

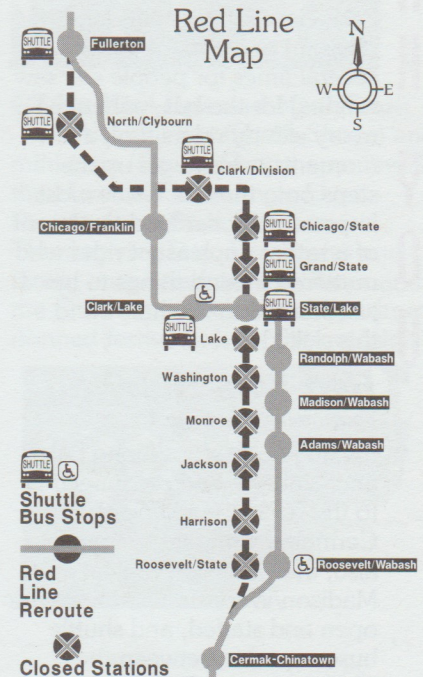
Red Line Subway Getting New Signals and A Cleaning

Keeping CTA's subways clean means more than just sweeping, mopping and wiping off dust. For the State Street subway, a thorough cleaning includes power washing acoustical tile, walls, columns, platforms, stairs and mezzanines. It also means power rodding subway sewers and drains, and any painting, electrical and carpentry work that may be needed. CTA began the first intensive cleaning of this kind in April, 1998. Now it's time for another round. But before it starts, the block signal system that has been in place since the subway opened in 1943 will be replaced with automatic train control, or cab signaling. The signal

work has already begun, and will continue throughout the year.

The subway shutdown needed for installation of major components of the signal system takes place on Sunday mornings from midnight to 9 a.m. As signal work and other capital improvements move forward, CTA maintenance crews will take advantage of the Sunday closing to begin another round of subway power washing. To accommodate customers while the subway is closed, Red Line trains are operating "over the top," using Brown Line tracks between Fullerton and Lake,

continued on page 2



Transit Benefit Program Update

Give your employees a tax cut.
(While you're at it, take one for yourself.)

Employees can take up to \$100 in transit benefits per month. Employers can deduct the cost of the program from their taxes. For more information, call 1-800-468-2272 or visit us online at cta.com/transit.

cta
take it.

Since its 1999 summer kickoff, CTA's Transit Benefit Program has been helping customers and local employers save money by paying for their transit tax-free. In July, the CTA joined in partnership with the RTA to support the commuter benefit program, and sales for the program have gone through the roof. Sales for 1999 more than doubled 1998 totals. And, more employers have more employees purchasing more transit.

In 1998, 856 employers ordered 213,500 Transit Checks worth about \$8.8 million. In 1999, the number of employers in the program increased by more than 38%, the average number of employees participating in the program at each company grew by 45%. Through the end of the year, 1,160 employers had ordered 414,908 Transit Checks worth \$19.7 million and 14,055 Transit Cards worth \$658,715.

In addition, a direct mail campaign targeting Human Resource administrators and an ad campaign, comprised of both newspaper ads and car cards, which kicked off in December 1999, should lead to even more sales growth over the coming year.

If you would like information about the Transit Benefit Program to be sent to you or the employer of a spouse, friend or neighbor, contact Jim Carroll at ext. 3016.

Inside

A View From The Seats	p.2
News and Views	p.2
Rolling Through The Years	p.3
New Leadership for Employee Services and Paratransit Operations.....	p.4
1999 Holiday Round-up	p.5
1st Place	p.5
Changing Gears	p.6

T N. Gerson of Skokie recently wrote:

H I recently used the CTA for the first time in a couple of years. I boarded a 147 Outer Drive bus. I sat at the front of the bus and couldn't help but be impressed with the driver Badge #23990, (Exeline Elliott, North Park Garage). She was kind, pleasant and patient waiting several times for people she saw running for the bus, patient as many elderly riders took a few moments extra to get up the steps onto the bus. I was most impressed by her kind treatment of a rather unpleasant rider who muttered unkind things to her. I just wanted to say hats off to this skilled driver.

