

STORYBOOK TOUR COMING SOON TO LEXINGTON!

Earlier this summer, a woman from Maine decided to get in her own car and travel across America. This woman — the owner of a uniquely soft, yet very powerful voice and an even more powerful message about the importance of transportation access for seniors — has mostly been silent on her trip, *listening instead* to older people's stories of mobility challenges and successes. Her goal is to make these stories known in an effort to inspire more people to be part of the solution.



ITNAmerica founder and president
Katherine Freund

The woman is Katherine Freund, founder and president of ITNAmerica and someone we at ITNBluegrass have known for many years. Lexington is fortunate to be a “story stop” toward the end of her 60-day road trip on August 9 and 10! We have several riders lined up to speak with her and have arranged some other learning and listening opportunities for her as well. (By the way, no ITNBluegrass funds will be used on her visit.) If you would like to speak with Katherine, please call Laura Dake at 859-351-0460 as soon as possible. In the meantime, check out her progress and her blog at www.storybooktour.org.

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NEW COMMUNITY RIDES PARTNERSHIP WITH KENTUCKY CANCERLINK!

We are happy to announce our newest Community Rides partner, Kentucky CancerLink! Volunteer to drive on YOUR schedule anyone who is an ITNBluegrass member-rider and help Kentucky CancerLink clients who are 60+ and/or adults with visual impairment by designating that your mileage go to KCL. For every mile you drive, \$0.40 is transferred to Kentucky CancerLink's Community Rides account, which then is used to offset the cost of transportation to cancer screenings, treatment sessions or cancer-related medical appointments. Drivers must have a clean driving record and be between the ages of 22 and 78.

For more information or to sign up for an ITNBluegrass volunteer driver training, please contact Laura Dake at 859-351-0460 or at laura.dake@itnbluegrass.org.



June Facts

Total Members by
June 30:

532

(not all are riders)

Total Rides in June:

801

Total Rides to Date:

(Sept. 1, 2008–Jun. 30, 2015)

45,423

Bulletin Board

Welcome to our newest volunteer drivers: Sheila Sonka and Cindy Stencel. We welcome back Teresa Combs!

Thank you to those who helped with our May newsletter mailing:

Joann Campbell, Sue Davis, Barbara Gerald, Gladys Harmon, Connie Lowe, Martha Perkins, Philip Rose, Ann Tucker and Joe Ann Wylie.

Visit us on

Facebook!

WISH LIST

1. FOREVER POSTAGE STAMPS
2. PLASTIC NAME BADGE HOLDERS (WITH CLIP OR THE KIND THAT PAIR WITH A LANYARD)
3. #10 WINDOW ENVELOPES (WINDOW IN LOWER LEFT)
4. COPY PAPER (20–24 LB)
5. SMALL GIFT CARDS OR GIFTS FOR DRIVER APPRECIATION DRAWINGS
6. CAR TRADES/DONATIONS
7. VOLUNTEER DRIVERS!

Meet Member-Rider Dr. Richard Gift!

Richard Gift is the kind of person who makes being an ITNBG driver such a great experience. He is interesting, thoughtful and always has something nice to say about the service. He says “I’m a passionate advocate, and I’m sure others at [Mayfair Manor] are tired of hearing me talk about it!”

Dr. Gift, 79, was an economics professor at UK for 41 years until his retirement in 2006. He is originally from Kingsport, TN, and has degrees from Vanderbilt, Emory and Duke, all in economics.



Richard Gift

He has been married to Becky Gift for 57 years and has two daughters: Virginia, who died two years ago, and Nancy, who teaches environmental studies at Berea College and paints horses; several of her paintings hang in his room. Nancy has two teenaged daughters, Emily and Hazel.

Dr. Gift is an avid reader, but says there is no unifying theme as to the books he prefers. He also enjoys working puzzles. He shared a final comment about ITNBluegrass: “[Getting around] is one part of my life I don’t have to worry about.” We are happy to be of service!

Did you know...

...that this July marks the 50th anniversary of the Older Americans Act? In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the OAA into law. Over the past 50 years, the Act “has provided a national network of aging services and funding that helps older adults to live and thrive in communities of their choice for as long as possible.”

