

Calendar

Mon., December 18

2:30 p.m. Particle Astrophysics Seminar - Curia II
 Speaker: M. Voit, Michigan State University
 Title: Galaxy Clusters Scaling Relations and Cosmology
3:30 p.m. Director's Coffee Break - 2nd floor crossover
4:00 p.m. All Experimenters' Meeting - Curia II
 Special Topic: Rapid Transfers to the Recycler

Tue., December 19

3:30 p.m. Director's Coffee Break - 2nd floor crossover

THERE WILL BE NO ACCELERATOR PHYSICS AND TECHNOLOGY SEMINAR TODAY

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

Weather



Partly Cloudy 40°/21°

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

Current Security Status

Secou Level 3

Wilson Hall Cafe

Monday, December 18

- Wisconsin Cheese
- Corned Beef Reuben
- Stuffed Chicken Breast
- Mostaccioli Al Forno
- Chicken Oriental Wrap
- Pineapple
- Assorted Slice Pizza

[Wilson Hall Cafe Menu](#)

Chez Leon

Special Announcement

Potential J-1 Visa Issue

Fermilab employees and users who hold J-1 or J-2 visas sponsored by Fermilab should be aware of a potential visa issue. The US Department of State has informed Universities Research Association, Inc. (URA) that after December 31, 2006 when Fermi Research Alliance (FRA) takes over management of Fermilab, URA will no longer be authorized to sponsor J visas. However, the State Department has not yet authorized FRA to continue this sponsorship. It is expected that FRA authorization will occur, but there is the possibility of a gap between the end of URA visa sponsorship and the start of FRA sponsorship.

During this time, J-1 and J-2 visa holders traveling outside the United States need to be aware of the possibility that their visas may not be recognized by immigration authorities when they re-enter the United States after December 31, 2006. Fermilab has notified current J-1 visa holders of this potential issue and can provide them with documentation to attempt to address this problem if it arises. This issue does not affect the holders of other visa types. More information will be provided when it becomes available. Meanwhile, those with questions should contact Borys Jurkiw (x4363 or borys@fnal.gov), or Melissa Clayton (x 3933 or mclayton@fnal.gov).

Special Announcement

New Employment Website

With enormous help from computing expert Jean Reising, the Employment department has revamped the [Jobs at Fermilab](#) website to include Employer of Choice awards, employee profiles, and a focus on diversity initiatives. Excerpts are also included from the "Why Work at Fermilab?" online employee survey. Thanks to all who provided comments!

We are also looking to periodically update our employee profiles on the homepage. Please e-mail your nominations for employees who exemplify what it means to work at Fermilab to hsidman@fnal.gov.

We encourage you to view the updated

Safety Tip of the Week

CO: New monitor law



Carbon monoxide (CO) detectors range in price from about \$20 to \$60. Different models plug into the wall, are connected to the building's power line or run on batteries.

Illinois has a new CO detector law that goes into effect on [January 1, 2007](#). All buildings that use fossil fuel and have sleeping rooms or an attached garage must have an approved, operating CO detector installed within 15 feet of any sleeping area.

CO is produced by the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels such as natural gas, gasoline or wood. Typical sources include heating equipment, cooking apparatus and internal combustion engines. CO is odorless, tasteless and invisible. Symptoms increase with concentration and time. Overexposure is often mistaken as seasonal illness since symptoms include dizziness, nausea, headache, coughing, irregular heartbeat, pale skin, and red lips and ear tips. According to the National Safety Council, 200-300 people die each year in the United States from CO poisoning, while thousands more are sickened. Many victims are overcome in their sleep.

The Illinois State Fire Marshal plans to enforce the new law through anecdotal observations. If a local fire department is called to a home, firefighters will check to see if there are working CO detectors. If not, the homeowner will be given a warning. Firefighters will come back later and issue a citation if the owner still hasn't complied. Violators are subject to a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by up to six months in jail and a \$1,500 fine.

[Safety Tip of the Week Archive](#)

**Wednesday, December 20
Lunch**

Salmon and Spinach
Wellington
Mixed Greens with Radishes
and Raspberry Vinaigrette
Chocolate Cake with
Raspberry Sauce

**Thursday, December 21
Dinner**

Chestnut Soup with Cognac
Cream
Lobster Tail with Champagne
Butter Sauce
Spaghetti Squash with Green
Onions
Spinach Salad with
Pomegranates
Raspberry Parfait with
Assortment of Christmas
Cookies

[Chez Leon Menu](#)

Call x4598 to make your
reservation.

