

GARAGE SALES

Special Garage Sales

You aren't the only ones holding garage sales to clear out clutter and make an extra buck.

Organizations, collectors, celebrities and other people will also hold garage sales to raise money for a cause or charity — or sometimes just as a fun opportunity for fans. Here are a few around the country to keep an eye out for.

BUFFALO BILLS FOUNDATION GARAGE SALE

The Buffalo Bills, an NFL team, has a foundation that supports organizations that improve life in the Buffalo, New York, area. It also holds a garage sale that includes jerseys of all kinds — practice jerseys, team-issued jerseys, game-cut jerseys and throwbacks — as well as tiles from the Bills' tradition wall, footballs, cleats and player memorabilia. It's a great way for a super fan to own a piece of Bills history and help fund a good cause.

CELEBRITY GARAGE SALES

Even stars hold garage sales. Richard Rawlings,



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owner of Gas Monkey Garage and star of the TV show, auctioned off his car collection recently. Included in the auction was a 1990 Nissan 300ZX

with just 26,000 miles on the odometer. It went for \$48,000. There was also a 1959 Chevrolet Corvette and a 1962 Vette. Those cars brought in

\$42,250 and \$60,000, respectively. A 1932 Ford 5-Window Coupe hot rod went for \$55,000 and the King T Ford Model T hot rod went for

\$75,000. Rawlings will use the more than \$1 million raised to build a new car collection.

Martha Stewart recently held a yard sale, which was televised on ABC as "The Great American Tag Sale with Martha Stewart," to raise money for the Martha Stewart Center for Living at Mount Sinai Hospital. Her sale, which included objects from her homes, props used in photo shoots for her books and magazines, dishes and more, raised more than \$800,000.

META-MONUMENTAL GARAGE SALE AT MOMA

A 2012 garage sale at the Museum of Modern Art in New York featured artist Martha Rosler's large-scale version of a classic American garage sale. Museum visitors could browse and buy second-hands goods organized, displayed and sold by the artist. The sale filled the Marron Atrium with strange and everyday objects from the artist, MoMA staff and the general public. The MoMA sale was a successor to the Monumental Garage Sale held in the University of California at San Diego's art gallery in 1973. A chalkboard at that sale read, "Maybe the Garage Sale is a metaphor for the mind," and maybe it is.

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BUYER'S TIP

Tips for Shopping Special Sales

Remember these sales are usually for charity. While the Meta-Monumental Garage Sale encouraged haggling for art's sake, it may be frowned upon at some of these sales. Listen to what's going on around you for hints as to whether or not you can haggle on prices. Some sales may also have limits on what you can buy to make sure collectors don't snap up the whole lot and keep it fun for everyone. Read the fine print and make sure to obey the rules to keep it a great experience for all involved.

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