

MILEPOSTS

A Newsletter for MTA Metro-North Railroad Customers

April 2018

- **Harmon Shop** ▪ **Heavy Lifting** ▪ **Platform Markers** ▪ **GCT Stop** ▪
- Train to the Game Baseball** ▪ **Train to the Game Basketball** ▪
- Getaways** ▪ **Safety Rule** ▪ **Blood Drive** ▪ **Courtesy Corner** ▪

Spring at Harmon Shop

The transformation of our largest — and arguably most important — maintenance facility from an outdated campus into a modern-day transportation hub continues at Harmon Shop!

The **Harmon Shop Replacement Program** is one of the most important capital projects Metro-North has had over the last 20 years. Started in 2001, it replaces a 100-year-old facility with modern shops that will help our employees improve the maintenance of our rail cars and locomotives.



More than 500 Maintenance of Equipment employees call Harmon home, and the facility spans more than 100 acres, with some brick buildings on site that date back to the early 1900s.

Here's what we've accomplished at the site so far:

- **In Phase I, which ran from 2001–03**, the program included yard improvements and the construction of a new employee overpass and the rehabilitation of the Yardmaster facility.
- **In Phase II, which ran from 2003–06**, a new communications building and storage facility were constructed, along with enhancements to Harmon's Material Distribution Center.
- **In Phase III, which ran from 2006–09**, a new locomotive shop, coach shop and wheel true facility were constructed.
- **In Phase IV, which ran from 2011–13**, priority repairs were made to Building no. 6 — Harmon's main shop, and included the construction of a wheel storage facility.

That brings us to the latest part of the project which is currently underway: Phase V, Stage I,

a \$245 million endeavor that will bring a brand new Consist Shop Facility and Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU) Annex to the campus.



We have already installed **freight and passenger elevators** in both the new Consist Shop and EMU Annex.

In the Consist Shop

roof access platforms with fall arrest systems have been installed. A vertical lift machine, which has motorized storage for

parts, has also been put in place.

Heavy-duty bridge cranes have also been installed in each of the shops, while more industrial equipment is being readied for delivery, factory tested and prepared for future

installation.

[In the EMU Annex](#)

support shops are being prepped with equipment, including vices, saws and drills, while the bathrooms, locker rooms and lunch rooms in each location are being finished.

[Additionally, the EMU Annex and Consist Shop,](#)

which can accommodate two, 10-car consists, have **brand new fire suppression systems** in place, along with **new heating and cooling ducts** and **plumbing**.

The work won't stop there. Metro-North's Harmon Shop Replacement Program is scheduled to enter **Phase V, Stage II — the final stage — during the 3rd Quarter of 2018**.

Stage II will culminate with the construction of the Running Repair and Support Shops for our electric fleet.

[And let's not forget:](#)

while the Replacement Program takes place, the show must still go on at Harmon to keep our fleet up-and-running so we can provide you with the service you deserve.

[Back to Top](#)

Taking it to the Bridge

On an early Sunday morning in March, even before the early bird was chasing the worm, we were supervising the placement of two new sections of the Mario M. Cuomo Bridge over our railroad tracks in Tarrytown, NY.

[To keep everyone safe,](#)

Metro-North had to cut all electricity and stop all trains in the area while the work was being done by Tappan Zee Contractors, LLC.

[We also provided substitute busing](#)

between Yonkers and Tarrytown and between Irvington and Tarrytown to accommodate all of you "early birds" who were taking morning trains between 1:30 AM and 7:30 AM.

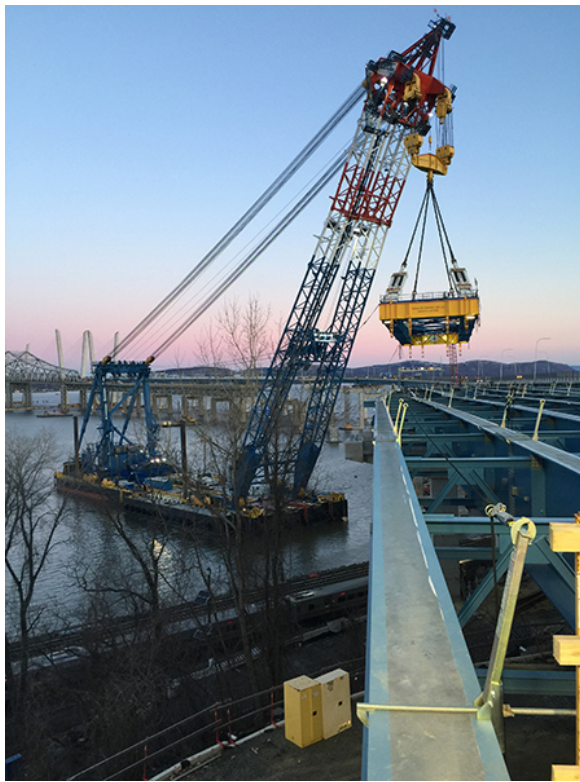
[After the 1:27 AM northbound train had passed,](#)

