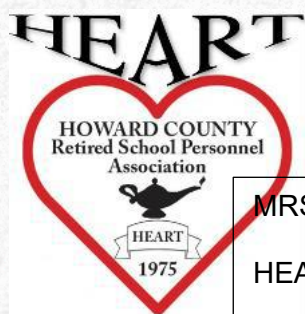


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The Association of Retired Howard County Public School Personnel

MRSPA Website: www.mrspa.org

HEART Website: www.howardrspa.org

HEART Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/HowardCountyPublicSchoolsRetiredPersonnel>

Contact: (443)878-6883

HEART is dedicated to:

working for the general welfare of retired Howard County school personnel, including teachers, administrators, office professionals, and others who support the educational program in a variety of ways.

supporting beneficial legislation or other action on county, state, and federal levels; to oppose undesirable legislation or action.

cooperating with MRSPA and other organizations that support retired persons.

keeping its members informed of opportunities to serve the community and the profession.

promoting good fellowship among its members.



Heart of the Matter
Inside our beat...

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CO-PRESIDENTS

**ADDIE
KAUFMAN**



**SUE
MASCARO**



MESSAGE FROM HEART'S CO-PRESIDENTS



Dear HEART Members,

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to the start of a new year for HEART. Summer is a wonderful time of year, and we hope you were able to enjoy quality time with family and/or friends, whether that was at home or away. Now we head into the beauty of the fall season, anticipating cooler weather and countless celebrations over the next several months.

Speaking of fall, we hope to see you at our first *General Business Meeting/Luncheon* of the year, scheduled for **Tuesday, October 14th**. Our featured guest speaker for the meeting, local author Linda Penkala, will discuss her path to successful publishing and her latest book on heart health. Members will also have the opportunity to view HEART's new and improved website, compliments of webmaster *Karyn Littlejohn*. We encourage you to register for the meeting early; meeting details and registration guidelines are included in the newsletter.

HEART's Executive Team met a few weeks ago to not only finalize plans for October, but to begin planning for our Annual Holiday meeting on **December 9th**. We've already reserved the ballroom at Turf Valley Resort, a member favorite, and tentative menu selections. Even more importantly, for the 3rd straight year the cost of the December luncheon will remain steady. How is this possible? HEART has an amazing team – Budget Chairperson *Sharon Kramer* and Treasurer *Ellen Hill* – working to keep our organization fiscally sound.

We are fortunate to have so many members willing to serve in leadership roles for HEART. Another example is in the area of recruitment: specifically, Membership Chairperson *Donna Brackins* and Recruitment & Retention Chairperson *Susan Sellner*. Thanks to their efforts, HEART was once again recognized for one of the largest membership increases during the final quarter of the year. We're also pleased to report that HEART will soon have a seat at the table when the school system makes decisions regarding financial benefits (e.g., 503Bs) for employees. Representation on this newly formed HCPSS finance committee is yet another way HEART can support its members, and we anticipate the position being filled shortly.

In closing, as the Co-Presidents of HEART, we are always amazed at the generosity of our members. Whether it be the countless donations to our featured charities – the community food bank and Comfort Cases – or volunteering time and special skills to support our organization, our members are simply the best. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for supporting HEART; each and every one of you are making a difference!

With gratitude,
Addie & Sue



HEART'S STRINGS

Co - President: Sue Mascaro
443-878-6883

scmascaro@gmail.com

Co - President: Addie Kaufman
410-964-9040

ahk1206@aol.com

Vice President: Ronnie Bohn
ronniebohn@comcast.net

Secretary: Janet Zimmerman
jzimmerman79@gmail.com

Treasurer: Ellen Hill
e107hill@aol.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

AARP Liaison: Fran Donaldson

Auditing: Gail Zitnay

Budget & Finance: Sharon

Kramer Community Service:

Sue Mascaro Consumer

Education: Fran Donaldson

Health Benefits: James Evans; Eugene Streagle

Legislative: Eugene Streagle

Luncheon Coordinator: Gail

Zitnay Membership: Donna

Brackins

Media/Communications:

- Newsletter: Anne Swartz; Genée Varlack
- Facebook: Ellen Hill
- Webmaster: Karyn

Littlejohn Necrology: Marlyn

Oatts Nominating: Corita

Oduyoye Professional

Relations: Larry Cohen

Recruitment/Retention: Susan

Sellner Remembrance: Patti

Neidig Scholarship: Lisa Davis

Silent Auction: Elise Jordon

BENEFITS INFORMATION



Provided By Gene Streagle & Jim
Evans

All of the benefits information goes to the Board for
Approval on August 21, 2025.

The only newsletter information I can offer is that **Open Enrollment** will run from October 21, 2025, through November 7, 2025. There will be three opportunities scheduled for members to join a discussion for questions. Members will receive their information packets by mail prior to the beginning open enrollment date of 10/21.

Jim Evans and I are very pleased with what has transpired with our benefits for the coming years.

**Celebrating HEART Members – Follow the link
and share a bit about yourself. Help us learn
more**

about what make our HEART beat:

[Celebrating our HEART - 2025](#)

Check out these Senior Discounts!

