

The Independent

ITNMONTEREYCOUNTY NEWSLETTER

ITNMontereyCounty continues to grow by leaps and bounds! In an effort to keep the community informed of ITNMontereyCounty's efforts, we will produce a quarterly newsletter highlighting our community events, program growth, statistics, fundraising efforts, and donor and volunteer highlights.

NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW CHANGES TO ITNMC

ITNMontereyCounty relocated its offices to Salinas in July 2016. There has been lots of change and transition since the move. With that has come a new way to manage transportation requests. We welcomed back to the team Cheryl Tsuchiura, who worked with ITNMontereyCounty up until June. Cheryl rejoined ITNMontereyCounty on January 9th. She and Cristina Boronda are currently sharing the position of Transportation Coordinator. Having the ladies overlap and share the position gives them a teammate to proofread schedules with prior to emailing them out to drivers.

This change also puts ITNMontereyCounty in a great position to explore serving South County. Special thanks to Community Foundation for Monterey County for awarding a grant that will help explore resources for a rural volunteer driver model to support South County and other hard to serve communities.

Anahi Reyes and Lorrinda Robinson are holding down the after hours phones. Lorrinda comes to ITNMontereyCounty with years of County experience including working as a 9-1-1 dispatcher. Anahi is our resident bilingual scheduler and helps us reach new Spanish speaking members of the community.

We love to have visitors. Please stop by to see us at 947D Blanco Circle, Salinas.



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- In 2010, seniors made up 11% of Monterey County's population. By 2030, it will make up 17%.
- The population of residents over the age of 65 on the Monterey Peninsula Urbanized Area is about 18,000, with 27% living on less than \$40,000 a year and 8% with no personal vehicle
- The senior population of the City of Salinas is 11,500, of whom 35% live on less than \$40,000 annual income and 12% do not own a car



FESTIVAL OF TREES & MC GIVES

The holidays presented many ways for people to show support to ITNMontereyCounty. On November 30th the North Monterey Business District hosted the second annual Festival of Trees. Cardinale & Wright donated trees for nonprofit organizations to decorate. ITNMC's tree featured over 100 collectible cars hardwired to the tree with black and white checkered flag ribbon. The tree was sponsored by *Me... too!* Salon of Carmel and went for \$160; directly benefiting ITNMontereyCounty services.

MC Gives was another way to support ITNMontereyCounty. Gifts made through MC Gives would be matched at approximately 15%. This year, our ITN friends and family showed their love for our programs by donating at total of \$2,820.

Supporters who prefer to give via mail raised more than \$3,000 to help keep seniors active and independent. We are very grateful for the generosity of our community!

“As a resident senior with impaired vision and other physical challenges, I deeply appreciate the existence of ITNMontereyCounty, operating locally and available for my needs.” Lois Weeth, ~rider and philanthropist

MEASURE X PASSES!

Thank you to everyone who voted yes on Measure X. Every single vote mattered as we waited anxiously for all mail in ballots to be counted.

This measure will include \$15 million for senior transportation options, independent travel for people with disabilities, and safer and more reliable senior transportation services.

ITNMontereyCounty continues to explore opportunities to expand into South County and other rural areas. We intend to apply for funds once they become available to help expand current service areas.

ITNMONTEREYCOUNTY HONORS LOIS WEETH

Lois Weeth has served as a member-rider board member. She comes to the area with a rich and colorful background. Lois is a past president of the Cal Aggie Alumni Association, a former UC regent, and a past chair of the UC Davis Foundation. She is a botanist and former docent at the UC Davis Arboretum and at UC Davis' Bodega Marine Laboratory.

A forward thinker, Lois moved to Pacific Grove as her eyesight began to fail so that she could live in a community that had resources for people with eye care needs. Her home is has been beautifully constructed with a lot of natural light and easy to access gardens for her to enjoy. Lois has been a perfect fit for ITNMontereyCounty. Always providing great insights regarding the needs of members. Lois also understands how important financial support is to a small non-profit. She always gives generously from her heart and also reaches out to her friends and family to support this agency. We were so grateful she allowed us to honor her at National Philanthropy Day on November 18th at the Inn at Spanish Bay.



Lois Weeth with Chair Louis Algaze, National Philanthropy Day 2016



"I really enjoy driving for ITNMonterey because of the wonderful, interesting people I meet. The clients are always so grateful. They comment on what a great organization ITN is, and how they couldn't go about their daily lives if this service was not available. That makes me proud to be a part of it." ~Alan Dunckel.

DRIVERS PROVIDE INDEPENDENCE

ITNMontereyCounty drivers are a tremendous asset to our service. They provide camaraderie, security, and independence for our members. We are often asked if we need more drivers. The answer will always be, "Yes!" The more drivers we have, the more members we can serve. We are barely scratching the surface of the need in our community. Even ONE ride per week makes a tremendous impact. We promise you will get as much as you give. All our members are so grateful for the help they receive. Become a driver today by filling out the online application at <http://www.itnmontereycounty.org/ride-with-us/volunteer-drive> or call us at 831-233-3447.

KEEP IT HANDS FREE!

Beginning in 2017, the new law, AB 1785 which will become Section 23123.5 of the Vehicle Code, prohibits drivers from holding and operating cell phones for any reason other than for functions that require only the motion of a single swipe or tap of the driver's finger, and only if the devices are actually mounted in some type of holder on the vehicle's windshield or on the dashboard.

