



# The AT Messenger

bringing technology to you

Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative (DATI) • Volume 17, No. 1 • Winter 2009

## It's Time to Think About Summer Camp

It's hard to believe, but it's time to start thinking about summer camps. In an effort to assist in this task, we've gathered information for a number of camps in and around Delaware—location, contact information, and a brief description—to help you find the best fit for you and your family. It will take you time to gather the necessary information to decide on the best camp for you or a loved one. In order to make an informed decision, we encourage you to contact the camps to determine availability, cost, provision of services and supports, and anything else you want or need to know.

Much of the following information was gathered from [www.kidscamps.com](http://www.kidscamps.com), [www.metrokids.com](http://www.metrokids.com), and [www.mysummerecamps.com](http://www.mysummerecamps.com). (MetroKids offers a monthly publication, with an annual subscription rate of \$25 and has several guides that may be of interest. Check them out on the web.) We encourage you to seek out additional information through these websites and/or the sites that follow.

Happy Camping!

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### Delaware Camps

#### Asthma Camp

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

One or two Delaware locations

800-586-4872 and ask for Delaware camp representative

Two-fold day camp experience—educational and recreational—for Delaware children ages 8-11 with asthma.



#### Camp Sunnybrook

[www.dabdel.org/services.html](http://www.dabdel.org/services.html)

Wilmington, Delaware

302-655-2111

A free six-week day camp serving blind and visually impaired children, ages 5-16, from New Castle and Kent Counties.



### Maryland Camps

#### Camp Fairlee Manor

<http://de.easterseals.com>, click on "Camp Fairlee Manor"

Chestertown, Maryland

410-778-0566

Residential camp for people, ages 6 and up, with physical disabilities and/or cognitive impairments. Also offering respite camp services for people with disabilities, including some medically-fragile individuals, on select weekends year-round.



#### Camp Sunrise

[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

search "Camp Sunrise"

Whitehall, Maryland

410-931-6850

Free residential camp for children ages 6-18 who have or have had cancer.



# Summer Camps (continued)

## Lions Camp Merrick

[www.lionscampmerrick.org](http://www.lionscampmerrick.org)

Nanjemoy, Maryland

301-645-5616

Offers three residential camping options for ages 6-16 who are deaf, blind, or have diabetes.



## Lions Camp Kirby for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired

[www.lionscampkirby.org](http://www.lionscampkirby.org)

Bridgeton Township, Pennsylvania

267-374-1000

Residential camp for ages 8-18 who are deaf or hard of hearing, or have a relative or friend with a hearing impairment.



## Pennsylvania Camps

### Camp Lee Mar

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

Lackawaxen, Pennsylvania

215-658-1708

Residential camp offering academic and speech programs to campers ages 5-21 with mild to moderate learning and developmental challenges.



### New Jersey Camp Jaycee

[www.campjaycee.org](http://www.campjaycee.org)

Effort, Pennsylvania

732-246-2525, ext. 44

Residential camp for campers 7 years of age and older with developmental disabilities.



### Camp Make-A-Friend

<http://sepa.easterseals.com>, click on "summer camp," and scroll to the bottom of the page where you will find the camp link  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
215-879-1000

Specialized day camp, with an on-site nurse, serving children whose primary disability is a physical challenge.



### SUMMER L.I.F.E.

[www.summermatters.org](http://www.summermatters.org)

click on "SUMMER L.I.F.E."

Paoli, Pennsylvania

610-296-6725, ext. 115

Offers day, overnight, and away camp experiences for ages 6-21 with and without disabilities.



### Summit Camp

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

Honesdale, Pennsylvania

800-323-9908

Residential camp for ages 7-17 with ADHD/ADD, verbal or non-verbal learning disabilities, Aspergers Syndrome, and/or mild social concerns.



### Camp Speers-Eljabar YMCA Special Needs ACCES Program

[www.campspeersymca.org/acces.htm](http://www.campspeersymca.org/acces.htm)

Dingmans Ferry, Pennsylvania

877-773-3779

A mainstream sleep-away program that enables campers ages 8-19 with mild to moderate developmental disabilities to participate in traditional camping activities.



### The Guided Tour, Inc.

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

Elkins Park, Pennsylvania

800-783-5841

Ages 17 and older with developmental and secondary physical challenges achieve greater independence through the travel experiences provided.



