

Laurel County Intermodel Transit Facility Grand Opening Gate goes up on downtown parking garage

The Laurel County Intermodel Transit Facility, a joint project of the Laurel County Fiscal Court and Rural Transit Enterprises Coordinated, Inc. (RTEC), was officially opened during a dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony held on February 9, 2007.

"We hereby dedicate this great garage," said U.S. Rep. Harold "Hal" Rogers, R-Somerset. "May you park in peace."

With those words and a snip of the scissors by Rogers, the parking garage at the corner of 5th and Broad Streets in London was officially opened.

Rogers took the time to poke a bit of fun at himself as well.

"A lot of members of Congress go home once a month," Rogers said. "I go home every weekend to pick up trash, go to drug treatment facilities and dedicate parking garages."

Local dignitaries including Rogers, state Sen. Tom Jensen, R-London, Laurel County

Judge-Executive Lawrence Kuhl, London Mayor Troy Rudder, former Mayor Ken Smith, members of the Laurel County Fiscal Court and London City Council attended the formal ribbon cutting of the \$4.9 million facility which has been under construction for approximately one year.



Ribbon cutting ceremony in Laurel County with U.S. Rep. Hal Rogers.

Brenda Hayes and Linda McClure. Mike Buckles and Mona Whitaker from the Daniel Boone Development Council were also present for the grand opening.

Rogers gave credit to the local officials for their efforts to provide facilities like the parking garage which are necessary to keep downtown London vibrant when other downtowns in the southern and eastern Kentucky are being boarded up and for his efforts to bring more state money to southeastern Kentucky which local legislators have said has regularly been shorted in the state budget.

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During the ceremony, Laurel County Executive-Judge Lawrence Kuhl presented a plaque for appreciation to Vickie Bourne, Executive Director of OTD.

Portions reprinted from the "Sentinel Echo", London, KY by Dean Manning, Staff Writer



Judge Lawrence Kuhl presents Shirley Cummins and David Sowder with a plaque for RTEC.



Judge Lawrence Kuhl presents Vickie Bourne with a plaque.

Sherry Vaughn and Heather Taylor attended, along with RTEC Board Members Wil Kincer,

Daniel Boone Transit opens new facility in Jackson County

Daniel Boone Development Council, Inc., Executive Director Mike Buckles, along with Congressman Hal Rogers, Mike Patrick, Vickie Bourne and staff of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet dedicated the New Office/Maintenance facility in Jackson County on Wednesday, November 1, 2006.

Many local leaders and residents were on hand, including members of Jackson County Development Assoc., Kiwanis Club, Judge Tommy Slone, State Representative Marie Rader, and other leaders representing local business and churches. The list of guests included Roger Schott, Chair of Daniel Boone Board, Rockcastle Judge Executive Buzz Carloftis, and other Board members, and, "most importantly Daniel Boone employees who are to be commended for the job they do," said Deputy Director Mona Whitaker.

Federal funding for this project was \$489,916 with a total construction cost over \$625,000.

The new 4000 square foot facility, located on Hwy 290 between McKee and Annville will provide office space and a maintenance garage for Daniel Boone Development Council, Inc.

The maintenance garage will allow DBDC vehicles used in Jackson County to be serviced and maintained here rather than in Clay County.

"I'm really proud of this facility and the staff we have in place in Jackson County," said Director Mike Buckles.

State Representative Marie Rader lauded the efforts of Congressman Hal Rogers and all he has affected for Jackson County.

"Congressman Rogers has secured

funding for economic development, the war on drugs, and environmental programs such as PRIDE and without his help, this new facility may never have happened," she said.

Daniel Boone Development Council, Inc., currently has 17 employees at our Jackson Co. office with a payroll over \$500,000.

Programs Operated At This New Jackson County Facility:

Daniel Boone Transit program in

Jackson County averages over 23,000 trips a year and drive over 400,000 miles a year. Last year the agency purchased over 24,000 gallons of gasoline, of which almost all would have been purchased locally. DBDC offers public transportation to the general public and non-emergency medical.



Daniel Boone Transit ribbon cutting ceremony from left to right Bob Mitchell, Mona Whitaker and Mike Buckles (Daniel Boone), U.S. Rep. Hal Rogers, Jackson Co. Executive Tommy Slone, State Rep. Marie Rader, Vickie Bourne (OTD), and Roger Schott Board Chair of Daniel Boone.

