

## Calendar

### [Have a safe day!](#)

Wednesday, July 8  
3:30 p.m.  
DIRECTOR'S COFFEE  
BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over  
4 p.m.

[Fermilab Colloquium](#) - One  
West

Speaker: Joseph Dwyer,  
Florida Institute of Technology  
Title: X-Ray Emission from  
Thunderstorms and Lightning

Thursday, July 9  
2:30 p.m.

[Theoretical Physics Seminar](#) -  
Curia II

Speaker: Satya Nandi,  
Oklahoma State University  
Title: New Mechanism for  
Neutrino Mass Generation and  
Triply Charged Higgs Boson at  
the LHC

3:30 p.m.  
DIRECTOR'S COFFEE  
BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over  
THERE WILL BE NO  
ACCELERATOR PHYSICS  
AND TECHNOLOGY  
SEMINAR TODAY

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

## Campaigns

### [Take Five](#)

### [Tune IT Up](#)

## Weather

## Feature

### Sustainable Energy Club to use sun to power projects



Fermilab Sustainable Energy Club members Peter Mouche (left), Erik Ramberg and Brian Chase test the output on the solar panels they received on May 23. The Fermilab Sustainable Energy Club will use the solar panels for projects throughout the laboratory. *Photo courtesy of Wendy Mouche.*

The Fermilab Sustainable Energy Club wants to harness the power of the sun to run some eco-friendly and educational projects throughout the laboratory.

"By creating projects with solar panels, the Fermilab Sustainable Energy Club hopes to engage Fermilab staff to think about solar energy," said Erik Ramberg, member of the FSEC.

A group of environmentally conscious employees began the club in late March to educate Fermilab employees and the community about how to use sustainable and alternative energy sources. The club recently received 50 55-watt solar panels from government surplus to use in projects in and around the laboratory.

They also received two solar trackers, devices designed to reposition solar panels to track the sun. Another panel, which uses high-efficiency solar cells and concentrated mirrors to maximize power generated from the sun, arrived in June from a private company.

Club members will use one or two solar panels and a tracker for a demonstration during the Nature's Power Lab Science Adventure Camp July 27-31 at the Lederman Science Educational Center. The solar panels will power a high-intensity LED light display and a fan to demonstrate the sun's power.

## From WDRS

### Help us improve HR

*Kay VanVreede, head of the Workforce, Development and Resources Section, wrote this week's column.*

Since Director Pier Oddone presented the results of the [focus groups](#) at Fermilab, we in Human Resources have frequently discussed the feedback we received with regard to our section. The focus group results indicate that many employees think we are not always effective in assisting them. Many feel that we are not friendly, are isolated and do not understand how the rest of the laboratory works. We learned that some employees are afraid to come to HR because they fear a bad outcome, anticipate an unsatisfactory response or consider it a stigma to be seen going to the HR office. Some view us as corporate or bureaucratic.



Kay Van Vreede

What are we doing in response to this feedback? First, we are holding workshops within our section to talk about the feedback and identify actions we can take to address the issues. Most of our ideas involve improved communication, being more approachable and bringing our services to employees across the laboratory. We are also looking for meeting spaces where employees have more privacy than in our glass-walled offices on the 15th floor of Wilson Hall.

Second, I'm taking this opportunity to ask for your specific suggestions: How can we improve our services to you? What would you like us to do? Please e-mail your suggestions to me at [vanvreed@fnal.gov](mailto:vanvreed@fnal.gov) or mail them to me at mail station 107. If you would like to participate in a live suggestion workshop facilitated by Barb Brooks and myself, please let us know and include your name and contact information. If you prefer to remain anonymous, put your suggestions on paper and send them to MS 107 without a return address.

Helping our fellow employees and providing them with outstanding services is one of our



Chance of thunderstorms  
75°/61°

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

[Current Security Status](#)

[Secon Level 3](#)

[Wilson Hall Cafe](#)

Wednesday, July 8

- Chicken noodle
- Steak sandwich
- \*Maple Dijon salmon
- Mongolian beef
- California club
- Assorted sliced pizza
- Chicken pesto pasta

[Wilson Hall Cafe Menu](#)

[Chez Leon](#)

Wednesday, July 8

- Lunch
- Almond chicken salad
  - Turtle cheesecake

Thursday, July 9

- Dinner
- Closed

[Chez Leon menu](#)

Call x3524 to make your reservation.

