

NEWS RELEASE

June 13, 2007

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**Georgetown Loop Railroad® 2007 season begins June 15
with train rides and mine tours daily**

Treat Dad for Father's Day with a historic steam train ride in beautiful Clear Creek County



Georgetown, Colo. — All aboard one of Colorado's great narrow-gauge railroads— **the Georgetown Loop Railroad®**.

History Colorado's Georgetown Loop Historic Mining & Railroad Park® opens for the 2007 season on **Friday, June 15** for rides on this engineering marvel beloved by Colorado residents and visitors from around the world. On the trip between Silver Plume and Georgetown, discover Colorado's fascinating mining and railroading history and enjoy the beautiful views over the Devil's Gate High Bridge. Learn even more by taking an optional guided tour of the Lebanon Silver Mine along the route.

Check www.georgetownlooprr.com or call **1-888-456-6777** for ticket and reservation information. The train runs multiple times daily until the fall. Prices and more information are under "Snapshot."

Completed in 1884, the Georgetown Loop connects Georgetown and Silver Plume, which lie just two miles apart in a steep, narrow mountain canyon. To mitigate the high grades and challenging terrain, the railroad's builders designed a "corkscrew" route that traveled nearly twice the distance, slowly gaining more than 600 feet in elevation. It included horseshoe curves, grades of up to 4 percent, and four bridges across Clear Creek, including the massive Devil's Gate High Bridge. After it closed in the 1930s, the Colorado Historical Society founded the park in 1959 and the three miles of narrow gauge line and the Lebanon Silver Mine were eventually refurbished and opened as a heritage tourist attraction.

The railroad opens this season with the return of historic steam engine No. 12, originally built by Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia in 1929. In the 1950s, it was the last steam engine still in use by the Kahului Railroad Company, hauling sugar cane, pineapples and other freight in Hawaii. Now the No. 12 is making Colorado part of its history.

Located just 45 minutes west of Denver along I-70, riders can also visit the charming communities of Silver Plume and Georgetown to shop, eat and visit even more historic sites.

In the last 33 years, the Colorado Historical Society has invested approximately \$8 million in the railroad and park. Another \$3.8 million has gone into the communities of Georgetown and Silver Plume since 1993 through State Historical Fund historic preservation grants. The two towns have one of the most concentrated areas of Victorian buildings in the state. For more information, visit www.clearcreekcounty.org.

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SNAPSHOT

WHAT: Train rides on the historic Georgetown Loop Railroad® and tours of the Lebanon Silver Mine, located in Colorado's beautiful Clear Creek County.

WHERE: Train can be boarded at either the Devil's Gate Station in Georgetown or at the Silver Plume Depot.

WHEN: Multiple rides are offered daily until the fall. Mine tours are daily until Sept. 3 and can only be accessed from the train. The train ride is approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes. The optional mine tour adds another 1 hour and 15 minutes to the train trip.

COST: Train fares w/o mine tour: \$18.75 for adults; \$14.25 for children (15 and under); ages 2 and under are complimentary (when sitting on an adult's lap). **Fares w/ mine tour:** The price of the train trip with a mine tour is \$26.75 for adults and \$19.75 for children (ages 15 and under).

INFO: Call 1-888-456-6777 or visit www.georgetownlooprr.com. Walk-ups welcome, however, making advanced reservations is recommended to ensure availability and space.

Background

The Colorado Historical Society

The Colorado Historical Society is a statewide organization with 12 museums and historic sites across the state, including History Colorado's Georgetown Loop Historic Mining & Railroad Park®. In addition to the Georgetown Loop Railroad®, the park includes nearly 1,000 acres, 12 buildings and four railway bridges, including the nearly 100-foot-high Devil's Gate bridge over Clear Creek and the railroad. Colorado Historical Society members receive a 10% discount on tickets. Visit www.coloradohistory.org, "join us" for more information.

Railstar Corporation

Headquartered in Cape Vincent, New York, Railstar Corporation began operating the Georgetown Loop Railroad® in 2005. Railstar Corporation also owns and operates the Erie Canal Village historic park and museum in Rome, New York, which includes a two-foot narrow-gauge steam railway and an authentic mule-drawn canal boat, as well as a narrow-gauge equipment manufacturing factory in Watertown, New York.