[Senior Discounts](#)

PROGRAM NEWS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & LUNCHEON – JOIN us TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14th

Our first meeting of the new “school” year (yes, most of us still think in those terms!) is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 14th**. This General Membership Meeting and Luncheon will be held at *The Meeting House* in Columbia, beginning at **12:00** noon. HEART’s Executive Team met in August to finalize the details for the meeting. Keep reading for the specifics; we think you’ll be pleased. 😊

Based on feedback collected at our May meeting (thank you for filling out the meeting evaluation!), we plan to alternate sandwiches and salads (cold) with catered (hot) meal selections at the luncheons. So what do you have to look forward to at our October meeting? A delicious selection of offerings from the Corner Stable Restaurant. Located in Columbia’s King Contrivance Village Center since 2011, the restaurant is known for their American classics as well as local favorites. Our menu will include Italian, barbeque, and of course vegetarian dishes. And if that’s not enough, a variety of desserts will be on hand to satisfy your sweet tooth.

There are always important updates to share at our membership meetings, and the October meeting is no exception. At this meeting, we hope to provide an overview of HEART’s new and improved website. We’ll also discuss our regular agenda items, including updates from various committees and the latest news regarding health insurance benefits. Meeting attendees can also help us welcome several new retirees who’ve elected to join HEART. That’s right... thanks to the efforts of HEART’s *Recruitment & Retention Committee* and to “experienced” members spreading the word about our organization, our numbers are increasing, and that’s awesome news!

Of course, we have more than business items planned for our first meeting of the year. As shared earlier, member feedback is always appreciated. In addition to requesting ideas for luncheon meals, at our May meeting we also asked for speaker and topic recommendations. The most requested speaker/topic? A visit from a local author. You asked, and we’re delivering... Join us in October to welcome Linda Penkala, author of “The Pause to Relax: A Woman’s Guide to Robust Heart Health.” A Howard County resident (some of you may have taught her kids), Linda will speak to us about her journey to becoming an author - from an earlier career as a Maryland jockey - and tips for heart-healthy living.

Finally, at the meeting HEART will once again be collecting donations for *Comfort Cases* as well as our local food banks. We all recognize that things don’t cost what they use to (HELLO grocery bill!), and our food banks in particular are struggling to meet the needs in the local community and beyond. The generosity of our members has certainly made a difference in the past and we’re confident it will continue to do so in the coming year. Thanks in advance for considering the needs of others, whether through a food donation or a donation to *Comfort Cases*.

Join us for the October meeting. Members can register online or by mail and payment can be made in advance through the mail (checks made out to HEART) or via Zelle (use horetired@gmail.com). We also accept payment (cash or check) at the door. The deadline for registration is Friday, October 10th, be sure to get yours in today.

[HEART October 14th Luncheon Meeting Registration Link](#)



L. Penkala,
Guest Speaker

October’s General
Meeting & Luncheon

HEART

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Welcome to an exciting new year with **HEART**! We may have a few openings on our **Administrative Board** this year, and we’d love for you to consider joining us. Serving on the Board is a great way to support the organization that looks out for our members in so many ways.

The position of “President” is open for interested members. Please consider serving your organization that provides numerous services for the members.

If you’ve ever thought about getting more involved, this is a wonderful chance to step up, share your voice, and help guide the future of HEART! ❤️

SCHOLARSHIP

Hello from the HEART Scholarship Committee! We are happy to announce the winners of the 2025 HEART Scholarships! We were able to award \$1500 to each of these well-deserving students as they embark upon their journeys to becoming teachers: Grace Bleiler, Sarah Carlson, Grace Chen, Tabitha Dixon, and Morgan Gaither. See details about each recipient below.

We are excited about the opportunity to continue awarding scholarships to future teachers. Current HCPSS high school seniors and/or current college students who graduated from HCPSS who are entering the field of education are eligible to apply for the scholarship. More information about the next round of applications will be shared in early 2026.

As always, we could use your support to raise funds- the more we raise, the more students we can support! Please consider donating by completing a donation form online or printing/mailling a hard copy and then sending your money via Zelle or check. See all pertinent details on the HEART website: <https://www.howardrspa.org/scholarship-application>. Feel free to also share the link/form with non-HEART members who may be interested in supporting future teachers. All donors will be entered into a drawing in the spring to win a gift card.

Grace Bleiler is a 2025 Centennial graduate who not only excels academically, but also embodies the values of service, leadership, and resilience. She was a member of Best Buddies Club for 4 years. She worked with ALS students and became a peer tutor, where she assisted students in cooking activities and completing assignments. As a volunteer at a Down Syndrome Conference, she worked with campers up to age 10 and fell in love with that age group. That is where she decided that she wanted to study special education and focus on early childhood education. She plans to study at St. Joseph's University.

Sarah Carlson is a 2025 Mt. Hebron High School graduate, where she consistently demonstrated academic excellence by achieving Principal's Honor Roll or Honor Roll each quarter. Her accomplishments include winning first place in the short story category of the Howard County Young Author's Contest and being named student of the month three times. She was also selected as a member of the Howard County High School's GT Chorus. As a leader, Sarah established the Educators Rising organization at Mt. Hebron High School and was selected as its president for two years. She has also been very involved in her community by volunteer teaching in her church, performing with a teen worship band as the lead singer and being a camp counselor. Sarah explored the idea of becoming a teacher in more depth this past year where she was employed as a paid apprentice, providing teacher support and classroom instruction in a HCPSS elementary school. Sarah plans to attend Olivet Nazarene University this fall where she will study secondary English education.

