



Roger Stoulenburgh 00002211

## Possible Hints of the Higgs Remain in Latest Analyses

The following news release was jointly issued on December 13 by BNL and Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. It describes the latest results from two experiments at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN that are searching for signs of the Higgs boson, a subatomic particle postulated by the Standard Model of particle physics as the source of mass for other particles.

Two experiments at the LHC have nearly eliminated the space in which the Higgs boson could dwell, scientists announced in a seminar held at CERN today. However, the ATLAS and CMS experiments see modest excesses in their data that could soon uncover the famous missing piece of the physics puzzle.

The experiments revealed the latest results as part of their regular report to the CERN Council, which provides oversight for the laboratory near Geneva, Switzerland.

Theorists have predicted that some subatomic particles gain mass by interacting with other particles called Higgs bosons. The Higgs boson is the only undiscovered part of the Standard Model of physics, which describes the basic building blocks of matter and their interactions.

The experiments' main conclusion is that the Standard Model Higgs boson, if it exists, is most likely to have a mass constrained to the range of 116-130 GeV by the ATLAS experiment, and 115-127 GeV by CMS. Tantalizing hints have



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### BNL's Howard Gordon Interviewed on Higgs

During the week of December 10-16, more than 3,600 news stories mentioned CERN and the Higgs particle after the ATLAS and CMS experiments at CERN's Large Hadron Collider (LHC) announced that they both saw possible glimpses of the Higgs around the same mass range. Hundreds of these articles quoted U.S. scientists and mentioned U.S. participation in LHC experiments. Among them: the *Christian Science Monitor* reporter Pete Spotts and New York City Associated Press-based reporter Malcolm Ritter interviewed ATLAS physicist Howard Gordon of BNL for their stories. Gordon also did live radio interviews with the BBC's *Five Live* program "Up all Night" and WUSB.

been seen by both experiments in this mass region, but these are not yet strong enough to claim a discovery.

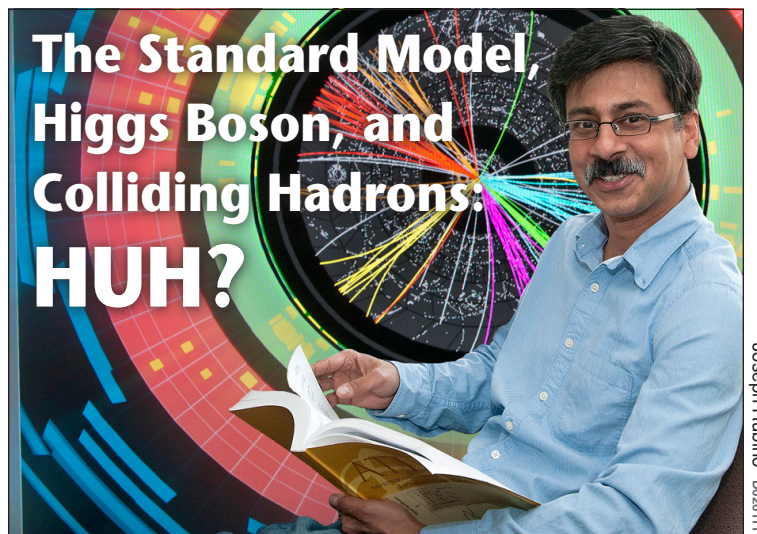
Higgs bosons, if they exist, are short-lived and can decay in many different ways. Just as a vending machine might return the same amount of change using different combinations of coins, the Higgs can decay into different combinations of particles. Discovery relies on observing statistically significant excesses of the particles into which they decay rather than observing the Higgs itself. Both ATLAS and CMS have analyzed several decay channels, and the experiments see small excesses

in the low mass region that has not yet been excluded.

Taken individually, none of these excesses is any more statistically significant than rolling a die and coming up with two sixes in a row. What is interesting is that there are multiple independent measurements pointing to the region of 124 to 126 GeV. It's far too early to say whether ATLAS and CMS have discovered the Higgs boson, but these updated results are generating a lot of interest in the particle physics community.