eight ironworkers, plus several crane operators using a Left Coast Lifter moved a two-girder assembly over the piers. Pinning down into the bearings and "zipping" the two assemblies together lasted until 6:45 AM.

The two new pieces weighed 1,345 tons or 2,690,000 pounds, and 1,173 tons or 2,346,000 pounds (*equivalent respective weights to about 33 and 30, 18-wheeler trucks*).

[This wasn't the first heavy lift on our territory!](#)

Some of you may recall Metro-North supervised the removal of another span from the old Tappan Zee Bridge back in November of 2017.



[Back to Top](#)

Signs of Spring!

Spring showers bring spring flowers... and new blue and white number signs that have recently sprung up on your station platforms to improve safety!

The new reflective signs are platform markers

that our conductors use to help them identify which doors on the train should be opened — and which should remain closed.

The signs are located at several strategic points

along the platform adjacent to conductors' cabs at the train's front, middle and rear.

The length of each Metro-North station platform varies. Some stations have long platforms, and others have shorter platforms that can accommodate a maximum of four or six train cars.

For example at Stratford, Connecticut, if an eight-car train stops there during rush hour, conductors must only open the doors for the middle four cars (that have made the platform). The train's first two and last two cars are not in the station, therefore the doors must remain closed for your safety.

Consider them our conductors' — and your — lucky numbers.



[Back to Top](#)

Speaking of Signs...

One of the most famous is STOP!

It's what our locomotive engineers do when they reach their destination at Grand Central Terminal.

But over time, the stop signs and bumping blocks identifying and protecting the end of our tracks became dulled by dust and debris.

Luckily, this did not go unnoticed by our Transportation Department employees,

who recently finished restoring 38 bumping blocks in less than one week. And they did this without causing any delays or disruptions to your service!

It was teamwork at its best, and the increased visibility will help to ensure that you continue to arrive safely at Grand Central.



[Back to Top](#)

The Hits Keep Coming

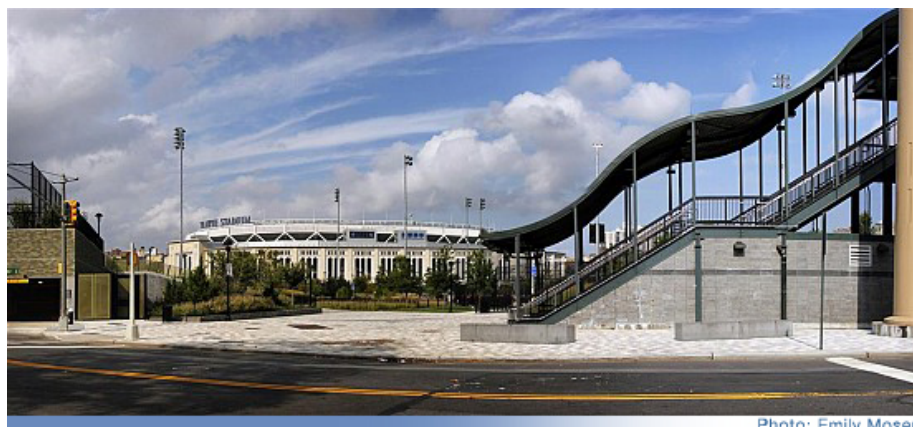


Photo: Emily Moser

Aaron Judge... Giancarlo Stanton... Gary Sanchez...

The only line up that comes close to being that impressive is our **"Train to the Game"** service to Yankee Stadium!

Harlem Line customers please note:

There is no direct service on the Harlem Line to Yankees – E. 153rd Street Station while Harlem Line station and track improvements are under way. **Frequent service to Yankee Stadium is available via a transfer at Harlem-125th Street Station** for the 4-minute ride to and from Yankees – E. 153rd Street Station.



