



INFORMER

Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association
October 2018

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**Co-Presidents Dixie Stack and Bonnie Schmeltz**

Starting the school year after Labor Day seemed to work well for Anne Arundel County Public Schools. For new retirees, who love to wave to the buses with a cup of coffee from their living rooms, there was delayed gratification. Delayed or not, congratulations to all new retirees. We hope you have become a member of AARSPA and plan to join us for some of our meetings or activities. If you are receiving this newsletter as a new retiree and have not yet made the commitment, we hope that you will consider joining your friends and colleagues as we advocate for your pension and retirement benefits. If you are an existing member and have recently changed your home addresses or email address, please notify AARSPA's membership chairperson, Carol Kirby, by email at cmk825@msn.com.

The midterm elections are well underway. We are aware that each of you values the importance of the right to vote and we encourage you to use your voice this November. A critical issue that will appear on the Maryland ballot is Question 1. Voting yes on Question 1 will ensure that the monies raised by the casinos that have gone into the education trust fund will be used to supplement school funding, rather than

supplanting existing funding. Local school systems will benefit from this additional funding and it could mean better protection for the health benefits you enjoy as a retired educator.

The first General Membership/Luncheon meeting was held on September 13, 2018 at the Two Rivers Restaurant. There were 109 members present, including 6 first time attendees and 3 emeritus members. We had a presentation by Mia Harper and Carla Thomas from the AACPS on the health benefits for the 2019 year. The good news is that there are no changes to our health benefits for the 2019 year. You should soon receive your benefits package in the mail, thanks, in part to the efforts of our AARSPA volunteers, led by Marie Diamond!

Josh Carroll, Maryland State Teacher of the Year for 2018 was our guest speaker. Anne Arundel County is proud that their representative, an English Teacher at South River High School, was selected as the State winner. His inspirational message of hope was well received by our members. Our generous members



brought school supplies for Marley Elementary School, pet supplies, and toiletries. Carla Duls and Deb Ahalt announced that AARSPA From the Heart is once again participating in the Anne Arundel County Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's on October 21, 2018. The walk will begin and end at Susan B. Campbell Park in downtown Annapolis. We hope that you are able to support this worthy cause by walking or by making a donation.

Our next General Membership/Luncheon meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2018 to be held at the Center for Applied Technology, CAT-N. This luncheon is one of our most popular because our meal is prepared and served by Anne Arundel County culinary arts students. As an extra bonus, there is the availability of delicious cheesecakes that can be purchased. These delicious treats will freeze and can be served as a special addition to your holiday table. We will be

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(Presidents, continued from page 1)

collecting canned goods to assist the CAT-N students with their canned food drive for the Harvest for the Hungry. Dr. Dawn Lucarelli, Regional Assistant Superintendent, will be attending representing Dr. Arlotto, AACPS Superintendent. We look forward to seeing you there!

NOVEMBER DONATIONS

If you would like to donate at the November luncheon, you have several options:

- Non-perishable food items** for the Harvest for the Hungry food drive - Did you know you could also donate paper products and baby food? **(No glass please and remember to check expiration dates!)**
- Toiletries (preferably travel size)** such as deodorant, soap, shampoo, hand sanitizers, wipes, mouthwash, hand lotions, etc.
- Pet supplies** such as unopened canned and dry food, toys, puppy pads, metal bowls, cat carriers, litter (clay, not clumping), towels, treats, washcloths, blankets, and Petsmart/ Petco gift cards

Our hope is that you will support whichever of these efforts is closest to your heart.

Volunteer Opportunity

Anne Arundel County Homeless Resource Day
 Saturday, October 27th
 Glen Burnie High School

Volunteer for a few hours to walk with an individual who needs someone to help them navigate through the various services being offered. You will get as much out of the experience as they. Google " Anne Arundel Homeless Resource Day" for more information.



