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State Coordinator's Message – Operation Lifesaver Utah Partners with Saratoga Springs City and Utah Live Steamers Railroad Club

“It’s the Great Pumpkin, Saratoga!” The event was a welcome to fall and a grand opening of Shay Park in Saratoga Springs. The event included food truck roundup, face painting, spooky train rides, crafts, a movie, story time, and fun for all ages. The most popular activity at the event was the train rides provided by Utah Live Steamers Railroad Club. More than 3,000 people attended the event and the line was long to ride the two trains. Operation Lifesaver Utah donated the gondola car below. The car was built by Jim Smeltzer of Highland, Utah. Jim donated his expertise and time in building the car. Special thanks to Jim Smeltzer for the great craftsmanship that will bring a smile to kids for years to come!



Utah Live Steamers Railroad Club member Jim Wanlass picks up passengers at the Great Pumpkin, Saratoga event. The first passenger car (gray gondola) is the Operation Lifesaver Utah car built by Jim Smeltzer.

Union Pacific CARES and Operation Lifesaver Utah Safety Train Event

Union Pacific Railroad and Operation Lifesaver Utah teamed up again to bring the safety train to Utah for two days on August 9 and 10, 2016. On the first day, the safety train ran from Salt Lake City to Tooele and from Salt Lake City to Layton. The next day, the safety train ran from Salt Lake City to Tooele and from Salt Lake City to American Fork. The trips were very successful with the Operation Lifesaver message presented to each of the 300 people that participated on the train rides.



Pictured from left to right is Walt Webster, OL Utah Assistant State Coordinator and Vern Keeslar, State Coordinator standing next to the City of Salina passenger car of the "Union Pacific Railroad Heritage Fleet" during the safety train event.



OL Utah Booth Update

Thanks for all those who participate in the booths sharing the Operation Lifesaver safety messages. Operation Lifesaver Utah attended the following events during the past few months.

- The Lehi Round-Up PRCA Rodeo on June 23, 24, & 25, 2016 in Lehi.
- The "Warriors over the Wasatch" Air Show on June 25 & 26, 2016 at Hill Air Force Base.
- The Discovery Gateway Children's Museum Train Day on September 10, 2016 in Salt Lake City.
- The Davis Hospital Safety Fair on September 17, 2016 in Layton.
- The Layton Safety Fair on September 28, 2016 in Layton.



Picture from left to right working the Lehi Round-Up PRCA Rodeo in Lehi are Union Pacific Railroad employees Dennis Archuletta (maintenance), Brian Butcher (conductor), and Wayne Robbins (manager).

Rail industry veteran Bonnie Murphy named president, CEO of Operation Lifesaver, Inc.

Bonnie Murphy, a former commuter rail executive and Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) official, became President and CEO of Operation Lifesaver, Inc. (OLI) in late January. Murphy is a veteran of both the railroad industry and the federal government with 30 years of professional railroad experience and 10 years of executive-level government experience. She began her career with Amtrak, the national passenger rail system, serving as general supervisor and assistant transportation manager in Chicago, transportation manager in San Jose, California, and senior transportation manager in Oceanside, California.



"Ninety-five percent of all rail-related deaths involve drivers at a railroad crossing or a person on the tracks. I am excited about the opportunity to address these critical public safety issues, and I look forward to joining the Operation Lifesaver team," said Murphy.