

EDUCATION



PHOTOS BY LEAH HOGSTEN | The Salt Lake Tribune

Krystal Bustamante, an eighth-grader at Northwest Middle School, gets her photo taken with a train backdrop. Professionals from the Northern Utah Chapter of Women's Transportation Seminar welcomed girls from Northwest Middle School and Salt Lake Center for Science Education to introduce the students to the variety of careers in the transportation sector, including engineering, environmental, archaeology, urban planning, outreach and communications fields.

Girls go hands-on with public transportation planning

WTS International aims to get girls involved in math and science before high school.

By TOPHER WEBB
Special to The Tribune

About 50 Salt Lake City girls learned that planning public transportation takes a lot of work.

The students from Northwest Middle School and the Salt Lake Center for Science Education, a charter school in the Salt Lake City School District, sat at rectangular tables designing the Sugar House streetcar line between 900 East and McClelland Avenue. Local experts from the transportation industry gave them hints and explained how to mark the streetcar track, pedestrian trail and other elements on the map with colored markers.

The exercise was part of the May 22 Transportation Youth Summit. The event was put on by the local chapter of WTS International, a group aiming to advance women in the transportation industry, and the U.S. Department of Transportation. It was part of a nationwide initiative to encourage girls to become involved in math and science as well as increase the number of women in the transportation industry.

"My favorite part was the hands-on, being able to see [what] it's like to be able to



Students take a tour of the Sugar House Streetcar line.

LEAH HOGSTEN | The Salt Lake Tribune

design the network," said Victoria Fairall, a seventh-grader at SLCSE.

The girls followed the streetcar's development from the environmental impact statement through safety and maintenance after the streetcar's opening. The girls also heard from women in the transportation industry and went for a tour of the streetcar line.

Gussie Scott, a seventh-grader at SLCSE, was surprised by "how much planning goes into something we think is simple, like a bus. You just ride the bus and think it's nothing, but it takes a lot more than what it seems to be."

Tracy Harty, president of the northern Utah chapter of WTS, said the organization's goal is to interest girls in math and science before high school, when they need

to take important math and science classes.

"Teachers like it because they could never do this in the classroom," Harty said.

Pamela Pedersen, assistant principal at Northwest Middle School, sat with a table of girls from her school.

"I keep reinforcing that these are women who are independent and have a family and earn a good living," she said. Pedersen said some girls do not become involved in math and science careers because they are not interested or they have not had an engaging teacher, but that is not the biggest reason.

"Mostly I think it's just they don't have any examples, they don't have a broad example of different jobs that women do," she said. "I've thought a long time about different ways to get girls involved and understanding

careers [that] could be open to them that maybe they've never seen before, and this is a rich field."

Grace Ferguson, a seventh-grader at SLCSE, said she may be interested in a career in transportation.

"There are lots of areas that men traditionally work in that women can work in just the same, like transportation," Grace said. "I liked learning about the jobs, the things people do and what they do every single day. That's a lot of work."

Mike Christensen, a master's student in city and metropolitan planning at the University of Utah, helped the girls plan the streetcar line and said they were focused and excited.

"It's good to give these kids exposure to different options of what they can do in the future," Christensen said.

Wharton

» Continued from E1

fathers' farms — Mastrim at what is now Wheeler Farm and Uzelac on property that is now Cottonwood High School.

The two women attended Woodstock Elementary, Irving Junior High and Granite High School and married within a year of each other. Both lost their first husband to cancer in the 1970s, remarried and became widows again. They each live today with a sibling.

Beverly and Elma remain active volunteers in the community, still drive automobiles and get together at least once a month for coffee and a chat.

Perhaps most surprising, neither can remember ever having a fight.

"We never thought of fighting," said Uzelac. "I always looked forward to seeing her again the next time."

Mastrim's grandfather Henry J. Wheeler and his wife, Saria, purchased the 75 acres that is now historic Wheeler Farm. She grew up in the classic farmhouse that is now a big part of the Salt Lake County-operated facility.

Uzelac lived on what was the Motta family farm until it was purchased in 1968 by the Granite School District for Cottonwood High. She remembers riding on her dad's horse-drawn wagon over to Wheeler Farm where there was a ready supply of manure to be hauled back to the Motta farm for fertilizer.

Growing up on a farm forced the then young girls to be creative.

