



Alaska Railroad Corporation *News Release*

DATE: April 30, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – REMINDER

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Alaska Railroad schedules spring “Railroad Days” Open Houses *Anchorage Open house slated for Saturday, May 5*

ANCHORAGE, Alaska – The Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC) invites the public to the annual “*Railroad Days*” open house in Anchorage, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. this Saturday, May 5, 2012. The community event offers Alaskans a unique opportunity to interact with railroaders and to learn about the state’s railroad.

The Open House features the ever-popular free train rides, along with static displays of railroad locomotives, railcars and other equipment that afford an up-close, hands-on experience. The hip and talented Air Force Band, Top Cover, will add to the festive atmosphere, playing popular and upbeat music. Several activities are geared specifically toward children, such as railroad balloons, tattoos, train safety knick-knacks and walking/talking animal mascots. As the Alaska Railroad’s school-business partner, the Government Hill Elementary School’s Parent-Teacher Association will be on-hand selling affordable hot dogs, snacks and beverages. The railroad’s depot gift shops and rail ticket counters will also be open, and the Alaska Railroad will be offering Open House Specials featuring amazing deals on summer rail travel.

The attached Flyer/Map describes all of the various activities that will be available at the Open House in Anchorage.

The Alaska Railroad is a self-sustaining, state-owned corporation.

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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, zappasj@akrr.com, (907) 265-2461; via Alaska Relay Service for hearing impaired – dial 7 11 anywhere inside 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 formats.

Things to do at *Railroad Days*

Unless otherwise noted, all activities available 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Anchorage Open House



Trains and Tracks...

Free train rides! All Aboard for a 20-minute trip along the tracks in our comfy passenger coaches with our friendly tour guides. Last train at 3:00 p.m.

Climb aboard! Experience the inside of an Alaska Railroad passenger train. Explore luxury passenger railcars and peek in the cab of a powerful locomotive.

Chugach Explorer! Explore the *Chugach Explorer* diesel multiple unit (DMU) self-propelled railcar that operates the Chugach National Forest Whistle Stop service. Forest Service staff is onboard to answer your questions.

Fabulous Freight! We carry more than 6 million tons of freight each year. Check out the variety of freight cars that make it possible — from fuel tanker cars to gravel/coal hoppers to trailer-toting flat cars, and more.

Track Maintainers! Take a look at specialized track maintenance heavy equipment for insight into how we keep our rail corridor ready for train traffic.

Historic Treasure! On rare display, Steam Engine No. 557 last operated on the Alaska Railroad 50 years ago, and just came home January 2012 for future restoration and return to service.



Inside the Depot...

Railroad Prizes & Giveaways! Pick up logo buttons, postcards and bookmarks and enter to win rail travel for 2 people (Anchorage-Seward and Anchorage-Denali) and a 2012 Alaska Railroad commemorative poster.

Blue Balloons! Large helium-filled balloons always delight little ones.

Operation Lifesaver! Learn how to stay safe around trains and tracks with child-oriented information, giveaways and friendly volunteers.

Good Times...

Child-friendly Critters! Meet U.S. Forest Service favorite Smokey the Bear, Anchorage's beloved mascot Seymour the Moose and one of Seymour's critter pals.

Mobile Magic! Look for the Magic Guy roaming the grounds and up and down the train ride line, eager to delight all ages.



Hungry or Thirsty? Enjoy affordable hot-off-the-grill hot dogs, Polish sausage dogs, assorted chips and beverages thanks to Government Hill Elementary PTA.

Live Music! From noon until 2:00 p.m. rock to the beat of *Top Cover*, the popular music ensemble from the U.S. Air Force Band of the Pacific. This high-energy group performs a full spectrum of popular music, including today's Top 40 hits.



Keepsake Photos! Capture the *Days'* memories with family or friends posed in front of our iconic locomotive. \$10 for a glossy color 5-by-7 photo in a souvenir logo folder-frame.

Gift Shop Goodies! Look for special Open House discounts.

Train Travel! The best way to see Alaska is on the Railroad! Talk to knowledgeable ARRC sales representatives about fabulous rail excursions and day trips. Take advantage of exclusive **Open House Specials** including amazing deals on summer travel.

City and Wild! The *Visit Anchorage!* table has the latest city and restaurant guides, Seymour buttons and critter giveaways. The U.S. Forest Service table has info about visiting our forests.



Railroad Days

Anchorage Open House : 2012

ARRC HQ
EMPLOYEES ONLY

SHIP CREEK AVENUE

Additional
FREE
Public
Parking →

Freight Train Railcars on Display

Steam
Engine 557

Walk-on
Locomotive

Walk-on Passenger Train Display

→ move through train

Forest
Service
in DMU

Keepsake
Photos

Train Ride Boarding

ENTER
Train

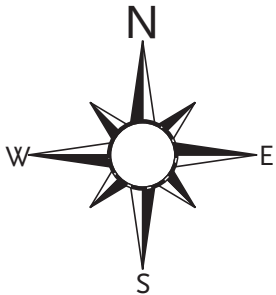
EXIT
Train

Mobile
Magician

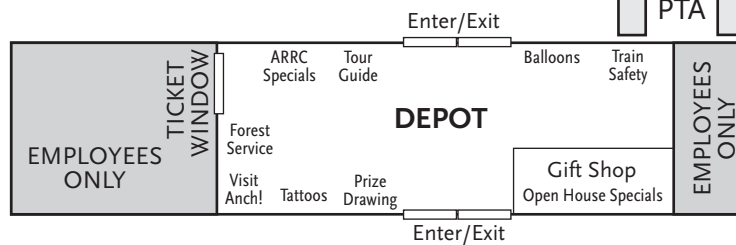
Track Maintenance
Equipment

Hot Dogs
Chips, Drinks

Keepsake
Photo
Pickup



NO Parking



NORTH "C" STREET

FIRST AVENUE

Public Parking
FREE During Open House

ARRC
POLICE &
SECURITY
EMPLOYEES ONLY

NOTE: Not to Scale