



I N F O R M E R

Anne Arundel Retired School Personnel Association
January 2024

Volume 49 Issue 3

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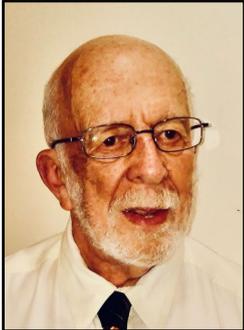
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Co-Presidents Sharyn Doyle and Anthony Anzalone



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!
HAPPY KWANZA!!
IT IS 2024!!!**

We hope your holiday season was joyous, delicious, and full of family. We ended the 2023 AARSPA year with Dr. Mark Bedell, Superintendent, and Mary Kay Connerton, MD Teacher of the Year, our guests at our November meeting. And what a joy Mary Kay is! She is a nominee for the National Teacher of the Year Award. We, at AARSPA, wish her our best.

In November, AARSPA became an **HONOREE** (there were 6) in the **2023 Partners in Education Award**, sponsored by Education Foundation. We were nominated by Park Elementary School for which we are most grateful.

As the New Year begins, let us offer our **CONGRATULATIONS** to Robert Silkworth and to Corine Frank, for their elections as President and Vice-President, respectively, on the AACBOE. We wish them seasons of success and joy in their new positions. AARSPA will continue to serve at their side, as the need and call arises. We also **THANK** Dr. Joanna Tobin for her past service as President, as well as her continued service as Member.

We too move forward. First, Agencies are accepting toiletries. Due to COVID, the AARSPA toiletry closet is almost empty. Travel size to full size, for men and women are accepted and requested. Please bring soap, deodorant, toothpaste, lotion, hair conditioner, mouth wash, floss, razors, etc. Second, pet supplies become crucial during the winter.

Wash clothes, toys, and small blankets are needed. Third, **SCHOOL SUPPLIES!** Let's not forget the kids....Always a need...Title 1 Schools are our priority. (See above **HONOREE**). Fourth, bring your donation(s) when you join us at General Meetings/Luncheons. Fifth, invite a non-member to lunch.

We also encourage you to be a **Fun Seeker**. Take a trip with Kay and Gail. We all know the benefits. Have an idea for a day trip? Tell Kay! Tell Gail! They will listen.

The MD State Legislature begins in January. Our AARSPA/MRSPA Watch Dog Teams will be checking out the actions and keeping us informed. Don't forget the AACBOE at Budget Time. Health Care spending was an item of concern at the Board meeting on October 18, 2023. Watch the meeting on *YouTube*...Agenda Item - 7.01 FY2023 Operating Budget Closeout.

Here is another idea for you to move forward. Join one of our committees. Volunteering is one way of getting out of the house. Have an idea to share? Tell Sharyn! Tell Tony! Their email addresses are on the left of this page.

Finally, join us for the next luncheon meeting!

FEBRUARY 8, 2024
GENERAL MEETING & LUNCHEON
OLIVE GROVE RESTAURANT
SEE REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 9
TAKE CARE! STAY SAFE!



REMEMBRANCE

ANNIVERSARIES

January

6 Donna & Robin Williman	51
22 Albert & Suzanne Kairys	52
29 Sandra & Charles Dewling	57

February

27 Patty & Ed Johnson	26
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March

26 Anne Marie & Chuck Dammeyer	52
29 Mary & William Schneider	55

EMERITUS BIRTHDAYS

January

2 Margie Williams	99
5 Gladys Brinkley	95
11 Mary Rozmarynowski	96
19 Elaine Lebar	96
22 Lauralee Whitmore	93

February

7 Shirley Mueller	94
17 Barbara Snyder	92
23 Peggy Griswold	92

March

1 Joanne Corey	95
4 Joan Hunter	91
5 Lillian Jackson	99
17 Dillard Harris	92
17 Patricia White	92
31 Edna C. McClelland	101

