

# WEEKLY STARGAZERS' NEWSLETTER

by Dr. Bob

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These are the notes that I use for the weekly radio broadcast on Rome Radio Station WLAQ AM 1410 and FM 96.9. The program airs at 7:50 a.m. each Tuesday morning. The radio station also has a live FaceBook broadcast at the same time: WLAQ-Rome. Send questions to: ryoung@highlands.edu

## OBSERVATION PERIOD:

06/18/24 – 06/24/24

## FUN FACT OF THE WEEK

### MOON FOR THE WEEK:

The Moon will be Full on Friday, 6/21/24. The Moon will wax during the first part of the week and will rise in the East at Sunset on Friday. As we have discussed before, each month's full moon has a unique name which describes some elements of the season of the Full Moon.

The June Full Moon is called the Full Strawberry Moon. This name was universal to every Algonquin tribe. However, in Europe they called it the Rose Moon. Also because the relatively short season for harvesting strawberries comes each year during the month of June . . . so the full Moon that occurs during that month was christened for the strawberry!

The Algonquians are one of the most populous and widespread North American native language groups. They historically were prominent along the Atlantic Coast and in the interior regions along Saint Lawrence River and around the Great Lakes. This grouping consists of the peoples who speak Algonquian languages.



Full Moon

As you watch the Moon, you will see that it moves 12.2 degrees further East, day by day as it crosses the celestial sphere.

### Sun in View:

The Sun rises at 06:29 (6:29 a.m.) this week and sets at 20:55 (8:55 p.m.)

This means that the Sun is above the horizon for Sun is “up” for 14 hrs. and 26 minutes.

The Sun climbs to an altitude of 79.1 degrees this week.. The Sun is still in the constellation Taurus, the Bull. Compare this week’s altitude to when the Sun rises to only 32.3 degrees on December 21<sup>st</sup>. This week the Earth’s range to the Sun is 1.016 AUs. The Earth is still slowly distancing itself from the Sun as we head toward Summer and reach aphelion on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Sun is at Summer Solstice on June 20<sup>th</sup>, this is the longest day of the year and the Sun is as high in the sky as it will get all year long, 79.2 degrees above the Southern Horizon as it crosses the meridian.

## **PLANETS**

**Mercury:** This week Mercury rises in the East at 6:42 a.m. which is about 15 minutes after the Sun. Mercury will be too low to be seen this week.

**Venus** rises in the East at 6:45 a.m. which is also about 15 minutes after the Sun. It too will be too low to see this week.

**Mars** rises in the East at 3:37 a.m. which is more than 3.0 hours before the Sun so Mars is a wonderful object in the predawn sky. Look for its amber hue.

**Jupiter** rises in the East at 5:10 a.m. which is more than an hour before the Sun. Look low on the eastern horizon before sunrise to see this planet.

**Saturn** rises in the East at 1:36 a.m. which is a little more that 5 hours before the Sun. Saturn is an easy target in the predawn sky.

## **MARS ROVER PERSEVERANCE**

To get regular and current updates on the progress of NASA's Perseverance rover on Mars, go to the website:

<https://www.space.com/news/live/mars-perseverance-rover-update>

## SATELLITES FOR THE WEEK (ISS PASSES)

<a href="#">20 Jun</a>	-1.5	04:45:18	14°	SSE	04:46:15	15°	SE	04:48:17	10°	E	visible
<a href="#">21 Jun</a>	-3.8	05:32:15	17°	SW	05:34:44	75°	NW	05:38:04	10°	NE	visible
<a href="#">22 Jun</a>	-3.5	04:46:10	46°	S	04:46:44	54°	SE	04:50:01	10°	NE	visible
<a href="#">23 Jun</a>	-1.7	03:59:59	21°	E	03:59:59	21°	E	04:01:40	10°	ENE	visible
<a href="#">23 Jun</a>	-2.0	05:32:54	11°	W	05:35:31	24°	NW	05:38:20	10°	NNE	visible
<a href="#">24 Jun</a>	-2.9	04:46:38	35°	WNW	04:47:21	40°	NW	04:50:32	10°	NNE	visible

## STAR PATTERNS IN THE SKY