

Barber Receives KPTA Life Time Achievement in Transit Award

Ollie Barber, Attorney and Lobbyist for the Kentucky Public Transit Association, received the KPTA Life Time Achievement in Transit Award. He received this award at the KPTA /KYTC Conference at the Hyatt Hotel in downtown Lexington on August 12, 2017.

The Kentucky Public Transit Association recognizes his lifelong commitment to transit. KPTA commends him for leadership, dedicated service and outstanding contribution to the transit industry.

For more than 30 years, Ollie Barber has championed the rights of disadvantaged, downtrodden and wronged individuals and groups.

In the courtroom, Mr. Barber has won numerous verdicts that have resulted in better care for the disabled, improved conditions for prisoners, and legal protection for youth accused of committing crimes.

In the boardroom, he has advised corpo-

rations, government agencies and non-profit organizations.

In the community, Mr. Barber's diverse service record ranges from soccer referee to revitalizing a city waterfront.

Vickie Bourne, former Executive Director of the Office of Transportation Delivery was the first recipient of the KPTA Lifetime Achievement in Transit Award in 2015.



Ollie Barber was presented the KPTA Life Time Achievement Award in Transit from Beecher Hudson, KPTA President at the 2017 KPTA Conference.

Aiello and Estes Inducted into the 2017 KY Transit Hall of Fame

The eighth annual Transit Hall of Fame inductees were announced at the 2017 KPTA /KYTC Conference.

Andrew Aiello, General Manager Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky and Ann Estes, Federal Program Coordinator Kentucky Transportation Cabinet office of Transportation Delivery were inducted into the 2017 Kentucky Transit Hall of Fame at the KPTA Conference in August of 2017.



Andrew Aiello, TANK and Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA



Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA and Ann Estes, KYTC

These individuals join previous inductees Vickie Bourne, Executive Director of the Office of Transportation Delivery, Buddy Fugua, retired Transportation Director of GRITS, The late Sue Jeffers Care, retired Transportation Director of BUS, Shirley Cummins, Executive Director of RTEC, Beecher Hudson, CEO with Louisville Wheels

From The Desk of The President

Dear KPTA Members:

The 2018 Legislative session is over and what a session it was. Legislators returned to Frankfort on Friday, April 8 and Saturday, April 9, 2018 for the final two days of this legislative session.



The executive budget, known as House Bill 200, restored many cuts included in the governor's proposed spending plan. HB 200 will boost base per-pupil funding for K-12 education to \$4,000 per student in each fiscal year. House Bill 366 which was the tax reform bill passed and the tax plan creates a flat five per cent rate for personal and corporate income taxed, expands the six percent sales tax to some services and increases the cigarette tax .50 cents to \$1.10 per pack.

I want to thank Juva Barber, Kentuckians for Better Transportation Executive Director and Ollie Barber, KPTA Lobbyist/Attorney for all their hard work on HB 609 that would have increased funding for all Transportation modes. There was no action taken on HB 609 but we will be back before the General Assembly in 2019 asking for funding for Kentucky's Transportation Infrastructure. HB 201, the Budget for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet was passed by both the Senate and the House. Public Transit funds were appropriated at 5.5 million per year over the next two years for 5310, 5311, and 5339 match. Also planning dollars and non-public school Transportation comes out of this general fund appropriations.

I want to congratulate Eric Perez, Executive Director of the Office of Transportation Delivery, his staff and TARC for receiving 3.6 million each in 5339 funding.

As always, I want to thank the membership for their ongoing support of KPTA.

Sincerely,

Beecher Hudson

Beecher Hudson

KPTA President

Chief Executive Officer of WHEELS Transportation Louisville

Thanks Vickie

Vickie Bourne has shown dedication, service, dependability, determination and the love of transit for the betterment of the state of Kentucky.

For over 40 years she has served the people of Kentucky with blood, sweat and tears for the success of transit.

We thank you for all you have done for us and our passengers.

Enjoy this new chapter in your life.

You deserve it!



Vickie Bourne, Executive Director of OTD was presented the KPTA Life Time Achievement Award in Transit in 2015.



Vickie Bourne and new Executive Director of OTD Eric Perez at the 2018 KBT Conference



Dr. Yvette Taylor, Regional Administrator, FTA Region IV presented Vickie Bourne, OTD Executive Director the FTA Guiding STAR award in 2015.



Vickie Bourne receives the KPTA Appreciation Plaque at the KBT Conference in January 2018



Gail Mayeux, Vickie Bourne and Pat Puckett at the 2018 KPTA Retirement party



Vickie Bourne, Executive Director of OTD was inducted into the Kentucky Transportation Hall of Fame at the Kentuckians for Better Transportation Conference in 2014.

KPTA/KYTC Fall Mini Conference is scheduled for October 22-24, 2018

The 2018 KPTA/KYTC Mini Conference is going to be held in Owensboro, Kentucky on October 22-24.

The Hampton Inn and Suites Downtown Owensboro on the Waterfront will be the host hotel where you will enjoy the beautiful Smothers Park of the City of Owensboro. Follow this link to download the Visitor's Guide to Owensboro https://visitowensboro.com/_uploads/Owensboro_Visitors_Guide.pdf.



So much to see and so much to do on the riverfront within walking distance of our host hotel.

Register for your rooms and make sure you say you are with KPTA Conference for a discounted rate of \$119. This rate will include complimentary breakfast each morning. This room rate will also be discounted

for Sunday, October 21, 2018 if you wish to travel earlier. The room rate will extend until September 15, 2018 for the \$119 rate.

