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the TranSComm

Summer Edition Newsletter

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Bike the Great Outdoors!



Sweet, Green Summertime.

Get outside! With the warm weather and sunshine comes the opportunity for a number of outdoor activities: hiking, nature walks, biking, roller blading, swimming, camping... the list goes on. Go out and enjoy the great outdoors. It's clean and green!

Save the Date!

Jazz Roxbury
Walking Tour

Wednesday,
August 28th, 2013

Fort Hill,
Roxbury Bike
Tour

Tuesday, September
17th, 2013

Medical History
Walk

TBA



A Letter from the Director

Maureen Lacey

With this (finally!) beautiful weather, (goodbye, humidity) our commutes are better suited to alternative forms of travel like cycling, walking and using public transit. We hope that you will take advantage of this lovely sunshine and seek environmentally friendly commutes that are fun, healthy and good for the environment!

This spring and summer, TranSComm hosted several events to encourage and reward sustainable commutes. We are gearing up for our always popular summer/fall lunchtime walks and have available at our office brochures of "A self-guided walking tour of the South End's Green Spaces". These parks are charming hidden gems in our neighborhood and summertime is the perfect time to discover them! We have also added a new bike cage and expanded a current one so there is no excuse for not taking your rusty bike out of the cellar!

Please be sure to check your e-mail for notices regarding our popular TranSComm programs and events. Space is limited and determined on a first-come-first-serve basis.

This Spring/Summer newsletter is filled with the exciting comings and goings of the TranSComm office. Take a look to see what we are (or were) up to!!

Lastly, if you have interests or environmental issues you'd like us to explore in our newsletter, please e-mail our editor Lisa Zhang at lisaz1@bu.edu or call the TranSComm office at 617-638-7473.

Happy last few weeks of summer!

Sincerely,

Maureen Lacey and the Friendly Folks (Michelle, Lisa and May) at TranSComm



Sundharmamani Venkipathi and Lindzy Goodman both won a bike tour/hybrid rental certificate !



Jun Yu won a \$25 Bike Shop Gift Card.

July Bike Safety Check-Up

On July 18th, 2013, Urban AdvenTours visited BUMC from 9AM to noon to run a free bike-safety check-up for the BMC/BUMC community. The check-up included a bike assessment, chain lubrication, correct tire pressure, brake adjustment, head and tail light check and a general safety check. Free 15-minute appointments were allotted to cyclists who registered with TranSComm. Additionally, all participants of the check-up were given a bike patch kit and were automatically entered into a raffle to win a bike shop gift card or an urban bike tour gift certificate (both valid for use at Urban AdvenTours). Moreover, despite limitations on time, TranSComm was proudly able to accommodate over twenty cyclists within the scheduled time span!

Newmarket Station is Open!

Newmarket station on the MBTA's Fairmount Line is now ready and open for business! Along with Four Corners/Geneva Avenue, the new commuter rail station officially opened on July 1, 2013. It is located right off Mass Ave. between the bridges at Southhampton and Mass Ave., and just a few minutes away from South Bay Center. The local area is home to over 1,000 businesses, 16,000 jobs, and \$4 billion in annual revenues -- one of the largest industrial areas within the city of Boston. Students and employees of the medical center community who live along the Fairmount Line may take advantage of this excellent transit opportunity. T fares are equivalent to the cost of taking any rapid transit line and the station is only about a 15 minute walk to Boston Medical Center and Boston University Medical Campus. For those who prefer not to walk, MBTA buses #8 and #10 also makes stops at Newmarket Station. TranSComm is happy to announce this new addition to our transportation options!



ECO Awards 2013

by Michelle Tse

On March 28, 2013, Boston Medical Center and Boston University Medical Campus (BUMC) received the Excellence in Commuter Options award from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), MassRide the statewide travel options program, and MassCommute, the Massachusetts Coalition of Transportation Management Associations. The ECO Awards celebrate Massachusetts' employers in their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through decreased drive-alone trips while encouraging employees to travel to work by transit, carpools, vanpools, walking or cycling. And the best part of all was... the breakfast award ceremony took place at Fenway Park! BUMC and BMC were recognized with the Pinnacle Award, the highest level award level. Attendees enjoyed an elegant breakfast and after the ceremony spent time enjoying this historical venue that included the World Series Cup!



Michelle Tse and Maureen Lacey, TranSComm, Dave Smith, Boston Medical Center.



Michelle and Maureen enjoying the trophy!

Lunch Time Tours Are Back!

Jazz Roxbury Walking Tour

August 28, 2013, 11:55am – 12:55pm

Explore Lower Roxbury, the former center of Boston's jazz scene, home of Pullman Porters, and stomping ground for several people who would eventually become leaders in the Civil Rights Movement. Your guide will recount personal narratives of life in the neighborhood during the volatile 1950s and 1960s. All this and a wonderful walk, too!