### Eagle Springs Programs

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

Pine Grove, Pennsylvania

570-345-8705

Offering vacation services for adults, 18 years of age and older, with intellectual and physical disabilities.



### Yachad, The NJCD Summer Programs

[www.njcd.org](http://www.njcd.org), click on "Summer Programs"

Three locations in Pennsylvania

212-613-8369

Sleepaway programs for Jewish campers with disabilities, ages 8-35, within mainstream Jewish camps. Various programs available, check website for details. ■



# Taxicab Service and the ADA: Questions and Answers

Daniel Atkins

Legal Advocacy Director

Disabilities Law Program

Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.

**W**hat is the ADA? Passed in 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Act is landmark federal legislation providing civil rights to people with disabilities. The ADA consists primarily of three parts—Title I which reaches private employers, Title II which covers government services and programs, and Title III which extends to private businesses as places of public accommodation. Pursuant to each title, people with disabilities have the right to be free of discrimination when working, when accessing services and programs from state and local government, and when seeking goods and services at places of business.

*Who qualifies as a person with a disability under the ADA?* The ADA protects anyone with a mental or physical disability who has, has a record of having, or is regarded as having a substantial impairment of a major life activity which is expected to last longer than six months. In 2008, Congress overwhelmingly passed, and President Bush signed into law, amendments to the ADA clarifying Congress's intent to cover more people with disabilities than the United States Supreme Court deemed merited protection. The Supreme Court previously held in two cases that when determining whether someone has a substantial impairment of a major life activity—communicating with others, memory, self-care, working—then mitigating measures (e.g. medications, prosthetic devices) must be considered, thus making it more difficult for people to qualify as disabled. The ADA Amendments Act, however, explicitly overrules those cases, and requires courts to consider whether someone has a substantial impairment without the benefit of his/her medication, prosthetic device or other mitigating measures. Thus, if someone who has high blood pressure that is controlled by medication is nevertheless refused a job as a truck driver, they could now be protected by the ADA—at least in terms of qualifying as an individual with a disability—since a court would not be able to determine that the driver's medication alleviated his condition to the point that it was no longer a significant impairment.

*Is taxicab service covered by the ADA?* The ADA does not require that taxicab service be provided to individuals with disabilities in every community, but mandates that if taxi service is provided to people without disabilities in a particular community it must likewise be provided to people with disabilities in a non-discriminatory fashion. Title III of the ADA—the public accommodations provision—requires that private entities that provide transportation services on a “demand responsive” basis (they respond to calls from customers to take them somewhere) to the public operate their businesses so that “when viewed in its entirety such system ensures a level of service to individuals with disabilities, including individuals who use wheelchairs, equivalent to the level of service provided to individuals without disabilities.” (42 U.S.C. § 12182).

*Is taxicab service covered by any Delaware state law?* Yes, so long as a taxicab can be considered a “place of public accommodation.” The Delaware Equal Accommodations Law (The “DEAL” 6 Del. C. § 4500 et seq.) prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in places of public accommodations. Public accommodations means “any establishment which caters to or offers goods or services or facilities to, or solicits patronage from, the general public.” Violations of the DEAL can result in substantial fines (up to \$5,000 for the first offense). Complaints must be filed with the state Division of Human Relations within 90 days of the incident.

*Must taxicabs allow my service animal in the taxi?* Yes. Even if a taxi has a “no pets” policy, or a driver is afraid of animals, a service animal must be permitted to ride with a person with a disability. First, service animals are not “pets.” Secondly, the ADA requires public accommodations to make reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures when such modifications are necessary to afford such services or accommodations to individuals with disabilities unless the business can show that making such modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of the services or accommodations.



## Taxicab Service and the ADA (continued)

*Must taxicab drivers assist me with placing my wheelchair in the trunk of the vehicle?* Yes, if the driver assists with placing luggage in the trunk of vehicles, then a driver must assist with placing a wheelchair or other equipment in the car or trunk.

*May taxicabs charge me extra to accommodate my disability?* Absolutely not. The taxi may only add charges if it adds to customers without disabilities (for instance, luggage handling fees or luggage storage fees). However, if the taxi does impose a luggage storage fee it could charge the same amount for storage of the wheelchair—it need not waive the fee.

*Must taxicab companies have or buy accessible vehicles?* No. Companies need not have an accessible vehicle in their fleet, nor must they buy an accessible vehicle if they are purchasing a vehicle. However, if a new van is being purchased it must have certain accessibility features like adequate two-part securement systems (one belt to secure the wheelchair and another to secure the individual).

