

CALLING ALL SPORTS FANS!

Because of the generosity of TD Banknorth, ITNPortland will be auctioning tickets to the Sea Dogs for 8/17/08, the Red Sox for 9/26/08, the Bruins, and the Celtics (vouchers for these teams available). Please go to our website www.itnportland.org to find the link to bid on the tickets. The bidding will close for the Sea Dogs tickets on 8/14/08 and the rest will close on 8/29/08.

For more information on the Independent Transportation Network® or to make a donation, please complete this form and mail it to: ITNPortland®, 90 Bridge Street, Westbrook ME 04092

- I am interested in volunteering as a driver or office support.
- I am interested in donating or trading a car for rides.
- I am interested in ITN® services for myself, a friend or relative. Please send me an application.
- I would like ITN® to make a presentation to my group.
- Enclosed is my contribution: \$ _____
- Please send a CarTrade brochure.

Name _____
 Street _____
 City/Town _____ State ____ Zip _____
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News and Information from the Independent Transportation Network®

Summer 2008

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ITNPortland leads to trip of a lifetime

Written by Marnie Ward, ITN Office Volunteer

Carol Wernig, a member since 1999, thought about traveling to her grandmother's homeland but her visual disability made it impossible to go on her own. Pauline "Polly" Spencer, a volunteer driver since the death of her husband in 2005, felt she was meant to see the world, but life's responsibilities came first. The two ladies met through ITNPortland, becoming friends immediately, sharing their stories and talking about their dreams.

It just so happened that the facilitator of the widow's support group Polly attended was an experienced traveler who occasionally escorted small groups. One day, Polly asked about the possibility of a tour and found out it could be done. "Carol," she said, "Pack up. We're going to Ireland!" Polly also recruited two other women to join the adventure.

Their journey lasted nine days, starting in Dublin. They toured the city, took in the theater, and sampled Guinness at a local pub. Both women praised the friendliness of the Irish people and commented how everyone in their group enjoyed themselves. Pauline and Carol also visited the Hills of Tara and the Boyne Valley; the Newgrange monuments, where custodians allowed Carol to "see" the ancient stones by touching them, the Wicklow Mountains, and several other attractions as well. They ended up in Kenmare, a small Irish town preserving some of the old customs, such as Saturday market day and herding the sheep through the streets. A trip to Iceland and Scotland, Polly's ancestral homeland, is planned for 2009. "Never say never," Carol cautioned.

Thanks to ITNPortland, two lives were changed forever. We at ITNPortland are grateful we could be the catalyst for such wonderful memories, and strive to foster a community spirit where "miracles" like this happen more and more often.



Pauline and Carol in Ireland

ITNPortland is actively recruiting volunteer drivers. To learn more, please call Acting Manager Elizabeth Charles at 854-0505.

ITN Welcomes New Members!

Telemachus Anastos
 Dorothea L. Baillargeon
 Elizabeth B. Bates
 Orpha Beaudoin
 Helene Bernier
 Lorraine Breen
 Richard Breen
 Dorothy Buck
 James Buck
 Barbara Busby
 Beverly Campbell
 Velma Carlson
 Barbara Clark
 Leah Cohen
 Leon Cooper
 Myrle Cooper
 Kathleen Crockett
 Eleanor Dahms
 Sidney L. Dame
 Lyne DeAndrade
 Gloria Edwards
 Margaret Ehmann
 Preston Ehmann
 Donald R. Erickson
 Barbara Faietta
 Dominic Faietta
 Jane M. Fenn
 Jean G. Fine
 Sylvia H. Fish
 Pearl E. Gerber
 Walter Getchell
 Joan Gilbertson
 Robert Gilbertson
 Martha Hamilton
 Joyce Hilliard
 Evelyn Holt
 Frederick Holt
 Charlotte Hurley
 Mary Jane A. Irish
 Frank Jeton
 Steven Kelley
 Thomas F. Kelly
 Norma S. Knight

ITN Welcomes New Volunteers and Staff!

