

# Matters

Metrolink News and Events



## Metrolink Contractor Partners with Union Rescue Mission—and Everyone Wins

In the eyes of their supervisor, composite mechanics Alfred Carter and Barry Long are two of the most positive people working on the trains you ride. As employees of Bombardier, a Metrolink contractor responsible for train-maintenance services, they perform daily and periodic inspection, testing, and repairs to Metrolink passenger cars and locomotives. “They have the attitude that you look for when hiring employees,” Bombardier general manager Craig Everly told *Metrolink Matters*. “They come to work with a positive outlook; they appreciate the jobs; they’re here every day.”

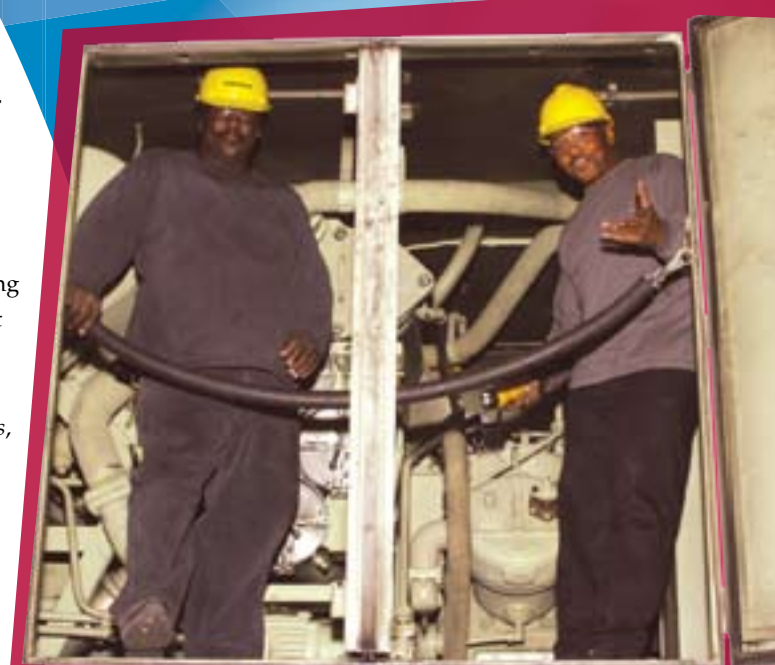
Asked why he’s so positive about work, Alfred Carter told *Matters*, “When you’ve been to the bottom and you know what’s there, and you have the opportunity to rise above that, it’s a blessing.”

Carter and Long became composite mechanics at Bombardier sometime after difficult journeys through life landed each of them at L.A.’s Union Rescue Mission. The Union Rescue Mission is a nonprofit organization serving poor and homeless people in L.A. The mission provides food, shelter, clothing, health care, recovery programs, and much more—including job training and support for people re-entering the work force.

Through a Union Rescue Mission job-placement program, Carter and Long were hired as cleaners by Bombardier cleaning subcontractor Macadi. Bombardier subsequently hired both as laborers. Before long, they trained and passed a series of tests to become composite mechanics and qualified maintenance persons (QMPs)—a Federal Railroad Administration designation for people working on passenger equipment. On an average day, Carter says, he starts early with his inspection and maintenance duties—inspecting running gear, wheels, brakes, and safety appliances to ensure that the trains are safe and reliable.

As a result of their success on the job, Carter and Long have both transitioned out of the Union Rescue Mission and are now living independently. And the folks at Bombardier feel that their relationship with the mission has been win-win all around. “These two guys are outstanding,” Everly says. “They’ve turned their lives around and are doing great things. Based on their performance, I won’t hesitate to stick with this relationship and try and bring more people through.”

“Metrolink is proud of both men’s accomplishments,” says Art Mallette, Metrolink Manager of Equipment. “We support Bombardier in their efforts to help people improve their lives.”



