



News Release

DATE: September 15, 2023
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Update

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“Railroad Days” Open House in Fairbanks

Centennial family-friendly event is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 23

ANCHORAGE, Alaska - The Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC) invites the public to the “*Railroad Days*” community open house in Fairbanks, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23. The Alaska Railroad Centennial Year (1923-2023) event features FREE entrance, FREE parking, FREE shuttle service, FREE train rides and many more FREE family-friendly activities.

“Railroad Days” is returning to Fairbanks and an opportunity for the community to meet and interact with railroaders and learn about Alaska’s iconic railroad. The cornerstone of the event provides open house guests the opportunity to enjoy a free train ride aboard a comfortable rail coach. For children and adult railfans alike, the open house features static displays of locomotives, railcars, rolling stock and track maintenance equipment. Knowledgeable employees will be on-site to talk about the equipment and their importance in keeping Alaska’s passengers and freight moving.

Meghan Clemens, ARRC External Affairs Director said, “We are very excited to return to Fairbanks for an open house during our centennial year. We have our rail equipment and fleet ready to share with thousands of Alaskans next Saturday at the Fairbanks Rail Depot. This year, in anticipation of a well-attended event, the railroad has arranged free shuttle service from off-site parking at Anne Wien Elementary School. We have many great prizes and giveaways ready to go, including 25 gold spikes. Railroaders are eager to meet our guests and see everyone on the rail’s north end.”



Alaska Railroad employees welcome guests at the Fairbanks depot during the Railroad’s Centennial Celebration on July 15, 2023.

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The open house is a family-friendly, accessible event with several activities geared toward children, including a magician, balloon artist, photo booth, temporary tattoos, and train safety giveaways. Food and beverages will be on sale by a Fairbanks PTA-operated booth. The railroad's depot gift shop and rail ticket counter will be open, with employees available to answer questions about the Alaska Railroad, travel routes and plans.

To help the public plan their open house day, ARRC's public events webpage includes helpful details like activity descriptions, an activity locator, parking map and train ride schedule. A link to the webpage can be found here: <https://www.alaskarailroad.com/corporate/community/public-events>. A detailed list of open house activities is also included on page 3.

The Alaska Railroad is state-owned corporation providing year-round inter-city public rail transportation from Seward to Anchorage to Fairbanks. More information about passenger service schedules, fares and depot locations is available at <https://www.alaskarailroad.com/>.

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Alaska Railroad 2023 Fairbanks Open House Schedule

Saturday, September 23, 2023 • 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Fairbanks Railroad Depot ~ 1031 Alaska Railroad Depot Road

FREE to the attending public:

- 20-minute train rides offered between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. (last train scheduled to board at 1:30 p.m.)
- Magician (in and around the depot and along the line to the train rides, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.)
- Inside the Depot (10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.):
 - ✓ Tattoos (kids non-permanent)
 - ✓ Giveaways and Rail Travel Door Prize Drawing
 - ✓ Historic Steam Engine 557 restoration project info
 - ✓ Alaska PhotoBooth station - get your photo taken and an instant printed souvenir
 - ✓ Balloon Artist will be creating balloon animals and other designs
- Locomotives, passenger and freight railcars, and railroad maintenance equipment on static display
- Operation Lifesaver train safety information and giveaways
- Drawing for round-trip rail travel during 2023-2024 for:
 - Two (2) family packages, each with FOUR (4) tickets for travel between Fairbanks and Denali
 - One (1) package with TWO (2) tickets for travel between Fairbanks and Talkeetna
 - One (1) package with TWO (2) tickets for travel between Fairbanks and Anchorage
 - One (1) package with TWO (2) tickets for travel between Fairbanks - Denali (GoldStar Service)
 - PLUS, drawing for several 2023 *Historic Locomotive Line-up* posters
 - Need NOT be present to win
- Free Parking & Free Shuttle Service (at the depot and off-site parking with shuttle service at Anne Wien Elementary School ~ 1501 Hampstead Avenue)

For purchase:

- Alaska Railroad Gift Shop Open - featuring centennial designs on merchandise
- Alaska Railroad Ticket Counter Open - staff onsite to assist with rail travel booking
- Kid's packs, hot dogs, popcorn, beverages and more from the Anne Wien Elementary PTA

The ARRC is an Equal Opportunity Corporation. If you need special assistance (including language) in order to participate in any ARRC service, program, or activity, please contact the Alaska Railroad Corporation; P.O. Box 107500; Anchorage, AK 99510; Attention: Legal Department, zappasi@akrr.com, (907) 265-2461; via Alaska Relay Service for hearing impaired – dial 7 11 anywhere in Alaska, OR dial toll-free from anywhere outside the state 1-800-770-8255 (voice); 1-800 770-8973 (TTY). Upon request, printed materials can be made available in alternate format.

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