

HEART
Gail Phillips, Editor
2716 Mt. Olive Court
Mt. Airy, MD 21771

FIRST CLASS MAIL

NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY, March 12, 2019
12 NOON
St. James UMC
Rt. 99 just east of Rt. 32

FYI:

- ❖ Luncheon sign-up – March 12, 2019; reservations due by February 26, 2019
 - Only the first 100 will be seated
 - Handicap parking to the east of the building and in the main lot near the walkway
- ❖ In Memoriam
- ❖ Welcome to 26 new members! (If we've missed listing you, please let us know!)
- ❖ Membership application
- ❖ Look for service and social opportunities!
- ❖ Thanks, Gene Streagle, for photos from the December meeting!

HEART NEWS

A Publication for the members of the
Association of Retired Howard County Public School Personnel
Volume XLX Number 3 Howard County, MD February 2019

Co-Presidents' Letter

Welcome to winter. We hope you are keeping warm and enjoying the beauty of the snow, particularly when you don't have to drive to school or the office! Since the last newsletter, HEART members have been involved in many activities; we continue to protect, connect, and make a difference.

We held an Executive Team meeting on January 8th, and had much to discuss. Ellen Hill, Treasurer, reported that we are in good standing financially. Ellen also put a procedure in place for requesting reimbursements from HEART. This process will help us with the annual audits of our accounts. In addition, the team agreed to perform external audits on a regular basis.

Gail Phillips, our newsletter guru, continues to produce and assemble our newsletters. And while we thank her for those efforts, we'd like to see more members opt for the electronic version. The benefits are three-fold; postage savings for the organization, less labor for Gail, and immediate delivery! If you are willing to receive your newsletter electronically, please send Gail an e-mail (gail.m.phillips@comcast.net) and she will add you to our e-list.

Past President Mary Teague shared that our website now has 870 users, a significant increase over the last year. We'd love to increase that number even more, so be sure to share the web address with your retired friends and encourage them to utilize the site for information. Not only has website usage increased, our membership has increased by more than 8% in the past year. Please continue to encourage fellow retirees to join HEART and MRSPA; as we know, there is strength in numbers.

Participation in events is key to the success of our organization, and we are thrilled to share that our numbers increased for both the October and December meeting this year. Those of us who participated truly enjoyed the luncheon meeting at Turf Valley, including musical performances by students from Glenelg and Marriotts Ridge high schools. We are happy to report that we've already secured a contract for the same location, at no additional cost, for December 2019. We will also be inviting two "new" high schools to provide entertainment.

In keeping with our theme, HEART continues its work to protect our benefits, connect members, and make a difference in our communities. Throughout this newsletter, you'll find information about the March 12th meeting program, including a pension update, upcoming trips to Toby's Dinner Theater, and service activities at *Comfort Cases* and the *Howard County Food Bank*. We've also added an Executive Team meeting in April so that we can continue to plan meeting programs, community service activities, and social events for our members.

It is truly our pleasure to serve as your Presidents, and we look forward to seeing you at our "early" spring luncheon meeting on March 12th.

Warm regards,
Addie & Sue

Some photos from the December 11 meeting, courtesy of Gene Streagle



HOWARD COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED TEACHERS

December 11, 2018

Turf Valley Resort & Conference Center Ellicott City MD

Musical Prelude:

For this general meeting, thirty fabulous musicians from the *Glenelg High School Chamber Orchestra* performed a musical prelude. Members thanked Kevin George, the director of the orchestra.

Welcome/Introduction of New Members

The co-presidents introduced HEART's new members.

Holiday Performance:

The Marriotts Ridge High School Madrigals, under the direction of Choral Director Ross Rawlings, performed a wonderful collection of seasonal songs.

Call to Order

- **Addie Kaufman** called the meeting to order at 1:26 pm.
- The co-presidents, **Addie Kaufman and Sue Mascaro** acknowledged the commitment of the officers and the executive team.
- The executive team agreed to use funds from HEART'S general fund to supplement the per member cost of today's luncheon in order to keep down the cost to individual members.

Connecting with Colleagues

- **Ronne Bohn**, Co-Vice President, introduced the 2018 retirees.
- After an activity at each table, the following members were acknowledged for special recognition:
 - **John Russell** has been retired for the longest period of time from HCPSS
 - Both **Virginia Ellingsworth** and **Larue Yaskowitz** worked 43 years in the same location.

Member Recognition

- **Gail Phillips** was recognized for her hard work in producing the HEART newsletter and directory, Membership Committee service with Donna Brackens, Silent Auction, and Constitution Chair.
- **JoAnn Horan**, Social Director and **Donna Brackens**, Membership Committee, were recognized for their efforts in serving HEART.