*To whom may I complain if I feel that a taxicab driver or company has not complied with the law?*

1. The Disabilities Law Program of Community Legal Aid Society, Inc. (DLP) can advise you whether you have a viable claim under the Delaware Equal Accommodations Law or the Americans with Disabilities Act. The DLP contact information follows:

New Castle County  
100 W. 10th Street, Suite 801  
Wilmington, Delaware 19801  
302-575-0690, 800-292-7980

Kent County  
840 Walker Road  
Dover, Delaware 19904  
302-674-8500, 800-537-8383

Sussex County  
20151 Office Circle  
Georgetown, Delaware 19947  
302-856-0038, 800-462-7070

2. To file a claim when the Delaware Equal Accommodations Law has been violated, within 90 days of the incident, you may contact the State of Delaware, Division of Human Relations:

New Castle County  
Carvel State Office Building  
820 North French Street, 4th Floor  
Wilmington, Delaware 19801  
Phone: 302-577-5050  
Fax: 302-577-3486

Kent County  
Cannon Building  
861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Suite 205  
Dover, Delaware 19904  
Phone: 302-739-4567  
Fax: 302-739-3354

Sussex County  
Georgetown State Service Center  
546 S. Bedford Street, 2nd Floor  
Georgetown, Delaware 19947  
Phone: 302-856-5331  
Fax: 302-856-5146 ■

### Are You a 24/7 Caregiver?

Easter Seals is offering several two-day caregiver respite sessions, through May 2009, FREE to eligible Delaware residents. Sessions are held at the Fairlee Manor Recreation Center near Chestertown, Maryland—a fully accessible facility dedicated to meeting the needs of persons with disabilities.

Qualifications for *free* respite services:

1. The person with a disability should be an adult over 18 years old with a physical disability.
2. He/She should be a Delaware resident.
3. He/She is not eligible for respite services through a state agency.

Free transportation will be provided from several Easter Seals locations throughout the state.

Call the location in your county for more details:

Sussex County: 302-253-1100  
Kent County: 302-678-3353  
New Castle County: 302-324-4444



# Staying Safe at Home and Work

Dan Fendler

AT Specialist

DATI Sussex County ATRC

Many of us have a desire or need to keep ourselves and our loved ones safe. We are especially concerned with staying safe in our homes and workplaces. Thankfully, there are a number of options available in the general marketplace that can help you in this endeavor. But, what options does a person with a disability have if they can't use standard equipment? Let's explore some of the options available that may help you or someone you care for feel a little more secure. But, before we begin, it is imperative to remind you that a little foresight, planning, and prevention will go a long way toward keeping you safe.

In preparing this article, I found the *Family Center on Technology and Disability* August 2008 newsletter, featuring a fairly comprehensive article on emergency preparedness, to be a great starting point. You can access it at [www.ftcd.info](http://www.ftcd.info), click on resources, newsletters, and scroll down to the August 2008 issue, or you may contact your local ATRC and ask us to send you a copy.

## Fire safety equipment

Most homes have some basic safety equipment available or installed—fire extinguishers and smoke detectors. But what if you have problems operating a fire extinguisher? What if you are hearing impaired and unable to hear standard smoke alarms? While there isn't a wide variety of adapted safety equipment available, there are a few options that can increase the safety of people with disabilities.

The first product I found is a fire extinguisher that's available as an aerosol spray. Traditional fire extinguishers are bulky and require multiple steps for proper use—some involve the use of pins and levers—that might be difficult for some people. *First Alert* has a relatively new aerosol spray called **Tundra™** that's as easy to use as a can of spray paint. Remove the cap, aim the nozzle at the fire, and press the button. This type of fire extinguisher might be easier for someone with limited strength and mobility to operate, as well as for people with cognitive disabilities.



Another product to consider as part of your safety arsenal is a fire blanket. They are simple, lightweight, and can be used to smother fires or as a protective wrap. A fire blanket may be easier for some people to handle during the stress of an emergency. They are available in various sizes and from numerous companies. *Simpler Life Emergency Provisions* ([www.simplerlife.com](http://www.simplerlife.com), search fire blankets, or call 800-226-7737) is one such company.