More than 1,600 scientists, students, engineers and...

See *Hints of Higgs* on p. 2



Joseph Rubino 02861111

### BNL Physicist Srin Rajagopalan explains physics in video series titled 'Physics for the 21st Century'

Even before the big press conference at the European Laboratory CERN on December 13, when scientists announced that they have narrowed (*see story left*) their search for that Higgs boson — if it does exist — waves of predictions, rumors, and commentary about the hunt at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) surfaced from sources ranging from Twitter to international news bureaus. Amidst all the excitement, if you still don't quite understand what is being said of elementary particles, fundamen-

tal interactions, the Standard Model, and of course, the elusive Higgs boson, don't worry: Brookhaven Physicist Srin Rajagopalan can catch you up.

Rajagopalan, the U.S. ATLAS Deputy Operations Program Manager Designate for the LHC, is a featured speaker in a video series titled, *Physics for the 21st Century*, that was developed to teach adults about advances in physics and the unanswered questions physicists are asking today. The series was funded...

See *Higgs, Huh?* on p. 2

Below, Kermit the Frog and company traveled to the ATLAS detector — which Rajagopalan discusses in the *Physics for the 21st Century* video series — in their newest feature film *The Muppets*.



Image courtesy of Disney

## CALENDAR

### OF LABORATORY EVENTS

- The BERA Store in Berkner Hall is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information on BERA events, contact Andrea Dehler, Ext. 3347, or Christine Carter, Ext. 2873.
- The Recreation Building #317 (Rec. Hall) is located in the apartment area.

### — REGULARLY —

#### Weekdays: Free English for Speakers Of Other Languages Classes

Beginner, Intermed., Adv. classes, various times. All welcome. Learn English, make friends. See <http://www.bnl.gov/esol/schedule.asp> for schedule. Jen Lynch, Ext. 4894.

#### Mondays: Yogalates

Noon-1 p.m. at the Rec Hall (Bldg. 317). Registration required, Ext. 2873.

#### Mon. & Thurs.: Kardio Kickboxing

\$5 per class. 12:15-1:15 p.m. in the gym (Bldg. 461). \$5 per class. Ext. 2873.

#### Mon., Tues., Thurs., & Fri.: Tai Chi

Noon-1 p.m., B'aven Cntr (Bldg. 30), N. Rm. Adam Rusek, Ext. 5830, [rusek@bnl.gov](mailto:rusek@bnl.gov).

#### Tuesdays: Hospitality Welcome Coffee

10:30 a.m.—noon at the Rec Hall (Bldg. 317). Meet over coffee. Children welcome. Ext. 2873.

#### Tuesdays: Pilates

Noon-1 p.m. at the Rec Hall (Bldg. 317). Registration required, Ext. 2873.

#### Tuesdays: Knitting Class

2-4 p.m. at the Rec Hall (Bldg. 317). Learn to knit/crochet — all skill levels. Free. Ext. 2873.

#### Tuesdays & Wednesdays: Zumba

Tuesdays: Noon-1 p.m., in gym (Bldg. 461). Wednesdays: 5:15-6:15 p.m., at the Rec Hall (Bldg. 317). Registration required, Ext. 2873.

#### Tuesdays: Toastmasters

Two monthly meetings: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m., Bldg. 463, Room 160. Guests and visitors welcome. [www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/toastmasters/](http://www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/toastmasters/).

#### Tuesdays & Thursdays: Aerobic Fitness

5:15-6:30 p.m. in the Rec. Hall (Bldg. 317). \$5 per class, or 10 classes for \$40. Kathy Schoenig, Ext. 2818.

#### Tuesday & Thursday: Aqua Aerobics

5:30-6:30 p.m., Pool (Bldg. 478). Registration required, Ext. 2873.

#### Wednesdays: Ballroom Dance

5:30, 6:30, 7:30 p.m., Brookhaven Center (Bldg. 30). Vinita Ghosh, Ext. 6226.

#### Wednesdays: Play Group

10 a.m.—noon at Rec Hall (Bldg. 317). Parents meet while infants/toddlers play. For events, see <http://www.meetup.com/BNL-Playgroup>, or call Ext. 2873.

