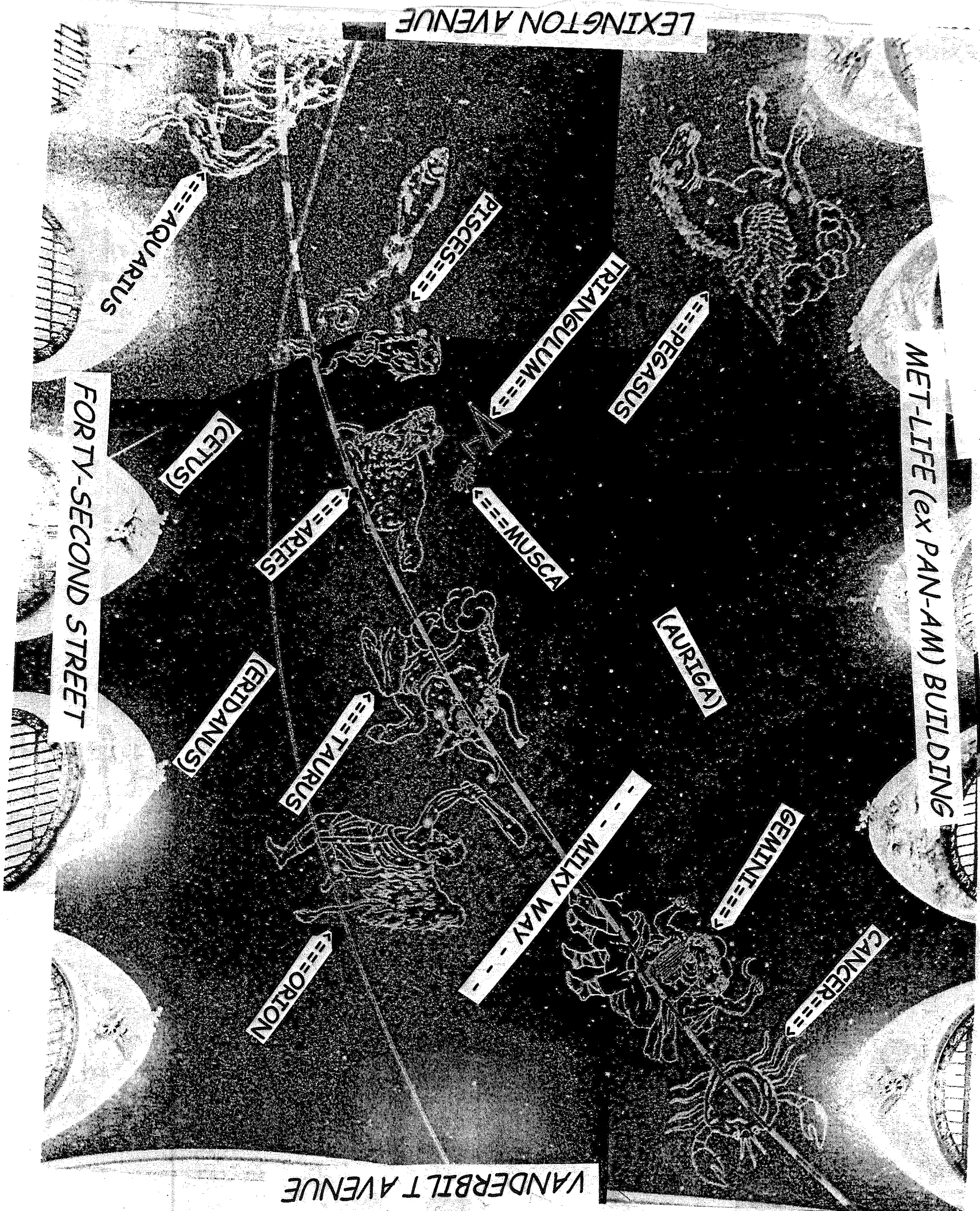


THE SKY CEILING AT GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL

by John Pazmino, NYSkies, 2006 April 10



The Sky Ceiling in the Main Concourse of Grand Central Terminal is based on an 18th-century style starmap, with some leeway in the placement of the constellations. Never the less, it is the largest starmap in human history and the fetching centerpiece astronomy feature in the Terminal.

