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President and Chief Executive Officer Nicki E. Grossman, Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Center (left) and Tri-Rail's Station Agent Supervisor Marcia Williams (right), honor Station Agent Pamela Tyther (center) for going the extra mile.

TRI-RAIL EMPLOYEE RECOGNIZED FOR "SUNSATIONAL" SERVICE

Tri-Rail Station Agent Pamela Tyther was among 12 finalists, chosen from 157 nominees, to win a 2009 SUNsational Service Courtesy Award, presented by the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau this December. Pamela was not only recognized for coming to the aid of a passenger from Philadelphia who became ill while at the Pompano Beach Station, but for serving coffee to her passengers every day (of which the coffee and supplies are purchased with her own money).

Our partners at Broward County Transit were also proud to have a finalist among the group, with Bus Operator Mary Kilroy awarded, as well, for helping with the birth of a child at a service station.

For more than 20 years, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau has been recognizing outstanding service in the tourism industry with the Courtesy Awards Program which encourages "constant, consistent and persistent" hospitality and courtesy among those who directly serve Broward visitors.

On behalf of our agency and "Pamela's passengers" we congratulate Pamela and Mary for their continued commitment and dedication!

DECEMBER 2009 - JANUARY 2010

onboard



The latest news from the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority - a partnership between Broward, Miami-Dade & Palm Beach counties.

In January 2009, the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority celebrated Tri-Rail's 20th anniversary, marking a major milestone for Tri-Rail, which was put into service as a five-year, traffic-mitigation project. During that same month, we also learned that we made history, as Tri-Rail carried more than four-million passengers in a single calendar year for 2008.

The SFRTA slightly revised the train schedule in May 2009 to allow for better on-time performance. Improvement was instantaneous, and we remain committed to achieving a consistent on-time-performance record in the 90th percentile.

A YEAR IN REVIEW

With a continued commitment to promote public transportation as the environmentally responsible choice for daily commuting and leisure travel, the SFRTA announced that Tri-Rail trains now operate on one of the purest biodiesel formulas in the country. We also introduced Tri-Rail's first-ever mascot, Conductor George Green, who spreads the "Go Green. Go Tri-Rail." message throughout the community, with appearances at schools and public events throughout the tri-county region.

Perhaps the most critical event of the year though, came in the final month of 2009, when state legislators met in Tallahassee for a special session to address rail issues. After intense negotiations, the SFRTA came away with a dedicated source of revenue from the Transportation Trust, which is funded by gasoline taxes. The legislation provides for an additional \$13.3 million in the first year, and

increases to \$15 million if, and when, the SFRTA takes over the dispatch and maintenance of the South Florida Rail Corridor. The bill also paves the way for SunRail in central Florida and high-speed rail connecting Tampa, Orlando and Miami.

The passage of this bill was 20 years in the making. The SFRTA is grateful to the tri-county business leaders who spearheaded



Senator Eleanor Sobel looks on as Governor Charlie Crist ceremonially signs the bill providing funding for the SFRTA and Tri-Rail.

the effort, the support of legislators (especially Senate President Jeff Atwater), volunteer advocacy groups, SFRTA employees, contractors and partnering agencies, as well as the thousands of Tri-Rail passengers who let their voices be heard and contacted their elected officials when asked. This triumph truly belongs to all of you!

REPASO DE UN AÑO

En enero del 2009, la Autoridad Regional de Transporte del Sur de la Florida [SFRTA, por sus siglas en

inglés] celebró el vigésimo aniversario de Tri-Rail, marcando un hito importante para Tri-Rail, que fue puesto en servicio como un proyecto de cinco años de mitigación de tráfico. Durante ese mismo mes, también aprendimos que hicimos historia, pues Tri-Rail transportó a más de cuatro millones de pasajeros en un solo año calendario durante el año 2008.

SFRTA revisó ligeramente el horario de

trenes en mayo de 2009 para permitir un funcionamiento mejor del desempeño de puntualidad. La mejora fue instantánea, y continuamos en nuestro compromiso de lograr un récord de desempeño de puntualidad consistente en un porcentaje superior al 90%.

