



INFORMER

Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association
August 2024

Volume 50 Issue 1

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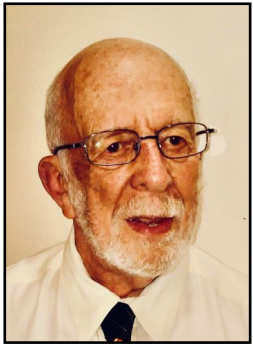
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**Co-Presidents
Sharyn Doyle
and
Anthony Anzalone**
BLUE SKIES



WELCOME TO YEAR 2! We (Sharyn and Tony) have completed year one and have begun year two as Co-Presidents of AARSPA. What a **JOY** this has been! We have enjoyed the pleasure of your company at luncheons and gatherings; on trips and at meetings; at dedications, presentations, and work stations. We have seen smiles, and yes, some frowns. We have welcomed new faces and encouraged familiar ones to become more engaged with us. All this would not have been accomplished without the awesome dedication of **YOU**, the members, and the steadfast work of the executive board, the committee chairs, and the committee members. We are **NOT** done yet!

AS we enter year 2, we will continue to focus on our programs and priorities:

Health Care - With information from the school system's Budget Office, the AACBOE (Anne Arundel County Board of Education) has expressed concern regarding the ever increasing cost of health care for retirees and their dependents. Health Care is a negotiated item. On Election Day, **NOVEMBER 5**, all members for the AACBOE will be on the ballot. Be sure to **VOTE!** We have no guarantee of health benefits as retirees!!!!

Membership - Numbers count. A *Greet & Meet* breakfast for recent retirees will again be held at the Severna Park Elks Lodge.

Remember our mantra "*We are the Membership Committee.*"

Community Service - AARSPA recently received the MRSPA Award For Exemplary Community Service. We will continue to support seniors-in-need at assisted living facilities, adults in recovery programs, the Anne Arundel County animal shelter; and to provide safety alert messages regarding frauds and scams as well as County and State Legislative items of concern.

Teacher Education and Mini-Grants - The Education Foundation of AACPS (formerly The 21st Century Education Foundation, Inc.) promotes scholarships for graduating high school students who express the desire to become a teacher, hopefully in AACPS. Each recipient of an AARSPA scholarship receives a \$5000 award. New this past year were Mini-Grant awards of \$300 each which were awarded to two classroom teachers providing supplemental funds for ongoing classroom projects.

Business Luncheons with Birthday Gifts, Informational Speakers, Gatherings, Trips, Voices in Melody - Activities are scheduled to provide friendships, fun, joy and renewal.

The AARSPA Informer - We are ever mindful of the heartfelt dedication that

(Continued on page 2)



(Co-Presidents, page 1)

goes into this publication. After the articles are submitted by officers and committee chairs, the "job" has ended for most of us. Layout, editing, meeting deadlines, achieving quality vs. quantity are a few of the tasks editor Carla Duls faces as she prepares each issue of the AARSPA *Informer* for you.

NOW IT IS YOUR TURN. We want you to talk with us! Email us or call us! Join us at our luncheons! Volunteer for a committee! Let us know how to engage you in AARSPA. Our email addresses and phone numbers are on the front page.

As you read this Fall Issue, be sure to **(1) SIGN UP FOR THE SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON; (2) TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE ABOVE OFFERS; (3) SMILE AT THE "GOOD NEWS"**. Finally, did you take time to "Fly a Kite" as suggested in the last issue; or 'Sing a Song' as suggested in the one before that? Well then...you can celebrate, because...

**There's a Bright Golden Haze on the Meadow
O! What a Beautiful DAY!**



AARSPA members, give yourselves a pat on the back!

