

Ynetnews Aug 15 2019 08.15.19

Moon is exactly full at 8:29 a.m. EDT, Thursday, August 15, 2019

Full moon to Dark moon centered is 14 days:18 hrs:22 min (15 days minus 5hrs:38min)

Full moon to Conjunction = Lunar month start = Aug 30, 2019 at 2:51am EDT

Add 4 quarters of 29 days:12 hrs:44 min, OR (30 days minus 11hrs:16min)

Rosh Hashanah starts after 29 days:12 hrs:44 min = Sept 28, 2019; 3:33pm EDT

**Note: Israel is 9hrs earlier & will be past evening, thus their day of Sept 29**

08.15.19

US Democratic leaders miffed on Israeli ban of 2-women with Anti-Semite agenda  
California launching public school ethnic studies with Pro-Islam & Anti-Semite views

08.14.19

Israeli developing Drone Guard systems to stop or capture enemy Drone aircraft  
Jordan halts historic film for referencing Jewish shrine of Aaron's burial near Petra  
Russia tactical exercise flies nuclear-capable bombers to region facing Alaska

US Democratic leaders miffed on Israeli ban of 2-women with Anti-Semite agenda

U.S. Senate Democratic leader urges Israel to reverse ban on lawmakers' visit

'Many strong supporters of Israel will be deeply disappointed in this decision,' Senator Chuck Schumer said, as backlash to decision not to allow pro-BDS congresswomen to enter Israel starts to unfold

Reuters|Published: 08.15.19, 20:16

Israeli officials should reverse their decision to block a visit by two U.S. Democratic lawmakers — Representatives Rashida Tlaib and Ilhan Omar — who have been critical of the country, U.S. Senate Democratic Leader Schumer said in a statement on Thursday.

"It will only hurt the U.S.-Israeli relationship and support for Israel in America," Schumer wrote. "No democratic society should fear an open debate. Many strong supporters of Israel will be deeply disappointed in this decision, which the Israeli government should reverse."

Denying entry to members of the United States Congress is a sign of weakness, not strength. It will only hurt the U.S.-Israel relationship and support for Israel in America.

No democratic society should fear an open debate. Many strong supporters of Israel will be deeply disappointed in this decision, which the Israeli government should reverse.

Tlaib and Omar, the first two Muslim women elected to Congress who expressed support for the BDS movement, were barred from entering Israel earlier Thursday, following a decision by Interior Minister Aryeh Deri and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Nancy Pelosi, speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives also slammed Israel for the decision not to allow her two party members in.

"Israel's denial of entry to Congresswomen Tlaib & Omar is beneath the dignity of the great State of Israel," Pelosi Tweeted.

Israel's denial of entry to Congresswomen Tlaib & Omar is beneath the dignity of the great State of #Israel. @realDonaldTrump's statements about the Congresswomen are a sign of ignorance & disrespect, & beneath the dignity of the Office of the President. <https://www.speaker.gov/newsroom/81519/>

Pelosi Statement on Israel's Decision to Block Members of Congress from Entering the Country -...

As one who loves Israel, I am deeply saddened by the news that Israel has decided to prevent Members of Congress from entering the country.

The two Democratic U.S. lawmakers did not plan "a balanced visit" with both Israeli and Palestinian leaders, the U.S. ambassador to Israel said in a statement on Thursday backing the decision.

Ambassador David Friedman also accused the lawmakers of supporting "economic warfare" against Israel via boycotts.

Netanyahu said earlier: "As a vibrant and free democracy, Israel is open to every critic and criticism, with one exception: Israeli law prohibits the entry of people who call for and carry out a boycott of Israel, as is the case with other democracies that prevent the entry of people whoas positions harm that country. This is how the U.S. acted towards an Israeli Knesset member and other public figures in the world."

Netanyahu added that, "Congresswomen Tlaib and Omar are leading activities to promote boycott legislation against Israel in the U.S. Congress. Only a few days ago, we received their visitation plan, which showed they were planning a campaign whose sole purpose is to strengthen the boycott and deny Israel's legitimacy. They said their destination was 'Palestine' and not 'Israel,' and unlike all Democratic and Republican congressmen to this day, refrained from seeking a meeting with any Israeli official either in the government or the opposition. "

The prime minister said that the trip was funded by an organization that backs BDS and whose supporters also are in favor of terrorism.

