

Material World

Volume 3, Issue 11- November 2010

Recognition

- **Karen Bleus:** Fun & Games Winner (Pompano)
- **Heather Putnik:** Fun & Games Winner (Turkey Lake)
- **Wing Heung & Roger Gobin:** Helping Jose Quintana with the State Road 52 Permit
- **Jeff Fetzko:** covering the Materials Engineer's duties during his vacation

Be sure to submit a recognition form to show your appreciation to your fellow colleagues.



Helping Our Community This Holiday Season

As we approach the holiday season, our community needs our help more than ever before. In a recent hunger survey we found that 47% of those who sought emergency food assistance in South Florida were children and the elderly. The Turnpike Team once again will show our support to those in need by adopting a local charity. We are encouraging everyone to join in the effort by donating **NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS & NEW CLOTHING and/or NEW TOYS.**

Pompano: We have decided to extend this year's collection of non-perishable food donations until **Friday, December 17th.** Now that the hurricane season is coming to an end, it may be a good time to go through our pantries and make a contribution to our neighbors who may be in need. If we each could make a small donation it would go a long way in feeding the less fortunate. All non-perishable items are needed. This includes canned vegetables/fruits, meats, rice and pasta. Goods such as toilet paper, paper towels, and toiletries are also desired. Let's once again show the community that the Florida Turnpike Enterprise is a generous and caring group of individuals.

Turkey Lake: Supporting the Central Florida Salvation Army Angel Tree Program. We are encouraging everyone to join in the effort by donating new clothes and/or new toys for children up to the age 11. Collection boxes will be set up in the front lobby at the HQ building and will be accepting donations through **Friday, December 10th.** In addition to the clothing/toy drive, this year we have received 25 "Angels" for our holiday tree. Each Angel tag provides the first name, age, and sizes of a child in need. It's easy to adopt an Angel, just stop by the reception desk in the HQ building and choose an Angel.

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Employee of the Month



Since becoming a member of the Turnpike Materials Team, Heather Putnik has made a significant contribution to Asphalt Plant management in the North Region. The Asphalt At-a-Glance worksheets for north projects have been brought to current status and they are being continuously maintained as asphalt construction is on-going. Heather's efforts have helped tremendously to close out Asphalt plant sampling & testing smoothly & efficiently. Heather is very easy to work with and her office space is extremely organized.

Heather deserves to be recognized as Materials Employee of the Month for November 2010 for exemplifying the following:

Turnpike Goals – Service & Speed

Turnpike Values – Results Oriented & Customer Focused

Customer Service Standards – Courtesy, Presentation & Efficiency

Department Values – Commitment & Customer Driven

Please join us in congratulating Heather and her hard work and efforts!



Turnpike Service Plaza Customer Surveys

During late October and early November, Turnpike crews completed the field work for this year's Turnpike Service Plaza Customer Survey. The survey is conducted each fall to measure service plaza customers' perceptions of the quality of service, appearance, and cleanliness of the eight Turnpike service plazas. The survey findings highlight areas of customer service where the desired level of satisfaction is being achieved, as well as areas that require improvement.

The survey is planned, organized, and supervised by Turnpike Planning, with survey assistance by staff from several Turnpike departments. A total of approximately 3,400 customers are interviewed during the field work, which involves customer-intercept surveys at each of the eight plazas, one weekday and one weekend day at each plaza. Customers are surveyed in the plaza restaurant buildings and at the plaza fuel stations. In addition to the main survey items mentioned above, the survey also measures customer perceptions of food and fuel prices and travel characteristics. The results of the annual survey are summarized in a Turnpike report which is published after the first of the year and is available on the Turnpike intranet site.

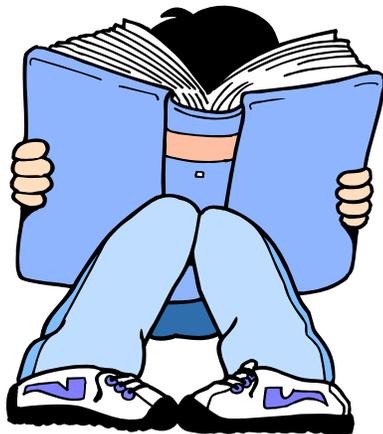
TURNPIKE VALUES HOLIDAY SAFETY

Electric Lights and Decorations

- Before decorating, determine how many outlets are available and where they are located.
- Avoid overloading electrical outlets, which can overheat and cause a fire.
- Carefully inspect each electrical decoration. Cracked or frayed sockets, loose or bare wires, and loose connections may cause a serious shock or start a fire.
- Use lights approved for safe use by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- Follow the use and care instructions that accompany electrical decorations.
- Always unplug electrical decorations before replacing bulbs or fuses.
- Do not mount or support light strings in a way that might damage the cord's insulation.
- Never connect more than three strands of incandescent lights together.
- Turn off all indoor and outdoor electrical decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

<http://www.holidaysafety.org/>

Beyond Materials



Changing the Equation

President Obama announced on September 16th the launch of “Change the Equation,” a CEO-led-initiative to improve education in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Set up as a non-profit organization, Change the Equation was founded by astronaut Sally Ride, former Intel chairman Craig Barrett, Xerox CEO Ursula Burns, Time Warner CEO Glenn Britt, and Eastman Kodak CEO Antonio Perez.

