CRANBROOK INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE
Michigan's Museum of Natural History

OCTOBER 2022

Notable Sky Happenings

Oct. 1 - 7

The Moon is at the lower left of Saturn on the 5th (SSE eve.).

Oct. 8 - 14

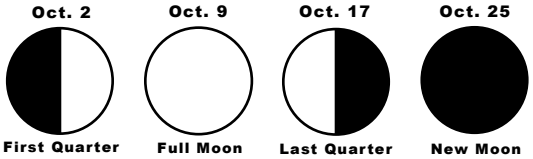
Mercury is at Greatest Elongation west of the Sun on the morning of the 8th. Rising in the east before sunrise, this is its best morning appearance in 2022. The Moon is at the lower left of Jupiter on the 8th (ESE eve.).

Oct. 15 - 21

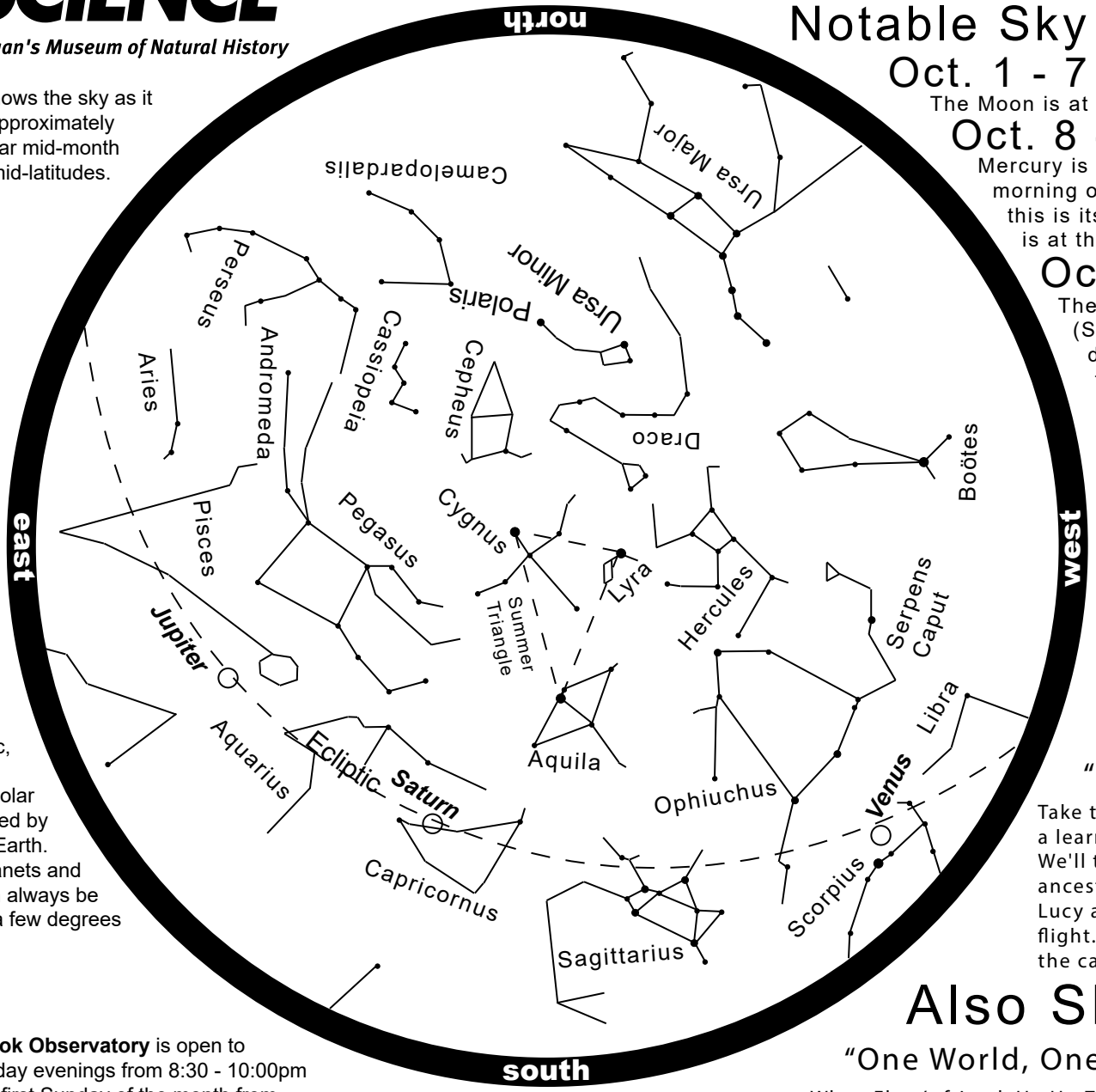
The Moon is at the upper left of Mars on the 15th (S predawn). The Orionid meteor shower (produced by debris from Halley's Comet) peaks on the night of the 21st-22nd. It produces about 20 meteors per hour. Moon interferes in 2022.

Oct. 22 - 31

Mars begins retrograde (backward) motion on the 30th. The planet will begin moving westward (as opposed to eastward) through the stars of Taurus until January 12, 2023.



This chart shows the sky as it appears at approximately 8pm 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.

Now Showing

"Dinosaurs at Dusk"

Take to the skies and discover the origins of flight! It's a learning 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 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

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