

HEART

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL



NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, December 12, 2017

12 NOON

Turf Valley Resort

Rt. 40 at Turf Valley Road

Snow date: Monday, Dec. 18

FYI...

* **Holiday luncheon/meeting at Turf Valley, Dec. 12 – bring \$\$ for the HEART Scholarship 50/50 raffle!** If you are willing to help Scholarship Co-Chair, Fran Razmus with this activity, please let her know at franrazmus@comcast.net .

* **New Directory is coming!**

* **Congratulations, Larry Cohen, on being inducted into the Maryland Senior Citizens' Hall of Fame, Class of 2017!**

HEART NEWS

*A Publication for the members of the
Association of Retired Howard County Public School Personnel*
Volume XLIX Number 2 Howard County, MD November, 2017



A Message From Your President

Dear Friends,

So much is happening with HEART these days. Here's what we're doing:

- staying abreast of information about our pension and health benefits
- providing college scholarships for HCPSS students
- providing community service at the Howard County Food Bank (three times in 2017 and our volunteer group is growing)
- getting together with friends for dinner and shows at Toby's – the upcoming date is December 13
- planning bus trips – the current one is to Longwood Gardens on December 19
- providing informative speakers at our luncheon meetings
- honoring the HCPSS teacher and principal of the year
- honoring one of our own, Larry Cohen, who was inducted into the Senior Citizens Hall of Fame on October 26

The website is attracting more viewers, and I encourage you to visit it once a month to learn about new events and ways to participate in HEART. <http://www.howardrspa.org>

In September, I sent an email message to every member who had given us an email address in order to check that the address was accurate. We want to have a quick way of contacting members in case of any important news that can't wait for the newsletter to be published. I thank those who replied for your wonderful responses.

If you didn't receive the email, it could be that you are one of about 65 people whose messages were returned as "undeliverable" or whose mailboxes were "full." Or maybe the message went to your Spam folder. So, would you kindly do two things?

- Check the HEART directory to see if we have your current email address. If we don't, please contact Gail Phillips so she can correct it for the next directory.
- Check your Spam folder to see if my message is there. If you move it to your Inbox, you will receive future messages from HEART in that location.

Last, as HEART becomes more active socially and in the community, we'd like to explore having a Facebook page. Most of the other counties have one, and we need an experienced Facebook user to look into this possibility. If you're interested, please contact me.

Thank you for your support. It's my pleasure to serve!

Mary

*Mary Teague, President
Keep your HEART strong!*

HOWARD COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED TEACHERS

Minutes from the General Meeting October 10, 2017

Mary Teague, President, opened the meeting at noon with the Pledge. **Sue Mascaro** introduced new members as well as first-time lunch attendees: **Mary Appler, Jan King, Earl and Ellen Lauer, Donna Lisano, Marilyn Pratt, and Pat Shifflett**. Sue also introduced **Troy Todd**, 2017 Principal of the Year, and principal at Running Brook Elementary School. Sue announced that **Larry Cohen** was elected to the Senior Citizen Hall of Fame. **Chuck Ridgeway** gave the invocation, and lunch was served.

Sue Mascaro continued with the meeting with an introduction of **Sue Burger**, Executive Director of A-OK Mentoring. Ms. Burger gave a brief introduction to this school-based mentoring program whose volunteers do one-on-one mentoring and follow each student as they grow. Ms. Burger will leave brochures for any HEART member who is interested in mentoring.

Chuck Ridgeway presented "Technology for Seniors". The theme of his presentation was technology connects us, unites us, and amplifies our power. He talked about different computer applications, some of which help provide safety to seniors when they fall or need help with their medications. AARP provides a good tutorial site for the technology-shy senior: aarptek.aarp.org.