Grace Chen is a 2025 graduate of Marriotts Ridge High School. Inspired by a beloved teacher during virtual learning in 8th grade, Grace plans to become an educator. She became a teaching assistant at the Howard Community College StarTalk Program for two years and tutored kids with autism. In the summer of 2023, she dedicated her time as a paraeducator at Talbott Springs Elementary School to the HCPSS Title I Program. Grace is a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society and Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society. She won the Feng Yanjun Memorial Award for Academic Excellence at the Howard County Chinese School in 2022. In college, Grace plans to study psychology at the University of Maryland... she believes psychology will help her understand students' behaviors, as well as how they learn and think, which will benefit her in her career in the field of education.

Tabitha Dixon is a 2025 Long Reach graduate who was an AP Scholar with Honors, on the Distinguished Honor Roll, and Student of the Month. She participated in the Towson Teacher Scholar Summer Institute. Not only excelling in classes, Tabitha is also an outstanding volleyball player and recognized with a Varsity Athletic Award. She demonstrated leadership by becoming president of The Scholars Leadership Honors Program, Mu Alpha Theta (Math Club) and Class of 2025 representative on the LRHS Student Council. The Executive Director of the Center for Creative Life and Learning Inc., said, "Tabitha Dixon has been an outstanding participant in our Girls on Fire Leadership Development Academy, showcasing remarkable leadership potential and future promise." Tabitha is inspired to become a teacher from a young age by the teachers she had in school. She plans to study mathematics at Towson and teach in Howard County when she completes her college education.

Morgan Gaither, a 2025 graduate of Marriotts Ridge High School, plans to become a secondary education teacher with a concentration in social sciences. She shared that she has a desire to teach because she wants to show students the futures that they can create for themselves. Morgan is a member of the Thespian Honor Society and was the Educators Rising Vice President in high school. She worked at Howard County Recreation and Parks Before and After Care program, and her supervisor said that "she arrives each day ready to give her all, offering not just supervision but meaningful interactions that foster growth, confidence, and security in the children she works with". Morgan plans to attend Towson University in the fall.

GET SOCIAL with HEART

I'm sure many of you have been enjoying fun activities these last few weeks of summer before the weather gives way to cooler temperatures and the days become shorter. Well, sixty-two of your HEART colleagues definitely enjoyed themselves on August 22nd for the opening performance of *Saturday Night Fever* at Toby's. And if you didn't (or even if you did 😊), check out the schedule for more shows below.

Toby's holiday show is always a favorite of HEART members, and I'm sure this year will be no different. Join us on **Thursday, December 4th** for an anticipated sell out, ***Elf the Musical***. Buddy, a young orphan who mistakenly crawls into Santa's bag of gifts, is transported back to the North Pole. Unaware that he is actually human, Buddy's size and poor toy-making abilities force him to face the truth. With Santa's permission, he embarks on a journey to New York City to discover his true identity and help New York remember the true meaning of Christmas. This modern-day holiday classic is sure to make everyone embrace their inner ELF.

Perhaps you're more of a rock enthusiast? Then you'll want tickets for Toby's rendition of ***Rock of Ages*** on **Thursday, February 19th**. It's the 1980's in Hollywood, and a "small town girl living in a lonely world" meets a "city boy, born and raised in South Detroit," and they fall in love to the greatest hit of the era. Playing to packed houses on Broadway for many years, *Rock of Ages* takes you back to the time of big bands, guitar solos, and even bigger hair! The show features songs like "Don't Stop Believin'," "The Final Countdown," "Can't Fight this Feeling," "Hit me with your Best Shot," and more of the great classic rock hits. Are you ready to sing/strum along?

Finally, an important note: HEART has reserved tickets for **American Soundscapes: Jazz, Blues & Beyond** at the Strathmore on **Thursday, January 8th**. **Unfortunately, only 5 tickets have been sold to date; we need to sell a minimum of 12 tickets to receive group pricing. Please notify Sue asap if you are interested. If we aren't able to sell 12 tickets, HEART will cancel the reservation.** Description of the show: A musical performance highlighting the All-American Sound that many of us love. From Jazz and blues to spirituals and classical traditions, hear the sounds evolve with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. In addition, Pianist David Kaplan will add his "striking imagination and creativity" (The New York Times) to this Jazz-inspired Concerto.

Tickets are \$70.00 (inclusive of tip) for Toby's and \$50.00 for the Strathmore, and are open to HEART members, their family and friends. Tickets for any of the above can be purchased by check (to HEART), cash or Zelle (via horetired@gmail.com). Contact Sue at scmascaro@gmail.com or 443-878-6883 to reserve seats today. 😊

HEART MEMBERSHIP

It is time to renew your HEART-only membership. I have sent out renewal forms to all of the HEART-only members on my database. I have received many renewal forms (Thank you!). Some have been returned "UTF-Unable to Forward. Some of our members have reached the magic age of 85 (birth year 1940), this is the time when HEART-only recognizes you as an Emeritus member and you will no longer need to pay dues to HEART. I am happy to help you clarify your status.

Should you need help, simply contact me:

- email: (donna.brackins@gmail.com)
- mail: Donna Brackins, 904 Roller Coaster Court, Mt Airy, MD 21771
- phone: 301-703-5095

FROM THE RECRUITMENT CORNER

This past July 250 new HCPSS retirees received our year-end 'Welcome Letter' from Sue and Addy. We are anxiously awaiting the opportunity to welcome new and prospective members at our September happy hour and our October general meeting! Please feel free to invite retiring friends and co-workers to join us!



