Fermilab Today

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Calendar

Wednesday, April 22
3:30 p.m.
DIRECTOR'S COFFEE BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over
4 p.m.
Fermilab Colloquium - One West
Speaker: Dan Hooper, Fermilab
Title: Charged Cosmic Rays and Particle Dark Matter

Thursday, April 23
11 a.m.
Computing Techniques Seminar - FCC1
Speaker: Charlie Catlett, Argonne National Laboratory
Title: Re-thinking Information Technologies and Services at National Laboratories
THERE WILL BE NO PHYSICS AND DETECTOR SEMINAR THIS WEEK
2:30 p.m.
Theoretical Physics Seminar - Curia II
Speaker: Gustavo Burdman, Fermilab/University of Sao Paulo
Title: Electroweak Symmetry Breaking and a Strongly Coupled Fourth Generation
3:30 p.m.
DIRECTOR'S COFFEE BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over
4 p.m.
Accelerator Physics and Technology Seminar - One West
Speaker: Mauricio Lopes, Fermilab
Title: Helical Solenoids for Helical Cooling Channels

Click here for NALCAL, a weekly calendar with links to additional information.

Weather

Feature

Pine Street traffic a concern for bicyclists and motorists

Bicyclists concerned about motor traffic or those wishing to avoid the limestone bypass in wet conditions can use the established bike path on the south side of Pine Street. A crossover path, incidcated above, is available for those bicyclists heading westbound on Pine Street.

A few years ago, a bicyclist was killed at the entrance to SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, near Sand Hill Road.

SLAC has since taken precautions to prevent anything like this from happening again. We want to make sure that no bicyclists are harmed while riding at Fermilab.

Sometimes, when bicyclists and motorists meet, the rules of the road can get overlooked. Bicyclists have a legal right to ride on either the road or on Fermilab's paved bicycle path.

Some areas, such as the Pine Street entrance on the laboratory's west side, can be dangerous for bicyclists, particularly if motorists aren't paying attention or don't let bicyclists merge. The road narrows near the west guardhouse and motorists must allow bicyclists to merge onto the main road.

Bicyclists who choose to ride on the bike path throughout the Fermilab site have also expressed concerns about the limestone bypass on the north side of Pine Street. Bicyclists can find the bypass difficult to ride on in wet conditions. In these conditions, Roads and Grounds staff members encourage bicyclists to use the established bike path on the south side of Pine Street, as outlined on the above map, to get around the problem area.

To get to this recently paved bike path, Roads and Grounds staff members encourage westbound cyclists to use the path crossing inbound Pine Street near the Lederman

From FESS

Creating a SmartLab

Randy Ortgiesen, head of the Facilities Engineering Services Section, wrote this week's column.


Randy Ortgiesen

Advances in technology, such as cell phones and navigation systems, change the way we live and communicate. Technological advances also play an important role in the modernization of the day-to-day operations at Fermilab. In 2002, FESS developed the vision of a SmartLab for facility operations and maintenance, and we are implementing this vision step by step. We have installed state-of-the-art systems that keep us better informed in real time and allow us to work more effectively. The systems also allow us to take action before undesirable events such as equipment failures occur.

Our Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system for monitoring the high-voltage electric system allows us to view real-time data for site power consumption, electrical feeder loads and voltage conditions. Metasys, the direct digital control system for building automation, control and monitoring, provides automatic response to and monitoring of critical systems such as our Central Utilities Building, which provides cooling for our accelerator complex as well as Wilson Hall and surrounding facilities. Metasys also warns us if the operating parameters for certain equipment drift outside of the desired ranges. Maintenance crews and engineers can receive alarms 24/7 in order to respond rapidly to the location or correct a problem remotely.

Our Computerized Maintenance Management System schedules, tracks, trends and captures relevant equipment data for use by the FESS Planning and Scheduling Group and ultimately our mechanics and electricians. The most recent CMMS initiative is the development of a Hazard Analyses library to print HAs for specific work assignments. Additionally, our Geographic Information System adds layers of information to an aerial

Sunny
57°/36°

Extended Forecast
Weather at Fermilab

Current Security Status

Secon Level 3

Wilson Hall Cafe

Wednesday, April 22
- Portabello harvest grain
- Smart cuisine: Santa Fe chicken quesadilla
- Hoisin chicken
- Smart cuisine: parmesan fish
- Cuban panini
- Assorted sliced pizza
- Pesto shrimp linguini w/leeks & tomatoes

Wilson Hall Cafe Menu

Chez Leon

Wednesday, April 22 Lunch
- Assortment of quiches
- Cucumber salad
- Fresh fruit plate

Thursday, April 23 Dinner
- Spinach & bacon salad
- Grilled swordfish w/ lime cilantro
- Sauce
- Rice pilaf
- Lemon cake

Chez Leon menu
Call x3524 to make your reservation.

Archives

Science Center just west of the woods and east of the Margaret Pierson Prairie Path parking lot. A sign now marks this path.

