



TRANSIT TIDBITS

Issue 152 DECEMBER 2024

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2024

It is not about ideas...It's about making
ideas happen.



DTA BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED
January 27th and 28th, 2025
Mobridge, SD

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THANKS FOR WHAT WE HAVE **Terry Hoffman, Co-Executive Director** **Community Transit** **Watertown/ Sisseton**

The Thanksgiving holiday has come and gone for another year. The holiday is about giving thanks for what we have, spending time with friends and family, and the preparation and sharing of the Thanksgiving feast.

One small group of Community Transit employees prepared and served a Thanksgiving meal for residents at the Jard Apartments in Sisseton, SD. CTWSI employees Karla Pistorius, Christine Francis, Maria Benda and Julia Fike joined the residents for the meal.

"We just wanted to do something extra for somebody in the community and this is what we came up with," said Pistorius. "Julia organized it and all had a good

time. They appreciated the meal and the time we spent with them.”



CTWSI employees in other communities took time from their families and holiday plans to provide transportation to and from medical facilities for dialysis appointments.



"Our transit employees are an amazing group of people who do amazing things every day," said CTWSI board president Randy Tupper. "It doesn't matter if it's spreading goodwill at an apartment complex in Sisseton or providing a dialysis ride at 5:30 a.m. on a holiday in another location, they are always there. They are a special group."

Pistorius says the Sisseton group is working on plans to provide a similar activity over the Christmas

holiday. Details are still in the planning stages, but they may have additional support for the next venture.

"The residents at the Jard Apartments wanted to pay for their meal," said Pistorius. "We refused their offer, but they may get involved at Christmas."



TRAINING UPDATE

Contact Information

Rod Graffing 701-845-4300

rod@southcentralseniors.org

PASS Training classes were held in Dickinson ND. on November 18 & 19. A BIG thank you goes out to both Dickinson Public Transit and trainer Chris Lundebly for making this class possible.

We've had a few agencies express interest in hosting one of the 4 upcoming PASS classes to be held throughout North Dakota in 2025, so we are one step closer to making these scheduled training sessions a reality. If your agency is interested in hosting or you have input,

ideas and questions on the process, please contact me.

Are you or someone from your agency interested in becoming a PASS trainer? CTAA now offers PASS - Train the Trainer certification 100% online. It's never been easier to become a PASS trainer.

If you have drivers/staff in need of training or re-certification and would like to inquire about or schedule a class, please contact Rod using the information listed above.

2025 DTA CONFERENCE JAMESTOWN, ND

September 12th – 17th, 2025
Jacque Senger, Executive Director
Dakota Transit Association

Our host city for 2025 will be Jamestown, ND. The Baymont by Wyndam will be our lodging and the Jamestown Civic Center will accommodate all our meetings, rodeo and vendor show.

NORTHEAST SD SHRM PROFESSIONAL

**Terry Hoffman, Co-Executive Director
Community Transit
Watertown/ Sisseton**



Natalie Remund with her award for the Northeast SD SHRM Professional of the Year winner.

Natalie Remund was recently selected as the 2024 NE South Dakota SHRM (Society of Human Resources Management) HR Professional of the Year.

Remund and her Multi-Business Solutions team serve as the HR Consultant for Community Transit of Watertown/Sisseton, Inc.

In addition to handling typical HR duties, Natalie has participated in

many transit activities and trainings in an attempt to fully understand the industry.

"Natalie was highly recommended when we began our search for an HR person," said Terry Hoffman, co-Executive Director of CTWSI. " She has become a critical part of our team."

Since joining the team in 2022, Remund has tweaked personnel policy manuals, updated passenger and driver manuals, improved employee recruitment and retention processes and manages the drug and alcohol program. She leads the annual employee review exercise, traveling with CTWSI administrators to each of the 12 locations to conduct the individual employee meetings.

"People were hesitant early on, meeting with an actual HR person, but she quickly earned their respect with her approach, " said Hoffman. "She is accepted as part of the team now."

Remund has went above and beyond her job description. Desiring to learn more about the transportation industry, Remund has attended and presented educational pieces at staff training sessions, become a participant at the Dakota Transit Association annual fall conference as

a rodeo judge and scorekeeper, attended quarterly SDDOT training, participated in PASS Training and is an active member of our communications committee.

She may not have an actual office at any CTWSI facility, but her presence can be felt. Thank you, Natalie, for all you do for public transit and CTWSI. Congratulations on your much deserved recognition.

Tidbit Articles:

Please contact me with articles for your agency.

Recycle:

Please share your Transit Tidbit with your staff and any interested persons.

Address:

Directors, please check with your bookkeepers as well as the rest of your staff to assure they have the correct DTA Mailing Address.

Thanks to all!



Jacquie Senger, Executive Director, DTA

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