



# COMMUTER NEWSLETTER

February 2022

## Covid Pandemic Continues to Rock Motorcoach Industry as Recovery is Slow



percent loss. We won't see recovery until at least 2023."

Since March of 2020, the motorcoach industry has suffered unprecedented economic loss. These losses have continued to this day, and the industry is showing little sign of improvement.

Some of the worst losses have been in the charter bus industry, which before had been the largest of all the various motorcoach services. Overall, this segment of the industry experienced an estimated 57.1 percent reduction in revenues in 2021. Scheduled and commuter services are estimated to be down by 69.2 and 74.3 percent respectively for the year.

"The motorcoach industry is more than just another transportation

choice for many Americans," said Pantuso. "We are an important piece of the nation's infrastructure and economy. We move more than just students on field trips and commuters to work each day, we connect rural areas to bigger cities; evacuate people when natural or man-made disasters are occurring and move our military to where they need to mobilize to protect this great nation. While people may not notice the lack of buses on the road, they do notice the lack of mobility opportunities that buses have provided them for over a century."

Unlike many other businesses, the capital-intensive nature of the motorcoach business, along with the cost burdens associated with its regulated workforce, make it especially difficult to reopen once operations are halted.

Source: American Bus Association, Buses.org

The American Bus Association released a report February 3 showing how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the motorcoach industry not only in 2020, but also in 2021.

"We have found that the motorcoach industry recorded an 82.6 percent loss of business in 2020 because of the COVID pandemic," said Peter Pantuso, ABA President & CEO. "While we saw some recovery happening in 2021, the Delta and Omicron variants slowed down recovery and caused the industry to experience a 62

## Ukraine war may result in high fuel prices; shortage of supply

Russia's invasion of Ukraine could drive up gasoline prices to as much as \$5 per gallon — even though U.S. and NATO sanctions have not been extended to energy supplies.

Russia is the world's third top producer of oil (behind only the U.S and Saudi Arabia), according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Russia produces 11% of the world's oil supplies, and is the third-larg-

est importer of oil into the U.S. — on par with Saudi Arabia. It is also a top supplier of natural gas to European countries. Fuel prices have rose from \$69 per barrel in December to \$91.94 as of February 25.

In preparation of a possible interruption in fuel distribution, Trans-Bridge Lines has stockpiled our fuel supplies. We do not anticipate any interference in our service or inconvenience to our riders.



[View March Commuter Fares >](#)

## SCHEDULE ALERT

### EFFECTIVE MARCH 7, 2022 ...

There will be minor changes affecting our:

Allentown/Clinton/New York Schedules

Newark Airport Schedules

Wind Creek Bethlehem Casino Schedules

Eastbound Run 151 departing the Lehigh Valley beginning at 5:10 p.m. will now operate Monday through Thursday.

Eastbound Run 153 departing the Lehigh Valley beginning at 5:10 p.m. has been canceled.

Westbound Run 92 departing the Port Authority Bus Terminal at 8:30 a.m. has been canceled.

Westbound Run 94 departing the Port Authority Bus Terminal at 8:30 a.m. will now operate Monday through Friday.

[VIEW SCHEDULES >](#)



### POLICE TO CHECK NYC BUS TRAVELERS' LUGGAGE FOR GUNS

[Read the story >](#)



### 14 THINGS TO HAVE WITH YOU DURING YOUR COMMUTE

1. Earbuds
2. Sunglasses
3. Water Bottle
4. Comfortable Shoes
5. Backpack / Messenger Bag
6. Phone Charger
7. Sweater
8. Umbrella
9. Tissues
10. Hand Sanitizer
11. Pain Killers (Advil, Tylenol)
12. Laptop / Tablet
13. Book
14. Neck Pillow

# What best practices does Trans-Bridge Lines still follow as we emerge from the pandemic?



As the CDC begins relaxing their protocols, Trans-Bridge Lines is dedicated to ensuring our employees and passengers feel confident traveling with us.

- As mandated by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) under federal law, it is required that passengers continue to wear a face covering while boarding, en route, and disembarking all motorcoaches through March 18, 2022. This includes transportation hubs and ticket offices. Failure to comply may result in denial of boarding or removal from the motorcoach by authorities. Refusing to wear a mask is a violation of federal law, and passengers may be subject to penalties under federal law. Trans-Bridge Lines follows all TSA directives on face coverings. However, please make note that motorcoach drivers are not required to wear face coverings, as it could impede vision for some drivers while operating the bus. For this reason, when traveling with us, it is required that seats 1 and 2, on the passenger's side, remain open and are not to be occupied by passengers, unless instructed by Trans-Bridge Lines, Inc. management or the motorcoach driver.

