



# **AA Transportation Co., Inc.**

605 HARTFORD TURNPIKE  
SHREWSBURY, MA 01545

## **OCTOBER 2009**

## **NEWSLETTER**

**IN-SERVICE  
TRAINING &  
SAFETY  
MEETING  
SCHEDULE**

**MONTHLY FOR  
CDL  
DRIVERS**

***ALL MEETINGS  
ARE ON  
TUESDAY***

1st TUESDAY EACH  
MONTH AT MAIN OFFICE  
2nd FLOOR - 8 :30 AM,  
9:45 AM, AND 6:00 PM

2nd TUESDAY EACH  
MONTH AT MAIN OFFICE  
2nd FLOOR - 9:30 AM

3rd TUESDAY EACH  
MONTH AT WEBSTER,  
BARTLETT HIGH SCHOOL  
AUDITORIUM - 9:15 AM

### ***MESSAGE FROM THE TOP***

## **CAN YOU BELIEVE?**

Snow in October. What's up with that? Freezing temperatures in October. What's going on? Thanks to everyone, we made it through this strange time with ease. The buses started. The heat was on. The complaints were few. Driving was safe. Everyone seemed happy, well, as happy as they could be.

Some new things are happening in our business family. Auburn gets a new place to park buses, at the Auburn Mall. This should be more centralized for all routes, and easier for parking in the winter and when it snows.

Where does the time go? Hard to believe but, I actually started holiday shopping the other day! Speaking of which, anyone need some extra cash? Well I sure do so I started another little business: Route 140 Wholesale Auto Sales. We specialize in auction orders wholesale to the public.

4th TUESDAY EACH  
MONTH AT  
SOUTHBRIDGE TOWN  
HALL 2nd FLOOR - 9:30  
AM

**QUARTERLY**  
**FOR 7D SPED**  
**DRIVERS**

***ALL MEETINGS  
ARE ON  
THURSDAY***

***September  
17th***

***December 17th***

***March 18th***

***June 10th***

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD  
AT THE MAIN OFFICE,  
2ND FLOOR, STARTING  
AT 4:30PM

***THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR GOOD AND  
RELIABLE WORK!***



Want an opportunity to pick up a few extra bucks? Just come in and buy a car, van, SUV or pickup truck, or refer a customer who does.

From now until the end of the year, you will pick up a check for \$100 each time you refer someone who purchases a vehicle from us. Obviously, I must state only 1 commission check per vehicle sold. So, the more referrals from you and vehicles sold, the more you could receive.

I look forward to seeing each of you at our Annual Holiday Lunch held the Wednesday before Thanksgiving at the Main Office. More information about this appreciation event is in this Newsletter.

Remember to send me your comments and ideas about our Company and what we do for our customers. Your views are important to me, and I will respond to every comment and idea I receive.

Ron Ernenwein, President

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**WEDNESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 25TH**

**OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCH  
FOR ALL EMPLOYEES**

**STARTS AT NOON AT THE**

**165**

**THAT'S THE  
NUMBER OF  
EMPLOYEES  
WITH PERFECT  
ATTENDANCE IN  
SEPTEMBER.**

**A SPECIAL  
THANK YOU TO  
THE  
SEPTEMBER  
DRAWING  
WINNERS FOR  
THE TWO  
\$250.00 WAL-  
MART GIFT  
CARDS:**

**JERRY BELLOWS,  
CHERRY STREET**

**PAUL  
LAMONTAGNE,  
LAKE STREET**

**IN ADDITION TO THE  
DRAWING, ALL EMPLOYEES  
WITH PERFECT ATTENDANCE  
FOR THE MONTH RECEIVE A  
GIFT CARD VALUED AT \$1 per  
DAY FOR THE NUMBER OF  
WORK DAYS IN THE MONTH.**

**MAIN OFFICE, 2nd FLOOR,  
ENDS AT 4:00PM**

**SERVING DEEP FRIED TURKEY,  
FRENCH FRIED SWEET  
POTATOES, SALADS AND  
MORE.**

**EACH EMPLOYEE ATTENDING  
WILL RECEIVE A FRESH  
TURKEY, AS AN  
APPRECIATION GIFT FROM  
RON. YOU MUST ATTEND TO  
RECEIVE YOUR GIFT.**

**SEE YOUR MANAGER TO SIGN-  
UP FOR YOUR FREE TURKEY.**

**USING A CELL PHONE**

**OR WEARING**

**HEADPHONES OR EAR**

**BUDS**

**WE HAVE BEEN RECEIVING AN INCREASING  
NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS FROM SCHOOLS,  
PARENTS, AND CITIZENS ABOUT OUR  
DRIVERS TALKING ON THEIR CELL PHONE,**

