

Sciencenter marks 30th anniversary with scavenger hunt

Staff report

The Sciencenter invites the community to celebrate science in Ithaca by participating in a 30th Anniversary Scavenger Hunt, open to the public for 30 days, Sept. 20-Oct. 20.

The unique scavenger hunt will include a variety of questions and challenges. Participants will embark on a fact-finding mission around Ithaca, conducting science activities and learning historical facts about the Sciencenter.

"Everyone is going to enjoy this community-based scavenger hunt. It's easy and packed with fun science activities for the entire family," said Charlie Trautmann, executive director.

Starting Friday, everyone can download the scavenger hunt form online at www.sciencenter.org/whatsnews/30thanniversary.asp or pick up a copy at the Sciencenter front desk.

Participants will have 30 days to complete the scavenger hunt — all entries must be submitted by Oct.

20. Those with all the correct answers will be entered into a raffle to win prizes. The grand prize is an exclusive tour of the Ithaca Police Department's Criminal Investigations Unit including a guide through a "crime scene" equipped with real-life tools that investigators use in the field, plus a one-year Cosmos level membership (the Sciencenter's most comprehensive membership level). First, second, and runner-up prizes will also be awarded — check the website for

more details.

The Grand Prize ties in to the Sciencenter's fall exhibition, "Crime Lab Detective," where kids of all ages can become investigators as they scrutinize evidence like fingerprints and DNA, and conduct forensics lab activities to determine which of five suspects committed the crime.

The winners of the 30th Anniversary Scavenger Hunt will be drawn on Oct. 28, and contacted via phone and e-mail. To learn more, go online to

www.sciencenter.org/whatsnews/30thanniversary.asp.

The Sciencenter is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors, \$6 for children (3-17 years), and free to members and toddlers (0-2 years). For membership information, current programs and activities, visit www.sciencenter.org. The Sciencenter is a member of the Discovery Trail in Ithaca.