

Kaw Valley Almanac

February 26 – March 4, 2018

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Day	Moon rises	Moon south	Moon sets	% Illum.	Phase
Monday	01:05 PM	08:12 PM	02:17 AM	64%	
Tuesday	01:52 PM	09:10 PM	03:25 AM	75%	
Wednesday	02:46 PM	10:11 PM	04:33 AM	84%	
Thursday	03:48 PM	11:14 PM	05:38 AM	92%	
Friday	04:56 PM		06:37 AM	97%	
Saturday	06:07 PM	12:16 AM	07:30 AM	100%	Full Moon
Sunday	07:19 PM	01:16 AM	08:16 AM	99%	



The green hedge apples of late summer and fall have faded to shades of rotting brown. But they are still mined by squirrels for their edible seeds, as the dissected apple on the right shows. The remains of these fruit lie in little piles this time of year on woodland floors wherever the osage orange grows. Most other nuts have been harvested by now, leaving the hedge apple as a February staple.



Sun

Saturn, Jupiter and Mars south at dawn; Venus low west just after sunset

Day	Gets light	Sunrise	Sunset	Gets dark
Monday	06:02 AM	06:57 AM	06:10 PM	07:06 PM
Tuesday	06:00 AM	06:56 AM	06:11 PM	07:07 PM
Wednesday	05:59 AM	06:54 AM	06:12 PM	07:08 PM
Thursday	05:58 AM	06:53 AM	06:13 PM	07:09 PM
Friday	05:56 AM	06:51 AM	06:14 PM	07:10 PM
Saturday	05:55 AM	06:50 AM	06:15 PM	07:11 PM
Sunday	05:53 AM	06:48 AM	06:17 PM	07:12 PM

Nature Notes

§ On a sunny day, look at grasses and weeds between you and the sun for the telltale gossamer trails that the first spiders of spring leave as they venture out and leave the thin spider web strand behind them as evidence of their passage.

§ In addition to snowdrop blossoms, crocuses are opening up on the south slopes of yards already. Mosses, greened up by recent sleet and rain, are beginning to send up their sporulation setae or hairs, to soon be topped by capsules full of spores.

§ With rain predicted this week and warming temperatures, mud means track identification season, begun with snow, continues. Keep a lookout for raccoon, coyote, muskrat and cottontail rabbit tracks as this is their mating season, and deer tracks are quite likely made by gestating deer who will have fawns later this spring.

§ The third of four presentations: Natural Areas and Historic Sites of Douglas County, sponsored by Kansas Biological Survey and the Douglas County Natural and Cultural Heritage Program will be held this Saturday, March 3, 10 a.m. at the Lecompton Community Bldg. At 333 Elmore St. The last one will be in Eudora on March 10th. It's a great presentation: don't miss it!

§ Turkey vultures are about halfway back from their overwintering site in Venezuela. When will they get here?