



Kathy Osterman honorees (L.) Bill Platt, Chicago Avenue Garage General Manager and (r.) Aquan'ette Thompson, Support Services Coordinator, Facilities Maintenance, West Shops pose proudly with their awards.

## Two Employees Honored at Kathy Osterman Awards Luncheon

n June 7, 2001, the 2001 Kathy Osterman Award winners were honored at a luncheon at the Palmer House Hilton Hotel. Designed to recognize outstanding public service employees, the award acknowledges individuals displaying exceptional job performance above the call of duty, as well as their participation in community affairs. The participating agencies in the program are the City of Chicago, Chicago Park District, City Colleges of Chicago, Chicago Housing Authority, Chicago Board of Education and the CTA. Nominees from the CTA were chosen from the following categories: General Service and Supervisory.

The CTA is proud to announce our winners for the 2001 Kathy Osterman Awards Program. Aquanette Thompson, a Support Services Coordinator, from the Facilities Maintenance Department, West Shops, won in the Outstanding General Service Employee category. Aquanette, who has been with the CTA for 11 years, stated "I feel receiving this award is a tremendous honor. It is a good feeling to know that your daily service is recognized and appreciated."

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# **Green Line Gets A New Station and A New Station Entrance**

Improvements to rail stations are among the many exciting capital investment projects that are now a common sight throughout the CTA system. The CTA's five-year capital improvement plan identifies \$4.6 billion worth of projects that are necessary to bring the CTA into a state of good repair.

With the opening of the new Conservatory-Central Park Drive station and the Lake-Pulaski station entrance, we look forward to another ridership boost for the Green Line, which has bounced back since it was closed for a two-year rehabilitation in 1994. Last year, 5.7 million rides were taken on the Lake Street branch of the Green Line. That was 7.5 percent more than in 1999, and 43.8 percent more that the last full year before rehabbing began. Ridership for the Green Line as a whole reached 9 million last year, which was 6.6 percent higher than before the closing.

#### **Conservatory-Central Park Drive**

On Saturday, June 30, Mayor Richard M. Daley joined CTA Chairman Valerie B. Jarrett, CTA President Frank Kruesi, Alderman Ed Smith and Park District officials to open a new 'L' station on the Green Line. The station is located at 3630 W. Lake Street, and will provide easy affordable access to the East Garfield Park community and the Garfield Park Conservatory, directly to the north, and to the Park District's Gold Dome Field House to the south.

The station has twin platforms for boarding eastbound and westbound trains. Elevators to both platforms provide full accessibility to customers with disabilities, and canopies offer protection from inclement weather.

The station houses and portions of the canopies on both platforms are historically preserved components from the former station at Homan (3400 West) that have been restored and improved for reuse at the new facility. Homan was one of the original stops on the Lake Street Elevated Railroad that was opened for service in 1893, when trains were pulled by steam locomotives.

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#### **CTA** InternOrientation



# Summer interns tour Skokie Shops during Intern Orientation Day.

n Friday, June 29th, the Human Resources Department hosted an intern orientation day for over 150 summer interns. The fun-filled day was designed to give them a broad look at how the CTA operates and to give them a chance to interact with fellow interns who work at various locations throughout the company. It was also designed to give the interns some insight into possible career opportunities at the CTA.

The day began with presentations by CTA management, including Jack Hartman, Executive Vice President, Construction, Engineering & Facilities; Dick Winston, Executive Vice President, Transit Operations; Dorval Carter, Executive Vice President, Management and Performance, and Joyce Coleman, Vice President, Human Resources. The executives thanked the interns for making CTA their summer employer of choice, and encouraged them to consider CTA as a career choice upon graduating from school.

The interns were also treated to tours of CTA's Control Center at 120 N.
Racine and the Chicago Avenue
Garage/Training Center. The day ended with lunch and a tour at Skokie Shops.

Thanks to everyone who helped make the day a success.

# Going Places ....

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Send comments or article submissions to Edeana Rollins c/o CTA Communications and Marketing, Merchandise Mart, Room 730, PO Box 3555, Chicago, IL 60654

(312)664-7200, x8447 or fax comments to: (312) 664-8936

# **News** & Views



# Two Rail Operations Employees Honored with CTA's Spirit of Chicago Award

Pictured (from I to r.):
Joyce Coleman,
Human Resources
Vice President,
Red Line Customer
Assistant Sharon
Christmas, CTA
Board Chairman
Valerie B. Jarrett,
Red Line Customer
Assistant Kimberly
Jones and William R.
Mooney, Sr.,
Vice President
Rail Operations



n a daily basis, CTA employees demonstrate their commitment to serving community.