ITNPortland is ever grateful for the contributions of volunteers. Please join us in welcoming our new drivers: Melissa Bilyeu-Hodroff, Linda Murphy, Anne Morin, Marilyn Dawson, and Robert Nadeau.

We also owe a big thanks to Marnie Ward, a new office volunteer who helped with this newsletter.

Please welcome Harold Bean, our new dispatcher. He was formerly a driver, so you may recognize his voice on our phones!

ITN Says Goodbye

Sandy, who worked in the office for over a year, has taken a job at the Atrium in Portland. While she will be missed, we are excited for her new opportunity and proud of her continued dedication to working with seniors.

ANNUAL MEETING

ITNPortland's Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 24, 2008 at The Park Danforth from 10 a.m. to noon. All are welcome to attend. Customers should call in advance to arrange a free ride to the event.

We are fortunate to be joined by Dr. Robert McAfee, our featured speaker, who worked as a surgeon and physician in Maine. He served as the President of the American Medical Association and remains active both nationally and locally working on committees to address a wide variety of public health issues including serving as the chair of the Dirigo health initiative Board of Directors.

Thanks to our corporate supporters:



ITN Welcomes New Members!

Phyliss LaBay
 Jacqueline G. LaChapelle
 Charles Lambert
 Theresa Linnell
 Juliana Little
 John Litwinowich
 Virginia H. Lott
 Robert Maki
 Delma R. McAleer
 David Milbury
 Rita Mooney
 Joan Moore
 Mary Moriarty
 Beulah Moulton
 Diana Moxhay
 Jean K. Mullins
 Kathleen Nickless
 Marcia O'Donnell
 Marion Al Packard
 Norma Pulkinen
 John Reeve
 Mary M. Reeve
 Connie Regios
 Joseph Richards
 Louise Richards
 Hazel Rowley
 Earl Russell
 Leonard V. Russo
 Elizabeth Sanborn
 Elizabeth Sansone
 Rose Superia
 Stan Sutton
 Oleg Svetlichny
 Nancy Swimm
 James Tabor
 Rachel Tabor
 Eleanor Troianu
 Elaina Verre
 Frances C. Warren
 T. Robinson White
 Rita Whiting
 Dorothy M. Whitney
 Ruth Young

Greetings, ITN Members and Supporters

An African adage claims that "It takes a village to raise a child." A similar idea, I believe, is that it takes a community to uplift its diverse members.

ITNPortland's annual "Walk for Rides," held on June 1, was a testament to the collaborative power of a community. The event was a great success, not because of the sunny weather and cool breezes that afternoon, but because of overwhelming support from the community on a number of levels. Roughly 55 people walked around Portland's Back Cove to emphasize their belief in the importance of dignified transportation for seniors and visually impaired individuals. Community bakers worked hard to have a variety of goodies to reward the walkers; volunteers coordinated logistics; individuals offered prizes; and businesses donated thousands of dollars, all to show their support for ITNPortland.

But perhaps the larger message, apart from the support of the organization itself, is the statement expressed by each brownie baked, each step around the Cove, and each dollar given: the senior population and the visually impaired are of great worth to our community. Each individual and business that contributed showed its recognition that the services provided by ITNPortland keep these valued members active in our community.

On behalf of the board of directors, staff, and membership of ITNPortland, I would like to express deep thanks to the organizations listed on these pages which contributed to the Walk for Rides, and to the people who donated their time, talents, and resources. Your support is vital to our organization and greatly appreciated.

Many thanks,

Elizabeth Charles, Acting Manager



Participants of the Walk for Rides enjoy entertainment provided by the Whee Doggie Band. David Gagne also performed at the event.

Thanks to our Corporate Supporters:

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 Scarborough Downs
 Scarborough Terrace
 The Law Offices of Joe Bornstein
 The Allstate Foundation
 Town & Country Hair Fashions
 Maine Eye Care Center
 Iris Network
 TD Banknorth

Wanna Have Some FUN?!

The staff at ITNPortland is looking for volunteers to help with our monthly mailings. Please contact us if you are interested in helping. Remember, ITNPortland customers can be volunteers too! Free rides are provided to customers who would like to offer a hand.