CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

Michigan's Museum of Natural History

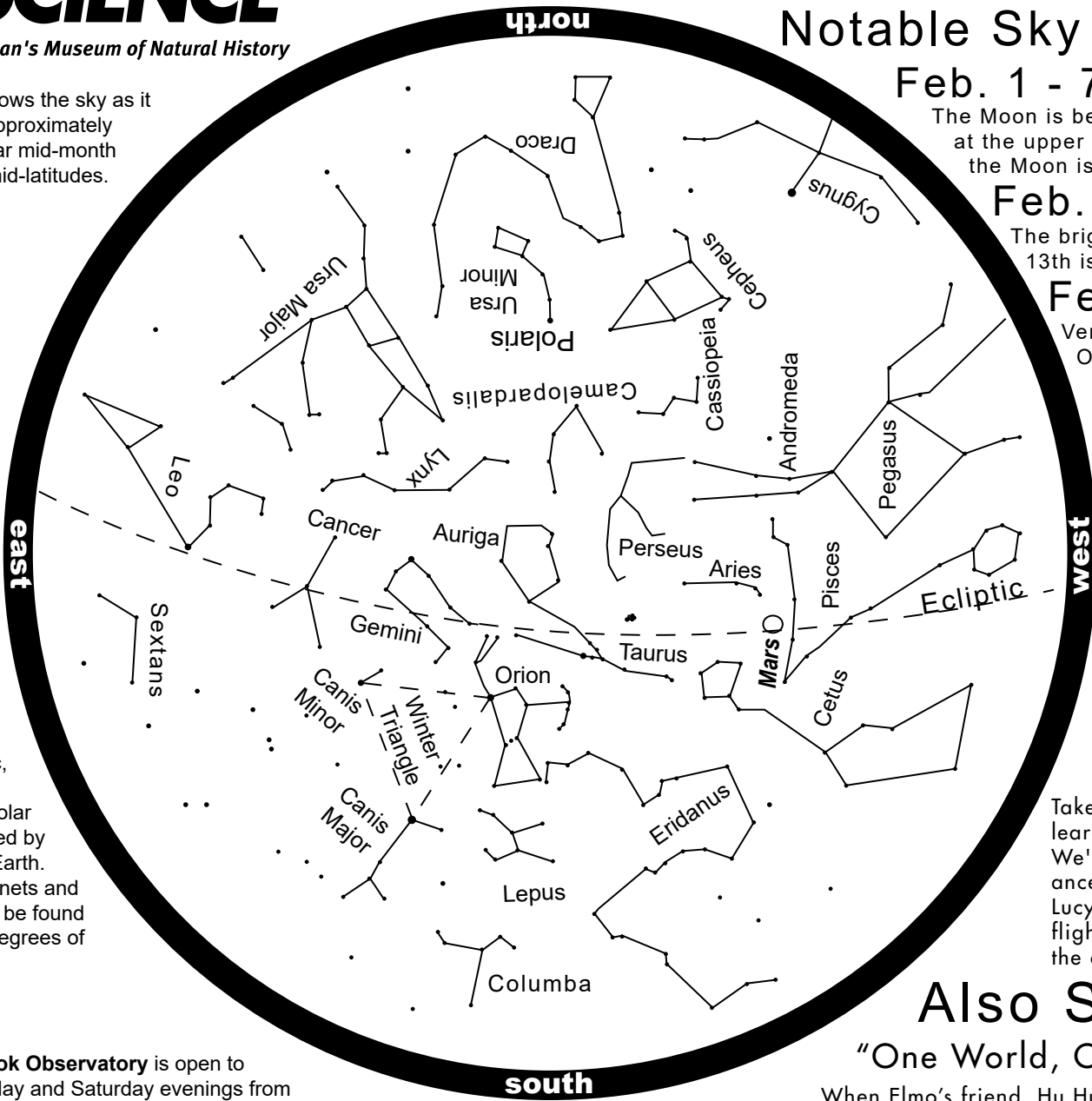Cranbrook Institute of Science · Observatory · Acheson Planetarium

FEBRUARY 2019
Notable Sky Happenings

This chart shows the sky as it appears at approximately 8pm EST 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 be found within a few degrees of this plane.

north

east

west

south

Draco
Cygnus
Cepheus
Ursa Major
Ursa Minor
Cassiopeia
Polaris
Camelopardalis
Andromeda
Lynx
Pegasus
Leo
Perseus
Auriga
Cancer
Aries
Pisces
Gemini
Taurus
Ecliptic
Sextans
Orion
Mars
Canis Minor
Cetus
Winter Triangle
Canis Major
Eridanus
Lepus
Columba

Feb. 1 - 7
The Moon is between Saturn and Venus on the 1st with Jupiter at the upper right of Venus (SE predawn). The next morning the Moon is to the lower left of Saturn close to the horizon.
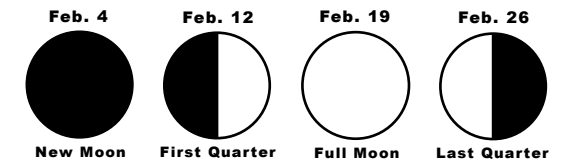
Feb. 8 - 14
The bright star to the left of the Moon the evening of the 13th is Aldebaran, the "eye" of Taurus the bull.

Feb. 15 - 21
Venus is above Saturn on the 17th (SE predawn). On the 19th the Moon is to the right of Regulus (W predawn), This is also the second of three super-moons for 2019. It's closest to Earth and may look slightly larger and brighter than normal.

Feb. 22 - 28
Moon is above Spica on the 23rd (SW predawn) and above Jupiter on the 27th (SSE predawn).

Feb. 4	Feb. 12	Feb. 19	Feb. 26
New Moon	First Quarter	Full Moon	Last Quarter

Now Showing
"Dinosaurs at Dusk"

Take to the skies and discover the origins of flight! It's leara ning adventure of a father and his daughter, Lucy. We'll travel back in time to meet the pterosaurs and the ancestors of modern-day birds: the feathered dinosaurs. Lucy and her father look for clues about the origins of flight. When time runs out, they experience first-hand the cataclysmic "last day" of the dinosaurs.

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.

The Cranbrook Observatory is open to the public Friday and Saturday evenings from 7:30 - 10:00pm EST, and the first Sunday of the month from 1:00 - 4:00pm for solar viewing. Come have a look through our 6" telescope! For observatory information visit http://science.cranbrook.edu/explore/observatory

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