

Tour of Homes, Other Events To Benefit Wall Rebuilding

SUSAN SHADLE ERB
Sun-Gazette Staff

PENNSDALE — A tour of historic Pennsdale area homes and several other activities as a fund-raising effort for the approximately \$100,000 project to restore the wall surrounding the cemetery at the Quaker Meeting House are planned for Saturday, June 1.

The effort to restore the wall has brought the community together, in what one member of the Quaker Meeting said is an almost unbelievable response.

Many people from the Pennsdale area have banded together voluntarily to assist in the effort, according to Mary R. Engel, clerk of the meeting, which is attended by approximately 20 people each Sunday.

The meeting house, the oldest church in the county, was constructed in 1799, according to Engel, who said the now-crumbling cemetery wall is believed to have been built at about the same time.

The Waldron Foundation has pledged to match each dollar raised by the volunteers, up to a total of \$50,000, Engel said.

The tour, including the meeting house, a former school building which has been converted into a home and four other homes, will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The homes included are:

- Edgend or Wishing Well Farm, which was constructed in 1799 by Samuel Wallis for his daughter, Mary. The home is now owned by Dr. Michael Piccuta.
- House of Many Stairs, built in 1790, and formerly a tea room, home and tavern. The structure is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Brant.
- Quaker School House, built in 1858. The school, converted into a home, is owned by the Rev. and Mrs. Walter Hall.
- Brick House, built in 1852 and long known as the Warner House. It is owned by David and Susan Winterle.
- Ellis-Adlum House, circa 1771-1778, by Thomas Ellis, of Haverford. The structure later was the home of Major Gen. John Adlum, a friend of Thomas Jefferson, and is now owned and under restoration by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jones.

The tour is sponsored by Friends of the Pennsdale Meeting, the Pennsdale Volunteer Fire Co., members of Pennsdale United Methodist Church and residents of Pennsdale.

A two-day antique show from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. June 1 and 2 and a dinner on the Pennsdale Fire Co. grounds will be held in conjunction with the tour of homes and buildings.

Fees will be charged for the activities. Information is available from Dean Foster, a member of the meeting, and Louise Fulmer, a community resident.

Children under the age of 10 and the wearing of high heel shoes will not be allowed in the homes on the tour, organizers said.

Picnicking on the meeting house lawn will be allowed.