

ON THE



Plateau

Volume 3, Issue 11

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ON THE Plateau is designed for online viewing, part of CHPRC's commitment to protecting our environment. Project and organizational news stories are shared in page-sized blocks to reduce costs and waste when printing is desired. Contributions are due by the 10th calendar day of the month prior to publication.

New Tri-Party Agreement Change Package has a

comprehensive, geographic effect on cleanup decision-making (page 3).

Conduct of Work Mentors already see human improvement changes around the Hanford Site (page 3).

Winter Safety Campaign will challenge projects to another competition (page 6).

 This month's safety message is from Kirk Domina, Health Advocate for the Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council (HAMTC) (page 9).

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After eight months of demolition, only a vast hole remains at the site where the 183K West Sedimentation Basin Complex once was located.

Demolition of K West Sedimentation Basins is Complete

A vast hole is all that remains of the 183K West Sedimentation Basin Complex. The 290,000-square-foot, reinforced-concrete basins once reached 17 feet into the ground and held 37.8 million gallons of water extracted from the Columbia River to support K West reactor operations.

In October, after nearly eight months on the job, a Decommissioning and Demolition (D&D) project team finished processing and "loading out" the last of approximately 20,000 cubic yards of uncontaminated concrete debris from the

Demolition of K West Sedimentation Basins is Complete, continued on page 2



The uncontaminated concrete debris from the demolished basins was staged at two locations nearby so it can be reused as cost-saving fill after the upcoming demolition of the U Canyon uranium reprocessing facility.

Demolition of K West Sedimentation Basins is Complete, continued from page 1

“Recovery Act funding put this project years ahead of the original schedule for demolition.”

demolished basins. The debris was staged at two locations nearby so it can be re-used as cost-saving fill after the upcoming demolition of the U Canyon, a uranium reprocessing facility located in the 200 West Area.

“The guys came together every day and got it done,” said D&D Project supervisor Dawayne Welch about his crew, a half-dozen D&D workers hired with Recovery Act funding, supported by craft workers responsible for debris load-out and equipment maintenance. “It’s been a long job, just concrete and rebar day in and day out, but now we’re leaving behind a whole lot of empty space.”

The next step for D&D crews will be to backfill and contour the empty excavation site to match the surrounding terrain while preparations move forward to demolish the pair of clearwells (underwater storage basins), which are all that remain from the 183K West water treatment system.

“This was a complex project because of the size of the structures, but the team completed the job safely and without incident,” said Kurt Kehler, vice president and project manager for the D&D Project. “Recovery Act funding put this project years ahead of the original schedule for demolition.” ■



Demolition of the structures beneath the former headhouse (June)



Demolition of the west side of the pipe tunnel, which spanned the width of the basin (August)



A truck sprays water to reduce dust (October)



D&D workers load the last of the debris (October)

Comprehensive New Cleanup Approach Offers Benefits

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Washington State Department of Ecology — the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) agencies — recently finalized a TPA change package that lays the framework for a comprehensive cleanup approach for Hanford's Central Plateau.

The newly adopted change package provides a blueprint for shrinking the Hanford Site's active footprint to approximately ten square miles in the center of the site, making remediated land available for other beneficial uses. CHPRC worked closely with DOE to support its work with the agencies to shape this change package in response to requests from the Tribal Nations, state of Oregon and other stakeholders.

"We are positioning Central Plateau remediation to optimize the site resources upon completion of the River Corridor cleanup," said Moses Jaraysi, vice president of CHPRC Environmental Protection and Strategic Planning.

The change package reflects a comprehensive, geographic approach for Central Plateau cleanup, integrated cleanup of Central Plateau soils, facilities and groundwater and new milestones to address cleanup of the deep vadose zone (contamination deep in the soil).

Implementing this new approach will have several benefits including increasing the efficiency of the field operations by focusing on geographic areas of cleanup, and should limit the number of documents that have to be produced to arrive at cleanup decisions. ■



Improved Human Performance Already Seen Around Site

Conduct of Work mentors have been deployed around the Hanford Site since June, helping workers, supervisors and managers improve safe work performance across the plateau remediation project. Each day, the mentors encourage the use of Human Performance Indicators and tools to prevent events and help people make decisions that improve safety.

As mentors observe the complex activities that are safely accomplished by work teams, they recognize and celebrate the successful teamwork that results in safe work performance.