Red Line Customer Assistants Sharon Christmas (95th Terminal) and Kimberly Jones (95th Terminal) are prime examples of CTA employees' commitment to service. At the June CTA Transit Board meeting, both women were presented with CTA's Spirit of Chicago Award for their attention to duty and exemplary customer service.

On May 18, 2001, Sharon and Kimberly were working at the Randolph/ Washington (Red Line) station. Together, they came upon two boxes on the floor. Upon examination, they discovered that the boxes were marked "To Help Ana Espara" and contained approximately \$350.00.

The two employees immediately notified the Control Center, who sent a supervisor to pick up the money. Upon further investigation, it was determined that the money the Customer Assistants found was being collected for a sick immigrant girl in need of liver transplant surgery. The money was delivered to the bank where a fund for the girl had been established.

Sharon and Kimberly truly represent the best of the CTA and its commitment to serve the people of Chicago. Congratulations and thanks to Sharon and Kimberly for representing us all so well and honorably!

Congratulations to the following employees, who recently joined the Human Resources Team:

### **People** on the Move

**Allison Friedman** has joined the CTA's Benefits Department as Benefits Compliance Manager. She most recently was the Compensation and Benefits Manager at Navistar International Transportation Corporation.

**Lena Handy** has joined the Human Resources Department as Human Resources Assistant reporting directly to Joyce Coleman, Human Resources Vice President. She comes to the Department with 12 years of administrative experience. Most recently, she worked for the law firm of Hinshaw & Culbertson.

**Cary Morgen** recently joined the Human Resources Department as interim General Manager Personnel Services. Cary has been with the CTA for over 15 years. Most recently, he served in the Employee Relations Department where he held the position of General Manager, Contract Administration, Policy & Compliance. Cary reports directly to Joyce Coleman, Human Resources Vice President.

# Rolling through the Years JULY 2001

Please join us in congratulating the following CTA employees who are celebrating special anniversaries,

Carl Meyer ..... July 31 Control Center, Communication/Power Control Manager

#### *36 YEARS*

Matthew Spatzek ..... July 7 Rail Heavy Maintenence, Rail Maintenance Manager

#### 30 YEARS

Elden Adams ...... July 12 77th Garage, Bus Operator Dennis Cook ...... July 28 77th Garage, Bus Maintenance Manager Marvin Covington ..... July 12 74th Garage, Bus Operator Roger Ferguson ..... July 2 Radio Repair, Bus Repairer Louis Gerard ...... July 15 Howard Maintenance, Car Repairer 'A' Jonathan Hulon ...... July 12 103rd Street Garage, Bus Operator Paul Short ...... July 2 Archer Garage, Bus Operator

## **Awards** Continued from page 1

Bill Platt, General Manager, Chicago Avenue Garage, was a finalist in the Outstanding Supervisory Employee category. In 1967, Bill began his career at the CTA as a summer intern. Since then, he has held various positions within the Transit Operations Division, and has been a General Manager since 1992. "It is an honor to be recognized. I feel it is appropriate to give back to the communities we serve," said Bill.

Kudos to Aquanette and Bill!

# **Employees** Count

## Wisconsin Dells **Discount Promotion**

The CTA has received a limited number of Wisconsin Dells "2001 Passports." The "passports" provide discounts of up to 35% at various Wisconsin Dells attractions and lodgings. "Passports" are available at all CTA locations.

For more information, please call Carmelita Hubbard at (312) 664-7200, extension 4671.

Clyde Ewing IIIJuly 2' Rail Station Customer Appearance, Janitor (Rapid Transit)
George GavrilosJuly 1: North Park Garage, Bus Operator
Vincent GennaJuly 1 Chicago Avenue Garage, Bus Repairer
Odell Granton
Vilora GregoryJuly 1 74th Garage, Clerk IV (Bus)
Jose Martinez July 7 Kedzie Garage, Bus Repairer
Lovie MillerJuly 6 Green Line, Customer Assistant-SD
Luis Rivera July 8 Chicago Avenue Garage, Bus Operator Reginald Smith July 6 Management Information Systems, Security Administrator

William UnwinJuly 7 Maintenance Support, Steamfitter
Foreman
<b>Ernest Ware</b> July 1 Kedzie Garage, Bus Operator
Alma WilliamsJuly 8 Kedzie Garage, Bus Operator
Minnie WilliamsJuly 1 Chicago Avenue Garage, Bus Service Supervisor II

Correction: John Schoeps, who celebrated 25 years of service on June 4, is a Rapid Transit Operator on the Brown Line. The information that appeared in the June 2001 issue of Going Places was incorrect. We apologize for the error.

