

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DEC 6, 2006

Contact Jonett Haberfield, info@dickensvictorianvillage.com, 740-432-8789

VISIT WITH FATHER CHRISTMAS HIGHLIGHTS DICKENS PEDDLER WEEKEND

CAMBRIDGE, OH – The Peddler Weekend celebration of the Dickens Victorian Village display continues this Saturday and Sunday along downtown's Wheeling Avenue.

Featured will be visits with Father Christmas, the British precursor to Santa Claus.

Father Christmas will be passing out free treats to visitors in the Cambridge Performing Arts Centre lobby from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday.

Polaroid photos will be available for a small fee. Proceeds benefit the Cambridge Performing Arts Center (CPAC).

The Ghost of Christmas Present in Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" is based on Father Christmas. Performances of "A Christmas Carol" take place at CPAC 8 p.m. Friday, 8 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are available at the box office before the shows.

Adding a lively atmosphere to the display of mannequins, Peddler Weekend features local nonprofit group members dressed in costumes selling old fashioned treats like caramel corn, fudge, hard tack candy, hot chocolate, apple butter, coffee, and more.

Carolers will stroll the streets, and to add to the atmosphere, the public is invited to dress in Victorian costume during their visit.

Photo opportunities abound. You can capture smiling faces in a Victorian character cutout as a memento of your Dickens experience anytime at a family display on the Advantage Bank Plaza.

During Peddler Weekend hours, an old-fashioned couple display will be posted in front of the old Robert's Building. Framed pictures will be offered for \$7.00.

Free commemorative "EXTRA!" editions of The Dickens Crier, published by *The Daily Jeffersonian*, will be available.

Listen to Old Time Christmas Tales from 1 to 2 p.m. Saturday at Main Street School Supply.

The Eastern Ohio Art Guild Art Center will offer a Christmas art workshop Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m. Registration is required by contacting 740-432-8100.

A Victorian tea and crumpet plate with nuts, fruit, cheese, muffins, and more will be available at Cool Beans Coffee Bar, with live Christmas music from noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

Top off the weekend with "Christmas With The Cambridge Singers" at 7 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday at the Scottish Rite Auditorium.

Peddler Weekend takes place 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday.

Tour buses are scheduled to visit downtown this weekend, and volunteers are needed to greet the buses, sing carols, and stroll in costume. Please contact Jonett Haberfield at 740-432-8789 to volunteer.

Visit www.dickensvictorianvillage.com for complete event listings, or contact the Cambridge/Guernsey County Visitors & Convention Bureau at 740-432-2022.