A new HEART brochure is 'under construction' and will be available for distribution soon. Recruitment packets with included membership applications and small HEART tokens will be available for sharing at our upcoming events. Hope to see you there!



HEART'S GENERAL MEETING MINUTES- submitted by Janet Zimmerman,

Addie Kaufman, Co-President, called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm. The meeting was held at The Meeting House in Oakland Mills. 98 members registered for today's luncheon. Today's meeting is our last meeting of the 2024-2025 year.

General Business and Committee Updates

Approval of March 11, 2025 General Meeting Minutes

Janet Zimmerman, Secretary, stated that the minutes of the meeting were published in the April newsletter. There were no questions or corrections. **Darla Scharf** made a motion to approve the minutes; **Patti Neidig** seconded the motion. Members voted and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: **Ellen Hill**, Treasurer, reported the current balances: Checking = \$33,184.88; other interest-bearing checking (savings) = \$7,183.70; Scholarship = \$1,748.78. Some checking account money will be used in the near future to subsidize scholarships.

Budget

Sharon Kramer, Budget Manager, presented the proposed budget for FY26. Revenue baseline total is \$45,040.00. Expenses are budgeted at \$45,040.00, providing for a zero-based budget. Five (5) scholarships are included. There were no questions. **Sally Ann Cooper** made a motion to adopt the budget; **Debra Deere** seconded the motion. Members voted and the budget passed.

Guest Speaker

Emily Leclercq from The Howard County Office of Aging & Independence (under the Maryland Department of Aging) provided information on MD Access Point (MAP). MAP can help older adults explore options, learn about resources, connect with community, and plan & prepare. Information provided by MAP includes: short and long-term planning, transportation options, in-home care options, alternate community living options, aging in place resources, legal resources, caregiver resources, health and wellness options, 50+ center and local day programs, and benefits eligibility assistance. Options Counseling includes planning for long-term needs including knowing your options, planning wisely, and taking action before a crisis happens. It is for older adults, family/friends who provide care, and for those being discharged from the hospital or rehab with long-term care needs. It allows older adults to understand options so they may prepare financially for the costs, make sure loved ones understand their preference and goals, get organized, make decisions before a crisis, and to find services from the location where needed. Residents may contact MAP to schedule an options counseling session. Benefits screening is another service and includes: tax credits, energy screening, SNAP (food stamps), home and community-based services, housing assistance, medical assistance, and Medicare related services. SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program) can help with Medicare as well as health and prescriptions drug plans questions and needs. Health and wellness programs include: Living Well (Chronic Disease self-management; Diabetes self-management), Seniors Together (peer support groups), Nutrition & Lifestyle counseling and exercise consultation, Stepping On and fall prevention programs, regular offering of exercise and other activity-based programs at the 50+ Centers, and volunteer opportunities. Howard County now has six 50+ Centers, each with a fitness center. They are the hub for all senior services. Each center is different. Hours have been extended to 8:30-7:30 and Saturdays until 12:00. Each center has its own newsletter, available on the website (www.howardcountymd.gov/CLP). Membership is free, although some programs and activities require pre-registration. There is availability of a nutritionist and exercise specialist, both for a small fee. A new program, the Older Adult Home Modification Grant, is a service that may assist older adults in modifying their home for better accessibility and safety. Guidelines are on the website. Howard County residents have availability of The Loan Closet of Howard County for durable medical equipment. There is a showroom to help with ideas for individual needs. Low vision equipment is included. There is also a Caregiver Support Program, a program for Brain Health and Dementia Education (MD has the highest incidence of dementia in the US). Other programs include a Digital Inclusion (technology) program and the Maryland Senior Call Check Program. Emily provided hard copies of the *Howard County Office on Aging and Independence Resource Guide for Older Adults, Persons with Disabilities and Caregivers* from the Office of Aging and Independence. It is also available online. The website was recently updated. MAP Phone number = (410) 313-1234 and is available Monday – Friday from 8am to 5pm.

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/aging>

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES CONT.- submitted by Janet Zimmerman,

Vice President's Message: Ronnie Bohn, Vice-President, attended the MRSPA general meeting last week at Turf Valley. Several HEART members assisted with registration. The pension system is in good shape and a COLA is expected in July. HEART had an 8% increase in membership this past year! HCPSS had a scholarship winner. London Rochelle, a para at Hammond High, is seeking her undergraduate degree. MRSPA has a new logo.

Sally Smith, our area director for MRSPA, commended HEART for our membership increase. Our goals and activities are aligned. Travel tours are available through MRSPA.

Recruitment & Retention- Susan Sellner, Chairperson, created today's theme for honoring first responders. The committee provides end of year mailings, recruitment brochures, and information at the June 6 Gala event for this year's HCPSS retirees. First-time members were given a welcome gift from the committee.

Thanks for Stepping Up: Karyn Littlejohn is our new webmaster. New MRSPA Delegates include Bonnie Taylor, Joanne Scheler, and Marlyn Oatts.

