

Thurs., Oct. 26, 6:45pm
Family Stargazing:
Astronomy and
Telescope Night

This month holds the best opportunity to view Saturn for the rest of 2017!

>>Telescopes will be available, but you can bring your own binoculars, as well. (Many wonderful celestial sights are actually best when viewed through binoculars.)



Program:

- We will begin with a short presentation about astronomy, describing the different telescopes we have;
- When it is dark (about 7pm), we will go outdoors for an observing session.

Saturn, Uranus, and the crescent moon will be visible by eye and by telescope. This will be a good time to view Saturn. It's currently a naked-eye planet, but by November it will enter the evening twilight and become hard to find. Also very important: Saturn's ring system is strongly tilted towards us at this time, so the rings are easily visible.

Uranus, the most distant planet that is readily visible through binoculars, will also be in the sky on Oct. 26. We will show you where to find it if conditions allow. On that night, the moon will be in a crescent phase. Many craters will be visible, as well as the eastern lunar "seas." (If you've never seen the moon through a telescope, this will be a special treat. The crescent moon photo shown above was taken using a cell phone through our smallest scope.)

We may also see the Pleiades (a star cluster), Albireo (a double star), and the Andromeda Galaxy. Many other bright stars and bright constellations will be visible on Astronomy Night and we can help you identify them by name.

Visit research.msu.edu/midland or [Facebook.com/StAndrews](https://www.facebook.com/StAndrews) for more information.

Date: Thurs., Oct. 26, 6:45pm

Location: 1910 W. St. Andrews Road, Midland, Mich. ([MAP](#))

(We are located at the next driveway west of the Grace A. Dow Library.)

Cost: Free!

(This program is made possible in part by support from the Dow Chemical Company Foundation.)

Audience: Recommended for elementary-age children and older, and their families, but **all are welcome.**

In case of clouds or bad weather, we will postpone to the following night, Fri., Oct. 27, also at 6:45pm.