People need to stay extra alert at these two areas where bicyclists and motorists come into close contact.

Bicyclists should watch for oncoming traffic when crossing Pine Street to enter or leave the established path. Motorists need to watch for bicyclists and drive the posted speed limit as they exit the laboratory on Pine Street.

By working together to share the road, everyone can remain safe.

-- Mike Becker, Roads and Grounds

In the News

LCLS: The world's first hard X-ray laser achieves "first light"

From SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory news room, April 21, 2009

The world's brightest X-ray source sprang to life last week at the U.S. Department of Energy's SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory. The Linac Coherent Light Source (LCLS) offers researchers the first-ever glimpse of high-energy or "hard" X-ray laser light produced in a laboratory.

When fine tuning is complete, the LCLS will provide the world's brightest, shortest pulses of laser X-rays for scientific study. It will give scientists an unprecedented tool for studying and understanding the arrangement of atoms in materials such as metals, semiconductors, ceramics, polymers, catalysts, plastics, and biological molecules, with wide-ranging impact on advanced energy research and other fields.

"This milestone establishes proof-of-concept for this incredible machine, the first of its kind," said SLAC Director Persis Drell. "The LCLS team overcame unprecedented technical challenges to make this happen, and their work will enable frontier research in a host of fields. For some disciplines, this tool will be as important to the future as the microscope has been to the past."

Read more

Special Announcement

photo of Fermilab to show utility lines, buildings, ponds and ditches, ecological land management areas and much more. We continue to assess the data to validate and improve its accuracy.

We also have begun to allow the different smart systems to interact in order to achieve better levels of responsiveness, efficiency and planning.

While I still depend on my teenagers' help to program my cell phone and troubleshoot my home PC, our technology-savvy experts here at Fermilab already are turning a vision into reality thanks to technological advances that the laboratory's original builders could never have imagined.

Safety Update

ES&H weekly report, April 22

This week's safety report, compiled by the Fermilab ES&H section, lists one ergonomic case reported to the Medical Department last week. This case is under investigation. Find the full report here.

Safety report archive

Announcements

Latest Announcements

New Fermilab Service Desk online

Maintenance of WH sprinkler system April 22-25

Registration for Users' meeting is open

Have a safe day!

Fermilab blood drive today

Administrative Professionals Day today

Word 2007: Styles and Templates class April 23

April is National Humor Month...click on the link for the joke of the day

Free 30-minute ab workout

Fermilab club & league fair

Fermilab Today

Result of the Week

Safety Tip of the Week

ILC NewsLine

Info

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

Send comments and suggestions to:
today@fnal.gov

New Visa Office Web site

The Visa Office has recently launched its new Web site, visas.fnal.gov. The new site clearly sets out the procedures involved in obtaining new or extensions of J and H-1B visas. It also features a glossary of immigration terms and links to online fillable information forms. The Web site also includes a new section, called Alerts, which are short articles relating to U.S. immigration processes, laws or other topics of interest to our non-U.S. citizen employees. The Visa Office welcomes feedback or suggestions for improvement.

In the News

Closer look at Einstein's brain

From ***ScienceNow*** , April 17, 2009

When a rare genius like Albert Einstein comes along, scientists naturally wonder if he had something special between his ears. The latest study of Einstein's brain concludes that certain parts of it were indeed very unusual and might explain how he was able to go where no physicist had gone before when he devised the theory of relativity and other groundbreaking insights. The findings also suggest that Einstein's famed love of music was reflected in the anatomy of his brain.

When Einstein died in 1955 at Princeton Hospital in New Jersey, his brain was removed by a local pathologist named Thomas Harvey, who preserved, photographed, and measured it. A colleague of Harvey's cut most of the brain into 240 blocks and mounted them on microscope slides. From time to time, he sent the slides to various researchers, although few publications resulted. Harvey, who moved around the United States several times in the course of his career, kept the jar containing what remained of the brain in cardboard box. Finally, in 1998, Harvey--who died in 2007--gave the jar to the University Medical Center of Princeton, where it remains today.

Read more

Blackberry Oaks Golf League

Got golf? Join the Fermilab Golf League

Muscle toning classes

Argentine Tango classes through May 13

Discounted rates at Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva, WI

MathWorks seminar today

NALWO - Mexican cuisine cooking demonstration

Lederman Science Center to host outdoor fair - April 26

Greek Folk Dance workshop - April 30

NALWO Spring tea May 1

English country dancing May 3

Word 2007: New Features class May 5th

Excel 2007: New Features class May 7th

National Day of Prayer observance May 7

Best of Dance Chicago - Fermilab Arts Series - May 9

Rapid Hardware Prototyping and Industrial Control Application Development seminar May 13

Co-ed softball season begins May 13

Summer co-ed volleyball league begins June 1

Conflict Management and Negotiation Skills class June 3 and 10

Discount tickets to "1964"...Beatles tribute - June 6

SciTech summer camps

Additional Activities

Submit an announcement