"There are so many comforts that the kids have now," said Mastrim, who has two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. "If we wanted to go swimming, we'd go to Big Cottonwood Creek after the [spring] flood. After high water, there would be holes in the creek. You'd find those

holes and you'd go swimming for the summer. Now, if you want to go swimming, you go to a club."

The girls played games such as "run, sheepee, run," "kick the can" and "hide and seek." They had hot dog and marshmallow roasts near the wooded area along the creek. They chuckled at the fact that they were two of the best marble players at Woodstock Elementary.

"We won all the marbles from the boys," Mastrim said with a laugh.

"Herbert Huish, every Monday, came to school with new marbles, which we won during the week," Uzelac recalled. "Sadly, he was killed during World War II."

When attending high school, the two women often did their homework at Wheeler Farm, where Mastrim's mom usually emerged from the pantry with something freshly baked.

The women also forged

great careers.

Mastrim became an artist and still paints wonderful oils. Uzelac, who has three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, spent 27 years working at the Salt Lake YWCA, where she was supervisor of the children's department. She remains busy with volunteer work and bridge club.

"I love being busy," said Uzelac, who lives with her brother Dom, who also has been twice widowed.

That is perhaps the key to a long and successful life. But Mastrim offered another good bit of advice.

While she remembers many details of her youth, she tries to look forward.

"I keep thinking don't go back, but always go forward," she said. "Plan your days for something new."

And with that, it was almost time for her to end another visit at Elma's house and climb into her two-door convertible.

WHERE IS IT?



This week » Correctly name where in Utah this photo was taken to be eligible for a drawing for the book *Fishing Utah* by Brett Prettyman. Entries must be received by 5 p.m. June 11. Email your guess to outdoors@sltrib.com with "Where Is It?" in the subject line.



Last week » All but three of the 107 entries correctly identified the "Journey's End" statue in Main Street Park in Heber City. Glade Fawson had his entry drawn and wins a copy of *It Happened in Utah* by Tom and Gayen Wharton.

HIKE OF THE WEEK



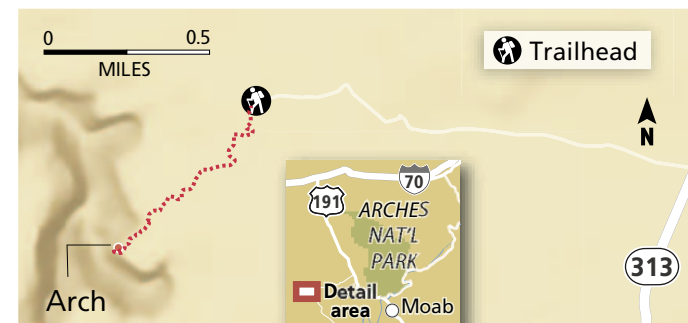
Directions » The Jewel Tibbetts Arch is a beautiful, off-the-beaten path hike in Moab outside Canyonlands National Park.

To get there from U.S. Highway 191, turn onto State Road 313 toward Canyonlands. About 10 miles after the junction, turn right on a dirt road just before a fence/cattle guard. The road is marked by a very small sign that is easy to miss. The trailhead is about 1.3 miles in on a fairly rough dirt road. There is a tiny parking lot near the trailhead, but it's also possible to pull over and start the hike early, especially for those not driving trucks or SUVs.

Enter the trail through a pass-through fence and follow an old road until a sign points the trail down a dry wash. From there, the trail is marked by a series of cairns, which are frequent but occasionally easy to miss. The trail traces the rim of the spectacularly named Hell Roaring Canyon, an awesome redrock formation that is usually dry and eventually meets up with the Green River. The arch is in the canyon and can be viewed from a flat outcropping. It's named after a Moab-area woman who lived at the nearby Horsethief Ranch in the 1950s and 1960s with her husband, Bill.

The trail can be done as a loop or an out-and-back, and even on a busy Memorial Day weekend, it was free of other visitors.

—Lindsay Whitehurst



Source: AllTrails.com

Destination	Jewel Tibbetts Arch hike	Difficulty	Easy
Hiking time	1 hour 15 minutes	Trailhead restrooms	No
Round-trip miles	1.5 miles	Dogs allowed	Yes
Elevation gain	151 feet	Bikes allowed	Yes

