



Where CAT goes, community grows

Capital Area Transit News | People with Disabilities Advisory Committee NEWS | [August 2019](#)

901 N. Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101 | 717-238-8304



ADA BACK-TO-SCHOOL TIPS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS: WHEN THINGS GO WRONG

As ADA enters its 30th year, August is back-to-school month and ADA LIVE, a free monthly show broadcast on the internet, provides a lively conversation about what to do when your special needs child is not happy with the situation in the first few weeks of school. The key is not to overreact. Assess the situation, document the facts and communicate professionally with the right person in the school system. Listen to more about common back-to-school challenges and what to do about it here: <https://www.adalive.org/episode38>

“Really Disturbing” Findings Surface in Australian Survey

An Australian study of 900 people, reported in [The Guardian](#), found that more than 40% have experienced violence or abuse because of their disability. Another 61% were found to live on an income – either wages or public assistance – that was insufficient for their basic needs, and 60% do not have access to the basic services they require. Health officials there said the study findings “alarming” and “really disturbing”.



CAT KICKS OFF 2020 SERVICE NETWORK REDESIGN WITH PUBLIC MEETINGS IN AUGUST

As part of Capital Area Transit (CAT) modernization plans, the agency is conducting a comprehensive study for a service network redesign to address current and future transit needs in the south central PA region. [CAT Project 2020](#) will be ongoing through the end of the year, with a goal of providing the public with a new service plan in 2020. The project begins with a series of public meetings to be conducted by Boston consultants Nelson Nygaard, contracted to provide the final service report in December. ([More here.](#))

Take this [CAT Survey](#) and Design your own Transit System

Operating public transportation is very expensive, and transit providers must consider complex tradeoffs when designing service with limited budgets. Like all transit providers, Capital Area Transit (CAT) has a limited annual budget and must make changes to service to keep the costs within budget.

As CAT evaluates its current system to identify ways to save money, you have the opportunity to design your own transit system with a \$100 budget. Focus on what you believe are the core needs for your ideal transit system, using www.cattransitsurvey.com as a guide. Thank you for participating!

Lost and Found: Lost items are returned to CAT Share-A-Ride and will be kept in the Dispatch Office for 30 days.

Disability-Focused TV Shows Nominated For Emmys



The team from “Born this Way” at the Creative Arts Emmy Awards at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles in 2018. (The Television Academy/AP Images)

Two television shows starring individuals with developmental disabilities are each up for multiple Emmy Awards. The Netflix series “Special” is nominated for four Emmys and A&E Network’s documentary series “Born This Way” is in the running for three awards.

In the semi-autobiographical “Special,” Ryan O’Connell plays a man who is gay and has cerebral palsy, but pretends to be an accident victim. O’Connell snagged a nomination as did two actresses on the series. The show is also up for Outstanding Short Form Comedy or Drama.

Meanwhile, “Born This Way” is a reality series focusing on the lives of seven young adults with Down syndrome who are pursuing employment, relationships and independence. The show, which aired its fourth season last year, is up for Emmys for casting, picture editing and unstructured reality program. The Emmy Award winners will be announced in September.

MILEAGE REIMBERSEMENT

The Center for Community Building (CCB) will provide [mileage reimbursement](#) to MATP consumers who provide their own transportation for medical appointments if it is the least costly, most appropriate service available. They will reimburse you at a rate per mile as specified by DHS. They will also reimburse you for your actual parking expenses and tolls if you provide receipts showing how much you pay. Click on the link above or go to their website at www.ccbincpa.org and scroll down to "Quick Download Links" to print out the form. Or, they will send you a form if you request one in advance. You can turn in your reimbursement request right after a trip or you can wait until the end of the month. They will reimburse you within 2 weeks. They cannot reimburse for trips older than 60 days.

Emergency Ride Home (ERH): Commuter Services of PA

ERH is a service for commuters in Adams, Berks, Carbon, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Monroe, Perry, Pike, Schuylkill, and York counties who use options other than commuting alone to work in their personal vehicles. It is a reimbursement for a qualified emergency ride such as an unexpected personal illness/emergency, unexpected immediate family illness/emergency, or unscheduled overtime at your supervisor's request. Find out more by clicking [HERE](#) or looking under Quick Links on the CAT transit home page.

For more tips from the CAT and the PWD Advisory Committee, go to the CAT website at www.cattransit.com



purchase CAT tickets and passes on line, [click here](#)