Pendleton to hold walking tours

BY MONICA KREBER
THE JOURNAL

PENDLETON — Pendleton officials recently announced they will offer guided tours of the Pendleton Historic District throughout the fall and winter seasons.

Walkers will meet a tour guide, dressed in late 18th-century garb, who will lead them through the town starting at Hunter's Store at 125 E. Queen Street. During the walk, attendees will hear the story of early life in many of the town's 18th- and 19th-century historic structures. Tourists will learn about the Scots and Irish settlers who first came to the area, and about the Charlestonians who would leave the Lowcountry and build summer homes in the Upstate.

The walks are an hour and a half long and cost $5 for adults and $3 for children under the age of 12. As an introductory offer, the first tours, scheduled for Sept. 13 and 14, will be offered on a buy-one-get-one-free basis.

Vickie Fletcher, executive director of the Pendleton District Commission, said the tours are led by Ellen Harrison, who has worked as the volunteer educational director for the historic Ashtabula House in Pendleton.

"She will have everyone quite enthralled," Fletcher said.



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Walking tour guide Ellen Harrison will sport period dress for all tours.

Fletcher advises those interested in the tour wear comfortable walking shoes. The tours are held rain or shine.

"I think what people really enjoy is learning about the people who made this town what it is today," Fletcher said.

Tours will be limited to the first 30 people who pay for tickets. Beginning Nov. 8, visitors can save $1 off the second tour when purchasing tickets the same day for both the Pendleton Historic Walking Tour and the Bart Garrison Agricultural Museum of South Carolina.

For Saturday tours, the offer will be honored the following Tuesday at the Bart Garrison Agricultural Museum.

Pickens County Museum, Hagood Mill Historic Site and Oconee Heritage Center will give a 10 percent discount the day of purchase when visitors show their ticket stubs.

Fall and walking tour dates are:

Sept. 13 and 14, 10 a.m.; Oct. 11, 10 a.m.; Oct. 12, TBA; Nov. 8 and 9, 10 a.m.; Dec. 13 and 14, 10 a.m.; Jan. 10 and 11, 2 p.m.; Feb. 7 and 8, 2 p.m.; March 7 and 8, 2 p.m.

Spring tours are also scheduled to start in April 2014 and last throughout the summer.

For information about tour dates or to reserve tickets, call (864) 646-3782 or email vicki@pendletondistrict.org.

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