## Alarms

There are a number of safety alarms available for detecting smoke and carbon monoxide—two of the more common hazards a person may encounter—and there are a few new innovations available that may help individuals with certain disabilities. Let's take a look at a relatively new system made by *First Alert*. They have developed a wireless protection system that detects smoke and carbon dioxide. If you opt to install multiple alarms, the alarms are able to “talk” to each other and can provide information regarding where the potential danger is detected. For example, if you have one alarm installed in your bedroom and another in your basement and the basement alarm detects smoke, it will signal the bedroom alarm that smoke was detected in the basement using the “voice warning with location” feature. This type of alarm could be useful for those with visual impairments or those with limited mobility. Knowing the precise location of and cause for the alarm can help in the decision of how to handle the situation without potentially going into harm's way. You could install an alarm in every room of your home if you feel the need. Because these alarms are wireless, there is no need for costly rewiring of your home. They also sell a version that can be used with wired systems and provide the same “voice warning with location” feature as the wireless systems. You can find more information about this system and the **Tundra™** extinguisher at [www.firstalert.com](http://www.firstalert.com) or by calling 630-851-7330.



## Staying Safe (continued)

If you have a hearing impairment and live in Delaware, the State Fire Marshall has a program that can provide you with a smoke detector. The device features extra loud horns and built-in strobe lights, and they will install a unit in your home free of charge if you qualify. I also learned that they have vibrating alarms available for individuals who are deaf and blind. Please contact their office for more information about the program. Sussex residents should call 302-856-5600, Kent residents 302-739-4447, and New Castle residents 302-323-5375.

### Evacuation devices

Whether at work or at home, people who use a wheelchair face significant issues related to emergency planning. If you're a wheelchair user and live or work above the first floor, your emergency plans should take into consideration the possible absence of an elevator or lift. There are several devices that can assist in such an evacuation. One option is the

### Emergency Evacuation Device



1-800-863-6556

**Evacu-trac** emergency evacuation chair by *Garaventa*.

This chair is designed for use by one person to transport a wheelchair user down stairs without additional help. Information about the chair is available on their website ([www.garaventa.ca/et/](http://www.garaventa.ca/et/)) or by

calling 866-824-8314. Another option is the **Rescue Chair**, also designed to be used by one person.

More information about the **Rescue**



**Chair** can be found online at [www.rescuechair.com](http://www.rescuechair.com) or by calling 800-649-4265.

As always, if you have any questions or need additional information, please give your local ATRC a call. We'd be glad to help. ■

## The AT Bargain Basement

*Marvin Williams*

*AT Specialist*

*DATI New Castle County ATRC*

Hello True Believers and welcome to another stirring issue of the *AT Bargain Basement*. This is the place where we discover the many assistive technology (AT) bargains that often go unnoticed for one reason or another. If you're a regular visitor to the *Basement*, welcome back! If this is your first visit with us, what kept you? For those who don't know, I'll go over our rules of engagement. I look around to find all of the AT bargains I can as well as those you bring to me to share with the group. Now by bargain, I mean AT that costs \$100 or less. While I try to find you bargains you can get in local stores, I also give you info on bargains you can order over the telephone or online. With that being said, let's get to the bargains!

Our first bargain is the *Sylvania DOT-it* LED light.

This is *Sylvania's* version of a stick-up light that provides additional illumination. The nice thing about these lights is that you press them to turn them on and off. They can be useful wherever you need a light



that you can't easily activate by turning or flipping a switch. You can stick them up along a dark stairway if other lighting isn't available or any place where you need a light but can't put a conventional fixture. Now, these lights are not meant to provide the widespread lighting of a typical lamp. Instead, they provide more of a spotlight effect. So, if a little light is all you're looking for, the *Sylvania DOT-it* light is a good one to check out. You can get them at *Home Depot* for \$7.99 each. Of course, there are a lot of different brands of stick-up lighting. *Westinghouse* makes the cordless **StickUp Bulb**. The **StickUp Bulb** looks like a light bulb in a fixture without a shade. Contrary to the appearance, you cannot replace the bulb once it burns out. However, the light boasts a 10-year warranty against manufacturing defects. This doesn't mean the bulb will last that long, however; so be forewarned. It takes AAA batteries; so, most likely you will have to change the batteries before you need a new light. The biggest benefit to the *Westinghouse* unit is that it casts



## The AT Bargain Basement (continued)

more light in an area than the spotlight effect of the *Sylvania* product. You can purchase this light from *Amazon.com* for \$9.95 plus shipping and handling. You can also buy it from the *Ace Hardware Outlet* ([www.acehardwareoutlet.com](http://www.acehardwareoutlet.com)) for \$7.95 plus shipping and handling. Do note that if you order these or any other products, there will most likely be shipping and handling charges. Make sure you know your total cost before you complete your order.