"We're glad we can play even a small part in the daily improvement we see," said Chris Haugen, a lead mentor. "It's especially rewarding for us when we're part of the success that follows as our people, teams and processes get better." ■



"It's especially rewarding for us [lead mentors] when we're part of the success that follows as our people, teams and processes get better."

Examples of Observed Improvements

Mentors have already observed human performance improvements in:

- **Pre-job briefings and morning meetings**, which enable work teams to understand what they are going to do, how they are going to execute and manage ever-changing situations, especially:
 - Communicating work plans
 - Discussing critical steps, error precursors and hazard controls
 - Encouraging active worker participation in providing knowledge and experience.
- **Planning and preparing for complex activities**, such as equipment removal, demolition, size reduction and waste retrieval, especially:
 - Using lessons learned from previous activities
 - Conducting walkdowns of job sites and mock-ups of planned methods
 - Developing procedures or work instructions
 - Developing communications methods
 - Practicing with equipment and tools
 - Participating in training and drills.



CHPRC intranet users will soon see a new home page that features four rotating Spotlight panels and a Hot Topics area.



Individual organization pages (screenshots above) will have similar features in customizable template format.

CHPRC Intranet Transformation To Be More Than Just a Pretty Face

In November, the CHPRC intranet will begin a transformation that will offer users improved functionality and a cleaner, crisper, more contemporary corporate appearance.

“Our existing site has served us well, but we’ve moved beyond it,” said Chief Information Officer Ron Nelson. “A careful analysis revealed we could increase efficiency by organizing information in a more reasonable fashion. Besides looking better, the new CHPRC intranet will be faster through logical navigation.”

The changes will keep pace with today’s improved technologies and capabilities, but the impact to those who use and maintain the intranet will be minimized. While administrators will still be able to use the basic content editing tools they are

“Besides looking better, the new CHPRC intranet will be faster through logical navigation.”

accustomed to, they will have increased options when designing web pages including:

- Several flexible and customizable page layout templates
- More room for information above the “fold,” the point where users must scroll downward
- An image library filled with header graphics.

“We’re trying to help people get to the information they need in three clicks or less,” said Todd Wood, CHPRC’s Enterprise Content Management lead.

Hands-on training sessions will be held to help administrators learn how to transition current information to the new format and use their new tools to better display information.

The Communications and Information Technology and Services groups will be the first to move to the new format, followed by the Administrative Resource Center, Human Resources, Finance, Environmental Management System and General Counsel organizations, and then the CHPRC projects in early 2011. ■

Safety Programs Unite for Open House

Safety and health were the focus of a three-hour open house, which was held Sept. 9 in the lobby of the 2420 Stevens Center building. The event was organized and hosted by two CHPRC safety teams, Support Services Employee Zero Accident Committee (EZAC) and Voluntary Protection Program (VPP).

Committee members, safety and health managers, building administrators, AdvanceMed Hanford personnel and others were on hand to share information, answer questions and listen to feedback from employees about safety and health, building emergency topics and other programs.

“One focus of our safety committees and councils is creating new ways to help fellow workers think about safety first in everything they do,” said Susan Leckband, an EZAC committee cochair. “The open house was a hands-on demonstration of the safety and health information available to all workers.”

Those who attended enjoyed Stretch & Flex sessions, had their blood pressure monitored by AdvanceMed Hanford and viewed Automated External Defibrillator demonstrations, while enjoying a variety of healthy

snacks. Members of the Green Team shared the ways that CHPRC is reducing the carbon footprint. Even representatives from the Columbia Basin Racquet Club Annex, also located at the Stevens Center, were on hand to discuss fitness programs.

“It was a great way to put faces with names and get real-time answers and information,” said Kris Stave, a member of both the EZAC and VPP committees. “Safety and health are important to all CHPRC employees, regardless of their scope or where they are located at the Hanford Site.” ■

The Stevens Center employees who attended a safety open house on Sept. 9 were welcomed by (from left): Krisheena Mason, a secretary, Dennis Wiatrak, a safety specialist, and Ted Jarecki, a work control manager.

(below, from left) Moses Jaraysi, vice president of CHPRC Environmental Protection and Strategic Planning, and Dale McKenney, director of Environmental Strategic Planning, review a poster about CH2M HILL community outreach. A guest (middle) visits with Steve Gulley, a HAMMER training representative. Brenda Kenton (far right), a safety specialist and director of the Safe Zone program, talks with Jaraysi.



