



CURRENT

Newsletter for the River Corridor Closure Project

S A F E T Y • P E O P L E • R E S U L T S

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Welcome to "Current"

Welcome to "Current," the redesigned newsletter for employees of the River Corridor Closure Project and those interested in the River Corridor Closure Project and the difference we're making at Hanford.

In addition to a new name, "Current" will include some new features, such as our "metrics" section. This new section will provide information on the status of our major cleanup activities.

We also want to include more articles about your accomplishments and those of your coworkers – on and off the job. So please contact us if you know a coworker who has done something noteworthy that could help inform and inspire others.

The entire issue may be printed out, copied and provided to employees who do not have access to computers. It may also be posted on bulletin boards as needed.

Please email your comments about the newsletter and ideas for future issues to wchnews@wch-rcc.com.

New office building planned

Washington Closure Hanford has signed a lease with Smart Park Properties to construct a new office building in Richland. The new building will cost Washington Closure about \$100,000 less per year than the next least costly option, which included remaining in the Hanford Square and Sigma buildings.

The new building, which is scheduled for occupancy in late June 2006, will be located between Stevens Drive and George Washington Way, just north of the Stevens Center. It will house Washington Closure employees residing in the Hanford Square and Sigma buildings.

The lease is the result of several months of evaluations. "We looked at several options before making the final selection," said Dan Plung, Infrastructure and Information Services manager.



The new office building will be constructed just north of Stevens Center.

River Corridor Closure Contractor for the



U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office

Congratulations ERDF transportation team

As of January 10, the ERDF transportation team has logged 10,000,553 miles of safely transporting waste containers since July 1996. By comparison, you could make about 21 trips from the Earth to the moon and back.

Over the years, the team has experienced only one at-fault accident – a rate that is more than 10 times better than the national average.

Charity gift basket donations help local families

The nearly \$1,100 collected from the charity gift basket drawing helped make the holidays happier for three local families.



Eva Lauber reads one of the winning tickets that Project Manager Pat Pettiette drew.

During December, River Corridor Closure Project team members could buy tickets to have a chance to win baskets. “Fifty-eight baskets were donated,” said Eva Lauber, RADCON Technical Support. “We used the money to purchase gifts for the 13 children and six adults in the three families. Each child received clothing, toys and a stocking stuffed with goodies.

“We also purchased a \$100 gift certificate from a local grocery store for each family,” Eva continued. “And, we purchased linens and comforters for one family that didn’t have beds for their daughters. Luckily, one employee also donated some mattresses.”

Dan said the final selection was based on cost and design. “The new building will provide the flexibility in office arrangement Washington Closure needs to efficiently conduct business,” Dan said.

Furniture excessed from Bechtel National will be used in the new facility. “BNI contacted us to see if we could use the 300 cubical work stations and component furniture that it planned to excess,” said Connie Krull, Facilities Services supervisor. “The furniture represents an estimated \$1 million in savings that Washington Closure won’t have to spend to furnish the new building.”

To accommodate Bechtel’s schedule, Connie said we had only two working days to move the furniture. “We had a great team that went to work to make it happen,” she added.

D4 Closure Project made interim storage space available in the 300 Area. Property staff coordinated the equipment transfer. Facility Services staff coordinated work with HAMTC drivers, Bechtel, Bekins Moving Company and Williams Scotsman. Mike Darnell and Brett Klinetobe, Facility Services coordinators, leased sea/land containers to eliminate the need to double handle the furniture — placing it into storage and then moving it to the new office facility.

“Within 16 hours, HAMTC teamsters relocated 5,500 square feet of furniture from South Richland to the 300 Area,” Connie said. “Two teamsters in particular, Darryl Borg and Joe Schouviller, worked on the project from start to finish, demonstrating strong leadership and dedication. The demanding work was completed within schedule and injury free.”

In memory

Ron Lehrsall, a Washington Closure Hanford employee with 29 years of Hanford service, passed away January 17 after a battle with cancer.

Ron worked in the Nuclear Safety group as the Design Engineering Specialist. He was an exemplary employee who joined the ERC in 1994. Ron spent a good portion of his time supporting the 233-S Plutonium Concentration Facility decommissioning project.

The family requests that any donations be made to the Tri-Cities Chaplaincy and Hospice or to the LDS Church.

We offer our deepest condolences to his son Keith, who works in our Information Technology Department, as well as the rest of Ron’s family, including his wife Lynn and sons David and Wade.

She’s contagious

Joan Kessner describes herself as “contagious” because once she becomes committed to something, everyone around her seems to get the bug, too.

The “something” in this case is Junior Achievement, the world’s largest organization dedicated to educating young people about business, economics and free enterprise. Locally, JA has reached more than 50,000 children during the past 15 years through its volunteers’ presentations to K-12 students.

