

St. Johns County  
Public Library System

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**NASA@ My Library goes to the Sykes Family Farms Crop Maze**

ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FL — 10/5/18 The St. Johns County Public Library System invites the public to an educational and fun evening as we host an *International Observe the Moon Night* (InOMN) event on Saturday October 20, from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Sykes Family Farms Crop Maze, 5995 Brough Road, Elkton, FL 32033.

In 2011, the library's Bookmobile-Extension Services department applied for a Universities Space Research Association and Lunar and Planetary Institute grant for high-powered binoculars and moon viewing kit. One of the requirements was to host an InOMN event where participants could view the moon. In trying to reach the greatest audience, the question became, "Where are people on a Saturday night in October?" The answer was resounding - "The Crop Maze in Elkton!" And so began a community partnership with Sykes Family Farms.

Last year SJCPLS was selected as one of 75 public libraries nationwide to be a NASA@ My Library partner and has committed to providing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics programs to all ages. By partnering with the Sykes family, the library is able to provide an opportunity for maze goers to view the Moon, the Sun, and other visible planets. Other community partners helping with this event are the Ancient City Astronomy Club and Joe Komjathy, a NASA Solar System Ambassador. They will be on hand to answer questions, point out constellations, and inspire participants in their own observations of the night sky. Binoculars and telescopes will be provided. Weather permitting.

*"The NASA@ My Library project is led by the National Center for Interactive Learning at the Space Science Institute. Partners include the American Library Association (ALA) Public Programs Office, Pacific Science Center, Cornerstones of Science, and Education Development Center. NASA@ My Library is made possible through the support of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Science Mission Directorate as part of its STEM Activation program."*

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*The St. Johns County Public Library system serves the community by providing access to technology, facilities, collections, programs and services that help people meet our mission: **Connect, Learn, Enjoy @ Your Library**. For more information on the St. Johns County Public Library System, visit [sjcpls.org](http://sjcpls.org).*