

## Hamilton Springs development celebrates grand opening



Developers Jack Bell and Rick Bell cut the ribbon during grand opening ceremony.

A grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Thursday, October 24 at Hamilton Springs, Middle Tennessee's first transit-oriented development (TOD).

The event was held at the Hamilton Station amenity center. Guests included RTA CEO Paul J. Ballard, developers Jack and Rick Bell, and State Senator Mae Beavers.

When completed, Hamilton Springs will be a traditional neighborhood village of homes and businesses with

a Music City Star train station at its center. The 221-acre community also will incorporate walking-distance access to offices and retailers from apartments. The development is planned, designed and constructed to emphasize transit modes other than cars.

As part of the celebration, attendees of the 2013 Tennessee Public Transportation Association conference rode the Music City Star regional train to the event to see the development first hand.

## Take the Music City Star for your next commute

If you thought you never had a reason to ride the Music City Star train, think again! There are exciting events happening in downtown Nashville this month, and the Music City Star is an inexpensive and reliable way to get you there. Special train service will be provided for the following events: Tennessee Titans vs. Arizona Cardinals game on Sunday, December 15 (Game-Day Express); Tennessee Titans vs. Houston Texans game on Sunday, December 29 (Game-Day Express); and Music City's New Year's Eve Bash on Broadway on Tuesday, December 31.

Regular weekday service and the late Friday night train also are provided. Visit our website at [MusicCityStar.org](http://MusicCityStar.org) for schedule information.



## More than 1,700 trips recorded on Music City Star on Fareless Friday

The Nashville MTA, Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), and Clarksville Transit Service offered free rides on buses, vans and the train on Black Friday, November 29.

RTA's Music City Star set a record for weekday ridership with more than 1,700 passenger trips.

MTA and RTA transit rider Dave Miller stated, "I was more than surprised at the public's response to the free rides all day, a fantastic idea by someone."

Nearly 31,000 passenger trips were taken on MTA and RTA buses and vans. This was a 61 percent increase in the daily ridership compared to last year's day after Thanksgiving ridership.

This event marked the first time three of Middle Tennessee's transit systems offered the free rides on Black Friday to residents and visitors.

# MTA, RTA jointly record 10.5 million passenger trips for FY2013

For the second straight year, the Nashville MTA and Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee (RTA) jointly recorded more than 10 million passenger trips in a fiscal year.

In fiscal year 2013, which ended June 30, the MTA provided 9.7 million passenger trips to residents, visitors, students, and tourists within Metro Nashville on its buses and vans.

RTA recorded approximately 800,000 passenger trips on its train, buses,

and vans. Together, they provided 10.5 million passenger trips in the Middle Tennessee region.

Ridership has increased steadily over the past year and continues to grow. Average MTA ridership is more than 33,000 passenger trips per weekday. Average regional bus ridership is 1,500 passenger trips per weekday. Ridership on regional

buses has grown rapidly as well, up 23 percent.



## NEWS & NOTES

### Congrats to our CFO

MTA/RTA CFO Ed Oliphant won the *Nashville Business Journal's* CFO of the Year award in the Nonprofit Organization Category. This was the fifth annual CFO Awards honoring financial professionals in Middle Tennessee. Judges selected 26 finalists in five categories. Oliphant was featured in a special publication in the November 1 edition of the *Nashville Business Journal*, and was honored at the awards dinner on October 29.

### Metro Food Fight

The Nashville MTA, RTA, and its customers collected 25,146 pounds of food for Second Harvest Food Bank during a "Stuff the Bus" food drive in November and won the Mayor's Cup in the public participation category for the third straight year.

### Social media matters

Stay in the know on the latest RTA news by connecting with us through social media. The RTA twitter page now has more than 300 followers! Help show your support by following us @MiddleTN\_RT A. Don't have a twitter page? Sign up for our e-news alerts, and we will email you important information regarding schedules, detours, and events. To subscribe to our news list, email your request to [rta.communications@nashville.gov](mailto:rta.communications@nashville.gov).

# MTA, RTA successfully host annual TPTA Conference, Rodeo

The Nashville MTA and Regional Transportation Authority of Middle Tennessee (RTA) hosted the Tennessee Public Transportation Association (TPTA) Annual Conference and Rodeo Oct. 22-24 at the Music City Center convention center.

The TPTA annual conference and rodeo brought together more than 300 public transit managers and employees, state transportation and environmental officials, legislators, city and county government leaders, transit board members, and a number of other transit-related businesses. American Public Transportation Association (APTA) President Michael Melaniphy was the keynote speaker.

Six MTA bus operators and mechanics received awards for their performance in the state championship rodeo competition.

MTA also captured the spirit stick for its great support of its rodeo contestants during the state competition.

This year's theme was Great Transit Makes Great Communities.



Mayor Dean speaks at the 2013 TPTA Conference

