

“BRAKING NEWS”

Member Company Newsletter

WINTER 2011

IN THIS ISSUE:

Defensive Driving Tips

Off The Job Safety

Distracted Driving Policy

Employee Spotlight

Walk-Thru Inspections

New Comment Cards

Employee Newsletter Goes Electronic

Member Companies

Bux-Mont Transportation
Main Line Transit
Mid County Transportation
Norristown Transportation
Tri County Transit
Valley Transit

DEFENSIVE DRIVING TIPS

Winter Driving

Below are a few tips to remember while driving to help you make it safely through the winter:

- Remove snow and ice from your vehicle before you drive, making sure the headlights and tail lights are visible.
- Check fuel and windshield washer fluid.
- All windows should be clear and fog free.
- Accelerate slowly.
- Increase your following distance.
- Brake gently in slow, steady strokes to see how much traction you have, and begin braking early when approaching intersections or stops.
- Approach bridges, shaded spots, overpasses and turns slowly.
- Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses and infrequently traveled roads, which will freeze first.



OFF THE JOB SAFETY

Physical Exertion

Cold temperatures put an extra strain on your heart. Heavy exertion, such as shoveling snow, clearing debris or pushing a car, can increase the risk of a heart attack. To avoid problems remember these tips:

- Stay warm, dress warm and **SLOW DOWN** when working outdoors.
- Take frequent rests to avoid over exertion.
- If you feel chest pain — **STOP** and seek help immediately.

DISTRACTED DRIVING POLICY

Tips for Distraction-Free Driving

Distracted Driving is defined as the driver having their attention divided, which renders the driver incapable of behaving and reacting in a normal manner. Any distraction that takes a driver's attention away from the road has the potential to cause an accident.

Before You Drive:

- Adjust vehicle controls such as mirrors, seat, radio, heat or air conditioning.
- Plan ahead. Read maps and check traffic conditions.
- Program directions into your navigation system (GPS) prior to departing from a location. Enable the voice-activated function.

While You Drive:

- Do not make or answer cell phone calls, even with hands-free devices. **If you must make an emergency call, leave the road and park in a safe area.**
- Do not send or read text messages or email or access the internet.
- Do not eat or drink while your vehicle is moving.
- Do not program a GPS unit that requires you to reach away from the steering wheel or look away from the road.
- Try not to reach down or behind your seat, pick up items from the floor, open the glove box or try to catch falling objects in the vehicle. These actions lead to significantly increased crash risk.
- Do not focus your eyes on objects away from the road for longer than the quick glances needed to be aware of the driving environment. **Crashes often result from simply looking away for a few seconds.**

TransNet has developed a Distracted Driving Policy which has been distributed to its Member Companies. Each employee is required to, read, sign and abide by the policy.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Tony Bernardi- Mid County

Tony Bernardi joined the Mid County team after retiring from Verizon, where he worked for 35 years. He is married with 2 children and a granddaughter. He loves meeting different people, especially MHMR clients who are always so upbeat and happy. This job has given Tony a greater appreciation and empathy toward all our clients.

Tony loves the Phillies and his favorite past time is walking.



Jackie Hadrick- Norristown

Jackie Hadrick has been providing superior service to TransNet consumers since she began her career as a paratransit driver in October 1997. During the past 13 years, Jackie has been getting people where they need to go safely and professionally. However, that is not all that Jackie does. She is also a Driver Trainer, providing on-the-road training to new drivers, and instructional training in the areas of Passenger Assistance, Wheelchair Securement, and Pre-Trip Inspections.

Jackie's accomplishments are many. She

- Was among the first group of drivers from TransNet to compete in the annual Paratransit Rodeo sponsored by the PPTA in 2005.
- Has been nominated for many awards.
- Received the "TransNet Driver of the Year" award 3 times.

Jackie's enthusiastic attitude toward her job and her dedication to the consumers she transports shows everyday through her contagious smile. Jackie's hobby is roller-skating.

Simply stated, Jackie says, "The best part of my job is the interaction with my clients".



J. Paul Doud- Tri County

Paul Doud has lived in Montgomery County all his life. He has been employed by Tri County Transit since February 2008 and quickly rose to be one of Tri County's more valuable employees. He is flexible in his work assignments and reliable in showing up for work and being on time everyday. Paul currently runs the Cabrini Shuttle Monday through Friday. Paul was the first place winner of the 2009 PPTA State Rodeo, which qualified him to participate in the National Rodeo in May 2010 in Long Beach, CA.

