



INFORMER

Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association

October 2020

Volume 46 Issue 2

President Rick Wiles

Autumn is normally the opening of schools, falling leaves, pumpkin pie, apple cider and family and friends. With a smile and a mask, I bring greetings to all Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association (AARSPA) members. COVID-19 has created unique times this past summer and fall, and impacted AACPS to virtually open schools the first semester of this year.

AARSPA officers and members continue to work on behalf of our membership to support our vision, mission and bylaws. We were represented at the MRSPA Leadership Conference by five of our members. Carla Duls and Deb Ahalt both did excellent ZOOM presentations for the MRSPA members around the state about communicating with our communities during COVID. Like many associations around the state, AARSPA has recently purchased a ZOOM site license. The executive board will be conducted in October by ZOOM. Our membership committee has been busy recruiting new members, and the community service committee has established a partnership between AARSPA, AACPS, and Troop 918 Eagle Candidates to build and install Little Libraries at two county schools. Please support the Killarney House Restaurant Scholarship Fundraiser and the Alzheimer's Walk.

In November, we will have our first luncheon at Renditions. To stay safe at the luncheon, AARSPA will

conduct forehead temperature checks upon arrival; masks will be required, except when eating; and social distancing will be maintained. The luncheon will have a maximum attendance of 70 persons; however, there will not be a minimum number of attendees. The facility will be following all Stage 2 or Stage 3 guidelines at this time for COVID-19. The reservation form is in this issue; however, make your decision to attend based on personal and family safety! Our bylaws require an annual business meeting, and we will also have the annual Memorial Service, and the induction of officers. A guest speaker is also tentatively scheduled for this luncheon. We will be collecting new or gently used children's books or donations to support the Little Libraries.

Although I am finishing my second term for the Association, it's critical that AARSPA has somebody nominated/inducted to be the President-Elect or Co-Presidents Elect for 2020-21 and President(s) in 2021. I will be glad to mentor the new nominee(s) with the duties of the President in 2021.

Mia Harper in the AACPS Office of Retirement (410-222-5224) asked me to include an update about Open Enrollment in this *AARSPA Informer*. The AACPS Retiree Open Enrollment Guides will be mailed to retirees during the last week of September. Open Enrollment will be from October 5 to October 16 for changes to take place January 1, 2021. If you do not wish to make any



changes, then your current benefits will remain the same for 2021. For most retirees, there will be no increase in monthly premiums. Only those who are funded at the 25% level of healthcare, and who are on Medicare, will see a slight increase in their monthly premium. Those who are enrolled in the HMO or Triple Option and those who pay for Select Vision will receive new cards due to an expansion of the vision coverage next year. Those enrolled in SilverScript prescription will not receive new prescription cards.

The fiscal year (FY21) budget was approved by the general membership by your email or mail majority vote. This is usually approved at our May luncheon; however, it was cancelled this year due to COVID-19.

We have not lost sight of our primary mission to make sure our AACPS retiree health care is not jeopardized, and to work with MRSPA to protect our defined retirement pension. In this ever-changing world, it is my hope that each of you will take an active role

(Continued on page 5)

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AARSPA 2020 Memorial Service

*The 2020 Memorial Service, postponed from May, recognizes members who passed **before April 30, 2020.***