Con un compromiso continuado de promover el transporte público como la opción ambientalmente responsable para conmutar diariamente y para viajes de placer, SFRTA anunció que los trenes de Tri-Rail ahora opera

utilizando una de las fórmulas más puras de biodiesel del país. También introdujimos la primera mascota de Tri-Rail, el Conductor George Green, quien promueve el mensaje "Go Green. Go Tri-Rail." [Viaje Verde. Viaje Tri-Rail.] por toda la comunidad, con presentaciones en escuelas y eventos públicos a lo largo de la región de los tres condados del sur de la Florida.

Sin embargo, quizás el evento más crítico del año aconteció en el mes final del 2009, cuando los legisladores del estado se reunieron en Tallahassee en una sesión

(Continúa en la siguiente página)

especial para encargarse de asuntos relacionados con los trenes. Después de negociaciones intensas, SFRTA obtuvo un resultado de una fuente dedicada de ingresos del Fideicomiso de Transporte, que es financiada por impuestos sobre la gasolina. La legislación provee \$13.3 millones adicionales en el primer año, y aumenta a \$15 millones si, y cuando, SFRTA asuma el control del despacho y mantenimiento del Corredor de Trenes del Sur de la Florida. La ley también prepara el camino para SunRail en la Florida Central y el tren de alta velocidad que conectará a Tampa, Orlando y Miami.

La aprobación de esta ley estuvo 20 años en creación. SFRTA agradece a los líderes de negocios del área de los tres condados que han encabezado el esfuerzo, el apoyo de los legisladores (especialmente el Presidente del Senado Jeff Atwater), grupos voluntarios de promoción, a los empleados de SFRTA, contratistas y agencias asociadas, así como a los millares de pasajeros de Tri-Rail que hicieron que sus voces fueran escuchadas e hicieron contacto con sus funcionarios elegidos cuando se les pidió que lo hicieran. ¡Este triunfo realmente les pertenece a todos ustedes!

RAPÒ ANYÈL

An janvyè 2009, Otorite Transpò Rejyonal Sid Laflorid [South Florida Regional Transportation Authority] te selebre 20th anivèsè Tri-Rail, ki te make yon etap enpòtan pou Tri-Rail, ke yo te mete an sèvis antanke yon pwojè rediksyon trafik pou senkan. Pandan menm mwa sa a, nou aprann tou ke nou antre nan listwa, poutèt Tri-Rail transpòte plis pase kat milyon pasaje nan yon sèl ane almanak la pou 2008.

SFRTA te fè yon ti revize orè tren an an me 2009 pou pèmèt tren yo vin pi ponktyèl. Amelyorasyon an te estantane, epi nou rete angaje nan atenn rekò nan ponktyalite nan 90yèm santil la regilyèman.

Avèk yon angajman kontinyèl pou nou ankouraje transpò piblik antanke chwa responsab pou pwoteje anviwònman an nan fè navèt toulejou ak nan vwayaje pou plezi, SFRTA anonse ke tren Tri-Rail yo fonksyone kounyeya ak youn nan fòmil byodyezèl ki pi pi nan peyi a. Nou prezante nou premye maskòt Tri-Rail janm genyen, Chofè George Green, ki simaye mesaj "Go Green. Go Tri-Rail. [Pwoteje Anviwònman an. Monte

Tri-Rail.] la atravè kominote a, avèk pasaj nan lekòl ak nan evènman piblik nan rejyon twa konte yo.

Petèt evènman ki pi kapital nan ane a poutan, vin nan mwa final 2009 la, lè lejislasyon eta a rankontre Tallahassee pou yon sesyon espesyal pou rezoud pwoblèm chemennfè. Apre negosyasyon cho, SFRTA sòti avèk yon sous revni rezève nan men Transportation Trust, ke taks sou gazolin finanse. Lejislasyon an prevwa yon lòt \$13.3 milyon ankò pandan premye ane a, epi ogmante rive \$15 milyon si, ak lè, SFRTA pran kontwòl repatisyon ak mentnans South Florida Rail Corridor. Pwojè lwa a ouvri lawwa tou pou SunRail nan sant Laflorid ak chemennfè gran vitès k'ap konekte Tampa, Orlando ak Miami.

