



Volume 2, Issue 2

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REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

# STAR TRACKS



## Donelson Shuttle Service is Growing Strong - Hop on board

The Donelson Shuttle Service is growing by leaps and bounds. The Music City Star shuttle is carrying an average of 29 people per day to and from the Donelson Station. Listen to what rider has to say:

*The Donelson Shuttle component of the Music City Star has been the perfect solution to my daily commute from Alexandria, Tennessee. I intended to ride the Music City Star from its debut, however there was no public transportation available from Donelson Station to my office at Highland Ridge on Marriott Drive. I began riding the second day the shuttle was in service, and have been a daily rider since.*

*The Music City Star and Donelson Shuttle are great attributes for the City of Nashville, as well as surrounding Wilson County. They represent a progressive foresight which is not common in many areas of gov-*

*ernment in today's world.*

*In addition to the positive environmental and economic impact, the Star and Shuttle both share a friendly, relaxed atmosphere and employees who care about service.*

*Sharing my experiences and encouraging new riders has become a routine of my daily interaction with co-workers and the public at large. The presence of the Shuttle loading and unloading will usually spawn a question or two from commuters walking to and from the parking lot. I'm always happy to provide the details of my experience.*

*I do recommend earlier train service to Lebanon vs. the termination at Mt. Juliet. I have had quite a few conversations with folks who are able to accommodate the early morning hours to ride, but have conflicts with the first arriving train at 6 pm to*

*Lebanon. It clashes with family needs such as daycare, after school obligations, working spouses, other job schedules, family dinner and the like.*

*The Star and Shuttle are greatly appreciated!*

*Sincerely,  
David Folsom*

To learn more about the Music City Star and its shuttle bus services in Donelson, call (615)533-2420.



**COMING SOON!**  
New RTA & MCS website!  
By April 15th, new web address will be:  
[RTArelaxandride.com](http://RTArelaxandride.com)

**Star Tracks** is a publication of the Regional Transportation Authority.

For more information about our services and programs, contact us: (615) 862-8833 or [info@rta-ride.org](mailto:info@rta-ride.org)

RTA, 501 Union Street, 6th Fl.  
Nashville, TN 37219-1705  
[www.rta-ride.org](http://www.rta-ride.org)

# Question of the Month

Dear RTA:

What exactly are HOV lanes?  
Interstate Commuter

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Dear Interstate Commuter:

HOV stands for High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes which are specially marked interstate lanes designated for vehicles with two or more people. The HOV lanes were designed to help alleviate traffic congestion and improve air quality by encouraging commuters to share a ride to work. These lanes are also known as carpool lanes, commuter lanes, diamond lanes and transit lanes.



When an automobile is used as an HOV, the group of people using it is often called a carpool. In Tennessee, a HOV may also be used by a public transportation vehicle; privately owned bus; motorcycle; private passenger motor vehicle (including vans and pickup trucks) carrying not less than two passengers. Also in the case of an emergency, any vehicle of a governmental department or public service corporation when responding to an emergency; any vehicle of a police or fire department; and any ambulance can use these lanes.

It is important to note that in

Tennessee, the operation of a vehicle other than a high occupancy vehicle in an HOV lane is an offense.

The Regional Transportation Authority offers a variety of rideshare opportunities that allow commuters to take advantage of the HOV lanes in their areas.

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## DID YOU KNOW?

You can now purchase Music City Star monthly passes and 10-trip passes online at <http://www.rta-ride.org/services/rail/index.html>



*Code to the Music City Star*

In the mornings take the train

Doing so will keep you sane.

Say Hello to Jason, Shaun, Trey or Lane.

Relax and when you get to work you will still have a brain.

*-Laura C. Borders-  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center*

# GREEN NEWS 2008

## CFL BULBS—The better bulb!

Compact florescent bulbs (CFLs) are those swirled little guys that look like soft-serve ice cream cones. Actually, they come in a myriad of different



shapes, sizes, and colors of light. Economically speaking, they're a great deal, too. CFLs cost a bit more than an incandescent, but use about a quarter as much energy and last many times longer (usually around 10,000 hours). It is estimated that a CFL pays for its higher price after about 500 hours of use. After that, it's money in your pocket. Also, because CFLs release less heat, not only are they safer, but your cooling load is less in the summer. CFLs aren't hard to find anymore, most home centers and grocery stores have these in stock.

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