

Communiqué

LASO Celebrates Thanksgiving

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Thanksgiving is a very important holiday. It is a time to kick back and relax, watch a football game, and enjoy a huge feast. It's also time for us to give thanks for the things bestowed upon us and upon this great nation.

LASO folk got together Nov. 20th to celebrate

ing their food and teaching them to live off the land.



Today, around 280 million turkeys are sold for Thanksgiving.

Fifty percent of Americans put the stuffing inside the Turkey.



Twenty percent of cranberries eaten are eaten on Thanksgiving.



In October of 1777 all 13 colonies celebrated Thanksgiving for the first time.

President Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in Nov. as a national day of Thanksgiving in 1863 and Congress sanctioned Thanksgiving in 1941.

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the season. Everyone brought something for the meal and shared in the food and the fun.

Thanksgiving Fun Facts

The first Thanksgiving was a time when Native Americans helped Pilgrims by shar-

Honoring Our Nation's Veterans



The Los Alamos National Laboratory held a breakfast and flag-raising ceremony Nov. 6th to honor the nation's veterans.

Los Alamos Site Office Manager Don Winchell, a retired United States Navy captain, was one of the guest speakers. Winchell talked about his experiences as a commanding officer on a nuclear

submarine.

The LANL activities are cosponsored by the Lab's Veterans Committee and the Office of Equal Oppor-



tunity and Diversity.

Approximately 950 Lab employees and several-hundred subcontract personnel are veterans.

"This Veterans Day, we honor the sacrifices, perseverance, and heroism of our veterans in past conflicts," said David Swingle of Performance Feedback, Veterans Committee chairman.

Veterans Day activities also included the annual fun run and walk.



On Veterans Day, we pay tribute to the service and sacrifice of the men and women who, in defense of our freedom, have bravely

worn the uniform of the United States.

America's veterans answered the call when asked to protect our Nation from some of the most brutal and ruthless tyrants, terrorists, and militaries the world has ever known. They stood tall in the face of grave danger and enabled our Nation to become the greatest force for freedom in human history.

Our country is forever indebted to our veterans for their quiet courage and exemplary service. We also remember and honor those who laid down their lives in freedom's defense. These brave men and women made the ultimate sacrifice for our benefit. On Veterans Day, we remember these heroes for their valor, their loyalty, and their dedication.



Hundreds of Laboratory employees and subcontract personnel took part in the fun run and walk in Los Alamos Canyon



President-elect Obama and Iraq war veteran Tammy Duckworth, director, Illinois Department of veterans Affairs, arrive for a wreath laying ceremony at the Bronze Soldiers Memorial in honor of Veteran's Day, in Chicago.





Last High-Activity Drums Shipped to WIPP



On Nov. 13th, the last group of unvented high-activity drums (HADs) left the Los Alamos National Laboratory for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) near Carlsbad.

“We are proud of meeting our commitment to shipping these high activity drums to WIPP,” Los Alamos Site Office Manager, Don Winchell said. “This achievement continues to demonstrate our priority to meet our cleanup responsibilities that we made to the State and citizens of New Mexico.”

“This is a significant achievement for the Laboratory,” said Mark Shepard of the Waste Disposition Project. “It closes a chapter on the Feb. 2007 commitment to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board to prioritize characterization and disposal of the highest-risk transuranic (TRU) wastes stored at Technical Area 54, Area G,” he said.

To date, 228 of the originally identified 325 parent drums have been moved to WIPP. Through repackaging operations, an addi-

tional 54 daughter drums were generated resulting in a total of 282 HADs shipped to WIPP as part of this campaign.

“The risk profile from ongoing TRU waste operations at Area G has been lowered and that’s a benefit to the Laboratory and its neighbors,” Shepard said. A total of 23,215.8 plutonium equivalent curies have been removed from Area G during the operations, Shepard said.

The November shipment was the final delivery of this year to the Carlsbad plant.



LASO Manager Don Winchell congratulates LASO Environmental Operations Manager George Rael



RACER Web Site Up and Running

Los Alamos Site Office Manager Don Winchell, left, Michael Chamberlain, chief operating officer of the New Mexico Community Foundation, and New Mexico Environment Department Secre-



tary Ron Curry prepare to “cut the ribbon” on a new,



publicly available Web site and database called RACER or Risk Analysis, Communication, Evaluation, and Reduction.

The database is a response to concerns by surrounding communities about the environmental

impacts of Laboratory operations, especially after the Cerro Grande Fire. RACER was developed by Risk Assessment Corporation and the New Mexico Community Foundation in cooperation with NMED and the Laboratory.

LASO Conveys Title to Airport Tract



Los Alamos Site Office Manager, Don Winchell, officially transferred title to Tract A-4 to Los

Alamos County on Oct. 30th.



LASO Manager Don Winchell and LA County Council Chair Jim Hall complete the deal with a handshake

County and other officials joined Winchell and outgoing Senator Pete Domenici in a signing ceremony marking the official conveyance of the deed.

Congress authorized DOE to transfer the 89 acre parcel, along with others, from

the land base of Los Alamos National Laboratory to Los Alamos County in 1997.

Senator Domenici, who sponsored the authorizing legislation, was on hand to congratulate the parties for finishing a job that turned

out not to be so easy; toxic wastes and unexploded WWII munitions from an abandoned waste pile had to be removed before the lands could be transferred.