PZAC HIGHLIGHTS Oct. 15, 2010
Meeting Report

The October President's Zero Accident Council (PZAC) meeting was organized and led by members of the Waste and Fuels Management Project.

In addition to the regular monthly reports on injuries and vehicle incidents, PZAC attendees received updates on heavy equipment hazards, home fire safety and the upcoming 2010-2011 Winter Safety Campaign.

The minutes from this and previous PZAC meetings are available on the CHPRC intranet as well as the external web site. ■

2010-2011 Winter Safety Campaign

Don't Roll the Dice with Winter Snow and Ice

There is an old proverb that says winter either bites with its teeth or lashes with its tail. These words certainly ring true for the winters in our region. We are often hit with below-freezing temperatures, snow, freezing rain and icy roadways. Along with these winter conditions come specific safety hazards and challenges here on the Hanford Site.

To help everyone remain safe, we have launched the 2010-2011 winter safety campaign, which will run through Feb. 19, 2011. The campaign's theme is "Don't Roll the Dice with Winter Snow and Ice."

The goal of the campaign is to reduce the hazards of driving accidents and slips, trips and falls, both on the Hanford Site and at home, by proactively implementing



proven safety measures that reduce the likelihood of accidents and injuries.

"We want to provide our employees with tips and information to help them be prepared for driving and working in hazardous winter weather conditions," said Teri Sellers, the winter campaign coordinator. "If we are prepared, we can lower the stakes for injuries and accidents this winter and make this a successful campaign."

Back by popular demand is the President's Challenge in which CHPRC President John Lehew and his team will visit each project to evaluate how well they implemented the campaign and choose a winner.

For more information, contact Teri Sellers at 376.1314 or Theresa.J.Sellers@rl.gov. ■

President's Zero Accident Council Meeting Minutes

<http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/ISMS-EMS-VPP/index.cfm?PageNum=6>

An archive of PZAC meeting minutes, which are also available for external review at <http://www.platauremediation.hanford.gov/index.php/page/349/>

Next PZAC Meeting
Nov. 17
2420 Stevens Center Bldg.
Conference Room 153

*Hosted by the Safety, Health,
Security and Quality Control
organization*

WHAT TO DO WHEN THE SNOW FLIES
TUNE IN FOR YOUR WEATHER AND ROAD CONDITIONS

HANFORD EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION
www.hanford.gov
376-9999 / Toll Free 1-800-664-0771
Enter 376-9999 when prompted

WEATHER CONDITIONS/HANFORD SITE CLOSURES
KONA Radio Station 610 AM / 105.3 FM
Hanford Radio Station 530 AM
Yakima Radio KMWX 1460 AM
KFFM 107.3 FM / KIT 1280 AM 698-4636

HANFORD SITE WEATHER INFORMATION
373-2875

HANFORD SITE METEOROLOGIST
373-2716

INCREMENTAL WEATHER HOTLINE (PNNL)
375-2124

DOT PASS INFORMATION
1-800-695-7623 / WSDOT Traveler Info 511
or www.wsdot.wa.gov/traffic/passes
ID 1-888-432-7623
OR 1-503-588-2941

Tow rope
 All lights working

CH2MHILL
Plateau Remediation Company

WITH SNOW & ICE

CHECKLIST

the job

• Portable heater with auto turn off function when tipped over

• De-icer by the door

• Watch for slick areas

• Pay extra attention as you walk in from car to job site

Shoe grippers for ice

Designated snow paths

Snow boots

Gloves



Bioproducts of the Month

Fully compostable hot cups, like the ones shown above, can be found in the Green Catalogue, located on the EMS intranet page under Cafeteria Services. The Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI)-certified cups are made from 100% renewable resources. The liners are a bio-based plastic, rather than a conventional petroleum-based product.



EMS: Cafeteria Services: Green Catalogue

<http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/EMS/index.cfm?PageNum=30>

Dare to Share a government vehicle

Dare to Share... it's a slogan you'll see on government vehicle logs. It reminds us that ridesharing offers huge benefits to people and the environment whenever and wherever it happens. When you ask others to share the vehicle you reserved for Hanford Site business travel, you'll see the same benefits as ridesharing to work:

- Saving money
- Reducing overall wear and tear on the government vehicle pool
- Cutting down on traffic congestion
- Conserving energy to reduce our carbon footprint
- De-stressing your riders, who can read, eat, text, e-mail and socialize.

