

WEEKEND

MANHATTAN

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY. "Sharks! Fact and Fantasy," through May 1, 10 a.m.-5:45 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8:45 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Central Park West between 79th and 81st Streets, \$5 donation, \$2.50 ages 2-12, (212) 769-5100; **Naturemax Theater:** Daily screenings of "Search for the Great Sharks," 10:30 and 11:30 a.m., 1:30 and 3:30 p.m., and "To the Limit," inner body photography demonstrating the working of the human body, 12:30, 2:30 and 4:30 p.m., \$5, \$4 students and seniors, \$2.50 age 12 and under (double feature) and 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, \$7, \$5.50, \$3; entrance fee in addition to museum admission.

APRIL FOOL'S DAY PARADE. Parade spotlights impostors costumed as this year's nominees for the coveted crown of "Fool," noon today, Fifth Avenue from 59th Street to Washington Square Park, New York April Fool's Committee, (212) 254-7878.

ARTLINK. Aerial tram to Roosevelt Island's Sculpture Center, museum includes the Noguchi Garden Museum, parks, landmarks, waterfront promenade, board at 59th Street and Second Avenue in Manhattan, transfer to the bus link on Roosevelt Island, tomorrow through Nov. 27, \$8 one-pass-to-art, \$5 seniors, students, children ages 5-18 and physically challenged, (212) 879-3500.

BOOK DISCUSSION. African-American Writers series features Ellis Cose discussing his book "The Rage of a Privileged Class," 8 p.m. Tuesday, Barnes and Noble, 2289 Broadway at 82nd Street, free, (212) 362-8835.

CENTRAL PARK. Horseback Riding, open 8:30 a.m. to one hour before dusk weekdays, 6:30 a.m.-4 p.m. weekends, Claremont Stables, 175 W. 89th St., \$30 an hour, riders should be experienced in English saddle, reservations, (212) 724-5100; **Zoo,** open 10 a.m.-4:40 p.m. daily, \$2.50 adults, \$1.25 seniors, 50 cents ages 3-12, free under 3, 64th Street and Fifth Avenue, last ticket sold one-half hour prior to closing, New York Zoological Society, (212) 861-6030.

THE CLOISTERS. The Metropolitan Museum's branch of medieval art, 9:30 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays, Fort Tryon Park, \$6, \$3 students, seniors, (212) 923-3700.

EASTER PARADE. Informal parade of Easter bonnets, suits and dresses beginning 11 a.m. Sunday on Fifth Avenue and 44th Street and ending on 57th Street.

ELLIS ISLAND. National museum, theaters, immigrant exhibits, gift shop and cafeteria, boat leaves every half hour beginning at 9:30 a.m. daily and returning 5 p.m., Circle Line Statue of Liberty ferry, Battery Park, \$6, \$5 seniors, \$4 ages 3-17, free under 3, (212) 388-5355.

Fast Carriers," "The Battle of the Atlantic, Age of Exploration" and "Postage Stamp Armada," S.S. United States propeller display; Air War Over Europe, exhibit tells the epic story of the air war over Europe from 1939-1945, museum hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday, Pier 86 at 12th Avenue and 46th Street, \$7, \$6 seniors, veterans, \$4 children, (212) 245-0072.

EVEL KNEIVEL. Films of his jumps and discussion of his career along with music by **Beck** and **That Dog**, 8 tonight, The Grand, 76 E. 13th St., \$15, (212) 777-0600.

MACY'S FLOWER SHOW. More than 6,000 tropical plants and cut flowers, special events include: complimentary guided tours of the Main Floor, lecture series in The Corner Shop Antique Galleries, flower arranging seminars in Fine China and Crystal, music revues for children and more, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, open daily except Easter Sunday 10 a.m. through April 9, Macy's Main Floor, 151 W. 34th St., free admission, (212) 494-4495.

