

# Meals on Wheels

FEDERAL TAX ID 68-0231350

SAVING LIVES ONE MEAL AT A TIME

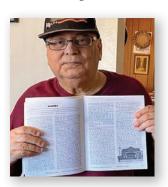
**SPRING 2020** 

# Stories from the Heart

Tony R. was born on June 4th, 1939, right before the start of WWII. By the end of the war, he was just 6 years old. He remembers his mother telling him she had received news from his brother Peter, who was fighting in Italy. Fearing that his brother was dead, he began to cry. Much to his surprise, his mother told him his brother had not died but had been awarded the Purple Heart for being injured in the war. Tony was relieved to hear that his brother was okay." To this day, Tony is proud to be an American and displays the American flag outside his house.



Tony became a Meals on Wheels client after a stroke slowed him down in 2012, which made preparing a nutritious daily meal very difficult. A neighbor of his was a Meals on Wheels client and encouraged Tony to sign up



for the program. "The meals give you the correct portion sizes and provides the vitamins needed to maintain health. Meals on Wheels is for real. The volunteers are for real... Steve, Buzz, Pam, Coco, Leo, Maria, and Art." Tony describes the Meals on Wheels volunteers as being good Samaritans who deserve respect from the community.

Tony is a big believer in people sharing their stories with one another. He feels that sharing stories from the past will encourage this generation that may be going through hard times today. He had a great desire to share

his story with the people in the City of Richmond. He mentioned this to Meals on Wheels volunteers, and they encouraged him to start writing. "I discovered a hidden talent," he reminisces fondly. Tony began writing about his life. He felt he was being led to write, that he was being empowered to write from his heart. One day he handed one of his stories to Pam, detailing childhood memories about the City of Richmond. About 2 weeks later, Pam brought him a newsletter from the Point Richmond History Association, "*THIS POINT*... in time," with his story in the newsletter. He was shocked they had chosen his story! He was also very grateful that he was finally able to share one of his many stories with others.

At the end of our meeting, Tony picked up his guitar that he hadn't played in 2 years. He sang songs for us including Johnny Cash's "Folsom Prison" and Richie Valens' "La Bamba" — in perfect Spanish. He played and sang with pride. We smiled and danced in appreciation of his talent. Needless to say, our visit ended on a heartwarming note.

People like Tony are the reason our program exists. The Meals on Wheels program allows us to serve people like Tony in our community who depend on us for much needed services.



#### A Farewell Note from Paul

#### My 42 Year Love Affair Comes to an End

It began innocently enough with an interview for a job I was sure I wouldn't want. After a year or so in Public Accounting I knew that wasn't for me. So why would an accounting job for county government be any different? As I was about to discover at 25 years old, the answer was "Public Service." It's so easy to be confident (perhaps a bit arrogant) interviewing for a job you don't really want. But, the more the interviewers explained this job in the County Senior Nutrition Program, the more I realized it was exactly what I was looking for, a chance to do something important for others.



From day one, April 12, 1978, as the new "Accountant/Auditor" for the four-year-old Senior Nutrition Program in the Contra Costa County Health Department (now Public Health), I found a lifelong passion in finding the means to stretch every government dollar (and later private sector dollars) to provide as many high quality nutritious daily meals to seniors as possible, first as Program Accountant, and then Program Director. By 1980, Meals on Wheels was added to our program which had previously only served hot daily meals in Senior Centers countywide.

With any serious relationship comes the occasional heartbreak. For me this was caused by the growing lists of homebound seniors who, due to lack of program funding, would desperately wait for an opening on a Meals on Wheels route, with no other means of receiving a nutritious daily meal. To address this travesty in 1990, I joined with then Director of the County Area Agency on Aging to found Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa, Inc. A charitable nonprofit coalition of all the agencies involved in the countywide Meals on Wheels Program, to raise the sorely needed funds from the community to provide the urgently needed meal services.