Because of **your** donations to elementary schools, we were **recognized for our support to schools with a special reception by the Board of Education.**

Because of **your** donations to support residents of assisted living facilities, **we won the MRSPA statewide award for community service, plus a check of \$150.00!**

To recap this past year we:

- Provided school supplies to Park Elementary and Brooklyn Park Elementary
- Donated food and cash to the Anne Arundel Food Bank
- Donated toiletries to a men's shelter in Annapolis as well as supplies to Sarah's House at FT. Meade
- Supported the Anne Arundel County Animal Shelter with supplies and money
- Provided \$300.00 grants to two teachers to support individual classroom projects
- Donated food, toiletries, books, and games to **SEVEN** assisted living centers!

We can't rest on our past successes, so it's time to move forward. At our September luncheon, we are asking you to provide school supplies for elementary students. While many schools are providing students with the supplies they need to start school, we all remember that by October those supplies have been depleted and teachers are using their own funds to buy materials for their classrooms. By supplying needed materials, teachers are better able to provide the best learning environment. Of course we will also be collecting supplies for our furry friends as well as toiletries for the less fortunate living in homeless shelters.



Congratulations to **Stephanie Wineke** of Riviera Beach Elementary and **Michael O'Donnell** of North County High School for receiving AARSPA's \$300 Mini Grants to help with innovative programs they have initiated with their students. Ms. Wineke is using Beebots to help students with sequencing and problem solving. Mr. O'Donnell's students are planting, growing, and harvesting food that will be distributed to needy facilities in the county. Community Service Committee member **Charlie Gable** and committee member and AARSPA Co-President **Anthony Anzalone** presented the awards.



Julia Olaoya, Director of Triumph Home Care in Glen Burnie, and one of the residents gratefully accept a variety of items donated by members at the May luncheon.

REMEMBRANCE

MEMBER DEATHS

Patricia Abend
Richard S. Berzinski
Beverly A. Certano
Barry J. Fader
Donald B. Gregg
Carolyn "Carol" M. Kirby
Dr. Cecil L. Lemon
Mary Ellen Street
Penny Faustena Vahsen

GET WELL

Charlie Jansky
Ed Johnson
Phyllis Mentzell
Dick Powell

FAMILY MEMBER DEATHS

Sandra L. Edmonds	husband
Charles Garvin	wife
Nancy Griner	husband
Viveca L. Michaels	husband
Joyce Nellenback	husband
Bonnie Phelps	father-in-law
Bill Sharkey	brother
Harry Sharkey	brother

Correction: In the April *AARSPA Informer*, Robyn Smit's name was misspelled as "Robin Smith." We apologize and offer Robyn condolences on the death of her father.

EMERITUS BIRTHDAYS

July

5	Jack Colleran	94
18	Geraldine Lomboy	95
23	Laura L. Henry	
	Phyllis Mentzell	91

August

1	Marie Diamond	92
16	Blanche V. Bakke	93
16	Lorraine Taylor	92
17	Agnes Abernathy	95
23	Credella Mathews	95
28	James Dunagan	96

September

1	Gloria Oxley	95
4	Joan Krammes	93
10	Dorthea Dennis	96
16	Hearon Buttrill	107
16	Geraldine Cassell	98
30	Jackie Evans	104
30	Janie Fridie	96

ANNIVERSARIES

July

2	Ida-Ann & James Dunagan	60
4	Cary & Pat Jones	54
5	Anne & Bill Yakaitis	55
5	Debbie & Dan Ahalt	55
11	Joani & Steve Daugard	54
12	Carla & Jimmy Duls	27
14	Mary Jo & Bob Kanach	51
16	Joan & Jim Duryee	47
18	Marge & Bill Campbell	56
18	Lynn & Bill Foley	60
20	Sally & Jim McGowan	56
22	Phyllis & Jim Butner	57
26	Lisa & Howard Dew	
27	Kathy & Stan Pulz	50
29	Ginny & Steven Ginaitis	52
31	Diane & Hugh Belvin	53

