



DATE 08/04/2006 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.

New Bike Event Aims to Acquaint People With Ephraim Trails

The organizers of the first-ever Pioneer Trail Mountain Bike Event, being held Aug. 11 to 12 in Ephraim, have a very modest goal: introduce biking enthusiasts to the numerous mountain biking opportunities the city has to offer.

"We simply want to get more people out and enjoying the Sanpete bike trails," says organizer Gary Anderson.

The event is sponsored by the Ephraim Chamber of Commerce and the Sanpete County Office of Economic Development and Travel.

"This will be a positive thing for the city and region, and we hope to make it an annual event," Anderson says. "Our hope is that it becomes a tradition, something that can complement our hugely popular Scandinavian Festival."

The two-day event isn't a competition or race, Anderson adds. Rather, it will allow people to become acquainted with the trails in the region, which include many downhill sections.

The event starts Aug. 11 with registration at 7:30 p.m. at the Ephraim City Park. The fee is \$15. There will be a 9:30 p.m. night ride Friday for intermediate and advanced riders. The main ride will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, in Ephraim Canyon.

There will be shuttles available to take riders and their bikes to the starting point, located eight miles up the canyon. Throughout the two-day event, riders will be awarded raffle tickets, and prizes will be announced at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday.

There will also be free bike service before the race by Andy Adamson, a local bike shop owner. For more information about the event, call Anderson at (435) 283-7595.

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