

Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon

June 22 at Indian Hill Country Club, Newington

Luncheon Registration Form, Sponsorship Form & Excellence in Transportation Award Form available on our website www.cact.info under CACT Calendar At a Glance, front page left

May 2016 Newsletter

Issue 5

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Mary Tomolonius

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A United Voice for Public Transportation in Connecticut

Transit Roundtable in Clinton

CACT and Transit for CT are presenting the next "Transit Roundtable: Successes, Challenges and Your Community" on Wednesday, May 18 at Clinton Town Hall. The panelists include Clinton First Selectman Bruce Farmer; Gerry Dyar, Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce; Joe Comerford, Estuary Transit District; Valerie Rienk, The Kennedy Center; Paul Doyle, Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc.; Sam Gold, Lower CT River Valley COG; Shannon Luan, CFE; and Richard Andreski, ConnDOT. The panelists will discuss transit along the shoreline, growing demand, public transportation needs, senior needs, transit and the environment and current state investment in transit. Coffee and registration will start at 8:30 am and the program runs from 9 am – 11 am. Registration is required. You can register at mary.cact@yahoo.com or call Mary Tomolonius at 860.693.0368.

Lockbox Support

More than 32 organizations including CACT, CCIA, CFE, Transit for CT, CRCOG and Tri-State Transportation Campaign sent a letter of support to the General Assembly on April 25th. "As representatives of organizations from across the state, we believe that transportation investments are critical to Connecticut. Once again, we ask that the members of the General Assembly support the establishment of a constitutional lockbox to secure the revenues needed to address Connecticut's pressing transportation challenges. Let the voices of your constituent voters be heard on this resolution in the November 2016 elections. Investment in transportation creates jobs and gets people to their jobs and affects the daily lives of all residents. Transportation investments generate the revenue needed to support necessary state services and improve the quality of life for Connecticut residents and workers."

CTRTAP Spring Conference





On April 25th the CTRTAP Spring Conference was attended by more than 40 participants who listened to presentations by Jerry Emanuel, NRTAP on *the National RTAP's Marketing Toolkit*; Dennis Gagne on *Distracted Driving*; and Julie Dupree, Project Easter Seals, Christine Maguire, Mobility Manager for the South Central Region and Valerie Rienks, The Kennedy Center *on The Value of Travel Training*.

Michele Brooks, CTRTAP and Joanna Juskowiak, DOT gave the opening remarks. Jerry noted all the toolkits available through NTRAP including ADA, Bus Roadeo, Marketing, etc. (www.elearning.nationalrtap.org) You can also learn about Google Transit with step- by-step instructions. Dennis showed several powerful videos depicting the ramifications of using a cell phone while driving. There are three types of distracted driving, visual, manual and cognitive. "Driving is a visual task," said Dennis. (youtube.com video Close to Home/It Can Wait)

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CACT Member Highlights

Feature an employee in an upcoming issue, please send your bio and a jpeg photo to Mary Tomolonius at mary.cact@yahoo.com.

Ads/Job Postings in the CACT Newsletter

The rates are full page \$300; ½ page \$150; and ¼ page \$100. CACT members receive a 10% discount. All ads must be submitted prior to the last week of the month to mary.cact@yahoo.com.

CACT Member Highlight

Stephanie A. Scavelli, Manager of Planning & Marketing, Norwalk Transit District

Stephanie Scavelli recently joined the executive team at Norwalk Transit as Manager of Planning and Marketing. Norwalk Transit operates in the southwest region of the state along the coastal corridor. The agency provides 1.8 million WHEELS bus, commuter shuttle and regional connector trips a year and oversees 100,000 door-to-door trips to seniors and persons with disabilities.

Being an experienced commuter by rail, bus and bike, Scavelli began her career in public transportation as the Transportation Planner with HARTransit. She has an education in sustainable community development and environmental science and has served on the CACT executive board. Scavelli is well-versed in fixed route planning, ADA compliance, community engagement and organization efficiency.