When Paul isn't working at Tri County he enjoys spending time with his family or working on his 1969 Chevy Camaro and doing home maintenance.



Steve Barnaik- Main Line

Steve Barnaik has been driving for Main Line Transit for almost three years. Previously transporting for both the Lower Merion Vocational Training Center and the PALM Center of Ardmore and presently as a part-time sedan driver.

He gladly admits to enjoying travels with his regular clients but is always glad to make new acquaintances. The only thing that detracts from his enjoyment is seeing motorists on cell phones while driving. That is a big challenge when it comes to keeping his passengers safe.

In his free time Steve, 35, enjoys spending time with his 4 cats, 5 fish and his dog in his Phoenixville home. He also takes time to write poetry and song lyrics and loves spending time with his family, especially his young nephew. Steve has a special place in his heart for his nephew whom he credits with helping him through life's challenges and for making him a better person.

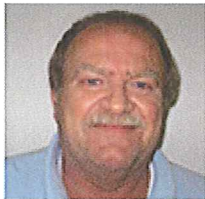
Steve genuinely enjoys helping people who need help. "It makes you feel good about yourself knowing you're helping someone who needs it," he says. If he finds they are feeling down he smiles and tells them, "Turn your frown upside down cause a smile will take you the extra mile."



Bill Holman- Bux-Mont

Bill Holman is the employee with the most seniority at Bux-Mont Transportation. He has been with Bux-Mont for over 30 years. He started driving part-time at nights when he was first hired while he was working another job. He then moved to full-time in October 1985 and the rest is history. He now drives during the day and dispatches for Bux-Mont on the weekends.

He grew up in the area and is a local who went to Upper Moreland. He moved to New York in 1967 to go to NY Tech and then opened his own restaurant in Mid-Town Manhattan in 1970 for 3 years before moving back to PA and staying. Bill enjoys playing the guitar when he is not working and is an avid baseball fan.



Kyle Reigner- Valley

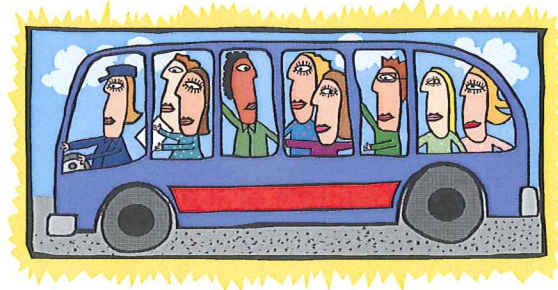
Kyle Reigner was hired as a Valley Paratransit driver in August 2008. After retiring from his family owned furniture store he was looking for something to keep him busy. That is what brought him to Valley.

The Valley office eventually became its own office, separate from Tri County. Kyle took on the challenge of becoming manager of the new office. He seemed the natural choice. He has a degree in Business Administration and many years of experience with the family store. The employees at the Valley office enjoy working with Kyle and think he is doing a wonderful job as their manager.

Kyle and his wife Joanne have been married for many years and have raised 3 children. They also have one granddaughter that they enjoy spending lots of time with. Kyle once described himself as a restaurant connoisseur as he and his wife enjoy dining out. They love to try new places as well as going to their old favorites. Joanne is a music teacher so they also love going to plays and shows often. Kyle challenges himself and his drivers to expand and improve their services to the Upper Perkiomen Valley area on a daily basis.

WALK-THRU INSPECTIONS

Please remember it is the driver's responsibility to perform a "walk-thru" at the end of each run to make sure that no belongings and most importantly **NO** clients are left behind.



COMMENT CARDS

Recently decals have been posted in every vehicle asking consumers to contact TransNet with any comments or concerns regarding the service they received while using TransNet. In the vehicles, comment cards are available to any consumer who wishes to fill one out and mail it to TransNet. When completing the comment card, clients are asked to provide the date and time of service and vehicle number and they are asked to rate the service they received that day along with any additional comments.

Continue to remind your riders that these cards are available and their feedback is important. TransNet is pleased to announce that many consumers have completed the comments cards and most of the feedback has been positive. Riders have been consistently praising drivers for being courteous and providing outstanding passenger assistance. Way to go! Keep up the good work!

NEW ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

"Braking News" will soon be mailed to employees electronically every 3-4 months. Please complete the information below and give it to your supervisor so that we can add you to our email list. For those who wish to receive hard copies instead, please see your supervisor.

DETATCH HERE

Name _____

Email Address _____

TransNet Carrier _____