Start today. Dare to Share a government vehicle. And if you're the driver, remember to perform a 360-degree walk-around. ■



Tips for conserving energy and reducing your carbon footprint

At the office:



- Turn off unnecessary lights
- Turn off monitors, printers and other electronic equipment at the end of the day
- Minimize use of electrical devices, such as microwaves, toaster ovens, electric heaters and personal fans.

At home, regulate temperature settings:



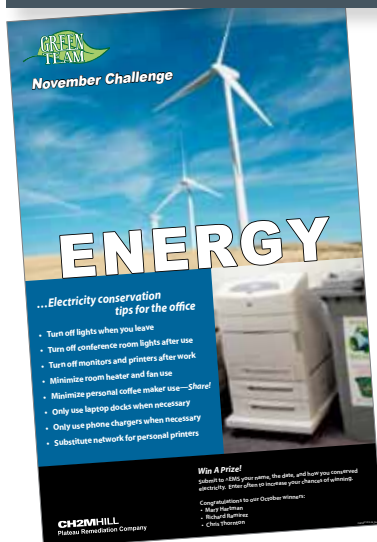
- Set heating/cooling thermostats to 68°F for daytime, 55°F for nighttime; clean or replace furnace filters as recommended
- Set refrigerators to 37°F, freezers to 3°F; they account for about 20% of household electricity use
- Set water heater thermostats to 120°F; insulate to prevent heat loss
- Set clothes washers to warm or cold settings.

During the holidays:



- When using ovens:
 - Minimize opening oven doors
 - Bake several items simultaneously
 - Use glass or ceramic dishes to reduce cooking times
- When using stove tops:
 - Match pan size to burner size
 - Keep burners clean
- Use energy-efficient microwaves, crockpots and electric skillets
- Run dishwashers only when full; use energy-saving cycles
- Try LED holiday lights, a shatterproof, long-lasting alternative that poses no fire hazard; they can save up to 90% of your energy costs.

November EMS Challenge



Save energy at work and win a prize!

To enter, e-mail ^EMS with your name, date and a description of how you conserved electricity. Enter often to increase your chances of winning.

Congratulations to the EMS winners for October:

- Mary Hartman
- Richard Ramirez
- Chris Thornton

Remember to buy Energy Star-qualified models when you replace an appliance.



David Del Vecchio,
Vice President, Plutonium Finishing
Plant Complex Closure Project

The need for communication is something we all share. It is essential to the success of any team and a talent we never finish developing. In our complex work at Hanford, effective communication can mean the difference between success and failure. Are you communicating effectively to ensure your success?

Effective communication requires us to speak and listen.

By organizing your thoughts and preparing and delivering a clear, concise message, you can increase the odds of your audience getting the message.

By listening and asking questions, the person you are communicating with conveys understanding of the message or gains clarification. And in turn, you should listen to the signals they are sending you through body language, attention and feedback, to ensure your message was received.

I want each member of our team to think of communication as an important safety system. It is important to your safety to know what is going on around you and how it will affect you. ■

"I want each member of our team to think of communication as an important safety system.

It is important to your safety to know what is going on around you and how it will affect you."

Com·mu·ni·ca·tion:

A process by which information is exchanged between individuals through a common system of symbols, signs, or behavior

The word advocate is defined as “one who supports the interests of another.” As the HAMTC Health Advocate, it is my responsibility to assist the workforce in processing workers’ compensation (Labor & Industries or L&I), short-term disability (STD) and long-term disability (LTD) claims in an effective, expedient manner. I also ensure that collective bargaining agreement provisions regarding L&I, STD and LTD are correctly administered.

When claims are processed, I interface with Hanford contractors, DOE and AdvanceMed Hanford to ensure that the necessary paperwork has been correctly completed and is being processed in a timely matter.

My other duties include:

- Assisting employees when returning to work
- Mentoring projects on proper physical awareness (pre-job stretching, etc.)
- Keeping current with L&I training and guidelines
- Advocating and meeting with AdvanceMed Hanford on beryllium issues and care
- Interfacing with the U.S. Department of Labor and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

With more than 28 years of Hanford experience, I am here to represent the interest of the workforce and look forward to serving you. ■



Kirk Domina,
HAMTC Health Advocate
Contact: 376.3723 (office),
948.9763 (cell) or
Kirk_D_Domina@rl.gov



CHPRC Safety Representatives

Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council (HAMTC)

