

“BRAKING NEWS”

FALL 2005

IN THIS ISSUE:

Off the Job Safety

Defensive Driving Tip

Employee Spotlight

Kudos

Paratransit Roadeo

Word Search Puzzle

Member Companies

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

Off the Job Safety

Autumn Safety

October is the month for National Fire Prevention. With that in mind, below are a few tips to follow to protect your family and your property.

- Test all smoke alarms.
- Make sure your chimney is clean. It should be free of debris and should be checked for soot build-up.
- Make sure the area around your furnace is clear for good circulation. Keep all flammable materials, such as clothing, cardboard boxes, paint thinners, fuels and solvents, far away from the furnace.
- Electric in-wall fan heaters should be cleaned a minimum of twice per year.
- Keep all furniture, draperies, and other household objects at least 3 ft. from the in-wall fan heaters and 12 inches from the baseboard heaters.
- Plug portable space heaters directly into the outlet; do not use an extension cord.

Fall is the time to prepare your home for the winter months ahead. Below are some additional safety reminders to keep in mind this fall as the cooler weather approaches.

- Clean out gutters of leaves & debris.
- Check roof shingles to be sure they are in good condition for wind, ice, and snow.
- Check windows for deteriorated sills and putty to prevent water damage to walls and ceilings.
- Examine the large trees on your property and remove trees and limbs which appear rotted and could fall on your property during winter storms.

Defensive Driving Tip

Aggressive Driving

Aggressive Driving is a combination of unsafe and unlawful driving actions. These actions can include speeding, tailgating, running stop signs and red lights, making improper and unsafe lane changes, and failing to yield the right of way.

Usually aggressive driving involves excessive speeding. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, it is the cause of 31% of all fatal crashes, killing about 1,000 people in the U.S. every month.

Disobeying other traffic controls like red lights and stop signs are the most frequently reported types of crashes. Every year more than 900 people die and nearly 200,000 are injured in crashes involving red light running.

Don't Be An Aggressive Driver

- It is important to always stay calm when driving-anger and frustration prevents individuals from using good judgment.
- Don't do things that can enrage other drivers, like cutting them off when you merge, or tailgating.
- Make sure you drive the speed limit and obey all traffic controls. It is important to always respect the rights and safety of other drivers and pedestrians.

When Confronted by Aggressive Drivers:

- First make every attempt to get out of their way.
- Do not challenge them by speeding up or attempting to hold-your-own in your travel lane.
- Avoid eye contact; which can sometimes enrage an aggressive driver.
- Ignore inappropriate gestures and refuse to return them.



Employee Spotlight



John Crescenti- Main Line

John has been a driver with Main Line Transit since March, 2002. He is a retired contractor who loves working with people. John enjoys helping the clients into the vehicles. If a client seems depressed or lonely, John states that he tries to get them to talk and relax. "I sometimes tell them jokes, first in Italian and then I translate", says John. John loves to see the clients smiling when they leave the vehicle.

In his spare time, John enjoys target shooting but his real forte is woodworking.



Bill Lickfield- Bux-Mont

Bill has been a driver with Bux-Mont Transportation since October, 2001. He is a team player and is willing to change his schedule or adjust his starting time whenever needed. He is a very flexible person who loves his job and enjoys the clientele that he transports. Bill has been married to Keeta for 28 years and has 4 children.

Before working for Bux-Mont, Bill was self-employed at a trucking company. He was also an Engineer Rep which took up a lot of his time.

He has several hobbies that include escaping to a house in the Adirondack Mountains where he likes to sit back and enjoy the outdoors.

He describes a good day as sitting around his pool with his family and just enjoying their company.



Edwin Rosa - Mid County

Ed has been a driver with Mid County Transportation for over 2 years performing his duties with energy, enthusiasm and a caring attitude toward clients and vehicles alike. Interacting with people, as well as listening to their backgrounds, stories and historical perspectives helps Ed enjoy his job.

Ed has two adult sons, both in the Navy. Ed's oldest son, David James, is in flight school in Pensacola, Florida and his youngest son, James Michael, is an Air Traffic Controller on an aircraft carrier based in Seattle, Washington. David has also made Ed a proud grandfather to his 5 month old son, Devon.

When he isn't working, Ed's leisure time is spent playing softball and basketball, playing in a pool league, and dancing at the clubs.

"It is a pleasure seeing Ed at work everyday, as he is one of our safest and most caring drivers. He does whatever is needed to get the clients safely to their destination, on time", said John Ager, manager at Mid County.