August

1	Barb & Steve Geier	43
2	Marla & Jeff Kollar	55
4	Linda & Greg Siegert	45
5	Carole & Bob Grimm	57
6	Diane & Kevin McGrath	47
8	Laura & John Henry	70
11	Irma & Jack Matthews	51
12	Nancy & William Lively	62
13	Doris & Bob Kniess	58
13	Arlene & Rob Derflinger	47
15	Carolyn & Larry Smith	54
16	Marsha & Kenneth Stewart	55
17	Millie & Bryan Williman	8
18	Linda & Larry Herzig	51
25	Debbie & Bryan Groff	46
26	Karlie & Jerry Everett	57
26	K. Christine & David O'Neill	51
31	Clifton & Mary Stoneburner	60

September

2	Ed & Bery Feinberg	51
3	Kathy & Dan Bush	64
22	Shigemi & Dan Higgs	34
24	Richard & Rose O'Hara	58
28	Carolyn & Glyn Webber	40

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

Anniversaries and Congratulations

Millie Gardner at milliegardner65@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

Scholarship Update!

Teaching is not about filling heads; it's about nourishing and nurturing dreams. Our scholars will be given that opportunity due to your generosity. Thank you!

In Honor of...

Rosetta E. Dennis (30 year survivor of breast cancer)

Kay Tarter (Service to AACPS)

In Memory of...

Jay Catlin

Emma "Bernice" Fortman

Iris Yvonne Jacobs (Dr. Leslie Mobray's 5th grade teacher, Adams Park Elementary)

Cheryl Logan

Karen Muir

Francis Neat

Ken Nichols

Georgia Pettigren

Carol Petrosky

Elizabeth "Betsy" Sitoski

Diane Zerhusen

Since 21st Century Education Foundation, Inc. has changed their name, please make checks payable to **Education Foundation of AACPS**.

News You Can Use

Do you recycle? Have you considered how long it takes for products we use everyday to decompose? Scientists estimate the following decomposition rate for products placed in trash instead of recycled.

newspapers - 1 1/2 months
tin cans - 50 years
plastic cups - 50 years
plastic containers - 50-80 years
aluminum cans - 200-500 years
plastic bottles - 450 years

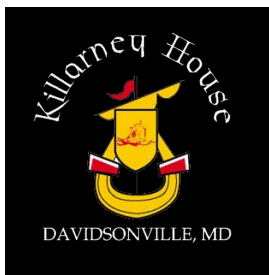
You may want to reconsider what you place in your trash can. You may have heard of the damage people experienced during covid by flushing personal hygiene wipes. Manufacturers can claim they are "flushable" because they will go through your toilet pipe. However, they do not easily decompose once in the sewer pipes. Over time, this clogs and damages your line. Did you know that facial tissues shouldn't be flushed either? They are manufactured so they won't fall apart when used, so as a result they don't fall apart when they come in contact with water.

What do you do with magazines, newspapers and books when you are finished with them? Consider leaving them in a laundromat for others to enjoy.



Do you love watching birds eating from your bird feeders, the ones you fill daily only to have the squirrels get more of the seeds than the birds? Consider spraying the pole and sides of the feeder with cooking oil. Watching the squirrels slide down may bring the best laugh of the day.

In our county there are individuals in assisted living homes who never have a visitor. Consider contacting one of the locations and volunteering to visit a resident. These "adoptions" are free and will bring you as much joy as your new friend. If you need help locating an assisted living home, please contact any member of the AARSPA Board.



Fall Scholarship Fund Fundraiser



AARSPA's fall scholarship fundraiser will be held on **Tuesday, October 15, 2024**, at the Killarney House Irish Restaurant.



The menu price is \$30 per person plus tax and gratuity. \$10 from each menu item chosen will be donated to our scholarship fund. It is available all day and can be ordered online for pick-up at www.killarneyhousepub.com. Killarney House is located at 584 W. Central Avenue, Davidsonville.





