

Museum maps evolution of television sets

By KEVIN CORVO

Hilliard Northwest News Reporter

It was only a matter of time before someone opened a museum dedicated to the invention that has brought us images of war, moments of humor and everything in between.

At 10 a.m. Saturday, the Early Television Museum will open at 5396 Franklin St. in Old Hilliard, adjacent

to the Heritage Rail Trail. The museum is located at the former site of Lee's Catering.

■ The Early Television Museum, 5396 Franklin St., will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, or by appointment.

Hilliard area resident Steve McVoy is the man behind the museum dedicated to one of America's cultural icons.

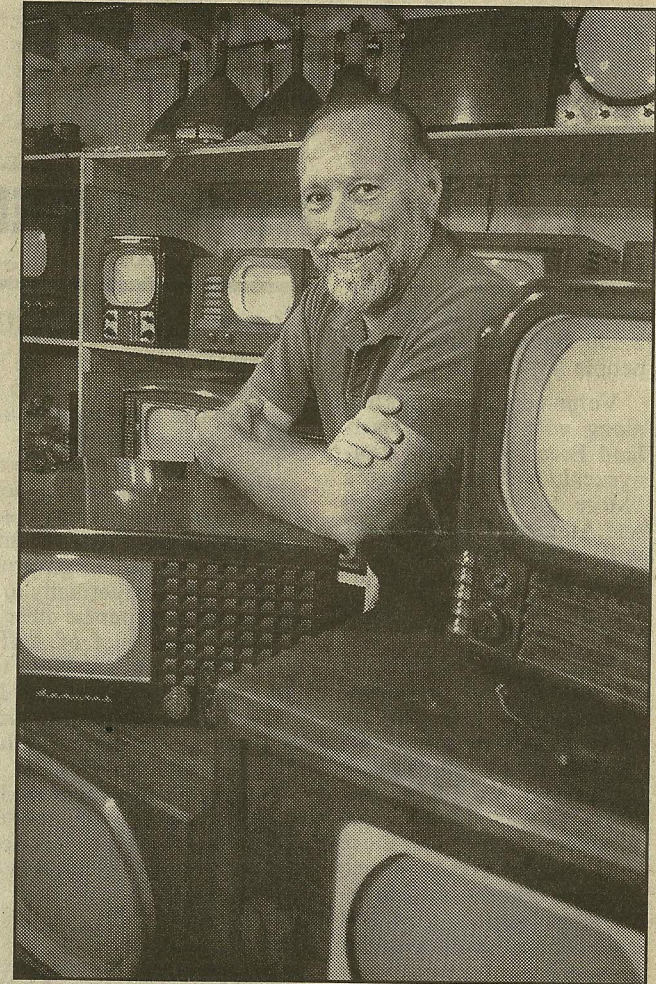
The museum features what McVoy's believes is one of the world's best collections of television receivers from the 1930s and 1940s. Also included are mechanical television sets produced between 1929 and 1932, including two made in Columbus.

"It's been a lot of work, but it has all come together. But there is still a lot more work to do," McVoy said.

McVoy said he knows of a museum in Canada dedicated to early televisions, but doesn't know of any in the United States.

Though as a child McVoy worked at a TV repair shop in Gainesville, Fla., it was only two years ago that he began building his personal collection of antique televisions.

McVoy has more than 25 sets manufactured before World War II and even more post-war sets. The latest



News file photo

Steve McVoy will open the Early Television Museum Saturday at 5396 Franklin St. in Hilliard.

models in his collection are the first color television sets, produced in the early 1950s.

Televisions produced before World War II had a mir-

ror in the lid. The image was projected backward and bounced off the mirror to the viewer.

See MUSEUM, Page 24A

MUSEUM

Continued from Page 22A

The museum will house nearly all of the televisions collected and refurbished by McVoy.

"They all fit perfectly. But as I add more TVs, I'll have to pick and choose which ones to keep at the museum," he said.

The museum features computer terminals that explain the history and technology of the antique

televisions. McVoy is still working on some of the terminals.

The Early Television Museum is a nonprofit operation. There is no admission charge.

The museum is open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sundays from noon to 5 p.m., or by appointment. For more information call Steve McVoy at 771-0510 or 893-8102.