Our next bargain is another illuminating gem! The **Acroa Pathlighter** cane has a light built into it. The light provides the user illumination while walking. This can help you avoid a dangerous situation when walking at night and in other low-light situations. I found the **Pathlighter** at *Sears.com* in their healthcare section for \$39.99 (again, plus shipping and handling). It is 36-inches long, so you may need to have it cut to the height that fits you. If you don't want to worry about cutting the cane down to size, you can always try the adjustable height version available from *Walgreens.com*. The adjustable height version only adjusts from 34-inches to 38-inches and sells for \$44.99 (plus shipping and handling). As with any mobility device, always consult your physician or a licensed physical therapist before purchasing a new device.



The last bargain, or should I say “group of bargains,” comes to us from the world of sporting goods. It's the **CamelBak** hydration system. Basically, the **CamelBak** is a water bottle made to strap on your back. It comes in several differ-



ent sizes. The **Slipstream** can hold 50 ounces of fluid. There is a drinking tube attached to it that allows you to sip your beverage without having to take the bottle out of its pack or off of your back (the holder is a backpack). Besides the 50 oz. **Slipstream**, there's the 70 oz. **Classic** and the 100 oz. **Lobo**. Each is sold for under \$80. You can order one of the **CamelBak** hydration systems from a variety of distributors, or you can go into your local sporting goods store and see if they carry them. *Dick's Sporting Goods* is a good place to start. So, who cares about what's essentially a thermos in a backpack with a long straw? Well, lots of people have problems regulating their body temperature. Proper hydration can alleviate this issue. But for some people, that's just not as simple as stopping at the local convenience store and getting a bottle of water or throwing an extra bottle in your bag before leaving the house. If you can't open the bottle or lift it to drink independently, it can be very difficult to stay hydrated. Well, the **CamelBak** makes taking a drink as easy as sipping on a straw. The unit can also fit on the back of a wheelchair for easy storage while still being close enough for use. Depending on the beverage used, you may need the specialized cleaning kit in order to make sure that the unit stays fresh and ready for safe use.

And that will bring another action-packed episode of the *AT Bargain Basement* to a close. I hope you found something useful here, but if you didn't, keep coming back because we have so many bargains and so little time. Once again, if you have any bargains you would like to share with the group, please send them along! And remember, just because it's a bargain, doesn't mean it's cheap! ■

### 15th Annual Inclusion Conference

#### Making Connections Relating to the Curriculum and One Another



Thursday, May 7, 2009

8:00 am—3:15 pm

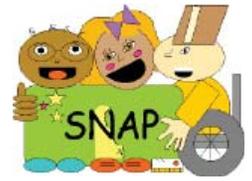
John M. Clayton Hall & Conference Center  
Newark, Delaware

Register online at <http://www.dati.org/events/>  
Or call 302-856-1081



# It's a SNAP to Prepare for an Emergency

Beth Appenzeller MacDonald  
Special Needs Alert Program (SNAP) Coordinator  
Office of Emergency Medical Services



**I** *Imagine:*

- Your child has a medical emergency: SNAP is there for you
- You are in a vehicle crash and separated from your child: SNAP is there for you
- Your family must evacuate before a storm: SNAP is there for you

The Special Needs Alert Program (SNAP) is designed to connect families with children ages 0-21 who have special health care needs to their local emergency medical services. This includes county paramedics and local fire department basic life support services. The service is voluntary and free of charge. Families can enroll in the program at any time, and all children with special emergency care needs—tracheotomies, IV therapy, feeding tubes, autism, brain injury, low birth weight, and premature babies—are eligible.

Parents interested in enrolling their child in SNAP may call Delaware Emergency Medical Services for Children at 302-744-5415. SNAP materials are also available on the web in English and Spanish at <http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dph/ems/emscsnap.html> or <http://www.familyvoices.org/states.php?state=DE>. Click the forms link under the “Materials” heading. Forms to complete include:

- Enrollment Form
- Home Visit Information (or Home Information) Form
- Emergency Information Form, developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, must be completed and signed by the child's physician.
- Consent Form



Liz is checked out by an EMT

The completed forms must be sent to the Office of EMS; the address is listed at the bottom of the enrollment form. Once the information is in the system, the child's medical information is given to the 911 dispatch center, the county-based paramedic

service, and the local fire company. Fire companies secure the information in several ways—secured notebooks or on secure laptops—for quick reference en route to a 911 call at the child's address.