“Joy to the World” American Music Theatre December 3, 2024



It’s the time of the year to be dazzled and delighted with musical merriment!. The American Music Theatre presents an original show, “Joy to the World.” The ringing of church bells in a quaint town square set the scene for “Joy to the World.” Evoking the revered holiday nostalgia of hometowns across the United States, the stage will transform into a small-town winter carnival brimming with family and friends. The incredible AMT singers, dancers and orchestra will perform favorites such as “ Away in a Manger, “ “Jingle Bells,” “Hark The Herald Angels Sing,” and “Carol of the Bells” all live on stage. This is an awe-inspiring production filled with brilliant music and dance, phenomenal voices, and holiday humor. These are all of the best ingredients which make this season’s all new extravaganza a holiday celebration not to be missed! Before the show, enjoy a delicious smorgasbord lunch at **Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant**. We conclude our holiday season celebration with a drive-thru spectacular at **Hershey Sweet Lights**.

You get all this for **\$130.00 per person**. This also includes transportation, all taxes and tips including the driver. Your reservations for this trip must be received by **Thursday, Oct 24, 2024**.

Itinerary:

- 9:45 a.m. Depart the Severna Park United Methodist Church on Benfield Road
- 12:00 p.m. Arrive Bird in Hand, PA at Bird in Hand Family Restaurant
- 12:15 p.m. **Smorgasbord Lunch**
- 2:00 p.m. Depart Bird in Hand, PA
- 2:15 p.m. Arrive Lancaster, PA at American Music Theatre
- 3:00 p.m. **Showtime! “Joy to the World”**
- 5:15 p.m. Depart Lancaster, PA
- 6:00 p.m. **Arrive Hershey, PA at Hershey Sweet Lights**
- 6:45 p.m. Depart Hershey, PA
- 8:45 p.m. Arrive at the Severna Park United Methodist Church on Benfield Road



**American Music Theatre “Joy to the World”, “Smorgasbord Lunch”, “Hershey Sweet Lights”
Reservations must be received by Thursday, October 24, 2024**

Send this reservation form and check payable to AARSPA to:
Bob Kanach
512 Augusta Drive
Arnold, Maryland 21021

Name: _____

Your Cell Phone (in case separated from the group) _____

Home Phone: _____ Email address (for receipt): _____

Address: _____

of reservations: _____ x \$130.00 per person = \$ _____

Make checks payable to AARSPA

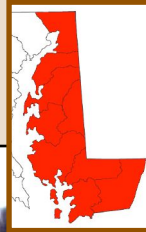
Other names in your party if applicable:

OUT AND ABOUT WITH AARSPA



Our Eastern Shore Luncheon this year was held on April 18 at the Suicide Bridge Restaurant in Hurlock, MD. It was a great opportunity for Western Shore, Eastern Shore, and Delaware folks to come together for a meal and memories!

Lucy Travers
Susan Baugher



Kate Gilbert
Joann Core



Arlene & Ron
Derflinger



Walt Federowicz
Ray Bibault



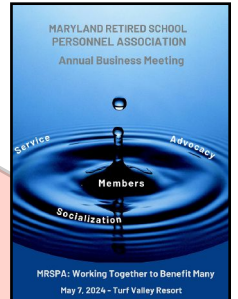
MRSPA
MARYLAND RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
May 7, 2024



Tillie Barckley and Deb Ahalt participated in the MRSPA Memorial Service.



Phyllis Cherry accepted the MRSPA local Community Service Award from MRSPA Community Service Chair Kathy Campagnoli. The award recognizes AARSPA's community service project benefitting seniors living in assisted living facilities.



Officers for 2024-2025 were installed: Treasurer Dr. Stephen Raucher (Prince George's), Vice President Tillie Barckley (Anne Arundel), Nominating Committee Chair Nancy Gordon (Frederick), Incoming President Betty Weller (Kent), Past President Carla Duls (Anne Arundel), and Secretary Sharyn Doyle (Anne Arundel).