**"THERE IS NO SHAME IN FAILURE - ONLY IN QUITTING."**

**LICENSE RENEWAL REMINDER**

**THE FOLLOWING CDL DRIVERS ARE DUE FOR LICENSE RENEWAL**

**NOVEMBER RENEWALS**

**Webster/Southbridge & Auburn**

Mary Antalek,  
Judy Donabedian,  
Karen Emond,  
Edmond Soucy

**Lake Street**

Dawn Cavanaugh,  
Nancy Griffin,  
Kevin Heipt,  
Jose Torres

**Cherry Street**

Theresa Costa,  
Kimberly Duvarney,  
Sharon Fraser,  
Beatrice Frechette,  
Robert Leach,  
Milagro Maldonado,  
Anna Matney,  
Lisa Sclafani,  
Xiaofang Xu

**WEARING EAR BUDS OR HEADPHONES WHEN DRIVING.**

**WHETHER DRIVING OR STOPPED AT A TRAFFIC LIGHT, OR PARKED WAITING TO LOAD PASSENGERS, IF YOU ARE IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT, PEOPLE PERCEIVE YOU TALKING ON YOUR CELL PHONE OR LISTENING TO MUSIC WHEN DRIVING. ALL OF THESE ACTIONS ARE AGAINST THE LAW. YOU CAN LOOSE YOUR LICENSE TO DRIVE.**

**SOME SCHOOL OFFICES HAVE ASKED FOR THE REMOVAL OF A DRIVER BECAUSE THEY RECEIVED COMPLAINTS FROM PARENTS ABOUT DRIVERS TALKING OF THEIR CELL PHONE OR WEARING EAR BUDS OR HEAD PHONES.**

**IT IS A SAFETY ISSUE.**

**REMEMBER, IT IS ALL ABOUT PERCEPTION. ONLY YOU THE DRIVER CAN FIX THIS PERCEPTION.**

**THE NEXT AA Transportation TEAM CHALLENGE begins in January 2010**

**WATCH FOR FUTURE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**DECEMBER**  
**RENEWALS**

**Webster/Southbridge**  
**& Auburn**

Jean Barbieri,  
Theodore Cournoyer,  
Ronald Delage,  
Michelle Downs,  
Richard Gould,  
Tabitha Holmes,  
Dorothy Krom,  
Helena Parks,  
Linda Perno,  
Carol Williams

**Lake Street**  
Virginia Bartlett,  
Jill Carter,  
Donna Davieau,  
Kerry Dubois,  
Annette Messier,  
Alden Sears,  
Lori Uhlman  
**Cherry Street**  
Wanda Beatty,  
Judy Bruen,  
Luanne Carroll,  
Marsha Desrosiers,  
Timothy Eressy,  
Angela Goodell,  
Catherine Kearney,  
Aretha Kharashqah,  
Maria Tavarez,  
Laurie Woodward

**JANUARY 2010**  
**RENEWALS**

**Webster/Southbridge**  
**& Auburn**

Danielle Cote,  
William Fikter,  
Debra Kemp,  
Michael Lamoureaux,  
Deanna Wood

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**TO ALL**

***We received the following Compliments  
from our Customers***

***SHERRY JOVAN***  
***SOUTHBRIDGE***

Received by FAX 10/7/09:

**This notice is to let you know and to recognize the good job Mrs. Sherry Jovan is doing in her Bus #7. As parents, we feel our daughter is in good hands and we feel secure. Thank you:**

**Vazquez Family, Southbridge, MA**

***MATT HENNESSEY***  
***LIMOUSINE***

Received by Email 10/9/09

**I was a guest at my cousin's wedding last weekend and left my cell phone on your bus, Matt Hennessey not only found my cell phone on the bus after hours, but brought it to our hotel the day after before my flight back to Virginia. He was a true life-saver and his actions were so much appreciated. It's not everyday that you run into such a trustworthy, and caring individual.**

**With great appreciation,**

**Debbie Gardner**

**Lake Street**

Maryann Mancini,  
Gerard Pelletier,  
Paul Ritchotte,  
Patricia Tighe,  
Darlene Ward,  
Michael Young

**Cherry Street**

Jerry Bellows,  
Doreen Brown-Hamelin,  
Ronald Cournoyer,  
Rita Ernenwein,  
Gail Fior,  
Denise Foley,  
Aury Garcia,  
Eddie Gonzalez,  
Floyd Gudanowski,  
John Hartman,  
Shari Mitchell,  
Jennifer Rossi,  
Marie Shorette,  
Stephen Weagle

