the loads, or amperage, that each circuit is designed to handle.
- Use only one heat-producing appliance on the same circuit at a time.
- Install ground fault circuit interrupter protection for all kitchen-counter, outdoor, basement, garage and bathroom outlets.
- Replace damaged appliance and extension cords. Don't plug extension cords into each other.
- Don't run extension cords under carpets or across doorways, or pinch them under furniture or between walls and furniture.
- If any power tool or appliance feels too hot or smells funny, unplug it immediately and have it serviced or replaced.

For more home fire prevention information, visit the Hanford Fire Department Web site at: http://www.hanford.gov/fire/Fire_Prevention_Month/fpinfo.htm. ♦

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.

Hats off to Patrol

Hats off to the men and women working to coordinate such a huge undertaking to ensure not only the site's security and safety, but ours as well.

It's evident that the men and women of Hanford Patrol have worked many hours to establish and adjust methods that would ensure site security and safety, while trying to reduce delays at the Wye Barricade.

The delays seem to be getting better each day, and I have found that the Hanford Patrol officers have been very professional, courteous and willing to hear how we (the workers) feel the system is working.

So to Hanford Patrol — thanks!

Thanks for doing the job that you do, thanks for working many long hours on your feet, thanks for working in extreme weather conditions, and thanks for working under stressful conditions.

As a Hanford worker, a wife, a mother and a member of the Tri-City community, I appreciate all you are doing to keep the site safe and secure, and I'm sure others feel the same.

Cheryl Evosevich
Fluor Hanford

Successful kickoff

We would like to take a moment to personally thank each of the Department of Energy employees who participated in the inmates breakfast to kick off the DOE Combined Federal Campaign for United Way on Oct. 9 ("DOE Combined Federal Campaign under way," *Hanford Reach*, Oct. 15).

Your support and fervent desire to "stay out of jail" helped us in the biggest kick-off event to date.

Our grand total (excluding a couple of bail jumpers that the CFC police are still looking for) is \$761.40. This does not include the money being collected from the cookie sales. We anticipate another \$127 from the cookie sales when they are completed. That's a grand total of \$888.40 in fund-raisers this year. We could not have done it without

all of you! Thank you!

And a special to thank-you to all of the secretaries and staff who helped out.

Kimberly Williams, DOE-RL
Gigi Branch, DOE-RL
Leslie McClure, DOE-ORP

Explanation needed

I read with great interest your article on the new Day's Pay program in the Oct. 15th issue. The only problem was that it wasn't clear how one could participate.

The article alludes to a payroll deduction but the form referenced indicates the funds will go to the Red Cross disaster relief fund.

If a person wishes to contribute to the Day's Pay USA fund, how do we go about it? I am sure that others, like myself, would like the idea of contributing to something tangible that will have a direct and long-lasting impact on people's lives.

A clarification would be appreciated.

Darlene Hagel
Fluor Hanford

Editors' note: The Oct. 15 article, "'Day's Pay' concept revived in response to terrorism," outlines the options Hanford employees have for donating to relief agencies to help the victims of terrorism. For Fluor Project Hanford team and CH2M HILL Hanford Group employees, the contributions made through payroll deductions will be sent to the American Red Cross relief program. Employees of the Environmental Restoration Contractor team can choose to contribute to the Red Cross, the Day's Pay for USA effort or United Way. Refer to this week's front-page article, "*Day's Pay effort will buy firetruck for New York*," for more information on the Day's Pay campaign. ♦



Learn about trends on Oct. 25

The October session of the Hanford Performance Indicator Forum will be offered at two times on Oct. 25. You can attend the session "What is a trend?" from 7 to 9 a.m. or from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in room 5 of the Training Support Building at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. The

Continued on page 20.

Regular Features



C L A S S E S

discussion will include how to establish the initial baseline of a set of “noisy” data, and what to do when a trend is discovered on an existing chart. Contact Steve Prevette at 373-9371.

City University holds informational meeting

Learn about the graduate, undergraduate and certificate courses in project management offered by City University and certified by the Project Management Institute on Oct. 25 at 5:30 p.m. The informational meeting will be held at City University, 303 Bradley Blvd. in Richland. For more information, contact City University at 943-9887 or at tri-cities@cityu.edu.

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.