Some problems are worth having. At our recent luncheon, there were so many donations our table was overflowing. The thousands of school supplies will go to Marley Elementary where 66% of the students receive free or reduced lunches. You are also helping teachers by supplying material they would otherwise buy themselves.

You were equally generous with pet supplies and toiletries. I don't know if Anne Arundel Animal Control has taken in any of the pets separated due to Hurricane Florence, but I know the need in our community is great, and we are helping our furry friends. Toiletries are delivered wherever there is a need: homeless shelters, addiction centers, senior housing, and abuse shelters.



Phyllis Cherry and Tony Anzalone prepare to pack up donated items.



Phyllis Cherry displays NRTA Award.

Because of all that the members of AARSPA do for others, we were honored by the National Retired Teachers Association with an award for dedication to the community. You made it happen because you care!



REMEMBER! The AARSPA from the Heart team will be participating in the 2018 Walk to End Alzheimer's in Annapolis on Sunday, October 21. You can still donate to the team, either online or by mail. For more information on how to do this, contact team captains Deb Ahalt (410) 997-3942/ djahalt@aol.com or Carla Duls (410)798-8999/ kid3dle@aol.com.

2019 FLORIDA GATHERING

The annual AARSPA Florida event will be held in Mt. Dora, Florida on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 and Thursday, March 21, 2019. Nancy and Terry Henkelman have opened their house for the evening social on Wednesday, March 20th from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. The general meeting and luncheon will be held at the Lakeside Inn in Mt. Dora between 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The choices of entrees are listed below, so please carefully indicate the preference for each guest. Directions to both sites along with additional lodging information will be sent to you upon receipt of your reservation and payment.



Reservations **must** be received no later than Thursday, **February 28, 2019**.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email _____

Telephone Number: _____ Cell Phone Number _____

The luncheon entrée choices are: Fall apart tender beef brisket, au jus, served with garlic mashed potatoes and fresh seasonal vegetables, or tender chicken breast stuffed with spinach, tomatoes, red onions and Swiss cheese, lightly breaded with house panko then baked, served with mashed potatoes, green beans, and a light caper cream sauce, or tender Atlantic salmon rubbed with lemon and peppercorns, pan seared and finished with a light drizzle and accompanied with basmati rice and fresh seasonal vegetables. All three entrees are served with warm rolls and butter, coffee, decaffeinated coffee, or choice of hot or iced tea. A cash bar will be available as well.

Guest's Name	Beef Brisket	Chicken	Salmon
_____	_____	_____	_____ @ \$35 = _____
_____	_____	_____	_____ @ \$35 = _____
_____	_____	_____	_____ @ \$35 = _____

Total amount _____

Make checks payable to AARSPA

Even if you are not able to attend the luncheon on Thursday, March 21, you are welcome to join us at the Henkelman's on March 20. We need to know who will be coming so that we have enough refreshments available.

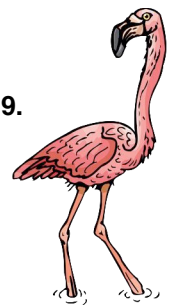
I/We plan to be at the social at the Henkelman's house on Wednesday, March 20 from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. There will

be _____ person/persons attending this event.



All reservations and payments are due **no later that Thursday February 28, 2019**.

Mail your reservations and payments to:
Bob Kanach
 512 Augusta Drive
 Arnold, Maryland 21012



Scholarship News

Thank you for continuing to inspire our students to begin a new chapter with your generous donations!

In Memory of...

Mary Bell
 Jay D. Catlin
 Irving C. Gaither
 Nancy Mann
 Herb Sappington



Looking for a unique holiday gift? Honor a loved one by making a donation to the AARSPA scholarship fund in their name. Use the form on the back of this newsletter.

