



Heartland Flyer celebrates 13th Anniversary, strong ridership

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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To celebrate 13 years of passenger rail, this Saturday at the Santa Fe Depot in Oklahoma City, volunteers will provide complimentary coffee, bottled water, donuts and souvenir badges to passengers departing at 8:25 a.m.

The *Heartland Flyer* made its inaugural run on June 14, 1999, reinstating passenger rail service between Oklahoma City and Fort Worth, Texas after a 20-year hiatus. Thirteen years later the train proves to be a popular travel option.

In all, more than 880,000 passengers have used the *Heartland Flyer*. Most recently, the train has witnessed an eight-month stretch of record-setting monthly ridership since October 2011.

Amtrak operates the *Heartland Flyer* under state-funded contracts with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation and the Texas Department of Transportation to provide daily service, with regularly scheduled stops in Norman, Purcell, Pauls Valley and Ardmore, Oklahoma and in Gainesville, Texas.

The *Heartland Flyer* rates number one in customer satisfaction among Amtrak's network of trains.

Rail travelers can purchase an adult train ticket for approximately \$50 round trip.

Passengers can now make reservations at www.amtrak.com and print their electronic tickets from home or the office through Amtrak's eTicketing. The eTicketing program provides passengers increased flexibility when making or changing reservations and eliminates the need to obtain traditional paper tickets. Passengers have the ability to print their eTickets themselves.

Reservations can also be made by calling Amtrak's reservation center at 800-USA-RAIL. Seating is limited and restrictions apply, so booking reservations early is strongly recommended.

Amtrak *Heartland Flyer*

Southbound (Train 821)

Daily, read down

8:25 a.m.	Depart Oklahoma City, OK
8:49 a.m.	Depart Norman, OK
9:06 a.m.	Depart Purcell, OK
9:31 a.m.	Depart Pauls Valley, OK
10:20 a.m.	Depart Ardmore, OK
11:01 p.m.	Depart Gainesville, TX
12:39 p.m.	Arrive Fort Worth, TX

Northbound (Train 822)

Daily, read down

5:25 p.m.	Depart Fort Worth, TX
6:41 p.m.	Depart Gainesville, TX
7:22 p.m.	Depart Ardmore, OK
8:11 p.m.	Depart Pauls Valley, OK
8:36 p.m.	Depart Purcell, OK
8:53 p.m.	Depart Norman, OK
9:39 p.m.	Arrive Oklahoma City, OK

— www.okladot.state.ok.us —

(Editors and News Directors: For media inquiries, contact Brenda Perry (ODOT) at 405-521-6000)

INFORMATION RELEASE

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