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 Washington State University 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 course presents the purpose and terminology specific to the USQ process and the key aspects of the process — specifically the inputs, key steps and outputs. The course incorporates the most recent application and implementation interpretations for this process from DOE Headquarters. The cost of the course 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.
- **The ABCs of Business Start-ups** – Oct. 30, 6-9 p.m. Instructor: Debbie Bone-Harris. Cost: \$25.
- **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** – Oct. 23 or 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.
- **Cash Management** – Nov. 1, 6-9 p.m. Instructor: Glynn Lamberson. 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. ♦

C A L E N D A R



Gephart to speak at Audubon Society meeting

Roy Gephart, a scientist at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, will present “Hanford: A Conversation About Nuclear Waste and Cleanup” during the Oct. 23 meeting of the Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society. The general meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Kennewick First Lutheran

Continued on page 21.



Regular Features

CALENDAR

Church at the corner of Highway 395 and Yelm Street in Kennewick. The public is invited to attend this free program. For more information call 588-4025.

Safety & Health Conference at HAMMER Nov. 2

“Initiatives in Safety and Health for the 21st Century,” a safety and health conference, will take place on Nov. 2 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. 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. Attendees will receive 0.7 continuing education credits for the certified safety professional and 1.0 point for the certified industrial hygienist maintenance of certifications. Eight quality speakers from our region plus a nationally known keynote speaker and a HAMMER tour are planned. The fee is \$85 (\$45 for students).

For more information on registering for the conference, contact one of the following individuals: John Hinckley at 371-4856 or at jhinckley@bechtel.com; Chad Ungerecht at 373-3042 or at chad_r_ungerecht@rl.gov; or James Morse at 371-4897 or at morse.james@worldnet.att.net.

To register, send a check (no money orders) for the fee made payable to “ASSE” and your name, company name, company address, home address, work telephone number and e-mail address to: Regional Safety and Health Conference, Lower Columbia Basin Chapter, ASSE, P.O. Box 1522, Richland, WA 99352. Registration before Nov. 2 is preferred; however, registrations will be accepted on the day of the conference.

For information about setting up a table or booth at this conference, contact Joseph Samuels at 373-3144 or at Joseph_K_PhD_Samuels@rl.gov.

AQP meeting Nov. 13

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 is at 6 and the presentation starts 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 by calling 547-6548 or register through the chapter’s Web site at <http://www.3-cities.com/~gates/AQPQuest.htm>. ♦



KENNEWICK

Van No. 97, 8x9s, has an opening. Picks up at ShopKo at 6 a.m. and at the Federal Building at 6:10 a.m. Drops off at 2750-E and 2704-HV. For information contact **Emilia Salinas** at 373-4228 or 373-1889. 10/22

RICHLAND

Vanpool No. 187 is looking for riders. Starts at the Richland Wye, makes a stop at the Federal Building and ends up at PFP. 8x9s, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Contact **Kim Hosfield** at 373-2632 or **Sandi Gross** at 373-4104. 10/22

Vanpool No. 117 has openings for 8x9 riders to locations inside the 200W Area perimeter fence. Originates near Vacuum City, 1019 Wright Avenue. The 200W Area stops include 217-W (Fab Shops), MO-412, MO-278/MO-279, MO-287 and MO-556 near the Powerhouse intersection and 272-WA, MO-720 and MO-281 near CWC (due west of PFP). Contact **Gary Bush** at 372-2531 or via e-mail. 10/22

Vanpool No. 216 needs a rider. 8x9s, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This is a door-to-door vanpool. That’s right, we pick you up at your home! Route starts on the 500 block of Douglass Avenue, then to the 100 Block of Goethals, travels to Duportail, along Cottonwood Drive, then over to Wright, Thayer, Van Geisen and North George Washington Way. Drops off at 274-E, 2750-E and 2704-HV. Contact **Rich Bowen** at 373-5359. 10/15

YAKIMA

Wanted, ride to 100N, 8x9s, 6 a.m.-3:30 p.m. shift. Call **Diana Vorwaller** at 509-697-5583 or 373-2492. 10/15 ♦

Regular Features



Distribution questions:
call the Mailroom, 375-5170

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

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The *Hanford Reach* is published weekly
for all employees of the U.S. Department
of Energy's Hanford Site.

Deadline is 10 a.m. Thursday, 10 days prior to
Monday publication. All articles are subject to
editing. Consult with the Reach staff before
ordering photos. Contact the editors by phone,
fax, site mail or e-mail.



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