

Spring Has Sprung!



ITNBluegrass Executive Director, Gale Reece, welcomes the large crowd to The Arboretum.



A beautiful day at the Arboretum for our gardening event!



Gorgeous tulips, blue skies, and a packed parking lot for "A Morning at the Arboretum with Louie Hillenmeyer!"



Louie Hillenmeyer, gardening expert, demonstrates helpful container gardening tips.

ITNBluegrass riders, drivers, and guests had a great time at The Arboretum kicking off the spring season! Nearly 70 people watched gardening expert Louie Hillenmeyer present tips and techniques for growing beautiful container gardens. Lafayette Place provided the wonderful refreshments and Mother Nature cooperated with beautiful warm weather!

Winter Facts

Total Members by
April 15, 2011:
325
(not all are riders)

Total Rides in March:
561

Total Rides to Date:
(April 15)
10,934

Bulletin Board

Welcome to our newest drivers: Joe Fisher and Linda Miller.

Donate Online!

ITN*Bluegrass* is pleased to be an "Early Adopter" of GoodGiving.net, a new initiative of the Blue Grass Community Foundation where potential donors may view extensive portraits of their favorite local charities/nonprofits to make wise giving decisions. Simply visit GoodGiving.net or go to our website and click on the green and blue GG icon to view ours.



Friend us on Facebook to stay connected and receive updates on upcoming events!

Meet Member-Rider David Graham...

Rider David Graham uses ITN*Bluegrass* transportation in a way that is different from most other riders. "I frequently use the bus system to get around Lexington but use ITN because the buses don't go everywhere," said David. While David enjoys using LexTran, he often cannot arrive at his final destination — usually Spindletop Hall where David serves as its Board president or Fasig-Tipton Farm where he attends Rotary Club meetings. So he takes the bus to the farthest stop on that end of town and ITN drives him the remaining distance. "The rides are always pleasant and it gets me where I need to go."

Originally from Kentucky, David graduated from UK with Bachelor's and Master's degrees and became a marketing and sales executive in the food industry. Throughout his career, he and his wife lived in many places but settled in northern New Jersey for the latter part of his career. "I kind of had two careers throughout life. I worked in the food business but I wanted to own my own business before I really retired," David said. After working in the food industry for many years, David and his wife decided to buy a Sylvan Learning Center franchise. After 13 years of dedicated work with Sylvan, they sold the franchise and moved back to Lexington for retirement.

Today, David stays busy with volunteering around Lexington. "I volunteer at the Lexington Humane Society and love working with the animals. I am also a board member of our Homeowners Association that helps manage the community that we live in." With an eventful schedule, David relies on ITN to help get him to his destinations. He became involved with ITN*Bluegrass* upon learning about the service from the Lexington *Herald-Leader*. He read the many articles about ITN when the program was being launched in 2008 and knew that it would be something that he would like to use. "When it got passed by legislation, I called them and signed up! It's been a good service since!"



...and Volunteer Driver Kathleen Richardson

Volunteer driver Kathleen Richardson, first became involved with ITN*Bluegrass* through the Community Rides program at her church. "My church, Second Presbyterian, was recruiting drivers for the program so that members of the congregation could give others a ride to church services and activities," she said. As a driver, Kathleen has most enjoyed meeting the different riders. "Once a conversation gets started, there are some really fascinating pieces of life history that come out. It's very interesting!"

Originally raised in northern Wisconsin, Kathleen later moved to Kentucky with her soon-to-be husband where they both continued their careers as librarians. Today, she works as a full-time librarian at the Bluegrass Community and Technical College location on UK's campus and keeps a very busy schedule. Along with being a volunteer driver, Kathleen is also a part of ITN*Bluegrass*' Policies and Procedures subcommittee and a board member for the Lexington Chamber Chorale as well as a new member of the Pleasant Hill Singers at Shaker Village. For relaxation, she enjoys gardening, reading, and listening to music.

"By being a driver, I have been to various places of Lexington that I had no idea existed. I am learning the geography and exploring other neighborhoods," she said about her experience. Kathleen sees a bright future for ITN*Bluegrass* and hopes that it continues to be a "successful organization that lasts a long, long time." Kathleen says, "One of these days, I am going to want to use it for myself and it all depends on the next generation of volunteer drivers!"

With the help of many drivers like Kathleen, ITN member-riders can continue to lead active, independent lives.