Archives[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

website and provide feedback on the content
and ease of use.

--Heather Sidman, *Employee Relations*

Readers Write**Aurora over Aurora?****Dear FT:**

I took this photo at about 8 p.m. Thursday
night from the E sector of the Main Ring. It
was very beautiful--the most brilliant display
we saw occurred while I was setting up the
camera (of course).

The northern lights are a result from solar
activity, and as beautiful as the Aurora is, it is
just as damaging to worldwide HF (short
wave) communications that rely on the
atmosphere to bounce the signals around the
world.

Also, the same light can be seen in a particle
accelerator. For an example, take a look at
this old [photograph](#) of the LBL 60-inch
cyclotron beam being unleashed into the air.

Enjoy,
Tim Koeth
Rutgers University

In the News**Physorg.com,
December 14, 2006:****Alternative theory of gravity explains large
structure formation -- without dark matter**

*In the standard theory of gravity—general
relativity—dark matter plays a vital role,
explaining many observations that the
standard theory cannot explain by itself. But
for 70 years, cosmologists have never
observed dark matter, and the lack of direct
observation has created skepticism about
what is really out there.*

Lately, some scientists have turned the
question around, from “is dark matter correct?”

Accelerator Update**December 13 - 15**

- Three stores provided 14 hours and 51
minutes of luminosity
- MI abort kicker power supply repaired
- MiniBooNE LCW pump repaired
- Store 5123 lost due to TeV quench
- TeV quenched during dry squeeze
preparation
- Pbar magnet's hose breaks
- NuMI has kicker problem
- MCenter T959 experiment coming online
today

[Read the Current Accelerator Update](#)

[Read the Early Bird Report](#)

[View the Tevatron Luminosity Charts](#)

Announcements**Time sheets due early for the holiday**

Some dates to keep in mind:

- Weekly time sheets for the week ending
December 24 are due in Payroll by 10 a.m.
on December 18.
- Revisions for the week ending December
17 are due in Payroll by 9 a.m. on
December 18.
- Weekly employee pay dates for the week
ending December 17 and December 24 will
be December 21.
- For monthly paid employees, the December
pay date will be December 21.

Professional Development

New classes are always being added to the
professional development schedule. For the
most up-to-date course offerings, go to [the
web page](#).

Scottish Country Dancing

Scottish Country Dancing will meet through
the holidays without any break on Tuesdays,
Dec. 19, 26, and Jan. 2, at Kuhn Barn.
Instruction begins at 7:30 p.m. and
newcomers are always welcome. Most dances
are fully taught and walked through, and you
do not need to come with a partner. Info at
630-840-8194 or 630-584-0825 or
folkdance@fnal.gov.

International Folk Dancing

International Folk Dancing will meet through
the holidays without any break on Thursdays,
December 21, 28, and Jan. 4 at Kuhn Barn.
Dancing begins at 7:30 p.m. with teaching and
children's dances earlier in the evening and
request dancing later on. Newcomers are
welcome and you do not need to come with a

to “is our standard theory of gravity correct?” Most recently, Fermilab scientists Scott Dodelson and former Brinson Fellow Michele Liguori demonstrated one of the first pieces of theoretical evidence that an alternative theory of gravity can explain the large scale structure of the universe.

“To definitively claim that dark matter is the answer, we need to find it,” Dodelson explained to PhysOrg.com. “We can do this in one of three ways: produce it in the lab (which might happen at Fermilab, the soon-to-start LHC, or ultimately the International Linear Collider), see a pair of dark matter particles annihilate and produce high energy photons (there are about a half dozen experiments designed to look for this), or see a dark matter particle bump a nucleus in a large underground detector (again, about 10 experiments are looking for this). Until one or more of these things happen, skeptics are still allowed. ... After they happen, skeptics will become crackpots.”

[Read More](#)

partner. Info at 630-584-0825 or 630-840-8194 or folkdance@fnal.gov.

English country dancing

English country dancing will continue on its current schedule of meeting the first Sunday afternoon of the month and will take place next on Sunday, January 7, at 2 p.m. Newcomers are welcome and you do not need to come with a partner. Please contact folkdance@fnal.gov or call 630-584-0825 or 630-840-8194.

Fermilab Flu shots

The Fermilab Medical Office is offering free flu shots. You are eligible to receive the free flu vaccine if you are an active, full-time regular employee or term and temporary employee. The following groups are not eligible: contractors, family members of employees, visitors/experimenters, seasonal employees, dayworkers and retirees. Please call Medical at x3232 to schedule a date and time.

[Upcoming Activities](#)