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B&O Railroad Museum First Responders' Appreciation Day Features Train Collision Demo



BALTIMORE, MD – August 26, 2020 – The B&O Railroad Museum honors those who answer the call and aims to educate the public about their lifesaving practices with First Responders' Appreciation Day on Saturday, September 12, 2020. Join us as we pay tribute to those dedicated to their community and saving lives including CSX's special "Pride In Service" locomotive on display and a 9/11 remembrance ceremony under the Museum's outdoor pavilion. For First Responders' Day, the B&O is showcasing the importance of railroad safety with the opportunity to witness a live controlled collision between a locomotive and car!

Visitors will witness a reduced speed collision with an extraction training exercise from the Northpoint Edgemere Volunteer Fire Company. The collision aims to demonstrate the importance of motorists yielding to trains at railroading crossings, and representatives from Operation Lifesaver, a non-profit organization and nationally-recognized leader of rail safety education, will be on-site to help spread awareness about this critical aspect of railroad safety.

"Seeing the effects of a reduced speed controlled locomotive -car collision is something everyone should see, it becomes immediately clear why a motorist is 20 times more likely to die in a car-train collision" said Kris Hoellen, Executive Director of the B&O Railroad Museum. "We are pleased to offer this educational event, and if it prevents even one person from trying to beat a train at a crossing, we will have done our job".

To watch a video from the 2019 safety demonstration, please visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPUeCtcdgbM>

There will be two train rides at 11:30 AM and 1:30 PM to view the site where the controlled collision demonstrations will occur with extraction exercises by Northpoint Edgemere Volunteer Fire Company to immediately follow. Train ride tickets are limited due to reduced capacity and social distancing requirements.

First Responders receive free admission to the Museum with ID! For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.BORail.Events/FirstResponders

Safety Procedures:

Staff and visitor are required to wear face masks while on Museum grounds. Children under the age of two (2) are exempt from mask policy. Additional hand sanitizer dispensers are posted throughout the property, and frequent disinfection are part of the Museum's cleaning plan. Throughout the Museum, signage and floor markings will help visitors maintain social distancing six feet apart.

About the B&O Railroad Museum

The B&O Railroad Museum™, a full affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of American railroading and its impact on American society, culture and economy. The Museum is home to the oldest, most comprehensive collection of railroad artifacts in the Western Hemisphere including an unparalleled roster of 19th and 20th century railroad equipment. The 40-acre historic site is regarded as the birthplace of American Railroading and includes the 1851 Mt. Clare Station, the 1884 Baldwin Roundhouse and first mile of commercial railroad track in America. In 2019, the Museum welcomed guests from all 50 states and 40 countries. For further information on the B&O Railroad Museum, please call 410-752-2490 or visit www.BORail.org.

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