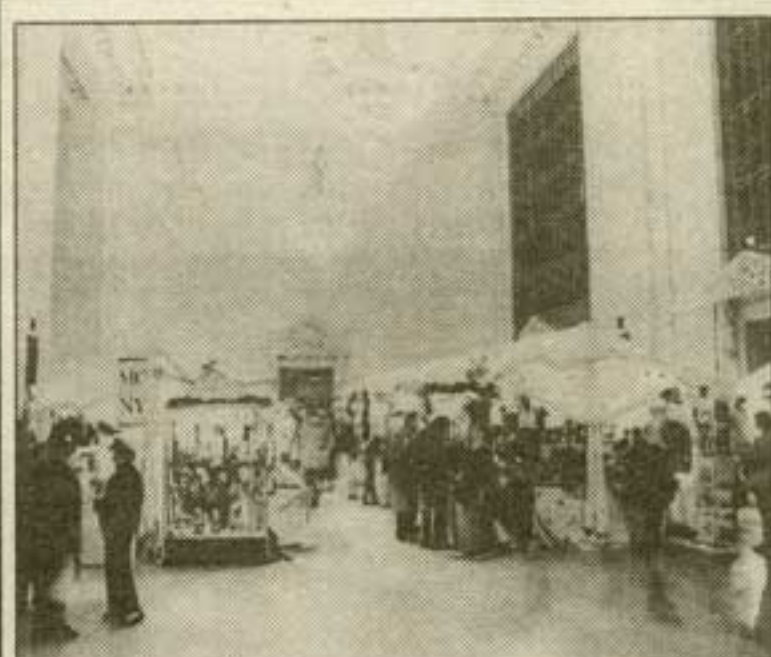
METROPOLITAN OPERA BACKSTAGE TOUR. Go behind the scenes to explore the world's biggest opera theater, visit the studios where artisans work on sets, costumes and wigs, rehearsal facilities, dressing rooms and auditorium, 3:45 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. Saturdays, reservations required, \$7, \$4 full-time students, (212) 769-7020.

NEW YORK CITY FIRE MUSEUM. Collection of fire equipment past and present, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 278 Spring St., \$3, 50 cents children, (212) 691-1303.

"NEW YORK IN BLOOM." More than 75 vendors who will retail products with a spring motif: plants, exotic blooms for "Spring Gardens," ecologically sound products for "Spring Cleaning," chocolates and hats for Easter, jewelry and pillows for "Spring Romance" and more, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays through April 8, Grand Central Terminal main waiting room, free admission, Urban Space Management, (212) 529-9262.

NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW. More than 1,000 new car models, trucks, vans, sport utilities and concept cars, safety and environmental exhibits emphasizing the "Smart Car," and more, 11 a.m.-10:30 p.m. tomorrow and Monday through April 9; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday and April 10, Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, 655 W. 34th St., \$8, \$2 under 12, (516) 888-9000, (212) 307-7171. Parking is available at the Manhattan Plaza garage at 42nd Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenues where there will be a shuttle to and from the show.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE TOURS. Center is open 9:15 a.m.-4 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, tickets for self-guided tours are distributed daily outside the 20 Broad Street building for same-day 45-minute time periods, group reservations are required, (212) 512-5122.



Spring Blooms Inside Grand Central

A European-style market featuring Easter plants, handmade chocolates and handicrafts continues through April 8.

EVENTS

International Auto Show

The Javits Convention Center plays host to the nation's largest auto show, which opens tomorrow and runs through April 10.

ing **Charles Keating** reading W. Somerset Maugham's "The Wash Tub," **Kim Hunter** reading Carson McCullers' "Madame Zilensky and the King of Finland," **Michael Tolan** reading Kobo Abe's "The Crime of S. Karma" and **Lazaro Perez** reading Danny Santiago's "The Somebody," 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Symphony Space, 2537 Broadway at 95th Street, \$12.50, (212) 864-1414.

SIERRA CLUB PRESENTS "TAKE A HIKE." How-to seminar of springtime hiking, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. tomorrow, The Dwight School, 18 W. 89th St., free admission, (212) 877-5921.

WALKING TOURS. Jewish Williamsburg, men should have headcovers handy, women should wear skirts or dresses, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sunday, \$25, 92nd Street Y, (212) 996-1100; "Eldridge Street and the Lower East Side," synagogue visit and historian-led walking tour, noon Sunday, 12 Eldridge St., \$10, (212) 219-0888; "Spirits of 97 Orchard: A Tour of a 19th Century Tenement," tour times 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays and on the hour from 10:30 a.m. on Sundays, Lower East Side Tenement Museum, 90 Orchard St., \$5, \$3 students, (212) 431-0233;

through May 5, 200th Street and Southern Boulevard, \$3, \$2 seniors, students and ages 6-16, (718) 817-8700.

BROOKLYN

BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN. Spring flower show, "New Beginnings," hydrangea, ranunculus, lilies, tulips and other bulbs, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesdays through Sundays through April 10, The Conservatory, 1000 Washington Ave., free admission, (718) 622-4433.

CONEY ISLAND'S ASTROLAND AMUSEMENT PARK. The Cyclone Roller Coaster, kiddie park, "The Midway," three game arcade, rides and more, noon-midnight tomorrow, Sunday, weather permitting, West 10th Street between Surf Avenue and Coney Island Boardwalk, free admission, pay-one-price or pay for individual rides, (718) 265-2100.

GREEN-WOOD CEMETERY TOUR. Tours conducted by historian John J. Cashman, 1 p.m. Sunday, meet inside main entrance Fifth Avenue and 25th Street, \$5, (718) 469-5277.