**Contact your  
Manager with your  
renewal  
information at least  
60 days prior to  
your renewal date,  
to avoid losing your  
driving privileges  
while waiting for  
your renewal  
license.**

**AA  
TRANSPORTATION  
RECIPE BOOK**

Last chance to get  
your recipes in  
the AA

***BILL HOGAN***  
***CHERRY STREET***

Received by Telephone 10/1/09

**Sullivan Middle School called to say Thank You to Bill Hogan for a great trip. They went to the Big E. Bill was wonderful, he knew short cuts and took very good care of them. He is a pleasant guy and they had a great time.**

***LIMOUSINE DRIVERS***  
***AL, EUGENE, CINDY***

Received by letter 9/23/09

**Thank you for a great job transporting our daughter Elizabeth's wedding party and guests to and from the Residence Inn, Holy Cross College and the Harrington Farm last Friday. From the time we booked your services in June through the wedding day, your professionalism, courtesy and expertise were consistently felt. Again, job well done!**

John O'Hare

***EUGENE BOAKYE LIMOUSINE***

Received by Letter 9/28/09

**Mr. Boakye was the driver on our trip from Clark University to NYC and back. Our group very much enjoyed this trip and are very appreciative of Mr. Boakye's promptness, courteous manner, safe driving and navigation to and from our various sites in NYC. We would be pleased to have him as our driver again and to use your bus services for**

## Transportation Cook Book.

Any kind of dish will do: main course, dessert, snack, beverage, anything.

The AA Transportation Cook Book will be available to all employees at the Thanksgiving Holiday Employee Party. It is free to everyone, so how about sharing your favorites.

Each employee sending in a recipe will be recognized for their contribution. Recipes can be for any kind of dish. Be sure to provide the list of ingredients, preparation, cooking and serving instructions. The number of servings per recipe would also be helpful.

Send all your recipes to the Main Office, Attention Jim. Just write them out, drop off on my desk, or email me.

Any questions or ideas please see Jim.

## FLEET MAINTENANCE

**John Hartman,  
Manager  
508-845-7216**

## IT'S GETTING COLD

future trips.

Dianne E. Rocheleau

## **CHRIS CAMPBELL & ANGELA GOODELL CHERRY STREET**

Received via email 10/28/09

**On behalf of RFL, we just wanted to say thank you for all of the driving your company did for us on Wednesday. The kids had a blast and everything went smoothly. We appreciate the drivers' patience and consideration to all the drops and pick-ups. We look forward to working with you all again in the future.**

**Kristen A. Kelley, Resiliency for Life,  
FraminghamHigh School**

## HUMAN RESOURCES, TRAINING & SAFETY

**Julie D'Ambra, Director  
508-791-9100 ext 4**

**COMMONWEALTH of MASSACHUSETTS  
540 CMR 27.00 - REGULATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES  
IDLING ON SCHOOL GROUNDS**

**NO IDLING SCHOOL BUSES, VANS OR  
AUTOS AT ANY SCHOOL IS HERE.**

### General Restrictions:

No motor vehicle operator shall cause or allow the engine of any motor vehicle operated by him or her on school grounds to idle unnecessarily.

A motor vehicle operator shall not idle a motor vehicle within 100 feet from a known and active school air intake system, unless the school has determined that

**IN THE MORNING.**

**PARK-OUTS - START YOUR BUS EARLY FOR YOUR SCHOOL ROUTE. IF A PROBLEM, CALL THE OFFICE FOR HELP.**

If you need any repairs call the Garage and let me know the problem. **DO NOT TALK WITH ANY MECHANIC, TALK WITH ME.** We will set you up to bring your bus in for repairs.

The direct telephone line to the Garage is:  
**508-845-7216**

alternative locations block traffic, impair student safety or are not cost effective. Reasonable efforts should be made by school to identify by signage all such known and active air intake systems.

**Exemptions:**

The regulation provides for exceptions due to weather and other conditions. See me for an explanation of these exemptions, and if they apply to you.

