

# Wands at the Ready...

**A** new movie from the Harry Potter universe is coming to theaters in November! *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* is part spin-off, part prequel to J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series which were turned into seven popular movies. *Fantastic Beasts* is set in 1920s New York in the same magical world of Harry Potter but focuses on the character of Newt Scamander, a student of Hogwarts.

The title of this movie set to release November 18<sup>th</sup> may sound familiar. In 2001, during a break between the series books, Rowling published a book with the same name as the movie.

This book was more of textbook guide, "penned" by fictional character Newt Scamander. Rowling was generous enough to donate proceeds from this book



to charity.

Also, Harry Potter and his classmates read *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* as part of their coursework at Hogwarts seventy-ish years after Scamander wrote them. It all ties in.

In the movie adaptation, Scamander is a young "magi-zoologist" visiting New York for the day when he discovers his case of magic beasts missing. The trailers have not revealed all of the animals audiences can anticipate seeing on screen except to blast the roar of what appears to be one angry beast.

The character of Newt Scamander will be portrayed by none other than Eddie Redmayne (popular for his role in *Les Misérables*).

Even though they won't be seeing Ron, Harry, and Hermione in this film, audiences are excited to see not only the animals mentioned in Rowling's books (many of which were not shown in the movies) but are also intrigued to see what

American life is like in the Harry Potter universe.

Some details have been released such as the United States version of the Ministry of Magic is called the Magical Congress of the United States of America (MACUSA) and that the North American wizarding school for witches and wizards is called Ilvermorny.

Another interesting fact is that the Americanized version of the word "muggle" (a person without magical powers) is "non-maj."

Can't wait until the release date? Check out [pottermore.com](http://pottermore.com) to find out more behind the scenes information about the movie and the Harry Potter Universe. Parents should be aware that this movie might not be suitable for younger viewers as it bears a PG-13 rating for fantasy violence.

—Rachel McPhail,  
Children's Coordinator

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# Inspiring Brown Bag Lunch set

Dr. Donovan Haines, Assistant Professor of Chemistry at SHSU, will speak at the Brown Bag Lecture Series at noon Thursday, November 17, at the Huntsville Public Library. Attendees are encouraged to arrive early to eat before the speaker begins.

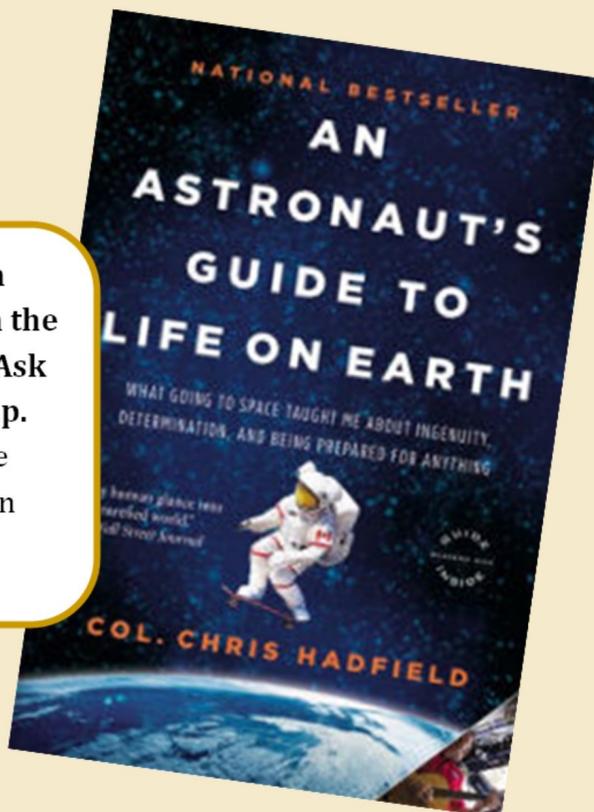
His presentation, "An Astronaut's Lessons Here on Earth: A Career in Chemistry, Medicine, and Forensics," will revolve around *An Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth*, the book selected by the SHSU Common Reading Program for 2016-2017.