#### Wednesdays: Yoga

Noon-1 p.m., B'aven Center (Bldg. 30). Free. Ila Campbell, Ext. 2206, [ila@bnl.gov](mailto:ila@bnl.gov).

#### 1st Wednesday of month: LabVIEW

1:30-3 p.m., Bldg. 515, 2nd fl. Seminar Rm. Free technical assistance from LabVIEW consultants. Ext. 5304, or Terry Stratoudakis, (347) 228-7379.

#### Thursdays: BNL Cycletrons Club

5 p.m., Brookhaven Center. First Thurs. of month. Andy Mingino, Ext. 5786.

#### Thursdays: Reiki Healing Class

Noon-1 p.m., Call for location. Nicole Bernholz, Ext. 2027.

#### Thursdays: Postdoc Social Night

6:30 p.m. ASAP Lounge (Bldg. 462). [www.bnl.gov/asap](http://www.bnl.gov/asap).

#### Thursday: Judo Class

7:30 p.m. Gym (Bldg. 461). Tom Baldwin, Ext. 4556.

#### Fridays: Family Swim Night

5-8 p.m. Pool (Bldg. 478). \$5/family. Ext. 2873.

# Guide Dogs in Training Visit Brookhaven Lab

Recently, a group of 19 dogs — including retrievers, shepherds, and poodles — and their puppy raisers were crossing the intersection of Upton Road and Brookhaven Avenue.

The puppies, from the Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind (GDF) in Smithtown, were visiting the Lab as part of their training program. Before heading to Fleming House to practice going up and down stairs, the group stopped at the firehouse where Lab firefighters sounded sirens, so the handlers could gauge the dogs' reactions. With the exception of some howling from a German shepherd, none of the dogs overreacted: a sure sign that they are well on their way to becoming excellent guide dogs.

"The Lab is the perfect place to conduct some initial training for the puppies," said Doug Butler, the GDF puppy advisor for eastern Long Island. "It's a realistic traffic environment, but more controlled, which makes it a good starting point for these puppies. We really appreciate the assistance



Joseph Rubino 05/6/11

the Lab has given the GDF. We always feel welcome here."

Brian Buckheit of BNL's Laboratory Protection Division (LP) has been coordinating visits with the GDF for several years. "I appreciate the help and support of my managers and colleagues in LP," said Buckheit. "First and foremost, we want our visitors to have a safe visit. Of course, spending time with these incredible dogs is easy to do. Every time they visit, I gain more admiration for the trainers. I'm happy we have a

nice partnership with the GDF."

It is important to know that the GDF supports every dog for life. If a dog doesn't make it through training, it is first offered back to the puppy raiser. If they cannot keep the dog, they may ask the GDF to offer the dog for adoption. Similarly, when a dog is no longer able to fulfill its duties for any reason, the GDF may handle the adoption to ensure the dog is placed in a good home.

"I currently have seven dogs at home," added Butler. "Not all

of them are from the GDF, but two are retired breeders who have produced many successful guide dogs and service dogs. One is a new breeder, and one is a puppy-in-training. Each and every one of them is special and thought of as a member of my family."

For more on this story, visit [www.bnl.gov/today/story.asp?ITEM\\_NO=2744](http://www.bnl.gov/today/story.asp?ITEM_NO=2744); for more on the Guide Dog Foundation or America's VetDogs, go to [www.GuideDog.org/](http://www.GuideDog.org/) or [www.VetDogs.org](http://www.VetDogs.org).

— Jane Koropsak

### Higgs, Huh? from p. 1

...by Annenberg Media, a division of the Annenberg Foundation, and produced by the Science Media Group at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. Howard Gordon, the current U.S. ATLAS Deputy Operations Program Manager and a Brookhaven physicist, also has a cameo in the video series.

Rajagopalan is featured in the second of eleven units, titled, "The Fundamental Interactions," and as the section begins, he exclaims enthusiastically about the ongoing operations at the LHC, "We are going where no one has gone before!"