For more information on the OAA or to read about the 50th anniversary theme “Get into the Act,” visit the US Dept. of Health and Human Services’ Administration for Community Living at http://www.aoa.gov/AoA_programs/OAA/.

Four Ways to Support ITNBluegrass!

ITNBluegrass is a nonprofit organization (501c3). We rely on local community support for **approximately half** of our funding. Your generosity is critical to keeping us on the road!



August is Kroger Community Rewards Re-Enrollment Month!

Take a minute in August to re-register your Kroger Plus Card to benefit ITNBluegrass (ID #71328). To re-register or to register for the first time:

1. Visit kroger.com/communityrewards and sign up or sign in.
2. (Re)enroll in Community Rewards and select “ITNBluegrass” from the list.

Amazon Smile Simply start out at smile.amazon.com when shopping on Amazon (same screen, same prices), choose ITNBluegrass as your nonprofit and we will receive 0.05% of what you spend. And it costs you nothing! Works with Prime, too!

Make an Investment in Senior Transportation! Please see the insert in this newsletter or visit www.itnbluegrass.org and click on the Donate button. All gifts are tax-deductible.

Become a Volunteer Driver! Drive on your schedule and earn mileage credits! Call Laura at 859-351-0460 to schedule a training or to ask questions.

Letter from the Executive Director

Hope everyone is still intact after the tremendous storms we've had! Now it looks like we've got tremendous heat. Please keep tabs on older family members and neighbors — lack of air-conditioning and/or poor ventilation in a home can be potentially life-threatening as we age.

We at ITNBluegrass are looking forward to ITNAmerica founder and president Katherine Freund's visit on August 9 and 10. She will be meeting with several of you and listening to your mobility stories, both the challenges and successes. To read about and watch videos of Katherine's progress across the U.S. and back (to Maine), visit www.storybooktour.org. This is a 60-day road trip!



Laura Dake

We have a new need on the Wish List (p.2): clear plastic name badge holders! (Specifically, ones with a clip or ones that need a lanyard, so please no pins. We use them for our drivers' badges.) If you've accumulated a collection from conferences you've attended, please stick them in an envelope and mail them to us. The ones with clips will make the envelope thicker and will need to be weighed at the P.O.

When you have a minute, check out the updated staff and board pages on our website. Go to www.itnbluegrass.org, then click on "What We Do" on the menu bar then on "Our Organization." It is a work in progress, so be sure to come back periodically!

I'll end with a request and something to look forward to. First, the request. Please read the enclosed letter and consider a gift to help keep us on the roads! We appreciate any gift, large or small. Our annual budget is about \$220,000; just half comes from rider memberships and fares. The rest we need to raise via the local community. The more of us who invest in this senior transportation service now (whether we need or not), the more likely it will still be around when we or someone we care about does need it. You may not think you will, but on average, people outlive their ability to drive by eight years. That's a long time to sit at home!

What is there to look forward to? Why, the next newsletter! I'll tell you some exciting news that has been a long time in coming! FYI: If you like ITNBluegrass on Facebook, you'll hear about it sooner. Have a great rest of the summer!

Laura

WHERE DO WE GO? OUR TOP 10* DESTINATIONS IN JUNE!

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1) Richmond Place | 6) Body Structure Medical Fitness |
| 2) Senior Citizens Center | 7) St. Peter Catholic Church |
| 3) St. Joseph Office Park (various offices) | 8) Dialysis Clinic, Inc. |
| 4) Hartland Hills Independent Living | 9) Hanover Towers |
| 5) Temple Adath Israel | 10) Kroger on Alexandria Drive |

*Not including private residences

Leave a lasting legacy by remembering ITNBluegrass in your will or trust. Your legacy gift will begin making a difference in older people's lives immediately.

A grateful thank-you to all who donated to ITNBluegrass during May and June!

Individual Gifts

Cliff and Jeanne Allen
AmazonSmile
Patsy Bunnell
Laura and Gary End
Heidy Goodpaster
Frances Horwitz
Joe and Chandra Jarboe
Bob Jingoian
Kroger Community Rewards
Frank Lewis

John and Jo Mink
Roger Parry
Philip Rose
Dr. Angelia Thompson
Mary Vaughan
Jon and Nancy Zachem

Foundation(s)

i know expo foundation

Place(s) of Worship

Second Presbyterian Church

A very special thank-you to Regeneron Pharmaceuticals!