Lead Safety Representative	Jill Molnaa	509.373.1803	Jill_M_Molnaa@rl.gov
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Soil and Groundwater Project	Mark Whitten	509.528.5789	Mark_E_Whitten@rl.gov
Waste and Fuels Management Project / T Plant	Jack Griffith	509.539.7728	Jack_E_Griffith@rl.gov
CWC / TRU Retrieval / IDF / LLB / LEF / 310 / 340 / CSB / WESF	Krista (Kriss) Weeks	509.308.7240	Krista_E_Weeks@rl.gov
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Plutonium Finishing Plant Closure Project	John Hendry Buddy Rust	509.373.2441 509.438.4258	John_D_Hendry@rl.gov Carroll_W_Rust@rl.gov

Central Washington Building Trades Council

Engineering, Projects and Construction	Steve Maki Chris Tannahill	509.372.0916 509.308.6789	Steven_J_Maki@rl.gov Christopher_L_Tannahill@rl.gov
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(from left): Luke Lilienthal, a nuclear chemical operator (NCO), performs a lockout/tagout check on the canyon crane before a maintenance entry. NCO Isaac Villarreal, applies heavy-duty duct tape to the seals on a suit worn by a fellow NCO to prepare him for a canyon entry.

(below): NCO Wes Bucholz (left) helps Jeff Keck, a millwright, don his outermost hood. (bottom, from left): In the canyon, Keck refills an oil tank on the crane, then later waits (bottom right) as his FRHAM-TM suit is removed in the containment tent.



Workers Begin Complex Cleanup at Plutonium Reclamation Facility

The complex task of emptying and preparing the 236-Z Plutonium Reclamation Facility for demolition in 2013 is under way. The facility, located at the southeast corner of the Plutonium Finishing Plant, was built in 1963 to convert plutonium-bearing scrap materials into concentrated plutonium nitrate suitable for plutonium production. Besides numerous multi-level glove boxes, the facility contains a four-story processing cell — the canyon, which has 193 pencil tank assemblies hanging on its walls. Over the years, the canyon floor became cluttered with debris and equipment. Contamination levels now require protective clothing and supplied air for breathing.

With a mission to clean out the canyon for demolition, the team evaluated multiple methods for cleaning up the floor and removing the many process vessels. They decided to use the existing crane, which was repaired in October, to retrieve each of the pencil tanks, then move them to the canyon's maintenance cell for size reduction. First, however, the crane will be used to repair a damaged pencil tank assembly in the maintenance cell.

Entering the canyon is a careful and painstaking process. Each member of the three- to five-person entry team uses supplied breathing air, wears two sets of anti-contamination clothing and a protective FRHAM-TM suit and carries a SKA-PAK® five-minute emergency air bottle. A large support team ensures their safety by helping them get into the bulky suits.

On their return from the canyon, the entry team enters a two-chamber containment tent, where they are sprayed with a fixative to keep contamination in place, then cut out of their hoods and peeled out of their FRHAM-TM suits, which are both safely disposed of. Finally, they are surveyed to ensure they are clean of contamination. Only then are they allowed to leave the containment tent, which completes their entry. ■



Soil & Groundwater Remediation Project



Al McIntyre, a member of the S&GWP team, samples hexavalent chromium from a sampling well in the 100H Area.

Record-Setting Groundwater Cleanup Accomplishments Credited to Teamwork

The Soil and Groundwater Remediation Project (S&GWP) team has set a fiscal year record by pumping and treating more groundwater than ever — 630 million gallons — and drilling a record high number of wells — more than 270 — for monitoring, extracting and remediating groundwater across the Hanford Site.

What makes this year different than the past? According to Bill Barrett, who works in pump-and-treat maintenance

“Our project's accomplishments are primarily due to all the innovations by our staff...”

and operations, the answer is teamwork. Even facing power outages, well realignments and bad weather, the team was able to rise above the issues.

“Our project's accomplishments are primarily due to all the innovations by our staff — operator maintenance, craft, planners, schedulers and engineers who

all work together to find solutions to various problems,” said Barrett. “A combination of things helped make this a record year for soil and groundwater cleanup.”

With a half-dozen pump-and-treat systems currently in operation and another slated to begin operation in the next several months, the team expects to treat 700 million gallons of groundwater during fiscal year 2011. ■

David Aardal, a pump-and-treat operator, tests the resin at a 100K Area pump-and-treat system to determine how much hexavalent chromium contamination it has attracted (gathered) from the groundwater.





(Above, left and middle) The new Super Type A container was designed and fabricated by local (Tri-Cities) businesses.

