

MARCH 2025

BULLETIN OF INDEPENDENT
TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

ITNBluegrass™
Dignified transportation for seniors

“SAFE TRAVELS”

From The Desk of The Founder

The rest of the story - JoAnn Kloecker Griffin's best friend
was the incomparable Sue Ann Cowgill!

A Tribute to My Mother, JoAnn Kloecker Griffin



This issue of Safe Travels is dedicated to my mother, JoAnn Kloecker Griffin—a founding supporter of ITN Bluegrass in 2006. As a volunteer driver for ITNBluegrass you will discover stories and histories beyond your imagination. Though she never personally needed the service, as she spent most of her life in our hometown of London, Kentucky and our

family business in Wilmore, she believed deeply in its mission. Her support continued until her unexpected passing in 2012. She helped to build a transportation network that has today given over 130K rides and 1.2 million miles driven in Fayette and Northern Jessamine counties.

One day, while giving ride, I struck up a conversation with the Member about my mother's age. As we talked, I discovered—much to my delight—that she and my mother had been best friends in Lexington during junior high and high school. In that moment, I realized that, in her own way, my mother was still part of this journey.

My Mother may not have needed the service herself, but her belief in helping others ensured that ITN Bluegrass could serve those who did—including a dear friend from her past. These experiences and relationships are why our Volunteer Drivers continue to drive for years. **Do you know someone who would be a good Volunteer Driver?**

In closing, thank you, Mom, for your unwavering support and showing me the power of community, connection, persistence and hard work.

Gale Reece
Founder & Acting Executive Director

ITNAmerica

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY

ITNAmerica conducts an annual Customer Satisfaction Survey to assess and enhance our services. Each year, participants are randomly selected, so not everyone will receive a survey. If you are selected, you will receive your survey by mail in early April.

We kindly ask that you complete and return it as soon as possible. **As a token of our appreciation, all respondents will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win \$100 in ride credits!**

Your feedback is invaluable in helping us improve the service. Thank you for your time and participation!

NEW VOLUNTEER DRIVERS!

We are excited to welcome four new drivers to the ITN Bluegrass family!

Matt McMahan - retired UK Pharmacy

Linda Milonas - DJ and a retired engineer NASA

Charlie Schaefer - Lexmart

Phyllis Bates - retired UK

Farewell To An Icon

On February 26, 2025 Lexington lost Ms. Isabel Yates. She proudly served on the Lexington City Council from 1991-2002. Elected Vice Mayor in 1998, she championed many city-oriented projects, including the preservation of McConnell Springs and the restoration of the Kentucky Theater. Her philanthropic work was extensive and included ITN Bluegrass.



ITN Bluegrass Supporters: Former Vice Mayor Isabel Yates, Former Mayor Jim Gray, & Mayor Linda Gorton.

Isabel was the recipient of many civic awards, honoring her many contributions to the community. Her legacy will continue, with several community awards that have been named after her as tribute to her lifestyle of public service. Our own Gale Reece was honored to receive the Isabel Yates Community Service Award in 2023 by Women Leading KY

Get Involved!

- -Join a Committee! We need members to sit on our Marketing & Communications committee. If you are interested email: gale.reece@itnbluegrass.org
- -Volunteers Needed! We are always looking for more drivers and office volunteers. If you are interested email: gale.reece@itnbluegrass.org
- -Follow us on Facebook!

Do you shop at Kroger? ITNBluegrass is participating in Kroger's Community Rewards Program. Take a minute to register your Kroger Plus Card to benefit ITNBluegrass (ID# SK010).



To register:

1. Visit Kroger.com/communityrewards to sign up or sign in.
2. (Re) enroll in Community Rewards and select "ITNBluegrass" from the list. (ID#SK010).
3. Every time you use your Rewards Card at Kroger, ITNBluegrass receives a percentage.

Grant Funding

TOYOTA



Toyota Manufacturing North America funds scholarship rides for low income seniors & provides operational support for all rides.



Lexington Lions Club

Lexington Lions Club generously exceeded our grant report by 20%!

- Beulah S. Mays Endowment at BGCF
- Regeneron Pharmaceuticals

New Address

219 East Short Street
Lexington, KY 40507

New Phone

859-785-2180

Individual Donors

** January & February 2025

Susan Bachner
Charles Baker
Anne Bolton
Rochelle Davis
Marion Eblen
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Sherry Gardner
Betty Hall
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Pat Lawrence
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Merrill Reece
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Cynthia Salamanca
Eleanor Sutter
Doug Warriner
Jean-Marie Welch
Steve Wessel
Adrian Wichman
Anomoyous
Second Presbyterian
Field & Main Bank

In Memory of Ron Sale

Susan Ament
Jason Boling
John & Joan Davis
Roland & Colleen Duell
Barbara Hacker
Rose Marie Hackett
Stephanie Hong
Beth Kingsley
Joyce Leverett
Ann Littleton & Ina Wilson

Joh McGlone & Tom Tolliver
Merrill & Gale Reece
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