In this newly created position, Scavelli's overall focus is to develop Norwalk Transit into a public transit system fit for the 21st century. "I am so excited to have Stephanie on board. My expectations of the position will add a new level of creativity and efficiency to the system." said Chief Executive Officer Kimberlee Morton.

Later this year Norwalk Transit is expected to release the user-friendly My Stop app designed by Avail Technologies to empower riders with real-time bus information.

Spring conference (continued from page 1)

Julie provided several best practice examples of Travel Training including the Star Transit Travel Ambassador Program in Texas, and AAA 1B Senior Buddy Program in Michigan. Christine said travel training focuses on map/schedule training, trip prep, accessibility, street crossing techniques, etiquette and self-advocacy. Valerie spoke about her experiences providing one-on-one travel training and group transit orientation presentations.



CACT Golf Scholarship

The first CACT **Golf** *Scholarship* will be presented at the Annual Meeting in June. Established in 2016, a \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a CACT member or family member, who enrolls in a transit related course, and demonstrates the desire to use his or her talents to enhance their career interest in the transportation industry. Applications will be blindly reviewed by the CACT Executive Board and the award will be presented at our Annual Meeting on June 22, 2016. The applications will be available on line in mid-March or you can contact Mary Tomolonius at mary.cact@yahoo.com for an application.

Community Transportation Association Expo

CTAA's "Experience Innovation in Action" Expo will be held on May 22-27 in Portland, Oregon. To register: www.ctaa.org or call 800-788-7077. The event is geared towards anyone involved in transporting people.

"Using public transportation is the quickest way to beat high gas prices"

APTA Website

Calendar

- Wed., May 18, 2016, 9:00 -11:00 am (registration 8:30), Transit Roundtable, Town Hall, Clinton. Registration required: <u>mary.cact@yahoo.com</u> or 860-693-0368
- Thurs., May 19, 2016, 9:30 -10:30 am, CACT Executive Committee Board Meeting, MAT Maintenance Facility, 91 North Main St, Middletown
- Mon., Jun. 6 & Tues. Jun. 7, 2016, 8:30 -4:30 am Advanced Mobility Device Securement Skills Development Workshop, Greater New Haven Transit District, 1014 Sherman Ave., Hamden.
- Sun., Jun. 12, 2016, CTRTAP Bus Roadeo, Manchester Commuter Lot. Registration www.ctrtap.org or call 860-348-8879
- Thurs., Jun. 16, 2016, 9:30 -10:30 am, CACT Executive Committee Board Meeting, MAT Maintenance Facility, 91 North Main St, Middletown
- Wed., June 22, 2016, 11:30 am 1:30 pm, (registration 11:30, program starts at 12 noon) Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon, Indian Hill Country Club, 1 Golf Rd, Newington
- Tues., Sept. 20, 2016, 9:00 am (registration 8:30 am), CACT Annual Golf Tournament, Blue Fox Run Golf Course, 65 Nod Rd., Avon

JOB POSTING

SOUTHEAST AREA TRANSIT DISTRICT

MAINTENANCE MANAGER

The District seeks an energetic, conscientious and detail oriented individual who enjoys making a difference, a quick learner who can take the initiative, is safety-driven, and enjoys being part of a small team that takes pride in their service to the community as Maintenance Manager. The Manager schedules and administers fleet maintenance (28 heavy duty diesel transit buses, five gasoline cutaway buses, and support vehicles) for the District. He/she directly supervises maintenance team of 5 technicians and 4 servicers, including hiring, evaluating, training, disciplining, and firing all while acting in compliance with the Labor Agreement. The position requires an Associates or Bachelor's Degree or five years' experience in similar fields; a valid CT Operators' License and ability to obtain Class B CDL with air brakes and passenger endorsements

We offer competitive compensation and excellent benefits including, medical, dental, vision, life, disability, paid vacation and personal days, 457k and an EAP program.

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