## ITNSunCoast News – Oct, 2016



# "How to Live Long and Prosper" Answer To Be Revealed on November 1

Join us at our 1st Annual "Come Ride with Us" luncheon on Tuesday, November 1. Our guest speaker is Chris Farrell, a senior economics contributor at Marketplace, American Public Media's nationally syndicated public radio business and personal finance program. He is also economics commentator for Minnesota Public Radio and writes regular columns on economics and public policy for Bloomberg Businessweek. In addition, Chris has written a number of books including "Unretirement: How Baby Boomers Are Changing the Way We Think About Work, Community and the Good Life". Chris has promised to tell us "How to Live Long and Prosper".

Heidi Godman will be our Master of Ceremonies. Heidi is the executive editor of the Harvard Health Letter and is the host of "Health Check with Heidi Godman," a daily health talk show on WSRQ. Previously, Heidi spent 25 years in TV news, most of it at WWSB-TV where she was an award-winning news anchor and health reporter.

The "Come Ride with Us" luncheon will take place on Tuesday, November 1 at 11:30 am at Florida Studio Theater's Court Cabaret. Tickets are \$75 per person and are available by calling the iTNSunCoast office (941-364-7530). Free transportation to the luncheon will be provided to iTNSunCoast members.

#### Free Rides to the Polls

In case you have not noticed, in a few weeks we will be electing a new president. Voting is critical in maintaining a vibrant and viable democracy. In the spirit of supporting the democratic process, iTNSunCoast will provide free rides to the polls to our members. Rides will be provided to the polls on Election Day, November 8, as well as for early voting, which runs from October 24 to November 5 in both Sarasota and Manatee Counties. Please vote and call the iTN office to arrange for your free ride to the polls!

#### L'shanah tovah!

To all of our Jewish friends, we wish you a very Happy New Year. "May you be inscribed and sealed for a good year." Please call us if you need a ride to or from services. In the spirit of the holidays, we will be happy to provide you with transportation at no charge.

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#### 2016 Giving Challenge - A Great Success!

Thanks to your support, the 2016 Giving Challenge was a great success for iTNSunCoast! In 24 hours we received 82 donations totaling \$6,003. This is twice the amount of donations we received in the 2015 Giving Challenge. Combined with the generous match from The Patterson Foundation, we will receive a total of \$15,240. This is a major step toward the \$90,000 we need to raise from fundraising and grants to balance our budget. Your support is greatly appreciated! Also, a heartfelt thanks to the Community Foundation of Sarasota County for organizing the Giving Challenge!

#### Video Update

Our volunteer driver recruitment video is "in the can". The red carpet will be rolled out for our stars at the first public screening of the video on November 1 at our Come Ride with Us! Luncheon. Thank you to our courageous and academy award worthy members and drivers who were willing to appear on camera. Also, our thanks to Captivation Media Group of Sarasota for doing an outstanding job in producing the video.

#### **Airport Rides**

As you know, we take great pride in providing rides for any reason. The intention is to provide our riders with the opportunity and flexibility to go anywhere they would go if they still had their own car. However, we do have a problem Houston. We have no difficulties providing rides to the airport when someone is leaving town. You can count on us regardless of the time of your departing flight. However, the return rides are a different story. Because of flight delays, it is actually more difficult to predict the pick-up time for return rides from the airport than the return rides from doctors' appointments. And, given that our drivers (both volunteer and paid) are not able to circle the airport for what can be a few hours delay, we will no longer provide rides when you are flying back to the area. Sorry for any inconvenience.

#### Rides With and For Friends

iTNSunCoast wants to support our members in spending time with friends. Toward that end, you are welcome to have friends join you for rides to wherever you want to go. In this instance, there will be an additional charge of \$2.50 per person per ride. In addition, you are welcome to 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.

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# Reminder: Free Rides to Eye Appointments One Way Only Beginning October 1

As most of you know, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. has provided a generous grant to help cover the cost of rides to eye appointments. While we have been providing rides to and from eye appointments for free for the past several months, the number of eye appointment ride requests we are receiving is greater than the amount of funding we are getting from the grant. As the result, beginning October 1, free rides to eye appointments will be limited to only one way of the round trip. You will be charged for the return ride.

#### Welcome to the Pines of Sarasota



Please welcome the Pines of Sarasota as our newest Corporate Sponsor! We are excited and appreciate their support. We look forward to working closely with them to the benefit of area residents. More to come!

#### 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.

You now have the <u>option</u> of submitting ride requests through email instead of giving us a call. Requests should be sent to Jennifer at <u>jennnifer.edwards@itnsuncoast.org</u>.

Thank you for being a member/supporter of iTNSunCoast!!