

FIRST Robotics season kicks off opener today

By HP STAFF

BENTON HARBOR — The FIRST Robotics (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) competition will have its kick off 8 a.m.-3 p.m. today at Lake Michigan College's Grand Upton Hall at the Napier Avenue campus.

This year's robotics challenge, "Steamworks," will be revealed to teams of high school students who will design, build, and program robots over a six-week period.

Teams will be able to view a partial game field and game pieces set up in secret and revealed at the kickoff event. The 2017 competition game rules and objectives will be announced. Teams will receive their kits of parts so that they can begin designing and building their robots for competition. Completed robots will later be judged in a district, state, and then global competition.

The team sign-in starts at 8, followed by guest speakers and a live feed from FIRST headquarters at 10. The robot kits will be distributed at 11 and the hall will remain open for teams to work.