Bombardier employees Alfred Carter and Barry Long



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## \$5 Savings at the Circus

Be a kid again and join in on the BELLOBRATIONS<sup>SM</sup>! Bello-What? It's the 137th edition of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey, featuring fabulous fun, amazing animals, and, of course, Bello, the daredevil clown!

Remember the crowds, the cotton candy, and the thrilling acrobatic stunts? Well, *The Greatest Show On Earth*<sup>®</sup> is back in town, and bigger and better than ever! Recapture the magic with an exciting day filled with elephants, tigers and high-flying acts on the great trapeze. Check your Metrolink schedule for the added family fun of a quick and easy train ride to the circus.

**Metrolink riders can save big** and become part of the action. **SAVE \$5** on \$25, \$19 or \$15 tickets for the shows listed below.

Your ticket also includes admission to the **All-Access Pre-Show**, where you can visit with the elephants, acrobats and animal stars, try on some of the costumes, and learn how to juggle with the clowns. The fun starts one hour before show time!



## Safety Matters

Each Metrolink station is unique, but all have features to allow passengers to cross to the adjacent platform safely. Some stations, such as Glendale and Downtown Burbank, have center platforms. Pedestrian crossings at this type of station are at grade and have active warning devices to alert passengers to approaching trains. Other stations, such as at Fullerton and Santa Ana, have pedestrian bridges that are constructed over the tracks. Still others, such as Anaheim and Oceanside, have underpasses. Underpasses and overpasses with stairs and elevators are constructed to allow passengers to move safely to the adjacent platform anytime.

It is never safe to step off the platform and cross the tracks through the surrounding gravel or climb the fencing between the platforms. Some stations, such as Fullerton, have active mainline tracks between the tracks used by Metrolink and Amtrak to discharge and pick up passengers. Trains running on those tracks will not stop at the station and will not be able to avoid people who might be crossing.

## Claremont Packing House Grand Re-Opening

The Claremont Packing House—located just alongside the Claremont Metrolink Station—celebrated its grand re-opening in mid-June. Originally built in the 1920s to serve the local citrus industry, the historic landmark has been renovated as a dynamic multi-use structure including live-work lofts, restaurants, a jazz club, boutiques, and the Claremont Museum of Art.

The new Packing House showcases a vibrant mix of the old and the new, with historical fixtures such as dramatic



Claremont Metrolink Station

as dramatic saw-tooth skylights merged with innovative, environmentally friendly features such as low-flush toilets and solar panels. A block-long boardwalk echoes the building's former loading docks. The June 16 grand re-opening celebration featured arts and performances by numerous Packing House tenants, including floral displays by Sara Rose Designs, open artists' studios, and bracelet making by Phebie's Needle Art.

The Claremont Packing House is located at 532 West First Street in downtown Claremont.



### 3 easy ways to get the TRAIN Savings offer:

- 1) Present your Metrolink ticket or pass at the Honda Center or STAPLES Center Box Office. (Must be same-day purchase for all performances.)
- 2) Go online to [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) and enter the promotional code **TRAIN**.
- 3) Call Ticketmaster at (213) 480-3232 or (714) 740-2000 and mention the promotional code **TRAIN**.

### TRAIN Savings Show Dates

#### STAPLES Center

Thursday, July 19 at 7:30 p.m.  
 Friday, July 20 at 12 p.m.  
 Friday, July 20 at 7:30 p.m.  
 Saturday, July 21 at 11:30 a.m.  
 Saturday, July 21 at 3:30 p.m.

#### Honda Center

Thursday, July 26 at 1:00 p.m.  
 Thursday, July 26 at 7:30 p.m.  
 Friday, July 27 at 10:30 a.m.  
 Friday, July 27 at 7:30 p.m.  
 Saturday, July 28 at 11:30 a.m.  
 Saturday, July 28 at 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 31 at 7:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, August 1 at 1:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday, August 1 at 7:30 p.m.  
 Thursday, August 2 at 10:30 p.m.  
 Thursday, August 2 at 7:30 p.m.  
 Saturday, August 4 at 11:30 a.m.