**Penalties:**

An operator or owner of a motor vehicle who violates the regulations shall be subject to civil assessment as follows:

1st offense \$100, \$500 for 2nd and subsequent offenses. The Company **WILL NOT** pay any such penalty for a driver who violates this regulation.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTION REGARDING IDLING OF SCHOOL BUSES, VANS, OR AUTOMOBILES AT SCHOOL LOCATIONS, PLEASE SEE ME IMMEDIATELY.**

**AA**

**TRANSPORTATION NIGHT at the PROVIDENCE BRUINS**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21st**

**TICKETS ONLY \$13**

**CHERRY STREET YARD**

Abby Kelley, Grafton, METCO, Sutton, AMSA, St. John's, SPM, Fay, Assabet, Charters

**Rita Ernenwein, Manager**

**508-791-9100 ext 2**

Last call for recipes for the AA Family Cookbook.

PLEASE disinfect your buses during the cold & flu season on a regular basis.

**New Charter Assignment pick-up procedure:**

1. You will need to come into the office and pick-up your trip ticket.
2. There will be a cover page for trip assignments for each driver.
3. Confirm trips on cover page with trip tickets. Note:

**PURCHASE  
TICKETS BY  
FRIDAY,  
NOVEMBER  
6th**

**AVAILABLE TO  
EMPLOYEES,  
FAMILIES AND  
FRIENDS**

**SEE JOHN POND  
FOR TICKETS**

**NEW YORK  
CITY DAY  
BUS TRIPS**

**NOVEMBER  
27th**

**\$25 PER  
PERSON**

**DEPARTS 8:00 AM  
FROM ROUTE 146  
PARK N' RIDE**

**RETURNS FROM NYC  
8:00 PM**

any trips that are missing, different or that you are unable to do need to be reported to a dispatcher.

4. Give any conflicting trip tickets and cover page back to a dispatcher.
5. Give any trip tickets for trips that you are unable to do back to a dispatcher

**Bus Parking**

We all know parking in the yard is tight. On the weekends, many buses are left in the middle of the yard, because there are no parking spaces. PLEASE do not block the fuel pumps, and do not park in the area between the building and the fuel pumps. There is truck traffic around the yard all weekend.

Park buses as close to one another as possible. This will maximize available parking space.

Thank you for your cooperation, Rita.

**LAKE STREET YARD**

Shrewsbury, Elm Park, Rainbow, Webster Square

**Sean Lyonnais, Manager**

**508-753-6322**

I would like to continue to say "Thank You" to everyone for doing a great job every day.

I also would like to thank every employee in assisting in all the bus evacuation drills. We were able to give reminder speeches to the high school and middle school levels. For our elementary tier, all students (including riders & walkers) got some "hands-on" learning experience when we went back to the schools during the day. The students learned about the emergency exits (windows, roof hatches, rear door, etc.), how to use the radio, and how to use the front or rear door during an evacuation depending on the situation. I have to say, you guys made it so easy with all your cooperation and team efforts.

It's that time of year again, on November 25, 2009 we are having our "Annual Holiday Lunch" held at the Main Office. The hours are 12:00 noon - 4:00 pm. Come and enjoy great food and mingle with other employees from different divisions. It's a time we all

**HOLIDAY**  
**SHOPPING**  
**TRIP TO**

**FREEMPORT,**  
**MAINE**

**L. L. BEAN &**  
**OUTLET**  
**STORES**

**DECEMBER 5th**  
**MORE DETAILS TO**  
**FOLLOW**

**CONTACT JOHN POND**  
**AT 508-791-9100 ext 1,**  
**IF INTERESTED IN**  
**ANY EVENT, TRIP OR**  
**PACKAGE.**

**HOW TO USE**  
**FUEL PUMPS -**  
**IN CASE DINO IS**  
**NOT AVAILABLE**

**READ AND FOLLOW**  
**DIRECTIONS ON**  
**PUMP DISPLAY**

1. INSERT FUEL KEY AND TURN TO RIGHT (FUEL KEY IS IN GARAGE IF NOT ON THE PUMPS)
2. KEY IN VEHICLE CODE # (A=1; C=3; V=8) FOR EXAMPLE:  
SCHOOL BUS

can come together as the family we are.

Also, make sure you sign up to receive a free turkey. Every employee has to pick up his or her turkey on November 25th at the Main Office. No other employee can receive your turkey for you.

Once again I would like to remind ALL employees that the yard speed limit is 5 mph. I have noticed buses and personal vehicles exceeding the limit. Also, please be patient when entering and exiting the bus yard. If you see a school bus backing out of a space, please be considerate of that driver, there are many blind spots on a school bus and you may not be seen. Please let the driver complete the task at hand before moving your vehicle. In addition, parking is limited for all vehicles. There is enough room if we all take a moment and park correctly. Please park your car starting at the far corner working your way around. This way, we don't have huge gaps between vehicles. Also, if you leave at 4:00pm or earlier, please park your car in the center of the yard at the designated spots. This will ensure the late buses have an area to park quickly. If we tighten up the parking, we can accommodate all employees and avoid an accident.