TARC offers free travel training on video or in person

TARC is pleased to offer a new program, TARC Travel Training for Riding the Bus. This program is designed for people who are new TARC bus riders, particularly older adults and person with disabilities. Travel Training can provide individuals with the self-confidence to utilize the TARC bus service as their ticket to independence.

Group presentations, individual rider education, and an instructional video are offered as part of the TARC Travel Training. For group travel training presentations, a TARC

representative will visit a location convenient for the group on a short bus ride. Individual travel training includes a personalized, scheduled session with a travel trainer along with a roundtrip bus ride.

The new travel training video was produced in collaboration with AARP. It provides easy instruction for planning your trip, getting on and off the bus, paying your fare and transferring to other buses. Anyone interested in TARC's Travel Training program should contact Janene Grantz at 502/561-5112 or jgrantz@ridetarc.org. You can also request a copy of the video in DVD or VHS.

Call FTSB
if you have
KPTA Newsletter Items.
859/233-0066 or email:
pshepherd@ftsb.org

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Federated Transportation Services of the Bluegrass
1460 Newtown Pike, Suite 209
Lexington, KY 40511

Thought for the Day

When you are waiting
for the bus and
someone asks, "Has the
bus come yet?"

If the bus came would I
be standing here?

- Billy Connolly

KPTA/KYTC Conference August 20-24, 2007 Hyatt in Lexington

The 2007 KPTA Conference will
be held in Lexington, August 20-24.

Come join Kentucky transit
agencies, Office of Transportation
Delivery, vendors, speakers, etc. from
across the state as we put the pieces
of the puzzle together so the "Wheels
on the Bus Can Go Round and
Round".

The Hyatt Regency has been
chosen as the host hotel. The vendor
expo will be held adjacent to the hotel
at the convention center.

Preliminary arrangements include
the KPTA Rodeo written test and
road course on Monday, August 20,
2007 at the Cox Street parking lot
next to the Convention Center. Also,
driver and supervisor training will be
conducted in the afternoon.

Training classes and speakers have
been scheduled for August 21-24,
2007. These sessions include:
Transportation Secretary Bill

Nighbert, HIPAA, drug and alcohol,
safety issues, officials from the Federal
Transit Administration, National Transit
Institute, CTAA, AARP, new regulations
on wheelchair lifts, and the Office of
Transportation Delivery to name a few.

The 2007 Vendor Show will be held
again in the convention center. This will
ensure all vendors will be together inside
during the expo. Vendors have already
reserved space in anticipation of the
event. *(See page 2 for the listing of
registered vendors).*

Vehicles and other exhibits will be in
the same location. Lunch will be served
on the trade show floor with prize
drawings.

We will be sending out registration
packets in the next two weeks. Make
sure you are watching your emails.

If you know of any vendors you
would like to see at the conference call
Pam Shepherd at 859-233-0066 or email

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KPTA/KYTC Fall Mini Conference

"Running on Empty"

KPTA/KYTC held their first Fall

Mini Conference
on October 18-20,
2006 at the Capital
Plaza Hotel in
Frankfort.

Running on
Empty was the
theme and at the
end of the session
RTAP scholarship
prizes were given
along with gas
cans. Participants names were drawn
and they had to answer questions
correctly to receive the prizes.

The opening reception began on
Wednesday, October 18 at 6 p.m. with
music provided by Rick Hannon with
Complete Music of Kentucky. The

event was sponsored by Ilderton Dodge
and American Bus.

The official conference began on
Thursday, October 19 with Deputy
Transportation Secretary Crystal Ducker
speaking during the breakfast session to
open the activities. After Deputy
Secretary Ducker completed her talk the

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*Pictured from left to right: Beecher Hudson, President
of KPTA and Deputy Transportation Secretary Crystal
Ducker spoke at the KPTA/KYTC.*

From the Desk of the President

Dear KPTA Members:

Spring is here and it will be summer before we know it. OH! How time is flying in 2007.

The Bi-Annual 2007 KPTA Conference will be held in Lexington, Kentucky, August 20-24, 2007. Ms. Pam Shepherd and FTSB is our host agency. Pam once again is the conference chair. Pam does an outstanding job in planning and putting on our conference but she needs our help. We need volunteers to help with the Rodeo and the Golf Tournament because these are our two biggest events.