For the past few years, Rajagopalan has managed development for both electronic hardware and software triggers to capture and record data from the nearly 20 million proton-proton collisions that occur every second in the ATLAS detector at the LHC. Brookhaven is the host for the U.S. ATLAS collaboration, which consists of scientists from more than 40 U.S. institutions who, amongst other things, are sifting through the data in search of that elusive Higgs boson — a predicted yet unfound particle that theorists believe is the source of mass for some subatomic matter — and any other signals for new physics.

### Hints of Higgs from p. 1

...technicians from more than 90 U.S. universities and five U.S. national laboratories take part in the CMS and ATLAS experiments, the vast majority via an ultra-high broadband network that delivers LHC data to researchers at universities and national laboratories across the nation.

DOE's Office of Science and the National Science Foundation provide support for U.S. participation in these experiments. Fermilab is the host laboratory for the U.S. contingent on the CMS experiment, while BNL hosts the U.S. ATLAS collaboration.

Over the coming months, both the CMS and ATLAS experiments will focus on refining their analyses in time for the winter particle physics conferences in March. The experiments will resume taking data in spring 2012.

In 2010, Senior News Reporter for *Nature* Geoff Brumfiel and Executive Producer for the Science Media Group Alex Griswold asked Rajagopalan to join in the project. Soon after he agreed, crews arrived at Brookhaven for two days of filming before filming him at CERN as well.

"Speaking to a camera lens was a unique experience," Rajagopalan recalled. "Sometimes I had to do a lot of takes, which got frustrating, but I learned to just behave as I normally would, and let the editors take care of the rest.

"It's very important that scientists make an effort to reach out to the public and explain their work," Rajagopalan continued. "I hope these videos educate the general public on big science, so people appreciate the importance and merit of our research, and why it is so crucial to invest in science."

With the excitement from the LHC announced on December 13 and much more to come — even the Muppets traveled to the ATLAS detector in their newest feature film — find out what the science is all about from fellow-BNLer Rajagopalan in *Physics for the 21st Century* for free online: [http://learner.org/courses/physics/unit/unit\\_vid.html?unit=2](http://learner.org/courses/physics/unit/unit_vid.html?unit=2).

— Joe Gettler

### 'Stop, Think, Act, Review! Safety Is the Thing for You!'

Site Resources Division (SRD) Supervisor Carl Booker (left) of Custodial Services in the North Complex presented the prize of a gift certificate for Applebee's to SRD custodian Joshua Rowland, who works in the Alternating Gradient Synchrotron area and won a safety jingle competition that Booker arranged during the summer of 2011. Rowland's jingle states: "Stop, Think, Act, Review! Safety is the thing for you!"



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### Family and Medical Leave Administration

By Denise DiMeglio, Manager, Benefits

The Benefits Office currently administers Family and Medical Leave (FML) for employees. Effective January 1, Brookhaven Science Associates (BSA) will outsource FML administration to The Hartford. This change is as a result of increased use of FML.

As the FML administrator, The Hartford will:

- Determine if the employee is eligible for FML
- Send the FML form to the employee
- Receive and review the completed FML form
- Request additional medical documentation if necessary
- Approve or deny the FML request
- Track FML usage

To be eligible for FML according to federal and state labor laws, an employee must be employed by BSA for 12 or more months and have completed 1,250 hours of service during the 12-month period preceding the leave.

FML may be available for absences due to:

- 1. Employee's own serious health condition
- 2. Birth/care of the employee's child
- 3. Placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care
- 4. Care of a family member with a serious health condition who is incapable of self-care due to mental/physical disability (family member includes the employee's spouse, parent, child under age 18, or child 18 or older if incapable of self-care due to mental/physical disability)
- 5. Any "qualifying exigency" (as the Secretary of Labor shall, by regulation, determine) arising out of the fact that the spouse, son, daughter, or parent of the employee is on active duty (or has been notified of an impending call or order to active duty) in the Armed Forces, including a member of the Reserves or National Guard in support of a contingency operation
- 6. Care by the spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin of a member of the Armed Forces, including a member of the National Guard or Reserves undergoing medical treatment, recuperation, or therapy for serious injury or illness that occurred anytime during the five years preceding the date of treatment.