The pair have voiced support for the pro-Palestinian Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions (BDS) movement. Under Israeli law, backers of the BDS movement can be denied entry to Israel.

Trump has vented in recent months against Omar, Tlaib and two other Democratic congresswomen of colour, accusing them of hostility to Israel in what has widely been seen as a drumming up of Republican votes for his 2020 reelection bid.

"It would show great weakness if Israel allowed Rep. Omar and Rep. Tlaib to visit," he tweeted on Thursday. "They are a disgrace!"

Tlaib, 43, who was born in the United States, draws her roots to the Palestinian village of Beit Ur Al-Fauqa in the West Bank. Her grandmother and extended family live in the village.

Omar, who immigrated to the United States from Somalia as a child, represents Minnesota's fifth congressional district. In February, Omar, 37, apologized after Democratic leaders condemned remarks she made about the pro-Israel lobby in the United States as using anti-Semitic stereotypes.

08.15.19

California launching public school ethnic studies with Pro-Islam & Anti-Semite views

1st U.S. ethnic studies plan called anti-Semitic, faces update

Jewish lawmakers say the proposed curriculum focuses on targeting Islamophobia but ignores anti-Semitism and has song lyrics supporting the idea of Jews controlling the media; while conservatives criticize the curriculum for describing capitalism as a 'form of oppression'

Associated Press | Published: 08.15.19, 08:48

California's effort to write the nation's first ethnic studies curriculum for public schools has united liberals and conservatives: They think it's terrible.

Jewish lawmakers complained that the proposed lessons are anti-Semitic, while a conservative critic says capitalism is presented as a "form of power and oppression." The clash comes as a law requires the state to adopt ethnic studies, which view history through the lens of diverse cultures.

State Superintendent Tony Thurmond said Wednesday that he will recommend changes to better reflect the contributions of Jewish Americans and remove sections that the California Legislative Jewish Caucus finds objectionable.

"We really need some significant changes, if not to go back to square one," said Democratic state Sen. Ben Allen of Santa Monica, the caucus chairman. "Our concern is that the draft curriculum, as currently written, would literally institutionalize the teaching of anti-Semitic stereotypes in our public schools."

For instance, the proposed curriculum has lessons on identifying Islamophobia and other forms of discrimination but does not include ways to identify anti-Semitism. Song lyrics included in the draft also seem to support the stereotype that Jews control the news media, the caucus said.

"It would be a cruel irony if a curriculum meant to help alleviate prejudice and bigotry were to instead marginalize Jewish students and fuel hatred and discrimination against the Jewish community," the 14 caucus members said in a recent letter.

Jewish lawmakers said that's a particular danger following a rise in hate crimes against California Jews last year and recent attacks on synagogues, including one in April. A 19-year-old gunman told investigators he was motivated by Jewish hatred when he killed a woman and wounded two other people, including a rabbi, at the Chabad of Poway synagogue near San Diego.

"Children are not born as bigots, and so it's critically important that we get this curriculum right," said Democratic Sen. Hannah-Beth Jackson of Santa Barbara.

State Superintendent Tony Thurmond said the omission of Jewish contributions was not intentional but that ethnic studies traditionally have focused on African Americans, Latinos, Asian and Pacific Islanders and indigenous people.

He and Jewish lawmakers said there have been other requests to include Hindus and a section on the Armenian genocide. Allen suggested that white Europeans might learn empathy for immigrants today if there were a section on the discrimination that Italian and Irish nationals once faced in the U.S.

"There's no limit on groups who have experienced oppression," Thurmond said.

In 2016, then-Gov. Jerry Brown, a Democrat, signed a law requiring the state to adopt an ethnic studies curriculum by March 31, 2020. Thurmond said he is likely to ask lawmakers to extend the deadline.

Earlier this year, state officials completed a draft of the curriculum written by a panel of mostly classroom teachers.

The proposed curriculum went to a Board of Education advisory commission in May, and it's seeking public comments through Thursday. Commission members will consider the comments and changes at public hearings in Sacramento next month.

Board leaders said in statement that the curriculum "should be accurate (and) free of bias," acknowledging that "the current draft model curriculum falls short and needs to be substantially redesigned."

The law doesn't require schools to adopt the final version, but legislation approved by the state Assembly and awaiting a vote in the Senate would make the course a requirement to graduate from high school.

Aside from the Jewish lawmakers' concerns, conservative researcher Williamson Evers said California wants to teach kids that capitalism is racist.

