

Going Places

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM AROUND THE CTA

cta

OLD NAVY TRAIN IS A GRAVY TRAIN!

This Brown Line train, "wrapped" by clothing retailer Old Navy, started running July 15 and will continue to operate until September 15. Old Navy is also buying ads on buses and will be the first to advertise on CTA farecards. CTA expects to net \$250,000 in total revenue.



New Entrances For Six CTA 'L' Stations

CTA is making six of its 'L' stations more convenient for customers to enter. Early this fall, new entrances will be provided in locations where previously it was possible only to exit the stations. Four Blue Line stations and one each on the Red and Green Lines will have reversible high barrier gates installed for this purpose.

New technology makes the changes possible. By building automated fare equipment into the high barrier gates, they can serve both as exits and as entrances for customers using fare cards. The convenience of new station entrances gives CTA an opportunity to attract customers from nearby neighborhoods or businesses who might otherwise be discouraged by having to walk up to two extra blocks to reach the primary entrances.

The new station entrances are scheduled to open this fall. One will be at the Pulaski Road side of the Irving Park station on the Blue Line, where riders will be able to transfer directly to Blue Line trains from #53 Pulaski buses. Another will be at Lunt Avenue at the north end of the Red Line station at Morse. A third will be at East Avenue, which is at the east end of the Blue Line station at Oak Park

Avenue in Oak Park.

Two new entrances will be established at the Medical Center station on the Blue Line to accommodate growing activity both east and west of the existing station entrance at Ogden, and provide better connections with #9 Ashland and #50 Damen buses. The exit at Paulina will be converted to entrance capability, while the one-time entrance at Damen will be reopened after being closed for several years.

One of the other two stations being changed is at Ashland/Lake on the Green Line, where it will be possible to reach both platforms from the current stairway exits to the east near Justine. The Lake/Wells entrance/exit for the Clark/Lake Blue Line subway station will also receive new high barrier gates, allowing it to serve as an entrance at all hours, rather than only during the afternoon rush period.

Providing increased accessibility to our services is just one way that the CTA is accomplishing its mission to deliver quality, affordable transit services that link people, jobs and communities. Most of the new entrances also provide closer connections for riders transferring from nearby bus lines, which could help boost ridership.

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Getting In The Know On How To Go

When it comes to getting Chicagoland to work, everyone knows CTA is an all-star player. But did you know CTA educates new members of Chicagoland's workforce on how to use public transit, too? The United States Department of Labor recently awarded CTA, Pace and the Mayor's Office of Workforce Development a \$3 million Welfare-to-Work grant. Together, CTA and Pace are using the grant to create a multifaceted welfare to work program.

CTA's partnership with PACE will serve to remove many of the transportation barriers encountered by former welfare recipients who are entering or re-entering the workforce. As a part of the partnership, both CTA and PACE will conduct train-the-trainer workshops for human resource and job placement professionals on how to train former welfare recipients on effectively using CTA's services to travel to interviews and ultimately to work.

According to Planning and Development's Kim Hunt-Rhymes, the training focuses on the informational aspects of using CTA. Workshop attendees will be taught to show people

continued on page 4

Inside

A View From The Seats	p.2
News And Views	p.2
South Shops, Cleaning Up, and more.	
Behind The Wheel	p.3
Welcome Aboard	p.3
Rolling Through The Years	p.4
Changing Gears	p.4
Construction Affects CTA and more.	

The following is an excerpt from a recent two page letter to the CTA from Mr. William P. Makey, Executive Director of Expanding Horizons Foundation:

I am writing to thank you for the important community service provided by the Chicago Transit Authority/ Orange Line, and recognize the contribution of employees Kevin Smith (Transportation Manager, Badge #21519, Orange Line), Tom Connelly (Maintenance Manager, Badge #18513, Midway Shop) and John Rigoni (Train Supervisor, Badge #21519).

These gentlemen have actively participated as volunteers in the Expanding Horizons career awareness program by planning and hosting several informative "workplace" field trips that share invaluable behind-the-scenes career insights and personal life experiences with "at-risk" Chicago area elementary school students.

Whatever success *Expanding Horizons* will have in shaping the future of its capable young participants shall be due in part to the invaluable contributions of these fine professionals. Their interests in the future achievement of our youth are admirable hallmarks of dynamic leaders, outstanding educators, and concerned citizens.

You are truly making a positive difference for the next generation!

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News & Views

South Shops Initiative Saves Time & Effort

There's got to be a better way. That's what a team of Technical Services and Body Section 'C' personnel from South Shops figured every time they opened engine compartment doors on 4400 or 4900 series TMC buses. The original fiberglass doors were designed to open out, upward and parallel to the bus body. But the latch device didn't keep the doors properly closed while the buses were in service, and there were numerous complaints about their general appearance and overall operation.

Technical Services Product Engineer Dan Badon determined that the problem could be solved by modifying the engine compartment door with hinges that would allow the door to swing up and be kept in place by gas prop cylinders. In designing the needed new system, Badon was assisted by Body Shop employees Peter Brennan, Marshall Coleman, David Dvorak, Terry Sabatini and David Valauskas.