Socializing with HEART - Sue Mascaro announced Performances at Toby's: August 22 will be *Saturday Night Fever*; December 4 will be *Elf, the Musical*. Wednesday June 4 is our next Endless Summer Happy Hour at Glory Days from 3-7pm. RSVP to Sue by June 3. Members are encouraged to bring new members

Necrology- HEART received word of the passing of Edith Sanner Parlette of Clarksville on November 14, 2024. Edith began in HCPSS in 1968, at the elementary level, becoming a Team Leader, then advanced to Assistant Principal. She finished her educational career as the Principal of Cedar Lane School in 1985.

Scholarship Committee- Lisa Davis announced five (5) scholarships were awarded based on 8 applicants. Awards will be presented to the students this month at their school's ceremonies and then the names will be announced to HEART. Lisa also announced the winner of the 50/50 drawing. Proceeds support the scholarship fund. Nancy Dixon won \$115.00 and graciously donated it back to the scholarship committee. Thank you, Nancy! Scholarships are open for application and due by April 1. Donations are always accepted. Anyone who donates by check or Zelle will be eligible for a special drawing.

Serving the Community- HEART continues to sponsor *Comfort Cases* and the *Howard County Food Bank* with donations. Members donated generously to both organizations today. Comfort Cases provides a backpack with books, journals, pajamas, a stuffed animal friend, and other essentials for youth required to move to a foster home. Comfort Cases was founded to provide a more humane touch for the children.

Bonnie Taylor asked members to collect pull tabs or metals for the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House. 500 pounds paid the house's utilities for a year.

Jim Evans provided an update about benefits. This is a big year coming up. The medical has gone out for bid. Presentations will be in July. This is the 5th year. Bids are for medical, vision, and dental this year. Jim reviewed the proposals of 10-11 years ago which would have not allowed members to use Howard County General Hospital and other issues. HEART rallied and persevered to not allow this to happen. This is why it is important to support HEART, including increasing our member numbers as well as to advocate for & maintain our benefits.

Gail Zitney thanked **Susan Sellner, Sharon Kramer, Bonnie Taylor, Ann Drnec, and Donna Brakens** for the success of today's luncheon.

Drawings

A drawing was held for members born in May, June, and July, and gifts provided.

In Remembrance

Provided by Marlyn Oatts, Necrology Chair

BRINA HOLLANDER KRUPP



of Lewes, DE, passed away on Sunday, January 21, 2024, while on a Caribbean cruise in Dominica. Peaceful journey. Brina was 78 years of age. She taught French and Spanish for over 35 years in Maryland public schools. At Hammond

Middle, she taught French for 3 years. During her 25 years at Oakland Mills Middle, she taught both French and Spanish and also served as the 7th grade team leader for many years.



BARBARA JEANNE GREENFIELD



passed away peacefully at the age of 75 on July 30, 2025. Peaceful Journey. Barbara worked at Bell Labs, beginning in the mailroom, moving to the patent office, technical library, and finally, as a computer programmer in the Microwave Transmission Department, where

she met her husband, Perry. They moved to Maryland in 1984 where she raised her three daughters. She began her career with HCPSS in the River Hill High School library and then went to the Central Office as a receptionist before her retirement in 2015.



JOSEPH FRANCIS HEAPS. SR.



of Ellicott City passed away peacefully at the age of 91 on January 6, 2025. Peaceful journey. Joe taught at Mount Hebron High School for 17 years, where he also served as a department head. He coached golf, tennis, chess, and It's Academic. After 30 years of teaching, he retired in 1988.

A REQUEST...

Help us stay up to date on changes in our membership. If you learn about the passing of a HEART member, please reach out to Marlyn Oatts, the Necrology Chair, at moatts2000@yahoo.com. Use the subject line "HEART Member." Any information you provide will help me write biographies for our newsletters and Facebook post.

Also, our "[Personal Data Forms](#)" are tremendous resources for the bios. Please make sure we have your completed "Personal Data Form" in our HEART files. If you haven't already done so, perhaps it's time to update your form. The "Personal Data Form" can be found at this [LINK](#) as well as it is attached to this newsletter.