If you are interested in volunteering for the Rodeo call Wanda Trimble at BUS at 502.695.1290 ext. 217. Call Ed Brady at Lexington WHEELS at 859.255.1280 if you are interested in volunteering for the Golf Tournament.

Once again the Hyatt Regency Hotel and Convention Center will serve as our host hotel. Pam will be getting out registration and hotel information sometime in early June.

I want to congratulate Kay Brooks of Frankfort Transit on her upcoming retirement. Kay has been involved with KPTA for many years and we just want to wish her the best as she retires.

As always, thanks for your ongoing support of KPTA.

Sincerely,
Beecher Hudson
KPTA President
Director of WHEELS Transportation Louisville Red Cross

KPTA/KYTC Mini

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main sessions began under the direction of Vickie Bourne, Executive Director of the Office of Transportation Delivery, with a workshop entitled "Developing a Coordinated Plan". The entire group was divided up into their geographic areas to develop a coordinated plan for their area. This workshop is to help all grantees so they will be able to prepare their own plan when they return to their office.

Other sessions included as always an insightful talk from Dr. Howard Taylor with National Toxicology about drug and alcohol testing. Also,

KPTA/KYTC Conference . .

Continued from page 1
pshepherd@ftsb.org.

Other special events include the KPTA Golf outing at the Picadome Golf Course off Broadway, a possible tour to Old Friends Farm, and the Big Night Out..

Check out the KPTA's website (kypublictransit.org) for additional conference information.

David Awbrey and Dale Fine with AdSTM talked about vehicle Maintenance and Procurement. They had earlier visited several transit agency during the FTA audit.

Everyone was entertained by comedian Carl Hurley during the Thursday night dinner.

Donaghy takes over Dayton Regional Transit

The Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority in Dayton, Ohio named Mark Donaghy its new Executive Director. Donaghy was the former General Manager at TANK in Northern Kentucky and former KPTA board member.

KPTA/KYTC Conference
August 20-24, 2007
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Lexington, KY

2006 KPTA/KYTC Mini-Conference in Frankfort



KPTA members enjoying the opening night reception. Pictured from left to right, front row: David Sowder (RTEC), Cornelia Jones (OTD), Pam Whitter (HART), and Dale Shelton (RTEC).



Attendees are working hard on their coordinated plans.



Cynthia Record and Marcelene Taylor (Lake Cumberland) and Gail Wolgast (CASEKY)



David Albrey and Dale Fine with AdSTM provided a session FTA Vehicle Maintenance and Procurement



Carl Hurley entertained everyone at Thursday night dinner.



Nina Walfoort (TARC) and Vickie Bourne (OTD) presented TARC a check.



Joe Sheilley (OTD) and Mark Davis (PADD) presented their coordinated plan to the group.

Kentucky Transit Providers attend activities at KPTA/KYTC Mini Conference in Frankfort.

Taking HART: Bus service says thanks to riders that are 'more or less family'

A free ride usually only takes you so far. But on Thursday, "far" was as far as, and as often as, you wanted to go within the city limits of Henderson.

Normally, bus rides on Henderson Area Rapid Transit would have been 50 cents for regular passengers and 25 cents for the elderly and disabled. But Thursday was the day that HART showed appreciation for its customers, many of whom were just as thankful in return.

"I would be lost without it because I have no relatives and I don't drive," said Donna Lawson, 48, who climbed aboard the north-end bus after it made a stop at Wal-Mart on U.S. 41-North.

That route is probably the most popular route out of the five offered that include Weaverton, East Gate, the east end and Henderson Community College, said Pam Whitter, the mass transit coordinator for HART.

She said the program receives funding from city, state and federal coffers, and that many of the passengers in her program are disabled residents.

The wheelchair lift on the four HART buses is used roughly 700 times per month, she said, and there is a Demand Response van that caters to many elderly and special needs residents by taking them anywhere in the city for \$1 per ride.

That's a bit more than what Carolyn Michael pays when she rides the HART bus three or four times per week. But as a disabled person who often loses consciousness and refuses to get a driver's license for safety reasons, having access to HART keeps her going in more ways than are immediately known.

Not only does Michael, who is a stranger to the word "stranger," use the bus to go to Methodist Hospital for frequent blood tests, but she also takes the bus to meet new people.