### Quick Travel Tips

#### To STAPLES Center

- 1) Take Metrolink to Union Station.
- 2) Use your ticket for a FREE connection to the Metro Red Line Subway, and ride to 7th/Metro Station (the third stop).
- 3) Make a quick connection upstairs to the Metro Blue Line Subway and get off at the first stop—Pico/Chick Hearn Station. STAPLES Center will be across the street.

#### To the Honda Center

- 1) Take Metrolink to the Anaheim Station.
- 2) Use the pedestrian tunnel to Katella Avenue and walk to the Honda Center.

For more information about this event and special offer go to [www.ringling.com](http://www.ringling.com) or [metrolinktrains.com](http://metrolinktrains.com)

Photos courtesy of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey®

## The Orange County Fair at Your Fingertips

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) introduces the OC Flyer—dedicated weekend bus service you can ride directly to the Orange County Fair from the Santa Ana Metrolink Station. Get in on all the fun of the OC Fair, including all the rides, shows, and fantastic food you expect and some new surprises for 2007.

Just take a Metrolink train on either the Inland Empire-Orange County (IEOC) Line or the Orange County Line trains to Santa Ana, and then ride the OC Flyer bus directly to the Fair gate with your Metrolink ticket. Your trip back to the train station is also free with your Metrolink ticket. With Metrolink's increased weekend service from both the Inland Empire and Orange County, getting to the Fair couldn't be easier or more fun!

IEOC Line riders will need to take weekend train 859, which departs San Bernardino at 8:55 a.m. and arrives at Santa Ana at 10:13 a.m., in order to get a full day at the Fair. IEOC riders can take train 858 (3:50 p.m.) or train 860 (5:30 p.m.) for their return to the Inland Empire.

Orange County Line weekend riders have six trains on Saturday and five trains on Sunday to the Santa Ana Station.

As always, allow enough travel time from the Fair back to the Santa Ana Metrolink Station. Leave at least 75 minutes prior to your train departure time.

The Orange County Fair runs from July 13 to August 5, with OC Flyer bus service every 30 minutes starting at 10:30 a.m. until midnight on Saturdays and Sundays only. The OC Flyer is a service of OCTA. For more information about the OC Flyer, visit [www.octa.net/ocflyer](http://www.octa.net/ocflyer). News about the 2007 Orange County Fair can be found at [www.ocfair.com](http://www.ocfair.com).



## Train Tones

*What is that humming noise? Some riders on the San Bernardino Line found themselves wondering aloud about the loud hum emanating from beneath their train in January. Fortunately, there is a perfectly logical explanation.*

The surface of the steel rails your trains ride on is ground periodically to restore its original profile and to remove surface defects caused by normal wear and tear. An annual computer analysis of the interaction between the worn wheel profile and the existing rail profile helps Metrolink and its grinding contractor determine where, how much, and how often the rails need to be ground. The contractor who grinds our rails uses a self-propelled grinding machine composed of two rail cars, sixteen large grinding stones, and a power unit. When a train passes over the facets left by the grinding wheels on freshly ground rail, there is often a harmonic ring—and that's what San Bernardino Line riders heard in January. The sound diminishes as traffic passes over the rails.





## City News

**Anaheim**—Anaheim Station has just opened a new pedestrian gate that will make using Metrolink or Amtrak to get to the Honda Center easier than ever. The gate, located at the bottom of the ramp leading to Track 1 (which is the track furthest from the station building), opens into a parking lot adjacent to Katella Avenue. Turn right at the street, walk under the 55 Freeway to Douglass Street, and you're there!



**San Clemente**—Sun, sand, and surf meet for the San Clemente Ocean Festival, July 21 and 22. Enjoy children's activities, a woodie car exhibit, an ocean art show, Waterman/Waterwoman competitions, and bodysurfing and kids' surfing contests.

On Saturday evening, join the BBQ and enjoy a free concert featuring Jumping Jack Flash. Visit [www.oceanfestival.org](http://www.oceanfestival.org) or call (949) 440-6141 for more information.



