

## Did You Know...?

1. Ride Connection is having an open house to give everyone we work with a chance to see our new space. Come join us on Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 5 pm. No need to RSVP. Our new office is located at 3030 SW Moody, Suite 230 Portland, OR 97201. We hope to see you there!
2. Our Lead Travel Trainer, Chris Hunter has recently been selected to be part of a national training program through Easter Seals Project ACTION. He will be part of a team created to provide training for people interested in becoming travel trainers or starting travel training in their own communities. Congratulations Chris!
3. Starting Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 24 TriMet bus lines had minor scheduling changes. To find out if your bus is one with a change in schedule, call (503) 238-RIDE or log on to the TriMet website by visiting: [www.trimet.org](http://www.trimet.org)
4. You may have seen information about RideWise on KATU-2 News on February 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:37 am and 5:34 pm. We have a link posted in our "In The News" section on the Ride Connection Website. If you would like to see our clip, contact us at:  
[ridewisenews@rideconnection.org](mailto:ridewisenews@rideconnection.org)

**This newsletter is available in alternative format by calling 503.528.1721**

## Q & A with Devon



**Q. Devon, I'm currently working with an individual who uses a wheelchair. Can someone teach me how to secure his/her wheelchair once we board the bus?**

A. Actually, securing the wheelchair is the responsibility of the bus driver. If this driver does not offer to secure the individual and he/she would like to be secured, the individual has the right to ask for securement. Self-advocacy is an important skill for everyone to have.

**Q. Devon, you taught my daughter how to independently ride public transportation last summer. She has had to start using a mobility device recently and is nervous about riding alone the first time. Can RideWise help?**

A. RideWise can provide assistance in two ways for this situation. We can have a trainer ride with your daughter the first time to show her the accessibility features of the bus while taking a trip, or we can have an out of service bus come out for her to practice on so she is comfortable when she goes to ride independently.

**Have a question for our travel trainers? Contact us and we may feature your question in our next newsletter.**

## Tip of the Month

As we all know, spring is just around the corner which means that the weather can range from hot to cold, wet to dry, and everything in between.

Here are some tips for spring bus riding:

- Even though it's nice out, the weather can change quickly from one minute to the next. Be sure to dress in layers so you are prepared!
- Remember that first thing in the morning when the sun is rising, and then again at dusk as it is setting drivers may have difficulty seeing you due to the sun in their eyes. Please be sure to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of their cars to ensure that it is safe to cross.
- When crossing the street, be sure to watch for bicyclists. As the weather gets nicer, more people start riding their bikes.
- When the sun is out, be sure to wear sunscreen, at least SPF 15.
- Read the TriMet Rider Insider, which is available quarterly via e-mail. It's packed with fun ideas and new information about TriMet such as fun places to go during spring break, where it goes and events that are going to be taking place. To read it online, visit: [www.trimet.org/riderinsider/index.htm](http://www.trimet.org/riderinsider/index.htm)

## This Month's Success Story



This month we trained an older gentleman who lives with his wife in Clackamas. He had given up driving quite some time ago and relies on his wife for transportation. His wife will be having major surgery soon and after this surgery, she will be unable to drive. He wanted to learn to get to Clackamas Town Center so that he could travel independently while she was healing, giving him a chance to get out in the community. After researching the trip, a RideWise Travel Trainer determined that he could ride a bus which goes right down Sunnyside Road and he only had to walk about one block to reach the nearest bus stop. This bus travels directly to Clackamas Town Center. This gentleman has learned this trip and now has an opportunity to get out in the community and travel independently while his wife is recovering from surgery.

### Contact Us

**To Enroll or ask a question: 503.528.1743**

**To Volunteer: 503.528.1749**

**Do you have any suggestions for an upcoming newsletter?**

[ridewiseneeds@rideconnection.org](mailto:ridewiseneeds@rideconnection.org)

An electronic version of the newsletter is also available just email us.

**RideWise** is a collaborative effort between TriMet and RideConnection to promote independent travel for older adults and people living with disabilities by providing access to information, training, and support.