Adopsyon pwojè lwa sa a pran 20 an pou li fèt. SFRTA rekonesan anè lidè biznis twa konte yo ki mennen efò a, soutyen lejislasyon (espesyalman Prezidan Sena a Jeff Atwater), gwoup soutyen benevòl, anplwaye SFRTA, antreprenè ak ajans an patenarya, epitou plizyè milye pasaje Tri-Rail yo ki fè yo tande vwa yo epi ki kontakte eli yo lè nou mande yo fè sa. An verite triyonf sa a se pou nou tout!

GOING GREEN HAS ITS REWARDS

Tri-Rail recently partnered with the Florida Department of Transportation to encourage commuters to

"Go Green & Save" by registering for a chance to win a one-year transit pass. With more than 1,100 commuters taking a chance at winning the big prize, Clara Aponte of Miami, Ross Barentyne of Ft. Lauderdale and Laura Thornton of West Palm Beach were randomly selected as the winners, each receiving a one-year pass on Tri-Rail. We congratulate the winners and thank our existing passengers for continuing to ride Tri-Rail and being part of the solution for a greener tomorrow.



Clara Aponte



Ross Barentyne



Laura Thornton

SFRTA MOUNTS EFFORT TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY

The post-holiday season is one of the bleakest for area food banks. Shelves are usually empty after fulfilling the needs of South Florida residents throughout the month of December, and the spirit of holiday generosity seems to disappear after the New Year. To refill the coffers, South Florida Regional Transportation Authority / Tri-Rail team members will be conducting a food drive at each of Tri-Rail's 18 train stations on Thursday, January 14 from 6 to 9 a.m. to coincide with the rush-hour schedule. The effort has been dubbed the "Food Train."

The proceeds of this food drive will go to "Feeding South Florida," which in turn, distributes the goods to various organizations that help those in need. Cardboard boxes for collecting items will be placed on station platforms. Staff members from the SFRTA / Tri-Rail will be joined by members of the SFRTA / Tri-Rail's contractor team including, Amtrak, Bitner Goodman, Bombardier, Meridian, Veolia and Wackenhut, who will be on-hand to greet passengers and well-wishers to receive their donations. Acceptable items for donations are non-perishable food items, pet supplies and pet foods, as well as school supplies. All items should be unopened and unused.

Please help us to make this a memorable effort by hopping onboard the "Food Train" and starting the New Year off right! For additional information please contact Steve Rosenberg at 954-788-7935.

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The first 100 online train-ticket purchasers will receive a \$5 Miami Subs Pizza & Grill Gift Card.

SFRTA STAFF ELECTED TO APTA LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Two members of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority Executive Team were recently elected to national leadership positions at the American Public Transportation Association's Annual Conference. SFRTA Executive Director Joseph Giuliatti was elected vice chair of APTA's Board of Directors and Executive Committee for Commuter and Intercity Rail. Giuliatti previously served as chair of the Commuter Rail Chief Executive Officers Subcommittee and now also serves as the co-chair of the Procurement Steering Committee.

SFRTA Director Bonnie Arnold, Marketing and Customer Service Department, was elected chair of the Marketing and Communications Committee, and was appointed to a special outreach task force recently formed by APTA Chair Mattie "MP" Carter to "Tell the Story" of public transportation across America. Arnold was also named to the newly-formed Advisory Board for APTA's Passenger Transport, the transportation industry's leading trade publication.



Joseph Giuliatti



Bonnie Arnold

TRESPASSER REDUCTION INITIATIVE

In an effort to reduce trespassing along the South Florida Rail

Corridor right-of-way (the corridor on which Tri-Rail trains operate), the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, with assistance from the Federal Railroad Administration and the John A. Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, is creating a stakeholder partnership in West Palm Beach committed to reducing trespasser activity.

The stakeholder partnership will bring together railroad agencies; local, state and federal government officials; school and community leaders, as well as any other interested parties, with the hopes that collective resources will ultimately lead to lives being saved.

The partnership will develop a common understanding of trespasser issues, develop coordinated educational and enforcement programs, provide recommendations for changes to local, state and federal laws and regulations, and develop community-supported engineering approaches, all focused on trespasser reduction.

The West Palm Beach community was selected as the starting point for this initiative because of the sudden increase in trespasser fatalities in that area in 2008. This partnership will be used to serve as a model, not only for other communities along the South Florida Rail Corridor, but for other railroad "communities," as well.

STAY OFF, STAY AWAY, STAY ALIVE!