Check out the AARSPA Facebook page at:

Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association



New Members -

Moira Dehn	Deniece McClure
Victoria Dundics	Betsy Miller
Cleotha Fluit, Jr.	Carole Parks
Martha Gardner	Mary Poisson
Linda Herzig	Peter Shambarger
Lucia Martin	Kay Stawas

Please let us know if you want the email version of the *AARSPA Informer*. Email your choice to: rkanach@verizon.net or cmk825@msn.com and indicate **AARSPA Informer** in the subject line.

REMEMBRANCE

MEMBER DEATHS

Christina Greene
 Dora Levroney
 Joseph Ward
 Sheila Watson

FAMILY DEATHS

Doris Brown	husband
Hal Cramer	father
Marva Gaither	husband
Yvonne Henry	brother
Janis Horn	son
Deborah Huey	husband
Charles Tiemeyer	wife
Theresa Williams	father

EMERITUS BIRTHDAYS

October	8	Jean Trott (93)
	12	Ethel Bohle (92)
November	5	Mary Etta Dorr (96)
	10	Paul Bagley (92)
	18	Katherine Tarter (91)
	22	Irma Messenger (92)
December	9	Dorothy Mace (98)
	15	Matilda Pair (95)
	18	Dorothy Bullock (97)
	18	Mary Lord (103)



ANNIVERSARIES

October	10	Gale Erbe & Thomas Worthington III (38)
	14	Nancy & Ernie Clayton (51)
	24	Carol & John Strigle (54)
	28	Ann & Allen Irvine (57)
November	22	Mary Lou & Bob Mantell (68)
	24	Sharyn & Ed Doyle (48)
	25	Patricia & Michael Keaser (34)
	27	Barbara & Paul Rusko (61)
	28	Carol & Eugene Kirby (61)
December	15	Meg & Ed Meehan
	16	Ann & Bob Schult (51)
	23	Martha & Jim Preston (52)
	26	Gloria & Otho Johnson
	27	Judith & John Youngblood (53)
	28	Michelle & Charles Day (45)
	28	Katie & Andy Borland (55)

If you have information concerning AARSPA members, please contact the following people:

Anniversaries and Congratulations

Millie Gardner at mgbw16@gmail.com or 410 401-0172

Deaths of AARSPA members and family members

Nina Griffith at bear1134@aol.com or 443 304-2266

Illnesses and Accidents, etc.

Dianne Rogers at wwdsrogers@verizon.net or 410 647-7585

October is Fire Prevention Month



Do you know that your smoke alarm should be replaced every 10 years? Check the side or back of your smoke alarm for the manufacturer's date. It should be replaced 10 years from that date.



Christmas on the Potomac



Lunch at Old Ebbitt Grill & ICE at the Gaylord Hotel at National Harbor
Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Start your holiday adventures in our nation’s capital, Washington, DC at **Old Ebbitt Grill**. Established in 1856, the Old Ebbitt Grill was a favorite restaurant of Presidents Grant, Cleveland, Harding and Theodore Roosevelt and today is a popular meeting spot for political insiders, journalists, celebrities and theater goers. Relax and enjoy the fellowship of friends old and new while dining on a delicious lunch from the menu. Following our luncheon, we depart for **National Harbor, Maryland** and the **Gaylord National Hotel**. National Harbor is a 300-acre waterfront destination located in southern Maryland along a panoramic stretch of the Potomac River. Upon arrival, we visit **“ICE!”** the Gaylord’s signature holiday attraction. Unlike anything you’ve ever seen before, “ICE!” is a fantastic, indoor winter wonderland created by 40 international artisans. Explore this unique world of imagination entirely hand-carved out of ice and celebrating the spirit of the holidays. We conclude our visit at the Gaylord National Hotel with some free time to explore the lavish and elaborate holiday décor of this fabulous hotel! All this for the cost of \$135.00 per person and includes transportation, the luncheon, “ICE!” at the Gaylord National Hotel, all taxes and tips including the driver and the Gunther Tour escort. All reservations and payments made payable to AARSPA must be received **no later than Wednesday, November 7, 2018**.

