

GIVE65

ITN SunCoast is one of only three nonprofit organizations in Florida selected to participate in GIVE65, a 65-hour online giving event to help nonprofit organizations serving seniors raise funds and increase awareness. Sponsored by Home Instead Senior Care Foundation, GIVE65 will highlight 120 senior-focused nonprofits from across the United States. Funds donated to ITN SunCoast will be earmarked for its Road Scholar Program that provides rides at a reduced cost to seniors living on limited incomes.

The 65-hour GIVE65 Event begins at 7 a.m. on Tuesday, July 10 and concludes at midnight on July 12. This event is the nation's first and only crowd-fundraising platform focused on helping nonprofit organizations across the country raise funds for programs and services benefiting seniors. As part of its commitment to supporting the availability of nonprofit senior services, the Home Instead Senior Care Foundation will provide up to \$5,000 in 1:1 matching funds.

Donations of \$10 or greater are accepted online at:

www.give65.org/ITNSunCoastRoadScholarProgram

Donations can be submitted any time prior to July 10th to ensure that they qualify for the matching funds.

“GIVE65 allows us to help seniors in our community while raising awareness of the critical need for the programs and services that so many rely on,” said ITN SunCoast Executive Director Arthur Lerman. “Every gift will help seniors at the local level in communities across the country,” said Roger Baumgart, executive director of Home Instead Senior Care Foundation. “We’re thrilled to partner with ITN SunCoast for the GIVE65 Event, and we are hopeful our partnership will ignite greater charitable giving in support of seniors who rely on the nonprofit sector.”

Free Rides to Eye Appointments - A Reminder

We are able to continue to provide free rides to eye appointments due to a generous grant from Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. The grant runs through March of next year and is available to any resident of Sarasota and Manatee Counties who is 60+ in age or any adult of any age who has vision limitations. You do not have to be a member of ITN SunCoast to qualify for free rides.

to eye appointments. For more information, call the ITN SunCoast office at 941-364-7530.

Thinking of Being a Theater Subscriber? **We'll Drive You There for Free**

Part of our vision at ITN SunCoast is to support local residents so they may fully participate in the rich arts and cultural offerings within the Sarasota community when driving themselves is either not practical or safe. In addition, we want to do our part in supporting the arts and cultural community itself. Toward that end, we make the following offer.

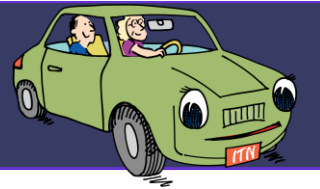
- **ITN SunCoast will provide free transportation** to you as a new or renewing performing arts subscriber to all productions within the subscribed season.
- ITN SunCoast will provide transportation to single performances at a very reasonable cost. The **round trip** rates are:
 - 6 miles or less \$18.00
 - 6 to 12 miles \$24.00
 - 12 to 20 miles \$36.00
 - more than 20 miles - quoted at time of ride request

Time to Sell Your Car – We Make It Easy

Do you have a car in the garage that is costing you money to register, insure and maintain and that you almost never use? ITN SunCoast makes selling your car quick and easy and we get great prices for you! We will pick up your car and make all the arrangements for its sale. With the proceeds, you can put some of it in your personal transportation account with us to cover the cost of future rides and use the balance as a tax deductible donation to ITN SunCoast. For more information, call us at 941-364-7530.

We Need More Volunteer Drivers!

The good news is that the number of people to whom we provide rides continues to grow. We will provide over 20,000 rides this year! We feel terrific about this since this is our mission. At the same time, in order to meet this increase in ride requests, we need your help in finding more volunteer drivers. If someone you know has as little as an hour a month and is looking for a way to make a difference in a person's life, please have them call us at 941-364-7530. If someone you refer to us becomes a volunteer driver and provides rides over a 3 month period, we will give you a \$50 referral credit in your account. Help us help you!! Thanks!!



Meet Our New Board Chair – Barbara Cogswell

By Linsea Mohr

Barbara Cogswell was recently elected to be the Chair of the ITN SunCoast Board of Directors. She is a Long Island, NY native and the owner of A Better Solution of Sarasota and Manatee that provides home care services. In addition to her position at ITN SunCoast, Barbara serves as Chair of the Sarasota County Senior Advisory Council, a conduit to the Sarasota County Commissioners for citizen input regarding older adult community issues and conditions.

Caregiving has always played an integral role in Barbara's life. She started out in college at UNLV as an RN major and ultimately switched to accounting. Marriage and four children (ages 4-17) propelled her to a more stay-at-home friendly career combined with her ongoing interest in caregiving. She bought A Better Solution when it was a homemaker companion business, obtained a Florida license and franchised it with locations from Sarasota to Collier counties.

Amid all her success, Barbara still had a fervent desire to further the cause of quality senior care collectively for all. As Chair for the Sarasota County Senior Advisory Council, the council has made strides in nutritional food supplies and security issues awareness and change. Along her path to do more, she stumbled upon ITN while reading an obituary of the father of woman she knew. "The obituary asked for donations to be sent to ITN," Ms. Cogswell said. "I wasn't aware of them but I wanted to find out more about how they help older adults."