New Efficiency Developed for Shipping Waste Off-Site

On Oct. 11, Waste and Fuels Management Project workers began using a newly developed container to ship large-package waste from the Central Waste Complex to off-site treatment facilities. The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Super Type A container is 25 feet 9 inches long, 15 feet 2 inches wide and 15 feet 11 inches high.

Using the new container is expected to reduce the waste inventory in storage at the Central Waste Complex as well as reduce worker handling and the cost of repackaging the waste into smaller DOT-compliant containers. ■

(Right, from top) Workers secure a box of waste so it is ready to ship in a new Super Type A container. After the cover of the Super Type A container is loaded over the box of waste (below right), the shipment departs from the Central Waste Complex (below left) for treatment off-site.





A barren landscape shows little sign of the future 100-HX process plant (July)



Workers finish pouring the concrete footings and slab (August)

New Pump-and-Treat Plant Springs Up at 100H Area

In July, the construction site for the new 100-HX pump-and-treat process plant was a barren stretch of high desert plain. Since then, the new plant has seemingly sprung from the ground, transforming the horizon at the 100H Area.

Today, with the building almost enclosed, work crews can look forward to installing utilities and equipment indoors.

The 100-HX treatment facility will use 32 extraction wells to treat contaminated groundwater, then return treated water back into the ground through 15 injection wells. Like its counterpart, the 100-DX treatment facility, which is expected to be online by year-end, the 100-HX facility will improve groundwater quality and protect the Columbia River. ■



A steel structure frames the future plant (September)



October 2010: The plant is nearly enclosed with roofing and walls



Pink Thursday participants (*above*) give a Hanford High Five to those offering their support. At a 2009 walk (*top right*) in Phoenix, Ariz., many of the people holding signs along the route are battling breast cancer themselves or are honoring others who have been affected in some way. A sea of pink tents (*bottom right*) reflects the turnout at a 2008 walk in Seattle, Wash.



Pink Thursday — Having Fun While Raising Awareness

Fourteen years ago, Dale McKenney's wife, Linda, was cured of an aggressive form of breast cancer. The experience not only raised McKenney's awareness of the importance of breast cancer research and treatment programs, it also prompted him to find ways to help.

Recently, two of McKenney's coworkers — Brenda Becker-Khaleel and Laura Cusack, veterans of the Susan G. Komen walks — mentioned their plans to go to San Diego in November to walk in the Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure. McKenney issued a challenge: He would contribute fifty cents for every employee (up to 70) who they could convince to wear pink on Thursdays from Aug. 26 through Nov. 18. When Bruce Ford and Linda Powers joined in and also agreed to make per-person contributions each week, Pink Thursday was born.

"Pink Thursday is a fun, enlightening way to raise awareness and support this tremendous cause

without pressing others for money," said McKenney. "People seem to enjoy wearing their pink and making me pay!"

Since late August, participation has tripled from about 50 people per week to more than 150, raising more than \$1,500 as of Nov. 1. These funds, and millions more raised in San Diego's walk and others scheduled for 2010, will raise breast cancer awareness and fund breast cancer research, education and training.

"Statistics show that one out of every eight women will get breast cancer, but men get breast cancer too," said Becker-Khaleel. "Many of those who walk or cheer us on are recognizing a friend or family member's struggle with breast cancer. Many of the people who hold signs along the route are battling breast cancer themselves or are survivors, or they are honoring people who have been affected by breast cancer. It's very emotional."

"I think about the goodness of human nature ... everyone here today ... walkers, crew, supporters, everyone is here to 'give' ... whatever they have ... however they can. ... I think about the importance of this walk ... just the physical act of walking. ...it provides the opportunity for this community to come together ... to teach their children the value of doing good things. ...it's no longer about the horrors of cancer ... it's about celebrating the goodness of the human spirit, supporting each other and pulling together. ...that wouldn't happen if we just raised money and sent it in. ... the walk itself has power."

— Laura Cusack, excerpted from her thoughts about a walk in 2009

"Thousands of people will walk between 15 and 20 miles each day — Nov. 19, 20 and 21 — in San Diego," said Cusack. "But the walk is not about sadness, it is about hope." ■

To learn more about the Susan G. Komen walk in San Diego, visit http://www.the3day.org/site/TR/2010/SanDiegoEvent2010?team_id=166214&pg=team&fr_id=1469

Editor's Note: Each month, On the Plateau will feature a CHPRC Hero, someone in an unusual or significant challenge at home or at work. If you know someone worthy of recognition, contact CHPRC Communications at chprce@rl.gov.

