



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Library Hosts FIRST LEGO League Scrimmage

New Braunfels, TX - The New Braunfels Public Library is hosting over ten teams from around central Texas in a *FIRST* LEGO League robotics scrimmage on Saturday, November 16th from 1-4 p.m. at the Westside Community Center. *FIRST* LEGO League is a worldwide competition in which teams of up to ten children between ages 9-14 build an autonomous, computer-controlled robot with LEGO parts to complete tasks on a mission field. Teams also create an original engineering solution to a problem they have identified around a yearly theme. Over 200,000 children from over 70 countries are competing in this season's challenge.

Engineers from Continental Automotive will be at the scrimmage to judge the students' robot designs and programming. Students from the New Braunfels Public Library's *FIRST* Tech Challenge robotics team will referee the matches and offer programming and design help. There will also be a new coaches' resource session from 12-1 p.m. to help beginning coaches plan their season.

The scrimmage is a chance for teams to practice before they attend qualifying tournaments in the region. Teams in the Alamo region have the opportunity to advance through those tournaments to the regional championship in San Antonio in March.

"We're excited to continue with *FIRST* LEGO League robotics, after such an exciting year last year - culminating with a competition in Sydney, Australia last July," said Library Director Gretchen Pruett. "The Westside Community Center is an ideal location for *FIRST* LEGO League robotics teams to work together, develop their skills, and compete against each other. We're very pleased to have the Westside as a destination for *FIRST* LEGO League robotics in the region."

The Friends of the New Braunfels Public Library sponsors six *FIRST* LEGO League teams, Jr. *FIRST* LEGO League teams for ages 6-9, and a *FIRST* Tech Challenge team for high school students.

"The support of the Friends shows our community's commitment to the challenges of a high-tech world," says Pruett. "By learning to meet these challenges in creative endeavors *FIRST* LEGO league participants are preparing for high-tech future in which they will ultimately make a living. The library and the Westside are very pleased to be part of all this."

For more information about robotics at the library, please call Kit Ward-Crixell at 830-221-4319.

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