Recent Retirees

Employee Name	Location	Subject/Position	# Years	Employee Name	Location	Subject/Position	# Years
Alger, Sandra	LoES	Fine Arts	37	Kriner, Todd	CHS	S Counselor	30
Ayres, Jaye	OCL	Resource	33	Lerer, Tracey	HaHS	English	20
Bauer, Tracey	ELMS	Science	26	Lewis, Regina	PLES	AltEducation	37
Becker, Hilary	CES	Elementary	20	Livak, Deborah	MWES	Elementary	38
Berndt, Kimberly	MVMS	Teacher, ELD	30	Macgregor, James	MWMS	Social Studies	32
Bevard, Michael	PRES	Fine Arts	35	Mandl, Paul	WLHS	Science	29
Brothman, Margaret	CMS	GT	36.5	Manuel, Chona	HoHS	English	17
Brown, Elizabeth	JHES	Phys Education	37	Mathews, Deborah	MWES	Elementary	35
Browning, Janet	PRES	Library Media	20	Mcilvain, Leah	THES	Library Media	17
Bulkowski-Larsen, Wanda	LRHS	Fine Arts	13	Meredith, Suzanne	GMS	English	22
Carroccio, Katherine	VES	Visually Impaired	40	Midgley, Kelli	WLHS	English	32
Cleckner, Jennifer	IES	Elementary	20	Miller, John	MRHS	English	30
Coffman, Robert	CO	IF, Social Studies	33	Mitchell, Robert	PES	Elementary	36
Collins, Jane	LoES	Phys. Education	40	Motaung, April	HaHS	English	20
Davis, Jonathan	CO	Direct. Elem Sch	32.5	Motley, Robert	Robert	Director High Sch	28
Donaldson, Susanne	WFES	Elementary	26	Myers, Annette	LES	Speech Pathologist	5
Donoughe, Brian	EMMS	Mathematics	30	Naill, Yung-Soon	WavES	Fine Arts	30
Doodigian, Stephanie	OMHS	Science	17	Napolitano, Jill	MWES	Spec. Education	14
Dospil-Farley, Loretta	RHS	Spec.Education	18	Naranjo, Cynthia	GHS	Spec.Education	22
Dunsdon, Maureen	DES	Elementary	14.5	Neugebauer, Jennifer	DMS	Physical Education	28
Ewart, Richard	OaHS	Social Studies	29.5	Nitsch, Kelli	BBMS	Assistant Principal	22
Ewart, Susan	FQMS	Mathematics	30	Nix, Glynis	THES	Teacher, ELD	17
Farquharson, Kelly	BMMS	English	22	Nycum, Kelly	MWMS	Rdg. Specialist	32
Fleck, Kelly	PLES	GT	15	Owen, Deborah	LoES	Elementary	21.9
Gillespie, Kevin	CLES	Counselor	34	Polack, Samuel	RES	GT	45
Greiwe-Martinez, Julia	HoHS	World Language	25	Powell, Kelley	EES	Principal	31
Hall, Mary	HSES	Rdg. Specialist	35	Prevosto, Regina	CHS	Athletics Mngr	20
Harlin, Helen	PLES	Elementary	16	Protokowicz, Kathleen	CLFC	Special Education	23
Hebler, Jae	CHS	Counselor	20	Rager, Scott	AHS	Mathematics	20
Hennessy, Denise	MWES	Spec. Education	42	Rankin, Brett	WLHS	Fine Arts	20
Hollwedel, Chad	CHS	Science	28	Reid-DuBose, Denise	MHHS	Speech Path.	26
Hornicek, Lauri	MWES	Elementary	41	Reis, Anne	Hmwd	Library Media	18
Jensen, Linda	BPES	GT	38	Richardson, Carol	PMS	Science	24
Kastner, Rachel	SFES	GT	29	Roache, Brian	HaHS	CTE	11.5
Keenan, Stephanie	LiES	Elementary	32	Roberts, Thomas	RHS	CTE	21
Klose, Doreen	BBMS	Mathematics	20.5	Rochlin, Pamela	HSES	Teacher, ELD	34
Kluh, Elizabeth	HaES	Rdg. Specialist	26	Root-Kulik, Heidi	GCES	Occupational Ther.	21
Kochanek, Wanda	OMMS	Speech Path	28	Saunders, Afrika	HHES	Elementary	28.5
Koppang, Rona	DOES	Elementary	21	Savage, Terrell	CO	Admin Spec Assign	19.5

Recent Retirees

Employee Name	Location	Subject/Position	# Years
Schaefer, Anne	BBMS	Social Studies	26
Schwartz, Diane	VES	Physical Therapist	26
Seibert, Dennis	CLFC	Special Education	44
Simcock, Karen	PLES	Elementary	29.5
Sniadach, Harriet	HSES	Special Education	10
Speelman, Lori	HSES	Gifted and Talented	22
Stadelmaier, Charles	RES	Special Education	27
Stahler, Connie	LES	Principal	32
Stango, Robert	LWES	Physical Education	20
Stehle, Paula	HaES	Reading Specialist	38
Suber, Sandra	GHS	Assistant Principal	10
Sura, Tushar	WLHS	Science	14
Suttner, Renee	HCMS	Mathematics	20
Talentino, Frederick	MRHS	Physical Education	37
Thierer, Mary	CES	Elementary	27
Urszuy, Diane	OMHS	Science	19
Valenza, Frank	LRHS	CTE	21
VanBuskirk, William	GHS	Blind/Visually Impaired	19
Vasquez, Sharon	PMS	English	25
Viglotti, Lisa	MHHS	Teacher, ELD	22.5
Wagner, James	BMMS	Social Studies	31
Wells, Kimberly	WES	Elementary	35
Whitehead, Andrea	WES	Special Education	37
Wilson, Kimberly-Ann	WLHS	Speech Pathologist	15
Wilson, Linda	MWES	Elementary	35.5
Yarn, Ezra	OMHS	CTE	22
Yore, Robert	CHS	Mathematics	28
Zdrake, Megan	LWES	Gifted and Talented	25
Zepp, Jody	LRHS	Social Studies	16

Congratulations to the retirees! They've rolled up their sleeves, delivered results, shaped teams, worked through the many changes education offers. Their retirement marks the end of one chapter and the start of a well-earned, next one. Let's hear it for our Retirees!

ACTIVE MINDS MATTER

24 GAME

(Add, subtract, multiply or divide to total 24. Use all numbers only once. Answers on last page.)