Red Line Subway

continued from page 1

making Loop stops along Lake and Wabash, and reconnecting to the Red Line just north of Cermak. During these hours also, the Chicago/Franklin and Madison/Wabash 'L' stations are open and staffed, and shuttle buses operate between the Clark/Lake and Fullerton stations, stopping for customers connecting to Red Line trains from Grand/State, Chicago/State, Clark/Division, and North/Clybourn.

Going Places

Going Places is published monthly by the Chicago Transit Authority Communications Department, (C) 2000. All rights reserved.

Edeana Rollins
c/o CTA Communications
Merchandise Mart, Room 730
P.O. Box 3555
Chicago, IL 60654

Call: (312) 664-7200, ext. 3585
or fax comments to: (312) 664-8936.

News & Views

Snowflake Pins

The winter storm that welcomed the new year 1999 packed a wallop to the CTA. However, thanks to the hard work of many dedicated employees we were able to deliver much of our service in the midst of the second most severe storm in Chicago's history.

To acknowledge their contribution, a special pin was

created for those employees who worked so hard to keep service running during such a challenging time. The pins, which feature a snowflake above the CTA logo, were distributed at the end of 1999. For uniformed employees, the pins will become a permanent part of the uniform, as recognition of those who put forth the extra effort when it was needed the most.

Golden Dollars Coming Our Way



A new golden dollar coin will be in circulation soon as one of the U.S. Mint's first products in the new millennium. The new coin looks and feels different from anything that has come before it, but has the same electromagnetic signature patterns as the silver-colored Susan B. Anthony dollar, and can be used for payment of fares in CTA turnstiles and fareboxes.

The new coin is being produced because the current supply of Susan B. Anthony dollars is almost depleted, and consumers wanted a coin that was easier to distinguish from other change. The golden dollar is expected to reduce the use of bills and make it easier for customers to pay fares and purchase items from vending machines with fewer coins.

The face on the new golden dollar is of Sacagawea, a young Shoshone woman who served as an interpreter and diplomat for explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark as they made their way from the Northern Great

Plains to the Pacific Ocean from 1804 to 1806. Shown strapped to her back is her infant son. The other side of the coin features an American eagle in flight.

"We'll be ready whenever the Mint releases the coins," said Joe Simonetti, General Manager, Revenue Equipment Technology and Maintenance. "We were the first transit agency to test the alloy used in the golden dollars, and we worked with the Mint and other users in a group called the Coin Coalition to ensure that the coins would be accepted by our fare equipment."

Slightly larger than a quarter, the new dollar coin has smooth edges and a wider rim than Susan B. Anthony dollars. The core is copper covered by outer layers of manganese brass composed of copper, zinc, manganese and nickel, which provide the "golden" color. Besides being usable for paying fares in fareboxes and turnstiles, golden dollars will also be accepted by Transit Card vending machines.

Rolling through the Years

Please join us in congratulating CTA employees who celebrated special anniversaries in January and this month.

45 Years

Smith, Jr. Richard...January 23
Green Line,
Rail Service Supervisor II

35 Years

Bruno, Donald.....January 22
Fare Equipment & Operations
Graphics, Transit Technician V
Gallon, Mary.....January 11
Bus Engineering & Technical
Services, Clerk III

30 Years

Bell, Harvey.....January 26
Rail Heavy Maintenance,
Production Clerk
Brown, Cornell.....January 22
103rd Street Garage, Bus Operator
Cowart, Robert..... January 9
Red/Yellow/Purple Line,
Rail Clerk II
Crockett, Jr. Aaron.January 5
Forest Glen Garage,
Manager Transportation - Bus
Fowler, Corrie.....January 9
Green Line,
Rail Service Supervisor II
Galloway, John.....January 23
Red/Yellow/Purple Line,
Switchman
Gilbert, Vaughn.....January 5
Power & Way Maintenance,
Substation Attendant
Harris, Michael.....January 23
Red/Yellow/Purple Line,
Rapid Transit Operator
Hawkins, Roderick..January 5
Power & Way Maintenance,
Substation Attendant
Holifield, Johnny.....January 2
Blue Line,
Manager Transportation - Rail
Kaufman, George.....January 9
Blue Line, Switchman
Marshall, Sinnie.....January 23
Blue Line, Rapid Transit Operator
Ross, McKinley.....January 2
Blue Line, Conductor

