



SPRING 2007

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# “BRAKING NEWS”

Member Company Newsletter

## 17TH ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

On October 1, 2006 close to 300 employees and their guests enjoyed the 17th Annual TransNet Awards Banquet at the Pine Crest Country Club in Lansdale. The TransNet Driver of the Year Award went to James Bustard from Bux-Mont Transportation. First runner-up was Kevin McNamara from Tri County Transit and 2<sup>nd</sup> runner-up was Jon Mulhern from Mid County Transportation.

Other awards were given to drivers with 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service. Special recognition went to George Johnson from Bux-Mont Transportation who placed 3rd in the 2006 statewide Paratransit Rodeo. Mr. Johnson will now participate in the National Rodeo on May 20, 2007 in Reno, Nevada. In addition, individual companies presented various awards to their employees.

Norristown Transportation’s team won the TV theme trivia game, winning a free breakfast for the entire company and each team participant also received a \$10 WAWA gift card.

We are looking forward to this year’s banquet which will be held at the same location in October!



Pat Moir, TransNet Executive Director, presenting award to driver Jon Mulhern

## BUNNYAIRE RESULTS

Congratulations to the following 2007 Bunnyaire Contest Winners!

- Peter Fallon, Mid County Transportation**
- Sondra Kelly, Norristown Transportation**
- Bernadette Camacho, Tri County Transit**
- Glenda Benner, Bux-Mont Transportation**

Sixty-two percent of the employees who participated in the Bunnyaire contest answered all of the questions correctly.

Thirty percent missed one question and eight percent answered two questions incorrectly.

### **The number one missed question was:**

**Who is responsible for making sure all child seats and booster seats are secured properly?**

- A. The parent or guardian
- B. The driver
- C. The nurse if one is assigned with the client
- D. All of the above

The correct answer is **B**.  
(The driver is ultimately responsible for putting the children and child/booster seats in the vehicle and securing the seats properly.)

### **Answers to the other questions:**

**•If a client demonstrates unsafe or distracting behavior while you’re transporting them what should you do?**

The correct answer is **Notify dispatch, transport client home, and follow up with an incident report.**

**•You are dropping off a client that cannot be left alone. Upon arrival you see the front door open and a car in the driveway. It’s ok to drop off the client and leave as soon as they reach the door.**

The correct answer is **FALSE**.  
(When transporting a client who cannot be left alone you must not drop them off unless a responsible adult is visible.)

**•You are involved in a minor accident with no visible damage to the vehicle and a client in the vehicle. What should you do?**

The correct answer is **Contact dispatch, ask for the police and exchange information with the other party.**

(If you are involved in an accident, even if there is no visible damage, if a client is on your vehicle you must contact dispatch and the police must be involved. Always exchange information with the other party even if the police are present.)

**•While Joe was driving down the road, it began to drizzle and he turned on his windshield wipers. After several minutes Joe was pulled over by a police officer because he was using his wipers but did not have his headlights on.**

The correct answer is **TRUE**.  
(Effective January 29, 2007 drivers in PA must have their headlights on while using their windshield wipers.)

## **EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT**



**David Getis- Mid County**

David Getis is a 27 year veteran with Mid County Transportation, arriving June of 1980. He has always maintained a high standard of client service and safety. David has been on an MR run for the last 11 years, developing a professional familiarity with clients and workshops.

He helps train new drivers in all aspects of their positions, emphasizing safety in all areas.

David has fun socializing with his friends and family while off duty, and is always ready with a funny joke, story or remark. Dave's safety record is tremendous and Mid County Transportation is proud to have him as one of their best employees.



**Manny Bravo- Bux-Mont**

Manny has been with Bux-Mont Transportation for more than 3 years. Manny has a laid back personality and takes whatever you throw at him and goes about his day. He handles wheelchair clients, group trips, or trips to Philadelphia on a daily basis and never complains. He just takes his logs and goes on his way.

Manny enjoys working with seniors and joking around with them. He never called in sick at Bux-Mont and neither Bux-Mont or TransNet has ever received any complaints regarding Manny's driving or personality.

Manny has been married for 40 years to his wife, Nancy. He enjoys fishing and hunting. Manny is a simple guy who likes everyday things. He enjoys TV and working on his house, whether it is painting or yard work.