As a parent of a child with special needs, I provide outreach to families, fire companies, physician's offices, schools, child care centers, and others. Once you have completed the SNAP enrollment process, it is important to know where to keep your SNAP information. **Here is where I suggest:**

- At home, please keep a copy on your refrigerator. Emergency personnel will often look there for special health information.
- At the daycare, after-school care, or a day program, please provide a copy of the *Emergency Information Form* and your contact information to the individual(s) who provides your child's day-to-day care.
- In school, provide a copy of the *Emergency Information Form* and a note stating that your child is enrolled in the SNAP Program to the school nurse.
- With relatives, share SNAP information with relatives who provide care for your child.
- In your personal vehicles, you may want to keep a copy of SNAP information on your child's specialized safety seat, and a copy in the glove compartment.
- On the school bus or public transportation, your child's SNAP information can be kept in your child's book bag, on their wheelchair, or seating device. You may also want keep a copy in his or her wallet or purse.

SNAP is currently funded by a grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, through the State of Delaware's Public Health Preparedness Program in partnership with Easter Seals, Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore. The Program was implemented in July 2004. Currently there are 140 children enrolled throughout the state. The program was evaluated and deemed effective according to surveys by the University of Delaware's Center for Disabilities Studies in 2006. ■

# Not Quite “Homegrown in Delaware”

**R**ecreation and leisure activities are experiences many of us strive to enjoy. For some, riding a motorcycle provides the perfect opportunity for both. But what happens when the person wanting to ride is disabled in some way? Are motorcycles out of the question for people with disabilities? DATI's own Eddie Jory says that motorcycles are definitely not out of the question! In fact, Eddie has adapted motorcycles on his own so that he can continue to enjoy the open road safely. Not everyone is so inclined or skilled, however, to do such modifications independently. No worries! Eddie found a shop that can do the work for you, *Haus of Trikes*, and he took the time to do a brief interview with the owner that we share here in a question and answer format.

*When & why did Haus of Trikes open for business?* Jeff Pickard, owner and operator of the shop, opened for business in 2001 after he experienced a traumatic injury resulting in the loss of both his legs at the knees. He was told he would never ride again. That didn't seem to deter him because he went out and bought himself a trike, liked it, and started his business.

*What type of modifications do you offer, and how many have you performed?* A wide variety of modifications to existing two-wheeled motorcycles are offered. In order to stabilize a bike and eliminate the need for the rider to balance it, sidecars are attached to two-wheelers, or the back wheel is replaced with a side-by-side pair of wheels to create a trike. There are two options for this modification—conversions and the Voyager system—offering an appropriately sized set of training wheels or outrigger wheels that stabilize the motorcycle and cost less than other systems. Clutches are adapted, brake controls relocated, standard shift systems are switched out for electric, and wheelchair racks are installed. These modifications offer "moral support" and increase the ease and safety of riding for people with disabilities. Though he couldn't say how many trikes he's modified, Jeff said that clients come from all over the United States and Europe.

*What are some of the most significant disabilities for which you have adapted motorcycles?* Most modifications are provided for customers who have had single leg amputations or strokes, although one

rider experienced double leg amputations above the knees, and another had his arm amputated at the shoulder. In addition, we have been able to accommodate people with neuropathies, which result in numbness and lack of feeling, by providing a bigger break pedal.

*Are adapted motorcycles safe for people with disabilities to operate?* Yes, they can be safe with appropriate training.

*Are they expensive, and who pays for the modifications?* The cost is more reasonable when compared to converting a car. As for who pays for the work, the Veterans Administration (VA) may help, but no other organization or agency is known to provide grants for such modifications. Costs are typically out-of-pocket for the cyclist.

*Are there limitations to who is allowed to have a license to be street legal on an adapted motorcycle?* Riders must pass a written and road test on the adapted bike, and there is a medical review board evaluation required. Contact the State of Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles for all the specifics.

*Do you call in other experts for special requests?* Yes, specialists for custom and manufactured special items are consulted.