Rossow, Kenneth.....January 26
Warehouse Operations,
Material Coordinator II
Suber, James.....January 16
Blue Line, Rapid Transit Operator
Sussex, Wayne.....January 26
Planning, Schedule Maker II
Vantor, Daniel.....January 15
Red/Yellow/Purple Line,
Car Repairer "A"

25 Years

Alvarez, Manuel.....January 9
North Park Garage, Bus Operator
Anhalt, Robert.....January 23
Forest Glen Garage, Bus Operator
Barnett, Pamela.....January 3
Blue Line, Chief Clerk (Rail)
Cain, Jean.....January 16
Red/Yellow/Purple Line,
Customer Assistant
Caston, Dianna.....January 13
Planning,
Traffic Planning Coordinator
Cepeda, Alejandro.....January 6
Archer Garage, Bus Operator
Correa, Angel.....January 6
Kedzie Garage, Bus Operator
DeJesus, Hector.....January 13
Chicago Avenue Garage,
Bus Operator
Friend, Verla.....January 20
Kedzie Garage, Bus Operator
Gibson, Gerry.....January 15
Orange Line, Customer Assistant
Gillispie, Barbara.....January 16
74th & Wood Garage, Bus Operator
Graf, Steven.....January 22
Power & Way Maintenance,
Line Foreman
Hagerty, Thomas.....January 2
Rail Heavy Maintenance,
Painter Leader
Hansen, Jr., Le Roy...January 13
Operations System Support,
Service Delivery Coordinator
Harrison, Mary.....January 16
Archer Garage, Bus Operator
Hendricks, Doris.....January 16
Forest Glen Garage, Bus Operator

Hernandez, Ignacio....January 9
Archer Garage, Bus Operator
Hudson, Brenda.....January 20
Bus Heavy Maintenance,
Production Clerk
Irwin, Thomas.....January 8
Training & Instruction, Manager,
Bus MTC Trng & Development
Kindle, Anthony.....January 2
74th & Wood Garage, Bus Repairer
Kozlowski, Michael....January 20
Archer Garage,
Bus Service Supervisor II
Lozada, Pedro.....January 8
Green Line, Conductor
McDonald, Jr., William.January 9
Chicago Avenue Garage,
Bus Servicer Supervisor II
Moutrey, John.....January 13
77th Street Garage, Bus Operator
Nawrot, Lynn.....January 23
Capital Investment,
Administrative Secretary
Piekielko, John.....January 9
Forest Glen Garage, Bus Operator
Positano, Victor.....January 2
Blue Line, Car Repairer "A"
Robinson, Lawrence....January 9
Training & Instruction,
Bus Instructor II
Rogers, Dwight.....January 6
77th Street Garage, Bus Operator
Sheppard, Wayne.....January 31
Red/Yellow/Purple Line, Switchman
Smith, Ruth.....January 20
Chicago Avenue Garage,
Bus Operator
Smith, Vera.....January 16
Archer Garage, Bus Operator
Steele, Lela.....January 16
74th & Wood Garage, Bus Operator
Vazquez, Adalberto.....January 20
Chicago Avenue Garage,
Bus Operator
Velez, Julio.....January 6
North Park Garage, Bus Operator
Walker, Jimmie.....January 9
Chicago Avenue Garage,
Bus Operator

Rolling through the Years

30 Years

Anderson, James...February 27

Blue Line, Rail Service Supervisor II

Caffrey, Michael.....February 4

Rail Heavy Maintenance, Blacksmith & Welder (Skokie)

De Rose, Nat.....February 5

Forest Glen Garage, Bus Operator

Hoff, Willis.....February 16

Facilities Maintenance,
B Electrician

Olcikas III, Charles. February 27

Rail Heavy Maintenance,
Painter Foreman

Seitman, Leslie.....February 11

Revenue Equipment
Technical & Maintenance,
Revenue Equipment Lineman

Smith, Jr., Darnell...February 26

Forest Glen Garage,
Bus Service Supervisor II

Upshaw, Walter,.....February 23

103rd Street Garage,
Chief Clerk (Bus)