Ida Adams	Alice Kushner
Margaret Albright	Philip Levenson
Helen Baugh	Elva Lloyd
Cassandra Beans	Beverly Madison
Ellen Bentley	James Maize
Lauretta Bonfiglio	Barbara Matti
Mary Bragg	Roger McClure
Richard Bright	Catherine McMahan
Marian Patricia Carpenter	Kay Merchant
Iris Cooper	Barbara Miller
Sirena Cope	Rhoda Miller
Bettilee J. Covert	Leona Munoz
Barbara Davis	Thomas Neuenschwander
Joan Dennis	Thomas Nevin, Jr.
Elizabeth S. Derby	Robert Nichols
Carmen Dey	Georgia Pettigrew
Anna Cecelia Dietz	Phyllis Richardson
Carmen Donegan	Patricia Ryan
Barbara Dorsey	Carol Saunders
Joel Drapalski	Dorothy Schlepner
Mary Kathy Drazan	Charles Skipper
Eunice Emge	Barbara Smith
Patricia Ericson	Raymond Spitzer
Martha Ferkel	Donna Sponheimer
Betty Feusahrens	Fred Stauffer
Rachel Finan	Allen Stemple
Marcine Floyd	Theresa Stripling
Sharon Fulton	Linda Symes
Joyce Gibson	Alice Taylor
Audrey O. Gildea	Charles H. Tiemeyer, Jr.
Mary Jean Gray	Nancy Underhill
Kathryn Hagberg	Lucy Whittington
Harry Hendrickson	Joyce Williams
Marvin Heptinstall	Margie Williams
Lois Hohlmaier	Pamelynn Woody
James L. Johnson, Sr.	Ronald J. Young
Rose Johnson	Dennis Younger
Bobbye C. Kudzma	

*Anyone wishing to make a donation to the Scholarship Fund in memory of a member may use the form found on the last page of the **AARSPA Informer.***

REMEMBRANCE



GET WELL
Phyllis Mentzell

EMERITUS BIRTHDAYS

October	12	Ethel Bohle	94
November	1	Emma Schramm	92
	5	Mary Etta Dorr	98
	10	Paul T. Bagley	92
	18	Katherine Tarter	93
	22	Irma Messinger	
December	9	Dorothy Mace	100
	15	Mary Sue Hines	92
	15	Matilda Pair	97
	18	Dorothy Bullock	99
	21	Mary Madeleine	93

ANNIVERSARIES

October	10	Gale Erbe & Thomas Worthington III	39
	14	Nancy & Ernie Clayton	52
	17	Michele Einolf & Kenneth Grice	39
	19	Vonnie & Tom Riffle	56
	24	Carol & John Strigle	56
	28	Ann & Alan Irvine	59
	31	Lynn & Bill Grap	60
November	24	Shirley & Charles Hicks	54
	24	Sharyn & Ed Doyle	49
	25	Patricia & Michael Keaser	35
	27	Barbara & Paul Rusko	62
	28	Carol & Eugene Kirby	62
December	15	Meg & Ed Meehan	
	16	Anne & Bob Schult	52
	23	Martha & Jim Preston	53
	27	Judith & John Youngblood	54
	28	Michelle & Charles Day	46
	28	Katie & Andy Borland	56
	30	Virginia & Harry Wagner	52

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

Anniversaries and Congratulations

Millie Gardner at mgbw16@gmail.com or 443-784-2190

Deaths of AARSPA members and family members

Linda Poole at mlp2118@yahoo.com or 410-570-4020

Illnesses and Accidents, etc. Dianne Rogers at wwdsrogers@verizon.net or 410-647-7585

FROM THE FREE SCHOOL

For the safety and comfort of our guests, the Free School Museum is closed until further notice.

DID YOU KNOW?

By the 1820s, there was a surge of interest in education in America with the view of having an educated electorate. However, the focus of education was on the primary years. This probably happened for two reasons. The first reason was the difficulty in finding a schoolmaster with the skills to teach a variety of upper level content. The second reason was the older students were needed at home to assist with the farming.

Around 1820 the original building and the Keeping Room/summer kitchen were joined together increasing the size of the building. By 1820, the Anne Arundell County Free School had 62 students. The teacher was Henry Roe June, who had 13 children of his own. The building was enlarged and the family lived upstairs in the loft. Girls probably began attending the school in the 1820 or 1830s. Prior to this era, girls were expected to stay at home and concentrate on domestic duties such as tending the family garden, cooking, and sewing.





DATES TO REMEMBER

MEETING DATES

Executive Board Meetings

October 8, 2020 Zoom
January 14, 2021 Center 2A (10:00 - 12:00)

General Membership Meetings. - 10:30 a.m.