Events on the Plateau

Nov.	Event
3	Tri-Cities Visitor & Convention Bureau Annual Meeting and Tourism Showcase featuring 50+ businesses. Speaker Ted Baseler, president and CEO of Ste. Michelle Wine Estates, will present "Bridging the Way to Washington Wine Country's Economic Prosperity"; includes prize drawings, hors d'oeuvres and local wines; <i>Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick. Admission is free, but requires reservations by Oct. 29. Call 735.8486 or e-mail info@visittri-cities.com.</i>
9	American Society for Quality (ASQ) dinner meeting with speaker James Cox on keys to creating quality communications and successful goal achievement; <i>O'Callahan's/Shilo Inn, Richland. Check-in/networking-5:30 p.m.; buffet dinner-6 p.m.; presentation-7 p.m. Cost: \$17 – ASQ members; \$20 – non-members; \$5 – presentation only. Reservations due by Nov. 4. E-mail panda_2@charter.net with name(s), phone#(s), company(s) and reservation type or call 509.371.2221. To learn more, visit http://www.asq614.org.</i>
9-11	Project Management Professional (PMP) certification prep class, offered by Columbia River Basin Chapter Project Management Institute; <i>Hampton Inn, Richland. \$900 for members; \$950 for non-members. Contact Steve Norton at vp-education@crb-pmi.org.</i>
12	National Management Association (NMA) 13th Annual Charity Fashion Show, hosted by the Mid-Columbia Leadership Development Association in support of youth charities; includes prizes, wine tasting, shopping with local vendors; <i>Red Lion, Pasco. 7 p.m. To learn more, call 509.373.1039 or e-mail nmashow@gmail.com.</i>
12	Hanford Day Off
24-25	Thanksgiving holiday
26	Hanford Day Off
Dec.	Event
10	Hanford Day Off
22-23	Christmas holiday
24	Hanford Day Off
Jan.	Event
1	New Years Day
7	Hanford Day Off
21	Hanford Day Off

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JANUARY 2011						
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30	31					

- Hanford Day Off
- Official Holiday
- Activity/Event

**HAMTC INVITES YOU TO
UNION NIGHT 2010**
WITH THE TRI-CITY AMERICANS



**TRI-CITY AMERICANS
VS.
SPOKANE CHIEFS**
SATURDAY 11/20/10
7:05 PM AT THE TOYOTA CENTER

HAMTC and the Tri-City Americans would like to welcome area Union members and their families to the 1st Annual Union Night with the Tri-City Americans. HAMTC affiliates enjoy special discounted tickets - just \$10 each, with \$3 from each ticket benefitting the Tri-Cities chapter of Wishing Star!
Seating is limited, contact Fred Rumsey at 509-531-9082 to get your tickets today!

ALL TICKETS \$10!!!
\$3 FROM EACH TICKET WILL BE DONATED TO:




**SAVE UP TO 50% OFF
WALK-UP PRICES**

Educational Support from Hanford Site Professionals Adds Big Returns to Community

Every Tuesday and Thursday evening, at a time when most Hanford Site workers are thinking about their dinners, CHPRC attorney Ray Swenson drives to Washington State University (WSU) Tri-Cities to teach environmental policy. He's one of many Hanford Site professionals who take time to share their expertise with local students.

"One of the University's full-time faculty members told me adjunct instructors must consider teaching a labor of love, because our salaries certainly don't match those of full-time staff members or reflect the amount of time and energy we put into teaching," said Swenson.

Like most other adjuncts, Swenson is not new to teaching but is recognized for the experience and value he brings. He has taught environmental law and policy classes at the University of California, Berkeley; Saint Mary's College of California in Moraga, Calif; Utah Valley University in Orem; and University of Idaho, Idaho Falls.

"Most students enrolled in our specialty programs are predisposed to staying in the area as long-term employees," said Dick Pratt, WSU Tri-Cities Vice Chancellor and an environmental scientist. "It's a huge benefit to them to have people like Ray Swenson apply concepts to actual situations. Clearly, in the specialty areas, our adjunct instructors bring the real world into our classrooms."

Most of Swenson's 19 students — ranging from recent high school graduates to college graduates — are environmental science majors. Some are military veterans, including one who was a bioenvironmental engineer for the U.S. Air Force. Others work



Ray Swenson, an attorney for CHPRC, teaches an environmental policy class at WSU Tri-Cities.

for Hanford Site contractors or federal agencies like the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife.