Williams, Charles.....February 6

Green Line, Switchman

Williams, Clarence. February 23

Treasury, Vault Operations
Coordinator

25 Years

Bianchini, Mark.....February 19

Rail Heavy Maintenance,
Blacksmith & Welder Leader A

Brown, Kenneth.....February 24

Power & Way Maintenance,
Track Lubricator Maintainer

Bussie Kline, Debra...February 5

Claims, Claims Representative

Dorsey, Carol.....February 17

Planning, Transit Analyst

Harris, Eddie.....February 10

System Maintenance, Heavy Duty
Equipment Operator

Hubbard Leon.....February 5

Blue Line, Customer Assistant

Reule, Robert.....February 18

Personnel Programs, Manager, Job
Classification & Compensation

Taylor, Calvin.....February 7

Green Line, Switchman

Williams, Bramonde...February 7

Archer Garage, Janitor (Buildings &
Grounds)

New Employee Services Group and Paratransit Leadership at The CTA

The CTA recently announced a key reorganization and the recent hiring of two pivotal employees: Robert Gierut was appointed the Vice President of Employee Relations, Joyce Coleman was hired to serve as the Vice President of Employee Services and Elaine Roberts was brought on board to serve as the General Manager of Paratransit Operations.

The newly created position of Vice President of Employee Relations oversees all labor and contractual issues while the focus of the Vice President of Employee Services is personnel and the employee benefit and compensation programs. The General Manager of Paratransit guides the department that provides over a million rides yearly to customers with disabilities.



Robert Gierut

In the position of Vice President of Employee Relations, Robert will oversee all labor and

contractual issues. In his 22 years at the CTA, he has served as a Special Assistant to the Chairman, Director of Maintenance Labor Affairs, and in the Human Resources Division as a Manager of Administrative Review. During his tenure, Gierut successfully headed the CTA task force responsible for implementing the Federal Transit Administration's comprehensive new drug and alcohol regulations. Most recently he held the position of General Manager, Human Resources Program Compliance.



Joyce Coleman

Joyce Coleman brings to the CTA more than 15 years of demonstrated

success in a variety of senior human resource positions. She has worked in the many diverse aspects of human resource management, including employee relations, compensation and benefits, labor relations, and management and executive develop-

ment. Her most recent position was as the Vice President of Human Resources for Cahners Business Information, formerly CHILTON (a Division of ABC-TV/Disney) in Radnor, Pennsylvania.



Elaine Roberts

As the new General Manager of Paratransit Operations, Elaine Roberts will be respon-

sible for ensuring high quality and cost-effective transportation services for people with disabilities. Roberts brings a thorough knowledge of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) coupled with extensive suburban, urban and regional paratransit management experience to the CTA. Her paratransit experience was developed at both ATC/Vancom Transportation Management in Detroit, Michigan and the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority in Birmingham, Alabama.

1999 Holiday Round-Up



Throughout the CTA, employees pitched in to spread holiday cheer: Over seventy employees from departments including Grant Accounting, Property Accounting, Payroll, Accounts Payable, Capital Investments, DBE, Treasury, Financial Review and Accounts Receivables participated in a Christmas drive for two charities that benefit children – Illinois Masonic Children's Home and Victory Recovery Home. The drive resulted in the collection of over 80 festively wrapped gifts, including toys and warm clothing, that were delivered to the charities just in time for Christmas.

Chicago AVE. Garage

In December, Chicago Avenue Garage hosted its 6th Annual Christmas Celebration complete with food and performances by The Chicago

Avenue Garage Choir, a 50-piece band from Ryerson School and the Richard Wright Elementary School Choir. Over 600 employees and guests were in attendance. Remaining food was donated to Bethel New Life Women's Shelter, a shelter for battered women and their children.

77th Street Garage



Holiday tunes were also a hit at the 77th Street Garage Employee Appreciation/Holiday Celebration. Simeon's High School Choir and the 77th Street Garage Choir performed several musical selections.



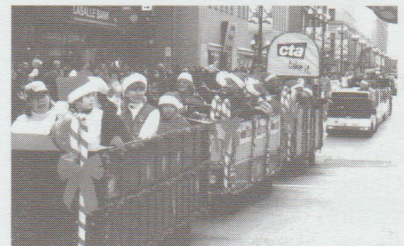
CTA's Santa Train

In December, CTA's Santa Train, bedecked in twinkling lights and holiday decorations made trips throughout the system. Part-time elf Darwin Walker (Red Line) takes a break from making toys in the North Pole to wish riders happy holidays.