DECEMBER NUMBERS

Total members: 345

Total rides in December: 589

Total rides to date: 28,873

WISH LIST

1. Forever Postage Stamps
2. #10 Window Envelopes (window in lower left)
3. Copy Paper (20-24 lb)
4. Small Gift Cards or Gifts for Driver Appreciation Drawings
5. Partnerships with automotive places for discounted oil changes for volunteer drivers.
6. Car Trades/Donations
7. Volunteer Drivers!

SHOPPING ON AMAZON?

Simply start out at smile.amazon.com when shopping on Amazon (same screen, same prices), choose *Independent Transportation Network Monterey County* as your nonprofit and we will receive 0.05% of what you spend. (We do not see the orders.) It costs you nothing and works with Amazon Prime, too!

COMMUNITY SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

ITNMontereyCounty participates in Ride & Shop™ and HealthyMiles™. These programs partner with business and medical facilities to provide discounted rides to your restaurant, grocery store, pharmacy, doctor's office, and so much more. If you would like to partner with ITNMontereyCounty, please contact Aimee Cuda at 831-233-3447 or email aimee.cuda@itnmontereycounty.org

ITNMONTEREYCOUNTY

ITNMontereyCounty's mission is to provide a community supported, reasonably priced, and customer oriented dignified transportation service for seniors and adults with visual impairment, maintaining independence by allowing individuals to stay connected to family, friends, community, and the local economy.

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Donations keep prices low for riders. With your support, we can help families stay connected and friendships endure. ITNMontereyCounty helps adult children minimize absenteeism from work, businesses remain profitable, and seniors begin a new chapter in their lives that replaces dependence and isolation with independence and mobility. If you would like to help us to keep our rates low by making a contribution in some way, we would be happy to work with you. Philanthropy is our life blood. Your gift provides independence!

Please contact us at 831-233-3447 or info@itnmontereycounty.org. Together we are opening more than car doors. ITNMontereyCounty is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

You can also mail a check to:
ITNMontereyCounty
947D Blanco Circle
Salinas, CA 93901

Consider a charitable bequest. A charitable bequest is simply a distribution from your estate to a charitable organization through your last will and testament. There are different kinds of bequests. For each, you must use very specific language to indicate the precise direction of your assets, and to successfully carry out your final wishes. In any charitable bequest, be sure to name the recipient accurately. If you have questions on the various kinds of charitable bequests and how to make one to ITNMontereyCounty please contact Aimee Cuda at 831-233-3447 or aimee.cuda@itnmontereycounty.org.

DONORS KEEP US ON THE ROAD

Thank you to the individuals, foundations, organizations, and businesses that keep ITNMontereyCounty. The following donors have made a gift in the last 365 days:

Mary Acquazzino Basham	Sandra Goodwin	Jessie Mullen
Louis Algaze	Madeline Grant	Karen Murray
Anonymous	Joan Grech	North Fremont Business District
Barnet Segal Charitable Trust	Ruth Griffith	Deryck Nuckton
BMW of Monterey	Sabreh Gross	Richard and Marjorie Nystrom
Nina Bayer	Debbie Hale	Pauline Olow
Jan Beach	Harden Foundation	Marvella Peterman
Lois Bennett	Russell Hatch	Robin C. Putney
James and Bridget Booth	Nancy Eccles and Homer M. Hayward Family Foundation	Regeneron Medical Eyecare RSA
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Nancy Budd-Garvan	Jean Hontalas	Neil and Jill Sheffield
Gregor M. Calliet	Deborah Howitt	Nancy Sherburne
Georgene Calloni	Bob Johnson	Katherine Sherer
Central Coast Senior Services	Dagmar Keehan	Kathleen Smith
Ann Chapman	Virginia M. Kennedy	Joshua Sokol
Nona Childress	Dennis and Linda Law	Phyllis Sokol
Cibo Italian Restaurant	Edith Leach	Renee Sosa
Jacqueline M. Colbert	Linda Lee	Betty Jean Stalling
Community Foundation for Monterey County	William and Duncan Lewis	Thomas W. Streeter
Jeff and Carolyn Craig	Bill and Jackie Little	Stephen Thigpen
Kimbley Craig	Edward Lomboy	Tim Torgenrud
Jeff and Aimee Cuda	C. W. Ludeman	Union Pacific Foundation
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Paul Davis Partnership	John Martin	Joanne Webster
Fernando DePaolis	Diane E. Mayer	Lois Weeth
Betty and Dayton Dersham	Joanne B. McFann	Wells Fargo Foundation
Lorraine R. Diaz	Melissa McKenzie	Joseph and Joyanne Weston
Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation, Inc	Jonina Meyers	Bill and Kathi Wojtkowski
Arno Featherstone	Susan Michelson	Women of St. Dunstons Church
Joel and Sharon Friedman	Catherine Mikkelsen	Yellow Brick Road
Katherine Freund	Lynne N. Monnes	Bradley Zeve
Shane Fuller	Monterey Peninsula Foundaton	Sharon Zryd
Jan Gardner	Monterey Peninsula Host Lions	
Thomas Gardner	Claire Moringer	
	Todd Muck	