The maximum allowable FML is 12 weeks in a rolling 12-month period for items 1 through 5 above. The maximum period is 26 weeks in a rolling 12-month period for item 6 above. (Such military caregiver leave is available during a single 12-month period during which an eligible employee is entitled to a combined total of 26 weeks of all types of FML.)

More information about FML is available through the Benefits Office at Ext. 7516.

To begin the FML process, the employee must call The Hartford at (888) 598-7462. Representatives from The Hartford are available Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., to walk employees through the process and answer questions.

## BERA News

The Recreation Hall will no longer be open for general use on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday evenings. Regularly scheduled English classes, Fitness programs, Hospitality Coffee, and the Play Group will continue as before. For assistance, call the Recreation Office, Ext. 2873, or see [www.bnl.gov/bera/](http://www.bnl.gov/bera/).

### Fitness is Now!

The 2012 Body Building Club Membership Drive & Open House will be at the Gym, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Jan. 19, 25 & 30. Or, send your \$25 check, payable to BERA BBC, to Joanne Rula-Delles, Bldg. 400A. Include your name, life number, and email. Family members or guests/contractors must see Rula-Delles to show proof of their medical insurance and to receive additional badge. More information on BERA Fitness Classes is available at [www.bnl.gov/bera/](http://www.bnl.gov/bera/).



### Retirees, Keep in Touch — Join BREA

The purpose of the Brookhaven Retired Employee's Association (BREA) is to further retiree interests and benefits; to build closer community ties between BNL and its neighbors; to publish a newsletter providing communication with retired employees and to encourage activities for social interaction in the retirement community. The BREA website, [www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/brea/default.asp](http://www.bnl.gov/bera/activities/brea/default.asp), gives information on the latest activities and meetings, and photos of the annual get-together luncheons held in early summer. Here are some photos taken at the 2011 luncheon. Many more are all on the web at the site above, click on Annual Luncheons.

from dawn to dusk in all aspects of life — mundane, athletic, dangerous, and breathtaking. It perfectly distilled city life of that time, and was enthusiastically received by audiences in Europe and the USA. However, communist party officials were critical of Vertov and over time their support dwindled so that although for a decade he had been, along with Sergei Eisenstein, the leading theoretician of the new art of cinema, by the end of this period, his career was effectively over. Six years after his death from cancer, in 1954, French documentary filmmakers incorporated Vertov's theory and practice into their "Cinéma vérité."

In 1984, three New York cultural organizations put on the first American retrospective of Vertov's work, with seminars and curated screenings of films by his contemporaries and his later followers worldwide. Dziga Vertov was revealed as the most innovative and excitingly free with the new medium. *Man with a Movie Camera* did the most to establish Vertov as the greatest of pioneer filmmakers.

Voxare's Quartet's selections are from Mosolov: *String Quartet No. 1*; Prokofiev: *String Quartet No. 2* and *Visions Fugitives*; Shostakovich *String Quartets Numbers 1, 2, 3, 7, 11, 12*; and Stravinsky, *Three Pieces for String Quartet*. — Jane Koropsak

### BSA Noon Recital, 1/11 Voxare Quartet Meets Man with A Movie Camera

The Voxare string quartet will perform Soviet modernist music to accompany a screening of Dziga Vertov's 1929 groundbreaking silent film, *Man with a Movie Camera*. This recital will be held on Wednesday, January 11, 2012, at noon in Berkner Hall. Sponsored by Brookhaven Science Associates, the company that manages the Lab, the concert is free and open to the public. All visitors to the Laboratory 16 and older must bring a photo I.D. Documenting urban scenes



in Moscow and the Ukraine, the camera captured citizens

### Classified Advertisements

Current job openings and a statement of job placement policy at Brookhaven National Laboratory are available on the homepage at [www.bnl.gov/HR/careers/](http://www.bnl.gov/HR/careers/). To apply for a position, go to [www.bnl.gov](http://www.bnl.gov) and select "Search Job List." For more information, call Ext. 2882.