Booking Link: <http://group.hamptoninn.com/kptakyc>

The conference will be held at the Owensboro Convention Center located at 501 West 2nd Street, Owensboro, Kentucky. Check out their website at <http://www.owensborocenter.com/>



On October 22, 2018 Dr. Greg Elam, National Toxicology will be the send-off speaker for the conference. Additional agenda items will follow.



Perez becomes new Executive Director of OTD

Eric Perez became the Executive Director of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC), Office of Transportation Delivery (OTD) on February 1, 2018.

Perez has been working with KYTC for 11 years in multiple positions. He has served as a Project Manager (IPA), Executive Staff Advisor, Administrative Branch Manager, Staff Assistant, and Deputy Executive Director for the Office of Transportation Delivery. He has worked with the Executive Director, office staff, and Kentucky transit agencies to help secure, administer, and process over \$1 billion in federal and state funds from the Federal Transit Administration, Department for Medicaid Services, Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs, and Commonwealth of Kentucky. These funds help provide transportation services for Kentucky citizens who need dialysis, cancer treatments, work, job training, and Medicaid services.

Perez graduated magna cum laude from Eastern Kentucky University with a Bachelor of Business Administration in finance. He was the president elect in Rho Epsilon—a professional real estate fraternity at ECU—and received several scholarships, including the Appraisal Institute Scholarship, Institute of Real Estate Management Scholarship, and Eastern Kentucky University Academic Scholarship. While in college, he was an assistant property manager at Apex Realty in Lexington and also acquired his real estate license.

Perez and his wife, Monica, are therapeutic foster parents. Eric is a member, deacon, and treasurer of Bohon Road Baptist Church. He and Monica live in Harrodsburg with their five children: Isabella, Eli, Carman, Erica, and Dalton.

*Please welcome
Eric to his new
assignment and give him
your full support.*



2017 KPTA Rodeo Activities



First place
KPTA Rodeo
April Carter, FTSB



Second place
KPTA Rodeo
Kevin Johnson
Lexington Wheels
Transportation



Third place
KPTA Rodeo
LeAnn Hughes, FTSB

Rodeo Participants & Judges



Front row left to right: Tom Stephenson (GRITS), LeeAnn Hughes (FTSB), Crystal Combs (LKLP), Clara Coates (Frankfort Transit), Beverly Kellie (TACK).
Back row left to right: Thomas Todd (PATS), April Carter (FTSB), Kevin Johnson (Lexington Wheels) and Grover Owens (Louisville Wheels) and Glen Owens (RTEC) not pictured.



KPTA Rodeo Judges



KPTA Rodeo Drivers

Blue Grass Ultra-Transit Service introduces the GTran!

GTran is an accessible transportation service which includes a lift for mobility devices such as wheelchairs and for those that cannot navigate steps easily. Deviations can be scheduled if you are within a half of a mile of one of the listed stops with a 24 hour notice. The cost is \$2.00 per loop. Veterans ride this route for free to show our appreciation. Please just have valid I.D. We also offer frequent rider passes: 10 rides for \$10.

GTran is a bus service assisting the community of Georgetown, Kentucky with accessibility for anyone. GTran is open to the public and is a sponsored program of Blue Grass Community Partnership (BGCAP) and Bluegrass Ultra-Transit Service (BUS). GTran is part of a growing web of local transportation services provided by BGCAP and BUS services. With the support of the Federal Transit Administration and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Office of Transportation Delivery, the people of Georgetown now have affordable access to the community.

GTran has 2 routes, Blue and Red. The Blue Route runs the North and South, servicing Downtown Georgetown, downtown neighborhoods, Georgetown

College and multiple locations along the Broadway corridor ending at Washington Square. The Red Route begins at Washington Square, travels to Kroger and serves the commercial district between Kroger and Walmart with several stops in between. Riders may choose to transfer routes to shorten their trips at one of two transfer points. See the route map and schedules for details.

GTran operates Monday thru Saturday in the city of Georgetown, Kentucky. It is open to the public and the route loops 6 times daily.



CTAA is excited to be bringing the Community Transportation EXPO back to Pittsburgh, site of the 1994 conference. EXPO is the premier annual event for community and public transportation professionals to participate in essential learning events and network with colleagues. Speakers and sessions will keep attendees up to date with innovative technology, workforce development, communication strategies, funding, and regulations. The EXPO also features a trade show with all of the latest community transportation goods and services.

CTAA EXPO: The Future of Mobility

General Session: If You Can Dream It, You Can Make it Happen

Learn how three people involved in various capacities in the transit business stopped merely hoping to achieve an objective, and instead made it happen. From resurrecting streetcars in El Paso to winning state transit investment in Oregon to breathing new life into the coordination model in Ohio, these three individuals will inspire you to turn your goals into reality.

Julie Brown



Peter Svarzbein



Chuck Dyer



2017 KPTA Golf Tournament

1st Place - RTEC Team



2017 KPTA Golf Tournament winning team included: Tyler Burris, Mike Dixon, Randy Lewis and Nick Lewis from RTEC.

2nd Place - FTSB Team



2017 KPTA Golf Tournament second place team included: Nick Hart (American Bus), Meredith Johns Hall (FTSB), John Langendorf (FTSB) and Josh Terebinski (Rosco Vision Systems)

3rd Place - GRITS Team



2017 KPTA Golf Tournament third place team included: Barry Duncan, Roger Sikes, Dan Lanham and Aaron Hagan (not pictured) from GRITS.

Canary New Transit Manager at the City of Owensboro

Pamela Canary has accepted the position of transit manager at the City of Owensboro. Canary has overseen the city's purchases since 2012. She was a key in helping the city's modernize the city's procurement procedures, most recently with a new online vendor registry.

Prior to the City of Owensboro, Canary worked for the Housing Authority of Owensboro as the contract administrator, procurement coordinator and the administrative assistant for approximately 12 years.



