



DATE 06/09/2006 7:15 AMFOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

This is part of an occasional series by the Sanpete Country Travel and Utah Heritage Highway 89 Alliance on the people and places along U.S. Highway 89.

State FAM Tour Comes to Sanpete County June 16

Media and tour operators will be familiarizing themselves with Sanpete County during a "FAM" tour June 16 sponsored by the Utah Office of Tourism.

The tour will include some of the county's "hot spots." "FAM" tours are being held throughout the state and are targeted to specific travel agents, tour operators and media from various markets in order to generate positive publicity about Utah's world-class destinations, according to Tracie Cayford from the tourism office.

Next year, the state tourism office will be adding even more FAMS, promoting Utah's national and state parks, ski resorts, cultural and heritage tourism areas, including other heritage attractions along U.S. Highway 89.

The day-long Sanpete County tour will begin at 10 a.m. at the restored Moroni Opera House. It was originally built in 1891. In the 1930's, it was converted into a feed processing plant. The city eventually made restoring the opera house its Centennial Project. The opera house is now used for dinner theaters, children's theatrical performances, dance performances and community events.

Tour participants will then drive to Maple Canyon for a tour and hike. The little canyon located about three miles south of Fountain Green and is known as the best rock climbing area in North America. It contains more than 300 rock climbing routes, ranging from 20 to 400 feet long and designed to please people of all ages and skill levels.

Following lunch at Don's Café in Ephraim, the group will view several video presentations and then take an ATV ride up Ephraim Canyon. At 4:30 they will tour historical downtown Manti, followed by dinner at the Manti House Inn, a bed and breakfast that was first built in the late 1800s to provide housing for people working on the Manti LDS temple. It has long been a popular attraction for visitors to the Manti pageant in the summer.

Participants will also have a chance to learn about Sanpete County's other cities and towns and attractions throughout the Mormon Pioneer Heritage Area.

For more information Contact:

Monte Bona
Sanpete County Travel and Heritage Council
(435) 462-2502