

**Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency (UCHRA)
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Annual UCHRA Transit Roadeo Names Recent Winner

By COLBY WHEELER, Community Outreach / Resource Development Technician

The winners of the Transportation Roadeo, an annual event conducted by the Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency (UCHRA), have been named for 2011. The event was held April 16, at the central office of UCHRA with numerous Transit System drivers from the Upper Cumberland area participating.

“The purpose of the organized event is to provide an opportunity for Transit Operators to demonstrate road and passenger safety skills and knowledge,” Phyllis Bennett, UCHRA Executive Director said. “Participants complete an on-site driving of an obstacle course that teaches new or reinforces existing safety procedures. The goal of the UCHRA is to provide training to enhance staff performance and to give recognition to staff for a job well done.”

Prizes for the event were donated by various vendors that partner with the UCHRA’s Transit System programs with Firestone Complete Auto Care donating a set of tires for the Transit Operator receiving the first place award.

“Congratulations to all Transit Operators who participated and special recognition to the Holly Grissom, driver for Warren County, who was the first place winner of the 2011 UCHRA Transit Roadeo,” Rebecca Harris, UCHRA Transportation/Services Director.

Grissom will be advancing to the State Roadeo competition held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Tennessee Public Transportation Association which will be held in Chattanooga, Tennessee, November 1-4. She will be accompanied to the State Roadeo by Phil Thomas, first place winner in the 30ft bus category.

“A special thanks goes to all UCHRA Transit Operators who participated in this year’s Roadeo and we extend best wishes to Holly and Phil as they compete for winner of the State event in Chattanooga,” Harris said.

The winner of the statewide event will be competing in the National Competition held in the late spring of 2012.



Holly Grissom winner of the van category in the transit roadeo is pictured shaking hands with David Clary, Assistant Manager of Firestone. Pictured left to right: Riley Sparks, UCHRA Fleet Operations Manager; David Clary, Assistant Manager of Firestone; Holly Grissom, Warren County Transit Operator; Kim Luton, Warren County Coordinator; and Mike Baines, Transportation Training Supervisor.

See the Phil Thomas, winner of the bus roadeo below



Phil Thomas, winner of the 30 ft bus category in the transit roadeo is pictured shaking hands with David Clary, Assistant Manager of Firestone. Pictured left to right: Riley Sparks, UCHRA Fleet Operations Manage; David Clary, Assistant Manager of Firestone; Phil Thomas, CATS Transit Operator; Norm Dukes, Transportation Planning Coordinator; and Mike Baines, Transportation Training Supervisor.