## Go, Diego, Go, LIVE!

### The Great Jaguar Rescue

Join Diego, Nick Jr.'s action-adventure hero, as he sets out in his brand new live show! Diego, along with his sister, Alicia, and cousin, Dora, are off on an action-packed special mission to get Baby Jaguar's growl back from the Bobo Brothers. They'll need the audience's help to rescue animals, navigate through the rainforest, and bypass a giant waterfall to get to the Animal Carnivale. ¡Al rescate, amigos! To the rescue, my friends! Appearing only at the Kodak Theatre, August 8 to 12.

For a chance to win one of four ticket packs to see *Go, Diego, Go, LIVE!*

at the Kodak Theatre at Hollywood and Highland in Los Angeles on Sunday, August

12, 2007, at 10:30 a.m., simply fill out the entry form below and mail it by July 27, 2007, to *Metrolink Matters, Go, Diego Go! Live!*, 700 S. Flower Street, Suite 2600, Los Angeles, CA 90017, or enter online at [www.metrolinkchancetowin.com](http://www.metrolinkchancetowin.com).



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

All winners will be contacted by phone. One contest entry per person or household. Tickets will be mailed.

## Did you know?

If you are looking for updated facts and figures on Metrolink, you can find them at [www.metrolinktrains.com](http://www.metrolinktrains.com). Click on the "Media Room" page listed under the "News" tab.

Metrolink does not run service on Independence Day (July 4). Full service will resume on Thursday, July 5. For a full listing of dates on which Metrolink does not run service, visit [www.metrolinktrains.com](http://www.metrolinktrains.com). Under the "Schedules" tab, click "Days of Operation."

## Weekend Summer Trains

This summer, take a break and avoid driving hassles and high gas prices with Metrolink Weekend Service, which connects the Antelope Valley, Inland Empire, and Orange County to all your favorite summer attractions. And as a Metrolink rider, you'll receive discounts on Kodak Theatre tours and at the LA Home Show and Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey® circus this summer. Go to [www.metrolinkweekends.com](http://www.metrolinkweekends.com) for additional information and new special offers. Starting July 1, all weekend fares are 25 percent less than regular fares on the Antelope Valley, Inland Empire-Orange County, Orange County, and San Bernardino lines.

## Vacation with Summer FlyAway

This summer, remember to take the FlyAway bus from Union Station to LAX to start your vacation travels. Just use your Metrolink ticket or pass to travel to Union Station and board the FlyAway bus on the Patsaouras/Gateway Transit Plaza. Your trip to LAX will take less than 45 minutes, and you won't have to worry about finding your car in an airport parking lot when you return from your vacation. FlyAway buses depart Union Station every 30 minutes from 5 a.m. to 1 a.m. and hourly from 1 a.m. to 5 a.m. daily. And you can save more time on check-in by using the remote airline and baggage check-in service for only \$5 per person between 4:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. every day. Just arrive three hours before your flight to avoid long check-in lines at the airport. Starting July 1, adult fares go up by a mere \$1 each way. For more information on FlyAway service and remote check-in service, go to [www.lawa.org](http://www.lawa.org).



METROLINK MATTERS		
<p><b>Editor-in-Chief:</b> Paul Sitkoff  <b>Contributors:</b> Charlene Ariza, Tracy Berge, Anja Magnani, and Francisco Oaxaca  <b>Designer:</b> Harlan West/HWDS  <b>Writing Consultant:</b> Jessica Hoffmann  <b>C.E.O.:</b> David Solow  <b>Director, Communications and Development:</b> Steve Lantz  <b>Manager, External Communications:</b> Francisco Oaxaca</p>		
<p>Send comments or story ideas to <a href="mailto:metrolinkmatters@scrra.net">metrolinkmatters@scrra.net</a> or to <i>Metrolink Matters</i>, 700 S. Flower St., Suite 2600, Los Angeles, CA 90017.</p>		<p>Published by the External Communications Department.</p>

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