

Calendar

Friday, Dec. 5
3:30 p.m.
DIRECTOR'S COFFEE
BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over
4 p.m.
[Joint Experimental-Theoretical Physics Seminar](#) - One West
Speaker: Andrew Ivanov, University of California, Davis
Title: The Truth the Top Quark is Hiding
8 p.m.
[Fermilab International Film Society](#) - Auditorium
Tickets: Adults \$5
Title: [My Left Foot](#)

Saturday, Dec. 6
8 p.m.
[Fermilab Arts Series](#) - Auditorium
Tickets: \$22/\$11
Title: [A Renaissance](#)
[Christmas: Music and Dance with Renaissomics](#)

Monday, Dec 8
2:30 p.m.
[Particle Astrophysics Seminar](#)
- Curia II
Speaker: Fulai Guo, University of California, Santa Barbara
Title: AGN Feedback Heating in Clusters of Galaxies
3:30 p.m.
DIRECTOR'S COFFEE
BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over
4 p.m.
All Experimenters' Meeting - Curia II
Special Topic: COUPP 60 Kg Chamber

[Click here](#) for NALCAL, a weekly calendar with links to additional information.

Weather

Feature

Safety poster contest winners' work on display



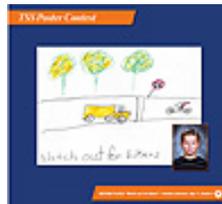
Angel Lootens, 9, first place in poster contest

The contest was open to fourth and fifth grade relatives of Fermilab employees or affiliates. The poster contest was an effort by the subcommittee to increase traffic safety awareness at the laboratory.

Prizes were awarded to three winners. Angel Lootens, fourth grade, son of BSS employee Jennifer Lootens, won first place for his poster "Watch out for deer." Andrew Johnson, fifth grade, grandson of Roads and Grounds employee Robert Lootens, won second place for his poster "Watch out for bikers."

The winning posters from the Traffic Safety Subcommittee's poster contest are now on display in the west stairwell of the Wilson Hall atrium.

They will remain on display until Jan. 2



Andrew Johnson, 11, second place in poster contest



Jacob Olah, 11, third place in poster contest

Jacob Olah, fifth grade, son of FESS's Jeannette Olah, won third place for his poster "Slow down for I-Pass."

Feature

Ask the Ethicist

FRA ethics program

Gary Leonard, Fermilab General Counsel, wrote this column.

Do you have an ethical conundrum relating to your work at Fermilab? To help clear up any ethical questions at the laboratory, staff attorney Jameson Eisenmenger and I will address ethics questions in a monthly *Fermilab Today* column titled "Ask the Ethicist."

The column is part of the laboratory's new ethics and conduct program, developed to give clear ethical guidelines for employees and users. While many elements of the new program were already in place or governed by internal policies, the program provides a single resource for employees to find these elements.

The new program will also meet a new requirement under the Department of Energy. You can view the new FRA Code of Business Ethics and Conduct Program <http://www.fnal.gov/directorate/Legal/ethics.shtml>.

Under the new ethics program, every employee will be required to complete Web-based ethics training annually. The training consists of a PowerPoint slide presentation and a short quiz. It will be part of each employee's Individual Training Needs Assessment. You will receive a reminder when your training is due.

We hope these measures help raise awareness of the new ethics program and what is expected of you as an FRA employee. Our goal is to help you when you encounter an issue that is ethically hazy.

Ask the Ethicist

Q. I once invited a DOE employee to lunch as my guest. When I reached for the check, the employee said with a laugh, "I guess this is de minimis, so it is OK." What did she mean? Was picking up the check OK?

[Read the response](#)



Gary Leonard, Fermilab general counsel

 Sunny
23°/18°

[Extended Forecast](#)
[Weather at Fermilab](#)

[Current Security Status](#)

[Secon Level 3](#)

[Wilson Hall Cafe](#)

Friday, Dec. 5

- Old Fashioned ham & bean
- Philly style chicken
- Chicken pot pie
- Smart cuisine: baked fish over rice
- Roasted veggie & provolone panini
- Assorted sliced pizza
- Baked potatoes

[Wilson Hall Cafe Menu](#)

[Chez Leon](#)

Wednesday, Dec. 10

Lunch

- Sweet & sour chicken
- Jasmine rice
- Egg roll
- Almond cake

Thursday, Dec. 11

Dinner

- Closed

[Chez Leon Menu](#)

Call x4598 to make your reservation.

[Archives](#)

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[Result of the Week](#)

[Safety Tip of the Week](#)

[ILC NewsLine](#)

[Info](#)

Fermilab Art Gallery to hold reception on Friday



Art works by Nancy Staszak, such as the one above, are featured in the current Art Gallery exhibit.

The Fermilab Art Gallery will open its new show, "Small Works," with an artist reception, open to the public, on Friday, Dec. 5, from 5 to 7 p.m. The show includes miniature ceramic pieces from the 2008 International Orton Cone Box Show along with petite paintings and prints by local artists Ed Cook, Nancy D'Agostino, Juliette Herwitt, Nancy Staszak, Sadia Uqaili and Anne Von Ehr.

The local artists will attend the reception.