EDUCATOR/EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

2023-2024

- OCT:** Educ: **CHRISTINE IRWIN**, Math Teacher
Arundel High School
Empl: **ELMER GRANADOS**, Facilities Technician
Monarch Academy Public Charter, Glen Burnie
- NOV.** Educ: **SHEILA NORRIS**, Kindergarten Teacher
Hillsmere Elementary School
Empl: **ROSE OGLE**, Lab Learning Technician
Manor View Elementary School
- DEC:** Educ: **JENNIFER LAQUE**, Pupil Personnel Resource
McKinney-Vento Education Liaison
Empl: **KEON GROSS**, Custodian
Mary Moss @ J.Albert Adams
- JAN:** Educ: **HEATHER KURDZIEL**, Music Ed Teacher
West Meade Early Education Center
Empl: **LINSEY ABRAMS**, Principal's Secretary
Southern Middle School
- FEB:** Educ: **MEGAN SNYDER**, Graphic Design Teacher
Center of Applied Technology North
Empl: **CARMEN SANTANA**, Enrollment Secretary
Belle Grove Elementary School
- MAR:** Educ: **KELLY HEYDE**, 8th Grade English Teacher/IDT Leader
Chesapeake Science Point
Empl: **JOANNE TAYLOR**, Special Education Teacher Assistant
Brooklyn Park Elementary School
- APR:** Educ: **ALLISON CRISWELL**, Spec. Educ Teacher/ Primary Autism K-Z
Central Elementary School
Empl: **ADRIENNE LYON**, Teacher Assistant
Ridgeway Elementary School
- MAY:** Educ: **MARINA THOMPSON**, Dance Teacher
Southern Middle School
Empl: **LOUIS QUEEN**, Custodian
Four Seasons Elementary School

Listed are the awardees for the 2023/2024 School Year who were nominated by their schools and/or offices. Applications received by the Office of Executive Assistant to the Anne Arundel County Board of Education were evaluated by the AARSPA Selection Committee who selected the awardees in each category. From October to May, the Board of Education publicly recognized and honored these individuals by presenting them with a Certificate of Appreciation and an engraved plaque. Pictures, a DVD of the event, and a letter from the Superintendent are also sent to the winners.



MEETING DATES	DATES TO REMEMBER	OTHER DATES
<p>Executive Board Meetings -10:00 a.m.</p> <p>October 10, 2024 MRSPA Office</p> <p>January 9, 2025 Room 2A, AACPS</p> <p>April 10, 2025 Room 2A, AACPS</p> <p>June 12, 2025 Free School</p> <p>July 10, 2025 Room 2A, AACPS</p> <p>General Membership Meetings - 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>September 12, 2024 Severna Park Elks Lodge Severna Park</p> <p>November TBA CAT-N Severn</p> <p>February 13, 2025 Renditions Golf Course Davidsonville</p> <p>May 8, 2025 Two Rivers Steak and Fish House Pasadena</p>		<p>August 21 Sight & Sound Theatre - <i>Daniel</i> Strasburg, PA</p> <p>September 16 Recent Retiree Meet & Great Breakfast Severna Park Elks Lodge</p> <p>September 23 Deadline for October <i>AARSPA Informer</i></p> <p>September 24 MRSPA Leadership Workshop Zoom or the MRSPA Office in Odenton</p> <p>October 7 Museum of the American Revolution Philadelphia, PA</p> <p>October 15 Killarney House Scholarship Fundraiser Davidsonville</p> <p>October 20 Walk to End Alzheimer's Sandy Point State Park</p> <p>December 3 "Joy to the World" American Music Theatre Lancaster, PA</p>

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Member Directory

AARSPA still has available the Revised Fall 2023 Directory for distribution. If you want one and live out-of-state or out-of-area, please contact Leslie Schell, membership chair, membership@aarspa.org or lahschell@verizon.net to have one mailed to you.