Nancy Scoville, Secretary, asked that the reading of the May 16, 2017 minutes be waived, since they were published in the October newsletter. Since there were no corrections and/or additions to these minutes, **Sue Ann Tabler** moved for their approval, **Louise Smith** seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved. **Paula Woods**, Treasurer, reported that the checking account has a balance of \$11,385.07 of which \$2,414.78 is scholarship money, and the business account has a balance of \$24,884.09.

Mary Teague announced that we are looking for a Vice President to replace Sue Mascaro who will in turn replace Mary as President. If any member is interested, please contact **Corita Oduoye** or any board member. Mary also announced that we have a new logo and a new brochure. Also she reported that it would be beneficial to put HEART on Facebook, which would enable HEART to connect with non members. She would be willing to develop the site, but is looking for a volunteer to manage the site, which will require daily monitoring. Mary announced that she did an email test to members, but 75 were undeliverable. Please check your Spam folders and try to respond to this. There are occasions when HEART may need to "rally the troops" with time-sensitive information regarding health insurance, meeting changes, etc., and it is important that we have updated email addresses. Mary reported that we will be introducing ourselves to the new school board members at their Public Forum. We will put the date on our website in the event any member is interested in attending. Last, Mary asked each member to start thinking about soliciting donations for our annual May auction.

Sue Mascaro announced that she and **Donna Brackins** attended the MRSPA Leadership Conference in Hagerstown, and said it was a very informative day. One favorable report was the financial status of the pension fund. They met **Wanda Twigg**, the new Executive Director, who will be attending our Holiday Luncheon. Sue announced that our third Food Bank event will be on October 27, and there will continue to be a basket for non-perishable food donations at each meeting for Howard County food banks. Sue also reported that we will have our second Toby's event on December 13 to see Miracle on 34th Street for \$40 and that she has also planned a trip to Longwood Gardens on December 19 for \$55.

Committee Reports were as follows:

Necrology - Kim Sullivan reported that Joan Burkart, Doris Case, Marlene Goode, Betty Magagna, Joan McCaw, Selma Meckler, and Ron Shriver passed away. Kim reminded us to complete a Personal Data Sheet so that she will have members' personal information which will enable her to read a short obituary at our meetings.

Pre-Retirement - Jim Evans wasn't present, but Mary said that he will continue to represent us in the benefits review process. Benefits remained the same this year, with only a minimal increase in dental insurance.

Publication - Gail Phillips asked us to please reply to her upon receipt of our electronic newsletter. Also, Mary asked that each member consider receiving an electronic newsletter. It saves HEART money and you will receive it in a timely manner. Some members received their snail mail copies after the luncheon deadline. Gail said the deadline for the next newsletter is October 27 and the assembly date is November 13.

Membership - Gail reported that we currently have 815 members and that 524 of these members also belong to MRSPA.

Program - The May Silent Auction made \$708 on the auction items, but with additional contributions the profits increased to \$1,000.

Door prizes were drawn for mums.

The next General Meeting will be December 12 at Turf Valley. The next Executive Meeting will be January 11, 2018. The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 P.M.

Respectively Submitted,

Nancy Scoville, Secretary

Nominations Requested

The two-year term of the HEART **Vice President** and **Treasurer** will end this year. We will have an election at the May meeting. We will need a new Vice President because the current VP will move up and be installed as President, for the next two years. Anyone who is interested in running for either office, please contact Corita Oduyoye at saintjude8@icloud.com.

PROGRAM NEWS: MEMBERSHIP MEETING on DECEMBER 12th Sue Mascaro, HEART Vice President

HEART's next membership meeting, our annual holiday luncheon, will be held on **Tuesday, December 12th at Turf Valley Country Club** in Ellicott City. At the meeting, MRSPA President Faye Miller and Executive Director Wanda Twigg will share news from our state organization, including important initiatives sponsored by MRSPA and the many benefits offered to its members throughout the state. During the business portion of the meeting, the HEART Executive Team will update local members on current and new items of interest. We will also enjoy the sounds of the holiday with a live performance from one of the school system's award-winning musical groups.