When I first joined the Senior Nutrition Program in 1978, it served under 900 meals per day in 18 Senior and Community Centers throughout the county. Today the program serves 2,700 daily meals in Senior Centers and via 100 Meals on Wheels routes countywide, to more than 6,300 seniors annually. Meals on Wheels alone will deliver more than 500,000 meals to homebound Contra Costa County seniors this fiscal year. Each and every one of those meals is substantially subsidized by the individual contributions and grant funds received through Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa, Inc., which is now the largest single funder of Meals on Wheels services in Contra Costa County.

I am pleased and proud of our accomplishments during my tenure. Though I formally retired from the County in 2011, I continued to work part-time as Program Director, and volunteered my time managing Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa until now. After nearly 42 years it is time to step aside. I am confident the program will continue to thrive under the capable leadership of its new Director Jacquelynne (Jackie) Livings, who brings with her a wealth of Senior Nutrition Program experience from throughout the country. Though I will remain on the Board of Directors of Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa, Inc. for now, my time at the helm comes to an end. It has been my great honor and good fortune to serve in this position that I have truly loved (my affair of the heart if you will).

Best Regards,

A. Paul Kraintz

Retired

# Quotes of the Day...

Dear Mr. Kraintz, Thank you for the work you have done to expand and support the work of "Meals on Wheels." It is an important addition to those in need in this country. Again, thank you.

—Tim H.

Mr. Kraintz, Thank you for the letter you sent me thanking me for my donation. My brother is a recipient of MOW in Chandler, Arizona. MOW does what it says, feeds the shut ins. I am proud to be able to support MOW.

## Introducing Jackie

We would like to introduce you to Jackie Livings, formerly Jackie Winfield, the new Program Director of the Senior Nutrition Program which includes Meals on Wheels and Congregate Meals program in senior centers in Contra Costa County. Jackie comes to our program with over 35 years of senior program experience gained while working with agencies in Los Angeles, CA, Austin, TX, Chicago, IL and now Martinez, CA. She began working as a Public Health Nutritionist for the Senior Nutrition Program for Contra Costa County in 2002, was promoted to Program Specialist I in 2012, Program Specialist II in 2017 and Director in 2019. As Program Specialist, she was the Operations Manager for both the Congregate and Meals on Wheels programs which serve approximately 2200 meals per day to seniors throughout Contra Costa County. She is a Registered Dietitian with a Master 's Degree in Nutrition and Foodservice Administration.



When asked the question, why have you spent your entire career working with seniors? Her reply was, "I love working with this age group. Instead of my serving them, I feel like they are serving me. It has been an honor and



privilege to work with a group of people that have raised their children, served this country, built strong communities and left legacies with which we could build on. Because of this, I feel a sense of duty to give back to them."

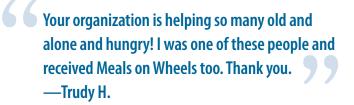
Her goal for this program is to make sure every senior in this community who needs a nutritious meal will be provided one. She and her staff will work to eliminate waiting lists, address those that are frail, socially isolated and in need of our services.

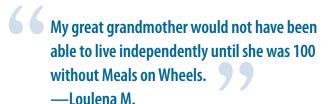
Jackie is excited about the opportunities this position brings and is looking forward to advancing the program into the future.

#### **ABOUT OUR WEBSITE:**

We update our website regularly. Visit now and see recent photos, videos, online newsletters and organizational updates:

http://www.mealsonwheelsofcontracosta.org







#### Healthbeat

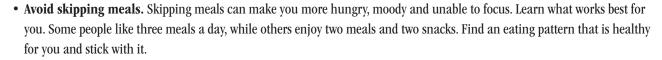
A note from Dietitian Jeanne Polk

National Nutrition Month® is an annual nutrition education and information campaign created by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. The

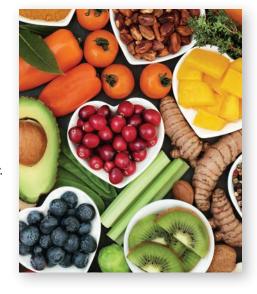
campaign, celebrated each year during the month of March, focuses on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits.

