

Out & About

News from CAT • Summer 2013



On a Roll

Like our tagline, we are *Always On The Move* here at CAT!

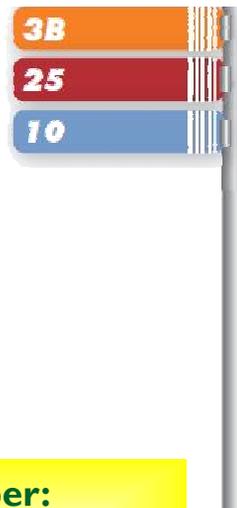
★ Our new **Transit Center** is scheduled to open soon, which means more comfortable, convenient, and safe connections for our customers.

Look for a Save The Date notice on Facebook and Twitter in the very near future.

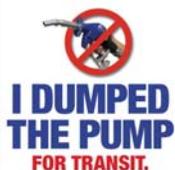
- ★ Much-needed rehabilitation continues on our Operations & Maintenance facility on Gwinnett St., which means we'll soon have to close off the front of the building for construction and direct all **Ticket Window** business to CAT Central at 124 Bull Street.



- ★ The new operating system for our **website** is being put in place, which means updated information, easier navigation, and the return of valuable tools like Google Trip Planner coming soon.
- ★ Production of our redesigned bus route **signs** is also in progress, which means finding stops more easily and being able to tell which routes serve each stop from farther away.



So there's your behind-the-scenes look: construction, improvements for our customers, plus the innovative technology coming from our Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Pilot Program. We're working hard to become a premier transit agency for our community, and we're so grateful to have your support!



THANK YOU for participating in National Dump The Pump Day June 20th! We love educating people about more sustainable transportation alternatives to the car, and the race is always fun, too. Keep an eye out for more free ride days during Try Transit Week in September!

Remember:
Buses run on the HOLIDAY SCHEDULE for the Fourth of July and Labor Day.

CAT
CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT

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Community Features

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Thanks to one of our dear customers, **Aldin Lee**, we were able to pay proper respect to a historic Savannah family. If any of you have read "The Book," *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* by John Berendt, then you may recognize the Minis name. For those of you familiar with Garden City, you probably know Minis Street. You may also know that depending on where you look, the street is spelled "Minis" or "Minus." Well, Aldin was kind enough to send us an email that included a brief but incredibly interesting history about the Minis family—one of Savannah's First Families—and we were able to research the issue and then correct the spelling on our 3B Augusta Ave passenger schedules. Read part of Aldin's email here:

"The Minis family actually had the first born Caucasian male child in Savannah and the Colony of Georgia, qualifying it for 'First Family' status.

They were among the few Jews who immigrated to the colony, and while very instrumental in its survival and growth, their religious/ethnic status likely prevented higher public service in the earliest years of the colony and state.

And, thus it was only much later that a street in Garden City, rather than Savannah, bore their name."



Aldin also provided us with a link to SavannahAmbitions, a Wordpress blog about Minis House, and we encourage anyone interested to look it up. Thanks again, Aldin, for helping us preserve this piece of Savannah history!

Safety Best Practices: Defensive Driving

Our Operators are trained to drive defensively, and we think the following tips are a good reminder for everyone.

1. Wear your seatbelt! So simple, and yet only 81% of Americans use this vital safety equipment.
2. Slow down. There is no disputing the numbers. Excessive speed is a factor in 31% of all traffic fatalities.
3. Guard against distractions. Inattention to driving accounts for 78% of crashes and an estimated 65% of near misses. One of the biggest distractions is, of course, the use of cell phones.
4. Don't drink and drive. It is so simple, yet 41% of traffic fatalities involve one or more intoxicated driver. If you plan to drink alcohol and must travel, find a safe alternative: friend, cab, or bus.

~ Information from the National Safety Council

What's the best way to drive defensively?

Leave your car at home and Catch a CAT!

TRANSIT CAREER DAY 2013

Preserve the past but plan for the future, we say! Which is why we were thrilled to welcome **Jakaila Maxwell** to our facility for National Public Transportation Career Day on May 16th. This APTA initiative focuses on marketing transit careers to the next generation of prospective workers.

Jakaila, a sixth grade student at East Broad, our education partner, spent only a little time at CAT and discovered there is a lot more to public transit than buses. She met several staff members and learned that many people are involved in the total operation.

Jakaila is a member of the school's quiz bowl and was first runner up in this year's Spelling Bee. She has many interests, including singing, acting, and photography, and while she hasn't decided what she wants to be yet, she is now "observing" the public transit field.



See these photos and more on our Facebook page.

