



For Immediate Release
Media Information from Souhegan Valley Rides
Contact: Janet Langdell 603.860.1202 or
info@SouheganValleyRides.org



Pictured at left: seated
Jean and Bonnie Audet;
standing SVTC volunteer
Dawn Griska, NTS bus
driver Paul McManus and
SVTC Board member
Rebecca Crowther.

The Blue Bus Provides 20,000th Ride

The Souhegan Valley Rides bus service, locally known as “The Blue Bus”, reached another milestone this winter by providing its 20,000th ride. To commemorate this event, Milford resident Jean Audet was honored as the 20,000th passenger. The Audets were presented with a special gift basket including gift cards donated by Shaw’s Supermarket of Milford and Walmart of Amherst.

Jean and his wife, Bonnie, are very grateful for the transportation assistance. Audet must travel to Nashua three times a week to receive necessary medical treatments and rides on the “Blue Bus” for two of those appointments. Due to health insurance network restrictions, he is unable to receive this medical care from a local provider. Echoing the sentiments of the entire Souhegan Valley Transportation Board of Directors, Rebecca Crowther, of Hollis, noted “Being able to help neighbors like Jean is why we work to keep the bus rolling in Milford and the other five communities.”

Implemented in 2008, Souhegan Valley Rides is the regional dial-a-ride bus program serving residents of Amherst, Brookline, Hollis, Milford, Mont Vernon and Wilton. Vehicle and call center operations are subcontracted from the Nashua Transit System. Currently, the bus service is available Monday through Friday from 8 am to 6 pm including travel time to and from the Nashua Transit System garage. The service focuses on providing curb-to-curb transportation to non-emergency healthcare appointments and assisting those in greatest need – senior citizens, residents living with a disability, and residents who are unable to drive. Other residents may use the service on a space available basis. In addition to healthcare related transportation, rides are available within the six towns and to and from Nashua for access to social service appointments, local senior activity centers, town facilities, courts and libraries. Rides for shopping at seven local plazas, including Shaw’s and Walmart, are available on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays.

This regional transportation resource is available thanks to collaboration among the six participating communities, the Nashua Transit System and the Nashua Regional Planning Commission. The service is funded primarily by grants from the Federal Transportation Administration and each participating Town, and by grants from local organizations including the Kaley Foundation, the Milford Hospital Association, the Wilton Lions Club, the Hollis-Brookline Rotary Club and the Milford Rotary Club. For more information about the Souhegan Valley Rides bus service, please visit www.SouheganValleyRides.org; pick-up a brochure in the participating communities at the local town hall or library; email any questions to Info@SouheganRides.org; or call 860-1202.