GET WELL/THINKING OF YOU

Richard Berzinski
 Barry Fader
 Peggy Fader
 Nina Griffith
 Lin Hiett-Proutt
 Margaret Keating
 Judy McCorkill
 Brenda McCray
 Phyllis Mentzell
 Patty Nalley
 Dick Powell



MEMBER DEATHS

Carol M. Aleksei	Mary Johanna Bolt O'Malley
Nancy J. Barker	Carol Ann Petrosky
Martha Flo Clarke	Alice R. Roth
Emma B. Fortman	Sara A. Shoemaker
Janet Fay Gender	Elizabeth "Betsy" H. Sitoski
Walter Clair Morehead	Laura Mae Zang
Frances K. Neat	

FAMILY MEMBERS

Mary W. Shoemaker sister

CORRECTION

In October, the death of Roberta H. Borman was inadvertently reported as Robert H. Borma.

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 wvdsrogers@verizon.net or 410-647-7585



Members of the AARSPA from the Heart Alzheimer's Team participated in the 2023 Walk to End Alzheimer's and raised \$1515 for the cause. Tillie Barckley and her family walked at Harundale Mall and Deb Ahalt joined the crowd at Sandy Point State Park for her walk. Thanks to all who supported our team!



MEETING DATES			DATES TO REMEMBER		OTHER DATES	
Executive Board Meetings -10:00 a.m.			January 20, 2024	MRSPA Legislative Workshop, Virtual		
January 11, 2024	MRSPA Boardroom, Odenton		March 20-21, 2024	Florida Get Together, St.Cloud FL		
April 11, 2024	Center 2A, BOE		April 18, 2024	Eastern Shore Luncheon, Suicide Bridge Restaurant, Hurlock		
General Membership Meetings - 10:30 a.m.			May 7, 2024	MRSPA Annual Business Meeting, Turf Valley, Ellicott City		
February 8, 2024	Olive Grove Restaurant, Linthicum Heights					
May 9, 2024	Two Rivers Restaurant, Pasadena					

MRSPA Foundation Raffle

The MRSPA Community Service and Scholarship Committees provide tremendous support to students and staff in our schools across Maryland. Therefore, we are seeking **donations** to the *MRSPA Foundation* so that we can continue our work. Again, this year, raffle tickets will be purchased solely through the MRSPA newsletter using the form below and through local association newsletters using the same form. All donations are tax deductible and come with our thanks and appreciation!

Your name will be entered into a drawing upon receipt of your donation based on this criterion: Donations of \$10 will earn 1 raffle ticket while donations of \$25 will earn 3 raffle tickets incrementally. MRSPA staff will write your name on the correct number of tickets when we receive your check. The drawing will take place at the May 2024 Annual Business Meeting whether held in person or virtually. You can win the \$300 cash first prize, a Maryland themed basket valued at \$175 second prize, or one of 5 third place themed baskets valued at \$125: Cooking, Game Night, Wine Lover, Book Worm, and Sports Lover. Out of state winners will receive gift cards in lieu of basket contents.

Entering the drawing is fun and easy!

1. Make your **check payable to MRSPA Foundation**
2. Write **MRSPA Foundation Raffle** on the FOR line
3. Date and **sign** your check
4. **Mail** check and completed form to MRSPA at 8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A, Odenton, MD 21113 **before March 22, 2024**

Will you send a donation today?

Receipts will be sent via US Mail.



MRSPA Foundation

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ **Cell Phone:** _____

Email Address: _____

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 Elem.)

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**.

Save the Date



On Sunday, March 24, 2024 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., the AnneArundell County Free School Museum will be highlighting a "Colonial Education" as part of the Maryland Day for All 2024 celebration. Colonial lessons will be taught. A schoolmaster will demonstrate how he supplemented his income by farming on the school property. A schoolmarm will demonstrate the preparation of johnnycakes and will provide a sampling. Other educational activities and colonial toys will be included as well. Come meet colonial characters and learn their stories.