Pictured left to right: Terry Sabatini, David Valauskas, Dave Dvorak, Marshall Coleman, Peter Brennan and Dan Badon.

As the 490 buses in the two series undergo their mid-life overhaul, each will be fitted with the new device at an estimated cost savings to CTA of \$300,000. The savings will result from the availability of standard hardware for use as replacement parts instead of having to order specialized parts from a single source.

Cleaning Up Our Act

The CTA recently launched a pilot program to intensively clean the oldest Blue and Red Line train cars. The program will focus on areas where dirt and grime have accumulated over the years that are not targeted during routine cleaning.

A three-person crew assigned to each car will conduct the intensive cleanup, which includes scrubbing and

washing all car parts, as well as removing and sanitizing the seats and floor air duct-return grills. Polymers and other new products are being used to restore the luster on many car parts such as seats, floors, doors, poles and panels. Because of the time and energy required to give these rail cars an intensive cleaning, this project is expected to take a year to complete.

Women Recognized At Rodeo Competition

Although women have made it into the "Winning Circle 30" (the top 30 operators with the highest composite scores) during past CTA Service Delivery Bus Rodeos, the most recent 1998 competition marked the first time that as many as four female employees at one time were among the top 30 operators. Congratulations to:

- Denise Cherry-McSwain (Badge #2775), 74th Garage
- Mary A. Konczal (Badge #27677), North Park Garage
- Vercysia Nelson (Badge #26818), 74th Garage
- Yolanda Nelson (Badge #24272), 74th Garage

Welcome Aboard



William P. Leahy
*Sr. Vice President
Safety & Training*

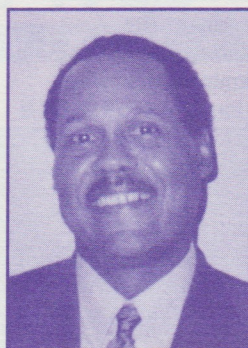
William P. Leahy

Retired U. S. Coast Guard Rear Admiral William P. Leahy is now the Senior Vice President for CTA's Safety & Training. In his many years with the U.S.

Coast Guard, Leahy worked extensively with law enforcement and defense operations. His responsibilities included intelligence, security, aviation and vessel management. He has also coordinated the largest law enforcement and search and rescue efforts in the Coast Guard.

At the CTA, Leahy will be responsible for overseeing security and safety operations, including management of

the CTA's Central Bus and Rail Control Room, the nerve center for CTA operations. "My job here is very challenging," said Leahy, "but it is already evident to me that it will be rewarding working with the friendly and dedicated people of CTA."



Don Jackson
*CTA Board
Member*

Don Jackson

Appointed by Mayor Daley, Don Jackson is the newest member on the CTA Board. Jackson is founder and president of Central City Productions, Inc., a national television production,

sales and syndication company based in Chicago. He serves on the boards of the DuSable Museum, the Gateway Foundation and Junior Achievement of Chicago. "As a Chicago native and a resident of the community, I am delighted to have the opportunity to serve on a

board that touches the lives of such a large section of Chicago, particularly when it comes to a service as vital as the CTA," said Jackson.

Adrianne Mebane



Adrianne Mebane
*Deputy General
Counsel*

Adrianne Mebane has joined the CTA as the Deputy General Counsel for Enforcement and Investigations. In this position, Mebane is responsible for the Law Department's efforts to ensure that all State of Illinois criminal laws, City of Chicago ordinances and Chicago Transit Authority ordinances are effectively enforced throughout the system. Most recently, Mebane was the Supervisor of Preliminary Hearings and the Grand Jury in the Cook County State's Attorney's Office.

"I am excited to be working at the CTA," said Mebane. "Everyone is open and friendly, which makes this a nice atmosphere to work in."

Behind The Wheel

The Bus Driver Blues

Cecelia Hendrickson is a person with many talents. By day she is a CTA bus operator from Forest Glen Garage. By night she becomes the flashy "Ms. Etta" of *Uncle Bob and the Bluzers*, a Chicago blues band. On July 11, 1998, her two lives merged as her band played at the 18th Annual Bus Rodeo. Hendrickson, speaking in her Ms. Etta southern accent said, "Everyone had a great time. CTA treated us wonderfully, and the crowd was amazing."

Uncle Bob and the Bluzers was created by Cecelia's husband, Bob Hendrickson, in 1992. Cecelia has been lead vocalist for the past five years. Comprised of guitar, bass guitar, harp, drums and other instruments, Uncle Bob and the Bluzers' has a repertoire which spans a wide range of blues styles and eras, borrowing from the vintage blues of

James Cotton to the sounds of more modern blues man Robert Cray. Besides the Bus Rodeo, the band has played at a variety of locations, ranging from traditional blues bars like Gamblers, Secrets and Moonlight Tap Bar to benefits and backyard concerts.

This wasn't the first time Cecelia's lives have merged. Last Halloween, she dressed up as Ms. Etta for her bus route. "Everyone was surprised," said Hendrickson. "The riders all smiled and thought it was funny to see their driver dressed up in flashy clothing and wearing a big wig. It made their Halloween a little more festive as they used public transportation."