"The university receives more students, more tuition and a knowledge base that would be difficult to field and maintain with full-time faculty members alone," said Swenson. "Our families and the community receive a better quality of life through broader local education opportunities." ■

Enterprise Class Voice-over Internet Protocol in Production Phase

— Dana McLeod, Project Manager, and John Morgan, Project Manager

This year, April 19, Lockheed Martin Network Engineering embarked on the Hanford Local Area Network Enterprise production deployment of voice-over internet protocol (VoIP) technology at the Hanford Site.

To support the data and voice system needs of the Hanford Site, Network Engineering relentlessly sought advanced technologies that

would satisfy the dynamic nature of the site while supporting the DOE's green initiative. The solution needed to be environmentally friendly, scalable and cost-effective and provide investment protection.

VoIP was the solution. VoIP is inherently environmentally friendly as it mitigates the need for trenching copper lines. This also eliminates the need to remove copper lines as portions of the site are returned to their natural state. The technology allows for the traversing of voice and data communications over the same infrastructure — the same cable that allows computer network connections will now provide dial tone as well. The converged network architecture provides for a more efficient use of site infrastructure, lowering the long-term costs of operation and maintenance.

This pioneering endeavor began in the 100K Area. Deployment of VoIP phones will begin in the Stevens Center and Evergreen Center complexes, followed by the 200 Areas and the remainder of the site. The team has developed a realistic plan to transition endusers to the new VoIP technology with minimal impact to their workdays while maintaining superior service metrics.

The VoIP technology will replace Hanford's Lucent 5ESS switch, which was state-of-the-art when it was installed in 1993, but is becoming more antiquated every day as state-of-the-art changes.

Current voice vendors are moving away from investing in traditional technologies and the not-so-subtle environmental impacts of the aging technology add the need for moving to a new system.

For more information about specific VoIP phone models or when phones in your area are scheduled for upgrade, please visit <http://msc.rl.gov/ims/?page=488>. ■

Mission Support Alliance
Emergency Services & Training
Bulletin



Did you know you are not responsible for any costs when the Hanford Fire Department responds to your call for emergency service on the Hanford Site?

This is possible because all Hanford Site contractors contribute to pay for Hanford Fire Department emergency services.

"We want to make sure that site employees are aware that Hanford ambulance services are free to them," said Hanford Fire Chief Bob Kirk. "We've seen a number of treatment and transport refusals lately. We want to make sure that folks know we are here to assist them and that they will not be charged for our emergency services."

Note: If your work location is in the Richland city limits, the Richland Fire Department is responsible for providing emergency ambulance response and there is a charge for their services.

For any Hanford Site emergency, don't hesitate to call 9-1-1 from a landline or 373.0911 from a cellphone. We are here to help!

The Hanford Fire Department responds to all medical emergencies on the Hanford Site. The department has ambulance and medically-trained personnel strategically placed across the Hanford Site for quick response.

Employees have a duty to report possible fraud, waste, abuse, misuse, corruption, criminal acts, or mismanagement relating to DOE programs, operations, facilities, contracts or information technology systems, and to report possible reprisals against employees who report such information. Allegations should be reported to an appropriate authority, such as the Office of Inspector General (OIG) at:

800.541.1625 • 202.586.4073
(OIG Hotline numbers)

Visit www.ig.energy.gov/hotline.htm to learn more or call the Director of Internal Audit at 372.0779.



During October, CHPRC employees earned a total of 5,322 yards, and there were four Game Winners. That amount brings the cumulative number of yards earned since October 2009 to... **38,766 yards!** Keep up the safe work so you too can be in the Safe Zone. Remember to visit the Locker Room to redeem your yards. ■

Yard Awards	During October 2010	Since October 2009
30 or more	57 employees	382 employees
80 or more	13 employees	174 employees
More than 100	13 employees	129 employees

Locker Room

<http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/SHSQ/index.cfm?pagenum=6>

Nominate Coworkers or Check Yard Awards Online

<http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/SHSQ/safezone/nominate.cfm>

Award winners will receive an e-mail that explains why they were recognized and the yards awarded.

On the Plateau is published monthly for CHPRC employees. Submit comments and contributions to CHPRC Communications at chprcc@rl.gov. Contributions are due by the 10th calendar day of the month prior to publication.

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