Challenge #1: (8,1,1,1)

Challenge #2: (8,8,5,8)

TONGUE TWISTERS:

1. Eleven benevolent elephants.
2. She sees cheese.
3. Six sticky skeletons.

INTERESTING FACT:

Fact: The CDC was founded to fight malaria. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) was founded in Atlanta in 1946 as the Communicable Disease Center with just 400 employees. When it began, the CDC's primary mission was preventing malaria from spreading to other parts of the country. No longer endemic to the U.S., malaria was eradicated from the country in 1951.

Fact: George Washington never ran for president. Unlike his successors, George Washington never actually campaigned to be president: He was simply chosen by the popular demand of the electoral college. This happened for both his first and second terms in office, with the elections of 1789 and 1792. He was also the only president ever to unanimously receive all electoral votes.





BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

If we have missed your birthday or it is incorrectly shown below, be sure to send us an email

SEPTEMBER		OCTOBER		NOVEMBER		DECEMBER	
Dale Allnutt	Jean Longstreth	David Adelman	Paula Grapes	Francis Acquah	Patricia Harman	Jere Abernathy	Richard Jackson
Debbie Bates	Cathleen Lopez	Barbara Allen	Cindy Harrison	Howard Adams	Karen Heinly	Patricia Anderson	Cynthia Jamieson
Marcelino Bedolla	Edna Martin	Diana Anderson	Arlene Harrison	Sandra Adkins	Glenn Heisey	Sheryl Baker	Lynne Javier
Betty Bethards	Kristina Martorana	Donna Armanas	Melissa Henningser	Grace Ashenden	Donna Heller	Rebecca Barbusca	Cynthia Johnson
William Blackwell	Joan McCrumb	Linda Bageant	Margo Higdon	Susan Bannister	Richard Hendershott	Corinne Barnes	Addie Kaufman
Chuck Bragg	Irma McNelia	Corinne Barnes	Ellen Hill	Gilbert Bannister	Emily Hurd	Susan Berrington	Sharon Kaye
Candee Brodsky	Donna Michel	Elsie Bassler	Renee Holdefer	Linda (Lin) Bartle	Madge Johnson	Kristine Bloom	Molly Kelley
Alan Caldwell	Gertrude Mongello	Virginia Bassler	William Hubal	Jacklyn Benner	Betty King	Martha Brown	Kevin Kelly
Barbara Calvert	Ingrid Morton	Elsie Bassler	Kathy Jacobs	Mary Berlin	Lisa Martinez	David Bruzga	Gloria Konick
Joan Carter	Cathy Musgrove	Andrea Berna	Joanne Jesilionis	Kitty Boyan	Pamela Matheson	Suzanne Bunce	Tracey Lawrence
Camela Castle	Rhonda Nowacek	Linda Blakeslee	Lorraine Jones	Nancy Boyer	Lynn Mattingly	Barbara Calvert	Anna Levine
Vicki Clem	Janet Oaks	Kristine Bloom	Mary Kenney	D. Kay Brooke	Gerry Maxwell-Jones	Cindy Clemens	Sharon Lewandowski
Carol Collins	Katherine Orlando	Tamara Bond	Lee Kiessling	Reva Bryant	Winifred McCulloch	Mark Coates	Donna Linkow
Beverly Conroy	Barry Palmer	Lisa Boss	John Klyap	Tom Brzezinski	Linda McEwen	Lawrence Cohen	Barbara Lokitis
Nancy Cornelius	Phyllis Parker	Kitty Boyan	Vivian Kochis	Susan Bullock	Scott McIntyre	Diane Cohen	Edgar Markley
Janice Cornell	Ann Paul	Deborah Bryan	Pat Kunzle	Mary Bunting	Carol Meyer	Peggy Coulson	Kathleen Markley
Juanita Crispens	Janice Petrovich	Carol Brzezinski	Denise Lancaster	Phyllis Burnett Jones	Charlotte Migliore	Nancy Curtin	Pete Martthews
Nancy Curtin	Scott Pfeifer	Nancy Buckel	Donna Lisano	Beth Callender	Susie Miller	Norma Hensler Davis	Robin McDonald
Lisa DeRemigis	Pamela Plantz-Poley	Sharon Burgoon	Cathleen Lopez	Virginia Campbell	Jane Mooney	Kelly Davis	Marilyn McKenna
Eileen Deschenes	Carol Richardson	Patricia Burnett	Jennifer Mascott	Donna Cerbo	John Morningstar	Jeanne Dell'Acqua	Diane Miller
Elizabeth Disney	Victoria Sarro	Margaret Caporali	Nancy Mays	Kathleen Chiacchio	Ruby Racine	Emily Downs	Marilyn O'Loughlin
Ruth Drucker	Margaret Sheer	Susan Castelbaum	Catherine McNees	Nina Clopton	Linda Rangos	Joe Duckworth	Ronald Oaks
Jill Eisner	Rebecca Shelton	Eileen Clegg	Daniel Michaels	Beverly Conroy	Ann Ridgeway	Linda Durey	Corita Oduyoye
Carol Elder	Marie Signorino	CeCe Clement	Phyllis Milbourne	Leigh Croteau	Minna Rising	Lewis Dutrow	Virginia Parker
Joyce Flynn	Jane Sims	Cynthia Coffman	Sandy Miles	Jennifer De Palma	Brian Roache	Clarissa Evans	Della Patterson
Therese Garroway	Anna Smith	Monica Cortada	Susan Mitchell	Colleen DeJordy	Andi Sherman	John Fansler	John Pfister
Carol Hahn	Janis Smyers	Carolyn Coyle	James Mundy	Anne Drnec	Lou Anne Simpson	Jodi Ferretti-Shochet	Elaine Reid
Beverly Hanyman	Jonathan Solomon	Carol Crivelli	Jane Pace	Mo Dutterer	F. Louise Smith	Joan Ford	Katie Reitmeyer
Mary Hasson	Sandra Speace	Lisa J. Davis	Alice Painter	Cherry Edgerton-Bird	Sharon Stein, PhD	Claire Fulton	Rickie Richardson
Eric Heinlein	Anna Spring	Mary Day	Michael Petrovich	Stanley Eisenstein	Barbara Stromberg	Ronald Fuss	Alderna Ridge
Patricia Helman	Dana St. George	Margaret Dear	Theresa Pfister	Tina Flynn	Leslie Topus	Cynthia Gibson-Naranjo	Lawrence Roberts
Sharon Higdon	Carole Stein	Barbara Doarnberg	Craig Powell	Joan Forester	Karen Towson	Paula Grapes	April Rooney
Ellen Hughes	Kimberlie Sullivan	Bonnie Dorsey	Abigail Reed	Raymond Forton	Jackie Truiett	Mary Katherine Hannaf	Rebecca Sandler
Kathy Jones	August Sunell	Mary Ellen Doyle	Nuala Roberts	Claire Fulton	Al Tucci	Yvonne Harrison	Nancy Scoville
Pamela Jones	Alleane Taylor	Ruth Drucker	Nancy Saari	Nicholas Girardi	Jean Vanderpool	Nicole Harryman	Robert Sharp
Suzanne Kershner	Betty Thomas	Fran Dummett	Meredith Schwartz	Thomas Gist	Joan Weatherholtz	Judith Hendricks	Karen Sheridan
Janice King	Brenda Thomas	Nancy Eisenhuth	Katherine Showman	Valerie Gist	Janet West	Norma Hensler-Davis	Bonnie Taylor
Wanda Kochanek	Linda Von Paris	Mavis Ellis	Michael Siegert	Deborah Glaze	Susan Wiles	James Higgins	Barbara Thiergart
Linda Kreitlow	Helen Vorel	Sandra Erickson	Suzanne Silber	Sally Goss	Linda Wilson	Mary Hutcheson	Siobhan Zarek
Margo Lambros	Alfreda Walker	Dwight Evans	Jean Somerville	Nancy Hammer	Ann Yetter	Kathryn Ivey	Gail Zitnay
Jacqueline Lashinsky	Janice Weed	James Evans	Nancy Stivers		Bonnie Young		
Earl Lauer	Susan White	Ruth Fisher	Amy Strahl				
Robert Leiby	Judy Woolls	Helen Fitzpatrick	Susheela Varma				
Joan/Hany Lemer	Michele Zurad	Christine Flynn	Alon Wakefield				
Joseph Lichtfuss		Sandra French	Randy Wallenhorst				
		Anna Gable	Barbara Wilson				
		Ellen Giles	Lois Witte				
		Lamont Goode	Suzi Zilber				



