Home Plate

September 2007

The newsletter of Meals on Wheels of Charlottesville–Albemarle

SunTrust *presents*

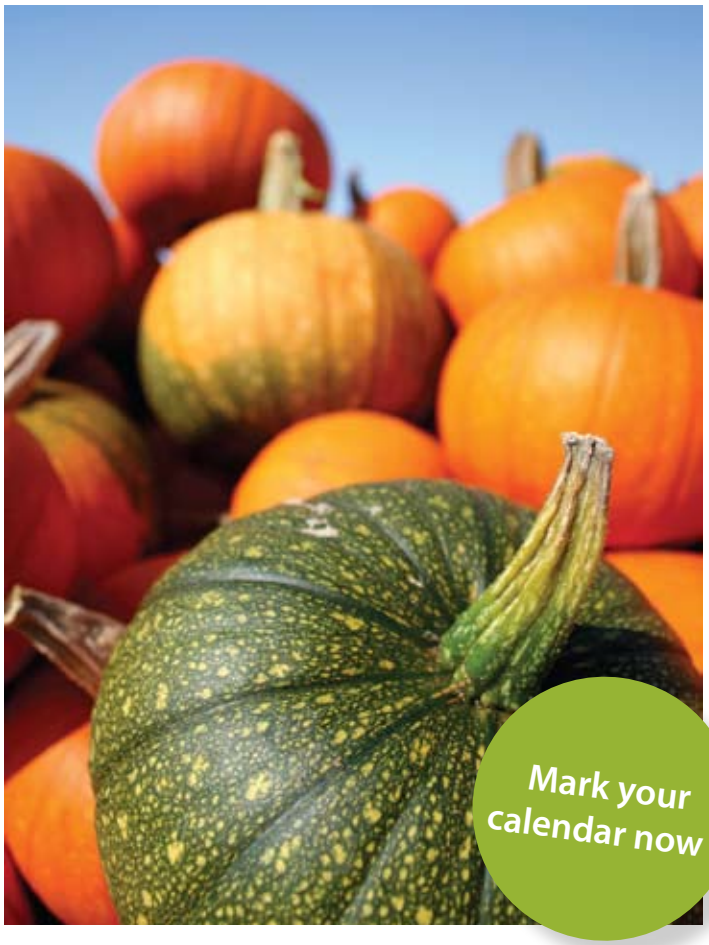
A Harvest Dinner

Sunday, November 18, 2007

HAMILTONS' AT FIRST & MAIN

contemporary American cuisine

Keep an eye out for your invitation to this wonderful event! SunTrust Bank is sponsoring our Harvest Dinner in this special, 30th anniversary year and, as always, our good friends Bill & Kate Hamilton are hosting the event at Hamilton's at First & Main, on the downtown mall. This event features six elegant and delicious courses and a variety of wonderful wines, and has become a standing and eagerly anticipated engagement for lots of folks. Is the Harvest Dinner on your annual calendar? You know what this special evening holds, so go ahead and block the date now! Never joined us for this special event? 2007 is a great year to attend! For more information, call the Meals on Wheels office at 293-4364.



Mark your calendar now !

HELP CROP STOP HUNGER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14 . . .

The 36th Annual Charlottesville-Albemarle CROP WALK will take place on Sunday, October 14, 2007. 25% of the funds raised through the CROP WALK is split locally between Meals on Wheels and the Emergency Food Bank; the balance of funds raised goes to combatting hunger world-wide. Last year's 315 CROP WALKers raised over $31,000.

The CROP WALK follows a 10 kilometer route which starts and ends at First Presbyterian Church, travels along the Downtown Mall to Ridge Street, Cherry Avenue, JPA, and Main Street.

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Call 434/293-4364 or address inquiries to:
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Email: *cvillemeals@embarqmail.com*

Visit us at *www. cvillemeals.org*

Meals on Wheels is an independent, non-profit local organization that provides hot, nutritious lunchtime meals to homebound Charlottesville and Albemarle residents who are unable to cook their own meals and who have no one to help them. Meals are delivered by volunteers every Monday through Friday, including all holidays that fall on weekdays.

All contributions to Meals on Wheels are tax-deductible. Donations from the community are what make this program possible.

CVC#3466

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BETTER LIVING INC.
PROUD SPONSOR OF THE MEALS ON WHEELS NEWSLETTER

From the Director's Chair

As we head into cooler weather, we give (annual) thanks to the folks who help us out every summer — TeensGIVE, People Places, and MACAA's Learn To Work program — all of whom drive multiple routes and deliver lots of meals each week, and in so doing give our regular drivers a well-earned respite! These kids are such a great help to our program!

