



Manatee County Government

News Release

1112 Manatee Ave. W., Bradenton, FL 941.748.4501 www.mymanatee.org

MCAT, SCAT bus operators to face off in second Regional Roadeo this weekend

MANATEE COUNTY, FL (March 22, 2017) – Manatee County Area Transit's new Transit Fleet Facility will be the site of the second Regional Roadeo competition this weekend.

Manatee County Area Transit (MCAT) Bus Operators will compete with Sarasota County Area Transit (SCAT) Operators on Sunday, March 26 in [a series of competitions around a test road course set up with cones, barrels and bus stops](#). The competitions will test each operator's ability to negotiate tight turns, to operate transit buses backwards and stop within six inches of a fixed object.

The competition is free and open to the public. Though the event begins at 8 a.m., Transit Operations Chief Jim Egbert said the driving action will begin closer to 9 a.m. The Transit Fleet Facility is located at 2411 Tallevast Road, off U.S. 301.

"It's fun to see professional bus operators test their skill and drive these big vehicles on an obstacle course," Egbert said. "They're maneuvering a 35-foot long vehicle weighing over 39,000 pounds without passengers; and the skill on display is quite impressive."

First place transit and paratransit winners from MCAT and SCAT will advance to the April 29 Mega Bus Roadeo in Daytona Beach. That competition will determine the most skilled bus operators in the state.

Manatee and Sarasota County bus operators received recognition as the very best in the state in both 2015 and 2016 for their driving skills and for their ability to serve riders and support their community.

For more information on MCAT, visit www.mymanatee.org/mcat. For more information on Manatee County Government, visit online at www.mymanatee.org or call (941) 748-4501. You can also follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/manatee.county.fl and on Twitter, @ManateeGov.

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Nicholas Azzara
Information Outreach Manager
Office: (941) 745-3771
Cell: (941) 224-9393
nicholas.azzara@mymanatee.org