Canary is a Brescia University graduate with a bachelor's degree in Business Management. She earned a post baccalaureate accounting certificate from Brescia last year.

Thanks

to everyone for all
of your help
with the
KPTA
Conference

KPTA Award winners from OTD

STATEWIDE KENTUCKY OVERALL PUBLIC TRANSIT SYSTEM AWARD

Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK) has been providing transportation for its citizens for over 40 years. The system was privately funded by Greenline Bus Company until, in the early 70's, the voters of the counties it serves elected to publicly fund the transit system. TANK operates in one of the largest urbanized areas and works flawlessly with an even larger urbanized system in our neighboring state Ohio. Currently the system operates a fleet of more than 100 Fixed Bus Routes, provides Paratransit services, and Demand Response services.

With the closing of an agency in Northern Kentucky, this agency was instrumental in working with multiple agencies to fill the gaps so Public Transit could continue for the citizens within their service area.

They have seen a significant growth in reverse-commute ridership to industrial areas. They continue to evolve and innovate its transportation program as the times change. With these changes, they continue to invest into the future of their program by renovating transit facilities, adding technologies, study streetcars and invest in more rolling stock.

STATEWIDE OUTSTANDING PUBLIC TRANSIT MANAGER AWARD

We give an award to an Outstanding Public Transit Manager that has made a significant contribution to his or her community and is dedicated to providing safe and reliable transportation and continually seeks to improve their transit system.

Within the past two years, ***Arthur Boykin from Paducah Transit Authority*** has worked to extend service hours to accommodate college students and workers, and has added routes to better serve the public to transport them to more destinations. Boykin is dedicated to getting people to the pharmacy, or their job, or their doctor's appointment efficiently and for a reasonable cost. From Intercity, to Demand Response, he ensures that the needs in their community are covered.

He listens to the community that he is close to. He even offers to take riders to the coordination meetings, despite the fact that the riders may not always have outstanding comments about the transit agency.

Boykin cares, and is invested in the community that he serves.

OUTSTANDING STATEWIDE SECTION 5307 URBANIZED PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM AWARD

Community Action of Southern Kentucky – GO BG Transit, currently, operate 6 transit routes. They provide service for the local colleges and have a program to assist riders to have affordable access to work. During SFY17, they expanded routes and hours. They have a strong belief in maintaining a system that is self-sufficient for the citizens of their service area.

During the last Triennial Review, Go BG Transit was commended, by the Reviewer, for providing an outstanding service to their community. They were complimented over and over for being very organized and knowledgeable. Staff from this agency were able to answer every question posed to them intelligently and with ease. They had an excellent Review.

STATEWIDE OUTSTANDING SECTION 5311 PUBLIC TRANSIT SYSTEM AWARD

Blue Grass Community Action Partnership – BUS Transportation embraces a philosophy to provide safe reliable transportation to the public. They have set goals to improve their ridership and working relationship with their communities. Throughout the past two years, BUS has, continually, grown to meet its goals.

They provide public transportation via Demand-Response, three Deviated Fixed Routes, Intercity Services, and Non-Emergency Medical Transportation.

They operate Deviated-Fixed Routes in Nicholasville, Jessamine County and Danville and is striving to add a 4th Deviated Fixed route in Georgetown in FY18. The Frankfort and Danville

KPTA Award.....

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Connection provides an intercity service to connect the counties of Franklin, Woodford and Boyle to the larger urbanized area in Lexington. Additionally, this system is hoping to expand in FY18 to add a service from Georgetown to Lexington providing an intercity connection. This is a lofty goal of adding several routes for JOBS transportation.

The Transportation Director of BUS has a vision of where they want to lead the future of their Transportation Program. The Director has envisioned a plan of branding its public transit system, improving mobility aids and working with the multiple local colleges in this service area to create routes.

STATEWIDE OUTSTANDING INTERCITY MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS AWARD

An Intercity meaningful connection is a provider who connects the smaller non-urbanized areas to the larger urbanized regional transportation systems. **Central Kentucky Community Action Council (CKCATS)** is vital to the citizens of the Commonwealth whom live in more rural communities who need to travel to urbanized areas within the Commonwealth and in other States.

CKCATS added an intercity route and since the addition of these services, their transportation program has seen a soar in its program's intercity use.

STATEWIDE OUTSTANDING JOBS TRANSPORTATION AWARD

Sandy Valley Transportation Services, Inc. has a long history of providing affordable transportation to improve the quality of life and economic self-reliance. Of all Section 5311 JOBS' trips that are performed in Kentucky, this system accounts for approximately 33 percent of those total trips. They provide trips, daily, so that their citizens have easy and affordable access to employment and job training programs.

They are determined to provide a safe and reliable transportation service while arriving on time. With great ambition they strive to improve the JOBS Transportation program each year and continue to be a leader in our state.

OUTSTANDING STATEWIDE MAINTENANCE PROGRAM AWARD

This award is for more than just having a preventive maintenance program. It is chosen for an agency that exemplifies a standard of excellence in their maintenance operations.

Daniel Boone Community Action Agency, Inc. has 136 federally funded fleet vehicles and three maintenance garages. They implemented a new 74 point checklist for their maintenance department. This new checklist goes above and beyond any of the FTA/OTD requirements.

Additionally, Daniel Boone has not had a discrepancy in the previous fiscal years during their compliance review on any facility or vehicle inspected. During the inspections, the maintenance garage is found to be in an extremely clean order. The mechanics and garage staff take pride in working for Daniel Boone Transit and that pride is shown in the care and attention to detail given to their transit vehicles.

STATEWIDE MOST IMPROVED PUBLIC TRANSIT SYSTEM AWARD

Every transit system representative can tell you that there are good years in transit, and years when improvements are needed.

