

# Mountain Transit Authority

**Special points of interest:**

- New Vehicles
- Winter Wonderland
- "Squirrel" Shafer
- Holiday Schedule/  
Shopping Trips

## MTA Gets New Minivan and Ford Explorer

MTA has received two of the five requested replacement vehicles from the WV Division of Public Transit. A Ford Explorer will replace the current staff vehicle and a Dodge minivan will replace one of the two minivans used for non-emergency medical transportation and Call-A-Ride.

MTA submits a 5-year plan with each Section 5311 grant

application. This plan projects what capital assets will need to be replaced. The WV Division of Public Transit procures replacement vehicles as needed to transit systems in West Virginia.

It's always an exciting time at MTA when new vehicles arrive. We hope to receive the rest of our new vehicles within the next few months.



MTA Christmas tree on display at Brown Oaks in Summersville

## Preparing for a Winter Wonderland

*The following is an excerpt from the WV Division of Public Transit Fall 2015 S.P.I.D.E.R. News Letter.*

There can be nothing more beautiful than a fresh blanket of snow with glistening trees reflecting rays of sun. But for a professional driver, the onset of snow, freezing conditions and wind signal a need to use extra caution with pre-trip

inspections and preventative maintenance in addition to handling hazardous driving conditions.

The operator must make sure that the vehicle is safe each and every time it pulls out for a route. Drivers use Zonar for pre-trip inspections, which follows a systematic approach to assure the vehicle is as safe as possible for

transporting passengers. Drivers must also check the general condition of the vehicle for obvious damage, leaning and fluid leaks.

Now, add in cold, ice and snow. A drivers job just became much harder. In addition to his or her regular pre-trip inspection, extra special attention must be paid to systems affected by cold, ice or snow.

## Holiday Schedule

December 26, 2016—Christmas Observance

January 2, 2017—New Year's Observance

January 16, 2017—MLK, Jr. Day

## James "Squirrel" Shafer

MTA employees were saddened to hear about the passing of longtime bus rider, James Shafer. "Squirrel" was a Call-A-Ride passenger in the Summersville area for many years and will be greatly missed.

In honor of him, we will be making a donation to the food pantry in Summersville. MTA would like to offer condolences to his family and friends during this difficult time.

## Shopping Trips to Beckley

MTA is offering two holiday shopping trips to the Beckley area in December. These trips are available to everyone.

We are asking that those interested to please call the office and have their name added to the trip list. Each trip must have a minimum of 10 passen-

gers and will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis.

The cost of the trip is \$8.00 per passenger and available dates are Dec. 7 and Dec. 21. We hope to fill the bus for each trip and help bring some holiday cheer to our passengers!