



Connections

2025

Message from John Goldman



News for Customers, Employees & Friends of the Louisville & Indiana Railroad



LIRC is positioning itself for growth on many fronts. This year will see several capital projects including major improvements to our main Ohio River bridge, rehabilitation of the Dutch & Columbus

Industrial leads, tie replacement on the main track along the southern quarter of our railroad, installation of switch ties at our Jeffersonville yard, and grade crossing replacements.

All of this will provide a safer and more efficient infrastructure for our employees, customers, and communities.

On the bridge, in particular, we are implementing a major communications system upgrade as we also replace timbers and walkways. Looking ahead, we are eagerly working with our partners at the Federal Railroad Administration to secure funding for a project that will replace the sheaves, trunnions, and bearing assemblies on the 100+ year old lift span to assure another century of safe and reliable service.

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Celebrating the opening of the 130,000-square-foot Columbus, IN Piper Warehouse facility are, from left to right: Alex Moss, LIRC Conductor; Shaun Skelton, Operations Manager (Piper); Brandy McFarlin, VP-Operations (Piper); and Jim McDonald, LIRC Trainmaster.

Piper Warehouse Scales Up, LIRC Steps Up

A major logistics provider specializing in the paper industry, Piper Warehouse needed a new rail-served location after their Indianapolis site reached capacity. The company identified a strategically located 130,000-square-foot facility in Columbus, Indiana served by LIRC.

When Piper acquired the former manufacturing building in Columbus, it marked their first time working with LIRC and a new opportunity for us to help them hit the ground running. A key factor in their decision to utilize that facility was our commitment to support their growth with reliable, flexible, and responsive rail service.

Looking back on their early success in the new Columbus facility, Brandy McFarlin, VP of Operations at Piper Warehouse says, "They're the most accessible rail partner we've had. No matter the need, I've always got someone to call at LIRC, and they get things done fast."

Flexible Service Built Around the Customer

From day one, we focused on flexibility and responsiveness. Piper required a rail partner that could adapt to fluctu-

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Earlier this year LIRC and SMART-TD, which represents our train and engine service employees, successfully negotiated a five-year agreement.

To support new business—as well as to backfill for attrition—we are in the process of bringing on new Train & Engine service crews.

I am very proud of our team for their focus on safety, customer satisfaction, and community support. Please read the details in this newsletter and see for yourself that LIRC is positioned for today and tomorrow.

John Goldman

President

Louisville & Indiana Railroad

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Piper Warehouse

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ating volumes, sometimes needing service three days a week, other times five. We worked closely with their operations team to meet those needs and keep freight moving efficiently.

Early on, a critical issue emerged: buried rail ties beneath gravel in their warehouse track needed urgent replacement. Within 48 hours, we helped Piper identify and coordinate with a trusted local contractor to complete the repairs. "It was the fastest rail repair I've ever seen," said McFarlin.

Consistent Communication. Reliable Results.

Piper now handles up to four railcars per day, receiving inbound paper rolls from across the U.S. and Canada. Thanks to our overnight switching and strong



On February 7, 2025, Piper Warehouse welcomed its first railcars into their new Columbus, IN building.

communication, operations run smoothly, and demurrage stays low. Our crews spot cars as needed, and our local team stays readily available.

At LIRC, we're proud to be more than just a transportation provider. We're a solutions partner. For Piper Warehouse, that partnership is driving continued growth across the Midwest. ♦

Anacostia On the Move

by Eric Jakubowski

Recently Retired Vice President & Chief Commercial Officer, Anacostia Rail Holdings

Moving On



As you read this, I should be lounging in retirement. After 41 years in the railroad business, I have stories, laughs, bruises, and achievements! It is in my DNA, and I will certainly miss it.

I have witnessed changes too numerous to recount, but what remains the same is the dedication of the members of this proud craft.

Railroading has always been an outdoor sport and if there is one cliché that every long-time careerist acknowledges, it's the retort: "living the dream." I remain thoroughly optimistic that this industry will find a way to grow and serve this nation's economy.

What assures success is the people who are involved in every facet of this unique industry, and Anacostia has some of the best! When I first came here as the Chief

Commercial Officer, I asked my team to go out on the property with their peers and their customers. The essence of service is that mutual trust we rely on to get the job done. Commercial people need to meet in person, observe, listen and—above all—respond to issues and opportunities. I can attest that short line railroaders do this best! They remain local, accommodate regular visits, and can be there for a coffee within hours or days.

If I can impress one suggestion to my Class 1 partners, this is the core ingredient to growth: keep as many salespeople as you can out there. Encourage your operating officers to visit with customers, and support your crews in every way possible to acknowledge those people and organizations that give us their freight to move!