Barbara discovered that out of 11 ITN locations, Sarasota is number one in the nation under the direction of Arthur Lerman. Astute management and perseverance coupled with support from outstanding board members have provided a solid foundation for an anticipated future upward trajectory for ITN.

New programs on ITN's horizon this year include rides for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and enhancing the current program of rides for individuals who are blind or have low vision. These will be pursued through the expansion of ITN's Road Scholar Program. Additional potential enhancement of ITN SunCoast's services includes augmenting the scope of Let's Go Places, landing Medicaid contracts, the Google AdWords Grant program for non-profits and increasing the volunteer driver work force.

Providing support to people who need assistance has always been a fundamental part of Barbara's core philosophy. "At ITN, we look forward to ongoing excellent service to our clients in transporting them throughout the Sarasota and Manatee County area."

Member Spotlight...Bill and Ann Redding

By Linsea Mohr

In a chronicle of echoed whispers of an era gone by, ITN members Bill and Ann Redding began their story 65 years ago by writing love letters while Bill was in the Navy stationed in the South Pacific. Amidst the backdrop of the winds of war, the letters sealed their lasting love.

They were married when Bill returned from his service and Ann was only 17 but she knew he was “the one.” They both attended college and Bill even helped his college in NE Illinois launch a criminal justice program. They settled in Evanston, IL where Bill worked for the police force and they had three children; two boys and a girl. Eventually, Bill became a police chief in South Milwaukee.

Initially, they ventured to Bradenton in 1987 to take care of Ann’s mother while they commenced their retirement years. They liked the area and ultimately, they moved to Sarasota in 2006. Their clan expanded to include three grandchildren and five great grandchildren. They savor seeing the children grow up daily via the technology of Facebook Live.

Their own children have branched out into different fields. One of their sons is a veteran who lives in the Sarasota area. Another son is a movie producer in Chicago who won the Orlando Film Festival and is working on three movie projects. Not to be outdone, their daughter just won the award for Employee of the Year at Duke University.

Bill and Ann share their children’s love of the arts too. They have volunteered to read/provide feedback for play and movie scripts and they both relished in reading talented writers’ stories. While in Bradenton, they volunteered and were on the board for the VFW. These days, you’ll find them scooting around town and to their favorite restaurant, Madfish Grill, in their 3-wheel red scooter with Bill driving and Ann on the back. Intermittently, ITN provides a ride for them.

“Thank God for ITN. It allows us to choose when and where we want to go places,” Ann said. “They have nice drivers who are friendly too.”

They both agree on their philosophy to living a long, happy life: a magnificent relationship and family. Ann partnered with an officer and a true gentleman. Bill hit the jackpot with his wonderful wife. It is the foundation for their fulfilling family life.

Ann humbly adds, “The key to life is what you make of it.”



Looking for a Lift Van

We recently received a call from someone looking for a ride and the person uses a personal, motorized vehicle. Unfortunately, currently we do not have a driver who has a vehicle that can accommodate such a request. At the same time, we want to be able to meet the transportation needs of all people in the area. So, does anyone have or know of a lift van that we could use to give rides to people who have that need? Give us a call!

Pick Up Service Available Thru ITN SunCoast

We do offer a pick-up service to all of our members. Do you need to pick-up a filled prescription or anything else and don't feel like going out yourself? Give us a call and we will take care of it for you. For this service, we charge the cost of the ride from the pick-up location to your home plus a \$3.00 pick-up charge.

Thank You to the Members of our Board of Directors and Advisory Council

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Samantha Hersch
Rita Raimer
Judy Weinstein

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Donald Deibert, Treasurer
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Heidi Godman
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Nancy Schlossberg
Ina Schnell

Friendly Reminders

- Our office hours are 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday thru Friday and we may be reached by calling 941-364-7530. If you call us after 2 pm, we will get back to you the following day. **In case of an emergency after hours or on the weekend, call 941-928-6506.**
- You may request a ride for any reason, on any day of the week including weekends, at any time of the day or night to anywhere within Sarasota and Manatee Counties. **Please make your ride request by 1 pm the day before you want a ride.**
- **For rides you need on Sundays and Mondays, please call in your ride requests by 1 pm the previous Friday.** On Friday afternoons, we set the schedules for Saturday, Sunday and Monday rides.
- If the details of a particular ride change after you have called us and made the ride request, please let us know asap and do not wait until you receive the confirmation call. Our ride schedules are pretty set by the time of the confirmation calls so making changes at that time can cause problems for us.
- When you call to make a ride request, please be prepared to give us your pickup and destination addresses and the times when you want to get picked up for both portions of your travels.
- You now have the option of submitting ride requests through email. Requests should be sent to info@itnsuncoast.org.
- You are welcome to have friends join you for rides to wherever you want to go. Your friends do not have to be ITN SunCoast members and there will be an additional charge of \$2.50 per person per ride.

You may request rides for friends to visit you at your home. In this case, we will charge you, our member, the regular fare for the ride requested and it will be up to you to collect the charge or not from your friend.

Thank you for being a member/supporter of ITN SunCoast!!

Arthur Lerman, Executive Director

Stacy Prouty, Director of Development & Marketing

Jenn Smith, Executive Assistant

Rich Henderson, Dispatcher

Megan Radish, Administrative Assistant