

COLTS plans service to Mount Airy casino

Daily runs to connect to Monroe

BY CHARLES SCHILLINGER
STAFF WRITER

The agency that manages County of Lackawanna Transit System announced Tuesday it will begin a trial service that connects downtown Scranton with Mount Airy Casino Resort in Monroe County starting Tuesday.

Officials say the service will connect not only county

riders to a second regional casino, but also to the Monroe County bus system. The new routes will be coordinated with the Monroe County Transportation Authority, said COLTS executive director Bob Fiume.

"I think it could be a great opportunity," Mr. Fiume said. "We'll see how it works, and if we have the ridership, we'll see if it's worth keeping."

There will be three COLTS trips running Monday through Friday, with buses departing from 101 Wyoming Ave., Scranton. The round-trip fare is \$10, with seniors riding free.

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Based on sold-out bus runs the casino has operated from Lackawanna County, a spokeswoman for the casino said officials are convinced the service will be popular.

"So many people were calling asking to add buses ... that we could never keep up with the capacity," said

spokeswoman Wendy Wilson. "We're very excited about this."

Timing is also good because Mount Airy is expected to open table games to the public on Tuesday, July 13, pending state approvals.

COLTS already runs buses to Mohegan Sun at Pocono

Downs in Luzerne County, which Mr. Fiume said has worked. Mohegan Sun also plans to open table games to the public on July 13, pending the outcome of a test. Mr. Fiume added he has talked to riders from Luzerne County who use the Mohegan Sun line run to connect to destinations in Lackawanna County.

This will be the first time Lackawanna County has connected its bus service to Monroe County and will open up the opportunity for people to take the bus to the casino and then transfer to Monroe County public buses, which

Bus schedules

For information on COLTS schedules, visit coltsbus.com or call 346-2061. For information on Monroe County bus schedules, visit gomcta.com or call 839-6282.

go to the Crossings Premium Outlets, downtown Stroudsburg and the Delaware Water Gap. The Monroe County Transportation Authority fare is \$1.25.

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