Joan, who has been involved with JA since 1999, is a member of the local board of directors and one of more than 300 JA board members and volunteers in our community. “I’m incredibly impressed by the level of commitment by our JA staff and volunteers,” she said.

As part of the drawing, six employees were chosen to have lunch with Project Manager Pat Pettiette as a special thank-you to everyone who participated in the effort. The winners were Mike Armstead, Delia Byer, Scott Feaster, Kay Shiflet, Regina Williamson and Chuck Young.

Spring Fling scheduled

Every Washington Closure Hanford employee and a guest are invited to attend the Spring Fling on Thursday, February 2, 5-8 p.m. at the Richland Red Lion. Food and beverages will be provided, and a no-host bar will be available.

To RSVP, please call the Spring Fling Hotline (372-9716) by Thursday, January 26.

Employees' Association to be formed

Employees of Washington Closure Hanford and our pre-selected subcontractor, Eberline Services Hanford, Inc. are forming an Employees' Association dedicated to promoting employee morale and social and physical welfare.

The Employee Association will be involved in determining and coordinating many employee activities, including the annual picnic and holiday party. Washington Closure and ESHI employees will soon have a chance to vote on all candidates who have expressed interest in serving on the Association's board of directors.

Once the board is in place, opportunities will be available for other employees interested in chairing or assisting with specific events. Employee input will be sought at a later date regarding the type of activities the Association will sponsor.

For more information, contact Faith Powers at 375-4671 or Carrie Locke at 372-9500.

As part of that commitment, JA volunteers provide one presentation to students each year. "Volunteers are provided all materials needed for the presentation, so it's not an overwhelming time commitment. The students have a chance to learn about a variety of topics as well as success skills that aren't normally taught in school, such as how to properly introduce someone."

Joan also believes that participation in JA benefits volunteers and their companies. "For example, volunteers benefit by having the chance to build self-confidence and public speaking skills," she said. "Businesses benefit because as part of their presentations, volunteers talk about their companies, the importance of the work they do and their commitment to JA."

Joan also coordinates Washington Closure Hanford's participation in the annual JA Bowling Classic and Silent Auctions. "We raised \$200,000 from last year's event that was used to provide materials for classroom presentations," she said. "We hope to raise enough money to again provide materials for presentations to more than 7,000 students locally as well as expand our program to other schools in our region."



Joan Kessner, Sample and Data Management, actively supports Junior Achievement.

Joan noted that there are lots of ways to participate in this year's bowling event, which will be held March 7-11. "You can be a team captain, join a bowling team or sponsor a bowling team," she said. "Or, you can bid on something in the silent auctions."

"Being part of JA helps me give back to my community and help students learn about things that are important in the business world that they otherwise may not have a chance to learn," Joan said.

You can contact Joan at 375-4688 or by email if you would like more information about JA or the Bowling Classic. You also can visit the local JA website at <http://tri-cities.ja.org>

Join a JA team today

You can contact Joan Kessner at 375-4688 if you would like to be a team captain for this year's Bowling Classic. Or, you can contact any of this year's team captains to join a team or to make a contribution:

Jeanette Duncan at 372-9621
Michael Inglima at 372-9420
Yvette Johnson at 372-9024
Cynthia Milton at 375-4652
Candie Rieke at 372-9045

Washington Closure Hanford employees eligible for Lion Awards

Amazing things are taking place every day on projects where Washington Group International has operations. As one of the owners of Washington Closure Hanford, Washington Group has extended eligibility for the 2005 Lion Awards to Washington Closure employees.

The Washington Group Lion Award Program gives you the opportunity to recognize your co-workers, your employees, your team or your manager for outstanding performances in 2005. The highest performing projects, teams and individuals will be selected for Lion Awards where their accomplishments are recognized as representatives of the finest performances in the industry.

You can nominate teams, individuals and projects to receive Lion Awards in these categories:

- Safety
- Engineering
- Construction
- Innovation
- Support Services/Administration
- Employee Development
- Public/Government/Community
- Sales
- Marketing/Proposal Services

All nominations must be submitted by February 28 via the new online form located at http://webapps.wgint.com/lion_awards/ on the WGI website.

Please join your fellow employees in recognizing outstanding performance and celebrating employee successes through the Lion Award program. Nominate a deserving individual, team or project today.

For more information, contact Todd Nelson at 372-9097.

Comments or questions?

Please call Edye Jenkins at 372-9176

Or you may Email:
wchnews@wch-rcc.com

A glimpse at cleanup results

Each month, this new feature will provide a glimpse at some of the River Corridor Closure Project's work that is making a difference at Hanford.

The tables will depict the actual and planned RCC Project work for the current fiscal year to demolish Hanford facilities, cleanup waste sites and dispose of contaminated materials in the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility.

Cleanup results