Speaking of people who have been a godsend to our program, our longtime (13 years!) Services Manager, Dorothy Hesselton, is on longterm medical leave, and we are sorely missing her and her energy and good humor and her vast institutional knowledge. Sandy Morris has stepped in and been a tremendous help, pinch-hitting this summer as our volunteer coordinator, but she's moved on now and, as you can see from our masthead, Kristin Sharrer has joined our staff as our new Services Manager, and we are thrilled to have her! She comes to us from a position in guidance in the Albemarle County school system, and she and her family live in Crozet. Welcome, Kristin!

The colder weather means it's also time to start thinking about blizzard bags for our clients. If you'd like to fill a blizzard bag yourself, or if you belong to a club or organization that would like to take on filling some blizzard bags as a service project, give Kristin a call in the office. We need so many emergency food bags, it's never too soon to start thinking about this important part of our inclement weather plan!

— Mandy Hoy

September Volunteer Spotlight

All thanks to long-time driver **Chris Hargrove** of Rainbow Bridges, who has agreed to act as a translator for any and all Spanish-speaking residents of Charlottesville/Albemarle who may need our meals. Chris has volunteered to explain our services, and collect necessary personal and dietary information from these clients and relay that information to us. Here in the office, we're learning enough Spanish to be able to refer Spanish speakers to Chris — with all gratitude to him for his help in improving access to our services.

Oh, the times, they are a-changing — and so is our newsletter!

You'll notice — especially those of you who are long-time friends of Meals on Wheels — that in this second issue of our beautiful new newsletter there is no list of donors right here on page three. That's because we've decided to publish a complete list of all you wonderful people just once a year, in an Annual Report inside in our Spring issue of *Home Plate*. Happily, this gives us one more page in the other three issues to keep you up-to-date on all Meals on Wheels' goings-on.

Don't think for a second, though, that we are not thanking all of our generous donors in our hearts and minds every single day as we deliver meals — because we are!

Another change you might have noticed is that in the past couple of newsletters, our donor list has been broken out by giving level. This new format is something we've been trying, and we're still tweaking it to make sure that we are honoring your gift in the way that best suits you. To that end, besides the option of having your name listed within a giving category, you'll be able to opt instead to have your contribution listed as "anonymous" within a particular giving level category — or to have your name listed in an unspecified-dollar-amount, "Friend of Meals on Wheels"category. As we work to implement these changes, feel free to write your acknowledgement preference in the memo of your check! However you choose to be thanked, though, please know, now and always, that our thanks come straight from the heart!

A nice Meals on Wheels donor sent us this reminder regarding Charitable IRA Rollover gifts:

Through the end of 2007, the Charitable IRA Rollover permits taxpayers age 70 1/2 and older to make tax-free charitable gifts totaling up to $100,000 per year from tradition IRAs and Roth IRAs. Taxpayers age 70 1/2 and older are required to make annual distributions from their retirement accounts. These distributions are included in the taxpayer's adjusted gross income (AGI) and taxpayers pay taxes on them. The Charitable IRA Rollover permits taxpayers to make donations directly to charitable organizations from their IRAs without counting them as part of their AGI and consequently without paying taxes on them.

Only contributions made before December 31, 2007 are eligible for the enhanced tax benefit. You must be 70 1/2 years old or older when the distribution is made, and distributions must be made directly to the charity, with no goods or services received in return. You must obtain written substantiation of each IRA rollover contribution from each recipient charity.

Meals on Wheels
of Charlottesville|Albemarle

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Have you sent in your cake entry form?

you can download one from our website: www.cvillemeals.org

Meals on Wheels'
30th Birthday Cake Competition
October 29, 2007

Charlottesville Omni
12:00 – 2:00pm

Free and open to the public

Come enjoy a cupcake — and
bid on one of the cake contest entries —
so you'll have a sweet treat
to take home!

This is our way of giving all of you
a pat on the back for your part
in our community's 30 years of support
of Meals on Wheels!

We
REALLY Need YOU
— and your friends!

We REALLY need substitute route drivers in Charlottesville, Scottsville, and Crozet. Substitute drivers deliver meals on an as-needed basis; we call you a couple days in advance to see if you can help us out, and if you are able, you do! We also need designated last-minute emergency drivers for each weekday, just in case something unforeseen comes up and one of our regular drivers can't deliver. If you or someone you know has an hour or so in the middle of your day, we sure could use your help! Please give us a call!
434/293-4364