Last year, **Murray Calloway Transit Authority** saw a change in management. Often, when management changes, there is a rough transition period where the new manager is learning how to fill the shoes of the previous manager. Murray is the exception to this.

From day one, the new manager was dedicated to learn and improve the transit agency. In the past year, this transit agency has extended their Saturday hours from 9:00am – 1:00am to accommodate the demanding transportation needs.

KPTA Conference addressed by many speakers



Bud Fears, *Q'Straint/Sure-Lok*, "Securements Training", talks with Dale Shelton (RTEC), Roger Kirk and Lonn Dawson (BUS).



Halsey King, *"Vehicle Maintenance Management Training"*



Robert Buckley, *FTA Director, Office of Financial Management and Program Oversight*



Selene Barlow *Transit Marketing*



Allison Ball, *Kentucky State Treasurer*



Gabriel Cordell, *Roll With Me, Roll Across America*



Asa Swan, *KYTC Chief of Staff*



Nelson Lauver, *Disability Motivational Speaker*



Dr. Greg Elam, *National Toxicology, Drug and Alcohol Supervisory Training, Reasonable Suspicion and Increase usage of Heroin*



Kelly Shawn, *RLS & Associates, Inc., Safety Management Systems (SMS) and Americans with Disabilities Act ADA*



Cody Reynolds, *Braun Maintenance Training*



Eldonna Fernandez, *MSgt., USAF (Retired), Leadership Training*

2017 KPTA/KYTC Conference Honors Transportation

Statewide Kentucky Overall Public Transit System Award and Website Excellence Award



Andy Aiello, TANK, is presented the 2017 Outstanding Overall Kentucky Transit Agency Award and Overall Statewide Website Excellence Award from Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA Region 4 Regional Administrator.

Statewide Outstanding Public Transit Manager Award



Arthur Boykin, Paducah Transit Authority is presented the 2017 Outstanding Manager Award from Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA.

Outstanding Statewide Urbanized Public Transit System Award



Ken Meredith, GO BG is presented the 2017 Outstanding Statewide Urbanized Transit Award from Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA.

Statewide HSTD Highest Customer Satisfaction and Statewide Outstanding JOBS Transportation Award



Joyce Hinkle, Sandy Valley Transportation Services is presented the 2017 Statewide HSTD Highest Customer Satisfaction and Statewide Outstanding Job Transportation Award from Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA.

Outstanding Statewide Maintenance Program Award



Mike Buckles, Daniel Boone Community Action Agency, Inc. is presented the 2017 Outstanding Statewide Maintenance Program Award from Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA.

Statewide Most Improved Public Transit System Award



Rodney Skinner, Murfreesboro Transit Authority, is presented the 2017 Most Improved Public Transit System Award from Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA.

Transportation Representatives for Exceptional Work

**Statewide Section 5307
Public Transportation
Award**



Transit is presented
Statewide Section 5307
Award from Dr. Yvette

**Statewide Outstanding Section 5311
Public Transit System Award**



Roger Kirk, Blue Grass Community Action
Partnership is presented the 2017 Kentucky
Outstanding Statewide Section 5311 Public
Transit Award from Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA.

**Statewide Outstanding Intercity
Meaningful Connections Award**



Lynn Robey and Diana Mattingly,
CKCATS are presented the 2017 Statewide
Outstanding Intercity Meaningful
Connections Award from Dr. Yvette Taylor,
FTA.

**Improved Public
Transit System Award**



Calloway Transit
the 2017 Statewide
Public Transit System Award
FTA.

**Statewide Going Green
Public Transit Award**



Carrie Butler, Lextran is presented the 2017
Statewide Going Green Public Transit Award
from Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA.

**Outstanding Disadvantaged
Business Enterprise
Achievements Award**



Meagan Greenlee, Owen Public Transit is
presented the 2017 Outstanding Disadvantaged
Business Enterprise Achievements Award from
Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA.

Awards continued on Page 14

2017 KPTA/KYTC Conference Awards Continued. . .

Congratulations
to all of the winners

***Statewide Human Service Transportation
Delivery Outstanding Call Center Award
and Outstanding Section 5311 Public
Transit Award For Large Sized Agency***



Shirley Cummins, Rural Transit Enterprises Coordinated is presented the Statewide Human Service Transportation Delivery Outstanding Call Center and Outstanding Section 5311 Public Transit Award For Large Sized Agency from Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA Region 4 Regional Administrator.

***Statewide Carrying Our Heroes Veterans
Transportation Award***



Pam Shepherd, Federated Transportation Services of the Bluegrass (FTSB) is presented Statewide Carrying Our Heroes Veterans Transportation Award from Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA Region 4 Regional Administrator.

***Outstanding Section 5311 Public Transit
Award For Medium Sized Agency***



Beecher Hudson, Louisville Wheels Transportation is presented the Outstanding Section 5311 Public Transit Award for Medium Sized Agency from Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA Region 4 Regional Administrator.

***Statewide Outstanding Section 5311
Public Transit System Award***



Bob Yost and Donna Pace, Harlan County Community Action Agency is presented the Outstanding Section 5311 Public Transit System For A Small Agency from Dr. Yvette Taylor, FTA Region 4 Regional Administrator.

KPTA Award.....

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The Office of Transportation Delivery recognizes that great effort was put forth to improve transportation for their community, infrastructure, and the organization as a whole, making Murray a smoother and more stable transit agency.

STATEWIDE GOING GREEN PUBLIC TRANSIT AWARD

Going Green is more than improving today's environment. We are striving to improve the environment for a sustainable future.

LexTran is striving to become eco-friendly and improve their air quality for its citizens. It has replaced five of its highest polluting vehicles with all all-electric buses that produce zero emissions. They will soon be adding an additional bus to create six buses with zero emissions. These buses can now attribute to the cleaner air in their service area.