"Sometimes I will get lonesome and I will just need something to do, so I catch the bus just to ride it and talk with someone," the 51-year-old said. "It's a way for fellowship and to

invite them to my church (Victory Christian Center)."

But others ride the bus for more tangible benefits, like going to the drug store, or buying groceries for the week, or just to run other necessary errands.

Karen Hayden, 45, said she takes the college run bus from the corner of Third and Main streets to get to Gibbs Diecasting, where she works. But that's not the only reason she said the buses are useful.

"A lot of people (on the bus) are people that have been here a long time, and you see people that you used to work with and ... that your parents used to know," she said during a break from a chat with fellow bus rider Leroy Posey, 64.

One not-so-typical bus passenger on Thursday was Glenn Beaver, 76. He and his wife, Lottie, brought their great-grandson, Preston Langston, on the HART bus for the first time. Glenn Beaver has ridden the bus on Passenger Appreciation Day for four years running, even though he and his wife have two vehicles and are not in need of the service.

But they took advantage of the free hot-dogs, hamburgers, chips and soda that were available to celebrate the fact that, over the past five years, an average of about 120,500 passengers per year have ridden the HART buses.

The bus service has been provided for years beyond the most recent tabulations.

Passenger Michael said she has been riding the buses for about 29 years, and in that time, HART has expanded its bus routes to allow for more service to the north end of Henderson and to the area around Henderson Community College.

That has allowed her to get to know some of the HART employees quite well.

"They are very kind to people," Michael said. "The bus drivers talk, laugh and cut up with us. It's like we are more or less family."

Taken from Courier Press, By Victoria Marty, Gleaner staff, October 6, 2006

TARC Video Leads to Capture of Assailant in Louisville

A high-profile crime in downtown Louisville, Kentucky, has been solved with the help of video footage from cameras installed in Transit Authority of River City buses.

The January 30 incident concerned a 14-year-old schoolboy who was sexually assaulted after leaving a TARC bus, during his three-block walk to school. Police immediately put out a description of the man, but the suspect was not apprehended until after police released the video from the TARC bus, four days later.

The footage, captured on the bus the boy took near his home before transferring to a second bus, showed a man fitting the description the boy had given, getting on the bus and then disembarking at the same stop as the boy. Within hours, the police received a tip and made an arrest early the next morning.

"It is terrible that the assault occurred, but we are thankful the predator was apprehended, and that we were able to play a role in solving this crime," said TARC Executive Director J. Barry Barker.

After the initial incident was reported, media outlets raised questions about the safety of

students riding TARC buses. But with the release of the video and the solving of the crime, many of those fears were allayed.

"We had the opportunity to demonstrate to the public and our riders that we are always concerned about safety on and off our buses. That's why we are working toward equipping all of our buses with cameras," Barker said.

This incident was the third in the past year that police have used TARC footage as part of an investigation. Last summer, a bus operator noticed when a rider dropped a bag from a fast food restaurant and money fell out. The driver relayed this information to police gathered outside the restaurant. Another incident involved state attorneys using TARC video to prosecute a man charged with assault on a bus.

TARC began installing the cameras on its buses four years ago. The installation, which cost \$8,000 per bus, includes cameras in four interior locations and one exterior. "We're quickly seeing that it's worth the investment," Baker said. Originally, the system noted, the main purpose of the cameras was to improve security for drivers and discourage riders' misbehavior.

Taken from Passenger Transport, March 5, 2007



Joyce Hinkle, Executive Director of Sandy Valley Transit is standing in front of their new transit facility in Pikeville.

Rodeo Judges and Drivers needed for KPTA Rodeo Competition on August 20, 2007 Contact Wanda Trimble: 502-695-4290 ext 217

Thanks to Daniel Boone Transit for Service

A letter sent to Daniel Boone Transit from The Family of Stanley and Beulah Vickers Neeley

We have wanted to write you for some time regarding the courtesy and care with which Daniel Boone Transit has shown our parents and our family during their sicknesses and our Mother's passing.

My Mother was the late Beulah Vickers Neeley. She had to go to Dialysis on Keystone Drive in Richmond, from December, 2005, until she chose to quit in September, 2006. My Mother had to be transported in a wheelchair during her illness. She was very sick from August, 2005, until she passed away on September 28, 2006. During this time, she had shingles; a pacemaker put in, a stroke, a heart attack, other illnesses and a Dialysis access.