November 12, 2020 Renditions Golf Course,
Davidsonville

OTHER DATES

October 1-November 30 MD Food Bank Virtual Food Drive
October 14 Scholarship Fundraiser
Killarney House, Davidsonville
October 18 Walk to End Alzheimer's

MRSPA Fund Request for Donations – Raffle Drawing

The MRSPA Community Service and Scholarship Committees provide tremendous support to students and staff in our schools across Maryland. In the past, funds for these scholarships and mini-grants were partially obtained through in-person sale of raffle tickets statewide. This year, that option is not available to us due to the pandemic. Therefore, we are seeking **donations** to the *MRSPA Fund* so that we can continue our work. All donations are tax deductible and come with our thanks and appreciation!

To show our appreciation, your name will be entered into a drawing upon receipt of your donation based on this criterion: Donations of \$10 will earn 1 raffle ticket while donations of \$25 will earn 3 raffle tickets incrementally. MRSPA staff will write your name on the correct number of tickets when we receive your check. The drawing will take place at the May 2021 Annual Business Meeting whether held in person or virtually. You can win the \$300 cash first prize, a Maryland themed basket valued at \$150 second prize, or one of 5 third

place themed baskets valued at \$75: Cooking, Spa, Wine Lover, Movie Night, and Sports Lover.

Entering the drawing is fun and easy!

1. Make your **check payable** to **The Community Foundation of Frederick County**
2. Write **MRSPA Fund Donation** on the FOR line
3. Date and **sign** your check
4. **Mail** check and completed form to MRSPA at 8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A, Odenton, MD 21113 **before February 28, 2021**

Will you send a donation today? Receipts will be sent via email or US Mail.



MRSPA Fund Donation

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address for Receipt: _____



Although we have not been meeting in person, the Community Service Committee continues to offer members a variety of ways to give back to the community. Please read the exciting news on page 9 about our latest endeavor, the Little Libraries Project! Listed below are two other opportunities for you to consider.

AARSPA from THE HEART VIRTUAL FOOD DRIVE



As you know, we would have collected food at our November General Membership Meeting at CAT-N to help support their participation in the Harvest for the Hungry campaign. Since we will be meeting, instead, at Renditions, we thought a virtual food drive would be a good way to help our fellow Marylanders in their time of need. If you receive the newsletter electronically, just **click** on the link below or **copy and paste** the link into your browser. If you receive a hard copy, **type** this link into your browser. Either method will take you to the **AARSPA Virtual Food Drive** at the Maryland Food Bank. We are trying to raise \$800, \$10 for each of AARSPA's 80 years. The link will be available until November 30, 2020. We thank you in advance for your donation! When checking out, you can have your name and donation shown on the MD Food Bank website or, you can choose not to. Just check the appropriate box.

<https://mdfoodbank.fenly.org/drive/aarspa/>

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in helping to make a difference for our membership and community.

AARSPA will get through these challenging times, and together our organization will be even stronger for the future.

Stay safe and be healthy!

2020 WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

Just a reminder that **AARSPA From the Heart** is participating in the Annapolis Walk to End Alzheimer's. Scheduled for Sunday, October 18, 2020, the walk will take place **anywhere, anytime**. Participants can choose to walk in their neighborhoods, in a nearby park, or even mask-less on their treadmill at home! If you are interested in joining some members at the Free School at 1:00 p.m., weather permitting, please let one of the team captains know you will be joining us so we know how many to expect and whom to contact in the event we need to cancel due to weather.

We encourage you to participate! You can register with the **AARSPA From the Heart** team to physically walk at a **site and time of your choosing** or make a donation for the team **or** a specific team member by going to <https://www.alz.org/walk>. Click on **FIND A WALK**, type **21401**, and choose **Annapolis, MD**. Search the team list for **AARSPA from the Heart**. An opportunity to print a paper registration or donation form is also available here.

If you prefer to not use the internet to participate, contact Deborah Ahalt (djahalt@aol.com) or 410-997-3942) or Carla Duls (kid3dle@aol.com) or



SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

Thank you for helping to activate the magnets of curiosity, knowledge and wisdom with your generous donations.

In Honor of ALL Current Teachers

To Honor the Life of Exceptional Educators...

Bonnie Schmeltz
Professor James Larson

In Memory of...

