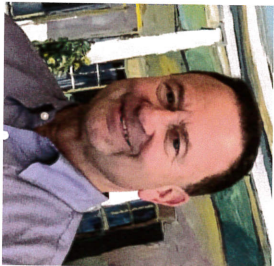


Donor Highlight: Friends of the Spring Lake 5



Walter "Chip" Craig,
January 2018

Families beyond Spring Lake's borders. Interfaith Neighbors is one of many beneficiaries of the race, and the link to how that came about in the past eight years is Interfaith Neighbors' Trustee, Walter "Chip" Craig, who has lived with his family in Spring Lake since 1995.

In 2001, Craig and four other town residents formed the not-for-profit Friends of the Spring Lake 5, donating all net proceeds from the annual event to worthy organizations and programs.

"As trustees of the event, we felt very fortunate to live in a town like Spring Lake," he said. "You don't have to look too far from our town to see that what we do through the race could help other communities. We wanted to reach out and broaden our giving to other communities," Craig said.

Craig says he first learned of Interfaith Neighbors in 2009 at his church, St. Andrew's United Methodist Church in Spring Lake. After an initial meeting with Interfaith directors Joe Marmora and Paul McEvily, Chip scheduled a meeting for the Friends of the Spring Lake 5 trustees to hear more about Interfaith. "It was easy to understand their mission and the purpose of their activities," he remembers. "Interfaith had such a track record of performance, achievement and integrity that they were a perfect spot for our support."

As a result, the Friends made their first donation to enable the purchase of a replacement delivery truck for Interfaith's Meals on Wheels program. "That was our first step out—our first meaningful

donation outside what had been our traditional pattern of donations," Craig said. McEvily says, "And that was the start of this beautiful, supportive friendship with the Race."

Following that initial donation, the Spring Lake 5 has continued to support Interfaith Neighbors. Their next donation helped to equip the Kula Café kitchen. "We also made a significant donation to help complete the construction of the Kula Farm greenhouse," Craig said. "We followed that donation with a donation for the Kula delivery truck and for a security system at Springwood Center. Just this past year, we made a donation to enable Interfaith to start the Farm Without Borders program, which is the community garden created on Springwood Avenue." The group also recently provided seed money to start developing the program model for Career Corp, an expansion of the workforce development program operated at the Kula Café into other industries.

"They've consistently supported the Business Development Center, café and farm as they like to support the innovative and new social enterprise initiatives, particularly if it benefits youth or young adults," McEvily said.

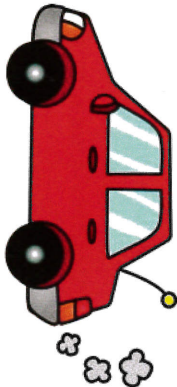
Interfaith Neighbors is just one of dozens of groups supported in and outside of Spring Lake by the road race, which has become one of the largest runs in the country. The list of other organizations benefiting from their support includes, among others, the Boys and Girls Club of Monmouth County, Lunch Break and Collier Youth Services, Craig said.

Since 2001, it is estimated that the Friends of the Spring Lake 5 have donated over \$2.1 million to local charities, volunteer organizations, town initiatives and Spring Lake Recreation. "We plan on continuing our support of Interfaith Neighbors," Craig said. "It has been a remarkable organization to work with. The creative community programs they initiate and carry through to impact are the kind of programs and organizations we want to support."

Mr. Craig is an attorney and the managing partner of Coast Capital Partners LLC.

Thinking of Getting a New Car?

You can donate your old car to Interfaith Neighbors! You can turn your unwanted vehicle, running or



not, into a tax deductible contribution to Interfaith Neighbors. Interfaith Neighbors is partnered with Donation Line, which makes the donation of a car, truck, van, boat, motorcycle, jet ski, snowmobile, RV, and even an airplane, quick and easy. Just follow these simple steps:

1. Have your vehicle title handy.
2. Call 1-877-CARS-4-US, ext. 2479 or visit www.donationline.com
3. You will be contacted by a local towing company to make arrangements for the pickup of your vehicle. (There is no charge for towing your vehicle.)
4. We will send you a donation acknowledgment letter for your records within 6-8 weeks, once your vehicle has been sold and the proceeds received by Interfaith Neighbors.

Want to get involved at Interfaith Neighbors?
There are lots of ways you can help!

GIVE • ADVOCATE • VOLUNTEER

To learn more about the community issues we address or for information about volunteering, joining our team, or ways to give, visit: www.interfaithneighbors.org or call 732.775.0525.



Direct from the Director



This message is bittersweet as this is my last column. As of July 1, 2018, I will be stepping down and transitioning to Executive Director Emeritus status. The past thirty years as executive director have been a labor of love although, admittedly, not without the anxieties that

go with a growing company! I am overcome with nostalgia as I think back to our early beginnings and all that has taken place over the last three decades.

We will be celebrating our first 30 years with a gala dinner event to be held on June 14, 2018 at Monmouth University's OceanFirst Bank Center. We will have the opportunity to honor my good friend John Lloyd for the incredible health service he has brought to the Jersey Shore. He did this by growing Fikkin Hospital to Jersey Shore University Hospital to Meridian Health to Hackensack Meridian Health. I had the pleasure of spending over 20 years serving on various boards with John where I observed and learned from John's leadership.

