



Senior Transportation Services

Senior Transportation Services, Inc.

April 2024 Newsletter

Upcoming Mother's Day Flower Sale!

Mark your calendars for our special Mother's Day flower sale fundraiser, happening in May to support our transportation services. Join us on Friday, May 10th, from 12 pm to 6 pm, and Saturday, May 11th, from 10 am to 3 pm, to pick from a beautiful assortment of flowers. For Clients looking to have their flowers delivered, we are pleased to offer preorders with delivery on Friday, May 10th, at no extra charge. Keep an eye out for the order form attached to this Newsletter, ensuring you get the perfect blooms to celebrate Mother's Day, all while supporting a great cause! Please note that Clients can call the office to place flower orders over the phone.

Important Notices

We want to inform all Clients that there will be an increase in ride fees, **effective July 1, 2024**. This adjustment is necessary to ensure we can continue providing reliable transportation services and maintain our commitment to serving you with the highest standards of care and safety. We appreciate your understanding and continued support as we work to meet the evolving needs of our community.

Rates based on round trip

1-6 miles: \$7.00	13-18 miles: \$19.00
7-12 miles: \$13.00	19-24 miles: \$25.00

Volunteer Drivers Wanted

Are you retired, a veteran, or find yourself at home during the day searching for a meaningful volunteer opportunity? Senior Transportation Services, Inc. seeks dependable volunteers, willing to use their personal vehicles, to help residents aged 55 and over in Berlin, New Britain, Meriden, Wallingford, Southington, and Plainville reach their medical appointments. We ask for a minimum commitment of just two rides per month. For more details and to access our application, please visit seniorrides.org and select the 'Volunteers' tab, or contact our Program Coordinator, Kaiya Alexander, by calling (860) 224-7117.

Client Gifts

If you are looking for a meaningful gift to give a friend, family or loved one who is a current or prospective client of STS, you can donate in their name and we will credit it to their account. We will send a hand-written note to the recipient acknowledging your gift.

PayPal QR Code:



Website & Facebook Page

We're excited to announce that our website and Facebook page have undergone a fresh makeover! This revamp is designed with you in mind, making it easier than ever for our valued older adult clients to stay informed and connected with our latest updates and services.

Visit us online at www.seniorrides.org to explore the new features and join our Facebook community page [Senior Transportation Services](#) today to stay up-to-date with all events, fundraising and programs soon to come, no matter where you are!

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Can I pick up my prescription on my way home from an appointment?

Answer: Yes! We provide extra stops to your local pharmacies and banks when returning home from your medical visit. Please inform your Volunteer Driver when an additional stop is needed.

Any comments, suggestions, or questions on how we could improve and enhance our service are always welcome, feel free to email us at seniortransportationservices@yahoo.com. We look forward to hearing from you!

Notes for our Clients

- We book a year in advance for medical appointment transportation! Please feel free to call our office with any and all your transportation requests.
- Looking to place an order for our Mother's Day Flower Sale? Either mail the attached order form to our office or place your order over the phone (PayPal, cash, and check as payment options).
- Reminder: Taxes need to be filled by April 15th! If you have any questions or concerns, contact your local Senior Center for additional assistance.
- We want to remind everyone of our Covid-19 policy. We require that all clients are vaccinated unless they can provide a medical exemption letter written by their physician.
- Be sure to recommend STS to friends, family or loved ones who would benefit from our transportation services. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

Mail: Senior Transportation Services Inc. 830 Corbin Ave., New Britain, CT 06052

Email: seniortransportationservices@yahoo.com **Phone Number:** 860-224-7117

To Our Volunteer Drivers

With the upcoming Spring weather in mind, car magnets may not stick to your vehicles due to pollen, dirt, and rain for an extended amount of time. If you're in need of a replacement, please let the office know, along with any questions or concerns.

Supplies that are available at the office: Masks, sanitary wipes, sanitary spray, hand sanitizer, seat belt extensions and car magnets.

With our Mother's Day flower sale approaching, we are collecting names of Drivers who would be willing to deliver client flower orders **Friday, May 10th**! If interested, please contact the office by phone or email for more information.

Driver Recognition January-March

Driver with the **Most Rides** – Sharon Guite: 70 rides!

Driver with the **Most Milage** – Jane Patsas: 2,389 miles!

Driver with the **Most Hours** – Steve Bransfield: 52.25 hours!

Driver Appreciation – Irving Johnson: recent clients have called in to express their gratitude and thanks towards their transportation experience with Irving. Thank you for all that you do!

Driver Luncheon Event

Join us for a celebration like no other! Our annual Drivers Recognition Luncheon is happening on **Friday, September 13th, 2024 12-2:30pm**, and you're invited to be part of the festivities. It's a day dedicated to honoring the hard work, dedication, and incredible contributions of our drivers. We'll be serving up delicious food and refreshing drinks as a small token of our appreciation for everything you do.