Evers, a research fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution and a former assistant education secretary under former President George W. Bush, said in a Wall Street Journal opinion column that the draft includes capitalism as a "form of power and oppression" in an apparently "left wing" approach to the classroom.

Thurmond said he wasn't offering changes to address that criticism. Democratic Assemblyman Jesse Gabriel of Encino, vice chairman of the Jewish caucus, said that too needs to be fixed because it reflects a "fundamentally flawed curriculum" that "feels a lot more like indoctrination."

"We know that it's very personal. History is very personal, ethnic studies is very personal, so we know and understand that this is difficult," said Stephanie Gregson, director of the curriculum division at the state education department.

Gregson called Evers' criticisms a mischaracterization that's taken "out of context."

But she said the department is planning changes after recognizing that the draft curriculum does not meet state guidelines of inclusivity and "creating space for all students, regardless of race, ethnicity, class or gender."

08.14.19

Israeli developing Drone Guard systems to stop or capture enemy Drone aircraft

Israeli company developing 'suicide' drone to take out enemy UAVs

ELTA planning 'sophisticated upgrade' to its current 'Drone Guard' system, which has sold to defense agencies all over the world; the aircraft will be able to identify the target's flight path and fly directly into it

Yoav Zitun|Published: 08.14.19 , 23:15

While the IDF has not yet come up with its own proven operational response to enemy drones, a subsidiary of Israel Aerospace Industries, ELTA Systems, has already sold 100 "Drone Guard" systems to a number of foreign defense agencies.

The system detects and brings down drones using frequency blocking and electronic warfare, but a new upgrade, set to be introduced in the coming months, involves a "suicide" drone called the Bird that brings down enemy UAVs hovercraft by identifying their flight path and flying into them.

Now a new upgrade, which is being introduced in the coming months, should bolster the response to the threat - a "suicide" drone called the Bird that brings down enemy UAVs hovercraft after identifying their flight path.

The new system independently identifies a single drone or a group upon takeoff, can classify them by type and even predict the flight path.

The system uses not only radar but also a combination of optical tools that help to differentiate between the drone and other craft in the air, should the enemy attempt to deceive the system with balloons, kites and even rounds of bullets fired into the air.

ELTA has also developed an innovative capability to "steal" a drone, which has not yet been fully operationalized.

As well as bringing down an enemy UAV by hitting it with a drone, the system offers other options that are already operational and have proven themselves. These include using blocking frequencies or firing on the enemy drone from the ground with a special sight on a rifle that tracks and locks onto the drone in the air and then opening fire on it.

"One must remember that this is not a threat that is close in seriousness or damage to an anti-aircraft missile or rocket," says a senior ELTA official. "Every anti-drone system has its advantages and disadvantages, so combining them optimizes the solution."

The key challenge in combating the drone threat is identification, therefore the new system provides 360-degree coverage.

The "Drone Guard" system, which can be used in automatic mode or semi-automatically alongside a soldier, has already proven itself in securing the G20 conference in Argentina in late 2018.

"The system already knows how to adapt well to its environment and differentiate between friend and foe," the ELTA official says.

"The 'Bird' operating against drones will be a sophisticated upgrade."

08.14.19

Jordan halts historic film for referencing Jewish shrine of Aaron's burial near Petra

Jordan halts fictional film for historic reference to Jews in Petra

Fears sparked by the film were stoked earlier this month when video emerged of Jewish visitors praying in a shrine said to be the burial place of Moses' brother Aaron, near Petra. Associated Press|Published: 08.14.19, 11:33

A fictional caper about an antiquities heist set in an ancient Jordanian city has stirred widespread outrage over the film's portrayal of historical Jewish ties to Jordan, shining a light on the tenuous peace with neighboring Israel and prompting the government to suspend the movie's production.

Based on a book of the same name, the movie, "Jaber," follows a Jordanian boy who uncovers a stone in the rose-colored, rock-hewn city of Petra with a Hebrew inscription on it.

He sets off to sell it to the highest bidder, but interested parties in Israel catch wind of the find, dispatching a Russian organized crime group to pursue the boy and retrieve the stone at any cost.

Opponents of the film say merely discussing a historical Jewish presence in Jordan could open the door to Israeli territorial claims to the Hashemite Kingdom.

They point to Israel's claims over the West Bank and east Jerusalem — war-won territories sought by the Palestinians — which Israel says are rooted in millennia-old Jewish ties, backed up by archaeological finds.