Orion is shifted north about 8 degrees and flipped frontwards; he matches the stars of the real sky. Pegasus is shifted north about 20 degrees; it really fits against Pisces. Some stars of Auriga, Cetus, and Eridanus are incompletely plotted. Many peripheral stars seem to be random sprinklings.

Musca refers to Musca Borealis, there once being a Musca Australis near Crux. Musca Borealis is no longer an official constellation, now being an asterism around 35, 39, and 41 Arietis. The southern counterpart is renamed to plain Musca.

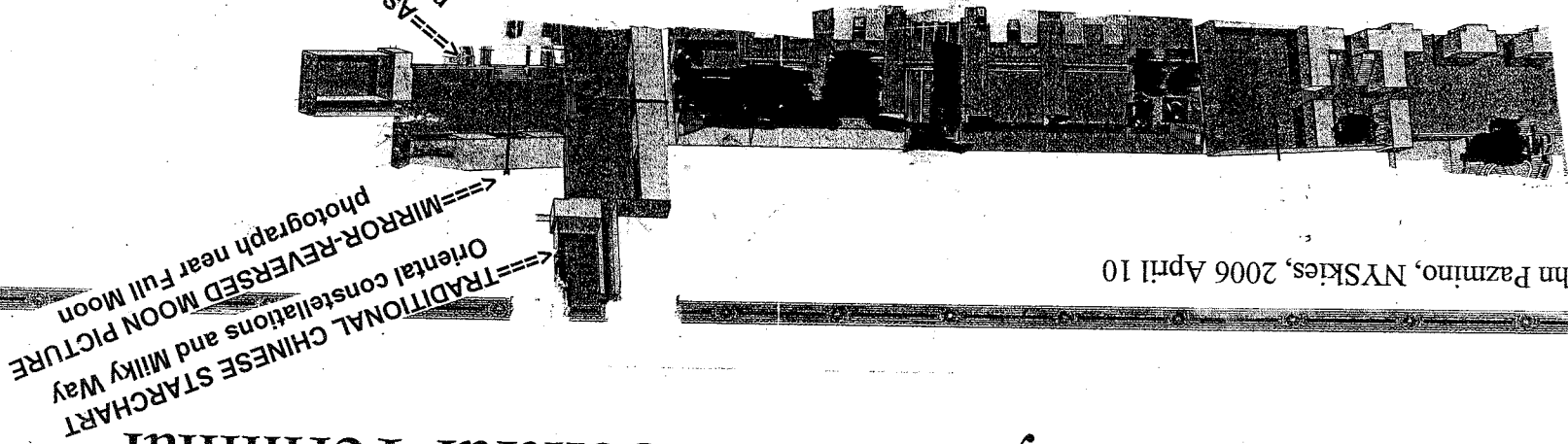
Triangulum refers to the larger figure as Triangulum Maius. The smaller one south of it is Triangulum Minus. Today only the larger triangle is recognized as just Triangulum.

Compiled by NYSkies, the support group for home astronomy in the New York cosmopolitan region, from its own photographs of the Sky Ceiling. NYSkies is at 'nyskies@nyskies.org', 'www.nyskies.org'

