

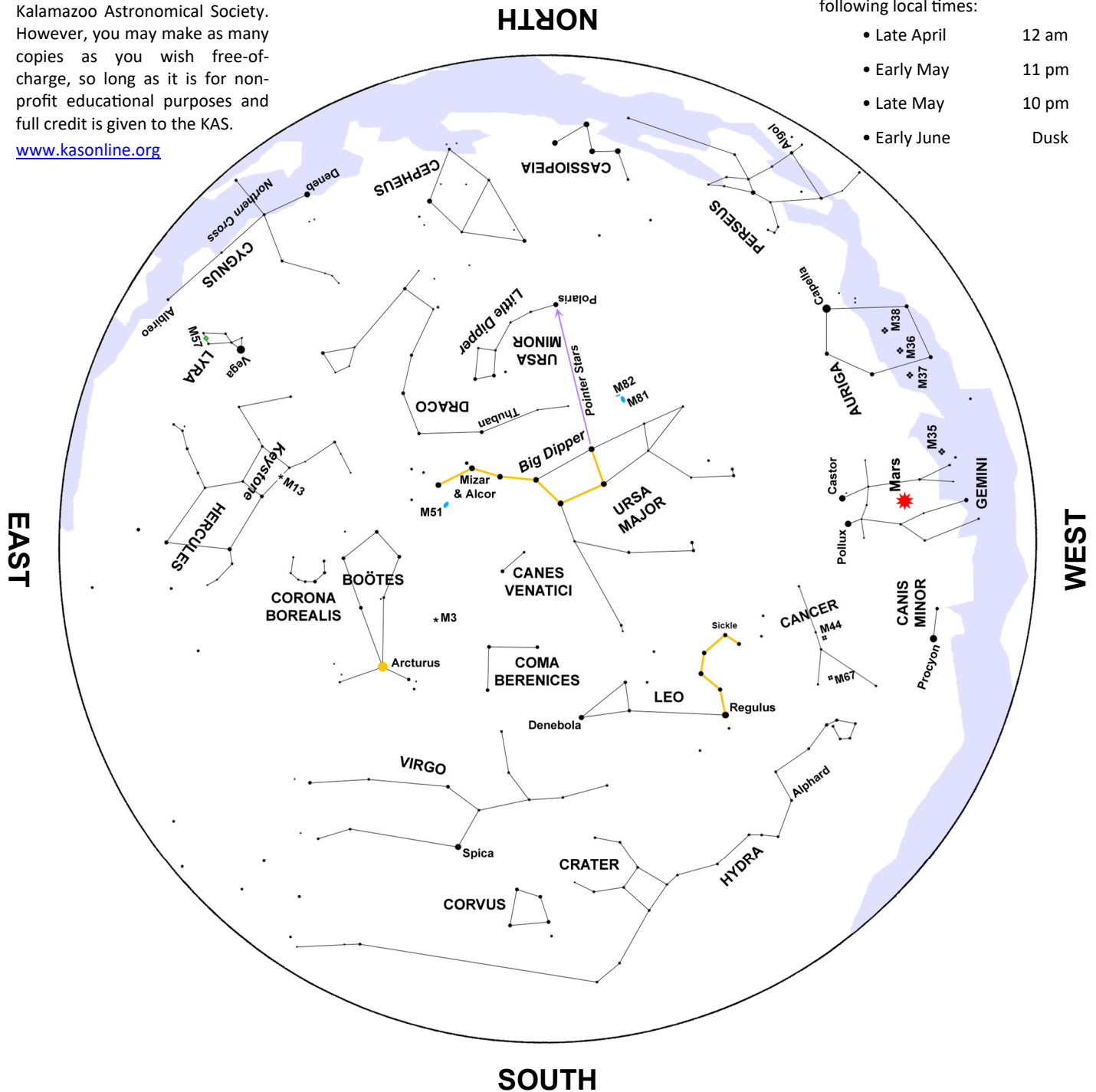
# — May Night Sky —

This star map is property of the Kalamazoo Astronomical Society. However, you may make as many copies as you wish free-of-charge, so long as it is for non-profit educational purposes and full credit is given to the KAS.

[www.kasonline.org](http://www.kasonline.org)

This map represents the sky at the following local times:

- Late April 12 am
- Early May 11 pm
- Late May 10 pm
- Early June Dusk



**I**nterested in an observing challenge? A thin sliver of a 1-day old waxing crescent Moon and Venus will be  $1^\circ$  apart at dusk on May 12<sup>th</sup>. The pair will only be about  $7^\circ$  above the west-northwestern horizon, so you will need a location with an unobstructed view. Bring binoculars along, as they will help you spot Venus first and then the young Moon.

The Moon will be easier to spot the following evening, May 13<sup>th</sup>. This time you'll find innermost planet Mercury about  $3^\circ$  to the Moon's right.

The Moon, now in a more advanced waxing crescent stage, encounters the Beehive Cluster (M44) in Cancer on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Only  $2^\circ$  separate Moon and cluster,

well within the range of binoculars or a wide-field telescope.

A total lunar eclipse takes place on May 26<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately for those of us in West Michigan, the Moon doesn't begin to enter Earth's umbra until 5:45 am EDT. The Moon sets behind the southwestern horizon at 6:16 am.