Itinerary:

- 12:00 p.m. Depart the Severna Park United Methodist Church on Benfield Road
- 1:45 p.m. Arrive at the Old Ebbitt Grill in Washington, DC
- 2:00 p.m. Luncheon from the menu
- 3:30 p.m. Depart Washington, DC
- 4:00 p.m. Arrive at National Harbor, MD and the Gaylord National Hotel
- 4:30 p.m. Visit “ICE!” and free time to explore the Gaylord
- 6:30 p.m. Depart National Harbor, MD
- 8:00 p.m. Arrive at Severna Park United Methodist Church on Benfield Road



Lunch at Old Ebbitt Grill & “ICE!” at the National Harbor Gaylord Hotel
Deadline: Wednesday, November 7, 2018

Send this reservation form and check made out to AARSPA to:
Bob Kanach, 512 Augusta Drive, Arnold , MD 21012

Primary Contact Person: _____

Cell Phone # _____ Home Phone # _____

Address: _____

E-Mail (for receipt) _____

of reservations _____ X \$135.00 = \$ _____

Please list other members of your party:

NEWS YOU CAN USE

HOLIDAY STRESS

Have you already begun to stress over the expectations of the upcoming holidays? After all, it is “the most wonderful time of the year” according to the popular Christmas song. It is also the time we allow society to dictate what is appropriate, and when we can’t meet those expectations, we feel guilty. It’s time to seize control and do what brings us joy.

Holiday survival guide.

1. Let go of perfection

It’s ok to let go of the traditions that are more work than joy. Maybe this is the year you have someone else host the holiday dinner! Maybe you don’t send 150 Christmas cards this year! Consider paring down the decorations to the areas where you spend the most time. When asking yourself what will someone say if I don’t do whatever you have done forever, does it really matter? If it doesn’t bring you joy, don’t do it. Also, let others help. They may not decorate the tree the way it has always been done, but does it really matter? By allowing others to be involved, you are creating a new set of traditions.

2. Remembering a loved one.

One of the most difficult aspects of the holidays is the loss of a loved one. There is fine balance between sharing your emotions and bottling them up. Share fond memories with others who share your loss. Also allow a private time for you to reflect on the happy times. Honor the person’s memory by doing something for others. Maybe it is calling someone who may be lonely, volunteering for a day at a location that has meaning. Find a balance between honoring and mourning the loved one.

3. Remember person Number #1—You!

Accept the fact that your happiness is as important as anyone else’s so take a break each day. Schedule an hour (or more) each day to do something that brings you joy. Maybe it’s a good book and a cup of tea or a walk in the neighborhood. When you think you don’t have time for yourself is when you need it the most. (Those around you will also appreciate your improved mood.)

Just say no to whatever brings more stress than joy. We are getting older; its o.k. to take a pass.





VOICES IN MELODY

2019 Fall/Winter Schedule

November 27	South County Senior Center	1:00 p.m.
November 29	Pasadena Senior Center	12:30 p.m.
December 4	O’Malley Senior Center	12:30 p.m.
December 6	Atria at Manresa	1:30 p.m.
December 10	Annapolis Senior Center	12:30 p.m.
December 13	Pascal Senior Center	12:30 p.m.
December 18	Morningside House of Friendship	1:30 p.m.

Support AARSPA’s good will ambassadors by attending a holiday concert near you! They’ll put you in the holiday mood!

Vote YES on Question 1

When Marylanders approved casino gaming, we thought the new revenue would increase education funding. While almost \$2 billion in casino revenue went into the Education Trust Fund – which can only be used for funding public education – nearly the same amount of existing funding was **shifted** from education to other parts of the state budget. The result? The new revenue from casinos **didn’t add** to existing funding; it supplanted or simply maintained existing, minimum levels. Passing (Constitutional Amendment) Question 1, which will be on the General Election ballot on November 6, will Fix the Fund, stop this budget gimmick, and ensure that casino revenues go to **increasing** or supplementing school funding over current levels. This could be an influx of \$500 million dollars within 4 years to education funding.

