

# Rider's Digest



A PUBLICATION OF THE GREATER CLEVELAND  
REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

## New Timetables Needed for Spring Changes March 20

Effective March 20, RTA is making a number of changes and schedule adjustments on bus routes, as well as the heavy and light rail rapid transit runs, that will require customers to obtain new timetables.

Bus routes that will be affected include: **#15F** Warrensville Hts. Flyer, **#19** Broadway-Miles **#20A** West 25-State, **#45** Ridge, **#48** University Circle-East 131, **#79** Fulton, **#86** Warren- Berea **#135** Broadview-N. Royalton, **#145** York Flyer, **#51F/251/451** I-71/Pearl Rd. Flyers, **#326** Detroit-Superior, **#801** Lee-Harvard Circulator,

In addition, the Airport/Windermere Red Line and the Van Aken/Shaker Green/Blue Lines will have adjustments.

To obtain a new timetable, go to:  
RTA Rotunda at the Tower City Station.

RTA's Main Office, 1240 W. Sixth St.

or visit [www.rideRTA.com](http://www.rideRTA.com)

To receive a new timetable by mail, call the RTAanswerline, 216-621-9500, from 6:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday.

## **RTA to Move Customer Service Center April 1**

RTA will move its Customer Service Center from 315 Euclid Ave. to two new locations - Tower City Center and RTA's Main Office Building at 1240 W. Sixth St. — Friday, April 1.

“The move represents a ‘win-win’ situation for our customers and for RTA,” says RTA Marketing Director Steve Bitto. “Both new locations are easily accessible, either by rapid transit or bus. By dividing our staff and their duties between the new locations, they will be in a better position to focus on the needs of our customers. And finally, the move will save RTA more than \$132,000 in rent annually, and that money can be used to further enhance services and our growing customer satisfaction rating.”

According to Bitto, customers will be able to purchase passes and farecards at the newly-renovated “satellite” customer service center in the rotunda of the Tower City Station (between the Red and Blue/Green/Waterfront line entrance/exit locations).

The other Customer Service Center will be located on the first floor of the RTA Main Office Building, where staff members will help customers with ADA and Senior Citizen related requests as well as overseeing the processing of the newly-mandated functional testing program.

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## **Ride RTA to the Black College All-Star Game**

The Black College All-Star Game and Celebrity Extravaganza is set for Gund Arena Saturday, April 16, and RTA is the best way to get you there. (See story in this issue.)

The Ohio College All Stars will play the Black College All Stars in the main event.

For more information, call the RTAanswerline at (216) 621-9500, or visit [www.rideRTA.com](http://www.rideRTA.com)

# Rabid Fans Use Rapid for Downtown Events

Play ball! It's that time again, and the Cleveland Indians will open their 12th home season at Jacobs Field Monday, April 11. The 3:05 p.m. game is against the Chicago White Sox.

But as basketball fans know, baseball isn't the only game in town, and the play-off-bound Cavaliers still have important games at Gund Arena in March and April.

The Opening Day baseball game and the remaining home basketball games are expected to sell out, and all the games are preceded and followed by many special downtown events.

As a result, this "spring season" is "rapidly" shaping up as one of the busiest transit times of the year.

Officials of the Indians and the Cavaliers join RTA CEO and General Manager Joe Calabrese with a simple message - take the train!

"Downtown parking lots will be fairly full by the end of morning rush hour," says Calabrese. "RTA will be running as many trains as possible that day and night to serve sports fans and regular customers. Extra rail service will begin early in the day and continue right through our evening rush hour to serve commuters and sports fans. The extra service will stay in place as long as needed to handle crowds. Rail service will end around midnight, as usual."

Action before the Tribe game begins at noon with entertainment on the Plaza outside Jacobs Field.

The RTA Walkway connecting the Tower City Food

Court with the lobby of Gund Arena will open at 1 p.m. RTA's 1,050-foot Walkway protects fans from traffic and the weather, and is just a short walk to and from Jacobs Field.

The best way to get to the first baseball game - or to any downtown activity - is to use RTA's rapid transit system. For starters, fans can park free in more than 7,000 spaces at RTA rail stations. RTA offers rush-hour service before each game, which means the trains run every few minutes. Fans can also park in the Municipal Lot by the Shoreway, and ride the Waterfront Line to Tower City.

