

PASSENGER COMMENTS

“Your volunteers are wonderful. Your service is an excellent stress reliever.”

“Your staff is always polite and helpful.”

“All the drivers are courteous and helpful.”

“Thank you for Neighbor Ride!”

“(You) continue to be the ‘SALT’ in our lives.”

“The service is always prompt and is not expensive.”

“My husband and I are most appreciative.”

“Being a senior citizen and without a car, this is a great service for it helped me to reach my interview in time.”

DIRECTOR’S NOTE

We’re mostly settled in after our move. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make it happen. Special thanks to volunteer driver Dennis Boucher who donated a truck (with a hydraulic lift) making it much easier for all involved. A nice work area for the Ride Coordinators was created using our donated modular furniture. Please stop by and check it out.

With the growth of Neighbor Ride, we found that the operation of the business was demanding more and more time. At the same time, we realized that additional help was needed to add volunteers, passengers and community support. Recently, our Board of Directors approved the addition of a new part time position: Community Outreach Coordinator to address these needs. I am pleased to announce that Colleen Konstanzer has accepted the position and starts April 1. As many of you know, Colleen was the founding Director of Neighbor Ride and has been a very active volunteer since leaving the position in 2006. Please join me in welcoming Colleen back to Neighbor Ride.

We recently received two contributions from businesses. The first was a \$2500 grant from State Farm Insurance. This was sponsored by local agent Kim Musser. Also, we received a \$500 Presidential Service Award from Home Instead Senior Care – a local business that provides services to seniors so that they can remain in their homes. Thanks to both for their generous support!

Think Spring,
Brad



Volunteers are the Keys to Our Success

Our Mission

Neighbor Ride will decrease isolation and improve the quality of life for Howard County's older residents by providing a reasonably priced, reliable, supplemental transportation service which utilizes community volunteers and resources.

March Stats

Our volunteer Drivers accommodated **192 rides**, driving **4,771 miles**, while contributing **287 hours** of their time.

Our dedicated volunteer Ride Coordinators logged **180 hours**.

March completion rate
97%

Orientation dates:

April 4, 12 PM
April 16, 7 PM

NEIGHBOR RIDE

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Columbia, MD 21045
410-884-RIDE (7433)

Brad Closs, Executive Director
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**Rosemary Noble
Volunteer Coordinator**
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Visit us on the web at:
<http://www.neighborride.org>

Coordinator's Corner...

In recognition of Volunteer Appreciation Month I thank each of you for the time you give so generously to Neighbor Ride. Many of our volunteers are very busy, engaged in family, work, and other volunteer activities while continuing to drive seniors where they need to go or process ride requests and locate drivers. You are an **extraordinary** group of individuals who are making Howard County a better place for seniors who no longer drive. Many, many thanks! Watch for a special envelope in your mailbox this month. Also, if you are near the Miller Library on Frederick Road in Ellicott City, stop in and see the Neighbor Ride display (you may recognize a name or two).

The Annual Volunteer Training in March was well attended. Thank you to those who were able to attend and who offered valuable feedback to us on being a Neighbor Ride volunteer. Brad and I have started addressing the items on the list created during the focus groups and will try to give answers in future newsletters. Again, thank you for your time and input. Both are welcomed throughout the year.

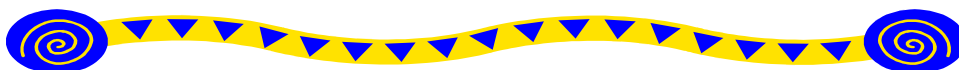
Rosemary



Please remember:

- **Call your passenger the day before to introduce yourself and confirm the ride for the following day**
- **Let Neighbor Ride know when you will be away to avoid receiving inappropriate ride requests**
- **Partial fuel reimbursement is an option for drivers, call the office for more information**
- **June 8, 2008 is the date of our Annual Neighbor Ride Family Picnic**

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Ania Bykowsky and her family on the death of her husband.



Starting next week, you can contact our new Community Outreach Coordinator, Colleen Konstanzer, at community@neighborride.org. She's looking forward to hearing from you!