

# **FORT WAYNE RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.**

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## **SANTA TRAIN ARRIVES THIS WEEKEND**

NEW HAVEN, INDIANA - Santa Claus and his very own train arrive at the Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society this weekend.

Carrying on a long, local tradition, the railroad historical society operates half hour train rides for passengers at its restoration facility at 15808 Edgerton Road. Last year, 2,300 passengers visited with Santa Claus on his red caboose.

Following a successful year operating passenger train excursions behind historic steam locomotive no. 765, the railroad society expects Santa to have many visitors on December 7th, 14th, and 21st. Passengers will have the opportunity to ride with Santa behind a vintage diesel locomotive, tour steam locomotive no. 765 during as it undergoes winter maintenance, enjoy local food vendor Bravas Dogs, and enjoy activities for kids and families. Tickets are \$4 for adults, \$3 for children.

Families were also able to charter longer trips in the evening for groups of up to 15 for \$200. These hour long trips operate each Saturday night and are replete with hot chocolate, snacks, and Christmas music aboard the train, where Santa visits with families and delivers their gifts. These chartered trips sold out before Thanksgiving.

“Each year the Santa Train grows in popularity and though many people discover it for the first time, it’s as long-standing a tradition in this community as the lighted Santa Claus display downtown,” said Kelly Lynch, Communications Director for the organization. “We’d love to some day be able to bring these trips back downtown.”

The Santa Train and other successful seasonal and tourist train operations are part of the railroad historical society’s riverfront development concept Headwaters Junction, which is part of the Legacy Fort Wayne riverfront study.