MRSPA

Why should I join the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association?

- is the only organization in the state that works exclusively for retired school personnel
- is an advocate for its members' interests locally in Annapolis and nationally in Washington
- is represented on the Maryland Retirement/Pension System Board of Trustees
- keeps members informed with a newsletter published five times a year
- collaborates with other organizations that advocate for retirees and/or seniors, including AARP Maryland and United Seniors of Maryland
- offers group travel to destinations around the world as well as in the United States
- provides other benefits to members, including the following: dental, vision, and long-term care insurance, free hearing screenings and hearing aid discounts, car rental discounts, access to a wide range of goods and services, including Costco and Dell computer discounts

*** This [YouTube link](#) focuses on a retired PA teacher who has not had a COLA to her pension in over 20 years! We can thank MRSPA for being our watchdog!

[Join/Renew MRSPA/Local | mrspa](#)

RETIREMENT NEWS



The following links connect you with the Howard County Public School System. From time to time, we will publish such links to keep you in the know.

- [HCPSS Retiree Benefits](#)
- [Workday Access for Retired and Former HCPSS Staff](#)
- [HCPSS News](#)
- [HCPSS Employment opportunities](#)
- [Re-employment After Retirement](#)
- [Updating Your Beneficiaries – Maryland State](#)



HEART



KEEP your e-mail safe! Know how scammers are trying to take advantage of you

Smishing

is a twist on email phishing using SMS—it happens when scammers send text messages that appear to be from a trusted company in an attempt to steal your money and personal information. The messages can be convincing because they pose as well-known businesses, like delivery services or toll payment systems. The texts will urge you to click a link where you are prompted to share payment info

Submitted by MRSPA Consumer Education Committee - Reprinted from MRSPA - Information from FBI.gov

ANSWERS:

Challenge #1: (8,1,1,1). answer: $(1=1+1) \times 8 = 24$

Challenge #2: (8,8,5,8) answers: $8 \times 5 - 8 - 8$ or $8 \times 8 - 8 \times 5$

Looking for the most up-to-date information from your organization?

Visit our website at <https://howardrspa.org>.

Like us on Facebook: Search for HEART, *The Association of Retired Howard County Personnel*.

Upcoming General Membership Meeting/Luncheon: October 14, 2025 at 12:00 pm at *The Meeting House* in Columbia