Letter from the Executive Director: Gale Reece

It's been a long, cold, snowy winter in Central Kentucky but we know spring is here with Keeneland open and the Derby not far behind! ITN*Bluegrass* didn't slow much this winter. Our members kept going during inclement weather. Not only did they not have to worry about driving but neither did they have to park and walk on snow, ice or slush.

City Commission—Many of you may have heard that the city has reinstated a commission dealing totally with senior issues. This commission had been dormant several years following a period of great activity and success. A newly appointed board of 22 members is organizing and preparing to tackle various issues challenging seniors in Fayette County. The current name is "Commission for Community Services for Older Persons" (CCSOP), but this will be changing soon. Vice-Mayor Linda Gorton chairs the commission, so we will have city government's ear. The goal is to be very open to public comment and suggestions, so stay tuned!

World Aging and Demographic Conference—Katherine Freund, Founder and President of ITN*America*, has been invited to speak about transportation at the annual conference in Switzerland this summer of the World Demographic Association. I am honored to be accompanying her (at my expense) and hope to learn from our global neighbors how aging trends will be addressed in other countries.

"Many Hands Make Light Work"—We all know that the economy has been very difficult the last few years. As a matter of fact, we began ride service the month the markets crashed in September 2008! Since then, nonprofits have been particularly hard hit. ITN*Bluegrass* has adopted the saying our grandmothers preached to us, "Many hands make light work." We are asking the Bluegrass community to pitch in with "many hands" to support the mobility of its friends and neighbors. Our goal is 1,000 supporters at \$50 per year. We are adding new Friends each month toward that goal. (See next page for information.)



ITNBluegrass Reaches 10,000 Rides!

On February 22, ITN*Bluegrass* delivered its 10,000th ride!! Pictured from left are Barbara Warburton (ITN*Bluegrass* ride coordinator); rider Ethel Tate (with flowers) and volunteer driver and Board Chair Stan Wonn. Mrs. Tate was taken to her doctor at Central Baptist Hospital.



Thanks to everyone who has helped us reach this milestone! Here's to another 10,000!

ITNBluegrass continues to thank its Annual Appeal donors:

\$100-\$250

Talitha Freeman
Ben Kaufmann
John R. Meinert
Warren and Carol Rogers

\$50-\$99

R.P. Formisano
Mary Vaughn

Other

John Ireland
Merrill Reece

**Enjoy ride discounts when visiting our
Healthy Miles and Ride & Shop Members!**

Lexington Senior Center

A community center for aging where individuals 60+ years can participate in activities that enhance their dignity and support their independence.

Monday – Friday, 8 am to 5 pm
1530 Nicholasville Road
Lexington, KY 40503
(859) 278-6072

Retina Associates of Kentucky

State of the art vision care for patients with diseases of the retina and vitreous. Affiliated with Low Vision Services of KY.

Main office: 120 N Eagle Creek Dr.,
Ste 500, Lexington, KY 40509
(859) 263-3900
www.retinaky.com

Bluegrass Retina Consultants

Leaders in quality retina care treating eye complications related to diabetes, macular degeneration, trauma, retinal detachment and inflammatory conditions.

Main office: 3475 Richmond Rd.,
Ste 210, Lexington, KY 40509
(859) 264-0445
www.bluegrassretina.com

Become a Friend of ITNBluegrass!

Please consider becoming a “Friend of ITNBluegrass!” You’ll enjoy the following benefits:

- 1) You support safe, dignified, affordable transportation for seniors and adults with visual impairment in the Bluegrass area.
- 2) Car care discounts at Ken Towery AutoCare SuperCenters’ three Fayette County locations. (Membership card lists discounts.)
- 3) Local volunteer opportunities.
- 4) Our quarterly newsletter, the ITNExpress, and invitations to all ITNBluegrass events.

To become a Friend of ITNBluegrass, simply fill out the following form and mail it, along with your check*, to ITNBluegrass, 1206 N Limestone Street, Lexington, KY 40505.

Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____

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

Phone Number: (_____) _____ - _____ Email Address: _____

I have enclosed (check all that apply):

_____ \$50 to become a member-rider

_____ Additional tax-deductible donation: _____

*Please make checks payable to ITNBluegrass

Return Service Requested

ITNBluegrass
Digitized Transportation for Seniors
1206 N. Limestone Street
Lexington, KY 40505