



The Living Legend Returns: No. 844 to Reunite with Big Boy for Holiday Tour

October 5, 2026

OMAHA, Neb.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 5, 2026-- After a six-year hiatus, Union Pacific's Living Legend No. 844 is returning to the rails. The legendary steam locomotive will join Big Boy No. 4014 for Union Pacific's historic holiday tour this November, marking the first public appearance for No. 844 since the pair traveled together in 2019 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the driving of the Golden Spike in Utah.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here: <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20261005148774/en/>



Union Pacific's No. 844 at the 2019 Great Race to Promontory celebration in Ogden, Utah.

The two steam locomotives will run as a "double header" during a fundraising excursion from Greeley to Denver, Colorado, on Nov. 21 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, which will

include a donation from Union Pacific's Community Ties Giving Program. The steam duo will then be on public display later that day at Denver's Union Station, with Santa Claus and his elves in the terminal handing out limited-edition gifts. Admission is free and open to the public.

While Big Boy No. 4014 recently captivated millions during a [coast-to-coast journey](#) commemorating America's 250th anniversary, the return of No. 844 marks the long-awaited comeback of the railroad's famed high-speed passenger locomotive. Built in 1944, No. 844 hauled some of Union Pacific's most recognizable passenger trains, including the Overland Limited, Los Angeles Limited, Portland Rose and Challenger.

No. 844 is the last steam locomotive built for Union Pacific in 1944 and is the only Class I North American steam locomotive never permanently retired from service. When diesel locomotives assumed passenger service duties, No. 844 was reassigned to freight service in Nebraska between 1957 and 1959. Unlike nearly every other steam locomotive of its era, No. 844 escaped scrapping in 1960 and was retained by Union Pacific for special service.

[Tickets](#) for the holiday fundraising tour and a ride in vintage passenger cars pulled by Big Boy and No. 844 go on sale to patrons of the [Union Pacific Railroad Museum](#) on Oct. 16. Any remaining tickets will be available to the general public on Oct. 19. While the tickets are for adults only and part of the fundraiser benefiting Make-A-Wish Foundation, families are invited to Denver's Union Station to view the locomotives.

Union Pacific reminds all rail fans to [keep safety top of mind](#) and stay **25 feet back from the tracks** when taking pictures or viewing these historic locomotives. That means *never* taking a photo or video while standing on the tracks or ballast and *never* climbing on railroad equipment.

Media can find photos, a Big Boy infographic, fact sheets and more at <https://www.up.com/media/media-kit>.

ABOUT UNION PACIFIC

Union Pacific (NYSE: UNP) delivers the goods families and businesses use every day with safe, reliable and efficient service. Operating in 23 western states, the company connects its customers and communities to the global economy. Trains are the most environmentally responsible way to move freight, helping Union Pacific protect future generations. More information about Union Pacific is available at www.up.com.

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