CTA's Mini-Bus and Mini-Train

CTA's mini-bus (South Shops) and mini-train (Skokie Shops) appeared in the Marshall Fields Jingle Elves Parade down State Street on Thanksgiving Day. Employees and family members from the Shops and the Community Relations Department donned festive hats for the occasion.



1st Place

1999 Rail Round-Up Cleanliness Champion

Reginald Crosby, a Rail Janitor (South Section), made his Rail Roundup Performance Competition debut and came home a champion. Competitors, who made it to the final competition in the Cleanliness category, were asked to do a timed cleaning of the dirty surfaces most commonly found on trains and in stations. They were judged on their skills in events that

included controlling a stream of water from a high pressure washer, rolling a liquid-filled container through a path of obstacles and removing graffiti from a painted panel.

A three-year employee of the CTA, Crosby had previously worked as a Bus Operator. Crosby said that he enjoyed everything about the Rodeo and looked forward to competing this year.



Satisfying Customers Appetite for Transit Cards

To provide more CTA customers (especially those who ride the bus) with easy access to Transit Cards, the CTA has installed Automated Vending Machines (AVMs) at four Chicago Dominick's Finer Food stores. Almost all other AVMs are located at 'L' stations. AVMs have now been placed in Dominick's stores at 3250 W. 87th Street; 2101 E. 71st; 3350 N. Western, and 5233 N. Lincoln. Fare media already available at Dominick's and Jewel food stores, and at Currency Exchanges in the Chicago area, include packs of 10 (full-fare) or 20 (reduced-fare) Transit Cards, and 1, 7 and 30-Day Passes. AVMs offer the economy and convenience of being able to sell new cards individually, add value to existing cards, and provide a \$1 bonus for every \$10 paid.

Correction

In the "Rolling Thru the Years" Section of the November 1999 issue of Going Places, Willie J. Osborne (Treasury) was listed as a Turnstile Collector. His correct title is Revenue Collector.

New Blue Line and Orange Line Brochures

Newly revised versions of the CTA Blue Line and Orange Line Brochures have been reprinted to incorporate the new look for CTA public information materials like CTA Route Maps, brochures and guides.



Changing Gears

Rail Service Improvements

In response to increasing ridership, several rail lines had service increased during weekday rush hours with the Winter pick on Sunday, January 30:

- **Red Line:** An additional train leaves Howard about 8 a.m. south to 95th, and another leaves 95th about 4:45 p.m. north to Howard. Frequency of trains remains relatively the same and capacity will increase.

- **Blue Line:** Additional morning rush service runs in the peak direction on the O'Hare branch with one train starting from Jefferson Park and another from Belmont. Frequency of trains remains relatively the same increasing capacity.

- **Green Line:** More frequent service, with trains running every 7.5 to 8 minutes instead of every 10 minutes.

- **Purple and Brown Lines:** An additional train leaves Howard at 8:05 a.m. and runs express to Belmont, then becomes a Brown Line train to downtown. Leaving downtown, it becomes a Purple Line train from the Mart at 8:47 a.m. north to Linden.

Also, on Sundays and holidays, service on Brown Line trains between Belmont and Kimball runs every 10 minutes, instead of 12 minutes, from 11:15 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

New Stop Added On The #33 and #125 Buses

CTA has added new bus stops on the #33 Magnificent Mile Express and the #125 Water Tower Express routes.

Grand/Halsted for the Grand Blue Line station

- New stop eastbound on Ohio at Wabash

33 buses

Leaving from Clybourn Metra Station:

- New stop eastbound at North/Clybourn Red Line subway station
- New stop westbound on Ontario at Wabash

Leaving from Western Metra Station:

- New stop eastbound at

125 bus

- New stop eastbound on Ohio at Wabash
- New stop westbound on Ontario at Wabash

Both routes have a rush shuttle period fare of \$1. Customers connecting to other CTA services must pay \$1.80 when boarding the bus to obtain a transfer card from the Bus Operator.

#4/Cottage Grove Buses Return to Michigan Avenue

On Wednesday, February 16, 2000, #4 Cottage Grove buses resumed travel on Michigan Avenue with limited stops to help reduce traffic congestion on State Street and provide faster service from the downtown area.

While Michigan Avenue construction continues, these buses will not make stops northbound between Michigan/Adams and Randolph/Columbus. Southbound buses will not stop between Michigan/Randolph and Michigan/Jackson.