### Motor Vehicles & Supplies

- 07 BMW 328XI – 52K mi. all-whl-dr, 2-dr coupe, a/t, CD-iPod, Comfort Access pkg. Excel cond, must sell. \$21,000 neg. 747-3495.
- 07 CADILLAC DTS – 37.85K mi. MINT cond. White w/blk leather int. See kbb.com for equipment. \$16,500. 754-0422.
- 07 VOLKSWAGEN GTI – 48K mi. 2007 GTI – black, four door, new tires, great cond. \$14,000 neg. Vera, Ext. 5843, 922-1664.
- 00 NISSAN ALTIMA – 122K mi. first owner, well maintd, green. \$3,000 neg. 431-4122 or dula@aseancapital.com.
- 97 MAZDA 626 – 72K mi. loaded, tan leather int, pwr m/roof, alloy whls, new brakes, tune up, new w/shield. \$4,200 neg. 681-9800.
- 96 NISSAN ALTIMA GXE – 147K mi. gd cond, 4cyl, 4dr, a/t, a/c, p/b, l/s, new p/s, pump/stereo/brakes, \$1,500 neg. 929-6571.
- 95 BUICK LESABRE – 91K mi. New struts, water pump, brake lines, AC. New usb/mp3 am/fm cd. On site. \$250 finder's fee if you help me sell this car. \$3,250. Ext. 3932.
- 87 DODGE POWER RAM 150 – 0 mi. 4x4, 360 motor, runs well, 8'6" Meyers Snow Plow. \$2,500. Barbara, Ext. 2329.
- TRAILER – 4 ft x 8 ft storable fold up trailer, w/spare tire & side rails – \$200 or best offer. Pat, 922-1664 or pzoccoli@bnl.gov.

### Boats

9' DYER DHOW DINGY – No 3713 Cir 1967, full sailing rig, new sail, 2Hp Honda outboard '06. \$1,000 neg. Fred, 849-2520.

15' N/A N/A – Boats: 3 different models, 15'-20'L, u-pic-up you can have, restore or use for parts. Adrienne, Ext. 7525.

### Furnishings & Appliances

2 TVs – 26" esa/\$20; 15" Sharp/\$10. Price reduced. Ext. 7235 or fitz@bnl.gov.

AIR CONDITIONER – Sharp 8000 Btu/hr – 110V, 6 months old, \$75. 630-240-6590.

ASHLEY HOME CHINA CABINET – w/glass upper/lighting, bottom storage, sacrifice \$890 cabinet. 767-5205.

BEDROOM SET – Girl's set includes twin trundle bed, dresser, desk, chair. White Oak. Asking \$500. Laurie, 419-6854.

PARSONS D/R CHAIRS – black, two sets of 4, one set silk-like, one set jacquard, hardly used, \$125/set, \$225 for all. 744-8673.

### Volunteer for BNL Science Bowl, 1/28

Volunteers are needed for the BNL High School Science Bowl on Saturday, January 28. Those with science backgrounds are particularly important to act as moderators and science judges.

Other are needed to be time-keepers, scorekeepers, judges, runners, and for general crowd control.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Cathy Osiecki, [cathyo@bnl.gov](mailto:cathyo@bnl.gov) or Ext. 3054.

- BROYHILL WALL UNIT – 3 pc, lighted ctr curio w/glass shelves. 90W, 75.5H x 18D. Ask \$650. Pickup only. Photos. Ext. 5037.
- DRESSERS – 2 med oak, 1/high chest, 1/low double, gd cond, ask/\$500. 878-2425.
- MATTRESS – Serta, king sz, perf. sleeper w/pillow top. 10 mo. old. \$250obo. 630-240-6950.
- MEDICAL EQUIPMT – Clinitek Status@ Analyzer, Urinalysis machine detects disease states, \$400. Diagnostic Set, \$450. Exam tables, \$1,075/ea. 516-505-076.
- OUTDOOR TEAK SHOWER – H/C w/soap dish, rainfall shower head. Never used. pic. \$150. Sam, Ext. 2410.
- TABLE & CHAIRS – Tanish gold table set, 4 matching chairs. Table top glass. gd cond. Ask \$100/neg. Ext. 7216.

