

## Direct from the Director

As our busy summer comes to an end, we are getting ready for yet another busy period filled with many activities.

First, I would like to give you a quick update about each of our programs. Rental and mortgage assistance broke all records with overwhelming requests for assistance. Nutrition's senior meals program is on track to serve approximately 400,000 meals by year's end. The affordable housing program completed its first year NRTC program by constructing the final two homes for a total of five affordable houses. The Youth Corp's summer program arranged for and supervised twenty youngsters in its summer job placement program. Its entrepreneurial program collaborated with the Rutgers Extension in a "Jersey Fresh" program by selling fruits and vegetables throughout the Asbury Park area. The volunteer unit kept some 600 volunteers busy primarily through the "meals on wheels" program.

The up-coming activities which I encourage all to participate in are: (1) A miniature golf tournament on September 26 sponsored by one of our founding congregations, Atonement Lutheran Church, who will also host a family-type barbecue; (2) a run through Deal for our benefit on October 11, in conjunction with the Jersey Shore Running Club and the Deal Firehouse and (3) our annual meeting on October 15 at Seabrook Village, when we will honor its volunteers for all the generosity they have shown to us.

As you know, we keep our activities and fund-raising to a minimum, so we hope you will find the time to support these events and show your usual generosity. We need you to walk with us as so many unfortunate people need us to walk with them.

— Joe Marmora

## Youth Farm Stand Project

Through a grant from the Monmouth County Workforce Investment Board, Interfaith Neighbors teamed up this summer with the 4-H Youth Development Program of the Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Monmouth County to run a farm stand selling Jersey Fresh produce, operating in Asbury Park.



Six youth were hired to work at the farm stand as a form of summer employment. Danny McKee has served as the supervisor for the Farm Stand Project throughout the summer. Youth received weekly training in the areas of agriculture and entrepreneurship from Ellen Williams of the 4-H Youth Development Program, who also assisted in the set up and delivery of the project.

Of the Farm Stand project, Joe Marmora, Executive Director of Interfaith Neighbors says, "This has been such a successful program! Not only have we been able to provide employment to youth during the summer months, but we've also supported our Monmouth County farmers by exclusively selling Jersey Fresh produce. We are thrilled to see the dedication and excitement everyone has brought to this project."

The 4-H Farm Stand project promotes workforce development skills through the employment of youth to operate summer farm stands in their local communities. This community-based program provided valuable workforce preparation and training in such areas as customer relations, nutrition, culinary arts, agriculture, business management, horticulture, mathematics, communications skills, sales, marketing and entrepreneurship.

## Annual Meeting (from front)

Seabrook Village has also sponsored two "housewarming parties" for our new homeowners in which gifts and household items were donated by residents. The second of these parties was sponsored by Seabrook Village's Protestant Council. The recently completed house was displayed in a prominent area with tags listing the various items and wishes of the family. Residents selected various tags and purchased the needed items, which were then given to the family at a special housewarming party held at Seabrook.

In addition, Interfaith Neighbors has experienced a tremendous response from residents who have volunteered for various Interfaith Neighbors programs and projects over the years, such as preparing the mailing of our newsletters or volunteering for our Meals on Wheels program.

The support we receive from our communities is always highly valued. To receive ongoing support for so many of our programs shows us that Seabrook Village and its residents share our vision of making life a little better for neighbors in need.

## Happy Retirement!



Sally Malloney, Susan Attlee, and Sandi Silber

Volunteer Site Manager Susan Attlee retired after ten years of service to Interfaith Neighbors. We wish her a happy retirement, and deepest thanks for her hard work and dedication!



## 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting Interfaith Neighbors Honoring Seabrook Village

Seabrook Village of Neptune has been selected by Interfaith Neighbors' Board of Directors to be honored as an Outstanding Volunteer Organization at our 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting.



For many years, Seabrook Village and several of its resident organizations have faithfully supported the work and mission of Interfaith Neighbors. Every year since its opening in 1998, Seabrook Village's Department of Resident Life has organized a "Turkey Trot" in which residents sign up to run or walk to raise funds and donate turkeys to be distributed to needy families. Through the generosity of Seabrook Village and its residents, Interfaith Neighbors has distributed 50-80 turkeys each year, which is enough to provide for families throughout Thanksgiving and Christmas.

