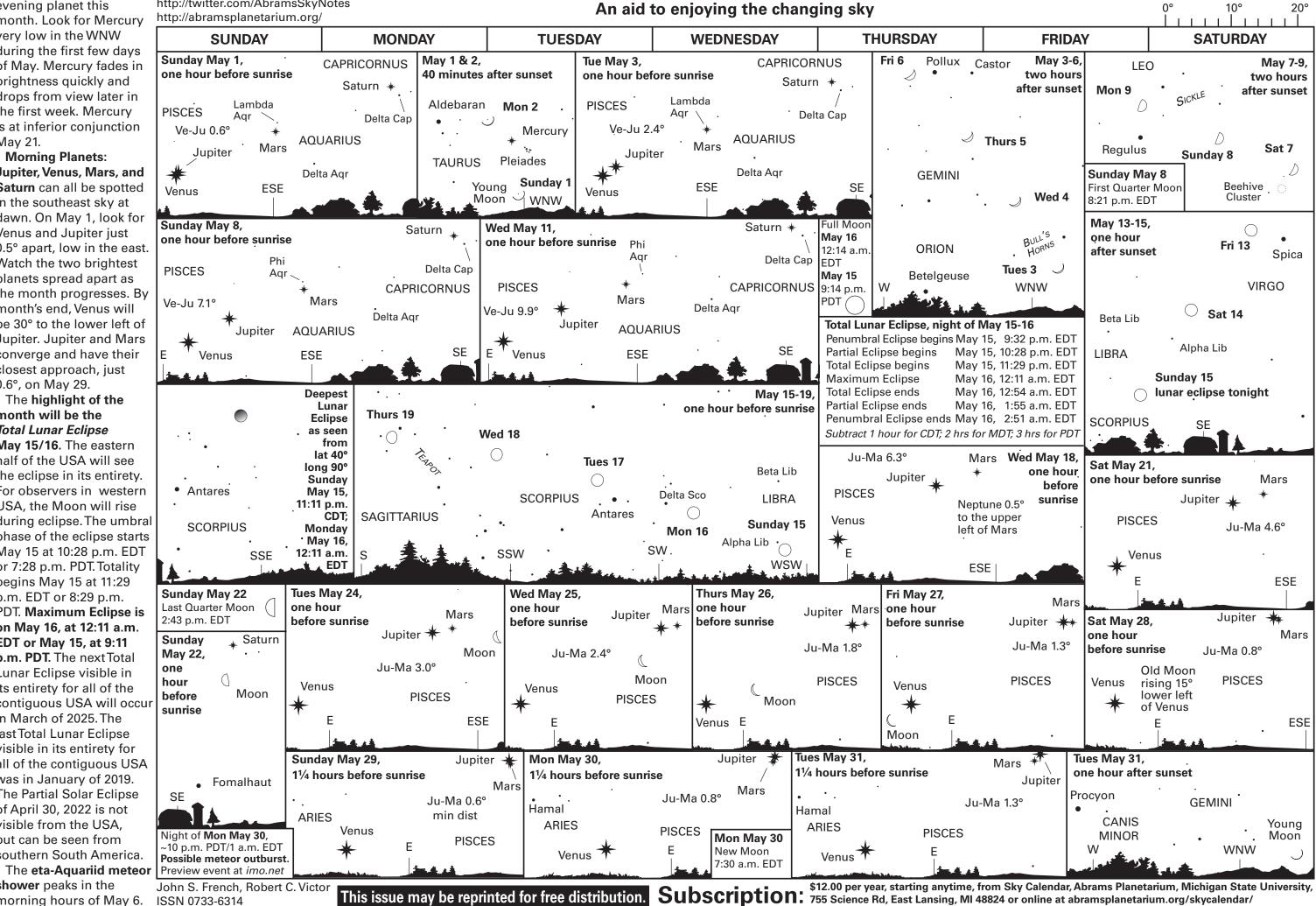
Evening Planets: Mercury is the lone evening planet this month. Look for Mercury very low in the WNW during the first few days of May. Mercury fades in brightness guickly and drops from view later in the first week. Mercury is at inferior conjunction May 21.

Morning Planets: Jupiter, Venus, Mars, and Saturn can all be spotted in the southeast sky at dawn. On May 1, look for Venus and Jupiter just 0.5° apart, low in the east. Watch the two brightest planets spread apart as the month progresses. By month's end, Venus will be 30° to the lower left of Jupiter. Jupiter and Mars converge and have their closest approach, just 0.6°, on May 29.

The highlight of the month will be the Total Lunar Eclipse May 15/16. The eastern half of the USA will see the eclipse in its entirety. For observers in western USA, the Moon will rise during eclipse. The umbral phase of the eclipse starts May 15 at 10:28 p.m. EDT or 7:28 p.m. PDT. Totality begins May 15 at 11:29 p.m. EDT or 8:29 p.m. PDT. Maximum Eclipse is on May 16, at 12:11 a.m. EDT or May 15, at 9:11 p.m. PDT. The next Total Lunar Eclipse visible in its entirety for all of the contiguous USA will occur in March of 2025. The last Total Lunar Eclipse visible in its entirety for all of the contiguous USA was in January of 2019. The Partial Solar Eclipse of April 30, 2022 is not visible from the USA, but can be seen from southern South America.

shower peaks in the morning hours of May 6. Planetarium business office: (517) 355-4676 http://twitter.com/AbramsSkyNotes

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Use this scale to measure angular distances between objects on diagrams below.