



RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA

Real Trains. Real History. Real Excitement.

NEWS RELEASE

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The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania is administered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, with the active support of the Friends of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania non profit organization.

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**RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESENTS AUTHOR STEPHEN FRIED
ON HOW THE WEST WAS WON, CULINARY STYLE
Program About 1880s American Entrepreneur Fred Harvey Is Slated For Pennsy Days**

Strasburg, Lancaster County, PA—Award-winning author Stephen Fried will present a program “Appetite For America: How Visionary Businessman Fred Harvey Built A Railroad Hospitality Empire That Civilized The Wild West The Railroad” at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania on Saturday, June 5 at 10:30 a.m. Fried will be available to sign his new book about Fred Harvey, which has been very well-received by critics, both before and after the program. Seating for Fried’s presentation, held during the Museum’s Pennsylvania Railroad “Pennsy” Days event, will be on a first come basis, and regular Museum admission rates will apply.

Two-time National Magazine Award winner Stephen Fried brings the remarkable tale of Fred Harvey, an unlikely American hero, to exhilarating life in his new book. Harvey is the founding father of the nation’s service industry and America’s first foodie hero. His legendary company and entrepreneurial vision helped shape American culture and history for three generations—from the 1880s through World War II. Fred Harvey’s empire helped civilize the west and influenced business, travel and culinary tastes to this day. The story of Fred Harvey dovetails with America’s expansion westward and the modernization of the U.S. through the railroad, at a time when business was done with a handshake and an empire could be born with a dream.

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Fred Harvey's Horatio Alger life takes him from hard-scrabble young immigrant dishwasher to a household name during one of the most fascinating periods of American history. Beginning with a single lunch counter in 1876, Harvey's empire grew to include eating houses and hotels along the nation's largest railroad, the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, including historic lodges still in use today at the Grand Canyon. His "Harvey Houses" were patronized by European royalty, American presidents, rowdy cowboys and countless ordinary travelers looking for the best cup of coffee in the country. Famous for succulent cuisine and world-renowned chefs, the Harvey name became synonymous with quality and service. His staff of carefully screened single young women—the celebrated "Harvey Girls"—were the country's first major female workforce and genuine Americana, even inspiring an Oscar-winning MGM musical film starring Judy Garland.

Through Fred Harvey's sixty-five restaurants and lunch counters, sixty dining cars, dozen large hotels and major union stations from Chicago to Los Angeles, he controlled what many Americans ate, where they slept, what they bought and wore, even what they thought about their country. He was Ray Kroc before McDonald's, J. Willard Marriott before Marriott Hotels and Howard Schultz before Starbucks. Harvey's legacy long outlived him: in a fascinating generational hand-off, his son Ford transformed the company, and his dying father, into a brand that endured for decades.

Stephen Fried's program on Fred Harvey is filled with cultural, historical and culinary insight. His book contains period photos, maps and more than fifty never-before-seen recipes from Fred Harvey chefs. "Appetite for America" has been described as an "historical biography that is as richly rewarding as a slice of fresh apple pie, and every bit as satisfying." Stephen Fried is a prizewinning journalist, magazine writer and author of four books: "Thing of Beauty," "Bitter Pills," "The New Rabbi" and "Husbandry." An adjunct professor at Columbia University School of Journalism, Stephen Fried lives in Philadelphia.

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Home to a world-class collection of more than 100 historic American locomotives and vintage railroad cars, the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, with the active support of the Friends of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania. For information, call (717)687-8628 or visit www.rrmuseumpa.org. The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania also may be found on Facebook.

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