Easter Bunny schedules trip on Heartland Flyer FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 21, 2007 PR# 07-016

Oklahoma Department of Transportation

Information Release



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Taking time from his normal routine, the Easter Bunny will be on board the Heartland Flyer March 31 to pass out Easter eggs and candy to children at stops along the route from Oklahoma City to Fort Worth.

In addition to goodies at stops along the route, passengers will be treated to games and prizes while on board. This will be the sixth year the Easter Bunny has ridden the Heartland Flyer to celebrate the season.

The train is scheduled for brief stops in Norman at 8:50 a.m.; Purcell at 9:06 a.m.; Pauls Valley at 9:31 a.m.; Ardmore at 10:20 a.m.; and Gainesville, Texas at 11:01 a.m. People who want to see the Easter Bunny should plan to arrive several minutes before the train's planned stop.

The Easter Bunny's booking aboard the Heartland Flyer is part of a series of "special train" trips that included Mardi Gras, Halloween and beach party trips; an appearance from Santa Claus, and the annual OU / Texas football game weekend train. Also, upcoming special wine tasting festivals are scheduled each Saturday in April.

In honor of the state's Centennial, the Heartland Flyer is running a special companion fare for travel from now until December 13. The fare lets two adults travel together for the price of one during the celebration. Special rates are also available for children.

The Heartland Flyer is operated by Amtrak under a contract with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation and the Texas Department of Transportation with the support of the Heartland Flyer Coalition, a volunteer group representing the communities along the 206-mile route.

Schedules for the train can be obtained from www.Amtrak.com, which also offers personalized service, along with on-line reservations, booking and train status updates. Reservations can also be made by calling 1-800-USA-RAIL.

Information is also available from the Heartland Flyer website, <u>www.heartlandflyer.com</u>, which features schedules, common questions and pictures of every station on the route as well as a calendar of events.