Business Meeting

Presidents' Report

Addie Kaufman & Sue Mascaro

HEART adopted the State mission statement, *Connecting, Protecting, and Making a Difference*

- **Protecting member benefits and our future:**
 - MRSPA works to protect members' pension.
 - Both HEART and MRSPA keep in touch with legislators for a bright future.
 - Members are encouraged to recruit retirees who have not yet joined the organizations.
 - This year HEART has 65 new members so far.
- **Making a difference**
 - **Howard County Food Bank** - HEART collected donations for the Howard County Food Bank and volunteered at the Food Bank. The next date for volunteering at the Food Bank will be in January. The date and time will be in the newsletter and posted on the HEART website.
 - **Comfort Cases for foster children** – More than 270,000 children enter foster care every year. Comfort Cases provides duffle bags to children as they move to a foster home so they are not forced to leave with their belongings in a trash bag. Future dates to assemble the cases will be announced.
- **Connecting – Upcoming Social Events**
 - **Toby's Dinner Theater** – HEART will secure tickets for two new shows:
 - Gypsy on Feb. 21, 2019 (\$40.00 includes tip – the box office price is \$65.00)
 - Grease on June 6 (\$40.00)
 - Kinky Boots – upcoming in 2020
 - A bus trip is in the planning stages and will be announced in the future.
 - Possible future activity may include an art class in mid-March.

Approval of the Minutes and Treasurer's Report

- **Janet Zimmerman**, Interim Secretary, asked to waive a reading of the October 9, 2018 minutes since the minutes were published in the newsletter. **Gail Phillips** moved that the minutes be approved and **Bonnie Palmer** seconded. There were no objections.
- **Ellen Hill**, Treasurer, reported the following account balances:
 - Checking = \$10,012.80
 - Other Checking = \$24,889.92
 - Scholarship = \$2,156.78

Moment of Remembrance

Kim Sullivan, Necrology Chair

The poem, *A Life Well Lived*, was read aloud by Kim in remembrance for members who passed away during the past year. The following members passed since our last general meeting in October 2018:

- Salvatore “Solly” Ciamacca
- Malcolm “Mac” Green
- Patricia Previdi

In addition, the following members passed since our December 2017 luncheon meeting:

- Thurman Butcher
- Eileen Henderson
- Marion Osing
- Mary Paton
- Gabriel Pinter
- Jack Wineke
- Shirley Young

Door Prizes/Adjournment – Funds from the 50/50 raffle and poinsettias were awarded.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 2:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Janet Zimmerman, Interim Secretary

More photos from the December 11, 2018 meeting. Courtesy of Gene Streagle



SERVING with HEART (Sue Mascaro)

This year HEART decided to expand its volunteer efforts through *Comfort Cases*, an organization that provides much-needed items to children transitioning into foster care. Our first outreach to the organization was the collection of items at our December meeting. And oh, what a collection it was! Thanks to the generosity of our members, we were able to deliver twelve full bags of materials to fill children’s backpacks and duffle bags, including pajamas, personal care items, journals, and books. Needless to say, Volunteer Coordinator Markia Chambers was overwhelmed by our donation.

For our March meeting, we will once again be **collecting nonperishable food** items to support the **Howard County Food Bank’s Marketplace**. Suggested items include dry cereal, breakfast bars, canned stew or chili, peanut butter, juice and milk boxes, infant supplies (diapers; baby food), and personal items (deodorant, shampoo, etc.). Our March donation will help to restock supplies at the bank, as many furloughed government workers took advantage of the facility’s offerings during the past few months. Members can drop their contributions in one of the donation baskets located at the meeting *Welcome Desk*.

Although donations are critical for both organizations, on-site volunteers are also needed. Consequently, we have arranged volunteer dates at both facilities...

- On **Tuesday, March 26**, from **9 to 11** am, a team of HEART volunteers will be stocking shelves at the Howard County Food Bank.
- On **Monday, April 1st**, from 11 to 12:30 pm, we will travel to the Maryland office of *Comfort Cases* to fill backpacks and duffel bags for children entering foster care. Since the office is located in Rockville, we will carpool to the facility.

Each organization has a maximum size for volunteer groups; please contact Sue at scmascaro@gmail.com or 443-878-6883 if you’d like to join us on either date.

GET SOCIAL with HEART: TOBY'S Dinner Theatre (Sue Mascaro)

Back by popular demand... another evening of food and fun at Toby's Dinner Theatre on **Thursday, June 6th**, when we enjoy one of the world's favorite musicals, **Grease**. Join the students from Rydell High as they take us back to the 1950's when drive-in movies, sock-hops and tough talkin' ladies defined a generation. Enjoy this high-octane production featuring all the hit songs you love, including "Summer Nights," "You're the One That I Want," and "Greased Lightning."

