iTNSunCoast News — Feb, 2016



More Important Changes in Eye Appointment Rides

For the past two years, we have been able to provide free rides to any eye related appointments as the result of a generous grant from Regeneron, a company that makes a pharmaceutical for macular degeneration. Unfortunately, the funding has been used up. As the result, as of March 1 we are no longer able to provide rides to eye appointments for free. You will have to pay for rides both to and from eye appointments. We are hoping that the grant from Regeneron will be renewed and that free rides will begin again in April.

Rides to Activities

We have received lots of interest in expanding our services to include outings, like going to the University Town Center, Selby Gardens or Mote Aquarium. As the result, we do plan to start offering this service within the next few months and will provide you with more information soon. Please call the office (941364-7530) to let us know where you would like to go!

Doctor's Appointments

It is not easy for you to figure out a pick up time from a doctor's appointment. At the same time, it is important that you give us the best estimate possible so our drivers can stay on schedule and not be late for their next pick up. Please check with your doctor's office before you make a ride request to get an estimate from them of when your appointment will end and you will be ready to go home. Thanks!

Short Stops on the Way Home

Many of you like or need to make short stops on your way home, like picking up a prescription, going to the bank or picking up a few things at the grocery store. We understand and want you to feel comfortable doing this. At the same time, it is important that we know in advance when you want to do this so that we can take it into account when scheduling our drivers. So, please let us know when you call to make a ride request if you want to make additional short stops along the way.

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Payment By Phone

You can now put money in your personal transportation account by phone. Simply call the office with your credit card information and Susan will take care of it.

<u>Alderman Oaks – Our New Business Partner</u>

Alderman Oaks is Downtown Sarasota's Premier Rental Retirement Residence that offers Independent and Assisted Living Options and is locally owned, moderately sized, and nurtures a home and family environment. Due to its convenient location, Alderman Oaks is just a short walk or ride to local arts, dining, entertainment, events, theatres, and shopping. Through a special alliance with ITNSunCoast, they now offer 24/7 transportation for any reason to their residents and family members. For more information, call (941) 955-9099 or visit www.aldermanoaks.com.

Car Donations

iTNSunCoast does accept car donations. We will pick up your car and make arrangements for its sale. You can use the value of your vehicle as a tax deduction. We will also give you a ride credit equal to a portion of the value of your car that you can give to a family member or friend, donate to our Road Scholarship fund, or bank the credit for your own use at some point in the future.

Friendly Reminders

- iTNSunCoast office hours are 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Monday thru Friday. If you call us after 2 pm, we will get back to you the following day.
- You may request a ride for any purpose, on any day, at any time. Please make your ride request by Noon the day before you want a ride.
- When you call to make a ride request, please be prepared to give us your pick- up and destination <u>addresses</u> and the times when you want to get picked up for both portions of your travels.
 - Thank you for being a member/supporter of iTNSunCoast!!

Arthur Lerman, Executive Director Susan Shaw, Executive Assistant