The National Nutrition Month® 2020 theme-*Eat Right, Bite by Bite* - supports the philosophy that every little bit (or bite!) of nutrition is a step in the right direction. Small goals/changes can have a cumulative healthful effect. Nutrition doesn't have to be overwhelming.

- Eat a variety of foods. Choose foods from each food group every day, and don't be afraid to try new foods.
- Make half your plate fruits and vegetables. Fruit contains fiber, vitamins and minerals and can satisfy your sweet tooth. Include more nonstarchy vegetables including leafy greens, asparagus, carrots and broccoli each day. Also, choose whole fruit more often and juice less often.
- Choose healthy carbohydrates. Increase the amount of fiber you consume by eating at least half of all grains as whole-grain foods each day. Brown rice, buckwheat, oatmeal, whole-wheat breads and cereals are good sources of fiber.
- Eat less fat. Choose lean meats, poultry and fish whenever possible. Bake, broil, roast, grill, boil or steam foods instead of frying. Also, choose low-fat or fat-free dairy products. Enjoy meatless meals by swapping out meat for lentils or tofu.
- **Cut the salt.** Use less salt and more pepper, herbs and seasoning. Eating less salt helps control high blood pressure.



- Focus on your food. Pick one place to sit down and eat at home. Eating while doing other things may lead to eating more than you think.
- Watch portions. You don't need to cut out carbohydrate-rich foods but it is important to eat a balance of them spread evenly throughout the day. Read food labels and pay attention to portion sizes and carbohydrate content.

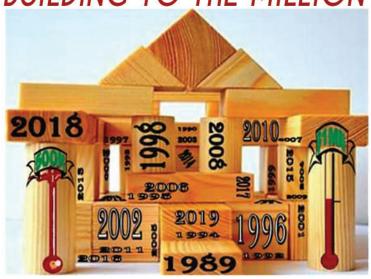


Source: Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

# San Joaquin Yacht Club announces it's 2020 Fundraiser for



#### BUILDING TO THE MILLION



Have some fun & help Someone!







Since 1989, San Joaquín Yacht Club has supported Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa.

This year the Club is building on their efforts to reach \$1 Million!

#### Sponsorship Opportunities are Available:

Presenting Sponsor: \$2500 · Premiere Sponsor: \$1000 · Event Sponsor: \$500 In-Kind Donations are also needed and greatly appreciated!

To learn more about these events & sponsorships contact:

Geri Marshall (925) 684-9837 mowgolfsjyc@gmail.com

In Memoriam: Team Leader Leslie Clemensen

Toni Napoletano (925) 303-7081 mowbowlsjycfeed@gmail.com

Kathy Smith (408) 309-4137

#### **EMPLOYEE GIVING**

Many individuals contribute through their employers, most having matching-gift programs. In 2019, Meals on Wheels was pleased to receive workplace donations from the following donors:

Aleta Perata Alicia Weber Angie Faulk Ann and David Sussman Anna Woodburn Anne and Dennis Kohlmeyer Antonia Donaldson Athens Administrators Barbara Dilts Barbara Tiffany Benton H. and Kathleen Deane Billy Williams Brandy Gibb Brett Kevs Brian Jones **Brian Montgomery** Carl Farineau Carol Tafoya Catherine Simpson Christopher Ranch Clint and Tammy Rey Pettit Cynthia Jones David Alward David Sisneros **Deborah and Kevin Cross** 

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Derrick and Louise Lue
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William and Janet Hoffman

William MacKesey

• • •

#### **LOCAL GRANTS**

Each year, nonprofits apply for grants from local organizations with an allotted amount of money to go towards helping those in their communities. We are thankful and honored to have been a grant recipient from the following organizations in 2019:

City of Martinez
Concord/Pleasant Hill Health Care District
Dean & Margaret Lesher Foundation
Keller Canyon
Kiwanis Club of Martinez
Martinez Community Foundation
Pacheco Lodge No. 117
Shell Oil Products Martinez Refinery
The Swinerton Foundation
Walmart