James Nolan- Norristown

Jim Nolan has been a driver at Norristown Transportation since February, 2005. He enjoys his job and the opportunity he gets to help his clients. When Jim isn't at work he spends his time networking computer hardware and coaching youth sports which includes baseball, football, and wrestling. He also enjoys playing golf, especially Chip & Putt.

Jim lives in King of Prussia, PA with his two pets, a 148 lb Mastiff named Kane and his ferret, Cindy. He has a 17 yr. old son who is currently a junior at Upper Merion High School.



Ed Scheetz- Tri County

From the very start of his employment with Tri County Transit, over a year and a half ago, Ed has consistently demonstrated his exceptional skills as a mechanic and his commitment to the company. Ed's intensity and "can do" attitude are dependable constants, whether he is diagnosing a rough engine, replacing parts or even when conducting a standard 3,000 mile service. Just recently, with the Service Manager on vacation and while training a new hire in the garage, Ed still managed to get through all the required inspections as well as fix a variety of heat related failures. This all in a week when the heat index hovered between 90 degrees and 105 degrees.

Ed says that since the age of 4, when his father took him to the racetrack for the first time, he has been hooked on cars. By the age of 14 Ed was getting paid to work on cars and still spends most of his time either working with them at Tri County, building and fine tuning cars that will be on local racetracks, or helping friends fix or upgrade their cars. In his other spare time Ed says he's reading about new car technologies or buying automotive parts on Ebay.

If asked what he likes most about working for Tri County, Ed will quickly tell you that it is the whole working environment. He points out that it is especially the freedom he has to get his work done without being pressured by the organization or impatient customers. Tri County is proud to choose Ed Scheetz as their Spotlight Employee- he stands out not only for his depth of automotive knowledge but for his dedication to the highest level of performance as a Tri County employee.

KUDOS

TransNet wants to acknowledge David Licata from Tri County for his actions during an incident that occurred on his vehicle on October 11, 2005. While Mr. Licata was transporting an eight year old client, the child began choking. Mr. Licata stayed calm and performed the Heimlich Maneuver. After a few moments the child stopped choking and the penny the child had swallowed came out. Mr. Licata immediately contacted dispatch to inform them of what had happened and to ask for further instruction. Great Job!

Reminder: Four Basic Incident & Emergency Management Steps

- 1) Keep Calm
- 2) Contact the dispatcher
- 3) Protect your passenger, yourself, and your vehicle
- 4) Complete the required documentation

2005 Paratransit Roadeo



On August 13 and 14, 2005, Harry Crump (Tri County Transit), Jackie Hadrick (Norristown Transportation), and George Johnson (Bux-Mont Transportation) participated in the Pennsylvania Public Transportation Association 2005 Paratransit Roadeo. The Roadeo was held at the Expressway Travel Center in Beaver Falls, PA.

The competition included an obstacle course, wheelchair securement, a pre-trip inspection, and a written test. All three drivers enjoyed this experience. More information regarding the next roadeo will be available soon for those of you who are interested in participating.

Word Search Puzzle

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s e t l e b t n e m e r u c e s s i
s c n b a c k i n g p o l i c y c t
e n e n o z l o o h c s a c p t h n
n a d c s t h g i l d a e h s f o w
e t i a n r p a t i e n c e n i o s
r s c s y a w d a o r t e w t c l r
a i c p n f t o l p s v e c t n b r
w s a e n f t s o t s a e f s a u i
a s e e j i i n i g s p n r r e s l
y a l d u c t r v d s d e l l o e s
t r b l d c b a c n g u r e i t s a
i e a i g o a n i e o n n a d p a t
l g t m m n s p f l n i i g z i l c
i n n i e t i l f t g o t p l a n e
b e e t n r a r a c t a z u p a h g
a s v r t o a c r n c o t k a o r p
s s e e o l d n t s g g t e r c t e
i a r d i s t r a c t i o n s o f s
d p p e d e s t r i a n s f k l w c

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|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| speeding | traffic violation | judgment |
| headlights | pretrip inspection | sun glare |
| signals | pedestrians | fog |
| patience | wet roadways | tailgate |
| backing policy | work zone | hazards |
| school buses | speed limit | school zone |
| distractions | stopping distance | frost |
| preventable accident | securement belt | traffic controls |
| passenger assistance | disability awareness | caution |