*Where is the Haus of Trikes located?* The shop address is 36350 Dupont Boulevard (Route 113), Selbyville, Delaware 19975. Contact Jeff at 410-251-2146, [info@hausoftrikes.com](mailto:info@hausoftrikes.com), or visit the website at [www.hausoftrikes.com](http://www.hausoftrikes.com). ■



*Here is a wheelchair lift on a custom trike. The wheelchair is attached to an arm on a track that lifts it onto the fender. The lift gives riders wheels on their bike or in their chair and is the product of The Freedom Track, [www.freedom-track.com](http://www.freedom-track.com).*

# Emergency Roadside Assistance and More for Wheelchair Users

Patricia A. Kosta

Founder and CEO of ADA Nationwide

One in four people experience a roadside emergency each year. For passengers with a disability, this can be a particularly difficult situation. *ADA Nationwide* provides emergency roadside assistance to people who are disabled, use a mobility device, and to the modified vehicle in which they travel.

After designing and manufacturing the nation's only wheelchair lift tow trucks in 1999, Patricia A. Kosta—founder and CEO of *ADA Nationwide*—realized that the towing and road service industry would not be able to accommodate the unique roadside service requirements of people with disabilities. The need for training regarding strategies for passenger accommodation and transport when a vehicle was towed away became a driving force for the creation of *ADA Nationwide*.

With years of research and development behind it, *ADA Nationwide* has developed strategies and national partnerships to address the service needs of people with disabilities when the vehicle they are traveling in breaks down. *ADA Nationwide* membership provides services and benefits unique to people with disabilities.

- Emergency lift service: When the lift ramp on your van does not work properly, *ADA Nationwide* will coordinate and dispatch a service technician to assist with minor repairs or device override to get you back on the road.
- Para-transit lift service: When your vehicle is towed away for repairs, *ADA Nationwide* will send a Para-Transit provider to your location to provide a ride to safety.
- Wheelchair battery service: When your power chair loses power, *ADA Nationwide* will dispatch a service technician to your location for battery replacement or charging.
- Emergency towing: When your vehicle must be towed for repairs, *ADA Nationwide* will locate a service provider that will allow your service animal to be transported along with you.

- Tire change: If you do not have a spare tire, towing is provided.
- Unlock service: When you lock your keys in your car, in the house, or in the office, *ADA Nationwide* will dispatch a service provider to assist you in gaining access.
- Fuel delivery: When you run out of fuel, *ADA Nationwide* will deliver enough fuel to get you to a service station.
- Gas station service assistance: When traveling, *ADA Nationwide* will locate a fueling station on your route to assist with filling-up your vehicle when you arrive.

All of the membership benefits listed here are free with paid membership dues. These services and benefits, combined with the ADA Personal Assistance HOT-LINE, are what makes *ADA Nationwide* the travel club of choice for people with disabilities and their families.

As a Delaware resident, you are invited to take advantage of this service and receive a 14-month membership for the price of a 12-month membership. Call 1-800-720-3132 for more information or go online at [www.regonline.com/delaware](http://www.regonline.com/delaware). You are invited to visit <http://americandriversalliance.com> or call the number listed above to learn more about *ADA Nationwide*. ■



*Emergency roadside assistance for you, your vehicle, and your mobility device, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.*

## Upcoming Delaware Expos for People in Their 50s and Older, Their Families, and People Who Serve Them

### 8th Annual 55+ Active Adult Expo

Thursday, April 30, 2009

9am - 4pm

At Dover Downs® Rollins Center

Hosted by: Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce

**Free** to *registered* attendees

Go to [www.cdcc.net](http://www.cdcc.net), click on "Calendar of Events" then go to April to learn more or call 302-734-7513.



### 5th Annual Delaware 50+ Expo

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

10am - 2pm

At Chase Center on the Riverfront

**Free** to *registered* attendees;

luncheon seating is limited, so register early.

Go to <http://www.lifetimeexpos.com/50plus09.html> or email [dblair@lifetimeexpos.com](mailto:dblair@lifetimeexpos.com). You may call 215-968-4593, but registration will only be accepted online.



### 33rd Annual CHEER Senior BEACH DAY 2009

Friday, September 25, 2009

9am - 2pm

In and around Rehoboth Beach Convention Center

**Free** to *registered* attendees

Information is forthcoming at [www.cheerde.com](http://www.cheerde.com), or you may call 302-856-5187.



**Note:** If you are looking for items not on the AT Exchange, contact the DATI's Sussex County ATRC at 302-856-7946 or 800-870-DATI (3284). If you call the 800 number, you will interact with an automated system. In order to reach the Sussex ATRC, press 1 after the first prompt and 6 after the next prompt.

