

## **Free Rides to Eye Appointments**

Thanks to Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., the free rides to eye related doctors' appointments that we have been providing are set for the foreseeable future. The terms of the generous grant that Regeneron has been providing for the past three years were recently reviewed and renewed. As the result, free rides both ways to eye related appointments will continue to be free for the next several months. Thank you, Regeneron!

## **Let's Go Places! – Ready to Begin in June**

With the necessary software adjustments nearly complete, Let's Go Places! will begin in June. This new service from iTNSunCoast will provide you with the opportunity to get rides for as little as \$10 - \$15 round trip to selected shopping, educational, arts/cultural and dining establishments on a set schedule. Time to get out of the house have some fun! This is just in time for Savor Sarasota 2017, so let us know which local restaurants you would like to go to. You will receive the June schedule within the next two weeks.

## **Car Karaoke**

Have you seen our own Linda Davis and guest celebrities do car karaoke? James Corden is nervous about keeping his job. Linda has cleverly turned her car into a recording studio and has found no shortage of local nighingales. "America's Got Talent" beware! "iTNSunCoast Has Talent" is nipping at your heels! You can see Linda and our special guests at

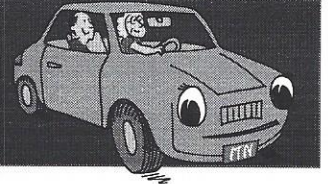
<https://www.facebook.com/pg/SupportITNSarasota/videos/>

Please share the link with you friends and like us on Facebook! We are going viral, baby!!

## **We've Moved**

After over five years of renting space from the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County, we recently moved our office. We needed more space since we have added staff to be able to handle the big increase in rides we are providing. We have gone from 5,000 rides in 2015 to 10,000 rides in 2016 and expect to provide 15,000 rides this year. We are now renting from Goodwill Industries in a wonderful work space at 1704 N. Honore Avenue in Sarasota. We will greatly miss Jim Shirley and the Arts Alliance staff and Steve Roskamp and his staff at 1226 N Tamiami Trail who have been so supportive of us for the past few years!





## **Non-Event Gala a Success**

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Non-Event Gala was a great success. We raised more than \$10,000 and want to thank the many people who donated to ITNSunCoast! Special thanks goes to two iTNSunCoast Board members, Linda Davis and Don Deibert, who created a Challenge Match associated with the Non-Event Gala and matched a total amount of \$5,000. This contributed greatly to our success. Thank you Linda and Don for your incredible generosity! Also, thank you to our event sponsors: Sarasota Bay Club, Ashton Place, Alderman Oaks, Sir Speedy, Ina Schnell and Nancy Schlossberg!

## **Age-Friendly Sarasota Action Plan**

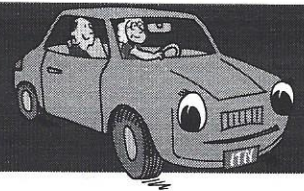
In 2015 Sarasota County became the first participant in Florida in the World Health Organization's Age-Friendly Communities initiative. For the past two years, through the support of the Patterson Foundation, work has gone forward in developing an Age-Friendly Action Plan for Sarasota County, a requirement of joining the WHO Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities. The Action Plan identifies age-friendly goals and objectives based on the Planning Phase (May 2016 - April 2017) and aims to incorporate actions throughout Sarasota County that are currently underway or will be implemented in the subsequent Implementation Phase (June 2017 - May 2020).

The Age-Friendly Sarasota Action Plan represents a synthesis of research findings based on the input of nearly 1,200 Sarasota County residents age 50+ who participated in either focus groups or survey research in 2015 and expressed their perspectives and preferences regarding important community features by domain. You can help make Sarasota County become a more age friendly community by reviewing and commenting on the draft of the Age-Friendly Sarasota Action Plan. You can find the draft plan at

<https://www.agefriendlysarasota.org/impact/age-friendly-sarasota-action-plan.html>

If you do not have access to a computer, give us a call and we will send you a copy of the draft plan.





## **Friendly Reminders**

- iTNSunCoast office hours are 9:00 am to 2:00 pm, Monday thru Friday and 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](mailto: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 iTNSunCoast 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 iTNSunCoast!!**

Arthur Lerman, Executive Director

Susan Shaw, Executive Assistant

Rich Henderson, Dispatcher