See you on the platform sometime soon! ♦



Strong Partnership, Smooth Launch: Ee-Jay Joins LIRC Jeffersonville Site

When Ee-Jay Motor Transports, Inc. needed to solve a logistics challenge for one of its long-standing customers, they found the perfect fit at our Jeffersonville transload site. The customer required a more efficient, responsive delivery solution in the Louisville/Clarksville region, and Ee-Jay knew the site would attract new customers and would need to support rapid growth.

After touring multiple locations, Ee-Jay chose us for our flexibility, rail access, and strategic location. "LIRC was the shining best solution," said Marc Powers, President of Ee-Jay. "They've been a no-problem vendor, and the site was truly a turnkey solution. We were able to get up and running quickly and confidently."

Operations officially launched in November 2024. The site now serves as a key transload hub, with dry bulk products arriving by rail and transferred to bulk



Ee-Jay's fleet of modern bulk trucks handle the important "last-mile" delivery for products brought into LIRC's Jeffersonville yard by rail.

trucks for delivery within a 300-mile radius. The facility has plenty of room to scale along with Ee-Jay's growth.

As Powers noted, "A railcar holds more than 200,000 pounds, compared to just 50,000 in a truck, and operates with fewer drivers and less fuel. Rail takes it as far as possible, and the truck just handles the last mile." This intermodal approach not only improves cost-efficiency but also reduces emissions and highway congestion.

From set-up to service, we've worked closely with the Ee-Jay team to ensure smooth operations. This collaboration not only strengthens their national network with terminals in East St. Louis and Minneapolis/St. Paul, but also showcases our shared commitment to delivering smarter, more sustainable logistics. We're proud to support their continued growth in the region and excited about the opportunities ahead. ♦

Local Know-How, North American Leadership

LIRC parent, Anacostia Rail Holdings, provides the strategic leadership and support we need to successfully operate as an integrated part of North America's 200,000 route-mile network that includes over 600 railroads.

Just this year, Anacostia has brought on experienced leaders to key executive positions including:



Michael Naatz, Chief Operating Officer, whose career has spanned the supply chain industry from Class I, to national motor carrier YRC Worldwide, to regional railroads, and to Westvaco, a global packaging company;



industry experience;

Todd Nuelle, Chief Commercial Officer, coming from Canadian National Railway, where he served as Senior Director of Supply Chain Operations, and bringing 25 years of



industry experience;

Mark Nuchurch, Manager of Safety and Compliance, who started his railroad career as a conductor and engineer and, most recently, served as Manager of Safety and Operating Practices for CSX Intermodal Terminals.

LIRC is able to focus on running a safe railroad that provides the services our customers need while supporting our local community, thanks to the industry experience and continuous investment in our railroad from Anacostia Rail Holdings.





Built on Safety: LIRC's Focus is Relentless

Safety is the foundation of everything we do. We're committed to supporting a culture where proactive safety measures, constant improvement, and collaboration are standard operating procedures. Over the last year, we made major strides in protecting our teams, customers, and community partners.

Better Blue Flags, Smarter Switch Lights, and Safer Clearance Points

We recently upgraded our blue flag systems at the Dutch Lane and Jeffersonville Transload Yards with new foot-operated "mouse trap" style devices from Aldon Company. Designed with less experienced users in mind, the devices are intuitive,



New "mouse trap" style blue flags make it easier to stay safe.

and easier to use, making our yards safer for everyone. The newly installed blue flags are frequently operated by truck drivers when they need protection while unloading products from parked rail cars.

We also installed solar-powered switch cube lights at key locations in south and north Jeffersonville Yard locations. According to Ryan Barbato, LIRC Roadmaster, "These highly visible lights reduce the risk of run-throughs, especially at night, and are already proving to be one of the most effective safety investments we've made."

To reduce sideswipe hazards, we've added upright clearance tabs with reflectors at every key clearance point. These increase visibility far beyond what painted yellow ties can provide, keeping our teams and equipment safer during every move.

See Something? Make the Call!

Those blue and white Emergency Notification System (ENS) signs posted at grade crossings can be critical lifesavers when someone notices a hazard. Providing 24/7 contact information ensures anyone can call the listed phone number to easily report hazardous situations.

That's why our Ryan Barbato and Office Manager Karen Walker attended the Operation Lifesaver June 24 ENS Sign Awareness Day event in Jeffersonville. They supported our emergency services partners and provided information to area residents about the presence of this vital information at each railroad grade crossing.

Preparedness in Action

LIRC sponsored and led a high-impact tabletop exercise in Clarksville, IN, simulating a derailment with a hazardous materials release and cyberattack.

According to Vice President Jeremy Kramer, "Agencies from DHS, FBI, FRA, and



Reflectorized clearance tabs are now in place at every key clearance point in our main Jeffersonville yard.

