

**Greetings!** Thank you so much for your business. We are well aware that without you, there would be no us. Your total satisfaction will always be our highest priority!

~ Diane and Thor Smith ~



**DRIVER CORNER**



Al Carter has worked with Runners, Inc. as an independent contractor for over 15 years.

**RUNNERS IN THE COMMUNITY**



**National Institutes of Health (NIH):** We've recently been approved as a qualified vendor by NIH to provide them with courier services under a blanket purchase agreement.

**A Big Thank You From Autism Speaks:** The official results from the "2007 Washington, DC Walk Now for Autism" was just released from Autism Speaks. Over \$1,000,000 in support was raised (along with awareness) and close to 6,000 people participated — a first for this Washington DC yearly event! If you would like to get more involved in the next walk, please contact Autism Speaks at [www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org).



**Breast Cancer Awareness:** The 3-Day Breast Cancer 60 Mile Charity Walk is taking place in October of 2008 and Runners' is planning to participate. We even have a survivor here at Runners who's planning to walk. More details upcoming in the Spring Newsletter.

**WINNERS AT RUNNERS, INC.**



In our October 2007 20th Anniversary email, we announced a customer contest for referring new business to Runners, Inc. The \$100 prize winner was Lori Perkins of Early, Cassidy & Schilling, Inc., a local insurance company. Lori generously donated her winnings to the Montgomery County Humane Society, "... to help animals in need and encourage people to adopt animals from the pound and save a life." The real winners here are the homeless animals thanks to Lori!

**\$20 CAFFEINE REWARDS!** Don't miss a chance to participate in our monthly drawing to receive a \$20 Starbucks giftcard. A winner is randomly picked at the end of each month as a reward for using eTrac, our online order entry and tracking system. It's easy to use and each time you place an order online\* (while drinking your fresh cup of coffee) your name is entered into the drawing. The more often you use eTrac, the better your chances of winning! Winners include:



\*Rodgers Consulting\* Krauthamer & Stahl, Attorneys\* Viatech Publishing\* Input Solutions \*

\*If you have an account with us and want to get the "running" for the giftcard, send Kevin Joyce an email at [kjoyce@runnersinc.com](mailto:kjoyce@runnersinc.com) and let him know you want to sign-up for eTrac!

**CARDBOARD TO LEATHER DONATES EQUIPMENT TO NEEDY KIDS**



Kevin Joyce, Technical Operations Manager for Runners, Inc., is Co-Chair of the Orioles Advocates Program, Cardboard to Leather, which collects baseball equipment for youth usually in impoverished nations. This year's collection efforts were the most successful in the program's history: 900 baseballs, 500 bats, 850 uniforms, 300 gloves, hundreds of baseball caps, shoes, 60 sets of catcher's equipment, bases, pitcher's equipment and home plates. Runners, Inc. helps by storing the donated equipment in the Baltimore warehouse until ready for shipment.

Kevin coordinated shipment of the equipment to Nicaragua and distribution plans were put in place through Alex Torres, a Little League baseball coordinator in Nicaragua and former team-mate of ex-Orioles pitcher Dennis Martinez. The distribution directly supported 845 boys' team, three girls' teams, and a trio of coed squads. About 1,800 happy kids, ages 6-18, benefited from this generosity!

The success of this year's program was highlighted by Advocates President Scott Zimmerman when he said, "I want to make this the benchmark program against which all other programs of this kind will be measured." There's tons of used equipment that could be donated and so many kids that could use it. They're so appreciative!!

**We Like To Hear From you!**

If you have comments or suggestions in ways that we can help make your business run more smoothly or efficiently, please let us know. Call us for quotes or pricing on deliveries, custom services, warehousing, and/or distribution.

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**HINTS & TIPS ON SAVING GAS\$**

Driving on ice and slippery roads requires extra caution. You can find helpful driving information on the State of Maryland site: <http://mva.state.md.us/Resources/DL-002B.pdf>

Also With the rising price of gas, here are a few driving tips that should increase your mileage:

- Decrease your speed (gas mileage decreases quickly at speeds above 60 mph).
- Remove extra weight from your vehicle.
- Perform periodic maintenance.
- Avoid Stop-and-Go traffic whenever possible.
- Avoid idling when waiting for someone.
- Call Runners, Inc. to make your deliveries!!

**LITTLE KNOWN USEFUL (or not) FACTS:**

- ↯ If you are an average American, in your whole life, you will spend an average of 6 months waiting at red lights.
- ↯ Cats have over 100 vocal sounds. Dogs have only 10.
- ↯ The words "racecar", "Kayak", and "level" are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes).
- ↯ "Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only the left hand and "lollipop" with your right.
- ↯ We hope we've added some enjoyment to your day and remember, "A day without laughter is like a day without sunshine!"

(quotes link: [http://guysports.com/humorjokesjokes\\_strange\\_acts.html](http://guysports.com/humorjokesjokes_strange_acts.html))