

Press Release



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For Immediate Release

“The Bus” Celebrates 10-Years of Service; Tribute to Mayor Bob Wasson and Elle Wasson

(Sedalia, Missouri, May 4, 2009) – This week marks the 10-year anniversary for the Sedalia fixed route intercity bus service known simply as "The Bus." For the past 10 years, The Bus has provided transportation at a low cost for community members of Sedalia. The Bus runs Monday through Saturday with a 12-mile loop around the city, making 39 stops.

Oversight and operation of the service is tasked through the Community Transportation Partnership (CTP), a local advisory board formed from community volunteers and organizations. The board was formed in 1999 to address a lack of public transportation for the Sedalia community. Service is contracted through OATS, Inc. and cost of ridership is just \$1.25 for adults and \$.50 for children 5 or younger.



Sedalians kick-off The Bus 10-year celebration

The operation of The Bus is funded with grants from the Missouri Department of Transportation along with a 50% local match. Local funding is raised through selling of advertisements located on the outside of The Bus as well as through rider fares. Rider Anita Hodges has been riding The Bus from the beginning, and says “Sedalia is fortunate to have a transportation system at a reasonable cost.”

CTP recognizes Ellis Closser for 10 years of service as a driver for The Bus, and Linda Larson who has served 2 years now. In celebration of the anniversary, CTP announces patrons will be able to "Take a Buddy on the Bus and the Buddy Rides Free" all week, May 4 through Saturday, May 11.

CTP would like to extend special recognition to honor Elle Wasson and remember Mayor Bob Wasson for their commitment to meeting community transportation needs for Sedalia families. This anniversary of The Bus serves as a tribute to the dedication both have shared.

For more information about The Bus, and to find out how you can purchase advertising or otherwise help, please contact Tracy Walkup, Midwest Regional Director, OATS, Inc., 107 W. Pacific, Sedalia, MO, 65301, (660)827-2611, tracy@oatstransit.org. For more information about OATS, Inc., please visit their website www.oatstransit.org.

NOTICE TO ALL PRESS AGENCIES: Please do not refer to OATS as “Older Adults Transportation Service” as this is no longer part of the official name. OATS is a public transportation system that is available to everyone, regardless of age, race, gender, color, religion, or national origin, and in fact serves a wide diversity of clientele.

OATS is a private, not-for-profit corporation providing specialized transportation for senior citizens, people with disabilities and the rural general public in 87 Missouri counties. OATS is funded, in part, by an allotment of federal funds from the Missouri Department of Transportation and through contracts with various agencies. OATS also receives rider donations and private contributions, which are tax deductible. OATS is an equal opportunity employer M/F/H/V.

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