LexTran can travel a route for several hours and then stop at a recharging station and recharge a bus in less than 10 minutes. During that time the passengers can board and un-board the bus and have no idea that the bus is recharging for its trip.

OUTSTANDING DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE ACHIEVEMENTS AWARD

For more than 20 years the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program has helped small businesses owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, in participating in contracting opportunities created by DOT financial assistance programs.

It is required that each transit agency make good faith efforts to utilize a disadvantaged business when procuring goods or services. Through good faith efforts, many agencies across the commonwealth meet or exceed their DBE goal.

However, **Owen County Public Transit** is only one agency that greatly exceeded all other transit agencies and should be recognized for their great efforts.

In the past year, Owen County Public Transit made good faith efforts to utilize a DBE vendor for, two capital projects, that had never been utilized before by a public transit agency. This helped level the playing field for this small business.

STATEWIDE HUMAN SERVICE TRANSPORTATION DELIVERY HIGHEST CUSTOMER SATISFACTION AWARD

Sandy Valley Transportation Services, Inc.
– **Region 14 Brokerage** obtained a 100% Rider Satisfaction during the last State Survey.

Sandy Valley received the highest number of positive consumer ratings conducted in the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Program. In addition this brokerage has received ZERO consumer complaints during the last two fiscal years from recipients who contact the 1-800 Complaint line. This Brokerage exemplifies true professionalism, care, and concern for all.

STATEWIDE HUMAN SERVICE TRANSPORTATION DELIVERY OUTSTANDING CALL CENTER AWARD
Rural Transit Enterprises Coordinated (RTEC)
– **Region 12 Brokerage** has had many years of providing customer service to recipients they serve.

RTEC strives to stay technologically advanced; taking advantage of industry innovations as they become available increasing call center scheduling and dispatching capabilities. They received ZERO complaints or issues from consumers who schedule transportation services through their call center.

OVERALL STATEWIDE WEBSITE EXCELLENCE AWARD
Approximately 3.7 billion people across the world use the World Wide Web annually. In most cases, our websites cast the first digital impression on the agency and is likely the first place people go to get information on public transportation.

Each year OTD reviews websites for compliance. At times, we all know that the information can become overwhelming. To have an excellent website the agency must be able to include all required information, yet making their website look appealing.

The IT folks at KYTC, tell us that users do not want to have to click more than three times (and that includes the search button to find the site.) With all of these standards, this agency's website makes it look easy. The site is able to provide accurate information to the public without overwhelming the public with words. Visually this site is both appealing and user friendly. You can find a route, location of a bus, get an estimated time of travel, and buy tickets from **Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky's** site with little effort.

KPTA Award.

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STATEWIDE CARRYING OUR HEROES VETERANS TRANSPORTATION AWARD

We want to honor **Federated Transportation Services of the Bluegrass (FTSB)** for its commitment to transporting the heroes of our State—our Veterans.

FTSB's commitment to bettering the lives of our Veterans has resulted in forming lasting partnerships with other community members who serve Veterans and has provided jobs for some Veterans in their service area. FTSB goes above and beyond to transport our Veterans across the entire state, and into multiple States, for free.

The 5311 Public Transit Awards presented from a geographical location to size. These awards are based upon the size of the service area, ridership, overall size of the agency, and number of vehicles. These awards have been renamed as: Outstanding Section 5311 Public Transit System for a Small Agency, a Medium Agency, and a Large Agency.

OUTSTANDING SECTION 5311 PUBLIC TRANSIT AWARD FOR LARGE SIZED AGENCY

Rural Transit Enterprises Coordinated's mission is to make transportation affordable, available and accessible to everyone living in the service area. This is truly a one-hundred percent transit agency.

They stay on top of technological advances. RTEC has state of the art equipment to track vehicles in the field, updated AVL/MDT system, security cameras are added to each vehicle that give a live view of each vehicle, which enhances the safety for its passengers and drivers. Most recently RTEC has gone completely paperless. All vehicle pre-trip inspections are done through the swipe of a tablet, denial request are tracked through a database and the agency developed a network provider manager that makes tracking of multiple items simple and intuitive with easy access to various reporting functions. With this reduction, and addition of technology, it has overall saved the agency time, money and effort.

During State Fiscal Year 16 and 17, they provided over 1.2 million trips and has driven over 13.4 million miles.

RTEC has been providing transportation services for 30 years. It's lead by an ambitious leader who has transformed a two vehicle operation into a versatile, widespread public transit agency in the State of Kentucky.

OUTSTANDING SECTION 5311 PUBLIC TRANSIT AWARD FOR MEDIUM SIZED AGENCY

Louisville Wheels Transportation has been serving the region for over 41 years. They truly believe in public transit and works with integrity and enthusiasm for the people.

They provide Intercity Transportation, Demand Response, Elderly, and Non-Emergency Medical Transportation. They provide an excellent coordinated service with many other service organizations.

They are led by a natural born leader, whom is thought of with the utmost respect in Public Transit. The leadership that is provided trickles down to the staff. There is a vast knowledge and willingness to help the citizens in their communities. They have formed and maintained relationships with many members of the community, and give a platform for the Kentucky Public Transit Association members.

OUTSTANDING SECTION 5311 PUBLIC TRANSIT SYSTEM FOR A SMALL AGENCY

Harlan County Community Action Agency's goal is to assist its community and residents to become self-sufficient and has been working toward this goal since its existence.

They provide public transportation via Demand-Response, Intercity Service, Elderly, Disabled, General Public, and Non-Emergency Medical Transportation. They are hoping to expand its already vast growing transit agency to include a JOBS route to help aid their residents to obtain jobs that are not readily available in their area.

