



Spare Times

By THE NEW YORK TIMES
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AROUND TOWN

Museums and Sites

SWAP-O-RAMA-RAMA One way to commemorate Earth Day on Sunday is by getting some new stuff — well, new to you, anyway — at Swap-O-Rama-Rama. Participants at this huge clothing swap arrive bearing bags of their (laundered) castoffs; organizers sort the goods into piles; and everyone dives in, searching for the perfect skinny jeans, wrap dress or button-down. Everything from shoes to jewelry is acceptable to trade, and there's no limit on what you can walk out with. Fellow swappers offer a fresh perspective on whether that polka-dot top really goes with that bubble skirt, and they supply a competitive thrill of the hunt (hands off that bubble skirt!). Meanwhile, volunteers with sewing machines (like those at last year's swap, above) help alter garments to fit, and local designers apply their skills and scissors to give well-loved T-shirts some extra flair. The fashion free-for-all culminates in a runway show of reclaimed and redesigned outfits: it's barter couture. (Eat your heart out, [Karl Lagerfeld](#).) "There's a lot of serendipitous creativity," said Wendy Tremayne, who founded the swap in 2005 as a way to encourage community, send up consumerism and, of course, get free stuff. Since then it has spawned dozens of offshoots; organizers in cities from Vancouver to Jerusalem hold their own versions of the event. But New York's swaps — this is the fourth — are among the biggest. "There will be thousands of pounds of clothing," Ms. Tremayne said. "And the thing that you think, 'Oh this is just junk that nobody would like' — that's what someone loves. The beauty is in seeing the potential in anything." Especially a bargain. (Sunday, from 1 to 6 p.m., Eisner and Lubin Auditorium, [New York University](#), 60 Washington Square South, Fourth Floor, [swaporamarama.org](#); \$10 plus one bag of clothes required for entry.) MELENA RYZIK

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY Central Park West and 79th Street. Through April 6, 2008, "Beyond," an exhibition of more than 30 large-format photographs of Earth's planetary neighbors, in the museum's Imax Gallery. Through Jan. 6, "The Unknown Audubons: Mammals of North America," a display of more than 40 artworks depicting animals. Through May 28, "The Butterfly Conservatory: Tropical Butterflies Alive in Winter," a display with hundreds of butterflies in a re-creation of their natural habitat. Through Aug. 19, "Gold," with coins, jewelry and other artifacts. Timed tickets to "Gold" and "The Butterfly Conservatory," which include museum admission, are \$21; \$16 for students and 60+; \$12 for 12 and younger. Suggested museum admission: \$14; \$10.50 for students and 60+; children, \$8. Combination tickets, including museum and Rose Center admission and the [Hayden Planetarium](#) space show ("Cosmic Collisions"): \$22; \$16.50 for students and 60+; \$13 for 12 and younger; under 2, free. Admission that includes all activities: \$30; \$23 for students and 60+; \$19 for 12 and younger. Museum hours: daily, 10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. (to 8:45 p.m. on Fridays). (212) 769-5100 or (212) 769-5200; [amnh.org](#). **MERCHANT'S HOUSE MUSEUM**, 29 East Fourth Street, East Village. Tomorrow and Sunday, special guided tours of the house including the servants' quarters, which are normally closed to visitors. Hours: Thursdays through Mondays, noon to 5 p.m. \$8, \$5 for students and 65+, free for members and under 12. (212) 777-1089.

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Leading Men

MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE (A LIVING MEMORIAL TO THE HOLOCAUST),

18 First Place, at West Street and Battery Place, Battery Park City, Lower Manhattan. Through Oct. 8, "From the Heart: The Photojournalism of Ruth Gruber." Through July 2008, "Daring to Resist: Jewish Defiance in the Holocaust," an exhibition of photographs, objects and documents. Sundays through Tuesdays, and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.; Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$10; 65+, \$7; students, \$5; under 12 and Wednesdays from 4 to 8 p.m. Free. (646) 437-4200; mjhny.org.

MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, Fifth Avenue at 103rd Street. Tomorrow at 3 p.m.,

a performance by the Asase Yaa African-American Dance Theater. Sunday at 2 p.m., a screening of the 1975 film "Hester Street," with a discussion with its director, Joan Micklin Silver. Tuesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Suggested admission: \$9; \$5 for students and 62+; free for children under 12; \$20 for families; free on Sundays, 10 a.m. to noon. (212) 534-1672, mcity.org.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN, United States Custom House, 1

Bowling Green, Lower Manhattan. Tomorrow night at 7, a performance by the Thunderbird Indian Dancers and Singers, with dancing open to all. Free. (212) 514-3700, www.nmai.si.edu.

Gardens

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN, Southern Boulevard and 200th Street, Bedford Park, the

Bronx. Tomorrow and Sunday, "Gardening in a Changing Climate," a weekend of special events, including forest tours, a film screening and workshops. Tuesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Parking, \$10. \$18; students and 62+, \$16; children under 13, \$5. Garden grounds admission: \$6; \$3 for 62+; \$2 for students; \$1 for children 2 to 12; free for children under 2. Combination ticket, including all admissions and a tram tour: \$13; \$11 for students and 62+; \$5 for children 2 to 12; free for children under 2. Tram tours daily, every 20 minutes. Conservatory admission: \$5; \$4 for students and 62+; \$3 for children 2 to 12; free for children under 2. Grounds admission free on Wednesdays and 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. (718) 817-8700; nybg.org.

