

National Train Day celebrated in Danbury

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National Train Day will be celebrated Saturday, May 12, in Danbury with spinning, hammering, connecting and coming apart.

The Danbury Railway Museum's giant turntable will spin a vintage locomotive from one direction to the other -- 180 degrees and back, over and over.

A blacksmith will hammer useful items from metal he heats on the historic New Haven Railroad Cedar Hill forge on the museum grounds.

Periodically during the day, railroad signaling and the coupling and uncoupling of train cars will be demonstrated and educational talks given.

There will be five opportunities to take a short trip on a vintage train pulled by a 67-year-old locomotive -- once an hour, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Lucky guests might get to ride in the cab of the locomotive.

Also outside in the rail yard, attendees will find walk-through exhibits and a vast assortment of train cars and locomotives, many of which come from Danbury's railroading heyday.

The latest information on the ongoing cosmetic restoration of Boston & Maine Railroad steam locomotive 1455 will be given by the project team.

Weather permitting, a large-scale model train layout will be operating.

In the museum building, visitors can explore railroad history exhibits, watch operating electric train layouts and static model displays of the station and rail yard. They'll find many one-of-a-kind artifacts of railroading history, a coloring table and other children's activities, and a shop with fun gifts.

The Danbury Railway Museum is dedicated to the preservation of and education about railroad history. It is a nonprofit organization staffed solely by volunteers.

Danbury Railway Museum, 120 White St., Danbury. Saturday, May 12, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. \$6 adults, \$5 seniors, \$4 ages 3-12, free for under 3. 203-778-8337, www.danbury.org/drm, info@danburyrail.org.



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