

# MUSIC CITY STAR

## tracks

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

Spring 2010

## Music City Circuit greets Star passengers Downtown circulator also available for trips during the day

The Music City Circuit, a new, free downtown circulator, began providing service to Music City Star passengers on March 29. Buses for these routes have scheduled stops at Riverfront Station each weekday to meet customers on the arriving and departing trains.

Buses travel two different downtown routes. The Blue Circuit runs north/south to the Bicentennial Mall (Riverfront Station Bay 2), and the Green Circuit runs east/west into the Gulch, a LEED certified community (Riverfront Station Bay 1).

These two circuit routes replaced the Route 94 Music City Star Downtown Shuttle.

Circulator buses and vans operating on the Blue Circuit run from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays. Buses and vans operating the Green Circuit run from 6:30 a.m. to midnight weekdays and from 11 a.m. to midnight Saturdays. Service on both routes operates every 10 to 15 minutes, with the exception of weekday mornings when the service runs every 30 minutes.

Music City Star customers also have the option of boarding several other MTA buses at Riverfront Station. Route 93 Music City Star West End Shuttle uses Bay 3, and Routes 6 Lebanon Road, 25 Midtown and 44 MTA Shuttle use Bay 4.



*The new Music City Circuit hybrid bus picks up customers at Riverfront Station.*

## RTA helps promote air quality

The RTA once again joined Middle Tennesseans celebrating the environment at Nashville Earth Day Festival activities on April 17 in Centennial Park.



*Sheila Varga talks with visitors about the Music City Star.*

The free, city-wide event featured different sections of the park representing different areas of the environment, such as air, water, recycling and sustainable living/land conservation. The local festival included family-friendly games, activities, food and live performances.

## Routing changed for Route 95X

Effective Monday, March 29, the routing and times for the morning trip to downtown Nashville on Route 95X Spring Hill Express changed to help reduce the amount of time spent in traffic.

The bus departing the Spring Hill Kroger on Port Royal at 6:25 a.m. now begins service at Thompson's Station Baptist Church at 6:20 a.m., stops at the Spring Hill Kroger on Port Royal at 6:34 a.m. and arrives in downtown Nashville at 7:22 a.m.

The afternoon trip from downtown Nashville was not affected.

# 95X

Music City Central – Bay 2  
Spring Hill Kroger  
Thompson's Station Baptist Church

## Spring Hill Express




Service operated by




Customer Care and ADA Coordinator  
(615) 862-5959  
TTY: (615) 880-3286  
Accessible: (615) 880-3970  
[www.rtarelasandride.com](http://www.rtarelasandride.com)

Effective March 28, 2010 through September 15, 2010



# Ridership continues to grow on Music City Star in 2010

## Third train car added to accommodate increase in passengers

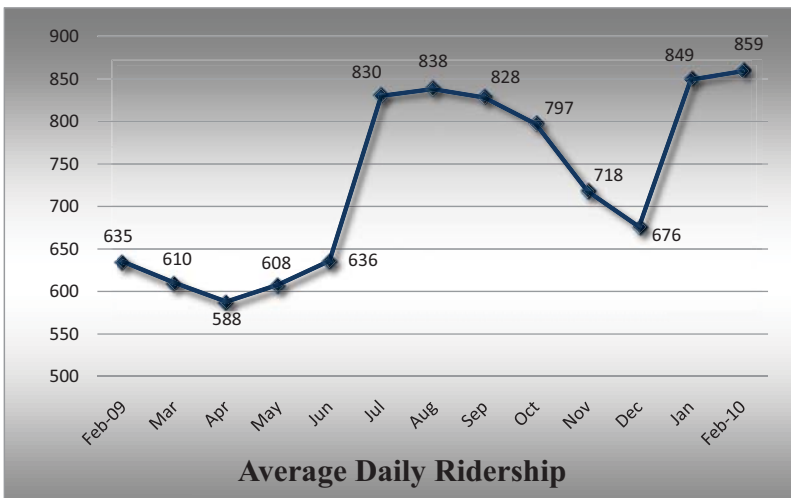
Earlier this year, the RTA added a third train car to the Music City Star to assist with increasing ridership. The car was placed on the train that departs Lebanon at 6:40 a.m. en route to Nashville and the train that leaves Nashville at 5:05 p.m.

“More people are choosing public transportation for their way to get around,” RTA Chief Executive Officer Paul J. Ballard said. “We are confident this ridership trend will continue as more people realize the many wonderful benefits that transit

offers to them and the environment.”

This year, ridership has increased 27 percent from 676 to 859 passenger trips per day. Since February 2009, ridership has grown 33.7 percent.

“Ridership has been on a steady increase,” said Sheila Varga of Mt Juliet, a daily rider and president of the Regional Commuters Association. “As someone who has ridden the Star since the beginning, it is exciting to see more people realizing how great it is to commute by train.”



## Community Enhancement Award

RTA CEO Paul J. Ballard recently accepted an award for the Music City Star, which was recognized at the Mt. Juliet/West Wilson County Chamber of Commerce Monthly Membership Luncheon as the winner of the Chamber of Commerce’s “Community Enhancement Award.”

This award is presented each month to different recipients for their unique contributions and investments into the community.



Tracey Trumphour, 2010 Chamber Board Chair (left) and Drew Brooks, 2010 Chamber Board Chair-Elect (right) presented RTA CEO Paul J. Ballard with the Community Enhancement Award.



Two new hybrid powered buses have been added to Route 96X Nashville/Murfreesboro Relax & Ride. This bus and others assigned to this route are part of a WiFi pilot project that is in the testing phase.

## Lebanon students take train ride



In conjunction with the Read Across America initiative, several Lebanon students and their teachers took a short trip to the Music City Star train yard in Lebanon in March. This year a special book titled “The Little Engine That Could” was chosen as a featured book for Pre-K classrooms across Tennessee. Following a reading of the book, everyone boarded the train for a ride around Lebanon to bridge the two activities together.