**Upcoming Dates to Remember**

**Shrewsbury Public Schools**

**November 3rd** - NO School (Pre-K-8 Parent Conferences; 9-12 Professional Dev.)

**November 11th** - Veteran's Day / NO School

**November 25th - 27th** Thanksgiving Break / NO School

**December 24th-January 1st** - December Vacation

**January 4th** - Return to School

**St. Mary's**

**November 2nd and 3rd** - Religious Enrichment and Parent Conferences / NO School

**November 11th** - Veteran's Day / NO School

**November 25th - 27th** Thanksgiving Break / NO School

**December 14th** - Professional Development Day (No school for Students)

**December 24th-** Christmas Vacation Begins

**January 4th** - Return to School

**St. John's High School**

**November 11th** - Veteran's Day / NO school

**November 25th - 27th** - Thanksgiving Break / NO School

A103 = 1103; CAR  
C22 = 322; VAN  
V71 = 871

3. KEY IN PUMP # - 1, 2, 3, 4 (NUMBER IS ON FRONT OF PUMP) 1 & 2 ARE FOR DIESEL FUEL & 3 AND 4 ARE FOR GASOLINE
4. REMOVE FUEL KEY
5. REMOVE FUEL NOZZLE AND TURN PUMP HANDLE TO START PUMP
6. WHEN FINISHED FUELING, TURN OFF PUMP AND RETURN NOZZLE TO HOLDER.
7. PLACE HOSE ON FUEL ISLAND.
8. YOU ARE DONE.

## REMINDERS:

- NO SMOKING AROUND FUEL ISLAND
- DO NOT LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE RUNNING WHILE FUELING
- DO NOT LEAVE FUEL PUMP UNATTENDED WHEN FUELING
- USE COMPANY FUEL PUMPS WHEN OFFICE IS OPEN

December 21st-January 1st - Christmas Break / NO School

January 4th - Return to School

### **Montessori**

November 11th - Veteran's Day / NO School

November 25th - 27th - Thanksgiving Break / NO School

December 21st-January 1st - December Holiday / NO School

January 4th - Schools Opens

### **Al-Hamra Academy**

November 2nd - Half Day / 12 noon Dismissal

November 20th - Parent Teacher Conferences / NO School

November 25th - December 1st - Thanksgiving Break and Professional Day

December 7th - Half Day/ 12 noon Dismissal

December 24th-January 1st - Winter Vacation

January 4th - School Resumes

We appreciate your input and dedication to continue excellent customer service. If you have any questions, please call our office: 508-753-6322.

**SPED - Cherry Street**  
**Cindy Fish, Manager**  
**508-791-9100 ext 2**

Don't forget to attend our Annual Holiday Lunch on November 25th. See me to sign up for your free turkey.

### **WEBSTER OFFICE**

**Webster, Southbridge, Auburn**

**Linda Perno, Manager**

**508-943-0482**

*Happy Fall to all, chilly mornings, beautiful sunsets, frost on the windshields, crisp apples, what more can we ask for, my favorite season.*

**Quote:** *The greatest pleasure in life is doing what people say can't be done. **unknown***



**AA Transportation is  
on the Web**

[www.aatransportation.com](http://www.aatransportation.com)

**CALL or FAX US  
508-791-9100  
508-845-7215 FAX**

*Reminder:*

*Oct/Nov is 7-D time to get your vehicle inspected. Color needs to be Orange, please be sure to get the sticker done at Belsito's located at 245 South West Cutoff (Rt. 20 ), Worcester, MA 01604*

*The Turkey sign up sheet is available at the Webster office, please be sure to sign up or call the office to have your name applied. All who sign up for the turkey must pick up their own turkey at the AA Transportation Co. luncheon held at the Main office on November 25th ,2009 from 12-4 pm. I hope all will attend.*

*AA Transportation Co. has partnered with the Auburn Mall to acquire a new Parking arrangement for the Auburn Public School Contract School buses.*

*I have received a few good comments on drivers as well as monitors from the Webster Division from outside calls and School Dept. officials, please keep up the great work!*

**Openings:**

*Immediate openings for 2 CDL routes are now available in Southbridge contract 6:45 am-8:30am & 1:50pm-3:45pm. Anyone that is interested, please contact the Webster office.*

**IT'S ALL  
ABOUT  
PERCEPTION**