Lady Washington to Make Westport Stop Before Departure

Local News

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ABERDEEN, Wash. - The tall ship Lady Washington will stop in Westport Sunday Oct. 4 before she begins her 11-week “2009 Columbia River Fall Education Tour.” The ship is scheduled to arrive at the Westport Marina at approximately 1 p.m. and open to the public for walk-on tours from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. A $3 donation per person is appreciated. On Monday, Oct. 5, Lady Washington departs Westport for Astoria, Ore.

The fall Columbia River tour is an encore of the ship’s spring 2009 tour and the Lady Washington will visit many of the same ports, emphasizing its mission of hands-on education for young people. Scheduled ports-of-call include: Astoria, Cathlamet, Hood River, Ilwaco, Kalama, Pasco, Rainier, St. Helens, The Dalles, Umatilla, Vancouver, and Washougal.

Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority, which owns and operates Lady Washington, had initially planned for a major restoration project on the ship after completing its annual Puget Sound tour this month. A change in the restoration planning opened up the opportunity for a fall voyage. The warm welcome by Columbia River port communities last spring encouraged the Seaport to schedule a fall voyage up river rather than south down the Oregon coast.

The tall ship Hawaiian Chieftain, which normally accompanies Lady Washington on her voyages, will sail south and offer educational programs to coastal Oregon and California schools. She is currently in Aberdeen. Hawaiian Chieftain is scheduled to visit Westport Oct. 10 before sailing for Oakland, Calif.