Due to their geographical location, Harlan County CAA often travels several hundred miles daily to transport their citizens.

TANK Gives FREE Rides on Southbank Shuttle Trolley

Free Rides on Trolley will last until the Roebling Suspension Bridge Reopens

TANK's Southbank Shuttle Trolley will be FREE to riders beginning Thursday, April 12. Free rides will last for the duration of the closure of the Roebling Suspension Bridge.



"TANK recognizes that the closure of the Roebling Suspension Bridge has created a challenge for our customers and the residents and businesses in Covington, particularly those in the Park Place and Greenup area. Offering free fare on the Trolley for the remainder of the closure is a way to take some of the burden away and say "thank you" for sticking with us through this temporary situation," offered Andrew Aiello, TANK General Manager.

Southbank Shuttle routing is modified during the bridge closure, yet will pick up at all regular stops. Stops can be found all along the route.

Service operates the following schedule every 15 minutes:

Sunday - 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Monday - Thursday-- 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Friday - 6:00 a.m. to Midnight

Saturday - 10:00 a.m. to Midnight



For Reds games, added buses begin operating more frequent and extended game day service 2 hours before game time and the extra service continues for up to an hour after the end of the game.

For maps, schedules and additional information about TANK or the Southbank Shuttle Trolley, call TANK's information line at 859-331-TANK (8265) or log on to www.tankbus.org.

RTEC Accepts Deed of Historical Jones Building on Main Street

A familiar building on Main Street in Mount Vernon has been in need of being preserved and used for years. The building was once the Hawk and Adams retail store years ago. Recently, the Rockcastle County Industrial Development Authority (RCIDA) acquired the old Jones building to try to preserve the building. The Jones building was built in 1885 or earlier. The RCIDA attempted to preserve the building in some way and still utilize it as a usable space, but had issues with their plans every time. Therefore, The RCIDA voted to donate the historical Jones Building to RTEC.



Shirley Cummins, Executive Director of RTEC accepted the deed on behalf of RTEC and Corey Craig, RCIDA acting Director. Corey Craig said, "He expects RTEC will continue their usual trend of keeping the historic aspect of the building intact. Every time Shirley and RTEC get their hands on an old historic structure, they treat it with the respect it deserves. Shirley finds a perfect blend between useful, safe structures while maintaining the elegance that once existed."

RTEC had McKnight and Associates, Inc., from London go through the building and addressed safety issues with Cummins and RTEC. Cummins stated, "There are no immediate plans as far as what the building will be used for after the renovation, but she and her team are looking into what they believe the City of Mount Vernon needs the most as a business." RTEC will be looking into designing the building to try to preserve as much of the historic building as possible.

KPTA presents awards during 2017 conference

The Kentucky Public Transit Association awarded three distinguished awards during the 2017 KPTA Conference in Lexington on August 16, 2017.

The first award presented was to Fred Sweat with Louisville Wheels Transportation, as the 2017 KPTA Dispatcher of the Year.



Greg Rogers, Frankfort Transit presents to Fred Sweat, Louisville Wheels the 2017 KPTA Dispatcher of the Year Award.

Sweat has been an outstanding team member for Louisville Wheels since 2012 when he became a driver. In 2014 he was promoted and hired as the early A.M. dispatcher. As the A.M. Dispatcher he implemented changes that WHEELS

currently utilizes now. In January 2017 he was promoted again as Dispatcher Supervisor with the responsibility of being over dispatches and the additional responsibility of optimizing the daily schedules for all WHEELS drivers on 72 buses.

Sweat has worked for some major companies in Louisville such as General Electric and UPS. What impresses WHEELS the most about him is his drive to better himself. While at WHEELS besides working full time he has gone to school full time and he has earned a Bachelor's degree and this past May he earned his Master's degree from Campbellsville.

It takes a man who is driven to achieve to earn not one degree but two degrees within six years while working a full-time job. He also teaches Bible Study and Sunday school at his church and he is a devoted family man.

Robert Jones, Sandy Valley Transportation Services was selected as the 2017 KPTA Driver of the Year.

Jones is one of the most compassionate people you will ever meet. He has been employed with Sandy Valley Transportation Services for 14+ years and has been the permanent driver for Community Connections located in Allen, Kentucky for the past 10 years. Community Connections is an organization that provides care for individuals with mental or developmental disabilities and are transported daily by Sandy Valley. He is the driver tasked with transporting these clients on a daily basis. Jones has also experienced times transporting these clients that have in fact been heartwarming, memorable times. He has

always handled these situations in a professional manner and understands for the most part that they can't control what they are doing sometimes whether it be a good or bad situation. He has formed bonds with the clients and knows what may create an uncomfortable situations that could evoke a poor reaction. He does everything possible to alleviate those situations before they upset the client. On those rare times that he takes a day off the difference in behavior of his clients is noticeable. Again this is result of upsetting the daily routine that his clients are so used to. Fortunately for Sandy Valley Transportation Services and all involved, Jones enjoys and wants to be the driver for these clients.

Tina Mosley, Director of Community Connections had nothing but good things to say about Jones and



Greg Rogers, Frankfort Transit presents to Robert Jones, Sandy Valley Transportation Service, the Award for 2017 KPTA Driver of the Year.

how he interacts with their clients. She stated that everyone loves him, that he is very good with the clients and goes above and beyond to accommodate them. She stated the clients are always giving him high

fives and such. She said she doesn't know what they would do if they lost him as driver.