**Anthony Vernacchio- Tri County**

Tony has been driving with Tri-County Transit since April of 2005, and since then has been one of the most professional employees in our organization. Tony has proven to be very reliable and is excellent with his clients. Tony has also been more than willing to share his years of experience in upper management at Genuardi's Supermarkets to help improve our operations. He enjoys the camaraderie with his co-workers and the interactions with his clients, especially the PIP children that he transports. Tony truly is an asset to Tri County.

Outside of work Tony enjoys golf, college football, and going to the shore. He especially enjoys the time he gets to share with his children and grandchildren.



**Anthony Sarro- Main Line**

Tony Sarro has been at Main Line Transit for about 2 years. He began there as the PM dispatcher but was quickly promoted to supervisor because of his hard work and dedication. He has held that position since May 2006. Tony has shown a thorough understanding of the business and a great ability to juggle demands of the consumers and the schedules of drivers.

When asked about working at Main Line, Tony says he genuinely enjoys working with the people, both the clients and staff. "The clients are the reason we are here and I truly want their experience with us to be a positive one", says Tony. He also enjoys the everyday challenges of working with billing and scheduling.

Tony and his wife, Myranda, are proud parents of a three year-old son, Callan Anthony. He also enjoys working with leather, is a massage therapist, and is attempting to learn to play the didgeridoo, a wind instrument of Northern Australia.



**Elizabeth Bonner- Norristown**

“Helping people, especially the homeless” are the words Elizabeth uses to describe her fulfillment in life. She thoroughly enjoys her position as a Monitor for Mental Health/Mental Retardation clients and school children. She has spent most of her adult life as a companion, child-care giver, teacher, or day care worker. She has found her duties within Norristown Transportation Co. to be very satisfying in her passion to help people.

Elizabeth earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Liberal Arts at Magdalen College in Warner, New Hampshire. Elizabeth spent her youth in New York. She has lived in many other states including Texas, New Jersey, Virginia and Wisconsin and has now settled in Pennsylvania.

Since joining us in September 2006, Elizabeth performs additional tasks above her monitoring duties. She helps in the office between van runs answering “The Lottery Line” and/or call-taking in the dispatch office. Helping people in any way is what drives Elizabeth.

In her spare time, Elizabeth enjoys reading and crossword puzzles.



**INTRODUCING THEME DAYS**

The first Theme Day was “Baseball Day” which was held at the carrier locations in April 2007. On this day a bag of peanuts was distributed to all employees and they were given an opportunity to win a pair of Phillies tickets to the game on May 14, 2007. Congratulations to the winners!

The next Baseball Day is scheduled for Monday, June 4, 2007. Employees will again have a chance to win a pair of Phillies tickets for the game on June 26, 2007. TransNet is looking forward to organizing other exciting Theme Days. More information will soon be available about upcoming Themes.

**ACCIDENT FACTS**

Last year we had 53 preventable auto collisions. The types of collisions are as follows:

**Backing: 16 Rearend: 10 Striking parked vehicles: 12**

**Striking Stationary Objects: 6 Improper Turns: 7**

**Striking Mirrors: 2**

During the months of June, July, and August of last year there were 23 auto accidents. Fifteen of the accidents reported during that period were preventable. Some of the most common types of accidents for these 3 month were backing, rearending other vehicles, striking parked vehicles, and striking stationary objects.

**Lets see if we can reduce preventable accidents for June, July and August 2007 by 50%! Check the Fall Edition of the newsletter for the results.**

**DEFENSIVE DRIVING TIP**

When driving, make sure nothing interferes with your ability to **see the road, react to situations or operate your vehicle properly.**

Be alert to what is going on around you. Look down the road, to the sides and behind your vehicle and be alert for unexpected events.

**WORD SEARCH PUZZLE**

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

safety  
accident free  
hazards  
backing safely  
speed limit  
traffic signals  
violations  
assistance  
headlights

passengers  
blind spot  
tailgate  
yield  
scanning  
traffic  
following distance  
signal  
pre-trip inspection

safety belt  
warning signs  
collision  
injury  
motor skills  
concentration  
brake  
warning flashers  
spotter



