

Daily **NEWS**Bulletin

Los Alamos National Laboratory
A Department of Energy/University of California Laboratory

Bulletin



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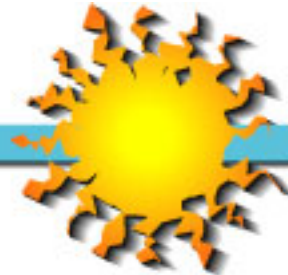
Road



Report

Thursday, Nov. 29, 2001

Partly to mostly sunny. Continued cold.
High 35. Low near 13.





Cold hard facts

Tuesday's frigid temperatures and steady snowfall didn't put a damper on a demonstration of Air Curtain Destructors that are being used at Technical Area 16 to dispose of wood and slash generated from Laboratory fire mitigation efforts. A group of interested persons from the U.S. Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service and the State Land Office braved the cold to see the virtually smokeless burners in action. The Air Current Destructors work similar to a home pellet stove by blowing a high-pressure current of air around the fuel as it burns -- making combustion much more efficient than conventional burning and producing almost no smoke in the process (as evident in the photo). During Tuesday's demonstration, Mike Pannell of the Cerro Grande Fire Rehabilitation Project Office (in the red hard hat and blue jacket) explains the burning process to the interested group. Also visible in the photo (in the green vest and white hard hat) is Tito Garcia of Air Curtain Destructors of NM Inc., who has a contract with the Laboratory to burn wood and slash throughout Laboratory areas for the next two years. Garcia also is the exclusive licensed distributor of the burners for the Southwestern United States. Those who saw the burners in action Tuesday seemed impressed and indicated that the machines could be a helpful tool for fuel mitigation activities within their respective agencies. *Photo by James E. Rickman, Public Affairs*

Laboratory winter closure begins Dec. 25

The Laboratory 2001 winter closure begins on Dec. 25 and continues through Jan. 1, 2002.

The Laboratory will reopen for business on Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2002. Monday, Dec. 24 is a regular work day.

The Human Resources (HR) Division has developed a frequently asked questions page containing information about the Lab's scheduled holiday closure. It includes a chart for employees on the A and B 9/80, 5/40 and 4/10 work schedules for exempt and nonexempt personnel, and how time and effort should be reported for upcoming holidays.

The online FAQ can be found at <http://www.hr.lanl.gov/HRSafety/HolidayFAQs20011rev.pdf> online. (Adobe Acrobat Reader required)

Helga Christopherson, HR Division leader, issued an [all employee memo](#) on this year's winter closure.

Additional questions about the holiday closure should be directed to division HR generalists.

--Shelley Thompson

De-stress December class is next Tuesday at the Wellness Center



Occupational Medicine (ESH-2) will offer a class for managing stress at the holidays at 1 p.m., next Tuesday, Dec. 4. The class is in room 106 at the Wellness Center at Technical Area 3.

The hour-long class, De-stress December, is free to Lab workers. Space is limited to 15 people and is on a first come first serve basis. To register, call the Wellness Center at 7-7166 or register at <http://drambuie.lanl.gov/~wellness/svc/classes/olreg.htm> online.

At the class, there will be exercises for participants to help them establish what is most important to them during the holidays and keep those activities and events as their priorities, Amy Anderson of ESH-2 explained.

The class is much needed after the recent terrorist attacks on the east coast, the war in Afghanistan and issues that are not yet resolved from the Cerro Grande Fire, said Anderson, who will lead the class.

"Also, many people at the Lab are dealing are dealing with issues of grief related to a number of untimely deaths in the community. The thought of any additional tasks such as, preparing for the holidays can be overwhelming," said Anderson.

Nancy and Donald Tubesing, the co-authors of the popular book "Kick Your Holiday Stress Habits," will provide suggestions for converting "holiday traps" into "holiday treasures" while focusing on what brings joy to the holidays. One copy of this book will be given away at the class, said Anderson.

Gift bags will be given to the 15 participants; they include ideas for managing issues related to family stress, seasonal depression, grief at the holidays, and the general strain of being over-committed during the holidays. Class participants also will receive a free audio compact disk developed by a clinical psychologist. The CD includes relaxation tips, exercise and soothing music. The Taubman Center, manager of 27 malls around the country, produced the CD to help people who are stressed by holiday shopping.

For more information about the class, call Anderson at 7-7339.

--Lecole Trujillo



Los Alamos News Letter

The latest Los Alamos News Letter is arriving in mailboxes this week. This issue includes a cover story on one of the Laboratory's R&D 100 award winners. Inside, Rich Mah, associate Laboratory Director for weapons engineering and manufacturing, focuses on people, and there's a special feature on Godzilla. There are more articles about winter safety and a story about the Lab supporting local businesses. LANL is distributed to all employees' mailboxes, or pick it up in the bright blue distribution boxes or access it on the web at <http://www.lanl.gov/worldview/news/LANL/112901.pdf> online. (Adobe Acrobat Reader required)



Counting jellybeans for the United Way

Barbara Canavan, left, of Nonproliferation and International Technology (NIS-8), and Greg Canavan of the Physics (P) Division took turns guessing how many jellybeans were in the glass jar on Wednesday in the Otowi Building cafeteria lobby at Technical Area 3. For a pledge or donation to the 2002 Laboratory United Way campaign, Lab workers could venture a guess and become eligible for a chance to win prizes. The jellybean jar moves to S-Site at Technical Area 16 today and back to the Otowi Building on Friday. The campaign is scheduled to end on Friday. As of Wednesday, University of California Lab employees had pledged or donated \$648,000 to the United Way. Photo by LeRoy N. Sanchez, Public Affairs

On today's [bulletin board](#)

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

- **NEW!** Mystery night for teens Friday at Mesa Public Library
- **NEW!** Environmental Restoration Project Town Hall Meeting on Dec. 5
- Self-inking Stop Mail stamps available
- Call for Nominations for the Leadership Institute Feb. 10-15, 2002
- Breakfast with Santa Claus on Saturday
- Fidelity Investments at Lab on Dec. 4 and 5
- JIT vendor news
- Los Alamos Blood Drive is Nov. 26-30
- Lost: two keys

- Family Strengths Network November workshop postponed
- Deadline for waste generation refresher training is Nov. 30
- Special advanced electronics training for Lab workers: 'Homeland Security'
- Computer Corner news
- Applications for Management Institute now being accepted
- NNMC/ARMA collecting new and used children's book
- Basic Records Management courses
- Employees leaving Lab must attend termination presentation

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