While such a scenario is unlikely in Jordan, the concerns reflect the hostility Jordanians feel toward Israel despite the two countries' 1994 peace agreement.

“Any talk about Jewish history in Jordan could lead to political claims,” said Ali Elayan, who was slated to play a Jordanian police officer in the movie but withdrew over his opposition to the plot. “That is what happened in Palestine.”

Israel captured the West Bank and east Jerusalem, then under Jordanian control, in the 1967 Mideast war.

The Palestinians seek the West Bank for their future state, along with east Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip.

Since signing the landmark peace accord, Israel and Jordan have developed low-key yet strategic ties on energy, water and security.

But the relationship has been tested in recent years. Last year, Jordan's King Abdullah II decided not to renew parts of the peace deal regarding access to farming land.

And two years ago, a diplomatic crisis was sparked when a guard at the Israeli Embassy in Amman opened fire after he said he was attacked with a screw driver, killing two Jordanians.

Israel swapped out its ambassador to the kingdom and expressed “deep regret” over the incident. The guard, who claimed self-defense, received a hero's welcome in Israel, infuriating the Jordanians.

Israel's Foreign Ministry declined to comment on the controversy surrounding the film.

While there is ample archaeological evidence of a Jewish presence in Jordan, only an extreme-right fringe of Israeli society seeks both banks of the Jordan River as part of Israel.

An overwhelming majority of Israelis make no claim to Jordanian land and place high value on the peace accord.

Ordinary Jordanians — many of whom are Palestinian refugees or have ties to Palestinians — view Israel with animosity.

The movie was set to begin filming this month when actors began dropping out over the script and taking to social media to air their criticisms, sparking a public outcry.

Seizing on the wave of public opinion against the movie, the government demanded that the director, Muhyiedeen Qandour, halt filming until an official commission studies the script and delivers recommendations on it. It is unclear how long that may take.

Qandour told The Associated Press that the film bears no political undertones. He rejected criticism that it invites Israeli territorial claims.

“Many civilizations passed through historical Jordan. You don’t see them now returning to claim parts of the country because they were here once in the past,” he said. “The argument made by some about the movie is simply naïve and even childish.” But opponents are still skeptical.

“We are not against Jews as Jews but we are against Israel as an occupying power which uses religion to take others’ land,” said Sari al-Asaad, the former head of the Jordanian Actors Association, who opposed the movie and lobbied to derail it.

Israeli nationalists have pointed to biblical history and archaeological discoveries to back up their claim to the West Bank, a territory Israel views as “disputed” and whose fate should be determined in peace talks.

The Palestinians have accused Israel of exploiting the Bible and ignoring other religions’ ties to the region to grab land.

Israel in turn accuses the Palestinians of denying a Jewish connection to the region to strengthen its own claim.

Fears sparked by the film were stoked earlier this month when video emerged of Jewish visitors praying in a shrine said to be the burial place of Moses’ brother Aaron, located near Petra.

Jordan shuttered the site upon discovery of the videos and ordered an investigation into the incident, according to the official Jordanian news agency Petra.

Clashes between Muslim worshippers and Israeli police at a key Jerusalem shrine holy to Muslims and Jews over the weekend have only bolstered critics of the film.

The east Jerusalem holy site, known to Jews as the Temple Mount and to Muslims as the Noble Sanctuary, is administered by an Islamic trust under Jordanian stewardship.

“The government and the people in Jordan are unhappy with the relationship with Israel on a number of levels,” said Daoud Kuttub, an Amman-based analyst. “Usually Jordanian officials try to defuse the tension, but this time they didn’t.”

08.14.19

Russia tactical exercise flies nuclear-capable bombers to region facing Alaska

Russia flies nuclear-capable bombers to region facing Alaska

Moscow says move is part of training exercise while state media says it shows that Russia can deploy nukes close to U.S., supersonic Soviet-era aircraft bombers could hit American missile defenses if necessary

Reuters|Published: 08.14.19 , 23:46

MOSCOW - Russia said on Wednesday it had flown two nuclear-capable TU-160 bombers to a far eastern Russian region opposite Alaska as part of a training exercise that state media said showed Moscow's ability to park nuclear arms on the United States' doorstep.