I thank the many of you who have sent me kind and thoughtful notes. My hope and prayer is that you will continue to support Interfaith Neighbors. The organization will be in the most capable hands of my colleague Paul McEvily, assisted by Chip Craig and

(continues inside)

(continued from Direct from the Director)

the rest of our dedicated staff. They well know that our work helping struggling families, meals for the elderly, and job training for youth must continue as we are in the business of improving lives!

As I say farewell, my chest is bursting with pride, my heart is thumping and my eyes are watering. Simply put, I love you all!

Joe Marmora

Interfaith Neighbors' 30th Anniversary Gala **DECADES OF DEDICATION**

Improving the Quality of Life at the Jersey Shore



Please join Interfaith Neighbors for a wonderful evening that will bring together friends, business and community leaders in support of local families. Our 30th Anniversary Gala will be held on **Thursday, June 14, 2018** at Monmouth University's OceanFirst Bank Center.

Honorees:

John K. Lloyd, FACHE,
Co-Chief Executive Officer,
Hackensack-Meridian Health

Joseph Marmora,
Founder & Executive Director
Interfaith Neighbors, Inc.

To purchase tickets, sponsorships or advertising, or get more information, please visit www.interfaithneighbors.org/gala or contact Stephanie at 732.775.0525, ext. 220 or stephanief@interfaithneighbors.org

Aging is Not for the Faint of Heart—That's why we need Meals on Wheels

The month of March marks the national Meals on Wheels advocacy event, **March for Meals**. As a member of Meals on Wheels America and serving all of Monmouth County with the Meals on Wheels program, we hope you will join us.

Advocate because right now, nearly one in every six seniors in this country may not know where their next meal is coming from.

Volunteer and reduce isolation and hunger among your senior neighbors.

Give to ensure that we have the resources we need to serve all that are in need of meals and companionship.

Even the most independent among us, if fortunate to live long enough, may experience a decline in mobility or health that can strip away one's independence. And, it is predicted that seniors as a percentage of the population will grow from 18% to 26% by 2050. Without programs like Meals on Wheels, many seniors would be forced to prematurely trade their homes for nursing facilities. **We can provide a senior Meals on Wheels for an entire year for roughly the same cost as spending one day in the hospital or ten days in a nursing home.**

Some deliveries are heartrending... bringing a meal to a man paralyzed from an accident and bound in bed watching movies, or an ailing mother in a small apartment with television for company and a cell phone that is her lifeline to a son at work.

Many recipients are up and about at home but no longer able to do their own shopping or cooking. Others are able to leave their home and go to one of our group congregated sites for their lunch meal.

What they all share is what the Meals on Wheels program offers: balanced nutrition, independence and daily social interaction that breaks through the loneliness that can set in for many in the later years of their lives.

"Meals on Wheels matters because it keeps elders in their home and out of institutional care," Sandi Silber, Interfaith's Director of Nutrition, said. "We also provide daily checks, and sometimes we're the only people they see on a given day. These elders are not statistics, but are our parents and grandparents."

Paul McEvily, Co-Executive Director encourages everyone who works for Interfaith Neighbors in its different programs to take the opportunity once a year to deliver meals to homebound seniors and gain understanding on why Meals on Wheels matters so much.

Nationally, more than 2 million volunteers deliver Meals on Wheels. Here at Interfaith Neighbors, we have a force of approximately 500 volunteers, kitchen staff and paid drivers who are involved in the Monmouth County program.

Interfaith Neighbors serves 900 to 1,000 meals a day and an additional 500 breakfasts in areas where needed most to home bound seniors, and at seven senior center congregated sites in Asbury Park, Neptune, Howell, Red Bank, Middletown, Kearsburg and Keyport.

Interfaith Neighbors has operated the Meals on Wheels Program in Monmouth County since 1991. The program is supported by federal funding through the Monmouth County Office on Aging and through individual, corporate and private foundation support.

To learn more about volunteering, call Diane at 732.775.0525, ext. 227.

To donate, visit our website at www.interfaithneighbors.org or call Stephanie at 732.775.0525, ext. 220.

Together, we stand and Together, we deliver.



Neighbor Spotlight

On January 2, Thomas Vollers celebrated his 16th anniversary as one of Interfaith Neighbors' paid Meals on Wheels drivers.

The 66-year-old Eatontown resident actually started as volunteer, delivering meals for four years before being hired as a paid driver in 2002.

His day begins at 6:30 a.m. in Interfaith Neighbors' kitchen at 810 Fourth Avenue where he helps assemble meals for later delivery.

His first run is the drop off of meals to senior centers in Neptune, Bradley Beach and Howell. Then he's back to the main office to load up his truck with 72 meals to be delivered to 50 stops in Neptune, Neptune City and Asbury Park. This has been his route for 10 years, and Vollers enjoys it.

Vollers said his life revolves around his faith as a born-again Christian. A recovered alcoholic, he has dedicated his working career and life to his faith, and his job with Interfaith Neighbors is a big part of that, he said.

He said he admires the individuals he takes meals to each day. Although he keeps moving from stop to stop, Tom knows his clients well and can tell if something is wrong that needs to be addressed when making his deliveries.

A native of Florham Park, Vollers has an associate degree in hotel and restaurant management. "I worked my life in restaurants where there is nothing but profit," he said. "I was yearning for a nonprofit situation, and God gave it to me."

"One of my goals is to be the oldest living deliverer of meals," he said. "I was thinking I could get to 80."

Vollers is one of eight paid drivers delivering meals for Interfaith Neighbors, and he has the longest tenure in that position.