Tickets for HEART members and their families are only \$40, including tip. Although we've reserved additional tickets for this popular show, they are already going fast. Please let Sue know if you are interested in joining us no later than Tuesday, April 30th. We may be able to secure additional tickets with advance notice. Contact Sue via email (scmascaro@gmail.com) or cell (443-878-6883) to reserve your seats today!

In Memoriam

Patricia "Pat" Previdi

Patricia "Pat" Previdi was born on March 17, 1944, in Wheeling, WV. She passed away on November 12, 2018, at the age of 74. She received her undergraduate degree from Dickinson University in PA. She went on to earn two master's degrees (one in education and the other in Spanish) from U. Conn. Prior to her 2013 retirement from HCPSS, Pat was an ESOL Spanish teacher at Patapsco Middle, ESOL Secondary Resource teacher – Central Office, and ESOL TV instructor in our school system's TV Studio. A dedicated educator, she also taught Spanish and ESOL at a number of local schools including St. Mary's Seminary, Mount St. Joseph, Gilman, Calvert Hall, and Catonsville Community College. Pat is survived by her husband (John Previdi), her son and daughter-in-law, and 2 grandchildren.

Salvatore "Solly" Ciamacca

On November 17, 2018, Salvatore "Solly" Ciamacca passed away at the age of 91. He was born on January 23, 1927, and was raised in Aliquippa, PA. He studied at Geneva College and Duquesne University. In service to HCPSS, Solly was a business and business math teacher at Glenelg and Mt. Hebron High Schools. He is survived by his wife (Krystyna); his daughter and son-in-law; one brother; and many nieces, nephews, and friends. Solly will be fondly remembered by our HEART membership for sharing his musical talents at the piano before so many of our luncheons at St. James UM Church.

Malcolm "Mac" Green

Malcolm "Mac" Green's life began in Baltimore, MD, on April 19, 1941. He passed away in Irvington, VA, on November 18, 2018, at the age of 77. He was a graduate of Towson State College with a BS in social sciences and earned a M.Ed. from Towson State College in 1975. Mac's teaching career in HCPSS spanned 30 years. He taught at Elkridge Elementary, Mt. Hebron Jr. High, Patapsco Middle, and Howard High Schools. He primarily taught geography and social studies. During his years at Patapsco, Mac developed and presented programs for the planetarium that was located there at the time. While at Howard High, Mac coached girls soccer, girls indoor and outdoor track, as well as cross country. In service to our country, Mac was a proud member of the National Guard for six years. He is survived by his wife (Fran), a son, 2 daughters, a stepdaughter, 16 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, and 1 sister.

Linda L. Chrest

Linda Chrest was born on October 18, 1950, in Baltimore, MD. At the age of 68, she passed away suddenly on December 12, 2018, at her home. After graduating from Howard High School here in Howard County, she went on to earn her teaching degree from the Univ. of MD at College Park. Linda taught in HCPSS for 41 years; she was fortunate to have spent her entire career at West Friendship Elementary School. She retired in 2015. Linda is survived by her brother and sister-in-law (David and Donna Chrest) and a niece. She was predeceased by her nephew. Linda enjoyed her beloved dogs, gardening, traveling, attending plays and shows, and spending time with her family and friends.

If you would like to honor the above, or anyone else, for any reason, please feel free to use the form in this issue to make a donation to the HEART Scholarship Fund in their memory or honor.

HEART Scholarship Donation Form

Enclosed is my donation of: \$ _____ Date _____

Name _____ (Phone _____)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please designate: _____ **Honor of** _____ **Memory of:**

Name of honoree or deceased _____

Special Occasion for honoree _____

Send acknowledgement to: Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Donation for Retirement years/ Other: _____

Mail this completed form with your check to Scholarship Committee Chair:

Fran Razmus
9221 Maple Rock Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21042



Welcome, New Members!



William A. Blackwell, Jr. Elizabeth Cohen Lori A. DeMoss Linda S. Durey Nancy R. Ennis
Elizabeth McIntyre Raymond A. Slater, Jr. Linda T. Wise Joann T. Adkins Tamara L. Bond
Janice L. Doherty Franklin V. Eastham Theresa F. Farson Sue F. Frankel Joann C. Hutchens Barbara Hartge
Regina A. Massella Eileen M. Nadolski Jody B. Nation Larry Pekofsky Susan L. Sellner Janet M. Waksmunski
Dominique Butcher Gerry Maxwell-Jones Cindy Harrison Cynthia Jamieson

These are the names provided to us as new members, since the last newsletter, by MRSPA and HEART Membership Chair, Donna Brackins. If you are aware of any errors, please contact Database Manager, Gail Phillips (gail.m.phillips@comcast.net) as soon as possible so the database can be kept up-to-date.

