

On Board

News from The South Florida Regional Transportation Authority/Tri-Rail

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FINALISTS SELECTED TO COMPETE IN TRI-RAIL'S "SOUTH FLORIDA'S KIDS GOT TALENT" ON JANUARY 24

Eleven finalists were selected for Tri-Rail's "South Florida's Kids Got Talent," a singing competition featuring youth ages 5 to 17. The young stars will compete for the winning title and a \$500 grand prize during our annual "Rail Fun Day" on Saturday, January 24 at Tri-Rail's Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport Station located at 500 Gulf Stream Way in Dania Beach.

The eleven young stars selected to advance to the final competition are:

- Mecca Alexander, Miramar
- Nick Aquilino, Boca Raton
- Jalen Depew, Plantation
- Eugene Gilmore, Fort Lauderdale
- Tamara Hoffenden, West Palm Beach
- Morgan Lee, Miramar
- Casandra Ortiz, Hollywood
- Alyssa Palaez, Miami Lakes
- Biana Pinchuk, Sunny Isles Beach
- Adrianna Siena, Wellington
- Gabriella "Bella Heart" Stroup, Plantation



SUPPORTING OUR FESTIVALS

Renaissance Festival February 7 – March 15

Step back into the pages of medieval history – both real and imagined – as the Florida Renaissance Festival returns to Quiet Waters Park in Deerfield Beach for its 22nd year. Join the middle ages merriment on four

consecutive weekends from February 7 through March 15 (including Presidents' Day) and cheer on jousting knights, sword fighters, strolling minstrels, enchanting magicians, comical wenches and more, on 12 themed stages. Families can behold glass blowing, hammered pewter, wooden toys, unique pottery, clothing and a wealth of other riches in the crafts village while feasting on tankards of ale, succulent turkey legs, mulled cider and other treats fit for royalty. Kids of all ages can challenge themselves with olde-world-style games of skill and human-powered thrill rides or get strategic in the Kid's Kingdom and Gaming Glen. For tickets and additional information, please visit www.ren-fest.com or call 954-776-1642.

Calle Ocho Music Festival Sunday, March 15

The one and only Calle Ocho Music Festival is back for its 37th year and the annual street party promises a spectacular roster



of international entertainment, culture and cuisine. The event is part of Carnival Miami, a week-long celebration of all things Latin. Calle Ocho takes place on Sunday, March 15, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., along SW 8th Street. For more information, visit www.carnavalmiami.com or call 305-644-8888.



NEW LARGER SHUTTLES

On December 16, three new larger shuttles were added to the FL-1 and FLA-1 Tri-Rail Shuttle Bus routes. The bigger buses are more spacious and can seat 28-30 passengers. They also feature suitable luggage racks that will prove to be essential for passengers traveling via the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport. Two additional large buses are expected to arrive in the next month to be incorporated into the airport routes.



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Jack L. Stephens
Executive Director

This is the first time I have had the privilege to write to you as the executive director of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA), having assumed that position in February 2014,

after the departure of long-time executive director Joseph Giulietti.

This past year yielded numerous milestones that I am pleased to have the opportunity to share with you. First and foremost, we are finally in receipt of virtually all of the new rolling stock we had on order. Our passengers are now enjoying the comfort of 24 new Hyundai Rotem passenger cars and the reliability provided by 11 new American-made locomotives.

In spite of plummeting gas prices, ridership continued to show modest growth during 2014. The rate increase of approximately 5 percent exceeded the national average of 1.5%, according to the American Public Transportation Association.

Ridership again exceeded 4 million passengers with more than 1 million of those passengers taking advantage of the convenience of the complimentary SFRTA-operated shuttle bus connections.

Substantial progress was made on the construction of the new Miami Central Station at the Miami Intermodal Center (MIC), part of Miami International Airport. When the station opens in 2015, it will complete what will become a world-class gateway to South Florida and the entire state.