STATION AT THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE

The astronomy in Grand Central Terminal

by John Pazmino, NYSkies, 2006 April 10



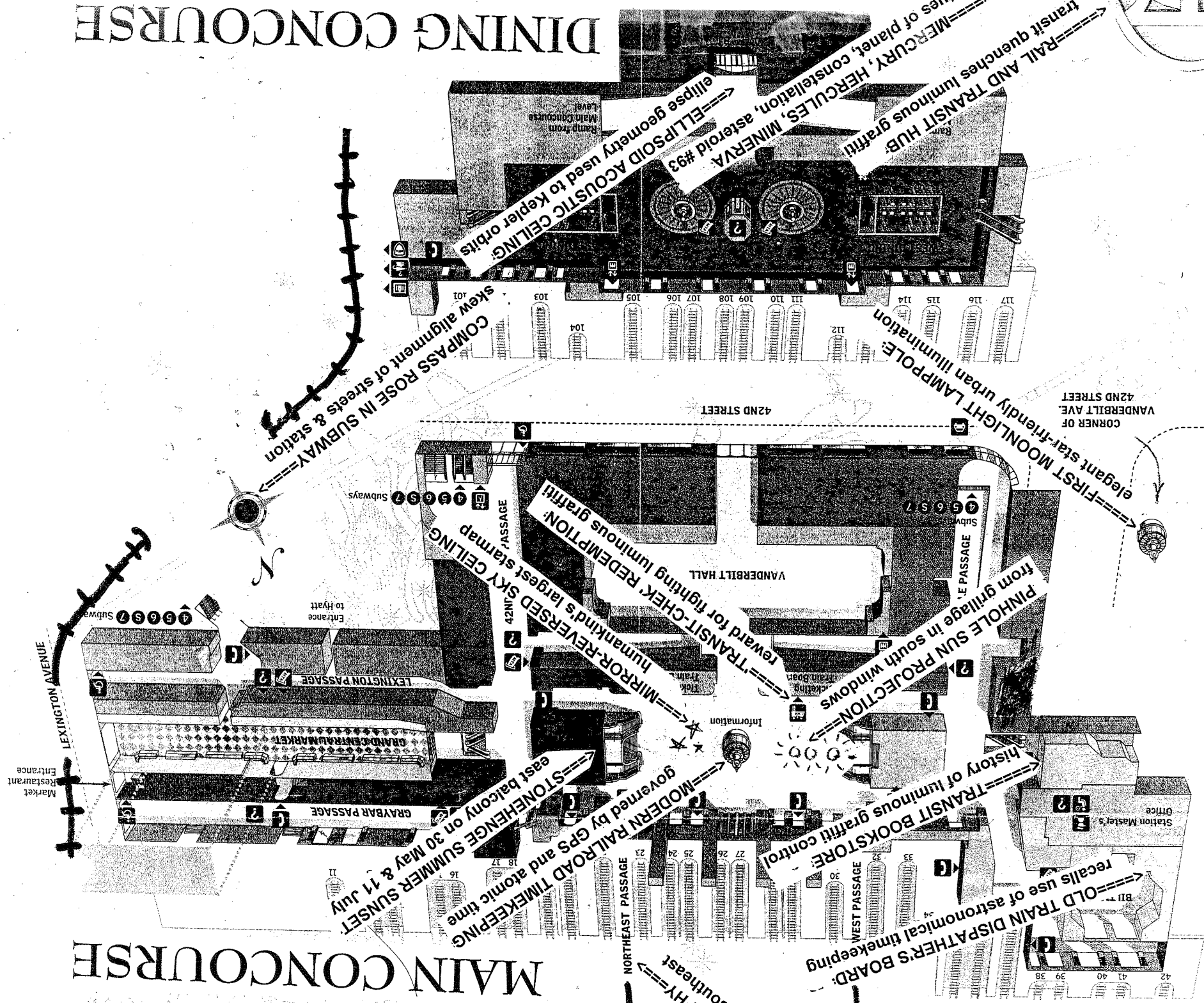
GRAND CENTRAL NORTH

ASSORTED COSMOGRAMS
many in east arm of transverse

REVERSED GEOGRAPHY
North spine is southern one

REVERSED GEOGRAPHY
Northeast passage is southeast

REVERSED GEOGRAPHY
South spine is northern one



Grand Central Terminal is filled with astronomy points of interest. Some are obvious, like the fabled Sky Ceiling. Others are subtle, like the ticket windows where you redeem your reward for fighting luminous graffiti. This self-guided tour brings you to over one dozen astronomy features of the Terminal. Compiled by NYSkies, the support service for home astronomy in the New York cosmopolitan region, and adapted from a map provided by MTA MetroNorth Railroad. Details about NYSkies are at nyskies@nyskies.org, www.nyskies.org.