If you know anyone who is retiring, or has retired but not yet joined either HEART or MRSPA, please share this edition of the newsletter with them, or at least, give them a copy of this HEART membership application. **To join MRSPA, they need to contact MRSPA directly.** That can be done by going to their website: www.mrspa.org and clicking on "Member Services" or by calling 1-877-625-6782. (Their address is 8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A, Odenton, MD, 21113 - 1508). If you join MRSPA, and pay by check or payroll deduction in July, your **MRSPA and HEART** dues are paid for that year. **The form below is for folks who only want to join HEART.** HEART-only members will be billed for their HEART dues in the spring.

***** Emeritus Alert***** If you are a member of HEART, and were born in, or before, 1934 – this is your lucky year! According to the HEART bylaws, **any member age 85 or older, is "Emeritus"**. This means, you get to enjoy all of the privileges of membership, but don't have to pay any dues!!! If you will be turning 85 this year (you were born some time in 1934), please

be sure to send Donna Brackins , Membership Chair, or Gail Phillips, Database Manager, your birthdate information before March 31, 2019, so you will not be billed for your membership dues this year. Congratulations to all those who have earned this privilege! (Once you turn 90, you will have earned "emeritus" status for your MRSPA membership, so be sure they know your birthdate, as well. However, MRSPA's "year" runs from July 1 – June 30.)

Application for HEART (only) Membership

Name ((PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)) _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zipcode: _____

Email: _____ Birthdate: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please mail this form with a check for \$10.00 to:

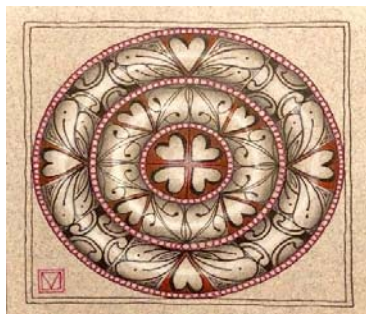
HEART c/o Donna Brackins
904 Roller Coaster Court
Mt. Airy, MD 21227

BRAND NEW EVENT: ART with HEART

At the December meeting, members were asked to provide recommendations for HEART-sponsored social activities. One of the suggestions that received a number of "votes" was a group art class. Well, HEART is happy to introduce a new opportunity that we are sure will spark members' creativity...

Join us on **March 28th** at **10 am** (snow date, 4/11) for a Zentangle® workshop, facilitated by fellow retiree and HEART member Arlene Mindus. Arlene is a certified teacher of this specialized art form that uses simple deconstructed patterns to create beautiful works of art. Practicing this mindful "Zen" form of art helps to refocus energy and reduce stress, while promoting relaxation and peacefulness. (Sounds a bit like Retirement, Level 2, yes?) The cost for the two-hour session is only \$15 and covers materials and refreshments.

Are you ready to enhance your artistic skills? Contact Sue via email (scmascaro@gmail.com) or cell (443-878-6883) by March 18th to reserve your spot. Please note that the location of the class (St. James or the Mindus residence in Columbia) will be announced once we have a firm participant count.





HEART Luncheon/Meeting Reservation Form

(Due to fire department regulations, only the **first 100** reservations can be accepted.

So far, so good. Nobody has had to be "wait listed"!)

DATE: *Tuesday, March 12, 2019 (Snow date: March 19, 2019)*

(In case of inclement weather, follow HCPSS policy. If schools are closed, the luncheon is canceled.

If schools open late, the luncheon will be held.)

PLACE: St. James UMC, Rt. 99 (just east of Rt. 32, Ellicott City)

TIME: 12 Noon **COST:** \$18 per person (non- refundable)

MENU: V-8 Juice Ham Scalloped Potatoes Green Beans
Lettuce Salad Stewed apples with raisins Rolls and Butter
Iced tea and coffee ***Dessert***

*****Please note on the reservation if you need a sugar free dessert.*****

Please complete the following form and send it by **February 26, 2019**
with a check payable to **H.E.A.R.T.** to:

JoAnne Horan
17494 Timberleigh Way
Woodbine, MD 21797

_____ Reservations for Luncheon at \$18.00 per person \$ _____ Total Enclosed

Name(s): _____

*** **I need a sugar free dessert.** ***

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

(This is especially important in case of a need to change the date!)

Reservations are needed by **February 26, 2019**. Thank you for early reservations! Late reservations cannot be accepted, as a count must be given on this date. **Call 301-854-6268 if you think your reservation will not get to JoAnne in time! Remember, only the first 100 reservations can be accepted. Handicapped parking is available in the area between the main lot and the entrance, as well as on the eastern side of the hall.**