As of September 6, 1998, Cecelia will celebrate 21 years with the Authority. She has worked as a bus operator at the Forest Glen Garage her entire CTA career. Cecelia enjoys her route and believes that if you treat people the way you want

to be treated, everyone will be happy. She thinks that her gig as Ms. Etta and her job as a CTA bus driver are very similar. "If you are outgoing and try to entertain others, you make everyone happy," said Cecelia. "When you greet them with a smile or a friendly word, it has a positive effect on both CTA riders and Ms. Etta's crowd."



Cecelia Hendrickson
Bus Operator

Through The Years

Please join us in congratulating CTA employees who are celebrating special anniversaries this month:

46 Years

Mary Lyall August 20
Accounting Operations, Control Clerk III

35 Years

Richard Myslinski August 8
Forest Glen Garage, Cash Box Puller

30 Years

Jesse Alexander August 12
Archer Garage, Bus Operator

Richard Kusek August 26
Forest Glen Garage, Bus Operator

Marion Lindsey August 26
Planning, Traffic Checker

Gregory Marshall August 20
Rail Heavy Maintenance, Machine Shop Foreman (Skokie)

Albert Moffett August 19
Kedzie Garage, Bus Operator

Henry Terry August 12
Service Delivery Communications Center, Controller II

Getting In The Know

continued from page 1

how to obtain basic information about transit, like bus schedules, where to pick up and how to read maps, and what phone numbers to call for information. "Many people, who have never used transit before, don't know much about their options," Hunt-Rhymes reported.

CTA has already conducted this type of training program, and attendee feedback shows that it was successful. "We had about 50 attendees at the last program, and it was very well-received," said Hunt-Rhymes. CTA's first train-the-trainer seminar, held in March, was organized by Judith Getzels.

Construction Affects CTA Rail Terminals

Midway Airport Transportation

Due to construction of a new parking garage at Midway Airport, the pedestrian bridge linking the CTA's Orange Line 'L' terminal to the airport will be closed beginning August 1 and is expected to reopen for the 1998 Thanksgiving holiday weekend. During this period, free shuttle buses will operate daily, making trips every 15 minutes in both directions while the pedway is closed. The shuttles will operate from 5:10 a.m. to 11:40 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and from 7 a.m. to 11:40 p.m. on Sundays and holidays. The shuttles will make stops for the Orange Line terminal at the south end of the bus terminal near 59th street.

CTA Red Line Station at 79th

Due to Illinois Department of Transportation construction on the Dan Ryan Expressway overpass at 79th Street, all customers must use the north entrance to the station through October. Subsequently, the elevator inside the south entrance will be out of service until construction is completed. Customers who need to use an elevator to access the platform can use the following alternative accessible service that connects with elevator-equipped stations on the Green Line: #3 King Drive, #4 Cottage Grove, #8 Halsted and #9 Ashland. In addition, accessible #29 State buses provide service parallel to the Red Line.

Extra Service for Upcoming Summer Events:

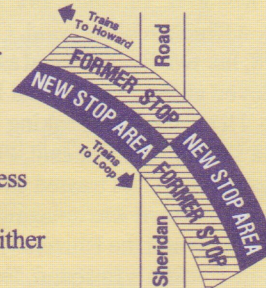
Air and Water Show—Saturday, August 22 and Sunday, August 23, 1998, the Chicago Air & Water Show will take place along the lake front at North Avenue beach. Activities are scheduled from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. daily. To accommodate those attending the festival, 35 extra buses will run from noon until 5:00 p.m. both days on these routes: #22 Clark, #36 Broadway, #72 North and #151 Sheridan. On Saturday, longer trains will run on the Purple line until 5:30 p.m. The Blue, Red and Purple Lines will have longer trains running from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, August 23.

Jazz Festival—The 1998 Jazz Festival will take place in Grant Park at the Petrillo Music Shell, Thursday, September 3 through Sunday, September 6. The festival runs from noon until 11:00 p.m. daily. Extra buses will begin running at 10 p.m. on the #6 Jeffery (southbound) and the #151 Sheridan (northbound) to help our riders get home. On Friday, September 4, trains will run on the Red Line every five minutes from 10:25 p.m. to midnight. On Saturday, September 5, from 8:25 p.m. to midnight. Red Line trains will again run every five minutes. Finally, on Sunday, September 6, there will be additional Red Line trains from 6:40 p.m. until midnight.

Changes in Loyola Station

Starting on August 2nd at 10:00 a.m., all Red Line trains stopping at the Loyola Station will stop at the "first half" of the platform in the direction of travel rather than the "last half" of the platform as they do now (See map to the right). This change will improve sight lines for our train operators and reduce train speeds in the immediate station area.

An elevator in the center of the platform will continue to provide access to trains heading in either direction.



Helping companies make new employees more aware of their transit options offers a number of benefits. A transit-accessible workplace is more attractive to potential employees — especially those without their own cars.

Timely and reliable public transportation helps people get to work on time, which is a huge plus for employers. And of course, the more people are made aware of CTA's services, the greater chance they'll use our trains and buses.