Jones is a friendly man who enjoys riding his motorcycle, going to NASCAR events with his brother and has a deep affection for his dogs. In fact an incident concerning his dogs is what brought my attention to just how compassionate he is. Sometime ago he called me needing to take a couple of days off. He rarely misses work and we thought it strange that he would call requesting time off on such short notice. He explained that three of his dogs had parvo and the treatment required him giving them medication every thirty minutes for 24 hours. He did this and was successful in saving two of his dogs. This certainly defines compassion that he has not only for people, but for animals.

Jones is not only a compassionate man, but he is dependable, hardworking, trustworthy and well-liked by his peers, clients and client providers. He always represents Sandy Valley Transportation in a positive and professional manner.

KPTA Members Enjoy Activities During Conference



Beecher Hudson (Louisville Wheels) and Eric Perez, Executive Director of the Office of Transportation Delivery



KPTA Members enjoying dinner at the conference



Tamara Hobgood, Freedman Seating Company talks with Robin Straw, Louisville Wheels Transportation at the vendor show



Diana Spurlock, Daniel Boone Transit during session with Ollie Barber on Employment Law



Dan Lanham, GRITS checks out the Transit vehicles with Superior Van and Mobility



Rick Jabobs with Braun Corp., talks with Shirley Cummins, RTEC and Taylor Veatch, BUS at Vendor Show



Jodi Alford (TACK), Kenny Etherton and Paul Maxwell (Fulton County Transit)



Joe Redmon (TACK) talks with Jason Michaud with Seon Design, Inc.



Vicky Jones and Rebecca Hall from Frankfort Transit during the Marketing Training



Justin Birdsong, Kenny Crain and Rhonda Snow with Lexington Wheels at the vendor show



Stacey Courtney and Mark Davis with Purchase ADD during sessions.



Mike Helton (TARC Lobbyist), Barry Barker (TARC), Ollie Barber (KPTA Attorney/Lobbyist), and Juva Barber (KBT) discuss legislative strategies

Bring Your Child to Work

**RTEC employees participated in
“Bring Your Child To Work” day on April 4, 2018!
These young adults were recognized for
phenomenal participation in
Business Office Practices and Work for a Day at RTEC!**



**Jaime Martin,
Executive Secretary
and her Daughter
Jailey Martin**



**James Phillips,
Administrative Support
and his Daughter
Corinne Phillips**



**Michelle Robinson,
Customer Service Representative
and her Daughter
Lindsey Robinson**

PACS Growing Transit Services in Western KY

Deviated/Fixed Routes - Pennyrile Allied Community Services, Inc. (PACS) have two deviated/fixed systems running in Hopkinsville and Madisonville, Kentucky. Hopkinsville's system completed over 100,000 rides in three years. PACS had a great press conference and celebration with the City of Hopkinsville in January, the three-year anniversary of Hopkinsville Transit. The ride count so far is 30,162 from July 1 to March 1, 2018.

GO Madisonville Transit has been up and going since May 22, 2017 and although they are still in the first year of service, GO Madisonville has already completed 15,585 trips as of March 1, 2018. This system still has room to grow and is helping people with their needs in a bigger way than we ever expected.

InterCity - PACS has one InterCity Route running. The cost is only \$12.50 per round trip, they are taking people to and from Nashville to the airport, the Veterans Hospital, and Vanderbilt daily. The bus stops are within blocks of Greyhound and also stops at the Nashville Music City Transfer Bus Stop. There are three park and rides in Christian County and it is wonderful to have Pennyrile connected to national transportation.

JOBS - A new JOBS route has been developed in Muhlenberg County. The county leaders have retained a \$15,000 Felix Martin grant, given in whole to PACS, to match with state JOBS funds. They will be delivering all JOBS rides to work and the local Community College for \$2 round-trips. This will get people from the outer parts of the county to four main destinations for work and extended education at the Muhlenberg County Community College at a less expensive rate.

PACS will be tracking all trips and have an opportunity to keep receiving this funding when the money runs out. This new plan and relationship they have developed with the Muhlenberg County leaders is one of the most exciting things accomplished this year.

PACS is hoping to use this program as a template for proposals they make to other counties they serve and they are applying to begin a JOBS service to all 11 counties in their area and let area leaders know there are big possibilities for just a few dollars for

their citizens. They just found out this week that the Felix Martin Foundation is awarding them with \$50,000 for this program for FY19!

WellCare - Over the last three years, PACS has developed a relationship with WellCare leaders in Owensboro and Louisville. They have supported the creation of two committees in Hopkins and Muhlenberg who are using grant funds from WellCare to deliver rides for low income and elderly with no means of transportation or can't afford their already low rate of \$.70 per mile, to medical related appointments.

The new program has worked well enough that the WellCare reps have asked them to apply with them for a \$23,000 grant and begin providing this service to all low income and elderly in PACS other seven counties for medical related issues. They awarded PACS with a \$25,000 grant for FY18!

FCTA to take over Driver Simulator

Fulton County Transit Authority (FCTA) is making plans with Paducah Transit to transfer the Driving Simulator.

FCTA is working to get staff trained to operate the simulator and plan to have it up in running this fall.

FCTA hopes their first outing will be the Kentucky Public Transit Association's Mini Conference in October in Owensboro.

FCTA then we will be ready to go across the Commonwealth training Transit Systems.

Glasgow Transit is partnering with the fire department for trainings

Glasgow Transit is partnering with the local city fire department for fire trainings. These trainings will include one session with live fires and fire extinguisher practice.

The other training will encompass a simulated training on evacuation of a smoke filled vehicle.

Clarksville Transit adds diesel hybrid buses

Clarksville Transit Service is placing five new diesel hybrid buses into service, continuing the trend of updating its fleet with more modern and fuel-efficient vehicles.

These buses replace five others that were more than 10 years old, with some having as many as 800,000 miles on them. The new buses bring CTS's number of diesel hybrids to 14, which is half of the transportation service's fleet.