### Memorials

FROM	DEMEMBERING
FROM	
Al & Katie Carlson	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Albert Law	
Alice Burns	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Alice Hunter & Mark McKenna	
Barbara Baker	
Barbara Jean Ageno	
Beverly Anderson	
Bonnie Wanderer	. Letitia Bobby Deibert
Brian Fay	
Carl Mattioda	
Catherine Monahan	
Charlene Kramer	. Addie Kramer
Constance Silva	. Vern Silva
Darrell Murray	. Orin B. Murray
Debbie Taylor	& Fred Rieker
Deidre Ramsey	. James Ramsey
Donald Kaiper	. Mom
Donna Hemmila	. Daniel Scott Reed
Dr. Rebecca Render, Kaiser Permanente	. Isabel & Diego
E.I. Lentz Junior	. Emil Nyoran
Eileen & Mike Mascaro	. The Kavanaugh Family
Elisa, Nora and Debbie	. Irene Pagh
Elizabeth Crowley	. Rose & Frank Crowley
Fred Lorenzetti	. Jay Pecker
Gina Gotsill	. Aldo Comparini
Greg Miller	. Norman Fink
Harold Friedman	. Mark Briggs
Harry & Melva Hall	. Lucille
Jack Suite	. Cheryl Suite
Janice Denham	. Margarida Braga Gomes
Janice Littrell	. Thomas Field
Jennifer Phillips	. Robert Lynch
Jo Macaluso	. Joe, David & John Macaluso
Joyce M. Porter	. Glen
Judith Scrimger	. Gary Jones
Judy Guerisoli Gomes	. Anna Ginochio
Julia Grimsrud	. Mr. & Mrs. Miers
Julie Peck	. Judy Sessler
Karen Brocker	. Anna Ginochio
Karyn Henderson	. My Granny
Kathleen Javdani	
Kathleen King	
Kenneth Pyutlewski, P.E.,	
Anamet Inc	. Edward A. Foreman

Kent Lightfoot & Roberta Jewett . . . . Les Rowntree

L.G. Newgarden	. Bruce Commiskey
Laurie Miller	
Lisa & Laura	. Rose Kopicki
Louann Giorgi	. Moey Martin
Lynne & Alan La Pointe	. John Lyons
Lynne & Alan La Pointe	. Larry La Pointe
M & W Tax Service	. Marjorie Dykeman
Madeline Cortese	. Family
Marcus Gomez	
Margrith Byer	
Mike Hotton	
Mildred Horton	
Monica Thurston.	
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Olga Knight	
Oliver Reynolds & Sis Cardenas	
Pam Phillips	
Pamela Wilson	
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Paula Allen	
Peter and Kathleen Hayes	
Quincy Fassette	
Ray & Joanne Doorack	_
Rebecca Sheppard	
Richard E. Krebs	
Richard Lieblich	. Ira Lieblich
Robert & Joan McDonough	
Robert Young	-
Ron & Tamra Kunstal	
Sharon Toth	. Judy Sessler
Sharyn Owens	. Fred Roth
Stephanie Massoni	. Lynette Cakebread
Steve Kestler	. Marilyn Kestler
Sue & Bob Galloway	. Bruce Commiskey
Suzanne Jenlink	. Marcie Benjamin
Suzette Handy	. Fern Mills
Teresa Muniz	. Lucy Zendejas
The Farooq & Abida Zakat Fund	
Theresa Nagle	
Theresa Nagle	
TOPS	. Bruce Commiskey
Valerie Hathaway	
Yvonne Hamilton	. Bruce Commiskey