➡ (on back)

### Interfaith Neighbors, Inc.

810 Fourth Avenue  
Asbury Park, NJ 07712  
732-775-0525  
website: [www.interfaithneighbors.org](http://www.interfaithneighbors.org)  
e-mail: [info@interfaithneighbors.org](mailto:info@interfaithneighbors.org)

## Neighborhood Stabilization Program

This June, Interfaith Neighbors was awarded a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs to initiate a bold housing program in Asbury Park, aimed at stabilizing local markets while providing home ownership opportunities for low income residents. Interfaith Neighbors has partnered with the City of Asbury Park, the Affordable Housing Alliance, and Coastal Habitat for Humanity to develop 18 vacant lots into affordable, for-sale units. Funds have also been awarded to allow the partner agencies to purchase

foreclosed properties to be renovated and resold to low income families. Additional funds were provided to complete seven affordable rental units that will comprise part of the proposed “Springwood Center,” the cornerstone Year Two project of Interfaith Neighbors NRTC (Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit Program).

## Interfaith Neighbors is Growing!

Pardon our appearance! Interfaith Neighbors is in the midst of a major renovation project designed to provide additional space for our growing youth programs! With a growing Youth Corps program, new staff and participants, this expansion is critical for giving youth the best possible environment for learning. Our goals are to increase the number of diplomas earned by youth who have dropped out of school, increase participation in community service projects, improve job placement among youth, reduce barriers to employment among participants, and increase placements in local community colleges. Participation in these programs will lead to enrollment in a two- to four-year college, a community service program, or traditional high school, direct job placement, placement

in technical/vocational training, or enlistment in the military.

One of the key new features will be the Maxwell Bohm Reading Room/Conference Area—an area for youth to access a variety of reading materials and expand their horizons as they prepare for the GED. Max and his family helped make this expansion possible by hosting a charity concert in honor of Max’s Bar Mitzvah. All proceeds of the concert were donated to the expansion. Additional support for this renovation comes from the Perricone Family Trust, the Kurr Foundation, the Asbury Park Chamber of Commerce, New Jersey Natural Gas, and the Gannett Foundation.

## Our Latest Affordable Homes



On July 17<sup>th</sup>, Interfaith Neighbors dedicated two two-family homes at 47 & 51 Ridge Avenue. These homes represent our 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> affordable housing projects!

### A Family Affair

## 13th Annual Atonement Lutheran Golf Classic

Saturday, September 26, 2009

Miniature Golf Course  
at

Asbury Park Boardwalk at Third Avenue

Benefits—*Interfaith Neighbors*

This tournament is for everyone, the young and older golfers all play together—bring the entire family!!

#### Schedule:

9:30 A.M. Registration

10:00 A.M. Shot Gun “Put-Put” Start

12:30 P.M. Lunch and Awards Presentation  
Back to Atonement Lutheran Church

#### Golf and Lunch Fee:

\$25 for the Older Golfer

\$20 for the Younger Golfer

\$100 Tee & Hole Sponsorships

\$500 Lunch Sponsorship

Checks payable to: Atonement Lutheran Church  
(write “Atonement Golf Classic” in the memo line).  
308 1<sup>st</sup> Ave., Asbury Park, NJ 07712

Please contact Don Brockel for further information:  
732-539-0743



## 21st ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, October 15, 2009 at 7:30 PM

Seabrook Village  
Neptune, NJ

Join us as we honor **Seabrook Village** as the Outstanding Volunteer Organization of the Year, and recognize our dedicated volunteers—including **Mike McGowan** as Volunter of the Year for his work with Interfaith Neighbors Rental Assistance Program.

## Ask us about our Speakers Bureau!!

- Do you have a need for public speakers?
- Do you know individuals who would like to learn about the needs of our community?
- Do you know people who would like to get more involved in volunteer services?
- Do you know people who may be able to benefit from our services?

Then our speakers bureau may be able to help! Interfaith Neighbors can provide a speaker for your event, organization, school, or congregation to talk about our services, or to speak about a specific program that may be of interest to you.

Contact Interfaith Neighbors at 732-775-0525 to find out how we can help!

## JOIN US!!! 27th Annual Run Thru Deal 5K

presented by Deal Fire Company #2 and Point Pleasant Distributors to benefit Interfaith Neighbors

Sunday, October 11, 2009

A 5-k (3.1 mile) Road Race—Walkers welcome  
Followed by Post-Race Party for all ages!

Registration and Check-In begin at 8:30 A.M.  
1-Mile Fun Run begins at 10:00 A.M.  
5-k Run begins at 11:00 A.M.

*Five Mile Run Awards in several categories!  
Special Fun Run Awards!*

Register online: [www.jerseyrunner.com](http://www.jerseyrunner.com)  
For more information, call: 732-531-1994

Make checks payable to:  
Deal Fire Co, P.O. Box 233, Deal, NJ 07723