Whether you've been with us for years or recently joined the team, this event is our way of saying thank you for your outstanding efforts in keeping our wheels turning smoothly. To ensure we have plenty of goodies for everyone, please **RSVP by August 30th**. We can't wait to celebrate with you all!

Happy Anniversary to our Drivers!

January Anniversary – Jim Catala (2 years), Elizabeth Donohue (2 years), Jack Eisenmann (4 years), Robert Heerz (1 year), Marilou Lang (2 years), Ronald & Victoria Lepak (2 years), Keith Richardson (2 years)!

February Anniversary – Thomas Raffile (3 years), Lori DelVaglio (2 years)!

March Anniversary – Sharon Guite (3 years), Ruth Lasota (3 years), John Loughran (6 years), Jim McCall (3 years), Pat McCurdy-Crescimanno (2 years)!

Donating to STS

The office staff and board members would like to thank everyone who has donated to Senior Transportation Services Inc. Our organization exists only through individual donations, Grants and Sponsorships.

Across all 6 communities that STS serves, 78% of transportation provided is at no cost to our clients. Donations and contributions help to support free rides. A \$50 donation will provide 1 round trip ride and \$100 would provide 2 round trip rides. Here's how you can donate:

1. Go to our website, www.seniorrides.org and click on "How you can help", or
2. Mail your donation to Senior Transportation Services, Inc., 830 Corbin Ave, New Britain, CT 06052. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and your monetary donation is tax deductible.
3. Honorarium - If you would like to recognize a family member, friend or acquaintance with a charitable gift, STS will send a note to the recipient, stating that a gift in their honor has been received.
4. In Memoriam - If you would like to make a charitable gift in the name of someone who has passed, STS will notify the family of the deceased stating a gift has been made in their name.

Senior Transportation Services is grateful for support from the following organizations who provide partial funding for our services:

United Way of Southington – Funds Courtesy of Barnes Memorial Trust	
City of Meriden – SCAAA	North Central Area Agency on Aging, Inc.
Community Chest of New Britain & Berlin	United Way of Meriden and Wallingford
City of New Britain – CDBG	American Savings Foundation
New Britain Senior Center	Farmington Bank Community Foundation
Maximilian E. & Marion O. Hoffman Fdn., Inc.	Plainville Senior Center – NCAAA
<u>Sponsored By:</u>	
Linda Stepensky Campochiaro Memorial Trust Meriden Rotary New Season in Life, LLC GONETSPEED Crew Family Foundation	

Quarterly Ride Reports

Understanding the challenges many of our senior friends face with increasing medical costs on a fixed income, we know that every penny counts, including transportation expenses. At STS, we believe in treating every client with the same high level of care and respect, regardless of their financial situation. That's why we offer free transportation to our low-income clients, ensuring they can get to their medical appointments without worry. To keep you informed, we're excited to share updates in our Newsletter every quarter. These Ride Reports will show you the impact of the generous donations, grants, and sponsorships that make our free transportation services possible!

Free Ride Totals January-March 2024:

Total number of free rides provided in the communities: **809** total free rides!

Total number of rides provided in all 6 communities: **1,065** total rides!

Total mileage driven by volunteer drivers: **15,980** total miles!

Total hours completed by volunteer drivers: **889** total hours!

Town of Berlin: **28** rides were free!

Town of Meriden: **35** rides were free!

Town of New Britain: **243** rides were free!

Town of Plainville: **55** rides were free!

Town of Southington: All **416** rides provided were free thanks to the United Way of Southington, courtesy of Barnes Memorial Trust!

Town of Wallingford: **32** rides were free!

Additional Resources Available

CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CEAP) Homeowners and Renters who pay separately for heat CALL 1-800-842-1132

FOOD - Mobile Foodshare -A truck delivers food weekly at various areas in each of the Towns we service. There is no income requirement or no residency requirements. Call Foodshare at (860) 856-4321 for times and places to pick-up food.

HOUSING - TEMPORARY HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - Prevent evictions, and get help with mortgage payments, Call 1-800-785-3111 between the hours of 8am – 5pm.

FINANCES - FREE FINANCIAL COACHING - Connecticut residents dealing with creditors or finding resources for managing their money, call the local United Way office.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE - Free Income Tax preparation for anyone making under \$57,000/YEAR. Call 211 for help. Also contact your local senior center for tax preparation needs and resources.

HOME SAFETY SOLUTIONS- Hartford HealthCare Home Safety Solutions offers technology that promotes independence, safety, and improved quality of life for seniors. They have devices for fall prevention, emergency response, medication management, remote monitoring, home safety, and hearing assistance. For more information, pricing and referrals please call 203-295-7476.

211- free and confidential helpline that connects individuals to resources and services in their community. You can dial 2-1-1 or visit their website, 211unitedway.org, to search for resources related to electric assistance, food assistance, housing assistance, financial assistance, and more.