

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

DOE resubmits permit applications to Nevada

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced it is re-submitting to the State of Nevada, permit applications for scientific work to be done by DOE at Yucca Mountain, Nevada.

These permits are required for DOE to conduct Congressionally-mandated studies to determine whether Yucca Mountain is suitable for a deep, geologic disposal site for spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste.

"We want to get on with the scientific studies at Yucca Mountain with the state's close oversight," said John Bartlett, DOE's director of the office of

Civilian Radioactive Waste Management. "And as soon as the state grants these permits and we can begin these new on-site studies, I will recommend funding at levels sufficient to assure the state can provide appropriate oversight and review of DOE's technical activities."

Under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, as amended, DOE is authorized to provide grant funds to the State of Nevada and affected units of local governments for oversight. Since the 1982 Act was passed, the State of Nevada has received approximately \$41 million from DOE for this purpose.

Caliente's Christmas trees

Christmas season is rapidly approaching. If you wish to cut your own tree this year, apply now by mail and beat the "Christmas Rush" to reserve your tree, otherwise you may be disappointed.

Only 5,000 Christmas trees will be available for cutting from Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands in Lincoln County. The woodlands in this area can only support the cutting of 5,000 trees per year to maintain a sustained yield basis.

Applications will be available on Oct. 9, at the Bureau of Land Management's Las Vegas District office, 4765 West Vegas Drive and the Caliente Resource Area office, U.S. 93, Caliente. Mail-in applications will be accepted through Nov. 16 on a "first come, first served" basis. You may also send a post-

card to BLM, P.O. Box 237, Caliente, NV 89008, and they will send you an application. Over-the-counter sales will be conducted at the Caliente office from Oct. 1 through Dec. 21, or until all the allotted tags have been sold. Caliente office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Tags are \$3 each. You can purchase only one tag (one tree) per application per family. An individual may purchase up to four additional tags (trees) for friends and relatives on one check or money order by completing separate applications for each friend or relative. Each application must have a different name and address.

For more information, call the Caliente office at (702) 726-3143.

Ski conditioning classes offered

The city of Las Vegas Stewart/Mojave Sports Center, 275 N. Mojave Road, offers ski conditioning classes on an ongoing basis throughout the winter season. Classes run each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7:45 p.m. Registration is accepted anytime at a cost of \$2 per session or \$15 monthly. Call 386-6563 for more information.

Faculty Focus: Dr. Frances Beckwith

by Eileen Brady
Reporter

At 29 years old, Dr. Frances Beckwith has authored two books and has recently had three more accepted for publication. Beckwith, a professor of philosophy, keeps himself busy between teaching classes and writing books.

"I've got my hand in so many cookie jars. I've got to slow down," he said.

Beckwith received his bachelor's degree from UNLV. He obtained his first master's degree in theology in 1985 from the Simon Greenleaf School of Law. His thesis about the Bah'i religion was published as a book titled "Bah'i" when he was 24 years old.

He recalled an incident when he was asked to do a television program in New York about the book. Because he was so young the host asked him where his father was. He had to tell him, "No, I'm the guy."

Beckwith received his second master's degree and his Ph.D. in philosophy from Fordham University. His doctoral dissertation was published as his second book, "David Hume's Argument Against Miracles." It is a critique of contemporary philosophers' arguments against miracles, a topic



Yell Photo / Eileen Brady

Dr. Francis Beckwith

Beckwith says is popular in the philosophy of religion.

Two of the three books recently accepted for publication are co-authored with Steven E. Parrish. The first, "The Mormon Concept of God," is about the philosophical implications of the Mormon concept of a finite God. The second, "See the Gods Fall," is a popularized version of the first.

He has also co-authored a book with Norm Geisler called, "A Matter of Life and Death." It is a question-and-answer book about abortion and euthanasia. A book he wrote entitled "Abortion and Argument" has not yet been accepted.

"After that, that's it for a while because my wife never sees me," he said.

Beckwith teaches Reasoning

and Critical Thinking and Contemporary Moral Issues. Because there are so many contemporary issues to deal with, he changes the topics each semester.

He said he enjoys teaching Contemporary Moral Issues because people have stronger opinions about recent issues.

"Even if they don't have well-articulated positions, they do have some sort of notion of what they believe," he said.

Beckwith said his job as a teacher is not to convince his students of his views, although he said they probably figure out what he feels after a while. He said he believes they should "come away knowing what people who disagree with them think. And they should be able to articulate their own beliefs better."

911 information

If there is a need to get in touch with the police for an emergency situation, call 911 not 8-911.

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