

**BUSINESS**



**Go green**

A Pelham company will take you to the airport, and protect the environment at the same time. **Page 22**



Frank Flanagan III, left, and Frank Flanagan Jr. have started an airport shuttle service that uses Toyota Prius hybrid cars. The Pelham business has customers throughout Greater Lowell. As a former farmer, the elder Flanagan said he has always tried to practice the least toxic form of pest management he could; now he is taking that philosophy to the roads. SUN/DAVID H. BROW

**Go green rates**



Looking to go hybrid for your next ride to the airport? Pelham-based Go Green Airport Shuttles charges the following one-way rates for one to four individuals riding in one of its Toyota Prius cars:

Community	Logan	Manchester
Andover	\$77	\$52
Ayer	\$108	\$77
Bedford	\$124	\$77
Billerica	\$54	\$52
Carlisle	\$77	\$77
Chelmsford	\$77	\$52
Concord	\$77	\$77
Dracut	\$77	\$52
Dunstable	\$93	\$52
Groton	\$108	\$77
Hudson, N.H.	\$77	\$52
Littleton	\$108	\$77
Lowell	\$52	\$52
Nashua	\$77	\$52
Pelham	\$52	\$52
Shirley	\$124	\$93
Tewksbury	\$52	\$52
Townsend	\$124	\$77
Tyngsboro	\$77	\$52
Westford	\$93	\$52
Wilmington	\$52	\$52

## The Green Team

### Pelham father-and-son business offers airport shuttle service using hybrid cars

By Marle Donovan  
Sun Correspondent

PELHAM — Frank Flanagan Jr.'s shuttle service is not your typical airport limousine.

The new service, called Go Green Airport Shuttle, uses Toyota Prius hybrid cars — among the most fuel efficient on the market — to ferry area residents and corporate travelers to and from Manchester-Boston Regional and Logan International airports.

"I'm looking at my gauge now and we're 51 miles to the gallon as I speak with you," he said. That compares with 18 to 28 miles per gallon for other small and medium-sized sedans.

Flanagan, 63, and his son/business partner, Frank III, have just two cars; one is actually green, the other blue. They've talked about adding a third vehicle to the fleet — something big enough to add more families to their clientele — but "there's no hybrid minivans on the market yet," Flanagan said, adding that the first are expected in early 2008.

"The business has been growing like a weed. We have to buy another car before that," Flanagan said.

Flanagan has a varied and interesting background. He's a former Marine, marketing executive and avo-

cado farmer, and he's driven a school bus, dump truck, excavator and charter bus professionally. He's even worked as a poker dealer.

He and Frank III, 43, an Air Force veteran, were both driving for other companies when they noticed a couple of Priuses at the Logan livery. Flanagan realized he had the financial resources to break out on his own — the only investment required was the purchase of his first \$29,000 Prius.

The business started in July, and is based from Flanagan's Valley Hill Road home. His wife, Judith, and Frank III's wife, Pamela, help with bookkeeping and reservations.

The Flanagans have customers in Pelham and Hudson, as well as in Lowell, Pepperell, Tyngsboro, Dracut, Chelmsford and Westford.

"Lowell is one of our primary markets; we have all the permits to do interstate and do pickup and dropoff at both airports," Flanagan said.

He said as a former farmer, he's always tried to practice the least toxic form of pest management he could. He also had his 1735 farmhouse moved to avoid chopping a 300-year-old maple tree growing into it.

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## Business offers hybrid car shuttles

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"We're not particularly tree-huggers," he said, but does believe human activity is accelerating the process of global warming.

In opting to use hybrid vehicles for their business, "We felt by our actions, we could influence other people and get them to do something they would not do normally," Flanagan said.

The hybrid engine of the Prius alternates between electric and gas fuel, hence the savings.

Go Green charges \$35 an hour for most trips and drivers all wear a chauffeur's hat, suit and tie, just as limousine drivers do.

"We always have a chilled bottle of water in the car for them; we do little things like that to make people feel at home and make them feel like they're being pampered," Flanagan said.

Melinda Ziegenhagen, events coordinator for Atrium Medical Corp. in Hudson, said she books Go Green about 10 times a month for co-workers and clients.

"It's excellent service. They can charge less, because their costs are less," she said. "It's environmentally friendly, which is an added benefit." Ziegenhagen also gave the company

**"We always have a chilled bottle of water in the car for... we do little things to make people feel at home."**

Frank Flanagan Jr., co-founder of Go Green Airport Shuttle

points for friendliness and ability to accommodate last-minute transportation requests.

Both Priuses feature a premium sound system, DVD player and plenty of leg room.

"The guy that works for me as a driver is 6-foot-4," Flanagan noted.

The cars have enough space to store

three big roller bags plus a couple of smaller carry-on items; there's plenty of room for golf clubs, too.

In addition to transportation to and from local airports, Go Green also offers around-town and courier services.

"I just transported a lady for a drum and bugle corps," all the way from Pelham to Sudbury, Mass., Flanagan said.

When he's not working, Flanagan drives a black convertible 2002 Porsche Boxster and races a 1994 Mitsubishi Eclipse at tracks around New England and Canada. Go Green is trying to kick off a "For Lover's Only" package where it arranges transportation, a hotel room, meal and special event tickets for a night on the town in Boston or elsewhere; all you have to do is pay up front and then enjoy the date.

"You're going to spend some money doing it, but she's worth it," Flanagan said.

For bookings or further information, call (603) 635-4270 or visit GoGreenAirportShuttle.com.