Elizabeth Alexopoulos
Virginia Ballard
Gloria Graham...birthday October 3,2020 (90)
Gloria Johnson
Barbara Matti
Earl "Jerry" Peterson
Bobbi Puglisi
Bob Rude
Jean Trott

AARSPA Scholarship Fundraiser 2020

Your AARSPA Scholarship Committee invites you to carry out scholarship fundraiser at **Killarney House Pub** (584 W. Central Avenue, Davidsonville 21035) on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Please place and pay for all to go orders online using their website manager@killarneyhousepub.com.

The \$25.00 +tax and gratuity menu includes:

Starter - A SIDE SALAD or POTATO and LEEK SOUP

Main Course - FISH and CHIPS, or GRILLED CHICKEN, CAESAR SALAD, or MEDIEVAL BEEF STEW, or SHEPHERD'S PIE

Dessert - Irish Bread Pudding

Scholarships for Scholars (Teacher Education)



2021 Scholarship Description:

A \$4000 scholarship will be awarded to three (3) graduating high school seniors interested in a teaching career including: Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Secondary Education and Special Education.

2021 Applicant Requirements:

- Resident of Anne Arundel County (AAC)
- Graduating high school seniors who are AAC residents attending public or accredited private high schools in AAC or home-schooled students living in AAC
- Minimum SAT composite score of 1100 or minimum ACT composite score of 25
- Minimum weighted GPA of 3.5
- Attend an accredited college or university as a full time student
- Declare an interest in pursuing a career in Teacher Education in one of these four areas: Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Secondary Education or Special Education
- Demonstrate an involvement in community service including activities with children and youth
- Essay states why applicant is deserving of scholarship
- References for the applicant should indicate the desire of the applicant to be a teacher

Check out the following pages:

**Anne Arundel Retired
School Personnel
Association
(AARSPA)**

**Maryland Retired School
Personnel Association
(MRSPA)**

**National Retired
Teachers Association
(NRTA)**

**Anne Arundel County
Public Schools
(AACPS)**



November Luncheon and Business Meeting

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



No refunds after FIRM reservation deadline
Monday, October 26, 2020
 PLEASE NO WALK-INS

DATE: Thursday, November 12, 2020
PLACE: Renditions Golf Course, 1380 West Central Avenue, Davidsonville, MD 21035
COST: \$35.00 per person (Please make checks out to AARSPA.)

Our entrée choices are chicken parmesan with cheese ravioli and a vegetable, sliced roast beef with sherry mushroom gravy mashed potatoes and a vegetable, or crab cake with mashed potato and vegetable. Each entrée is served with a mixed green luncheon salad and an ice cream sundae for dessert. Coffee, sweet tea and iced water will be served with the meal.

Mail reservation and payment to:
Bob Kanach, 512 Augusta Drive, Arnold, MD 21012

The deadline for reserving a seat is **Monday, October 26, 2020** and after this date we will not be able to give any refunds unless we have names on our wait list. Please note the following:

- **We are limited to 70 people in attendance so reservations will be on a first come, first serve basis. A wait list will be created after the 70 is reached. Seating will be five or less people per table.**
- **All members present will have to wear a mask while in the facility except when eating the meal and your temperature will be taken prior to you entering the banquet room.**



LUNCH RESERVATION - DEADLINE October 26, 2020

Contact Person _____

Phone Number _____

Below, please indicate the entrée choice for each person in your party.

Name(s) including contact person above	Chicken Parm	Roast Beef	Crab Cake
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Number of reservations X \$35.00 per person = Total Due: _____

_____ Please check if this is your first AARSPA luncheon.
 _____ Please check if you are an Emeritus Member (90 or greater)

Membership News

MANY THANKS TO YOU...

For those who went **Green** by switching to email delivery of the newsletter, *The Informer*. You receive your association news quicker and assists us in our efforts to provide information in a timely manner. As the BOE is still closed to us, we must rely on someone in house to check our mailbox and then plan so a representative (mostly Bob Kanach) can retrieve our mail. A bit cumbersome for us, but good in this given situation.