(Continued on next page)



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Jack L. Stephens



(Continued from cover)

Our future appears very bright indeed. With a new station coming on board in Miami, the construction of a LEED-certified station and SFRTA operations center in Pompano Beach, continued discussion about operating passenger rail on the FEC corridor, the possibility of expanding service into Jupiter, and the assumption of the responsibility for dispatch and maintenance of the entire corridor, the SFRTA is poised to enhance its positive impact on the region and increase its service to the people of South Florida.

MENSAJE DEL DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO

Esta es la primera vez que tengo el privilegio de escribirles como Director Ejecutivo de la Autoridad Regional de Transporte del Sur de la Florida (SFRTA), ya que asumí ese cargo en febrero de 2014, después de la partida de quien fue Director Ejecutivo por mucho tiempo, Joseph Giulietti.

Durante este año alcanzamos muchas metas que me alegra tener la oportunidad de compartir con ustedes. Primero y principal, estamos recibiendo casi la totalidad de todo el nuevo material rodante que habíamos ordenado. Nuestros pasajeros ahora disfrutan de la comodidad de los 24 nuevos coches de pasajeros Hyundai Rotem y de la confiabilidad de las 11 nuevas locomotoras estadounidenses.

A pesar de la caída de los precios de la gasolina, la cantidad de pasajeros del transporte público siguió mostrando un crecimiento modesto durante 2014. El índice de crecimiento de, aproximadamente el 5%, superó el promedio nacional de 1.5%.

de acuerdo con la Asociación Americana de Transporte Público (American Public Transportation Association). La cantidad de nuestros pasajeros superó nuevamente los 4 millones. Más de 1 millón de ellos disfrutaron de la comodidad de las conexiones gratuitas de autobús con trasbordo operados por la SFRTA.

Se progresó mucho en la construcción de la nueva Estación Central de Miami en el Centro Intermodal de Miami (MIC), parte del Aeropuerto Internacional de Miami. Cuando la estación abra en el 2015, completará lo que se convertirá en una puerta de entrada de nivel mundial al Sur de Florida y al estado en su totalidad.

Nuestro futuro parece ser realmente brillante. Con una nueva estación en camino en Miami, la construcción de una estación certificación LEED y un centro de operaciones de la SFRTA en Pompano Beach, un continuo debate sobre el funcionamiento del tren de pasajeros en el corredor FEC, la posibilidad de expandir el servicio a Jupiter y la asunción de la responsabilidad de despacho y mantenimiento en todo el corredor, la SFRTA está lista para mejorar su impacto positivo en la región e incrementar su servicio a la gente del Sur de Florida.

MESAJ DIREKTÈ EGZEKITIF LA

Se premye fwa mwen gen onè pou m ekri nou antan m Direktè Egzekitif South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA), yon pozisyon mwen pran an fevriye 2014, apre depa Direktè Ekzekitif Joseph Giulietti ki te la pou yon bon tan.

Gen anpil bagay enpòtan ki pase nan ane k ap fini an, e mwen kontan pataje yo avèk nou. Pou kòmmanse, sak pi enpòtan an, nou resevwa pratikman tout kòmmand ferovye nou te pase yo. Nan moman an, pasaje nou byen alèz nan konfò 24 nouvo machin patikilye Hyundai Rotem, epi yo chita an tout konfyans nan 11 lokomotiv ki fèt Ozetazini.

Malgre pri gaz la kontinye ap desann, nou gen plis moun toujou ki resevwa sèvis nan men nou pou ane 2014 la. Ogmantasyon 5% to a depase mwayèn nasyonal la, ki se 1.5% selon American Public Transportation Association. Yon fwa ankò, nou sèvi plis pase 4 milyon pasaje. Plis pase 1 milyon nan pasaje sa yo pran avantaj bis pou koneksyon gratis SFRTA ofri yo.

