

# Neighbor to Neighbor

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1 (PUBLISHED QUARTERLY) JUNE 2013

## Couples who Care—A lot!



Jan & Dave Heilman

Giving free rides around Howard County to people who don't drive, was not what Dave Heilman or Don McCoy had in mind for enjoying hard-earned free time. "I didn't want obligations," Dave asserts, "At work I had so many obligations and I didn't want them in retirement." Their wives, however, convinced them to sign up, having learned how Samaritan Caregivers was aiding their friends and neighbors, and then watching that service in action firsthand while volunteering in the office.

Now, a collective 11 years of involvement later, the Heilmans and McCoys still find time to offer their assistance despite busy schedules.

"Volunteering has really opened our eyes to the needs of others. There are so many kinds of needs: medical, emotional . . . You get a personal satisfaction helping," says the McCoys. As drivers, Dave and Don literally have a front seat view of how clients' limited mobility or finances often mean isolation until someone picks them up each week. "There's a sense of concern when you leave," Dave shares, and it serves as a reminder of how driving home to family at the end of the day is a gift. As difficult as witnessing clients' challenges can be, serving their needs yields "a feel-good sense of accomplishment that *I did something good today.*"

Judie McCoy emphasizes that as a couple, "Using your time and talent to serve others is rewarding. It's a great way to spend free time after retirement." It's also an ideal way to socialize. The Heilmans say they rarely get near Samaritan Caregivers functions without encountering at least a handful of friends. "It gives us people in common," Jan explains, "We have a good time and want to see those people again." Though volunteering may not have been in the plan, it's obvious Dave, Jan, Don, and Judie enjoy caring for others — and all the more as they do it together.

Megan Anderson,

Samaritan Caregiver Volunteer



Don & Judie McCoy

## Show that you care—volunteer now!

- Do you enjoy scrapbooking? Organized and able to work independently? There is an IMMEDIATE opening for someone with a creative flair to archive photos and items of importance in the official agency scrapbook. This person works closely with staff to stay up-to-date on events and happenings.
- Duck Derby is Thursday, July 18, 5—10 pm,

**Kokomo Beach. People of all ages needed, including groups, especially day of event & day after event. Help set-up or take-down, play corn toss with children, distribute pizza/soft drinks, return banners to sponsors & much, much, more!**

**It's quick & easy to sign up:  
[www.samaritancaregivers.org](http://www.samaritancaregivers.org)  
or call 765.453.7611**

### OFFICE NEEDS

- Rolls of \$.45 stamps
- 8 or 16 GB thumb drive
- Bottled Water for office
- Toilet Tissue
- Kleenex—tall or long box
- Blank thank you notes
- Scotch tape — disposable dispensers or refills