RTA also provides regular bus service to Jacobs Field and Gund Arena, as well as to Tower City.

RTA urges customers to buy a \$3 All-Day Pass, which provides unlimited ridership until 3 a.m. All-Day Passes are available where you pay your fare. Please have exact change.

Senior citizens, persons with disabilities and Medicare cardholders can apply for an RTA ID card. After they receive their ID card, all rides are only 50 cents. A Senior/Disabled All-Day Pass costs \$1 for unlimited rides until 3 a.m.

Customers can also use their Monthly Pass or Seven-Day Flex Pass.

"Considering the high cost of gasoline and parking, I think fans who hop on the train will really hit a grand slam home run with their savings," adds Calabrese.

## Total System Ridership Continues to Increase in January

RTA drove into 2005 with back-to-back annual increases in ridership for only the second time in 25 years, and continued with an 8.4 percent total system ridership increase in January or approximately 352,600 rides.

Total system ridership has increased for 11 of the last 12 months when compared to the same month the previous year.

In other good news, bus rides grew 7.7 percent in January or about 276,400 rides.

Total rapid transit ridership was up 11.5 percent in January or approximately 65,400 rides.

Community Circulator ridership increased 14.8 percent in January or approximately 26,900 rides. This is the eighth consecutive month showing a ridership gain on circulators. Rides increased on all the circulator routes, except the Southeast Community Circulator, when compared to January of 2004.

## Nominations Sought for Volunteerism Award by March 31

RTA officials and the Citizens Advisory Board are seeking nominations for the F. Robert Wiesenerger Community Volunteer Award.

The award is given in honor of the late Mr. Wiesenerger, who served on RTA's Advisory Board for more than 25 years. He was also active in Rocky River city government, and served on committees throughout the county for more than 20 years.

Nominees should be residents of Cuyahoga County and perform volunteer work in this region. They should have demonstrated a willingness to get involved, an unselfish giving of oneself, an ability to lead others and a desire to enhance the

quality of life in the community.

Nominations will be accepted from individuals as well as organizations. Nominations must be submitted by March 31. The winner will be announced at an RTA Board meeting, and honored at a banquet in late spring.

Nomination forms will be available at [www.rideRTA.com](http://www.rideRTA.com); just click on the scrolling message. If you have questions, call (216) 566-5220.

Send the nomination form to: CAB - Volunteer Award Committee, c/o Pamela Hollimon, Marketing & Communications Department, RTA, 1240 West Sixth Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44113.

## RTA Will Save You Money at The Cleveland International Film Festival

It's convenient and economical to ride RTA to the 29th annual Cleveland International Film Festival at Tower City Center, and you can save money!

With your March Monthly Pass (local or express) you receive \$1 off your in-person, phone or on-line purchase. This offer is good for any Festival film except Opening (March 10) and Closing (March 20) nights and Special Events. Additional restrictions may apply.

To purchase the money-saving tickets, just show your March RTA Pass at the Film Festival Store in the Tower City Cinema Lobby. Be sure to use the code RTA when purchasing discount tickets by phone (216-623-3456) or on line [www.clevelandfilm.org](http://www.clevelandfilm.org).

RTA's four rapid transit lines - the Red Line (#66) Airport to Louis Stokes/Windermere, the #67/67A Blue (Van Aken) and Green (Green Road) and the Waterfront lines all provide direct service to Tower City Center.

Monday through Friday, the last Red Line train leaves the Tower City Station at 12:23 a.m. westbound (Airport) and 11:37 p.m. eastbound to Stokes/Windermere.

On Saturdays and Sundays, the last Red Line train leaves Tower City Station at 12:24 a.m. going westbound and 11:40 p.m. going eastbound.

Monday through Friday, the last Green Road train leaves Tower City at 12:13 a.m. and the last Van Aken train leaves from Tower City at 12:18 a.m.

On Saturdays and Sundays, the last Green Road train leaves from Tower City at 12:15 a.m. and the last Van Aken train leaves at 12:20 a.m.

On the Waterfront Line, the last train leaves Tower City at 11:25 p.m., seven days a week.

Many of RTA's major bus routes provide service to the Public Square area.

For more detailed information about routes and schedules, visit [www.rideRTA.com](http://www.rideRTA.com) or call the RTA Answerline, (216) 621-9500.



Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority  
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