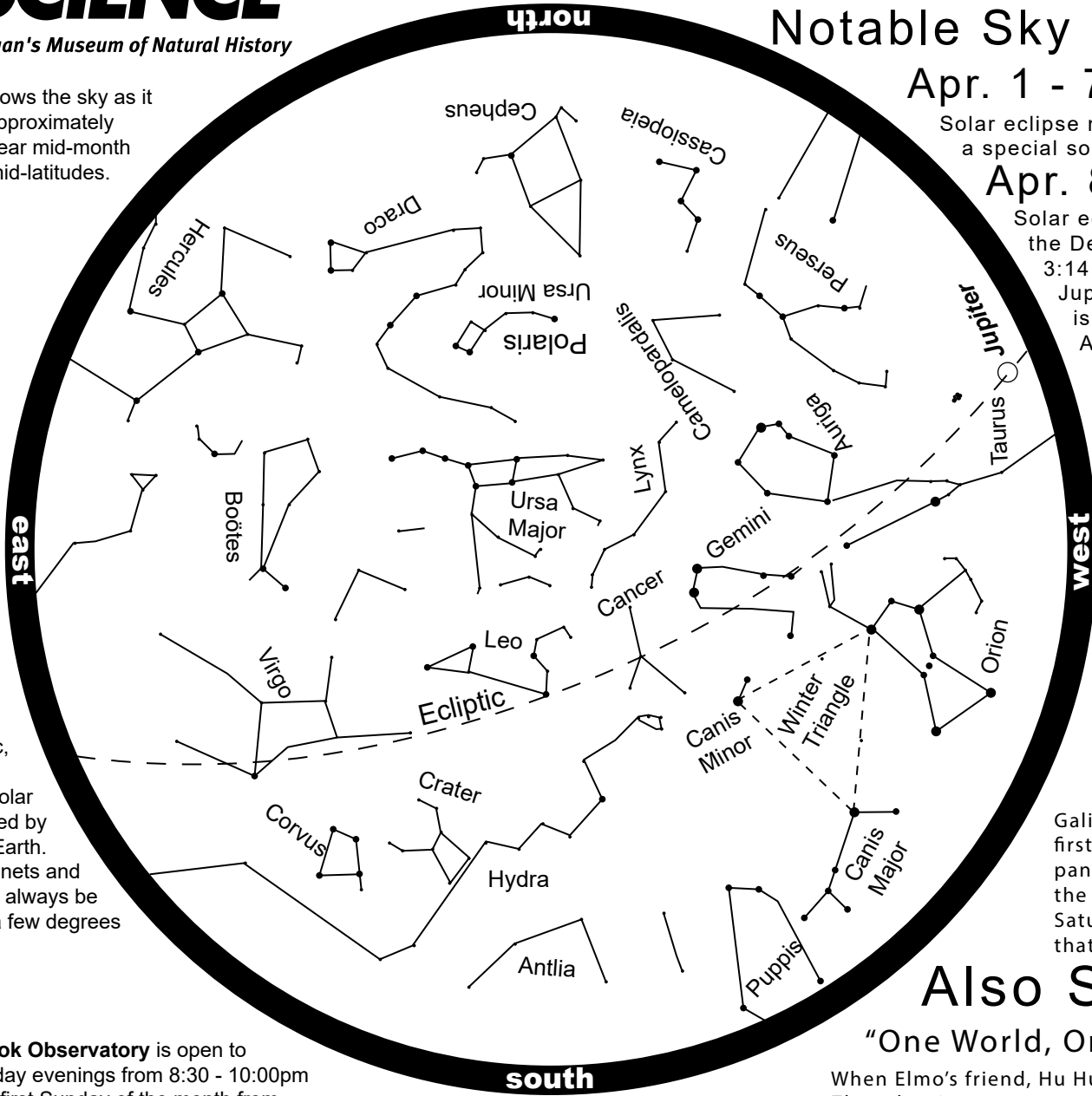


APRIL 2024

Notable Sky Happenings



This chart shows the sky as it appears at approximately 10pm EDT near mid-month at northern mid-latitudes.



What is that dashed line? It's the ecliptic, the reference plane of the solar system, defined by the Sun and Earth. The major planets and the Moon can always be found within a few degrees of this plane.

Apr. 1 - 7

Solar eclipse next week! Never look directly at the Sun! Use a special solar viewer or make a pin-hole projector.

Apr. 8 - 14

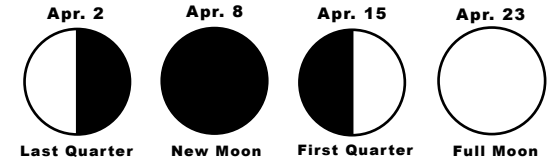
Solar eclipse on the 8th with 98% of the Sun covered in the Detroit area. Begins at 1:58pm EDT, maximum at 3:14, ends at 4:27. On the 10th the Moon is above Jupiter (WNW eve.). Moon is below Castor, Pollux is above and to the left on the 14th (WSW eve.). Also the 395th birthday of Christiaan Huygens!

Apr. 15 - 21

The Moon is to the left of Regulus on the 18th (S evening).

Apr. 22 - 30

Lyrid meteor shower peaks the evening of the 21st-22nd. Moon is to the right of Antares on the 26th (SSW predawn).



Now Showing

"Two Small Pieces of Glass"

Galileo did not invent the telescope, but he was the first to use it to examine the sky. Telescopes have expanded our knowledge of the cosmos. We'll learn about the history of telescopes, explore the Galilean Moons, Saturn's rings, the structure of galaxies and view images that were made through our observatory telescope.

Also Showing

"One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure"

When Elmo's friend, Hu Hu Zhu, visits from China. Big Bird, Elmo and Hu Hu Zhu take viewers on an exciting discovery of the Sun, Moon, and stars. They learn about the Big Dipper and the North Star and take an imaginary trip to the Moon where they learn that the Moon is a very different place.

For astronomy information visit <http://science.cranbrook.edu>

The Cranbrook Observatory is open to the public Friday evenings from 8:30 - 10:00pm EDT, and the first Sunday of the month from 1:00 - 4:00pm for solar viewing.

For observatory information visit <http://science.cranbrook.edu/explore/observatory>