Information on tickets for the holiday luncheon is located in this newsletter and on the HEART website. We hope to see each and every one of you on December 12th!



Welcome, New Members!



The following has joined HEART since our last newsletter:
Jeanne Holsey

Application for HEART 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 Mrs. Donna Brackins
904 Roller Coaster Court
Mt. Airy, MD 21771

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)

COMMUNITY SERVICE with HEART
Sue Mascaro, HEART Vice President

Community service is becoming a regular occurrence for our HEART members. Our most recent event took place on Friday, October 27th, with twelve (!) HEART volunteers spending the morning sorting food and stocking shelves at The Marketplace, Howard County's community food bank. Many of our team members were "experienced" stockers from previous visits; however, we also welcomed four new volunteers. After our work was finished, we paid a visit to a neighborhood deli for food and conversation.

Are you interested in assisting with our next community service project? Check the HEART website for upcoming volunteer opportunities.

Newsletter News
Gail Phillips, Editor

First of all - a great big thank you to the team members, Kim Sullivan and Kaye Pryor, who helped assemble the September HEART newsletters. If you are willing to join this team, please let me know at 301-829-1972 or gail.m.phillips@comcast.net. The over 600 newsletters were assembled in about 1 ½ hours. Well done, ladies!

New Directory to be Distributed

At the December meeting, the Annual Membership Directory will be distributed to HEART members. If your information has changed since last year's Directory, please let me know ASAP! **If your email address was not in the Directory last year, and you would like it included this year, please send me that request and that information. I will not publish your information without your permission.** The new directory will be going to the printer in early/mid November. If you will **not** be at the December meeting, and would like a copy of the new directory, please send a **\$2 check made out to HEART** (to cover the postage/envelope) to Gail M. Phillips at 2716 Mt. Olive Court, Mt. Airy, MD 21771 **before Nov. 15**. I need that information before **Nov. 15** so I know how many directories to have printed. If you will be at the December meeting, there is no charge since there will be no mailing of your copy.

In Memoriam

Marlene Mae Meredith Goode

On December 31, 1934, Marlene Goode was born in Baltimore, MD. She passed away on April 16, 2017, at the age of 82. She earned a G.E.D. at Howard Community College in 1974 and credentials to teach Driver's Education in 1977. During her career with HCPSS, Marlene was a driver's ed. instructor at Howard High School from 1977 - 1980 and 1982 - 1986. In addition, she was a 1st & 3rd grade instructional assistant at St. John's Lane Elem. from 1986 - 1996. Marlene is survived by Charles "Chester" Goode, her loving husband of 55 years. Other loved ones surviving her include a son, daughter, and three grandchildren. A son predeceased her.

Selma Meckler

At the age of 90 years, Selma Meckler passed away on August 25, 2017. She was born on June 16,

1927. In service to HCPSS, she was a special education teacher; during the early 70's, she taught at Faulkner Ridge Elem. Selma was the beloved wife of the late Alvin Meckler. Two sons, a daughter, three grandchildren, and a great-grandchild survive her. She was involved in Lifelong Learning classes offered through OSHER and HCC, enjoyed playing bridge, and participated in bookclub activities.

Barbara Moxley Feaga

Barbara Feaga's life began in Ellicott City, MD, on February 14, 1934. At the age of 83, she passed away on October 14, 2017. Barbara graduated from Ellicott City High School in 1952. During her entire twenty-six year career in HCPSS, she worked at Mt. Hebron High School as a bookkeeper and data clerk. She retired in 1998. Barbara was the beloved wife of J. Phillip Feaga, devoted mother of two daughters and a son, cherished grandmother of eleven, and loving great-grandmother of four.