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On May 23, members of the FSEC tested the panels at areas around the laboratory.

Although there were clouds, the solar panels worked, Ramberg said. When the sun did come out for a short time, the panels were measured putting out 50 watts each, enough to run a laptop or charge an electric bike battery. Several panels together will be used for an electric bike charging station.

Another proposed project is to use the solar panels to power an ultrasonic algae eliminator that would reduce the amount of chemicals in cooling ponds onsite. Brian Chase, president of the FSEC, said the ultrasonic algae eliminator was previously tested in a cooling pond with good results. Solar power could make this possible in remote areas that do not have electric power available.

"Two kilowatts won't solve the world's energy problem," Ramberg said. "But, getting Fermilab staff to think about solar energy might help."

-- *Tia Jones*

[Photo of the Day](#)

## Inauguration



Fermilab Deputy Director Young-Kee Kim poses for a photo with Japan Proton Accelerator Research Complex (J-PARC) Director Shoji Nagamiya at the inauguration of the facility on July 6.

[DOE Press Release](#)

top priorities. Yet it is often a tough balancing act, with many different customers to serve. So please help out with your suggestions. We will use them to put together our plan for change, which we will share with you.

[Safety Update](#)

## ES&H weekly report July 7, 2009

This week's safety report, compiled by the Fermilab ES&H section, includes 14 incidents reported in the last two weeks that were work related. Nine cases required first-aid treatment or no treatment; two cases resulted in medical treatment (TRC); one case required medical treatment and days away from work (DART); and two were vehicle accidents without injury.

Find the full report [here](#).

[Safety report archive](#)

[Announcements](#)

## Latest Announcements

[MathWorks Free Seminar - July 15](#)

[Change to Users' Office hours](#)

[Reminder: Changes to FTL system](#)

[Time to complete accomplishment reports](#)

[Bristol Renaissance Faire Discount Tickets](#)

[On-site housing-fall 2009/spring 2010](#)

[Six Flags Great America discount tickets](#)

[Pool memberships available in the Recreation Department](#)

[Raging Waves Waterpark online discount ticket program](#)

[Toastmaster Meetings scheduled - July 9 & July 23](#)

[Fermilab Barnstormers](#)

[Scrapbooking Open House - July 13](#)

[Adult swim lessons and water aerobics offered at Fermi Pool - July 13](#)

*Fermilab Today*  
is online at:  
[www.fnal.gov/today/](http://www.fnal.gov/today/)

Send comments and  
suggestions to:  
[today@fnal.gov](mailto:today@fnal.gov)

Visit the Fermilab  
[home page](#)

## **Statement of Steven Chu, Secretary of Energy**

*Before the Committee on Environment and  
Public Works, United States Senate,  
Washington, D.C.*

Chairman Boxer, Ranking Member Inhofe, and  
Members of the Committee, thank you for the  
opportunity to testify on moving America  
toward a clean energy economy.

We face many serious and immediate  
challenges. American families and businesses  
are struggling in a recession and an  
increasingly competitive global economy. We  
have become deeply dependent on a single  
energy source to power our cars, trucks and  
airplanes, and spend hundreds of billions of  
dollars a year to import nearly 60 percent of  
the oil we use. We face an unprecedented  
threat to our very way of life from climate  
change.

[Read more](#)

[MATLAB software tools 75 percent  
off for Fermilab - July 15](#)

[English Country Dancing, July 19](#)

[Argentine Tango classes through  
July 22](#)

[Intermediate/Advanced Python  
Programming July 22-24](#)

[Outlook 2007: New Features class  
Aug. 6](#)

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

[Process piping \(ASME B31.3\) class  
offered in October](#)

[Interaction Management and  
Performance Review courses  
scheduled for summer 2009](#)

[Additional Activities](#)

[Submit an announcement](#)