The Tupolev TU-160 strategic bomber, nicknamed the White Swan in Russia, is a supersonic Soviet-era aircraft capable of carrying up to 12 short-range nuclear missiles and of flying 12,000 km (7,500 miles) non-stop without re-fuelling.

Russia's Ministry of Defense said in a statement that the planes had covered a distance of more than 6,000 km (3,728 miles) in over eight hours from their home base in western Russia to deploy in Anadyr in the Chukotka region, which faces Alaska.

The flight was part of a tactical exercise that would last until the end of this week, it said, and was designed to rehearse the air force's ability to rebase to operational air fields and to practise air-to-air refuelling.

Footage released by the Defense Ministry showed the planes taking off in darkness and landing in daylight at an airfield set amid flat grassy terrain in the Russian far east.

The flight comes amid heightened tensions over arms control between Moscow and Washington. The United States withdrew from a landmark nuclear missile pact with Russia this month after determining that Moscow was violating that treaty, an accusation the Kremlin denied.

The U.S. ambassador to Moscow said earlier on Wednesday that another arms treaty, the last major nuclear pact between Russia and the United States, was outdated and flawed and could be scrapped when it expires in 2021 and replaced with something else.

And on Tuesday, the Kremlin boasted that it was winning the race to develop new cutting-edge nuclear weapons despite a mysterious rocket accident last week in northern Russia that killed at least five people and caused a brief spike in radiation levels.

'20 minutes from Alaska'

Russian government newspaper Rossiiskaya Gazeta said on its website on Wednesday that the TU-160s' flight showed Moscow's ability to base nuclear bombers within 20 minutes flight time from U.S. territory.

"The distance from Anadyr to Alaska is less than 600 km (372 miles) - for the TU-160 that takes 20 minutes including take-off and gaining altitude," it said.

"Moreover the capabilities of the missiles which the plane carries would allow it to launch them without leaving Russian airspace. If necessary, the bombers' first target could be radar stations and the positions of interceptor missiles which are part of the U.S. missile defense system."

TU-160s, codenamed Blackjacks by NATO, have flown in the past from bases in Russia to Syria where they have bombed forces opposed to President Bashar al-Assad, one of Moscow's closest Middle East allies.

The Defense Ministry said a total of around 10 TU-160 bombers and TU-95MS and IL-78 planes were involved in the exercise, suggesting it covered other areas too.

Russia is in the process of modernizing the TU-160. President Vladimir Putin last year praised the upgraded version after watching it in flight, saying it would beef up Russia's nuclear weapons capability.

Ten of the modernized TU-160M nuclear bombers are due to be delivered to the Russian Air Force at a cost of 15 billion roubles (\$227 million) each between now and 2027.

Tupolev, the plane's manufacturer, says the modernised version will be 60 percent more effective than the older version with significant improvements to its weaponry, navigation and avionics.

A similar flight was made a year ago to Anadyr, where state media say the local air field has been modernized to be able to receive bigger planes like the TU-160.

14 August, 2019

Physicist advances a radical theory of gravity --- JUNK

Physicist advances a radical theory of gravity

Erik Verlinde has been compared to Einstein for completely rethinking the nature of gravity.

PAUL RATNER

14 August, 2019

The Dutch physicist Erik Verlinde's hypothesis describes gravity as an "emergent" force not fundamental.

The scientist thinks his ideas describe the universe better than existing models, without resorting to "dark matter".

While some question his previous papers, Verlinde is reworking his ideas as a full-fledged theory.

The Dutch theoretical physicist Erik Verlinde is no stranger to big ideas. His 2009 hypothesis about gravity earned him comparisons to Einstein for its complete rethinking of what gravity could be. Verlinde proposed that gravity was not a fundamental force of nature but rather emerged out of the interactions of information that fills the universe. He also didn't think there was such a thing as "dark matter" – a useful construct which is supposedly taking up 27% of the known universe (but is yet to be observed). Now, in a new interview, Verlinde reveals he is taking steps towards conceptualizing his groundbreaking ideas in a full-fledged theory.

As reported by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), Verlinde understands why many had trouble accepting his original proposal. After all, the previous leading explanations of gravity have been by Newton, who saw it as an invisible pulling force, and Einstein, who conceived of it as a curvature of space-time by mass and energy.

In Verlinde's view, based on string theory, quantum information theory and the physics of black holes, gravity is an "entropic" force that comes into existence as a result of "information associated with the positions of material bodies," as he wrote in his 2011 paper. What drives gravity is the quantum entanglement of tiny bits of spacetime information.

