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2024 Main Line Excursions to Jim Thorpe on the Reading & Northern

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 5, 2024 – Port Clinton, PA – Coming off a very successful 2023 excursion season at both Reading Outer Station and the new Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Regional Railroad Station at Pittston, the Reading & Northern Railroad will begin its 2024 regular season excursions to Jim Thorpe on Saturday, April 6, 2024. This will continue weekends through Sunday, September 29, 2024. Fall Foliage trains, which will begin in October and extend through the first weekend in November, will be announced at a later date. The regular season will resume Saturday, November 9, 2024, and continue through Sunday, December 29, 2024.

Reading & Northern has opened ticket sales for the 2024 regular season even earlier than last year. Tickets may be purchased online at www.RBMNRR-passenger.com or by calling our office at 610-562-2102. These family-friendly excursions will follow the same format and pricing structure as 2023. Whether arriving from Reading or from Pittston, passengers will have over four hours to explore the historic town of Jim Thorpe before returning to their boarding station.

Regular season excursions to Jim Thorpe depart Outer Station at 9:00am sharp at a price of \$39.00 round trip per person. Passengers may also board at Port Clinton (\$39.00 per person) or Tamaqua (\$24.00 per person). These trips utilize our popular 1950s-era self-propelled Rail Diesel Cars (or RDCs). A concession counter is available on board offering various snacks and beverages for cash purchase. Director of passenger operations at Outer Station, Josh Cascarella, says “We pride ourselves on offering these family-friendly train excursions for most of the year to allow tourists and locals alike to experience the natural beauty and history of this region. Taking the train is a great way to avoid the traffic and parking congestion in the Jim Thorpe area.” Reading Outer Station is entering its eighth season of passenger service and has been a hit since its inception, attracting riders from the Lancaster, Philadelphia, and even Baltimore areas.

At Pittston, the railroad continues to develop the site at 718 North Main Street to increase interest in the relatively new passenger service from the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Regional Railroad Station, which launched in 2023. Weekend excursions to Jim Thorpe depart from the station in Pittston at 8:45am sharp with a ticket price of \$39.00 per person. Stations are also available in the Mountain Top area at Penobscot (\$36.00 per person) and farther south at White Haven (\$29.00 per person). This train consists of diesel locomotives, two of our popular Crown Class Coach cars, and a dining car where refreshments are available for cash purchase. Tim Wright, director of passenger operations at Pittston, states “We are still astounded by the great success of our first season of passenger trains departing from Pittston. We are excited to see what 2024 brings as we continue to embrace the deep railroad history of the Wyoming Valley and our commitment to the local community.”

Reading & Northern Railroad, with its corporate headquarters in Port Clinton, is a privately held railroad company serving over 80 customers in nine eastern Pennsylvania counties (Berks, Bradford, Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Northumberland, Schuylkill, and Wyoming). It has expanded its operations over the last 40 years; and now handles nearly 40,000 carloads of freight (which removes over 200,000 trucks from the highway), while its Passenger Department handles 300,000 riders annually. Reading & Northern operates its freight and steam- and diesel-powered passenger excursions over 400 miles of track, owns almost 1,800 freight cars, and employs over 350 dedicated people. Reading & Northern has been repeatedly honored as one of the premier railroads in the nation, including being named Regional Railroad of the Year in 2020 by *Railway Age* magazine.