

Rivers of Steel Celebrates Carrie Blast Furnaces Community Day With Free Tours for Homestead Works Zip Code residents July 27

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Residents of 15120, 15218 and 15104 can take a free Carrie Blast Furnace tour July 27

The Carrie Blast Furnaces in Rankin, Pa, will be the site of Community Day festivities Saturday July 27 with free tickets to the Carrie Blast Furnaces Tour for those who reside in the zip code area of the former Homestead Works. Originally part of the Carnegie Steel Company, the Homestead Works became part of U.S. Steel in 1901. Approximately 15,000 were employed by the site during World War II at its height. The Carrie Blast Furnaces produced the iron for the steel mill.

With residency verification, such as a driver's license or state ID, zip code proximity guests will receive a free Carrie Blast Furnace tour on July 27 which will run every half hour from 9 AM to Noon. Tour tickets are also available for purchase for those residing outside the free zip code range with discounts for seniors and students. Reservations are requested by contacting Stacy Drane at 412.464.4020, ext. 32 or sdrane@riversofsteel.com

Managed by Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, the National Historic Landmark site was the location for the "Out of the Furnace" movie starring Christian Bale, Woody Harrelson and Willem Dafoe slated for release at the end of November; as well as a music video backdrop for Wiz Khalifa and film location for Netflix' "Hemlock Grove," among others.

The pair of furnaces operated from 1907 to 1978 and the site was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2006. The site shut down in its entirety in 1982. Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area began managing Carrie Furnace No. 6 & 7, which includes additional acreage surrounding the former steel complex in June 2010 and opened for

tours later that summer. The 2013 Carrie Blast Furnace tours are also available 10 AM and Fridays through August and Saturdays through October. Cost of the tour is \$25 with various discounts available and proceeds go toward the preservation of the site and related steel heritage projects.

The Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area is managed by the non-profit Rivers of Steel Heritage Corporation (RSHC) in partnership with the National Park Service and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. RSHC works with communities throughout Southwestern Pennsylvania to identify, conserve, promote and interpret the cultural, historic, recreational and other resources associated with steel and steel-related industries. The goal of the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area is to use these resources to encourage community revitalization through cultural tourism, historic preservation, natural and recreational resource conservation, cultural and educational programs and related economic development. Rivers of Steel National Heritage area includes Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Washington and Westmoreland counties. For more information, visit www.riversofsteel.com

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