Domenici referred to the property as an invaluable asset to the growing community of Los Alamos.

The Pueblo of San Ildefonso also received parcels of land in the transfer legislation.

Winchell thanked LASO and LANL employees Vicki Loucks, Lisa Cummings, John Isaacson and Jennifer Nisengard for their efforts to close the deal.



Roadrunner is Fastest

Scientists want faster, more powerful high-performance supercomputers to simulate complex physical, biological, and socioeconomic systems with greater realism and predictive power.

Roadrunner, a new hybrid supercomputer, uses a video game chip to propel performance to petaflop/s speeds capable of more than a thousand trillion calculations per second.

"The computer is a speed

demon. It will allow us to solve tremendous problems," said Thomas D'Agostino, head of the National Nuclear Security

Administration, which oversees nuclear weapons research and maintains the warhead stockpile.

the world. Roadrunner placed fastest in the world running the LINPACK benchmark – the industry standard for measuring sustained performance.

Nov. 2nd.

Roadrunner reached a sustained 1.105 petaflops on "Petaflop/s" is computer jargon—peta signifying the number 1 followed by 15 zeros (sometimes called a quadrillion) and flop/s meaning "double-precision floating point operations per second."



Left to right: Sriram Swaminathan, Be Bergen, John Turner, Mike Lang, Tim Kelley, and Jamaludin Mohd-Yusof represent the programming teams that proved Roadrunner could achieve its performance goals.



The Roadrunner supercomputer at Los Alamos National Laboratory ranks No. 1 on the latest list of the TOP500 computers in



The Brown Bag Is Back Courtesy of ARAccontent



Even for those on the go, prepackaged options are now available that deliver nutrition as well as convenience. New shelf-stable options can be readily kept at the office for a quick lunchtime fix. For example, Del Monte's new Harvest Selections makes it easy to incorporate veggies into lunch -- a meal that often does not include a vegetable. Harvest Selections are

the office. Try adding spreads, such as hummus, to spice up traditional cold cut sandwiches. Hummus, left over from a weekend get-together, can be a healthy, delicious alternative to mayo on Monday's turkey sandwich as it is packed with flavor and is a



The "brown bag" lunch is once again becoming a popular fixture on the office desk. With recent economic factors influencing food purchases, America is looking to the brown bag to save a few bucks.



great source of protein.

When preparing weekend meals, search for recipes that involve pan-

try staples such as whole wheat pastas, brown rice, and vegetables. Look for recipes that utilize ingredients that can feed the entire family for \$10 or less and whip up inexpensive meals that dish out several portions. With the average serving costing just a little more than \$2, one portion is cheaper, and usually

wholesome microwaveable meal bowls that are packed with two full servings of vegetables per meal. Because they do not need to be refrigerated, the shelf-stable meals are perfect for stashing in your desk drawer or tote bag.

A few tweaks to yesterday's dinner can provide delect-



table work week lunches. Transform chicken or beef leftovers into healthy pasta dishes or vegetable packed salads that can easily be toted to

healthier than your typical slice of pizza.

healthier than your typical slice of pizza.



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Pueblo de San Ildefonso

General Hunting Season

Hunting season for the San Ildefonso Pueblo Tribal members

Deer Season

November 2 - December 31, 2008

Elk Season

November 2 - January 31, 2009

Tribal Contacts

Tribal Rangers:

Ray Flores, 670-7128

Brandon Gonzales, 670-6903

Governor's Office, 455-2273

BE AWARE!

BE SAFE!

In Case You Missed It



**Lessons Learned
Brown Bag Lunches**



LASO
Technical
Deputy
Manager
Dan Glenn
is helping
folks get a better under-

standing of safety incidents that have occurred at the Los Alamos National Laboratory....And meet some of their professional development training requirements.

Glenn has scheduled lunch sessions where

attendees review and talk through lessons learned from the various incidents.

The accident reviews and lessons learned lunches began Nov. 19th and run through Dec. 17th. Start time is 11:30 a.m. and they run for an hour.

INVESTING IN HUMAN POTENTIAL



LANL Foundation Receives \$3 Million

Los Alamos National Security, LLC (LANS), granted the Los Alamos National Laboratory Foundation \$3 million to

provide educational enrichment and educational outreach funding

for a wide variety of education programs in the seven Northern New Mexico counties of Los Alamos, Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Sandoval, Santa Fe, and Taos.

The Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration and LANS, the prime contractor for Los Alamos National Laboratory, are committed to regional science education and outreach to strengthen the economic diversification of Northern New Mexico.



Los Alamos County Eco Station Opens

The new Los Alamos County Eco Station is opened.

The Eco station is located at 3701 East Jemez Road, in Los Alamos, New Mexico adjacent to the old landfill.

The new transfer station looks different but residents and businesses will have all the services that they are accustomed to finding at the landfill, plus more. Now they can drop-off Household Hazardous and Electronic Waste at the new facility, rather than

have to wait for the once a year drop-off event in September.

The County expects residents will find the paved and enclosed transfer station a convenient and pleasant improvement the working face of the landfill. The new facility is designed and built to LEED Gold Standards.

Most of the existing landfill has been filled to final waste grades in anticipation of closure activities scheduled to begin next month.