Because local school systems would benefit from this additional revenue, it could mean better protection for the health benefits you enjoy as a retired educator. To learn more, go to www.fixthefund.org and please **VOTE YES on Question 1** this November!



IMPORTANT DATES

Executive Board Meetings - 10:00 a.m.

October 11, 2018 Center 2B
 January 10, 2019 Center 2B
 April 11, 2019 Center 2A

General Membership Meetings - 10:30 a.m.

November 15, 2018 CAT-N, Severn
 February 21, 2019 Blue Dolphin Restaurant, Gambrills



OTHER DATES

October 20 Pre-Retirement Seminar @ Annapolis High School
 October 21 Walk to End Alzheimer's @ Susan P. Campbell Park, Annapolis
 October 25 Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame, Michael's 8th Avenue
 October 27 Homeless Resource Day, Glen Burnie High School @10:00 a.m.
 November 14 MRSPA Legislative Workshop, Annapolis
 December 11 National Harbor ICE & Old Ebbitt Grill Trip
 January 2 January AARSPA Informer deadline
 March 20-21 AARSPA in Mt. Dora, FL

LUNCHEON AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Registration.....9:45 - 10:30
 Business.....10:30 - 12:00
 Lunch/Entertainment...12:00 - 12:45

No refunds after reservation deadline
October 30

PLEASE NO WALK-INS

DATE: Thursday, November 15, 2018

PLACE Center of Applied Technology - North
 800 Stevenson Road, Severn, MD 21144

ENTRÉE CHOICES: Chicken Cordon Bleu or Baked Stuffed (crab meat) Flounder served with steamed broccoli and herbed wild rice. Dessert choices are caramel apple puff OR Homemade New York Style Cheese Cake OR Chocolate Mousse. Coffee, iced tea and water will be served.

COST: \$32.00 per person

GUEST: Dr. Dawn Lucarelli, Regional Assistant Superintendent AACPS

DONATION OPTIONS:

Non-perishable food items, toiletries, and pet supplies

**Make checks payable to AARSPA and mail to :
 Bob Kanach, 512 Augusta Drive, Arnold, MD 21012**

LUNCH RESERVATION - Deadline October 30, 2018

Contact person: _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail: _____

Below, please indicate **one entrée** and **one dessert** choice for each person in your party.

Name (s) - Including Contact Person above	Chicken	Flounder	Apple Puff	Cheesecake	Mousse
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Number of reservations _____ X \$32.00 per person = Total Due: _____

_____ Please check if this is your first AARSPA luncheon.

_____ Please check if you are an Emeritus Member (90 or greater)

The students will again make cheesecakes for our members, but on a pre-order basis. If you are interested in ordering a cheesecake, please indicate which size and quantity below. **Please make a separate check for cheesecakes payable to AARSPA** and include it with this reservation and separate luncheon payment.

10" cheesecake @ \$20.00 each X _____ quantity = \$ _____
 7" cheesecake @ \$10.00 each X _____ quantity = \$ _____

From the AACPS Benefits Office:

Many retirees have received a newsletter from the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System dated July 2018 called Retiree News and Notes. It states there will be a change to the retiree prescription drug coverage for state employees - that prescription coverage for Medicare-eligible retirees will cease starting January 1, 2019.

Rest assured, this change DOES NOT affect AACPS retirees as AACPS retirees are covered in AACPS-sponsored benefits. Our Medicare-eligible retirees will continue to receive the benefit of the SilverScript prescription coverage that is provided with all AACPS retiree medical plans.

DONATIONS APPRECIATED!



Books donated by AARSPA members at the May meeting were offered to new AACPS teachers to help them set up their classroom libraries.

For Your Information!