# South Shops Family Open House 2001

he South Shops held its annual "Family Open House" on Saturday, June 9, 2001. It was a fun opportunity for employees to show their families where they work and what they do. Visitors were invited to walk through the various departments of the Shops, which were set up to showcase the work that is done in each area.

Throughout the event, there were demonstrations, entertainment and games for everyone to enjoy. There were also many chances for the kids and the kids at heart to win prizes. The CTA's Mini-Bus and Mini-Train provided rides around the Shop. Jeff Jankus, a South Shops Foreman, brought in homing pigeons he raises and trains. For a treat, Jeff let the children pet and release his pigeons.

Several executives were on hand to show their support for the open house, including President Frank Kruesi and Executive Vice President Dick Winston.



(I.) Richard Winston, Executive Vice President Transit Operations and (r.) Ralph Malec, South Shops General Manager pose in front of the CTA Mini-Bus.

#### New Green Line Station

#### Continued from page 1

Besides elevators, each platform at the new station is served by two stairways. The primary entrances to the fare collection areas inside the station houses on both platforms are from the northwest and southwest corners of Lake and Conservatory-Central Park Drive. Customers with Transit Cards may also use the secondary entrances at the east end of the platforms that can be entered through high-barrier entry/exit gate turnstiles.

The new station, which is precisely half way between the Kedzie and Pulaski stations, has tactile edging on both platforms, an ADA graphics package, and audiovisual signs to alert customers when trains are approaching. Inside the fare collection area of each station house are two Transit Card Vending Machines, two standard turnstiles, including one that accepts coins, and a wheelchair gate turnstile for customers with disabilities.

#### Lake-Pulaski

On Wednesday, June 6, 2001 Mayor Daley was joined at the opening ceremony by CTA Chairman Valerie B. Jarrett; CTA President Frank Kruesi; David K. Hanson, director of the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities; and Alderman Ed Smith (28th).

The project includes new station houses on both the inbound and outbound sides, which have concrete floors and are enclosed with glass curtain walls. New canopies over both platforms will allow customers to wait for trains while protected from the elements. New shelters with overhead infrared heaters will provide warmth during cold-weather months.

In 1995, this station received new concrete platforms, but there wasn't enough money for new station houses and the accessibility improvements that are necessary to make the CTA a viable transportation option for the elderly and disabled. With the work now complete, each station house has a new elevator, stairway, audio-visual signage for customers with disabilities, brighter lighting and a wheelchair-accessible turnstile.

The station is just one of the 26 CTA rail stations that are undergoing improvements to make them more attractive and convenient for customers and accessible to all.

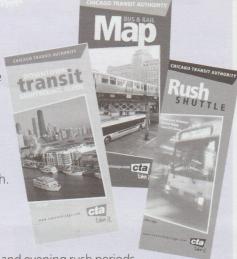
# Changing Qears

## **CTA Brochures Updated**

his month, newly updated versions of the CTA Bus and Rail Map and the Downtown Sightseeing Transit Guide have been printed. The updated publications reflect service improvements and some basic design changes that will make them more user-friendly for our customers. Systemwide distribution of the map and guides will begin by the end of the month.

Also recently updated is the Rush Shuttle brochure, which details the partnership between the CTA and Metra, providing \$1 shuttle service between the Loop and

downtown Metra stations during morning and evening rush periods.



To obtain brochures, customers can visit CTA's Merchandise Mart office or the RTA office at 11 S. Wells, send a request by mail, or call 1-888-YOUR-CTA or the RTA Travel Information Center at 836-7000 (any area code). Customers will also be able to download these brochures from CTA's website: <a href="https://www.transitchicago.com">www.transitchicago.com</a> by the end of the month.

# **News** & Views



## **CTA Wins IABC Award**

he CTA was recently honored with an International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) Spectra Award for the implementation and marketing of the RTA/CTA Transit Benefit Program. IABC is a non-profit organization focusing on the enhancement of excellence in public relations, employee communication, marketing communication, public affairs, and other forms of communication.

The Transit Benefit Program offers tax-free transit to Chicagoland employers and employees, and the CTA recently began offering this benefit to its employees who ride Metra. Cindy Kaitcer, CTA General Manager of Marketing, Advertising and Promotions, accepted the award at a dinner

on June 14. Kaitcer was instrumental in the initiation of the program, which currently includes more than 30,000 participating employees and over 1,800 companies. Transit Benefit Coordinators Jim Carroll and Michael Misetic of CTA's Market Development Department, market and sell the program to companies within the CTA service area. The Market Development Department is managed by Diane Kirkish. The Transit Benefits Program's award-winning marketing materials were designed by CTA Graphic Designer Jerry Hutchins.