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

A Message from Kim Sullivan, Necrology Chairperson
(H: 410-489-4886 or C: 443-280-1608 or kimberliesullivan@verizon.net)

It is important to keep informed of changes in our membership. Should you become aware of the passing of any of our members, please let me know. Any information you could provide about that person would be very helpful in the preparation of the written bios that are included in our newsletters. Of course, our "Personal Data" forms are tremendous resources when needed. Please make sure you have a completed "Personal Data" form in our HEART files. For your convenience, a copy of the form will be available at the December luncheon/meeting. It will also be available in a future issue of this newsletter.

A Message from Social Chair, JoAnn Horan

Please be aware that the checks for the HEART luncheon/meetings are not given to the Treasurer, Paula Woods, until the day of the luncheon. Therefore, your check will not be cashed before the luncheon. You will only be contacted if you have missed the deadline, or if we have gone over capacity and you are "wait listed". Also, please be aware that, after the deadline, we **can not** refund your money. We (HEART) must pay for the number of meals reserved. If, for some reason, you discover, before the luncheon, but after the deadline, that you will be unable to attend, please notify JoAnn (301-854-6268). If there is a wait list, and your spot can be filled, then someone else will be able to attend in your place, and your money could be refunded.

Longwood Gardens, Pennsylvania

Our newest social outing is sure to get members into the holiday spirit! On **Tuesday, December 19th**, join 45 of your closest HEART friends and family members as we travel to **Longwood Gardens in Chester, Pennsylvania**. Spend the day exploring the beautiful indoor and outdoor venues at this winter wonderland, fully decorated for the holiday season. Marvel at the spectacular fountains which come alive with music and lights in the late afternoon. While at Longwood Gardens, members can enjoy lunch at one of two on-site eateries. Please note that the full-service restaurant does require reservations; visit www.longwoodgardens.org for more information.

For our participants' convenience, there will be two departure sites for the trip; the Eyre Bus Terminal in Glenelg at 9:30 am, or the Long Gate Park and Ride in Ellicott City at 10:00 am. We will leave the gardens at 5:00 pm, with an estimated return time between 7:00 and 7:30 pm.

Tickets have been going quickly, so we have already moved up to a full-size motor coach. Be sure to secure your reservation today by contacting me via email (scmascaro@gmail.com) or phone (443-878-6883). Tickets cost \$55 dollars a piece and include transportation and entrance into the facility. (Lunch is not included.) Checks, made payable to HEART, can be sent to me at **4064 Heritage Hill Lane, Ellicott City, 21042**. Reservations and checks must be received by November 18th to secure your seat(s).

DONATIONS from the HEART **Sue Mascaro, HEART Vice President**

Thanks to the generous donations of our members at the October meeting, our team of food bank volunteers did not arrive at the Marketplace empty-handed. Instead, we contributed a basket-full of much-needed nonperishable food items. We will continue our collection of nonperishable food items at the March meeting.

Why the delay until March? Per member request, our December donations will support the Salvation Army's efforts to keep the county's children warm this winter. **Members are asked to donate new or gently used children's coats, hats, gloves; even snow boots!** Members can drop their donations in the labeled containers located at the meeting check-in points.

Larry Cohen, Maryland Senior Citizens' Hall of Fame Inductee, Class of 2017

Larry, and about 35 of his closest friends and family members, met, with about 500 other folks, on Thursday, October 26, for the 30th annual Induction Ceremony for the *Maryland Senior Citizens' Hall of Fame*. At that event, Larry was one of 50 "Senior Citizens" honored with induction into this group. His work with youth in Howard County and with cancer patient care at Johns Hopkins Hospital, earned him this honor. Not only was he chosen for induction into the Hall of Fame, but he was one of the 5 recipients of the prestigious "GERI" Award. This is given to the members of the Hall who have shown exemplary volunteer service in their community. All who know and love Larry are very, very proud of him. He joins, most recently, HEART members Chuck Ridgeway and Sue Ann Tabler, in this honor. Congratulations, Larry! Good job, well done!



Rita and Larry Cohen, with "GERI"