



"A Customer First Company"

August 2008 Edition

Welcome to the August Edition of "On The Move"

! K&K in the News Again !

The following article appeared in the Village news Online.

"Vanpooling service makes the Chester-D.C. commute easier"

By Nick DeRatto

Aug 6, 2008 - 9:12:38 AM



Robert and Lorraine Meredith are among the approximately 160 passengers who use K&K Connections for their daily commute to northern Virginia.

Think the weekly work-day commute to Richmond is bad? Try making one to Washington D.C.

While not a common scenario, some residents across the region brave traffic snarls and no less than three-hour round trips each day.

A solution, however, has been found.

Chester residents Pamela and Keith Trent, Sr. have started their own company, K&K Connections, LLC, offering a vanpool commuter service from Chester to Washington D.C.

"I used to ride a van for VPSI [local vanpool service] for a year and wasn't completely happy with it," says Keith Trent. "I was spending money for the vanpool, but then had to pay again if I had to leave early and take a different van. I want to give people more options and choices for one flat rate."

Starting in June 2005, Trent launched the vanpool service with one van and a route from Chester to Washington D.C. Now, serving approximately 160 customers, he and his wife have 16 vans running routes from Chester, Richmond, Hopewell, Mechanicsville, and Ladysmith to northern Virginia and Washington D.C. They also hope to add at least two more routes in the near future: one from the Beaufort Shopping Center near Cloverleaf Mall to D.C. and one from Richmond to Quantico.

"We aren't entirely sure when we will be opening those routes," says Trent. "Right now, we are just hoping to get enough people; the magic number is seven. Once we get seven people, we will get a van and go."

Chesterfield resident Tracey Dunn initially requested a route from Cloverleaf, serving as a coordinator to help establish the route. Employed with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington D.C. and a vanpool rider since March, she began looking at a route there to help bring the service closer to Chesterfield residents.

"Right now, I travel to Henrico every morning just to get on a vanpool, so I wanted something a bit closer. After I made a request to RideFinders, K&K stepped up to the plate and said that they would work on getting another route in Chesterfield," says Dunn. "I've already gotten a few calls from people interested in getting this route."

In addition to these new routes, Trent hopes to continue to expand the vanpool service area.

"We definitely want to try to do something locally, at least one route from Chesterfield to Richmond. We want to do more than more local vans," says Trent. "We have a home base now so we want to come home and be local."

K&K has recently taken their first steps in this regard with the addition of a local service from Chester to Philip Morris. Started this week, the van leaves from the Bermuda Crossing Ukrop's Monday through Friday at 7:30 a.m., delivering passengers to the West Mark One entrance of Altria (Phillip Morris) by 8:15 a.m.; vans depart in the evening at 5 p.m. At the moment, 12 riders have already signed up for this local service, which will most likely cost around \$100 per month.

"We are very excited to provide this service. We've been working for awhile to try to get some local service, so it is great to have this first step," says Onika Williams, employee at K&K Connections.

Even as they expand, the Trents still have their eyes on K&K Connections' original focus.

"This is a family atmosphere," says Trent. "We want our customers to know each other and feel like a family."

Fares for regular weekly riders to northern Virginia and Washington D.C. are approximately \$245 per month, depending on gas prices. Occasional riders can purchase a one-way ticket for \$15 or round-trip ticket for \$30. For more information about K&K Connections vanpool service or their route schedules, visit their website at www.ride2k.com or call them at 1-877-RIDEK2K (743-3525)

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Special Thanks to Tracey Dunn for your hard work in getting this article published



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! K&K's First Local Route !

We are extremely excited to announce K&K Connections, LLC's first local van route. This van is composed of employees from Altria located on West Broad Street. Special thanks to Margaret Brown for stepping up and helping to get this van underway. This van started on August 4, 2008.

Below is the schedule for this van:

Morning Departure: Ukrops in Chester, VA located in Bermuda Square Monday - Friday at 7:30AM.

Morning Arrival: Altria (Phillip Morris) located at 6601 West Broad St. Richmond, VA 23230. It arrives at the West Mark One entrance of Altria by 8:15AM.

Evening Departure: Leaves Altria at 5:00PM.

This van like any local van's pricing is dependent on the number of riders participating in the vanpool. Currently, riders on this van can expect to pay almost \$100.00/month. For other local vans this may be more or less depending on how many riders they have and the distance they travel to work. Please pass this information on to anyone you know that may be interested in this route or establishing other local routes.

We Would Like to Send a Very Special Birthday Greeting To:

Elizabeth Rolle
Michael Singh
Tia Thomas
Lofranda Lewis
Teresa Hairston
Lae Vongphakdy

Gregory Robinson
Walter Norwood
Matisha Tucker
James Bryant
Kristie Watson
Curtis Chesson

*If we missed your name please let us know.

Welcome To the K&K Family!

K&K Connections, LLC would like to welcome the following riders to the K&K Family. We are excited to have you with us!

Ben Haas
Anthony Greene
George Herndon, III
Renee Jennings
Natasha Miller

Latonya Wray
Yvonne Jones
Nina Bacote
Tabitha Lorthridge
Bobby Watts

Special Welcome to Our First Local Van!!!

Margaret Brown
Les Riley
Terry Windham
Hal Hudler
Lisa Estes
Connie Fetty

Kiva Smith
Norm Banks
JoAnn Watson
Calvin Callender
Carla Fitzgerald
Lee Fetty

*If we missed your name please let us know. We thank all of you who have decided to join us!

K&K Connections, LLC Safety Corner

Recently we have had an increase in accidents as well as motorists calling in complaining of vans speeding or driving aggressively. During the summer months accidents in 15 passenger vans increased about 31%. As we approach the fall we want to make sure we are driving responsibly. Please keep in mind that 90% of rollovers occur after a driver has lost control of the vehicle and has run off the road. Situations that can lead to this include:

- The driver is driving too fast for conditions. The driver can lose control when traveling at a high speed causing the van to slide sideways off the road. The grassy or dirt medians that line highways can often cause the van to overturn when the tires dig into the dirt.
- The driver overcorrects the steering as a panic reaction to an emergency or to a wheel dropping off the pavement. Especially at freeway speeds, this situation can cause the driver to lose control, resulting in the van sliding sideways and rolling over.

In addition, please keep in mind that because a 15-passenger van is substantially longer and wider than a car, it:

- Requires more space and additional reliance on the side-view mirrors for changing lanes
- Does not respond as well to abrupt steering maneuvers
- Requires additional braking time.

*Information taken from The National Transportation Safety Board.

Announcements

The July 30, 2008 edition of the Chesterfield Observer announced K&K Connections vanpool service from Chesterfield to Washington, D.C. This announcement can be viewed at:

http://www.chesterfieldobserver.com/news/2008/0730/new_034.htm

The Pentagon Memorial will be open to the public on Thursday, September 11 at 7:00 p.m. For information on road closures and how this may impact your commute visit:

http://www.defenselink.mil/home/features/2008/0708_memorial/announcement.html

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Congrats to James Hogan and Family!!!

Miss Kelsey Kara Emma Hogan was born on Monday, July 2, 2008 at 4:19 am the Chippingham Memorial Hospital in Richmond Virginia. She is the first child to of James Hogan Linnea. She weighed in at lbs. 14 oz, and, although being born by way of a caesarian after breech, she is healthy, happy, and came home **July, 31, 2008.**