New items are added regularly. If there has been no activity or interaction with the contributor to the list within six months, items are automatically removed from the list.

**Note on liability:** The DATI does not warrant the condition or terms of sale of any device offered for reutilization by an existing owner or borrower under the AT Program. The DATI shall not be liable for any claims, liabilities, damages, losses, costs, expenses (including but not limited to settlements, judgments, court costs and reasonable attorney's fees), fines and penalties, arising out of any actual or alleged injury, loss or damage of any nature whatsoever in connection with the sale or use of any device purchased or sold under the AT Program. It shall be the responsibility of the seller to provide accurate and detailed information about the device's specifications and condition to any buyer. The DATI functions solely as an information-sharing communication channel. ■

To Contact DATI's Central Site office or the ATRC closest to you, call 1-800-870-DATI (3284)

Press

#1 for English or

#2 for Spanish,

then press

#3 for the Central Site office

#4 for the New Castle County ATRC

#5 for the Kent County ATRC

#6 for the Sussex County ATRC

TDD callers: Do not press #1 or #2 and your call will be answered on a TDD line at the Central Site office.

## DATI Equipment Loan Policy

DATI has a wide variety of equipment at the Assistive Technology Resource Centers (ATRCs) for the primary purpose of demonstration and short-term loan. The policy for equipment loans is as follows:

The standard loan period is two weeks, defined as the day borrowed (e.g., Monday the 10th) to the same day two weeks later (e.g., Monday the 24th). Loans may be extended provided there are no names on the waiting list and/or that an extension will not interfere with an existing reservation. The maximum loan period is four weeks.

A maximum of four devices may be borrowed during any single loan period. However, combinations of devices may be treated as a single device if the components are interdependent—either operationally or because one component is required for the borrower to use another. Equipment loans across state lines are not permitted. Equipment must also remain in Delaware throughout the loan period. ■



### Please Keep Us Posted!

Has your address changed? Are you receiving duplicates? Would you prefer to receive the newsletter via email?

If your mailing or email address is incorrect, please type or print your correct information on the form below and forward it to DATI along with your current mailing label or the first page of your electronic newsletter. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, visit [www.dati.org/news/unsubscribe.html](http://www.dati.org/news/unsubscribe.html) or contact our central office.

Do you know a friend or family member who would be interested in receiving the newsletter? Please provide him/her with the subscription form below. ■

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### *The AT Messenger* Subscription Form

I am a Delaware resident; please sign me up to receive *The AT Messenger*

Please cancel my subscription to *The AT Messenger*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (check one):  Business  Residence \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (check one):  Business  Residence \_\_\_\_\_

Format:  I have provided my email address above, please send me an electronic version

I prefer to receive a print version of *The AT Messenger* through the mail.

Indicate if an alternate format is needed:

audio tape  Braille  large print

I am a:  person with a disability (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

family member of a person with a disability

friend/advocate/colleague of someone with a disability

professional (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

interested citizen

other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_





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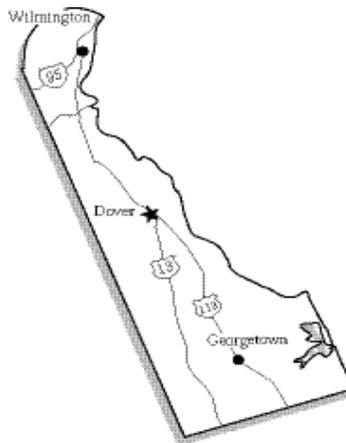
## DATI RESOURCE CENTERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE...

800-870-DATI (3284)  
dati@asel.udel.edu

New Castle County ATRC  
Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children  
203 Administration & Research Bldg.  
1600 Rockland Road  
Wilmington, DE 19803  
302-651-6790  
302-651-6794 (TDD)  
302-651-6793 (fax)

Kent County ATRC  
Easter Seals Kent County Center  
100 Enterprise Place, Suite One  
Dover, DE 19904-8200  
302-739-6885  
302-739-6886 (TDD)  
302-739-6887 (fax)

Sussex County ATRC  
20123 Office Circle  
Georgetown, DE 19947  
302-856-7946  
302-856-6714 (voice or TDD)  
302-856-6990 (fax)



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Web address: [www.dati.org](http://www.dati.org)

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