Ten years after publishing his ideas in a paper that caused much discussion, both from admirers and critics, Verlinde shares that he is still fleshing them out, based on the research and advancements that have taken place since then.

"Over the past ten years, we have gradually learned a lot more about how you should talk about space and time information," said Verlinde to NWO. "I am seriously considering rewriting my story from 2009, but now formulated much more precisely. I think that could remove some of the scepticism that still exists."--

#### Verlinde: Gravity Doesn't Exist

In 2016, Verlinde's ideas were tested by a team from Leiden Observatory, which found that a key prediction of the physicist held up. They studied the lensing effect of gravitational fields that are far away from the centers of more than 33,000 galaxies and found the numbers to be consistent with what the Dutch scientist's theory showed. The only way to get these calculations to match under the prevalent gravitational theory would have been to invoke dark matter – a potential fudge factor more than fact at this point.

A 2017 study from Princeton University found against Verlinde's ideas, however, showing that they are not consistent with the observed data on the rotation velocities of dwarf galaxies.

While some have accused of Verlinde of publishing his thoughts too early, before they are packaged in a theory that explains all of the implications, the scientist thinks such naysayers don't really understand the way theoretical physics works. "You need to elaborate and test a new idea step-by-step," he explains, adding "We must find the correct formulations and techniques."

Scientists like the theoretician Koenraad Schalm from Leiden University defend Verlinde, saying that "Contrary to the sceptics' opinions, Verlinde's work is definitely taken seriously". In fact, Verlinde, who is the winner of the Spinoza Prize, has been cited over 700 times by other scientists.

The physicist himself feels his overall thesis that information is the fundamental building mechanism of the universe is becoming more accepted. Perhaps his long-awaited new paper on the subject can bring it to an even stronger position amidst the main physics ideas of our time.

Moon is exactly full at 8:29 a.m. EDT, Thursday, August 15, 2019

Sturgeon full moon will trick your brain near sunset and sunrise

Updated Aug 14, 5:06 PM; Posted Aug 14, 5:06 PM

By Mark Torregrossa | mtorregr@mlive.com

The August full moon is called the sturgeon moon, and will shine brightly the next two days.

The sturgeon moon was given the name from the Algonquian tribe in Ontario. This was the time of year in the past when sturgeon fishing was the best in southern Canada. Other names for the August Full Moon include the green corn moon, barley moon, fruit moon and grain moon. These names were given by other groups since these grains are present in August.

Now we don't do much sturgeon fishing, but we still have the sturgeon moon in August.

The full moon is exactly full at 8:29 a.m. EDT, Thursday, August 15, 2019. But you'll be able to enjoy a virtually full moon tonight and Thursday night.

Astronomer Mike Murray of Delta College Planetarium says you may think the best viewing is when the full moon is on the horizon. He advises looking east along the horizon around 7 p.m. this evening, or look west around 5:30 a.m. Thursday morning. At

both times your brain will trick you into thinking the moon is bigger than when it's high in the sky.

Murray says there are two actions to convince yourself the moon is the same size on the horizon and high in the sky. First, take a round aspirin and hold it at arm's length over the moon on the horizon. The aspirin will be about the size of the moon. Then do the same thing when the moon is high in the sky. The moon will be the same size.

Murray says it's your brain that tells you the moon is bigger on the horizon because it has trees and other landmarks for frames of reference.

Murray has another funny way to get rid of the horizon effect. He jokes to do this where no one can see you. Murray says to put your back to the moon when the moon is on the horizon. Then bend over and look upside-down through your legs. He says the horizon effect will be gone in that position.

The sturgeon moon will make the night sky brighter.

Murray states, "Having the full moon will reduce the number of faint stars and deep sky objects that can be seen."

On average, the full moon can increase the apparent glow of the sky by about three times. On a clear, dark night with low humidity and zero light pollution, the well-trained human eye can see up to 6,000 stars in the sky. That same sky in the presence of the full moon may reduce the number of stars seen to 500 or less.

We do have more clouds than clear skies over Michigan this Wednesday afternoon. The good news is half of this cloudiness is "diurnally driven." The clouds will dissipate toward sunset.

This evening and Thursday evening will be your evenings to view the full moon in the east. If you want a photo opportunity in the west, as in over Lake Michigan, you'll have to get up early and be there around 5:30 a.m.