Gen gwo pwogrè ki fèt nan kad konstriksyon nouvo Miami Central Station nan Miami Intermodal Center (MIC), ki fè pati Miami International Airport. Lè estasyon an ouvri nan 2015, li va reprezante finisman sa ki pwal tounen yon pòt antre de renome entènasyonal nan Sid Laflorid epi nan tout eta a.

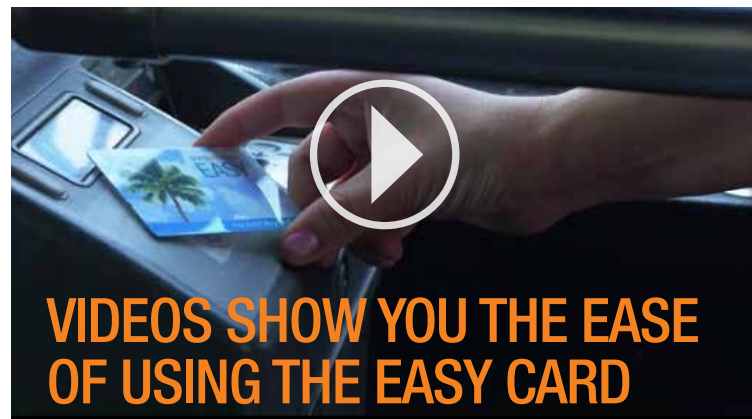
Fiti nou bèl anpil. Avèk ouvèti yon nouvo estasyon nan Miami, konstriksyon yon estasyon ki sètifye pa LEED, epitou yon sant operasyon SFRTA nan Pompano Beach, diskisyon k ap kontinye sou zafè ray pou pasaje nan koridò FEC a, posiblite pou nou pote sèvis bay Jupiter, epi lefèt ke nou pran responsabilite depèch ak antretyen tout koridò a, tout sa mete SFRTA nan pozisyon pou li bay rejyon an yon imaj pozitif epi amelyore sèvis li bay moun Sid Laflorid.

due to expire and all registered cards feature balance protection if lost or damaged. On trains, at stations and online, ample information about the benefits of the EASY Card has been made available since its introduction in 2011.

Though most passengers are familiar with all of its uses, the EASY Card's numerous features can be overwhelming to new users, or to non-daily riders. With this in mind, five "Purchasing Your Fare" videos were created to help people understand the basic 'How To' functions of the EASY Card. Some questions addressed include:

- How do you transfer to and from Broward County Transit, Miami-Dade Transit and Palm Tran while obtaining a transfer discount?
- How do you choose the right fare and correctly validate your purchase?
- Should you use an EASY Card or just buy a paper ticket?

Learn more by accessing the videos at www.tri-rail.com and on the 'Fares' menu select 'VIDEOS: Purchasing Your Fare.'



VIDEOS SHOW YOU THE EASE OF USING THE EASY CARD

There is no doubt that the EASY Card has made traveling much easier for Tri-Rail passengers. The card's durability can sustain wear and tear better than a paper ticket and it can be loaded with all of Tri-Rail's passes (including cash value, which can be set to load automatically for better convenience). Currently issued cards have a 20-year expiration date, leaving no worries about when they are

FREE FAMILY FUN FOR EVERYONE!

TRI RAIL™



RAIL FUN DAY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24
11 am - 3 pm

Tri-Rail's Fort Lauderdale / Hollywood International Airport Station at Dania Beach

(located west of I-95 off Griffin Road, next to Bass Pro Shops)

- Meet Tri-Rail's Conductor George Green
- Arts and crafts
- Face painting and clowns
- Cookie decorating
- Food trucks (food for purchase)
- Live entertainment
- Carnival-style games
- Prizes and giveaways



Watch talented singers 5-17 years old as they compete for the winning title.

RIDE TRI-RAIL TO THE EVENT & RECEIVE A FREE GIFT!!!

You must present a valid Tri-Rail Ticket dated Saturday, January 24. Valid for first 100 ticket holders.

Kids 12 & under ride free for the day!



TRI RAIL™

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