### Audio, Video & Computers

13" MACBOOK – 2.4GHz, 4GB RAM, 250GB HD, OSX Lion, like new cond, box incl, 2010MY. \$800/firm. Mark, Ext. 3970.

2 TV'S – 26" esa/\$20; 15" Sharp/\$10. Lynda, Ext. 7235 or fitz@bnl.gov.

8MM PROJECTOR – Bell and Howell, excel cond. pic avail. \$35. Chris, Ext. 7365.

HP NOTEBOOK – Pavilion DM3, core 2 1.3 GHz, 13.3" display, 4GB ram, 320GB HD, extra new batt, excel cond, \$250. 413-3698.

SHARP 19-IN 720P LCD HDTV – like new, LC-19SB24U, 16:9 ATSC/NTSC/QAM Tuner, HDMI input, more, \$160. jshah@bnl.gov.

### Miscellaneous

BABY STROLLER – Folding stroller with hood, cushioned seat, sturdy with swivel wheels. \$25. Ext. 5080, 766-7701.

BASEBALL CARDS – Hundreds of 1970-80's baseball cards for sale. Excel cond. \$250 or best offer. Townsend, Ext. 4248.



Pledge to give to the United Way by Friday, January 6... [intranet.bnl.gov/unitedway](http://intranet.bnl.gov/unitedway)

BASSINET – Eddie Bauer Wooden Musical/\$20, great cond. kmudi@bnl.gov.

CAMPING TRAILER – 33', '88 Layton, excel cond, no leaks, everything works, sleeps 8, ask/\$4,000. Barry, 560-4347.

DOORS – A contractors dream. Many doors, various shapes, sizes, and make. Price: a donation. Adrienne, Ext. 7525.

DR. ROCK – Sheetrock, Spackle, Painting Mention BNL receive 10% discount Call Joe. 447-5838.

MEDELA BREAST PUMP – double pump w/all accessories & extras, \$160. 475-1297. Nina, Ext. 5894 or vbri1@aol.com.

OPERA TICKETS – 2 MET Opera Balcony tickets - the Enchanted Island, w/Plácido Domingo, Jan. 12, 2012. \$71.50/each plus bus from North Shore Public Lib. Ext. 7761.

8' POOL TABLE – mahogany, w/leather pckets, wall rack. Must sell, moving. Excel cond. Orig\$5K, now \$850. 767-5205.

POOL LADDER – Available for above ground pool. \$50. Nina, Ext. 5894.

MICROWAVE LUNCHBOX – Ltwtght, portable, removable cooler. Plugs into AC, DC. Like new \$50. 395-6784.

TICKETS – NY Rangers vs Nashville Predators, 1/17, 7:30, in MSG. 2 tickets @ \$65 ea face val. Sec 314, row F, seats 3&4. Ext. 3108.

### Car Pool

PLAINVIEW LIBRARY – Estab carpool needs 4th, 8 am-4:30 pm, leave Plainview-Old Bethpage library @7:15 Elliott Ext. 2495, Pat Ext. 6195. Leon, Ext. 2682.

### Happenings

NYC MOTORCYCLE SHOW – Cycletrons Bus trip to the Javits, Sun 1/22/12 sold out. List for a 2nd. bus is at BERA Store. Tx \$24pp round trip. Frank, Ext. 2022.

SHEN YUN PERFORMING ARTS – Jan 11-15, Lincoln Ctr, world's premier classical Chinese dance & music, shenyun-performingarts.org. georgewe@bnl.gov.

### Free

17" MONITOR – HP 1702 flat screen monitor. Data Shield P125 surge protector. Chris, Ext. 7365 or stelmach@bnl.gov.

2012 SHEN YUN DESK CALENDAR – the classical Chinese dance desk calendar, please contact me if you like to have one. George, georgewe@bnl.gov.