WAVE HILL, Independence Avenue and West 249th Street, Riverdale, the Bronx. Tomorrow and

Sunday, an "Earth Day Weekend," with special events including a garden walk, a woodland cleanup and a family art workshop. Tuesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. \$4; \$2 for students and 65+; free for children under 6 at all times and for everyone all day Tuesdays and 9 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. (718) 549-3200.

Events

MANHATTAN VINTAGE CLOTHING AND ANTIQUE TEXTILE SHOW AND SALE,

Metropolitan Pavilion, 125 West 18th Street, Chelsea. Today, 1 to 8 p.m.; tomorrow, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. \$20. (212) 691-7297.

EARTH DAY NEW YORK, Vanderbilt Avenue, between 42nd and 45th Streets. Today and

tomorrow, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

NINTH PRECINCT COMMUNITY COUNCIL STREET FAIR, Astor Place, between

Broadway and Lafayette Streets, East Village. Tomorrow, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

16TH WEST SIDE SPRING FESTIVAL, Broadway between 96th and 110th Streets, Upper

West Side. Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sponsored by the Veritas Therapeutic Community. (212) 764-6330.

TIMES SQUARE BLOCK PARTY, 45th Street, between Avenue of the Americas and Seventh

Avenue. Tomorrow, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

EARTH AWARENESS DAY FESTIVAL, Waverly Place, from Broadway to Fifth Avenue, West

Village. Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

AN EVENING WITH FARLEY GRANGER, [Film Forum](http://FilmForum.org), 209 West Houston Street, west of

Avenue of the Americas, South Village. Monday night at 8, a discussion with the actor, with clips from his films. \$10.50, \$5.50 for members. (212) 727-8110.

[Which city are Marlon Brando, Fred Astaire, Henry Fonda and Nick Nolte from?](#)

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27TH NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW, 30 Rockefeller Plaza. Through Sunday, a display of more than 50,000 orchids, co-sponsored by the Greater New York Orchid Society. \$5, free for children under 12. Hours, (212) 332-6553; rockefellercenter.com or gnvos.org.

Spoken Word

'HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR WILLIAM,' Cornelia Street Cafe, 29 Cornelia Street, West Village. Monday night at 6, a reading of [Shakespeare](#) sonnets in celebration of the 443rd anniversary of his birth, with the actors Barbara Feldon, Paul Hecht and Charlotte Parry, and the lute player Hank Heijink. \$10. (212) 989-9319. **LITERARY ARTS FESTIVAL**, Fort Tilden, Gateway National Recreation Area, Jamaica Bay, Queens. Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., panel discussions and a screenwriting symposium, featuring writers and screenwriters. Sponsored by the Rockaway Music and Arts Council. Free. (718) 945-6700; rockawaymusicandarts.org.

Walking Tours

OUTDOORS CLUB Tomorrow at 1:30 p.m., a four-mile "Doggie Hike in Forest Park," meeting in Queens at Queens Boulevard and Kew Gardens Road. \$3. (516) 671-2095.

LOWER EAST SIDE WALKING AND EATING TOUR, Sunday at 4 p.m., a fund-raiser for the Hester Street Collaborative, a community architectural and design organization, meeting at 113 Hester Street; the walk will be followed by a cocktail reception; \$150 suggested donation. (212) 431-6780.

BROOKLYN CENTER FOR THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT Tomorrow at 11 a.m., an architectural tour of Bedford-Stuyvesant in Brooklyn, meeting outside the Franklin Avenue subway stop on the C or S trains, at Fulton Street. Sunday at 3 p.m., \$13; members, \$10; 62+ and students, \$8. (718) 788-8500, Ext. 208.

NOSHWALKS Tomorrow at 10:45 a.m., "Bronx Bites," visits the multicultural markets of Morris Heights and Woodlawn, meeting in Manhattan at Hue-Man Books, 2319 Frederick Douglass Boulevard, at 124th Street; \$43; \$40 for subscribers; \$20 for students, including lunch. (212) 222-2243; noshwalks.com.

MUNICIPAL ART SOCIETY Sunday at 11 a.m., "Bushwick: Old and New," a Brooklyn neighborhood that is undergoing a residential transformation, meeting at the intersection of Myrtle Avenue and Broadway. \$15, for members \$12; (212) 439-1049; mas.org.

Recreation

ADIDAS RUN FOR THE PARKS FOUR-MILE AND KIDS' RACES, Central Park. Begins Sunday at 10 a.m. on the East Drive near 68th Street; kids races begin at 8:30 a.m. Sponsored by the New York Road Runners Club. Advance registration: \$30; \$20 for members; \$14 for 18 and younger and 62+. Race-day registration: \$35; \$25 for members; \$15 for 18 and younger and 62+; kids' races, \$7, \$5 for members. (212) 860-4455; www.nyrrc.org.

M.S. WALKS IN MANHATTAN AND ON STATEN ISLAND Two walks to raise money for multiple sclerosis services and research. Participants in either have a choice of three walks: a 10-mile course; a 6-mile course; or a 3-mile, wheelchair-accessible course. The Staten Island walk begins tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. at Historic Richmond Town; the Manhattan walk begins Sunday at 11 a.m. at South Street Seaport. Sponsored by the New York City chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. (212) 463-9791 or msnyc.org.

Information about events to be considered for inclusion in Spare Times can be sent to weekend@nytimes.com.

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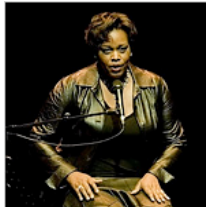
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