Fort Hill, Roxbury Bike Tour

September 17th noon-1PM

Stretch your legs a little more this lunchtime by joining Discover Roxbury on a bike tour. After riding through Lower Roxbury, quickly ascend the Highlands and step back through time. The tour will provide riders with an introduction to Colonial and suburban Roxbury (pre-1868) and feature fine examples of Queen Anne, Victorian, and Greek revival architecture. Riders are required to wear helmets. TranSComm will provide water. This group is limited to 20 participants and all must wear a helmet.

Bay State Bike Week, May 11-19, 2013

By May Nguyen

May 11 – 19 was Bay State Bike week, a week when Massachusetts celebrates biking as a form of healthy and fun transportation. Everyone was encouraged to get out of their car and bike for all the good reasons; it's economical, healthy, environment-friendly, and fun.

Annually, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), MassRIDES, and the Massachusetts Bicycle Coalition (MassBike) collaborate to put together a statewide contest for individuals, corporations, and universities to compete for the most miles traveled through cycling. Afterwards, all participants are invited to a Bike Bash to celebrate the conclusion the MassCommuter Challenge. This year's bash was held at Cambridge Queens Head Pub at Harvard University with free secure bike parking, food, pool, and raffles with great prizes.

TranSComm Bike Luncheon

Cyclists who registered for the MassCommuter Bike Challenge were also invited to TranSComm's Annual Bike Luncheon to celebrate cyclists' participation. The luncheon was held on May 22 in the Menino Bike Cage. All cyclists who attended received a bike patch kit and were entered into a raffle for chances to win terrific prizes. It was a great opportunity for cyclists to gather and share their biking stories and experiences. The winners of this year's raffle were:

T-shirts: Emily Jump, Scott Harris, Jiyou Kim, MaryAnn Campion, Jun Yu, Anna Belkina, Hans Meier-Ewert, Denis Simon, Christna Ouch, Marisa Chattman

Helmets: Eliana Nelson, Edward Berg, Joyce Goggins, Rebecca Thal

Bike Mirror: Deborah Gregson

Bike Pump: Eric Stratton

Bike Lock: Keri Dame

Bike Safety Workshop

On Tuesday, May 21, 2013, TranSComm partnered with MassBike to offer a Bike Safety workshop. The Basic Bike Maintenance Workshop taught our cyclists how to fix flats, adjust brakes, repair chains, secure wheels, and other valuable information.

Mayor's Bike Friendly Business Award

Lastly, TranSComm is proud to announce that it has received the Silver Level at the Mayor's Bike Friendly Business Award ceremony. The award was presented to TranSComm for its "bike friendly" practices including 1) bike racks throughout the campus, 2) bike lock borrowing program, 3) the installation of a new bike cage at 710, 4) the extension of the Menino bike cage, and 5) many other bike-centered events. TranSComm is very proud to be the recipient of this prestigious award and hope that our biking programs and cyclists continue to expand in the coming years!



From the right, Tom Tinlin, Transportation Commissioner, Maureen Lacey, TranSComm, Michelle Tse, TranSComm.

What's Available at TranSComm?

Plant a garden, for earth's sake.

Summer is the perfect time to get in the green thumb groove! Gardening is also an eco-friendly way to reduce carbon emissions. TranSComm invites you to take a packet of seeds that are available to you at our office.



Bike T-Shirts for a measly \$5.

MassCommute Bike Challenge T-shirts are available at our office for a 'measly' \$5. The slogan "Shift Your Mode" advocates for green transportation modes from driving your car to biking. The T-shirts are from American Apparel, Style #2001 in red, green or purple. Please stop by our office for yours at this amazing price!

Forgot your bike lock? Don't fret.

With hundreds of cyclists subscribing to our bike cages, TranSComm acknowledges that someone is bound to forget his or her bike lock. But don't fret! Cyclists may borrow a bike lock for up to 48 hours after providing us with BU/BMC identification.



"Let It Rain!"

Bostonians can't always depend on meteorologists in this capricious summer weather. TranSComm hopes to keep cyclists and walkers dry if they need to walk home or take the T. TranSComm has plenty of umbrellas to loan, so truly, let it rain! Simply stop by our office and provide us with your BMC/BUMC identification and you're ready to face the weather!

Green the Rest of Your Summer!

Upcoming Citywide Green Events

The 6th Annual Boston GreenFest will be held in Boston City Hall Plaza in Government Center from August 15 – 17th, 2013.

Boston Local Food Festival supports strong local economy, reducing carbon emissions, and helping preserve the environment. The festival is on October 6, 2013 starting at 11am at 185 Kneeland Street, Boston MA 02111.

The 6th Annual Green Tie Gala will celebrate New England's clean energy industry's growth and accomplishments over the year. The event will be held on Thursday, November 14th at the Westin Boston Waterfront.



Enjoy!



The friendly folks from TranSComm at this year's Bike Luncheon.

From the left: May Nguyen, Maureen Lacey, Lisa Zhang, and Michelle Tse

Brought to you by...

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