



THE TRANSPORTER

August 2009

www.neighborride.org

Volume 5 Number 8

PASSENGERS' COMMENTS

"Neighbor Ride has had a very positive impact on our lives, not only through transportation but also by dear friendships we have made." MB

"The (Ride Coordinators) are very helpful and kind. JM

"I thank the people of Neighbor Ride for their help in transporting me to therapy." JW

"This company and the people who drive are just great!" SG

"I love that I can still go to the BSO." AH

"The Ride Coordinators are very pleasant and helpful." (unsigned)

"I don't know how I could manage without it." LF

"The quality and politeness of my driver was excellent. He was very efficient and courteous. It is a service to be proud of!" JH

From the Director.....

With the change of fiscal year, there are also some changes in Neighbor Ride's Board. We would like to thank those moving on and welcome the new members.

Jean Berulis, our former Passenger Representative has moved to Florida. Pat Everhart, our former Ride Coordinator Representative, ensured that decisions took into account the office operations. John Fiedler, our Treasurer since the early days, made many contributions to ensure Neighbor Ride's financial stability. Sharon Smith, as a representative of Corridor Transit, provided insight into the transit business.

We have five new members: Andy Carmer is a Business Development representative for Sun Trust Bank. Efon Epanty comes from Corridor Transit. Mary McGraw is the publisher of **Generations**. Joseph Murray is responsible for community outreach for Ascend One Corporation. Andy Wakshul is the new Ride Coordinator Representative.

We would like to thank the previous members for their service and dedication to Neighbor Ride and welcome the new members.

On a different subject – be sure to check out Neighbor Ride's website – www.neighborride.org. It is being enhanced on a regular basis and now includes listings of our generous donors as well as links to the websites of our Benefactor and Visionary Donors.

-Brad

Did you know.....

...Starting Monday August 10, the East Columbia Library will provide a new service: passport applications and passport photos on Mondays-Thursdays 3 pm to 7 pm; and Saturdays 10 am to 4 pm.

...Starting Monday, August 3 a sewer project on Cedar Lane at Harriet Tubman Lane will begin. There may be delays during the hours of 9 am to 3 pm during the week until mid September when completion is expected.

...Neighbor Ride will be celebrating its 5th birthday on November 19 from 5 pm-7 pm! See the flyer attached.

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.

July Stats

7= Rides cancelled,
no driver found

597= Number trips

199= Ride Coordinator
hours

79= Admin office hours

69= Special project
volunteer office
hours

Orientation dates:

August 14, 10AM

NEIGHBOR RIDE
8950 Route 108
Suite 115
Columbia, MD 21045
410-884-RIDE (7433)
Brad Closs, Executive
Director
director@neighborride.org

Rosemary Noble
Volunteer Coordinator
volunteer@neighborride.org

Colleen Dumais
Konstanzer
Community Outreach
Coordinator
community@neighborride.org

Visit us on the web at:
<http://www.neighborride.org>

Coordinator's Corner

We have the BEST volunteers! Many thanks to our driver who sent in this Neighbor Ride story.....

Once I realized Ms. V and her friend are staying in Howard County only for Ms. V's cancer treatment at Johns Hopkins, I detoured to take them up on the B-W Parkway for the first time since all their previous rides had been pretty much the same (along I-95 and in Baltimore.) Once in the city I cut across to show them South Baltimore and Federal Hill. En route home with no time constraint, I took them straight out on Lombard Street to Route 144 through Catonsville and Ellicott City.

All along the way, even in the slums, they seemed entranced by the landscapes. They commented on how charming or beautiful so many things were that appear very ordinary (even ugly!) to me. I can only guess their little northern Michigan town must be drab, indeed. It was obvious they had spent nearly their entire lives there; they were even captivated by the variety of people on the street.

Ms. V came here for treatment for leukemia (or some other blood problem) after two months in Michigan with a local doctor who failed to make a diagnosis. Fortunately, her son who lives in Columbia persuaded her to come to Johns Hopkins for treatment. He's a 20-year donor of platelets to Johns Hopkins.

Hopkins doctors readily diagnosed her disease and prescribed an experimental regimen they reportedly had developed that consists of chemo doses given on an outpatient basis without the side effects of hair loss or nausea.

Her platelet count has risen from 14,000 when she arrived here, to 89,000. Yesterday doctors gave her a report card of "A+" and declared her cancer to be in remission. You can imagine their joy! It was a wonderful reconfirmation of how lucky we are to be in this area so close to top-notch medical services like Johns Hopkins. Both Ms. V and her friend are most grateful for all the drivers who have helped make her recovery possible.

Now back to August, I hope to see you at the Wine Bin on August 3 and/or 19th to benefit Neighbor Ride. **THANK YOU FOR THE EXTRA RIDES YOU HAVE OFFERED IN JULY.**
Cheers! Rosemary

Welcome to Neighbor Ride.....

Bill Blatt, Kristen Byrne, Joe Burkert, Linda Daniels, Alfreda Gill, Eric Jacobson, Kathy Jankiewicz, Joseph Murray, Barbara Palazzo, Heidi Pardue