Louisville Metro Fire joined us in a scenario-driven drill based on National Incident Management System (NIMS) protocols." This tabletop was a great example of how LIRC works side by side with our partners to prepare for the unexpected.

The results were clear: excellent coordination, clear communication, and real-time decision-making will help us respond faster and smarter when incidents occur. ♦



Multiple emergency response agencies participated in a simulated incident response at Clarksville, IN.



Women in Rail Conference



Railway Age and RT&S are proud to recognize the growth in leadership roles for women in the railway industry. This was the second annual in-person Women in Rail Conference, now a two-day event, filled with instructive panels, an awards luncheon, and a local tour of Metra's rebuild shop and training center.

First Row: Laura Carrasco, HR & Admin Assistant (ARH); Amy Louk, Manager – Marketing Support (NYA); Georgia Gerick, Senior MIS Specialist (ARH). Second Row: Jasmine Manley, Accounting Associate – AP (ARH); Katie Sackett, Senior Director of Sales & Marketing (LIRC & NLR). Third Row: Basia Sidor, Customer Service Representative (CSS); Sonia Rodriguez, Benefits Manager (ARH); Michelle Williams, Manager Payroll & Employee Benefits (ARH); and Melissa Mrozowski, Revenue Accounting Associate (ARH).

Abbreviations: ARH—Anacostia Rail; CSS—Chicago South Shore; LIRC—Louisville & Indiana Railroad; NYA—New York & Atlantic; NLR—Northern Lines Railway

Anacostia 2024 Safety Award Recipients



Anacostia Safety Award recipients for 2024, from left to right: Jeff Birge, Donald Crater, Will Brock and Nick Adams.

Proud to Have Malarkey Roofing Products on Board

LIRC welcomed Malarkey Roofing Products as a new customer with a groundbreaking celebration on November 12, 2024, marking the start of their newest roofing shingle manufacturing facility which is set to launch in 2026.

Founded in 1956, Malarkey Roofing Products is a U.S. manufacturer of residential and commercial roofing products, with production facilities in Oregon, California, Oklahoma, Maryland and, soon to be, Indiana. Its philosophy is clear: "We will



Left to right: Daniel Baird, Director of Logistics, Malarkey Roofing Products (MRP); Katie Sackett, Senior Director of Sales & Marketing, Anacostia; Lloyd Robbins, Vice President, Logistics, MRP.

value fair and honest dealings with our customers, will commit ourselves to the highest quality standards, and will take care of the communities in which we operate."

We are proud to support a company whose mission so closely aligns with our own vision for responsible growth and long-term sustainability.

In 2026, Malarkey will begin utilizing LIRC rail service in Franklin, IN and expand its reach with greater efficiency while reducing its environmental footprint.

We look forward to growing together. ♦



Our Bridge to the Future

For more than a century, our Ohio River Bridge has stood as a key asset in the nation's rail and supply chain network. LIRC has invested continuously to keep it safe, reliable, and efficient.

Much of that work has been on the physical structure, of course, but this year we are also undertaking a high-tech project. It will improve communications with the massive barges that operate under the bridge's lift span and harden our critical communications system against cyber intrusions. This project is also essential for the movement of countless trains between the banks of the Ohio River in Indiana and Louisville, Kentucky.



One of the 19 crossings that have been replaced on LIRC this year.

The nearly two-million-dollar project is being funded in a 72/28 split between LIRC and a Kentucky Short Line Infrastructure Preservation (KSLIP) grant. Once completed this fall, the work will eliminate old analog 900 MHz radio communications. Without these updates, failures would make it necessary for train crews to hand throw switches, which could cause a ripple effect of delays along the railroad. Additionally, the new tech-

nology will strengthen our signal system against possible cyber intrusions.

Back to the Basics

Even as we make this significant investment, we are continuing our program of upgrades to the bridge itself in a project that started in 2022. Bridge spans 5–8 will see replacement of timber and walkways, and grillage and concrete repairs are being made on spans 14 and 15.

"We are proud of our work to prepare the Ohio River Bridge for another century of service," says LIRC President John Goldman. "We plan to complete the replacement of timber and walkways in 2026."

More LIRC capital projects are scheduled for 2025 including:

- Complete the rehabilitation of 19,000 feet of track on the Columbus Industrial and Dutch Industrial lead tracks, funded by a U.S. Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement



(CRISI) grant and an INDOT Industrial Rail Service Fund (IRSF) grant

- Replace 18 grade crossings
- Surface some 24,000 ft. of mainline track
- Procure, replace, and dispose of approximately 5,000 ties
- Install 124 switch ties in our main Jeffersonville Yard ♦



Modern automated track surfacing equipment is used on LIRC, making the work safer, faster, and better.