Gillig Buses

"These are state-of-the-art buses that provide additional safety and comfort for our passengers, and the better fuel technology offers operating efficiency, which lowers costs and is more environmentally friendly," Mayor Kim McMillan said.

The buses will improve fuel economy by 48 percent over conventional diesel fuel, and will significantly reduce air pollution and carbon monoxide emissions, said Arthur Bing, Transportation Director for the City of Clarksville.

The American-made buses were built by Gillig, the leading manufacturer of heavy-duty transit buses in the United States, and each new bus cost about \$550,000. Clarksville Transit used a grant program designed to improve air quality to purchase the new buses. Under the terms of the grant, federal funding paid 80 percent of the cost, the state paid 10 percent, and the City of Clarksville paid 10 percent.

The new low-floor buses have an improved hydraulic ramp system that allows faster and easier loading for wheelchair passengers, and have two

wheelchair positions inside the bus. Bing said the service logs about 600 wheelchair passenger trips a month, so the improved ramps are much appreciated by drivers and passengers.

The new buses also are equipped with several features to increase their utility and improve the passenger experience. For example, the new buses offer:

- Improved passenger seats.
- A rack that can carry two bicycles at a time.
- A fare box that accepts and validates coins, tokens and bills, and accepts and processes magnetic fare cards and smart cards.
- A surveillance system with nine cameras, providing enhanced security and safety for passengers and operators.
- A vehicle locator system which can track a specific bus for location, speed, direction of travel and stop time.

"I'm excited that we are continuing to upgrade our bus fleet," Bing said. "These vehicles are more convenient and comfortable for our passengers. They load faster, run more quietly, and they are better for our environment."

About Clarksville Transit System CTS operates 16 routes across the City of Clarksville and transports more than 60,000 passengers a month. It also operates The Lift, a system of 10 paratransit vans that serves disabled and elderly clients, with some 2,600 trips a month. It offers free fares for passengers 65 and older, discounted fares youth, and special services and free rides for APSU students, under a contract with the university. For more information,

call the CTS Information Line at 931-553-2429 or visit online at www.cityofclarksville.com/index.aspx?page=730.



Arthur Bing, Transportation Director; Chris Yarbrough, Maintenance Director and Clarksville Mayor Kim McMillan

KPTA members compete at CTAA National Rodeo in Detroit



Matt Hager (FTSB) and Kevin Johnson (driver for Lexington Wheels and dispatcher for FTSB) competed in 2017 CTAA Rodeo in Detroit, Michigan. Hager tied for first in the 2015 KPTA Rodeo and Johnson finished second in the 2013 and 2017 KPTA Rodeo.



Kristi Nations, Matt Hager and Kevin Johnson at 2017 CTAA Rodeo in Portland, Oregon. Kristi Nations, Louisville Wheels tied with Matt Hager (FTSB) at the 2015 KPTA Rodeo.

Aeillo and Estes

Continued from Page 1

Transportation, Bonnie Rhoades, retired Transportation Director at Owensboro Transit, Gary Kitchin, former General Manager with Paducah Transit Authority, Gail Mayeux, from Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Office of Transportation Delivery, Pam Whitter, Transportation Director with HART, Barry Barker, Executive Director with TARC, Joe Sheilley, KYTC, Pam Shepherd, Executive Director at FTSB, Mark Davis, Assoc. Dir. of Physical Planning Purchase Area ADD, Joe Duke former Executive Director of LKLP, the late Louis Lindsay, former Transit Manager of Owensboro Transit, Chuck Steinhof, COO with Louisville Wheels Transportation Mike Buckle, Executive Director with Daniel Boone Community Action Agency and Joyce Hinkle, Transportation Director with Sandy Valley Transportation Service, Inc. Mona Whitaker, Deputy Director with Daniel Boone Community Action Agency.

KPTA presents

Continued from Page 18

He has done an excellent job at Sandy Valley working with Community Connections clients, but with all clients he encounters. He is always willing to take on extra duties and is always dependable to drive our CDL required Trolley during local festivals and other special occasions. He is an invaluable asset to Sandy Valley Transportation and is very deserving of any accolades he may receive.



Kenny Etherton accepts for David Moss, Fulton County from Greg Rogers, Frankfort Transit the KPTA Award for 2017 Outstanding Volunteer of the Year.

The 2015 Volunteer of the Year was presented to David Moss from Fulton County Transit (FCTA). Moss has been a friend and mentor to FCTA for 17 years as a member of the Board of Directors. He has also served as

Chair Person for 10 of his 17 years of service. He has been on the board when it wasn't very popular to be a FCTA board member. He has served through the good and bad times of our organization. Through his steady guidance and his direction, we have been able to grow and do what FCTA was intended to do, transport people. He has put many hours into board meetings over the years and some have been very stressful, but he always seemed to make the best of an unpleasant situation. You never wondered where you stood with him, he would let you know quick. This is what keeps him above the rest and the biggest reason we all look up to his guidance.

Moss has many years of public service to hang his hat on, but these past 17 years we at FCTA have grown to respect him and his witty smile. Everyone here at FCTA is proud of his service. He was just talked into serving another year as FCTA board chair. We know retirement is approaching in the future, but we are very grateful for his exemplary service and dedication, that he has given to FCTA, to the people of Fulton and Fulton County. We are proud to call him our own, even if he is a little grumpy sometimes.

**Call FTSB
if you have KPTA
Newsletter Items.
(859) 233-0066**

Thoughts for the Day

*"Transit builds a city that
people choose to live in."*

- Betsy Hodges

*"If you work just for money,
you'll never make it, but if you
love what you're doing and
you always put the customer
first, success will be yours."*

- Ray Kroc

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Any comments or suggestions should be addressed to

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