

Calendar

[Have a safe day!](#)

Tuesday, Dec. 22
3:30 p.m.
DIRECTOR'S COFFEE
BREAK - 2nd floor crossover
THERE WILL BE NO
ACCELERATOR PHYSICS
AND TECHNOLOGY
SEMINAR THIS WEEK

Wednesday, Dec. 23
3:30 p.m.
DIRECTOR'S COFFEE
BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over
THERE WILL BE NO
FERMILAB COLLOQUIUM
THIS WEEK

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

[Upcoming conferences](#)
[Campaigns](#)
[Take Five](#)[Tune IT Up](#)

H1N1 Flu

For information about H1N1,
visit Fermilab's flu information
[site](#).

Weather


[Extended Forecast](#)
[Weather at Fermilab](#)
[Current Security](#)
[Status](#)
[Secon Level 3](#)[Wilson Hall Cafe](#)

Special Announcement

**Fermilab Today on vacation Dec.
23, returns Jan. 4**

This is the final issue of *Fermilab Today* for
2009. *Fermilab Today* will begin publishing again
on Monday, Jan. 4. Happy holidays!

Photo Gallery

**Images from the potluck party
and holiday skits on Dec. 16**

Below are a few images from the inaugural
potluck party and Fermilab Follies, a selection of
comedy skits performed by Fermilab employees
and users, on Dec. 16. You can view more
images [here](#).



Children from Fermilab's daycare center sing
Christmas carols at the Potluck Party.



The Fermilab Singers perform during the Fermilab
Follies at the potluck party on Dec. 16.

Director's Corner

Happy holidays!

As we close this year, I
wish you every happiness
to you, your family and
friends and a prosperous
New Year!



Pier Oddone

2009 was very good year
for us and you should be
proud of all the
laboratory's
accomplishments across
a wide front. The
Accelerator Complex
broke all previous records and we obtained
beautiful results from the Tevatron and the
neutrino programs. The non-accelerator
experiments also did very well with new
results in the dark matter searches and the
Pierre Auger observatory. The LHC and CMS
turn on was very successful. We advanced
considerably in implementing the future
program with strong support by the
Department of Energy Office of High Energy
Physics. Minerva is nearly complete and DES
and NOvA are well on their way. MicroBooNE
is progressing well, Mu2e has CD-0 and LBNE
is on track to get CD-0 soon – these will be the
anchors of the program later in the decade.
The SCRF and ILC R&D continue
successfully. We made progress on the design
of Project X with exciting new ideas and we
will host the national program on muon collider
and neutrino factory R&D. Our national and
international collaborations are developing
strongly and will be essential for the success
of our future program. Our safety record that
was already quite strong has improved
noticeably in the last three months. We have
started a series of improvements in operations
that will allow us to be more efficient and
rigorous in the delivery of projects and
programs. And we even know how to have fun
as we demonstrated at the lab-wide pot-luck
party with performances last week, including
skits written and acted out by talented citizens
of our laboratory.

2010 promises to be an exciting but very
challenging year for us. Our program is now
quite extensive, with opportunities for
discovery and new projects under
construction. It will require our utmost
concentration and effectiveness. We certainly
cannot do everything that is in front of us by

Tuesday, Dec. 22

- Breakfast: bagel sandwich
- Chef's choice
- Grill menu
- Chef's choice
- Deli menu
- Assorted sliced pizza
- Closed

[Wilson Hall Cafe Menu](#)

Chez Leon

Wednesday, Dec. 23

- Lunch
- Closed

Thursday, Dec. 24

- Dinner
- Closed

[Chez Leon Menu](#)

Call x3524 to make your reservation.

Archives

[Fermilab Today](#)

[Result of the Week](#)

[Safety Tip of the Week](#)

[CMS Result of the Month](#)

[User University Profiles](#)

[ILC NewsLine](#)

Info

[Fermilab Today](#)

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suggestions to:

today@fnal.gov

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Today



Fermilab scientist Luciano Ristori performs a magic trick using a cup and a ball.



CDF co-spokesperson Rob Roser performs as the cowardly spokesperson in "The Wizard of Odd," a "Wizard of Oz" parody skit, on Dec. 16.

Safety reminder

Holiday safety tips

This can be a wonderful time of year. To keep it that way, the Fermilab Fire Department offers a few tips to remember while you travel to your holiday destination or prepare your home for the holidays.

- Slow down. Driving too fast for conditions contributes to many winter weather accidents. Allow extra distance for your vehicle to stop.
- Use caution on snow-covered roads and when blowing snow causes poor visibility. Watch out for "black ice" conditions where asphalt appears wet or normal but is actually covered in a thin layer of ice. Do not follow closely behind snow plows.
- When decorating a tree always use UL-approved lights. Do not overload the outlets or plugs. Check for broken/cracked sockets and frayed or bare wires. Replace these immediately. Only use approved lights and cords outside.
- Never use real candles on trees. When lighting candles for holiday celebrations or

ourselves and we depend, on every project, on the collaboration of many institutions. We appreciate and are thankful for our collaborators and friends throughout the community. Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Ask the Ethicist

Q&A about gifts and gratuities

Q. What should a FRA employee do with free items (pens, calendars, tote bags, radios and food) left by a vendor?

A. As mentioned in the [Dec. 18 issue](#) of *Fermilab Today*, the [Code of Conduct](#) prohibits employees from accepting any gratuity, gift or special favor from individuals or organizations with whom FRA is doing business or proposing to do business. The policy states that "except for advertising novelties of minimal value, gratuities shall be refused or returned."