NextGen Railroaders—Starting Young and Reaching All

The future of railroading will be built from the ground up—and that means reaching out to students of all abilities and ages to ignite a passion for the rail industry.

In early June, LIRC was invited to participate in Jeffersonville's Safety Town, a dynamic day camp for children ages 5 to 7. Alongside the Pilot Club of Jeffersonville, Jeffersonville Fire, and other civic partners, Vice President Jeremy Kramer introduced kids to rail safety using engaging Operation Lifesaver materials tailored for their age. While learning about bike safety and fire awareness, children also discovered the basics of railroad safety—perhaps planting seeds for a future career in transportation.

Just days later, we welcomed a group of students from Rauch Industries, an organization serving young people with disabilities. Trainmaster William Brock led an interactive "Railroad 101" session, highlighting LIRC's history, the role of conductors, and career paths in the industry. Students capped the day by watching a real switching crew in action—



High school students Michael England (left photo) and Aiden Cleland experienced real-world railroading on LIRC. Seen in these photos with the students are LIRC's Jeremiah Fletcher and sponsor Sarah Rhodes.



an exciting, hands-on experience that brought the railroad to life.

High school outreach remains a priority, too. Through job-shadowing partnerships, high school students like Michael England and Aiden Cleland have spent time on our railroad, gaining real-world exposure to careers in rail. Cleland's ex-

perience even helped guide him toward a future in college—and possibly railroading, and England has elected to pursue a career in rail directly out of high school.

Our mission is clear: invite curiosity, inspire confidence, and open doors to railroad careers for every young person. The tracks to the future start here. ♦

We're All In: LIRC Supports Aviation Day and Local First Responders

We don't just serve the region, we're part of it. That's why LIRC proudly supported Columbus Aviation Day and helped secure critical grant funding for local first responders. Whether it's celebrating aviation or enhancing community safety, we're committed to making a lasting difference where we live and work.

This year's expanded Columbus Aviation Day took off June 6–7 at Columbus Municipal Airport and AirPark Columbus. With vintage aircraft, modern tech, and our city's first-ever drone show lighting up the sky, it was a weekend to remember. We were proud to be part of it, not just behind the scenes, but right there with the community.

As part of a broader grant initiative, we also helped the East Columbus Fire Department secure a \$2,000 grant to purchase swift water rescue helmets, providing vital protection during high-risk emergencies. Our support didn't stop there: we assisted the Columbus Police Department in obtaining funding for drones used in law enforcement, giving officers valuable tools to improve safety and response.

For us, supporting events like Aviation Day and backing local emergency services



Columbus IN Police Department Officer Zachary Romero (at left) joined LIRC's Jeremiah Fletcher to support rail safety as part of the airport's June 6 Aviation Day.

is more than good business, it's the right thing to do. We're proud to stand alongside the people and partners who make our communities thrive. ♦



Appreciating Our Great Employees

LIRC's people are the heart of our operation. We are grateful for the work all our teams do to keep us safe, efficient, and valued by our customers!

To celebrate our successes, we provide tickets to area sporting events that make days off fun for our valued employees. This year, tickets have been distributed to attend:

- LouCity Men's Soccer
- Louisville Bats Baseball
- Salem Speedway
- Sportsdrome Motor Speedway



Railroaders work hard, and they can play hard too. LIRC team members are seen here at the indoor Louisville Puttshack, where participants are challenged by interactive courses designed for healthy competition and fun.

LIRC in the Community

LIRC believes in making a difference in the community. It's important for us to give back to the areas in which so many of our employees live.

During the past year, LIRC has supported:

- Center for Lay Ministries
- Clark County Sheriff's Department
- Columbus Parks & Recreation
- Columbus Police Department
- East Columbus Fire Department
- Goodwill Industries of Kentucky
- Jeffersonville Animal Shelter
- Jeff/GRC Little League
- Kiwanis Club of Clarksville
- Mayor Mike Moore (Jeffersonville Mayor)
- NARBW Chicago Chapter
- New Albany Little League
- Norton Children's Hospital
- Paralyzed Veterans of America (formerly KIPVA)
- River Valley Middle School
- Seymour Firefighters Union
- Seymour Parks Foundation
- Silver Creek Boys Soccer
- United Way of Scott County
- Whiteland Community High School

MILESTONES

LIRC employees celebrated the following milestones through July 2025. We thank you for your service.

Anniversaries

20 Years

Dan Watson
Asst. Chief Dispatcher

10 Years

Wayne Grant
Customer Service

Jim Kirkland
Bridge Operator

5 Years

Donald Crater
Engineer

Joseph Riggs
Track Inspector

Retirement

Rodger Ritchie
Bridge Operator
27 years



Jeremiah Fletcher (left) and William Brock (right) celebrate the retirement of Rodger Ritchie (center).