

EVENTS AND ATTRACTIONS

# Get in for free on Museum Day

BY SARA KAPLOW AND MATT KRAFTY

Every year, museums all over the country — including several here in the North Coast area — participate in International Museum Day, usually around May 18.

This year, the local participating museums, including the Eleutheros Cooke House and Garden, the Follett House Museum, the Mari-

time Museum of Sandusky, the Sandusky Greenhouse, the Merry-Go-Round Museum, the Ohio Veterans Home Museum, the Edison Birthplace and the Milan Historical Museum will all celebrate on May 22.

What does that mean for you? Well, it means free

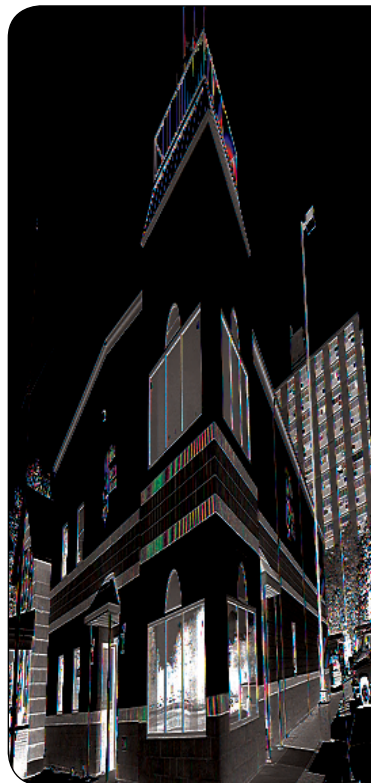
## Want to go?

- **WHAT:** International Museum Day
- **WHEN:** Locally May 22
- **WHERE:** The Eleutheros Cooke House and Garden, the Follett House Museum, the Maritime Museum of Sandusky, the Sandusky Greenhouse, the Merry-Go-Round Museum, the Ohio Veterans Home Museum, the Edison Birthplace and the Milan Historical Museum
- **COST:** Free

admission to each of the museums, as well as special family-friendly activities. The Sandusky Underground Railroad Education Center will offer trolley tours and the Erie County Historical Society will distribute information about Erie County history.

"It's a great opportunity to get people to come out and see all of the museums and historical places in the area, considering it's all free," said Neil Allen, director of the Maritime Museum of Sandusky. The Maritime Museum will feature boat building, in addition to their planned May Day events (see story, page 10).

International Museum Day has been celebrated since 1977, and each year there's a



To commemorate International Museum Day, admission will be free to the Maritime Museum of Sandusky, pictured, and several other area museums.

Register file photo

special theme. This year's theme is "Museums for Social Harmony."

The International Council of Museums, which organizes the event and chooses the theme, picked "Museums for Social Harmony" because "Museums in the 21 Century are at the cross roads of major transformations in the global economy and environment. They are in a position to address the urgent need for safeguarding cultural diversity and bio-diversity as the common heritage of humanity."

Participating museums across the country include the Museum of Modern Art in New York, The Grand Rapids Art Museum in Grand Rapids, Mich. and The Philadelphia Museum of Art.

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# Spring cleaning — green style

BY CHRISTY SEYLER

It's that time of year again when you start looking around your house and wondering, "where the heck did all this stuff come from?" Or you just get into the cleaning mode and want to start getting crap out of your house. I know my family does this every year. Spring cleaning can mean getting rid of all the clothes our son has grown out of, putting a new coat of paint in a room or going through the attic and basement and getting rid of things we haven't used in months.

Whatever your version of spring cleaning is, start thinking of it in a green way. Let's talk about getting rid of old furniture, clothes and electronics. I hope you don't put any of these things in your normal trash and if you do, STOP NOW! Landfills are filling up and people produce too much trash. We need to reuse or repurpose things and we have options.

First, you can try and make some money off your old stuff by having a garage sale. After all, kids are heading off to college and need stuff for their dorms. Plus people love a good treasure hunt.

If you have some friends that are getting rid

of stuff, you can have a group garage sale and that just makes it even better for the people coming (more stuff!). Whatever you don't sell you can take to Goodwill, Salvation Army or any of your local shelters. And did you know that if you make a list of everything you are donating and get a receipt, you can deduct it from your taxes?

There are definitely good tips to having a good garage sale and everyone has different ideas but here are a few things

I've had success with.

One, make sure to label everything with bright colors and clear, simple prices. Two, if you are willing to haggle with people tell them by hanging signs that say prices are negotiable. Three, make sure to make your house stand out. Put balloons and a sign out front and at the corners of your block.

Now let's talk about electronics. Electronics have lots of different parts that can be reused and equipment that contains toxic materials, including lead, cadmium and mercury that may leak into the soil and ground water when disposed of in landfills. NOT GOOD!

About 90 percent of computer contents can be reused or recycled. So if you got a new cell phone, computer or TV and you don't want your old one to go to the landfill, make sure to visit the EPA's website (epa.gov).



Provided photo  
If Kim Kardashian can get her green on, so can you!



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