

“BRAKING NEWS”

Member Company Newsletter

SUMMER 2006

IN THIS ISSUE:

Defensive Driving Tip

Accident Reporting

Questionnaire

Awards Banquet

Employee Spotlight

Word Search Puzzle

Member Companies

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

Defensive Driving Tip

Ways to Prevent an Auto Accident

Below are tips to remember while driving. Following these tips may prevent an auto accident from occurring. Although the following may seem simple and standard to drivers, these techniques are often overlooked, forgotten or simply ignored, causing accidents to occur.

- **Scan the area ahead.** Not only should you concentrate on your own driving, but also pay attention to the drivers around you, pedestrians, and driving conditions. This increases your chances of seeing a problem while still having enough time to react to it.
- **Maintain a safe following distance**
- **Avoid exceeding speed limits or driving too fast for conditions.** Excessive speed reduces reaction time and greatly increases impact and injuries if an accident does occur.
- **When changing lanes, check all mirrors, watch for the other driver, and signal long before you change.**
- **Avoid distracting activities** such as using cell phones, eating, or changing the radio while driving.
- **Beware of blind spots.** Use your mirrors but don't solely rely on them. You should actually turn to look directly into the lanes beside you to avoid missing something left undetected by your mirrors.
- Remember that backing a vehicle is one of the most dangerous maneuvers in driving. Before backing your vehicle ask yourself if backing up is necessary. **It is TransNet's policy that drivers back their vehicles only when it is necessary.**

Accident Reporting

Reminder: Handling an Accident

Reminder: All accidents and incidents should be reported immediately to your supervisor. Once you return to the office a written report must be completed.

In the event of an Accident...

- Stop the vehicle as safely as possible in a secure location

- Call Dispatcher. Try not to be overheard when giving details to the dispatcher (give only specific information).
- Calm and assist passengers if necessary
- Check for injured passengers
- Keep passengers informed of activities related to them as a result of the accident.
- Give police and other driver all necessary information. **In addition, remember to always get the other driver's information even if the police are at the scene.**

Note: Do Not Admit Any Blame or Guilt

- Don't criticize company equipment or rules at the scene
- Drivers should never say they will contact anyone concerning damages
- Get as many courtesy cards filled out as possible.

Note: If involved in a minor accident, with no visible damages to either vehicle, but a client is in the vehicle, you should still follow the above procedures and the police must be called.

Questionnaire

1) It is only okay to leave an adult day care client unattended if they appear to be alert and if they tell you that it is okay for you to leave because they will be fine.

Circle one: True False

2) All children between the age of 4 and 8 years old or 80 pounds must be seated in a booster seat during transportation.

Circle one: True False

3) Is it okay to reward passengers with food or treats?

- No, because the passenger may have certain allergies or health conditions that would prohibit them from eating certain foods.
- No, because TransNet's policy prohibits eating on the vehicle
- No, because eating on the vehicle can result in a dirty vehicle
- all of the above.

Note: The answer key can be found on the bottom of page 2.

TransNet's Awards Banquet

This year's annual awards banquet will be held on Sunday, October 1, 2006 at the Pine Crest Country Club in Lansdale. At this event drivers, monitors, dispatchers, and office personnel from all the member companies will be honored for their hard work. A delicious dinner will be served followed by music, dancing, and games. Our DJ, Bob Cullum, will be providing the entertainment and employees will have an opportunity to compete for prizes.

TransNet has designed a new and exciting program for this year's banquet so mark the date on your calendar and come celebrate with us!



Employee Spotlight



Gene Smith- Tri County

Gene has been a driver with Tri County Transit since May of 2004. From the very beginning Gene has distinguished himself as an employee that was always willing to go above and beyond the call of duty. Whether that means working through a scheduled break, making suggestions about how to improve Tri County's services or volunteering to take the run that is not so popular among most drivers, Gene is rarely seen without a smile on his face and an enthusiastic greeting to share.

Primarily Gene's runs include the Radnor Corporate Center, the Norristown Adult Day Care, Norristown Senior Center and Bon Homie Adult Day Care Facility. Gene is also a member of Tri County's Safety Committee and is one of two Tri County official Trainers for new employees.