Regeneron's support began in July 2013, and in the past two years, it has enabled us to provide hundreds of eye care rides AT NO CHARGE to dozens of ITNBluegrass riders.

ITNBluegrass[™]

Dignified transportation for seniors

1206 N Limestone Street
Lexington, KY 40505

Return Service Requested



ITNBluegrass Featured on TV — in Nashville!

We had an exciting day back in March when two gentlemen came up from Nashville to film some rides and interview several riders and drivers. The 30-minute program aired earlier in the spring and was the fifth installment in a series called "Aging Matters" hosted by country music singer Kathy Mattea. The theme of our installment is 'aging in place.' It seems that there is interest in starting an ITN in Nashville.

Visit www.wnpt.org and search for "Aging Matters" or type this link in your browser to go right there: <http://video.wnpt.org/video/2365516125/>. If you don't want to watch the whole show, ITNBluegrass is featured in minutes 19-22.

Many thanks to riders Evelyn McNabb and Judy Worell and drivers Rose Marie Hackett and Ron Sale for their wonderful participation!

GIFT CERTIFICATES FOR ANY OCCASION (OR JUST BECAUSE) ALWAYS AVAILABLE!

Simply give us a call at (859) 252-8665 — once we receive your payment, we'll send the gift certificate to you or the recipient in a nice envelope! To pay by credit card, visit our website at itnbluegrass.org and click on "Pay Online." Be sure to indicate that the payment is for a gift certificate and who the recipient is. If we haven't spoken to you already, we will call to get the preferred certificate type (birthday, etc.) and mailing instructions.

ITN*Bluegrass*

1206 N Limestone Street

Lexington, KY 40505

ITNBluegrass 2015 Mid-Year Appeal

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution to ITNBluegrass to help support 24/7 transportation for people 60+ and adults with visual impairment adults in Fayette and northern Jessamine Counties.

____ \$500 ____ \$250 ____ \$100 ____ \$75 \$ ____ Other

____ \$50 (You become a Friend of ITNBluegrass at the \$50-plus level. In addition to supporting seniors in your community, benefits include great car care discounts, including oil changes, from any Ken Towery Tire & Auto Care Lexington location. Your Friend membership card will describe the discounts.)

Please include this form with your check made out to **ITNBluegrass** and mail it to **1206 N Limestone Street, Lexington, KY 40505**. This page can be folded and taped on all open sides to form an envelope or you can use one of your own. To pay by credit/debit card, visit itnbluegrass.org and click the "Donate" button. **Thank you for your support!**

Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____

Apt. #: _____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone #: _____ **Email address:** _____



Laura Dake
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Dear ITNBluegrass Riders and Family Members and Friends:

An old appeal letter from late 2009 caught my eye not long ago. In it, we'd written that we'd just had a record 350-ride month. Those days are hard to remember as we now deliver an average of 850 rides per month!

Much has changed since 2009 — we are bigger and busier than ever — but one thing has remained constant over the years: **our mission**. We still do just one thing: drive people 60+ and adults with visual impairment where they need to go safely, reliably, cheerfully and affordably. We continue to offer 24/7 service; we still go anywhere in Fayette and northern Jessamine Counties for any reason; we still answer calls on the weekends; we still offer arm-thru-arm, door-thru-door service; we still work very hard to make each ride a pleasant experience; and when we make the occasional mistake, we do our best to make it right.

People are out doing things because we help them get there.

If you are receiving this letter, most likely you know a little about us. Maybe you benefit directly from the service as a rider. Maybe you understand the challenges of finding safe, affordable, convenient transportation for people who have limited or given up driving.

In addition to our mission not changing, our business model hasn't either. ITNBluegrass relies on memberships and a per-ride fare from its customers. However, these fees cover just half the true cost of operations. In order to cover the other half, we depend on community support.

If you are able, please invest in the future of senior transportation in this community. Any amount, large or small, is meaningful to us and helps keep us on the roads. We aren't highly visible, but know that every day drivers meet up with riders to take them to work, to medical appointments, to run errands, to attend worship services and to just have fun! Thank you for your support and encouragement all these past years AND as we look towards the future.

Sincerely,

Laura Dake, Executive Director, ITNBG