- Our company utilizes the MERV 8 air filter. The MERV 8 filter provides protection in capturing respiratory droplets and fine particles in the air. There is an emphasis on optimal air quality, as cabin air in the motorcoach is completely exchanged with fresh, outside air approximately every ten minutes. There are two air systems – one for the passenger seating area and another in the driver's cockpit.
- Trans-Bridge follows a cleaning checklist, which concentrates on the visible touchpoint areas of the coach, including handrails, door latches, driver's area, and restroom surfaces, including door handles.
- Trans-Bridge Lines treats our motorcoaches with an antimicrobial technology that provides continuous protection by the sustained killing of 99.9% of viruses, including Coronaviruses, on surfaces for 90 days. The solution is applied to high-touch surfaces via electrostatic spraying throughout the motorcoach. As viruses come in contact with the antiviral coating, the cleaning agent physically breaks down the virus. The solution's barrier provides sustained protection and begins killing new viruses on contact for up to 90 days.



## 7 STEPS TO A HEALTHIER HEART

You don't have to make big changes to reduce your heart attack and stroke risk. Here are 7 healthy habits that could save your life:

1. **Live smoke-free.** If you smoke, quit.
2. **Monitor your blood pressure.** Keep your numbers below 120/80 mm Hg.
3. **Maintain a healthy weight.** Target a body mass index (BMI) of less than 25.
4. **Watch your cholesterol.** Strive for a total cholesterol less than 200 mg/dL.
5. **Control your blood sugar.** Aim for a fasting blood glucose less than 100 mg/dL.
6. **Get active.** Log 150 minutes of moderate intensity activity - like brisk walking - per week (or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity activity).
7. **Eat a heart-healthy diet.** Make vegetables and fruits, whole grains, and fish mealtime staples. Limit sodium, saturated fat, and added sugar.

### \* SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION \*



### Upcoming Spring Tours

Oak Ridge Boys, American Music Theatre .....	Mar 12
Ntl Cherry Blossom Festival, Washington DC .....	Apr 2
Presidential Homes of VA, Charlottesville .....	Apr 12-14
"David", Sight & Sound Theatre .....	Apr 20
"Murder at Mt Hope", Mt Hope Dinner Theatre .....	Apr 22
Bronx Zoo .....	Apr 24
<b>Villa Roma Resort .....</b>	<b>May 2-3</b>
Pittsburgh & Heroes .....	May 13- 15
Thousand Islands, Alexandria Bay, NY .....	May 20- 22
Washington, DC Ntl Zoo .....	May 21
Intrepid Sea, Air, & Space Museum .....	May 26
Green Dragon & Kitchen Kettle Village .....	May 27

### Where we are Going

#### Villa Roma Resort

This all-inclusive resort is located in Callicoon, NY, part of the Catskill Mountains.

You can enjoy bowling, rock climbing, skiing, golfing and more, all on site. You'll find indoor tennis, bocce, shuffleboard and racquetball courts, plus pools, a Jacuzzi and spa services. There's also an arcade and game room!

Enjoy nightly music and entertainment with a different show each night, along with a complete schedule of daytime activities!



@TransBridgeTours



@transbridgetour



@transbridgetours

# URGENT NEED FOR BLOOD



**MILLER-KEYSTONE**  
BLOOD CENTER

## EMERGENCY ALL BLOOD TYPES NEEDED



"In the past, Miller-Keystone has been able to import blood products from other centers across the nation," explained Ms. Clemens. "That is not the case this year, as blood supplies across the United States are at a historically critical low. Blood is perishable and there is no substitute -- the only source is from volunteer blood donors."

In order to donate, individuals must be 16 years of age\* or older, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and be feeling healthy; they must not have donated in the past eight weeks, however platelet donors are eligible within 8 days of a donation.

All donors must also provide valid identification. Masks are required at this time regardless of vaccination status, and donations are accepted by appointment only in order to accommodate current social distancing guidelines.

Schedule your blood donation by calling 800-B-ADONOR (223-6667) or visit [GIVEaPINT.org](http://GIVEaPINT.org).

\* Parental consent required for 16-year-old donors.

## WHY GIVE BLOOD?

There is no substitute for human blood. From cancer patients to accident victims, premature babies and more, your generosity contributes to saving lives right here in our community.

Miller-Keystone is the only blood supplier to 22 hospitals in our region and they need 450 donors to meet the daily needs of transfusion patients.



## WHY ARE PLATELETS IMPORTANT?

Platelets are tiny, colorless, disc-shaped particles circulating in blood that help control bleeding and bruising. They activate a substance in plasma, which forms a clot and allows a wound to heal. Since platelets help control bleeding, they are very important for heart surgery patients, burn victims, organ transplant patients, bone marrow transplant patients, accident victims, premature babies, and especially cancer patients.

In fact, cancer is the #1 patient group that needs Platelet transfusions. Some treatments can result in anemia and a loss of Platelets, and many cancer patients require daily Platelet transfusions for several weeks. When Platelet levels fall too low, they are transfused into patients to replenish their supply and prevent life-threatening hemorrhages.

Platelets have the shortest shelf life of all blood components, lasting only seven days. That means they are in constant demand for life-saving treatments.

You can give Platelets every two weeks, up to 24 times per year.

450

Units of blood are needed every day in the 12 counties served by Miller-Keystone Blood Center.

43000

Units of blood are used each day in the United States.

29

Miller-Keystone Blood Center is the only blood supplier to 29 hospitals in our region. No other blood organization supplies these hospitals.