Gene says that outside of his work for Tri County, he enjoys playing basketball and going bowling. He also greatly enjoys traveling and has visited all 48 contiguous States with his wife of 48 years, Corine. Gene and Corine have raised 3 daughters and 1 son, and are the proud grandparents of 5.

Anyone that has spent even a short amount of time working with Gene would not be surprised to learn that he is also an Ordained Minister. He has been the full time Pastor of several communities before coming to Tri County.



Alex Prozorov - Main Line

Alex has been a driver with Main Line since November of 2004. From the start of Alex's time with Main Line, he has set himself apart with his work ethic and "can do" attitude. Alex is quick to assist his fellow drivers, and makes the dispatchers jobs easier by doing whatever runs are asked of him. The pride that Alex has in his work makes him a pleasure to work with.

When asked what his favorite part of his job is, Alex is quick to say that he enjoys the nice people that he works with and being able to help some of the clients that depend on him so much. He is very concerned with the safety of his passengers and takes great care to look after them. Outside of driving for Main Line, Alex works for Pizza Hut and he also enjoys the time he is able to spend with his son.



Edward Scharnikow- Bux-Mont

Ed started at Bux-Mont on August 28, 2001 and is now one of Bux-Mont's most valuable drivers. He began doing MCIU trips and can now handle anything that is thrown in his direction. Ed does group trips, weddings, transports clients in wheelchairs, and has even driven the limo on several trips. Ed is a confident driver who you can give a trip to and know that there won't be a problem.

Ed was recognized as Bux-Mont Paratransit 2005 Driver of the Year at the TransNet banquet. He has been married for 30 years to his wife, Cathleen and has 2 sons. He was in the restaurant business for 35 years. Ed enjoys taking trips with his wife, cooking and playing golf and poker.

Answer Key from questionnaire on page 1:

- 1) False, Never leave ADC clients unattended
- 2) True
- 3) d) all of the above



Kathleen Blockson- Norristown

As Norristown Transportation Company's longest running van driver, Kay Blockson has been transporting clients for almost 13 years. She is also a dispatcher, a call taker and a reservationist. Whatever the task, Kay is there.

TransNet has honored Kay twice at the Annual Banquet. She has been awarded "Driver of the Year" as well as "1st Runner-Up". Her wardrobe of TransNet jackets is quite impressive. Norristown Transportation has also shown Kay their gratefulness over the years with numerous awards.

Kay has lived in Norristown her entire life. She has 2 children and 4 grandchildren. She currently lives with her two cats, Yappie and Joy. When not working (which is not often) Kay enjoys cooking and spending time with her mom. She frequently feeds the homeless around Norristown. In the warmer season, Kay enjoys tending to her vegetable garden and basking in the sun. She vacations in Atlantic City and gets to Harrah's Marina Hotel and Casino as often as possible.

Kay states, "Helping and meeting people is what I enjoy the most about my job". If a different driver picks up one of Kay's "regulars", the client is sure to ask about her.

Way to go, Kay! You have touched the lives of many of the clients.



Donald Groff- Mid County

Donald Groff has been a part-time driver with Mid County Transportation since April, 2005, working 2 days a week, keeping our clients happy and safe. Don hails from Lancaster County, PA.

He is a retired electrical engineer with a very interesting background. He was an early member of the Peace Corps in West Africa. He moved back to Pennsylvania from California

in 1976. Don and his wife live in a home built in 1914. They have 3 sons, one in Tokyo, Japan, one in Milwaukee, WI and the third in Philadelphia, PA. On December 31, 2005, Don and his wife celebrated the birth of their first grandchild, Cooper.

Don enjoys off-duty activities like working on the house, photography, electronics, and assistance for the hearing impaired. At work, Don has speaker attachments for the 2-way radio so he can better serve our customers. Always pleasant, Don is willing to do anything, including putting in extra hours when needed. "Don is a stickler for the rules and a pleasure to have in our business", said John Ager, manager at Mid County.

Word Search Puzzle

```

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

```

ardmore
 haverford
 lansdale
 souderton
 audubon
 bridgeport
 consohocken
 norristown
 trooper

collegeville
 limerick
 oaks
 pottstown
 royersford
 sanatoga
 trappe
 red hill
 abington

blue bell
 cheltenham
 elkins park
 glenside
 jenkintown
 roslyn
 willow grove
 wyncote
 linfield



