

ESSEX STEAM TRAIN & RIVERBOAT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Essex Steam Train & Riverboat launches “Friday Night Lite” – lite dinner, lite entertainment, lite price . . . but a whole lot of FUN!

July 1, 2009, Essex, CT - - Essex Steam Train & Riverboat is delighted to announce “Friday Night Lite” – lite dinner, lite entertainment, lite price . . . aboard the *Essex Clipper Dinner Train* on **Friday evenings, in July and August, starting July 10th.**

Lite Entertainment presented by Riverway Studio, East Haddam, CT

On alternate Fridays, *Riverway Studio* will serve up a casual evening of live entertainment - - improv comedy or murder mystery - - for “Friday Night Lite” passengers. Hop on board ***Laugh Tracks*** for a joke-filled evening of improv that’s guaranteed to leave you laughing. Or, take a murder mystery train bound for Hollywood during the Roaring 20’s. Plans to make the first “talkie” movie musical are dramatically derailed when someone ends up on ***The Cutting Room Floor***. Who did it?

Robert Bell, President of Essex Steam Train & Riverboat says, “We’re delighted to continue our collaborative relationship with *Riverway Studio* in bringing first-rate entertainment to the on-board experience. ***Riverway Studio*** has successfully implemented our “theater-in-the-rectangle” concept on board the *North Pole Express* and *Lomax, The Hound of Music* trains. We look forward to expanding that entertainment model with *Laugh Tracks* and *The Cutting Room Floor*.”

Round up the Gang . . . Leave the Work Week Behind!

“Friday Night Lite” is a terrific way to leave the stresses of the work week behind . . . at a price that’s affordable in today’s economy. For the lite price of \$45.00 a ticket, passengers will enjoy a 2 ½ hour train journey, 1 hour of lite entertainment, and a lite dinner - - Chicken Ceasar Salad or Vegetable Wrap, Fruit and Brownie. Full bar service is available on board with Cash or Credit Card. Train *boards* at 7:00pm for 7:30pm *departure*. Reservations are a MUST! Call **800 – 377 – 3987**.

The Valley Railroad Company

Incorporated in 1969, The Valley Railroad Company opened the Essex Steam Train & Riverboat to the public in 1971. Today, the Essex Steam Train & Riverboat attracts 150,000 visitors a year and is one of Connecticut’s most vibrant tourist attractions. Tour goers enjoy a 2½ hour narrated steam train and riverboat journey through the scenic Connecticut River Valley. Special events include *Day Out With Thomas, Santa Special, North Pole Express* and *Lomax, The Hound of Music*. Visit www.essexsteamtrain.com.

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