The challenge of working on a small scale is creating a piece interesting enough to make people want to walk up to it and examine it, said Georgia Schwender, curator of the gallery.

"I love the intimacy of small pieces," Schwender said. "Galleries tend to exhibit larger works. I thought the contrast of smaller works would be interesting."

Many of the paintings and prints depict rustic scenes and slices of urban life.

Each ceramic piece in the show won its spot by placing in the 2008 International Orton Cone Box Show, a biannual competition that began in the early 1970s. Ceramics entered into the show must be no larger than a 3- by 3- by 6-inch standard Orton cone box, a container for pyrometric cones, which measure the effect of heat in a sculptor's kiln.

-- Kathryn Grim

From *symmetry*

Q. Sometimes, I write/take photos for the local newspaper. I do this outside of work hours, but are there still times when this activity can be a conflict of interest?

[Read the response](#)

The Legal Office staff will address questions such as these that are submitted through a [Question and Answer Web page](#). Topics for the "Ask the Ethicist" column will come from these questions. If you have ethics questions, please contact the Legal Office at x3252 or e-mail questions to ethicist@fnal.gov.

Announcement

Check out the new Legal Office Web site



The Legal Office launched a new [Web site](#) today. The site, which features the new "Ask the Ethicist" column, is also a resource for all of your legal needs.

Use the site to find policies, documents, answers to ethics questions, contact information and more.

In the News

Universe's dark matter mix is 'just right' for life

From *New Scientist*, Dec. 4, 2008

It's not just the nature of dark matter that's a mystery - even its abundance is inexplicable. But if our universe is just one of many possible universes, at least this conundrum can be explained.

The total amount of dark matter - the unseen stuff thought to make up most of the mass of the universe - is five to six times that of normal matter. This difference sounds pretty significant, but it could have been much greater, because the two types of matter probably formed via radically different processes shortly after the big bang. The fact that the ratio is so conducive to a life-bearing universe "looks like a tremendous coincidence", says Raphael Bousso at the University of California, Berkeley.

Ben Freivogel, also at UCB, wondered if the ratio can be explained using the anthropic principle which, loosely stated, says that the properties of the universe must be suitable for the emergence of life, otherwise we wouldn't

Fermilab Today is online at:
www.fnal.gov/today/

Send comments and suggestions to:
today@fnal.gov

The *symmetry* challenge: Physics on a napkin



Send in your physics-on-a-napkin (or envelope or surface of choice) to enter the *symmetry* challenge.

We've all heard the stories of great ideas first scribbled down in a bar on any convenient surface, often a cocktail napkin. We've also heard many cases of colleagues in bars asked to describe just what it is they do. Lacking a whiteboard or chalkboard to draw on, and the cocktail napkin comes to the rescue again.

So here's the challenge: Describe your own physics research in 60 seconds, along with a photo, scan, or the original of a cocktail napkin with whatever scrawlings help tell your story. The explanation can be in the form of a 60-second audio or video file or up to 200 words of text. E-mail entries to symmetry or mail them care of David Harris, Communications Office, SLAC National Accelerator Center, MS 58, 2575 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025.

Symmetry will send a prize to the author of the clearest, most entertaining entry and explanation and show a selection of the best in the magazine.

Announcement

UChicago open house, holiday lecture Saturday



Sidney Nagel, University of Chicago physics professor, gives a demonstration

The University of Chicago will host "Physics with a Bang!" a holiday lecture and open house on Saturday, Dec. 6. Children, families and the curious can attend to see loud, fast, beautiful and surprising physics demonstrations, tour research laboratories

be here asking questions about it. In order to avoid questions about how these properties became so finely tuned, the anthropic principle is combined with the idea that our universe is part of a multiverse, in which each universe has randomly determined properties

[Read more](#)

Announcements

[Have a safe day!](#)

[Annual Enrollment through Dec. 10](#)

[Annual enrollment carrier meetings Dec. 9](#)

["Atom Smashers" DVD discount](#)

[NALWO - Winter Holiday Tea, Dec. 5](#)

[Fermilab Film - "My Left Foot" Dec. 5 at 8 p.m.](#)

[Carols for Dancing - A Renaissance Christmas at Fermilab, Dec. 6](#)

[English Country Dancing, Dec. 7](#)

[NALWO - A Russian Style New Year](#)

[FileMaker Pro 8.0 - Dec. 10](#)

[NALWO - Christkindlmarket Chicago, Dec. 13](#)

[Barn Dance Dec. 14](#)

[Fermilab Blood Drive Dec. 16, 17](#)

[The University of Chicago Tuition Remission Program deadline Dec. 17](#)

[Barn Dance Dec. 21](#)

[SciTech winter camps, Dec. 22-23 and 29-30](#)

[Find carpool partners with PACE](#)

[Python Programming - Jan. 6 - 8](#)

[Intermediate / Advanced Python Programming - Jan. 27 - 29](#)

[Additional activities](#)

[Submit an announcement](#)

and participate in hands-on activities.

The open house will take place at the Kersten Physics Teaching Center from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. The lecture will take place at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. See the [event flier](#) for more information.

Classifieds

Find new [classified ads](#) on *Fermilab Today*.