My Dad had a stroke and heart attack in late November, 2005. He is paralyzed on the left side and cannot see clearly from the left eye. He also has to be transported in a wheelchair. Both my parents have been transported by Daniel Boone Transit for doctor's appointments and for other health care.

My Mother had to be transported three times a week for Dialysis. Sometimes she would say she was not going then when Daniel Boone Transit came, she would willingly get ready to go with them. The transit drivers always took great pains to assure she was not in pain or distress from sitting in her chair chair.

The staff at McKee: Linda Truett, Valerie Hurst, Anna Browning, Connie Grimes, and Charlotte Bowling helped us in many, many ways.

My Mother's stroke affected her speech, but her mind was very alert. She loved all the drivers and called them "My Babus". Each of the drivers was very special to her. However, it seemed that many of the days when she refused to go it was Kyle Lakes or Connie Grimes who came to pick her up and she went to Dialysis because of the kind words spoken to her. I can honestly say that I feel their special heartfelt treatment extended her life. She would be terribly upset with us because of having to go to Dialysis and the drivers would show up and after hugs and smiles she was ready to go. Sometimes when she came from Dialysis she was

in a very bad shape, and your drivers were always concerned and attentive of her every need.

When our parents first became ill, we had to make our home handicap accessible and built a ramp as good as we understood. It was very steep and didn't really meet our needs. Shane Rose volunteered an entire Saturday and came to our home to build a ramp for our parents. The new ramp made access in and out of our home so much easier.

Not only were the drivers from Jackson County Daniel Boone Transit good to our Mother, Lee County drivers were also. One day she was falling in the restroom at Dialysis and I could not hold her. I pulled the bell for the nurses, but she was going down so fast I just could not hold her. I yelled for help and Jeff McIntosh from Lee County Daniel Boone Transit came to our rescue. He and another Dialysis family member helped me get my little Mother back in her chair. She thanked and thanked them for helping us. Dennis Isaacs always was very kind to ask if he could help us in any way also.

We had our Family Reunion this year and we were so very fortunate to be able to hire Transit to take our Parents to this most special Reunion. We did not realize time would be so short and this would be our last reunion together, but we could not have done this without you employees.

When my Mother passed away, Daddy was able to go to the Visitation, Funeral, and Graveside Service due to Daniel Boone Transit. There are no words to express the gratitude and admiration we feel for those who represent your agency with such dedication and commitment.

I don't know of anywhere in the United States or the World at large, where anyone would have helped our Parents the way Daniel Boone Transit Staff has. Our parents were extremely independent until their illness. The staff at Daniel Boone Transit preserved our parent's dignity and self-esteem in a time when they and we had to become totally dependant on others for their every need. We feel they are such an asset to our community and especially our handicapped citizens.

We will never forget the wonderful, sincere kindness of your people. Our family is proud to call Linda, Valerie, Connie G., Charlotte, Kyle, Shane, Shirley M, Glen, Connie T, and Shirley I, not only our friends, but our "Rescue Angels". If we can ever be of service to you, please don't hesitate to let us know.



Fay and Cozette Neeley with Valerie Hurst with Daniel Boone Transit in the center.

Registered Exhibitors for KPTA Conference

Vendor	Product	Sponsorship
Altro Transflor	Safety Flooring for Transit	
BUS-WATCH Surveillance by REI	Digital Surveillance & Camera Systems	<i>Tues. Night Hospitality</i>
Ilderton Conversion Co.	Center Aisle & Low Floor Vans	
Mentor Engineering Inc.	Mobile Computing/AVL Systems	<i>Wed. Expo and Lunch</i>
National Bus Sales	Transit Bus Sales and Service	<i>Mon. Rodeo</i>
Ricon Corp.	Wheelchair Lifts and Ramps	
Shepard Bros., Inc.	Para-Transit/Shuttle Buses	<i>Wed. Expo and Lunch</i>
Sure-Lok, Inc.	Wheelchair Tiedowns	
Wilbur Smith Associates	Transit-Environmental-Engineering	<i>Registration Gift Packs</i>

List at press time

2007 KPTA/KYTC Conference

Vendor Expo

August 22, 2007

Reserve Your Space Now!!!

Call: Pam Shepherd 859-233-0066

email: pshepherd@ftsb.org