With \$5 million for its first year of operations and 100 CEOs signed up as members, Change the Equation aims to meet three goals:

- Improve STEM teaching at all grade levels
- Inspire student appreciation and excitement for STEM, especially among women and underrepresented minorities
- Achieve a sustained commitment to improving STEM education

Change the Equation announced eight new public-private partnerships that will identify the most promising STEM education programs; provide 2 million hours of science enrichment to at least 25,000 young people in all 50 states; provide \$4 million in commitments in planning grants to set up youth-centered digital libraries; offer video-game challenges giving children in high-poverty schools the chance to design STEM games; expand access to advanced placement classes in STEM subjects to public high schools that serve a large number of military families; design programs to more closely connect students, parents and scientists; expand employee volunteering to develop more effective learning experiences for students; and expand STEM programs with a track record of success. Companies committing to these efforts include Advanced Micro Devices, ExxonMobil, Hewlett-Packard, Lockheed Martin, Microsoft, and Raytheon.

Source: Magazine of the Society of Women Engineers, Conference 2010 Edition



Materials Spotlight- Getting into the Spirit!

Pompano Materials Department

The Materials Department in Pompano was busy the day before Thanksgiving! Karen Bleus, Angela Lietz & Garth Hall all pitched in and decorated the entire Materials Department & our fellow neighbors (Planning & IT). There are dazzling snowflakes and ornaments hanging from the ceiling, the windows have been decorated with festive cling-ons and artificial snow, and there are plenty of other decorations to go around. Next time you make it down to Pompano be sure to stop by the Materials Department and check out all the enchanting holiday decorations!

Thank you to all who helped make the decorating possible!





Allison Porrett
PE Trainee-D4



Angela Lietz
Turnpike



Phillip Shaver
Crystal Lake
Middle School



The best way to summarize the FIRST LEGO League (FLL) is to say that it is a robotics program for 9-14 year olds, which is designed to get children excited about science and technology—and teach them valuable employment life skills. FIRST stands for "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology."

Students are challenged to design a robot that can maneuver around a 4'x8' table completing missions in a 2.5 minute round. Along with the design and programming of the robot, there is a research component to the competition. Students are asked to invent an innovative solution to the theme. This year's theme is titled Body Forward - where students identify a problem with the human body, then invent a solution to present as their research.

Through the 2010 Body Forward Challenge, FLL teams will explore the cutting-edge world of Biomedical Engineering to discover innovative ways to repair injuries, overcome genetic predispositions, and maximize the body's potential, with the intended purpose of leading happier and healthier lives.

This year Phillip Shaver, Science Teacher at Crystal Lake Middle School in Pompano Beach, Florida, invited engineers to volunteer and serve as judges for the competition. **Angela Lietz** from Turnpike and **Allison Porrett** from the District 4 PE Trainee Program volunteered to judge the Body Forward presentations.



A Look Ahead...

Dates to Remember

December 2010

1st: World Aids Day

1st-9th: Hannukah

7th: Pearl Harbor Day

10th: Human Right's Day

15th-16th: Holiday Pot Luck-
Pompano

21st: 1st Day of Winter

24th: Christmas Eve

25th: Christmas Day

26th- Jan 1st: Kwanzaa

31st: New Year's Eve



Holiday Fun Facts

- Christmas was declared a national holiday in 1870.
- President Franklin Pierce was the first President to decorate the White House Christmas tree.
- Since the 1970's, the Kennedy Space Center has made their shuttle landing facility available for emergency landing by Santa Claus should problems develop during his annual visit to children around the world!
- Each year, Florida Christmas tree growers produce over 120,000 freshly cut quality trees for the holiday season.
- Hanukkah is celebrated every year between the end of November and the end of December. It begins on the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev, which varies from year to year on the Western calendar. The eight day celebration commemorates the rededication of the Jerusalem temple, and the miracle of the sacred lamp that burned for eight days on a single day's oil.
- Kwanzaa is a seven day celebration of African culture begun by Dr. Maulana Karenga, a professor at California State University. Celebrated from December 26th to January 1st, Kwanzaa (which means "first fruits of the harvest") is meant to honor African heritage and present day life in America. The holiday ends with a large feast on the final evening called Karamu.
- More than one million lights decorate the landmark Fort Myers winter estates of Thomas Edison and Henry Ford during the holiday season.

How to say December in other languages:

Spanish: diciembre

Italian: Dicembre

French: décembre

German: Dezember

Polish: grudnia

Latin: augustus

Russian: Декабрь



Fun & Games- Christmas Movie Trivia

Turnpike Materials

Angela Lietz, Pompano
954-934-1111

It's All Good!



Find us on the Web:
<http://www.flturnpikeoperations.com/Offices/Materials/tabid/125/Default.aspx>

Object of the game is to answer all the Christmas Movie Trivia.
Google is NOT PERMITTED!!! Teamwork is however encouraged.

The first person to answer all the trivia questions correctly wins(1 person from Pompano and 1 person from Turkey Lake)

Be sure to submit your answers to Angela Lietz in Pompano for a fun & festive prize!



1. In The Polar Express movie, what is "The First Gift of Christmas?"

2. In The Polar Express movie, what word does the conductor punch into the ticket of "the young man with all the questions"?

3. In The Polar Express movie, what sort of "liquid refreshment" is dispensed to the children during their trip?

4. What is the name of the rabbit in the magic hat in Frosty the Snowman?

5. What was the little girl in Frosty the Snowman's name?

6. In Frosty the Snowman, what was the name of the magician with the "Magic Hat"?

7. How much did Lucy charge for a psychiatric session in the classic Christmas TV special A Charlie Brown Christmas?

8. What was "the most likely" reason that The Grinch hated Christmas?

9. Who narrated the original 1966 TV show How The Grinch Stole Christmas?

10. What was Dr. Seuss' real name?

11. In the Christmas Classic, It's A Wonderful Life, what happened every time a bell rang?