September Meet and Greet

As the new school year begins, rather than heading back to the classroom, our newly retired educators and support staff are being invited to a Meet and Greet breakfast on September 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the Severna Park Elks Lodge. They are invited to meet members of the Executive Board and learn about AARSPA and MRSPA and will receive a special invitation to this event.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Hanne L. Denney

Lynne Evans

Janet Fucella

Wendy A. Kirk

Gail A. Kos

Mary Ellen Mulvaney

Kathleen Rudd Orndorff

Jorge NMN Padilla-Morales

Sheree M. Peters

Sheila A. Rousseaux

Terry Stackley

Patrica Whitmer

Charles Yocum



FROM THE FREE SCHOOL MUSEUM

By the time you receive this newsletter, the Open House season at the Annearrundell County Free School Museum will be finished for 2024. Sharing this historic site with guests would not be possible without the dedication of the following docents: Karlie Everett, Robert Kanach, Carolyn Webber, Millie DeSimone, Carolyn Smith, Carla and Jim Duls, Max Muller, John and Judy Youngblood, Vicki Hutchins, and Don Bailey. If you would like to visit the site before our next Open House season, tours can be arranged by contacting Karlie Everett (karlieeverett@verizon.net).

You can find out more about the Free School Museum from the following sources:

1. aacps.org/freeschool - managed by staff in Bob Mosier's office at AACPS
2. aarspa.org - managed by Sharyn Doyle and the MRSPA webmaster
3. AARSPA Facebook - managed by Deb Ahalt, PR Chair, AARSPA
4. Annearrundell County Free School Museum Facebook - managed by Karlie Everett and only a summary compared to Deb Ahalt's work
5. Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area webpage ("Attractions") - managed by Carol Benson
6. Visit Annapolis and Anne Arundel County webpage ("History") - managed by Christine McNichols

A virtual tour of the Annearrundell County Free School Museum is found on aarspa.org, Annearrundell County Free School Museum Facebook page, and on Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area webpage. A short video about the 300th Celebration is found on aacps.org/freeschool.

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)**



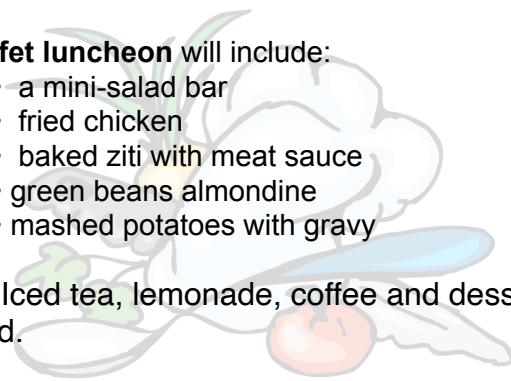
September AARSPA General Meeting and Luncheon Thursday, September 12, 2024

AARSPA's first general meeting for this year will be held on **Thursday, September 12, 2024** at the **Severna Park Elks Lodge**, 160 Truck House Road in Severn Park. Registration will begin at 9:45 a.m. with the meeting starting at 10:30 a.m. All reservations must be received no later than **Monday, September 2, 2024**. After this date we will not be able to give any refunds.

Our **buffet luncheon** will include:

- a mini-salad bar
- fried chicken
- baked ziti with meat sauce
- green beans almondine
- mashed potatoes with gravy

Iced tea, lemonade, coffee and dessert is included.



Cost per person is \$30.00 (**Please make checks payable to AARSPA**)

Mail the reservation form and payment **to arrive no later than Monday, September 2, 2024** to:

Bob Kanach,
512 Augusta Drive,
Arnold, MD. 21012

Don't forget that you are invited to bring a donation to the *AARSPA from the Heart* community service project. This month's focus is on school supplies! Of course donations of pet food and supplies for shelter animals as well as toiletries for the homeless will also be accepted.



Contact person _____

Phone # _____ Email address _____

Additional people in your party:

Number of people in your party _____ x \$30 = _____

_____ Please check here if this is your first AARSPA luncheon.

_____ Please check here if you are an Emeritus member (age 90 or greater.)



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:
 Education Foundation of AACPS

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