

Free Eye Appointment Rides Beginning June 1

As the result of a generous grant from Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a biotechnology company that makes a treatment for macular degeneration, beginning June 1 roundtrip rides to eye appointments will be free to our members. When you call to make a request for a ride to an eye appointment, please let us know the purpose of the ride so we do not charge you.

Would You Like To Be in Our Video?

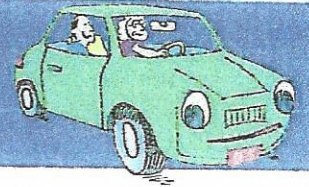
As I mentioned last month, we recently received a generous grant from the Manatee Community Foundation to produce a video to recruit more volunteer drivers. Our ability to keep the cost of rides as low as possible and to meet the need for rides in our community is tied directly to our ability to recruit more volunteer drivers. And, no surprise, the best recruiters of new volunteer drivers are you!! As riders, your stories about the difference our rides have made in your life are what inspires others to become volunteer drivers. So, please let Susan in our office (941-364-7530) know if you are willing to go on the big (or not so big) screen. Production will begin this summer!

Visits With Friends at Your Home or Elsewhere

There may be occasions when you want to entertain friends at your home or meet friends somewhere in the community. However, the limiting factor may be that they do not have transportation to get there. Beginning in June, you are welcome to make a request for a ride for a friend to meet you. You will be charged for the ride and it will appear on your monthly statement. You can decide with your friend how to cover this expense.

Looking for Riders to Be On Our Board of Directors

The iTNSunCoast Board of Directors is looking for riders to become members of our Board. The Board feels it is important to have the viewpoint of riders represented as issues are discussed and decisions are made that will affect our services. The Board meets the second Wednesday of each month for 1 ½ hours. Transportation will be provided to the meetings at no cost. If you are interested or simply want to learn more, please call Arthur at the iTN office at 941-364-7530.



Pick Up/Delivery/Shopping Service

A friendly reminder that we now offer pick up, delivery and shopping services. We could pick up or delivery things for you like prescriptions, dry cleaning, meals from restaurants, tax returns or groceries. In addition, we can do food shopping for you. The cost of the pick-up and delivery service is the charge for a one way ride plus a \$5.00 fee. Shopping will be charged on the basis of the time involved. This makes it less expensive than if you made the trip yourself in those instances when you would rather not go out. Just give us a call with the details of your request.

Save \$ - Sell or Donate Your Car

You may have a car that you no longer use that is sitting in your garage or driveway costing you money. Insurance, registration and maintenance can be significant expenses. iTNSunCoast can help you sell your vehicle. We will pick up your car and make arrangements for its sale. You can donate to iTN all or a portion of the sale amount and use the value of the donation as a tax deduction. You can also take a portion of the value of your car as a credit into your iTN account to cover the cost of future rides, you can give it 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. Call Arthur at the iTN office for more information.

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 addresses 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

Jennifer Edwards, Dispatcher