For those who called or emailed me concerning those members on the Where Are They list, information provided has been followed up by mostly phone calls or emails. The hunt continues, so do not stop informing us about our membership. When persons move, changing their address can be overwhelming and they forget a few notifications.

STILL TIME...

For those who have not renewed their state or local membership to do so. The new fiscal year of 20-21 is now underway and your membership dues assist both organizations to move forward with important work concerning pension and health care concerns.

For anyone who wants to switch to email notifications, just call me (410-969-0129) or email (lahschell@verizon.net). It is an easy process.



Michael Agiesti	Beth Holden
Melanie Lynn Carter	Carole Janesko
Kathleen Chow	Brenda McCray
Don Counts	Andrea Mucci
Sharon Ferralli	Carole Seeling
Kathi Foley	Sharon Stratton
James Fontaine	Jerina Suskind
Leslie Gershon	Valerie Wesner
Susan Griesmyer	Elizabeth D. Yuan

Each new member creates a stronger organization and brings new creative ideas to us.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Name	Address	City	State	Zip
Joanne Buritsch	7591 Easton Club Drive	Easton	MD	21601
Ken Diaz	18195 Emerson Way	Georgetown	DE	19947
Phyllis Kahat	627 Sixth Avenue	Ford City	PA	16226
Joy League	811 Midship Court	Annapolis	MD	21401
Sharon Morrell	181 Key Deer Blvd PMB 315	Big Pine Key	FL	33043
Ken Nichols	Harmony at Spring Hill 8350 Mountain Larkspar Drive Apt 204	Lorton	VA	22079
Mary Jo Papetti	198 Lees Lane	Edgewater	MD	21037
Kay Pulford	453 Chalet Drive	Mesquite	NV	89027
Robyn Smit	9400 Coastal Highway #904	Oceant City	MD	21842
Robert "Bob" Wagner	5635 Rain Lily Court	Sarasota	FL	34238

LITTLE LIBRARIES UPDATE

The AARSPA Community Service Committee has not been totally inactive during this time of Covid-19 restrictions. Thanks to the efforts of Zetta Hart and Rick Wiles, two Little Libraries are ready to be installed; one will be placed on the grounds of Park Elementary School and the other at the Ferndale Early Education Center.

The Little Library boxes were built by students in the carpentry program at CAT-N and completed before the shutdown. Two Life Scouts from Troop 918, who are working toward their Eagle Scout certification, then painted the boxes and did the final site installation, including putting books in the boxes.

While building a couple of boxes may sound like an easy task, there are so many details involved. The design of the boxes must resist rain and be size appropriate to the site. Then there is the matter of permits and site approval as well as actually stocking the boxes with books.

How many books did you and family members read during the lockdown? Now those books can serve as the first installments in our Little Library boxes. New or gently used books suitable for children of all ages as well as adult books will be collected at the November luncheon. We hope you will use this opportunity to share your love of reading with others who do not have access to books. (Monetary donations will also be accepted. If donating by check, make checks out to AARSPA with "Little Libraries" on the subject line.)



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Did you know there are over 1.6 million nonprofits in the United States? Does it seem like everyday you are getting more requests to make a donation to a charity you may or may not have supported in the past? Due the pandemic, the need is even greater. However, what do we really know about these organizations? In fact, what do you know about the charities you already support? Does the organization use your donation in a manner that reflects your values?

There are several websites you can use to determine the worthiness of the nonprofits you support. The largest is **Charity Navigator**. It evaluates and assigns a score to over 5,500 nonprofits that operate within the United States. Because it does not accept any advertisements or money from group it reviews, the ratings are considered the most trustworthy of all the groups that rate charities. Charity Navigator is funded by large organizations such as the **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)** and small donations from people like you and me. Because of this funding, there is no charge for their reports.

Charity Navigator rates the nonprofit on several categories and assigns a rating. Those categories include: finance and accountability; impact and results; leadership and adaptability; reputation within the community it serves; and values, diversity and equity within the organization.

Website: [Charity Navigator.org](https://www.charitynavigator.org)



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 checks to:

Matilda Barckley
 8238 Great Bend Road
 Glen Burnie, MD 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