



Bulletin



Board

Cafeteria



Menu

Calendar



Page

Director's



News

Readers



Forum

Road



Report

Wednesday, Oct. 3, 2001

Partly cloudy with a slight chance of afternoon showers or thunderstorms. High 74. Low near 46.



High

Laboratory Director Browne's statement on traffic accident

On Tuesday there was a traffic accident on Diamond Drive on Laboratory property involving two Laboratory employees. Unfortunately one of the employees died at the scene. On behalf of the Laboratory community I want to express my deepest sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of the motorist.

I urge all Lab employees to remember to exercise caution whenever operating a motor vehicle. New Mexico loses too many of its citizens each year due to traffic accidents, and we all can play a part in reducing this tragic statistic.

During this time of increased construction activities and enhanced security measures we need to remain vigilant while driving. In keeping with our philosophy of "Safety First," it is essential that we drive with patience, courtesy and awareness of road conditions, whether commuting to work or traveling on personal time.



Employees' Scholarship Fund volunteer luncheon is today in Otowi Building

The Los Alamos Employees' Scholarship Fund Advisory Board and the not-for-profit Laboratory Foundation are looking for volunteers to visit area high schools and colleges to talk to students about the fund. Outreach to schools begins this week and continues through Nov. 2.

Area students can begin requesting scholarship application packets from the Laboratory Foundation as well as their school counselors, explained Julie Johnston of ES&H Training (ESH-13) and a member of the Los Alamos Employees' Scholarship Fund Advisory Board.

"More than 100 deserving students from throughout Northern New Mexico have received scholarships through this program since its inception," said Bob Romero of Actinide Chemistry Research and Development (NMT-11) and chairperson of the Los Alamos Employees' Scholarship Fund Advisory Board. "In my experience going out to schools to talk about the fund, I can tell you that employees at the Laboratory are strong supporters of this program and students are very much interested in it as well. It is an opportunity for Lab volunteers to form lasting relationships with students who are the Lab's future work force and talk about the world-class science and research we do at the Lab."

Johnston said the advisory board and the not-for-profit Laboratory Foundation, which administers the fund, conducts training workshops for Lab workers interested in going out to area schools in a seven-county area around Northern New Mexico. Informational materials also are made available to Lab workers to take to schools, she said.

A training luncheon open to all interested volunteers is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. today in the Otowi Building siderooms A and B.

Since the scholarship fund was started, more than \$260,000 in donations and pledges have been received from Laboratory employees and subcontract personnel. Financial aid is one criteria used to evaluate applicants.

Last spring, 38 high school seniors and undergraduate college students received college scholarships through the

scholarship fund.

Additional information about the Los Alamos Employees' Scholarship Fund and how to become a volunteer also is available from Tony Fox at the Laboratory Foundation at 992-0685, ext. 16. Or go to the Laboratory Foundation Web page at <http://www.lanlfoundation.org/> online. Or see the [May 14 Daily Newsbulletin](#).

--Steve Sandoval

Second Hispanic Heritage Month presentation is today at the Laboratory



Historian and genealogy researcher Jose Esquibel will talk about "New Mexico Genealogy and the Five Waves of Spanish Colonization, 1598-1821," at noon today as part of the Laboratory's observance of national Hispanic Heritage Month.

Esquibel's talk begins at noon in the Physics Building Auditorium at Technical Area 3 and is open to Lab workers. For more information, see the [Monday's Daily Newsbulletin](#).

Frontiers in Science

Laboratory scientist Keller speaks tonight in Los Alamos

Second talk in Lab public lecture series

Charles Keller, of the Los Alamos branch of the University of California's Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics (IGPP), will talk about his global warming research at 7:30 this evening at Los Alamos High School.

Keller's talk is part of the Frontiers in Science Public Lecture Series intended to inform the public about the diversity of research being conducted at the Laboratory.

Sponsored by the Laboratory Fellows, four free lectures a year are planned. Each lecture will be presented in Los Alamos, Santa Fe, Española and Taos to ensure that Northern New Mexico residents can attend. All lectures are scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

Keller is scheduled to present the same talk Thursday at Northern New Mexico Community College in Española and Oct. 17 at the Taos Convention Center.