This means that your actions depend on what the vendor leaves. Items such as calendars, pens and tote bags generally qualify as advertising novelties of minimal value and can be accepted. An item such as a radio probably does not qualify and should be refused or returned. Food is trickier. If you can politely refuse the food offered, you should do so. If the food is left behind, place it in a public area for general consumption. This helps remove the appearance of a conflict of interest.

Q. What should an employee do with a personal gift offered by a friend who works for a vendor to FRA?

A. Many employees regularly interact with the same vendor representative. Naturally, personal friendships can develop. A gift from a vendor-employed friend blends the line between your personal and professional life. In this situation you must remain conscious of the prohibition on gifts and gratuities and you must keep in mind the appearance of a [conflict of interest](#) created.

Whether you should accept a gift from a vendor-employed friend depends on your relationship with the person, the gift, the manner in which it was given and the appearance created by your acceptance. For example, if you received a personal gift at a separate function (e.g., dinner at your house); then you can probably accept the gift. If your interactions with a vendor only relate to their business at Fermilab, and they offer you a personal gift; you should probably decline or

general ambience, use only non-flammable holders and place candles where they won't be knocked over by children or pets. Don't leave candles unattended and do not place them near flammable objects or open windows.

- Use caution around fireplaces. Keep screens and doors in place to avoid sparks or "popping" from logs. Keep small children away from the area also. Never burn wrapping paper in fireplaces. Paper may throw off dangerous sparks and flash fires may result.

Special Announcement

East gate to close 1 to 5 a.m. starting Jan. 5

On Tuesday, Jan. 5, Fermilab will start closing the east gate at night from 1 to 5 a.m. Personnel called in during those hours to work on emergency repairs will be provided access. All other employees and users who wish to enter the site between 1 and 5 a.m. will need to use the main entrance on Pine Street. As the laboratory gains experience with emergency repair access during the night, Fermilab management will modify the procedures as necessary.

For more information about the new gate, please read the articles published in *Fermilab Today* on [Sept. 24](#) and [Sept. 29](#).

In the News

Key to the universe found on the Iron Range?

From the *Minnesota Star-Tribune*, Dec. 19, 2009

Eureka? U physicists are hopeful that what they have found at the bottom of an old iron mine is evidence of dark matter.

Two tiny dots encircled and projected on a screen in the University of Minnesota's physics building Friday afternoon signaled a potentially monumental discovery.

As a roomful of sometimes skeptical scientists looked on, a researcher stated his case for why a group of physicists believe that in a northern Minnesota lab at the bottom of an old iron mine a half-mile underground, they may have discovered a key to understanding the universe:

Dark matter.

It is believed to account for most of the universe's total matter. If its existence can be proven, it would go a long way toward unlocking

return the gift.

Clear cut answers are hard to come by. If you are offered a gift or have accepted a gift that you think may conflict with FRA policies, feel free to contact the Legal Office for specific advice.

Accelerator Update

Dec. 18-21

- Four stores provided ~62.25 hours of luminosity
- Store 7444 had an AIL of 306E30
- BRF19 cavity suffered a vacuum failure and was removed
- The Booster west anode power supply suffered some problems

* The integrated luminosity for the period from Dec. 14-21 was 51.27 inverse picobarns.

*NuMI reported receiving 6.38E18 protons on target during this same period.

[Read the Current Accelerator Update](#)

[Read the Early Bird Report](#)

[View the Tevatron Luminosity Charts](#)

Announcements

[Martial Arts classes begin Jan. 4](#)

[Atrium events - book through Office of Communication](#)

[Lederman Science Center holiday hours](#)

[International folk dancing meets Jan. 7](#)

[Scottish country dancing will meet every Tuesday through December](#)

[Fermilab December payroll Information](#)

[Sign up for spring Science Adventures classes](#)

[English Country Dancing - Jan. 3](#)

[Process Piping Materials, Fabrication, Examination & Testing \(ASME B31.3\) class offered in Feb. 3-4](#)

[East gate to begin closing 1-5 a.m. beginning Jan. 5](#)

[Fermilab Management Practices seminar beginning Feb. 11](#)

celestial mysteries that have baffled scientists.

"There is not enough gravity in observable matter to keep stars and galaxies together," said Marvin Marshak, the University of Minnesota physics professor who directs the lab at the Soudan underground mine near Ely. The fact that these spiraling entities don't fly apart suggests that something else holds them together, something humans can't see.

[Read more](#)

[Python Programming class offered Feb. 24-16](#)

[Give the gift of movies](#)

[Chicago Blackhawks discount tickets](#)

[FMLA and FTL policy updates](#)

[Prescription eyewear technician - location change](#)

[Additional activities](#)

[Submit an announcement](#)