



Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area

KJZZ TELEVISION AIRS SANPETE COUNTY SPECIAL OUTDOOR RECREATION & HERITAGE HIGHLIGHTED

SALT LAKE CITY- The Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area (MPNHA) is the centerpiece for a just released broadcast on Sanpete County as a summertime recreation destination and ATV hot spot.

KJZZ broadcast crews spent a week taping along the Mormon Pioneer National Heritage Area in Sanpete County riding the Arapeen trail system, traversing canyons and interviewing locals about outdoor opportunities, culture and heritage.

“We’re trying to gear our trails so if you come to visit one community, ride the trails, go to the next community, stay for the night, and follow the trail all around the basin and Sanpete County. Start at one end and go 360, and come back. So you could make it a several day trip if you wanted to,” said David Taylor with the OHV advisory board.

KJZZ camera crews trained their lenses on ATV trail riding in Fairview, Ephraim, Manti, Sterling and Maple canyons.

Kevin Christensen, who is the director of Economic Development for Sanpete County, assisted the KJZZ production team during the ATV taping in the canyons and surrounding communities.

“At Big Pine sports we rent atvs, side by sides and snowmobiles all year long we’re renting machines. We have machines for single riders, multi-riders. It’s really easy to come in and pick it up, 15 minutes you’re on top of the mountain going for it,” said Justin Henderson of Big Pine Sports in Fairview during an interview with KJZZ.

Henderson also pointed out the trail system “stays at the elevation of over 9,000 feet for longer than any other trail system in the United States” and called it one of the most unique anywhere. The television show also featured a segment on driving ATVs in town.

Ephraim City Manager Regan Bolli told KJZZ about the rules and regulations that govern the ATVs including the posting of special blue speed limit signs in the community. Bolli rolled out the welcome mat in his conversation with the KJZZ producers.

“The neat part about Ephraim City is when you come here it feels like home. It feels like home, a nice feeling and people want to come back. So we want people to experience Ephraim City and Sanpete County. We want them to come and enjoy ATV riding and enjoy the mountains. We love them and they are here for us and they are here for the entire state and we welcome people and that goes for the entire county,” said Bolli.

The half-hour broadcast of Inside the Outdoors also highlighted local artisan Larry Nielson and his well-known work with barn wood. Nielson showed his early paintings on black velvet and demonstrated how he selects a piece of wood.

The Sanpete show also pays a visit to the Fairview Museum where the vast pioneer collection is housed along with other art work.

“Our heritage is a heritage of compelling stories. The true grit of the pioneers, the colonization effort, the architecture, also tied in to the ability to take a desert area like at this temple and create magnificent pieces of work and also to bring in sheep and cattle and turn this land into a vibrant agricultural community,” said Monte Bona, director of the MPNHA, during an interview near the Manti Temple.

The KJZZ program visited the Basin Drive-In and provided glimpses of the outdoor theaters long history serving residents and visitors in the area.

Palisade State Park & Golf is shown as a busy and family oriented place for vacationers. Scenes of families eating breakfast, swimming, fishing and camping make it an attractive gathering spot. The golf course showcases the spectacular views and fun tee time for those who visit this part of Sanpete County.

Maple Canyon stands out in the broadcast as a world-class climbing area that few locals know about.

“It’s easily accessible and it is perfect for families because there is a broad spectrum of difficulties with the routes and you can find a spot for little kids or families or you can find spots here that appeal to the one percent of the climbers at the top of their game and Olympic sports champions,” said climbing expert Jason Stevens during the broadcast.

KJZZ television host Steve Brown called the Sanpete County show one of the best the station has done in his ongoing *Inside the Outdoors* series of programs.

Anyone interested in seeing the program can contact Sanpete County for more information.

Contact: Kevin Christensen (435) 835-4321



Sanpete County broadcast on KJZZ

Thursday June 21, 9pm, Saturday 23, 4pm & Sunday June 24, 5pm



*The Mormon Pioneer Heritage Area (MPNHA) is a federally designated area of central and southern Utah running along the beautiful and historic U.S. Highway 89—including the scenic by-ways of Utah state routes 12 and 24 which both intersect with U.S. 89 and, together, form the MPNHA's Boulder Loop. The area includes the counties of Sanpete, Sevier, Piute, Wayne, Garfield and Kane. The Utah Heritage Highway 89 Alliance is the local coordinating entity of the MPNHA and receives annual funding from the National Park Service. Its purpose is to preserve, tell and interpret the stories, history and heritage of the area, and to promote its culture and value.

www.mormonpioneerheritage.org