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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CHARLOTTESVILLE WELCOMES TRAIN OF LEAF-PEEPERS  
ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29**

Approximately 1,000 visitors from North Carolina  
will take the City by storm for a period of three hours

**Charlottesville, VA (October 25, 2016)** – The Charlottesville Albemarle Convention and Visitors Bureau (CACVB) announces the visit of a very special group of leaf-peeping enthusiasts returning to visit our area for the fourth year in a row. On Saturday, October 29, at approximately 12:00 p.m. noon, approximately 1,000 guests will arrive at the Amtrak Station and spend about three hours exploring the downtown area.

The group is part of the North Carolina Transportation Museum Foundation (NCTMF) and the Watauga Valley Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society (NHRS) Fall Rail Excursion.

Departing from Spencer, NC at 7:00 a.m. and Greensboro, NC at 8:00 a.m., riders will travel through Thomasville, High Point and Reidsville, NC as well as Danville, Lynchburg and Oak Ridge, VA before disembarking at the Amtrak station in downtown Charlottesville.

"We are thrilled to welcome the Railway Historical Society and its passengers to Charlottesville again this year," said the CACVB's Executive Director, Kurt Burkhart. "What a wonderful opportunity to introduce our destination to these travelers and, hopefully, entice them to hopefully make future plans for a return visit to our area."

Dawn Peters, CACVB's Visitor Relations Manager who is coordinating this event, shares in the excitement. "We look forward to assisting these guests and providing guidance so they make the most of their time in Charlottesville," she said.

The CACVB team, along with volunteers and representatives from the Downtown Business Association, will be present at strategic downtown locations to direct visitors, answer questions and provide information about our destination. In addition, special chartered buses will loop continuously between the Amtrak station and the Downtown Mall; this service, provided by the CACVB and the NCTMF, will be complimentary to the train riders.

"The businesses on and around our Historic Downtown Mall are very happy to welcome all the visitors arriving on the train from North Carolina," said George Benford, Co-Chair of the Downtown Business Association. "We look forward to providing a great experience for every one of these visitors to our downtown," he added.

The train will depart Charlottesville at 3:00 p.m.

**About the Charlottesville Albemarle Convention & Visitors Bureau (CACVB):**

In addition to serving as the global resource for marketing the tourism assets of [Charlottesville](#) and [Albemarle County](#), Virginia, through [www.visitcharlottesville.org](http://www.visitcharlottesville.org), the CACVB assists tour operators, meeting planners, reunions and other groups in planning visits to the destination. CACVB's mission is "to enhance the economic prosperity of City and County by promoting, selling and marketing the City of Charlottesville and County of Albemarle, as a destination, in pursuit of the meetings and tourism markets." CACVB operates the [Downtown Visitor Center \(610 E Main St\)](#) which is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and a second visitor center, the [Albemarle Tourism and Adventure Center](#) in downtown Crozet ([5791 Three Notch'd Rd](#)) at the historic train depot; it is open Wednesday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Sunday Noon - 5:00 p.m. The CACVB also provides a touch-screen kiosk at Monticello's Thomas Jefferson Visitor Center. The official website of the CACVB is [www.visitcharlottesville.org](http://www.visitcharlottesville.org). In addition, the organization manages powerful social media channels; ExperienceCharlottesville on Facebook, @VisitCVille on Twitter, CVilleVA on Pinterest, and @CharlottesvilleVA on Instagram and Vimeo.