As an alternative, fans can also drive to stations on the Hudson and New Haven Lines (**where weekend parking is free** at Metro-North-controlled parking lots) for **direct service to the Yankees-E. 153rd Street Station**, or use the shuttle service from Grand Central Terminal or Harlem-125th Street Station.

[Back to Top](#)

For Liberty's Sake

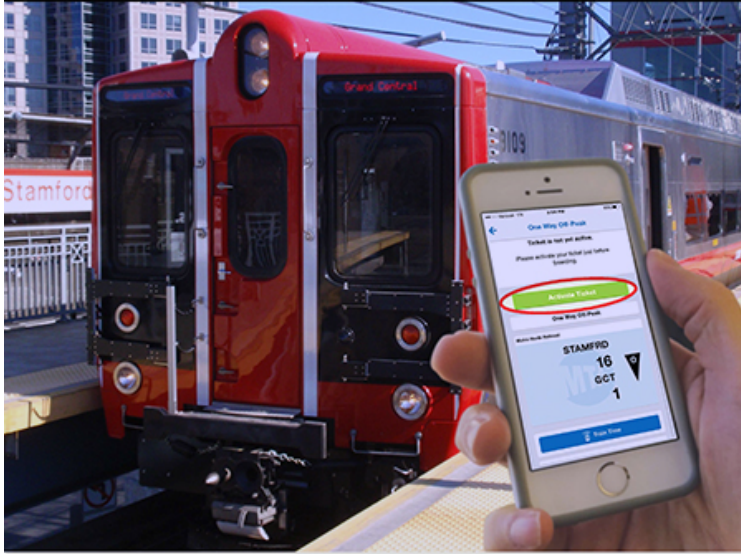
If you're a basketball fan, you'll already know that the New York Liberty have announced that they will be playing most of their **2018 season** on their new home court, The Westchester County Center.

And of course, you'll want to take **Metro-North's Harlem Line service** — the Center is a short walk from White Plains Station — to cheer them on!



[Back to Top](#)

Don't forget to
activate your ticket
BEFORE
boarding the train.



It will help create a smoother ride
and keep you and your
fellow passengers on the move.



[Back to Top](#)

Safety Rule of the Issue

A safety reminder from Metro-North:

It's **SPRING**

so please remember to...

- Walk, don't run, for your train.
- Stand back from the platform edge.
- Watch the gap.
- Avoid moving from car to car, especially on a moving train.
- Keep off the tracks at all times.
- Stop using smartphones/tablets when walking on platforms, stairs & near crossings.



TRACKS
Together Railroads And Communities Keeping Safe
mta.info/mnr

Your safety is always our first priority.



[Back to Top](#)

Spring Fling

Stop by our **Getaway Day Staycation Showcase** on **Wednesday, May 16** from 11 AM – 3 PM in Grand Central's Vanderbilt Hall for a one stop look at spring and summer's hottest attractions!

We've got dozens of discount getaways, See a [complete listing](#).

All Aboard for
Metro-North's
Getaway Day
Wednesday,
May 16
11 AM – 3 PM

[Back to Top](#)

BLOOD DRIVE

All Aboard to Save Lives

April
26
2018

8 AM – 8 PM
Grand Central Terminal
Vanderbilt Hall



To schedule an appointment to donate call 1-800-933-2566 or log onto AllAboardToSaveLives.com.

The first 250 presenting donors will receive a pair of tickets to an upcoming *New York Yankees** Game.

Please bring I.D. with photo or signature. Eat well and drink fluids before you donate.



New York Blood Center
1-800-933-BLOOD (2566)
www.nybc.org

sponsored by
MTA Metro-North Railroad

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[Back to Top](#)

Courtesy Corner



Ah Spring!

The birds are singing, the bees are buzzing, the frogs are croaking, the squirrels are chattering... who knew the season could be so darn noisy?

It's enough to drive people to the solace of our Quiet Cars! And should you decide to ride in one, don't act "squirrely."

Remember to:



Customers Traveling In This Quiet Car® Should:

Quiet Car® is the registered service mark of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) and is being used by permission.



NOT USE
cell phones

Not use cell phones.



DISABLE SOUND
on electronic devices

Disable sound features on computers & other electronic devices.



Use headphones at a **LOW VOLUME**, which cannot be heard by others

Use headphones at a volume that **cannot be heard** by fellow passengers.



Speak in a **SUBDUED** voice

Conduct conversations in a **subdued voice**

It's the courteous thing to do. Nature is noisy enough!

[Back to Top](#)