William Feldman, of Space and Atmospheric Sciences (NIS-1), is the second scheduled speaker from the Lab in the series. Feldman will discuss his work on the Lunar Prospector and Mars Odyssey mission on Oct. 30 at Los Alamos High School. He will repeat his discussion on Nov. 1 at the Center for the Arts Theater at Northern New Mexico Community College in Española, Nov. 7 at the James A. Little Theater in Santa Fe and Nov. 8 in the Taos Convention Center.

For more information about the lecture series, contact Joe Ginocchio of Nuclear Physics (T-16) at 7-5630, or write to gino@lanl.gov by electronic mail. Also visit the public lecture series Web site at <http://stb.lanl.gov/fellows.html> online or see the [Sept. 18 Daily Newsbulletin](#).

Otowi bird netting project to be completed today

The Otowi bird netting project will be completed this evening. The west doors to the Otowi should be accessible Thursday morning by tenants and visitors. For more information, see the [Aug. 24 Daily Newsbulletin](#).

Using new smoke-free technology to reduce wood, slash at the Lab



Steve Mee, left, manager for environmental activities in the Laboratory's Cerro Grande Fire Rehabilitation Project Office, and Michael Dennis, health and safety officer for the CGFRP Office, discuss the progress of a test-burn using a new low-smoke burning method being employed by the Laboratory to dispose of tons of trees and slash that had been thinned in Technical Area 16 as part of fire mitigation efforts. To burn the thinned material, crews last week began using a new Air Curtain Destructor, and apparatus that blows a high-power "curtain" of air over wood as it burns inside a trench to more completely burn the wood and slash while producing virtually no smoke in the process.

The newly employed burners work, shown at right, similarly to low-emission "pellet stoves." A fan-driven curtain of air emanating from the red outlet above the trench introduces a steady oxygen supply into the fuel and helps ensure that nearly all fuel and gases are consumed. The wood burns at temperatures as high as 2,500 degrees Fahrenheit. The machines can burn up to 20 tons of wood an hour and produce about one tenth of the smoke and particulate material than is normally produced by traditional open burning.



At left, Tito Garcia of Anvil Welding Enterprises of Hernandez, N.M., directs another load of wood into the trench. The Laboratory awarded Garcia a \$1.6 million contract for wood burning and related services associated with wildfire mitigation activities this year and was part of the Laboratory's commitment to work toward increasing business opportunities for small business owners and operators in the Northern New Mexico Region.

Wood burning using the Air Current Destructor is scheduled to continue through the coming years. Thousands of tons of wood and slash have been thinned as a result of the Laboratory's on-going fire mitigation activities, which began before the Cerro Grande Fire. But Cerro Grande's flames damaged thousands of acres of Laboratory property, illustrating the need for sustained thinning operations. Since the new ACD machines are portable and easy to use, work crews will move to other area to burn wood after they finish burning the wood piles at TA-16. *Photos by James E. Rickman, Public Affairs*

On today's [bulletin board](#)

[Commuter's Corner](#) | [Parking areas around TA-3](#) | [Parking shuttle routes \(pdf\)](#) or [jpeg](#)

- **NEW!** Project Management Institute local Chapter will have monthly meeting Oct. 10
 - **NEW!** Story times at Mesa, White Rock branch public libraries
 - **NEW!** Youth artists wanted by Mesa Public Library
 - **NEW!** Found: pair of gold-rimmed glasses
 - LA Historical Society presents Kristin Embry Litchman on Oct. 9
 - Los Alamos Ski Club has free firewood available
 - Basic Records Management courses
 - New Blanket Purchase Agreements for building supplies, hardware and lumber products
 - Project Management Toolbox scheduled for Nov. 13-15
 - *Nature* is back
 - 2002 Shelter Alumni calendar extended deadline is Oct. 5
- New Blanket Purchase Agreement for Hewlett Packard Products
 - Fidelity Investments at Lab on Oct. 9-11
 - Project Management Institute sponsors "Risk Analysis and Management in Projects" training course
 - October art show, slide lecture at Mesa Public Library
 - Lean and Clean manufacturing conference on Oct. 29
 - MANA del Norte hosts Annual National Hispanic Heritage Month Scholarship banquet on Oct. 13
 - Call for Nominations for the Leadership Institute Oct. 21 - 26
 - YMCA classes
 - United Blood Service blood donations information
 - Laboratory Counsel reception area temporarily closed
 - Employees leaving Lab must attend termination presentation

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