Haines says he will combine the book's lessons with lessons and stories from his time as a student of science (chemistry and biochemistry), time as a post-doctoral student at UT-Southwestern Medical School, and time as a faculty member at the high-tech school at UT-Dallas, and now at Sam Houston State University.

He goes on to say, "I've had the wonderful opportunity to work in places where I could watch how folks with the

**Stop by & watch an informational video in the lobby of the Library. Ask any librarian for help.**

Registrants will have an opportunity to win door prizes.



Nobel Prize go about doing science and medicine, and have taught science students, pre-med students, and non-science majors." Dr. Haines's research is on enzymes (especially those that metabolize drugs and hormones) and on forensics.

Attendees may bring a brown bag lunch. Lunch time begins at 11:30 a.m. and the lecture will begin at noon.

The lecture series is usually planned for the fourth Thursday of each month.

Due to the Thanks-

giving Holiday, the meeting will be moved up one week.

Beverages will be provided. Admission is free.

Register online at [www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com](http://www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com) or call Mary Kokot, Adult Services Coordinator, at (936) 291-5471.

## Protect your family treasures

Genealogy



How many of us have family photographs, letters, bibles and assortments of family records put away for a rainy day's effort to preserve and protect family treasures? Days pass all too quickly. Weeks become months and months turn into years. Our hidden treasures remain out of sight and out of mind. All too often, family histories and treasures are lost through neglect and unfulfilled good intentions. The result is predictable. Generations, many yet unborn, lose an important part of their inheritance.

The BIG QUESTION. What can I do?

- Seek help. Go to your local library or genealogical society. Genealogy volunteers and library staff may not have the time to organize your ma-

terials, but they can offer suggestions, resources and encouragement.

- Read a good book or seek information online about the care and preservation of paper items. Curatorial care of paper items is crucial. Paper degrades with time, moisture and exposure to sunlight.
- Organize materials by category and date. Identify known persons and places.
- Make an inventory. It needn't be complicated.
- Secure materials in acid free folders and fire resistant containers. Place all family heirlooms away from fire and flood exposures.

- Make copies. Copies may not have the provenance of the original document or photograph, but they can be shared with family members and distributed to a variety of locations. Photo copiers and digital cameras are useful tools.
- Some family materials have value beyond family interest. Check with an insurance agent for details.

Family records and ephemera (photos, documents, letters, etc.) are important additions to the collections of local genealogical societies and libraries. Family historians and the holders of family collections are encouraged to make copies

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# BLIZZARD ON THE HORIZON

Many may be familiar with the game development company, Blizzard Entertainment, creator of the StarCraft, Diablo and Warcraft franchises, as well as lending a massive hand to the creation of a multi-million dollar sport industry: e-sports. Blizzard held its annual convention, BlizzCon, in early November, showing off plans for the upcoming year. And now a piece of the action has come to Huntsville Public Library in the form of the live action *Warcraft* movie to our DVD selection!

Set in the mystical World of Azaroth, a world of High Elves, Dwarves, Heroes and magic, Humans and Orcs live in conflict, a struggle for their very lives and the lives of their kind. The Alliance stands against the invading armies of the Horde, as influences from the mundane to the powers of Old Gods ebb and flow. This fight spans generations and is often the central conflict in the Warcraft universe; Orcs and Humans.

But that is not how these two races always lived, and that is the story the film *Warcraft* tells. On a dying world called Draenor, where Orcs once thrived, the race now struggle to survive, united into the great Horde by the orc warlock Gul'dan. Gul'dan draws upon a mighty magic known as the fel, fueled by death, to open a portal to the lush and thriving world of Azaroth and



lead the strongest warriors of each orc clan on an invasion of the dominant Human Kingdom of the Alliance.

Striking swiftly and suddenly, town after town falls to this small army, a fraction of the power of the full Horde as they gather human villagers to be sacrificed to open a new portal and usher in the rest of the Horde.