Questions or concerns about electronic delivery of the *AARSPA Informer* should be directed to:

asst.treasurer@aarspa.org

Comments or suggestions about *AARSPA Informer* content should be directed to:

editor@aarspa.org

BEST BUYS IN OCTOBER

- Cars
- Costumes
- European Vacations
- Pizza (Did you know that October is National Pizza Month)




MRSPA HOLDS LEADERSHIP TRAINING SESSION

Members of the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association (MRSPA) Board of Directors and local unit presidents attended a 2-day communications conference on September 26-27 at the Maritime Institute in Linthicum, MD. Presenters from Widmeyer Finn Communications of Washington, D.C. guided attendees through "Using the Building Blocks of Communications to Boost Member Recruitment and Leadership".

Attendees explored new ways to boost membership and retention by communicating association messages and reasons why retired school personnel should join MRSPA and their locals. Local attendees adopted one or two goals to implement in the current year.



Charles Gable, Carla Duls, and Alicia Hardisky don hard hats to learn about the building blocks of communication.



AARSPA attendees (l to r) : Charles Gable, Carla Duls, Dixie Stack, Bonnie Schmeltz, and Alicia Hardisky.

TWO RIVERS • SEPTEMBER 13, 2018



Carla Thomas and Mia Harper, AACPS



Bob Kanach, Assistant Treasurer and Free School Maintenance



EMERITUS MEMBERS: Paul Bagley, Co-President Bonnie Schmeltz, Jacqueline Evans, Ethel Bohle, and Co-President Dixie Stack



Tillie Barkley
Scholarship Chair



Ed Nichols
Bylaws Chair



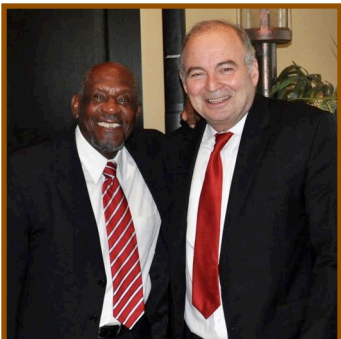
Sandra Edmonds
50/50 Raffle



Deb Ahalt and Carla Duls
Co-Captains AARSPA from the Heart Alzheimer's Walk Team



Millie Gardner
Remembrance Chair



Too Smooth Dudes



Lucy Travers
Trips Tours Chair



FIRST TIMERS: Co-President Bonnie Schmeltz, Sandy Seward, Wendy Boardman, Stan Stawas, Kay Stawas, Ginger Wilson and Co-President Dixie Stack



Josh Carroll, AACPS and MD Teacher of the Year



Sharyn Doyle, Secretary and Legislative Chair



Rick Wiles, *Voices in Melody* Secretary and AARSPA President-Elect



Virginia Crespo, MRSPA Legislative Aide



Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association
 2644 Riva Road
 Annapolis, MD 21401



Scholarship Fund Donation

Scholarships are of the utmost importance to ensure the contribution of quality teachers entering the education profession.

I wish to make a donation to the scholarship fund.

Donation Amount is: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

for:

_____ birthday _____ anniversary

_____ other (please indicate) _____

Please make checks payable to:

Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association
 or / for

Tax Deductible Donations, make checks payable to:
 21st Century Education Foundation, Inc.

Mail all checks to:

Matilda Barckley
 8238 Great Bend Road
 Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061

Name and address of the honoree.

We will inform the honoree(s) and/or the family of the deceased that a gift has been made to the scholarship fund.

Send notice of my donation to:

Name _____

Address _____

Donor's Name _____

Address _____

For questions, please contact:

Matilda Barckley • barckleya@comcast.net • 410-768-3408

The 21st Century Foundation, Inc., is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit, charitable organization, donations to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. A copy of the foundation's current financial statement is available upon request by contacting the 21st Century Education Foundation at 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (telephone: 410-222-5370). Document and information submitted to the state of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State for the cost of copying and postage. *DPS/CB 1395/28a (Rev. 7/13)*