

Science Museum Celebrates Astronomy Day

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Science Museum will celebrate Astronomy Day on Saturday, May 10, from noon to 4 p.m. Weather permitting, visitors can look at sunspots through specially-filtered telescopes set up on the Quadrangle grounds. Jack Megas of the Springfield Stars Club will display his meteorite collection in the museum and give informal presentations throughout the afternoon. Special visits to the museum's large rooftop observatory will also be offered.

The Museum's Seymour Planetarium, the oldest operating planetarium in the country, will offer "Splendors of the Spring Sky" at 11:15 a.m., the children's program "Magic Sky" at noon, "Oceans in Space" at 1 p.m., and "Mystery of the Disappearing Dinosaurs" at 2 p.m.

Astronomy Day began in 1973 as a local activity organized by the Astronomical Association of Northern California. Over the years, it has grown into an international event, with hundreds of museums, planetariums, and astronomy clubs participating.

The Science Museum is located on the Quadrangle at 21 Edwards Street. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors and college students, \$5 for children 3-17, and free for children under three and museum members. The fee provides admission to all four museums and the Dr. Seuss National Memorial Sculpture Garden. Springfield residents are free with proof of address. Free parking is available in the Edwards Street parking lots.

For more information about Astronomy Day, call 413-263-6800 ext. 318.