Azaroth is hardly prepared for an invasion by the incredible strength of the orcs, but the people of Azaroth are not without their own heroes, and dissent soon spreads within the ranks of the Horde.

Durotan, chieftain of the Frostwolf Clan of Orcs, begins to see the effects of Gul'dan's fel magic, leaving the land

dead and dying where it is used. As the plot unfolds, even greater forces are at work, culminating in a great sacrifice paid for even a chance at peace between the Alliance and the Horde.

With a compelling story and exceptional mix of digital animation and live acting, even for those who have never heard of a Mak'gora, a traditional orcish duel to the death for leadership of a clan, or the Kirin Tor, the authority of human and high elven mages, the *Warcraft* film is an exciting exploration of video game storytelling on the silver screen, and well worth the watch.

- Peirs Anderson, IT Services

## Transformers...BMW in Disguise!

Ever wonder what the computer-generated Transformer robots in director Michael Bay's movies would look like in real life? A Turkish company has the answer, with a fully functional Transformer prototype. Letvision created this BMW that transforms into a real life robot or transformer named Letrons. The company built this transformer with twelve engineers and four technicians for approximately eight months. Not only can they be transformed with the touch of a button, but they're also as articulated as the Optimus Prime and Megatron action figures we grew up with.

Some of Letrons main features include neck and head movement, arm movements, wrist action, interactivity, adjustable lighting, remote control software and is enriched with the capability to speak.

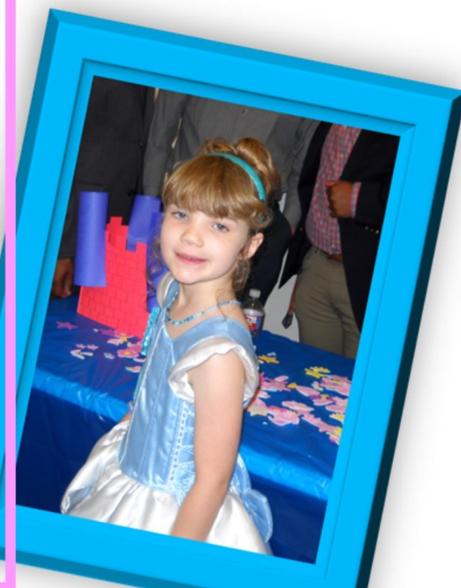
The real-life Transformers features a power system to manage the energy distribution, fog that can be controlled interactively and a dynamic eye, which allows for highly effective visuality. It does not have the ability to walk but the research and development for walking is in the works. As far as safety, the Transformers have front and rear security sensors. As of right now, the cars are not drivable in traffic, but



will be able to function via remote control. Letvision says it will be possible in the near future due to its electric engine. According to Letvision website, Letrons can be available for sale, but buyers will need to "share their reasons for use, and must meet the criteria of the Letrons team."

- Ashley Newsome,  
Tech Coordinator

# Cinderella Ball: A magical night



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of their materials and donate them to local societies and libraries.

Libraries are excellent places for donations. Many libraries have archive space for the safekeeping of family histories. Libraries also have staff and volunteers who are trained in the care and custody of paper items and ephemera. Librarians have the expertise to describe and catalog materials so that genealogy enthusiasts and historians find answers to pressing questions.

Libraries are built to last. Donations made to libraries will be available to answer the inquiries of future generations.

—Richard Lane, *Genealogy*

dates  
to  
Remember

Check out the exciting Children's Programs at the Huntsville Public Library!

- Mother Goose Lapsits, 10:30 Mondays
- Storytime, 10:45 on Wednesdays AND Fridays
- Read with the Dogs, 2nd Monday of the Month
- Family Movie Night, 5:30, 2nd Friday of the Month

Complete listings of events at [www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com](http://www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com)

For more information, contact Children's Coordinator Rachel McPhail, at 936-291-5910.