

# Yuba-Sutter Transit Newsletter

December 2009

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## SACRAMENTO SERVICE CHANGES EFFECTIVE MONDAY, JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>

### EAST NICOLAUS SERVICE TO END

Several relatively minor changes to Yuba-Sutter Transit's Sacramento Commuter and Midday Express services will become effective on Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>. All of these changes result from the elimination of service to East Nicolaus.

When the Plumas Lake Park & Ride Lot opened in October, service to East Nicolaus was retained on two morning and two afternoon Highway 70 schedules along with the northbound 2<sup>nd</sup> Midday schedule. After more than two months of this reduced level of service, the East Nicolaus stop is being used by less than four passengers each weekday.

In response to such low ridership, along with the additional travel time and inconvenience for other passengers due to the new Highway 70 bypass, the decision to serve East Nicolaus was reconsidered. After a public review process followed by a special night meeting and public hearing on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Yuba-Sutter Transit Board of Directors voted to eliminate service to East Nicolaus and make related adjustments to the two morning and three afternoon schedules that now serve that stop.

Beginning Monday, January 4, 2010, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> morning Highway 70 schedules will no longer serve East Nicolaus and the start time for both will be five minutes later to reflect the reduced travel time. In the afternoon, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Midday schedule will no longer offer an East Nicolaus option and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> afternoon Highway 70 schedules will no longer serve East Nicolaus. The scheduled downtown arrival and departure times will remain the same.

New Sacramento service brochures will soon be available on all commuter buses or contact the Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office at 530-634-6880 to receive one by mail. In addition, the new brochure is now posted on-line at [www.yubasuttertransit.com](http://www.yubasuttertransit.com) which will soon be updated with the new route and schedule information.

Call 530-742-2877 (511 toll-free from Sacramento) for route and schedule information.

## SECOND REMINDER: HUNDREDS OF PHOTO I.D. CARDS EXPIRE DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>

Do you have a discount photo identification (I.D.) card? Does it have an expiration date of December 31, 2009? If so, you need to now get it replaced. Reminder notices were sent to the last known address for all holders of expiring cards, but you are ultimately responsible for having a valid card.

Photo I.D. cards are issued to qualified seniors (age 62 and over) and persons with disabilities as proof of eligibility for Dial-A-Ride service and any applicable discount fares. These \$5 cards are valid for at least three years and new cards are free when exchanged for an expiring card. Hundreds of these cards will expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> and will not be accepted after a one month grace period, but don't delay – get your new card right away!

Photo I.D. cards are available only at the Yuba-Sutter Transit Administrative Office at 2100 B Street in Marysville from 9:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. each weekday.

Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

## CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

All of us at Yuba-Sutter Transit wish you and yours a joyous Christmas and New Year's holiday season. Please pay special attention to the following holiday service and office schedules. Call (530) 634-6880 for more information.

- No service will be operated and the Administrative Office will be closed on Christmas Day, Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup> and on New Year's Day, Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The Administrative Office will also be closed on Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> so please plan for your purchase of passes and tickets accordingly.
- Depending on ridership levels, supplemental Sacramento service may be reduced or eliminated during the two week holiday period.
- All service will operate as scheduled on Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> and on New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>.

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## \$5 MONTHLY YOUTH BUS PASS PROGRAM EXTENDED FOR 2010

The Feather River Air Quality Management District (FRAQMD) Board of Directors recently extended Yuba-Sutter Transit's enormously popular Discount Monthly Youth Pass Program through December 2010 with a new \$70,000 grant.

The regular \$15 unlimited use monthly local fixed route youth (ages 5 – 18) pass has been offered since September 2005 at a greatly reduced price of just \$5 using FRAQMD grants to offset the lost revenue. The monthly bus pass offers unlimited use of the local fixed route system for one calendar month.

Compared to pre-program levels, the sale of monthly youth passes increased from 87 to 612 and monthly youth pass ridership increased from 2,894 to 14,534 passenger boardings (October 2004 versus October 2009). The 7,000 youth passes to be funded by the new one year grant are expected to provide up to 140,000 youth pass trips in 2010.

Discount youth passes are available at any of Yuba-Sutter Transit's pass sales outlets from the 24<sup>th</sup> of each month through the 7<sup>th</sup> of the following month. Passes are also available by mail or at the Yuba-Sutter Transit office all month long.

## REPLACEMENT DIAL-A-RIDE BUSES HAVE BEEN DELIVERED

Ten 16 passenger, 2010 model buses were recently delivered to Yuba-Sutter Transit and are now being inspected. Once accepted, the new buses will replace ten 1999 model 19 passenger buses. Like the buses being replaced, the new buses will be used primarily for our Dial-A-Ride and rural route services, but they will also back up the local fixed route system and be used for supplemental Sacramento service as necessary.

Built by the same manufacturer (Starcraft Bus) as the last small buses that were purchased in 2003, the new buses are the first to be constructed on a new Chevrolet chassis with state-of-the-art diesel emission controls. They feature bright, colorful and open interiors and are the first small Yuba-Sutter Transit bus to be equipped with electronic front and side destination signs for improved visibility on the street. Look for them to be in service in January!

## BOOKSTORE BECOMES NEW YUBA COLLEGE PASS OUTLET STARTING DECEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>

Effective Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, the location of the Yuba College outlet for Yuba-Sutter Transit's passes and ticket books will move from the Cashier's Office to the Bookstore. Local fixed route passes and discount ticket books will be available at the register during all regular business hours to greatly expand availability at this location.

Sacramento Commuter monthly passes and punch cards are not available at Yuba College, but all forms of payment including credit and debit cards are accepted at this location. Call Dawna Dutra at 530-634-6880 for more information.



## – CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE – BUS PASSES & TICKET BOOKS

For a truly practical and useful gift idea, try buying your bus riding friends and loved ones a monthly pass or discount ticket books this year – give a gift that keeps on giving!

Monthly passes and discount ticket books are sold at the following locations. Some outlets do not carry all media and monthly passes are available from the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month until the 7<sup>th</sup> of the following month. They are also available throughout the month during normal business hours in the Yuba-Sutter Transit office and all are also available by mail.

1. Bel Air Market Customer Service Center – **Yuba City**  
Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento Commuter Passes & Punch Cards
2. Yuba Sutter Mall Service Counter – **Yuba City**  
Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento Commuter Passes & Punch Cards
3. Walmart Register 18 Service Counter – **Linda**  
Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento Commuter Passes & Punch Cards
4. Yuba College Bookstore – **Linda (Starting 12/21/09)**  
Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes
5. Yuba-Sutter Transit Office – **Marysville**  
Ticket Books / Monthly Fixed Route Passes / Sacramento Commuter Passes & Punch Cards / Single Ride Tickets for All Services

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**Administration: (530) 634-6880**  
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**Service Information: (530) 742-2877 / TTY 634-6889**  
Web Site: [www.yubasuttertransit.com](http://www.yubasuttertransit.com)