### **Tributes**

FROM	. HONORING
Amy Evoy	. Ben Hoban
Charlotty Pan	. Henry Hu
Chris Werner	. Bruce & Irmgard Willock
Cynthia Abramov	. Susan & Scott Applin
Gary & Linda Mahloch	. Susan Nelson & David Moen
Horace Dawson Foundation	. Margi & Jim Alkire
Horace Lucido	. Sal Lucido
Howard & Alice Morioka	. Ted & Barbara Sakano
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Jeffrey Dickemann	. May Yee
Joan Valderrama	. Marcia Tello
Joe Torres	. Josie Torres
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Joy Graustark	. Fiona
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Julie McHuron	. Grandfather
Leslie Ries	. Paul Kraintz
Madeline Cortese	. Husband
Maggie Asmussen	. Mr. & Mrs. C.D. Cornett
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Mary Terjeson	. Judy Hassell
Sarah Jane Powell	. Sharon & Brent Martin
Sivathanu Sivakaminathan	. SAIBABA
Susan Codeglia	. Marti Carlson
Yvonne Fluehr	. Yvette Fluehr & Jeff Bonivert

Thankyou!



Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa provides a nutritious meal to address the specific health conditions of the senior, an in-home safety check to address hazards inside or outside of the home, a friendly visit to combat social isolation and an assessment of any changes that might impact future medical needs, serving as the first line of sight for potential dangers or changes in condition. Supplementing traditional healthcare services with community-based services is a powerful — and cost-effective — way to keep at-risk seniors healthy and reduce avoidable emergency care and healthcare utilization. In fact, Meals on Wheels can serve a senior for an entire year for the same cost as just one day in a hospital or ten days in a nursing home.

Yvonne Ruiz ...... Ana & Isidro Ruiz



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If you would prefer an email version of our newsletter, please email Rebecca. Hagen@cchealth.org

## Remembering Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels Legacy Circle members are an exclusive group of caring individuals who have made a Planned Gift in their Will or Trust to ensure that Meals on Wheels will be here for all the frail homebound elders who will need us in the years to come. Your planned gift may be in stocks, bonds, mutual fund shares, real estate or cash. Such assets can be gifted immediately with many tax advantages, or as Planned Gifts and bequests in the future.

Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa has partnered with the East Bay Community Foundation for their 75 years of experience in assisting charitable nonprofit organizations in receiving a variety of gifts. To join the Meals on Wheels Legacy Circle, simply let us know of your intention to make a Planned Gift to Meals on Wheels.

Please contact us at 925-313-6312 to discuss other planned giving options.

#### **JOIN OUR SUPPER CLUB!**

## Become a Monthly Donor

Generous donors who make monthly gifts provide Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa with the steady income needed in order to provide food and friendship to homebound neighbors in need.

SEC CODE

I would like to make a monthly contribution to support Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa.

Please enroll me in the Supper Club with a	
monthly gift of \$	
Please charge the amount written above to my:	
□ Visa □ MasterCard □ AmEx	
NAME ON CARD	_
CREDIT CARD NUMBER EXP DATE	

Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa PO Box 3195, Martinez CA 94553 www.MealsOnWheelsOfContraCosta.org I authorize Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa to charge my debit or credit card each month for the amount I stated above until I notify Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa of any changes, and they have had a reasonable time to act on it. A record of each payment in my monthly bank or credit card statement will serve as my receipt and Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa will provide me with a statement of my annual gifts.

# Sample language that can be used when making a bequest to Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa

"I give, devise, and bequeath to Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa, Inc., federal tax identification number 68·0231350, PO Box 3195, Martinez CA 94553, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_\_ (or describe the real or personal property or portion of the estate) to be used for its general purposes, including its delivery of nutritious meals to frail and elderly neighbors."



Donate a vehicle through our partnership with Car Donation Services, Inc.

www.MealsOnWheelsOfContraCosta.org

Annual Reports and Form 990 are available on our website

www.MealsOnWheelsOfContraCosta.org

If you would like paper copies please call 866-669-6697

Meals on Wheels of Contra Costa PO Box 3195 · Martinez CA 94553

Business Inquiries about services, call 866-669-6697 or go to www.MealsOnWheelsOfContraCosta.org

> Editor: Rebecca Hagen Design: Mia Casey

SIGNATURE