## CALENDAR

**Friday, 12/23**  
Christmas Eve Observed  
Lab Holiday, Half Day  
— WEEK OF 12/26 —

**Monday, 12/26**  
Christmas Day Observed  
Lab Holiday  
No Bulletin this week.  
— WEEK OF 1/2 —

**Monday, 1/2/2012**  
New Year's Day Observed  
Lab Holiday  
No Bulletin this week.  
— WEEK OF 1/9 —

**Wednesday, 1/11**  
\*BSA Noon Recital, String Quartet  
Noon. Berkner Hall. The Voxare String Quartet will play music of Soviet-era Russian composers. This free public concert is sponsored by Brookhaven Science Associates. See notice at left.  
— WEEK OF 1/16 —

**Monday, 1/16**  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
Floating Holiday: Lab Closed  
**Wednesday, 1/18**  
474th Brookhaven Lecture  
4 p.m. Berkner Hall. Oleg Gang of the Center for Functional Nanomaterials will speak on a topic to be announced. All are welcome to this free lecture, open to the public.  
**NOTE: No IBEW Meeting in December 2011.** Date for January 2012 meeting to be announced.

### Swim To Panama!

Every year, swimmers at the BNL pool join forces to complete a "virtual swim" to a faraway place. This year will continue the swim from last year's endpoint in Belize and follow the coast to Bocas del Toro, Panama. The swim will run from January through March. Individual and group lengths are tallied periodically and converted to miles, which are tracked on a "Virtual Swim Map" posted at the pool. No minimum numbers of lengths need to be swum. All are welcome to join in — employees, families, retirees and guests — a great New Year's Resolution! Sign up with the lifeguards.

### Arrivals & Departures

- Arrivals —
- Patrick Harris ..... Magnet
  - Kurian Kuttiyiel ..... Chemistry
  - Thomas Legere ..... PPM
  - August Piazza ..... ITD
- Departures —
- Ashwin Sopori ..... Counterintell.
  - Shengliang Zhao ..... Chemistry

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### Santas, Santas Everywhere Photo Negative Numbers

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# Santas, Santas Everywhere

## BNL Retiree Joan Depken's Santa Smorgasbord

Those who remember Joan Depken, who retired from the Lab in 1997 as a much appreciated senior administrative secretary in the Alternating Gradient Synchrotron's Experimental Planning & Support Division, will not be surprised to learn that she has a whole list of unexpected hobbies. In addition to her interest in history and work for the Rocky Point Historical Society, since retiring, she has completed many more of her exquisite "counted cross-stitch" pictures, trained and qualified at the Cornell Cooperative Extension as a master gardener, and, with her husband, Walter, has continued to add to their stunning collection of Santa Claus figurines.

"We started with a creche from each of our parents, with some very ancient Santas from Germany (Walter), and Wales (Joan), and an antique feather tree, and we went on from there," said Joan. "At first we collected Santas from nearby, but later we joined the 'Golden Glow of Christmas Past,' organization to visit specialized stores in places like Lansing, Milwaukee, and Louisville. We met crazy collectors like ourselves and had a wonderful time."

Each year, the Depkens spend about a week taking all the boxes of packed-away Santas down from the attic, and at least two

weeks in arranging them in new displays. "We like to change several of our arrangements around each year, so we get a different view of the Santas," said Joan. "But we keep some of our old favorites together, like the village from Erzebirge, Germany, that is traditionally crafted by slicing the wood to make houses, horses — everything — with a distinctive flat look, or the 'thimble' houses in my English Christmas village."

Walter explained that feather trees started being made during a time on the plains of Germany when trees were scarce and geese were plentiful. "Some of these trees are quite sturdy and some are so delicate," he said. "We've now got five, including one with ornaments covered in gold. One reason we like them is that they don't drop needles!"

There's one snag to having such a magnificent collection: putting them away. "First, you just want to sit and enjoy them. Later, you keep them up because you can't bear the thought of the work of repacking and getting them back in the attic," Joan said. "Then, you realize that early bulbs are shooting up, the Easter bunny is on his way, and you'd better get on with it!"

— Liz Seubert

Photos: Roger Stoutenburgh, numbers listed inside



## the Bulletin

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