



by Martha Wagner

Need a new swimsuit or a sharp leotard for your dance class? **The Wild Iris**, custom sewing by Chris Roady, offers dozens of high-quality ladies and girls (sizes 3-12) swimsuits and leotards at the **Saturday Market**. There are seven styles to choose from and many wonderful, bright colors. Fabrics are Lycra or poly-cotton blend, in stripes, solids and prints. Through the end of July, womens sizes are on sale for \$12.99 or 2 for \$25, down from the still very reasonable price of \$15. Girls sizes are \$8.

One of the tastiest deals in town are the plump calzone turnovers now available at **Sy's Pizza**, 1211 Alder St., every Tuesday and Thursday. A modest \$2.75 is all you pay for this pizza-crust pastry filled with ricotta and mozzarella cheeses, mushrooms, black olives, onions, a spicy tomato sauce, and for the meat variety, some pepperoni sausage. One calzone feeds two with a modest appetite or one very hungry person. If you've never tried calzone or Sy's calzone, try it soon.

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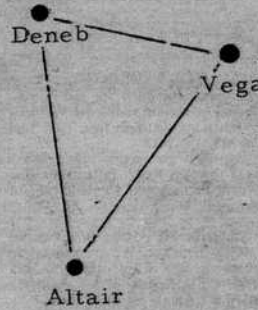
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## What's Happening in the Sky

by Larry Deckman

July 21-August 3



Have you ever thought about why the Moon was said to be made of cheese? The answer has something to do with the Milky Way. This pearly band of light is a feature of clear, moonless nights, stretching as it does from one horizon to the other. The name *Milky Way* refers to its white and slightly curdled appearance, which is the effect produced by millions of stars shedding their light from a great distance. The ancient Greek phrase for it was *Galaxias kyklos* ("milky circle"), from which we get its other common name, the Galaxy.

With some casual observation of the Heavens, it becomes apparent that the Milky Way is best seen when the night is moonless. Correspondingly, at full Moon each month, the Galaxy becomes invisible amidst the bright lunar rays.

It was the Danes whose folklore put together these celestial "clues" to give the Moon its fanciful identity. To their eyes, a moonless night meant the sky was awash with galactic milk. As the roundish Moon was seen to grow and get brighter on succeeding nights, that milk slowly vanished from the sky. Eventually it disappeared completely while the full lunar disk held sway through the night. Small wonder then that their imaginings saw the Moon as composed of the congealed milk of the Milky Way; that is to say, to be made of cheese!

One of the special blessings of Summer is its nightly namesake, The Summer Triangle. Composed of three brilliant stars from three different constellations, it peeks over the eastern horizon at sunset on the first day of Summer and rises slightly higher in the sky every day thereafter. The brightest of the three, and of the entire Summer sky, is bluish-white Vega, which can be found blazing high overhead these days at 11 pm. Above Vega and to its left is the white and incredibly luminous star Deneb, a globe 1600 light years away and fully 60,000 times as bright as the Sun. Making up the bottom corner of the triangle is Altair, a pale yellow star which is moving towards us at the speed of 1000 miles a minute. Look for these three beacons at early sunset or during a full Moon, at which time they are practically the only stars visible in the Heavens. Once you've recognized them, the night sky will have a familiar appearance every Summer thereafter.

This Sunday, July 24th, the Moon becomes full as it rides low on our southern horizon. Both interesting and noteworthy is that its path across the sky is the very same one the Sun will take six months from now in midwinter. Throughout the next two weeks, we are fortunate in being provided with a planetary "bonanza" at sunset. Following right behind the solar orb into the western depths is brilliant white Venus which outshines everything in the sky but the Moon. As it's lighting up the twilight, similarly colored Jupiter can be seen blazing away directly in the south. Remember, these two lustrous planets dwarf any star in the sky in brightness. Right on a line with Venus and Jupiter, about halfway between them is the slightly dimmer planet Saturn. The only possible confusion as to its identity is the whitish star called Spica, which is found below and to the right of Saturn. Topping off these celestial visions, the Sun rises each morning at approximately 6:00 am to joyously broadcast its Summer light and renew the day.

This Week's **Celestial Eye-Opener** (taken from the book *Abys* by C.P. Idyll): "The earth is very nearly smooth, relatively speaking. It shows fewer bumps and hollows in relation to its diameter than a billiard ball, which is often put forward as the standard of smoothness."



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