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



My first semester has gone great! I absolutely love Loyola and settled right in taking core classes such as Theology 201, French 103, the Art of Reading, Photography and Intro to Human Communication (speech pathology class). I joined the Loyola Women's Rugby Team and fell in love with the sport and the people on the team. I'm also in the Best Buddies Club working with the special needs community. I got accepted into a trip to the US-Mexico border in the spring as an immersion trip to see behind the scenes and do some volunteering which I'm excited about. I've found a great group of friends and all in all am doing great at school.

AARSPA in Florida Gathering – 2024

A special thank you goes out to Arlene and Ron Derflinger who graciously offered their home and hospitality for our annual AARSPA in Florida event. Come join us at their house in St. Cloud, Florida for the evening social on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. The general meeting and luncheon will be held at the Cheddars Scratch Kitchen Restaurant in Kissimmee, Florida on Thursday, March 21, 2024 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The choice of entrées and prices, including tax and gratuity, are listed below and there will be a cash bar available. Soft drinks are included with the meal cost. Directions to both sites, along with additional lodging information, will be sent to you electronically upon receipt of your reservation and payment.

Please return the reservation form and payment no later than March 13, 2024.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

The luncheon entrée choices are: Grilled chicken alfredo with garlic bread, 6 oz. top sirloin steak with baked potato and broccoli, or grilled white fish over rice with broccoli and carrots. Dessert will be a slice of creamy cheesecake topped with strawberry puree. Soft drinks are also included. The cost per meal is \$32.00.

Guest's Name	Grilled Chicken	Sirloin Steak	White Fish
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Number of meals ordered _____ x\$32.00 = _____

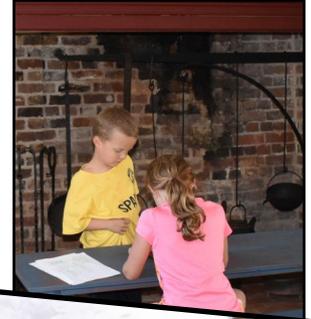
**Make checks payable to AARSPA and send the reservation form and payment to:
Bob Kanach
512 Augusta Drive
Arnold, MD 21012**

Even if you are not able to attend the luncheon, you are welcome to join us at Arlene and Ron's house on Wednesday, March 20, 2024. We need to know who will be coming so that we have enough refreshments.

_____/I/We plan to be at the social at the Derflinger's house from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. There will be _____person/people attending this event.

_____/I/We will not be able to attend the social .

CELEBRATING THE FREE SCHOOL - OCTOBER 26 and 28, 2023



Docents Carolyn Webber and Don Bailey



Carla Duls, MRSPA President and Charlie Gable, MRSPA Area II North Director and AARSPA Past President



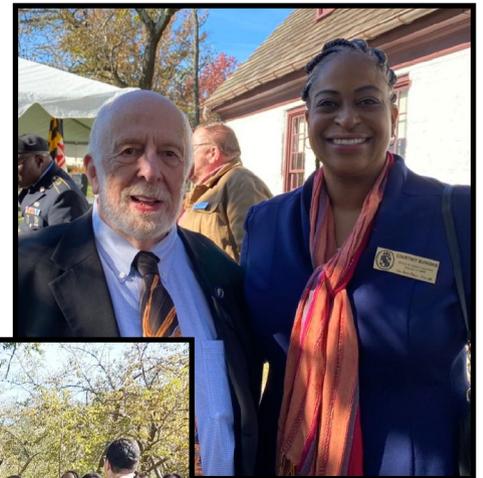
Dr. Mark Bedell
Superintendent, AACPS



County Executive **Stuart Pittman** presents a citation to **Dr. Karlie Everett**, Chairperson of the Free School 300th Committee.



Dr. Tim Tooten
Master of Ceremonies



AARSPA Co-President **Anthony Anzalone** and **Courtney Buiniskis**, Anne Arundel County Community Engagement Officer



Meade High School Honor Guard and Vocal Ensemble



A special Thank You to Karlie Everett for her dedication to the coordination of the entire two day event.

From the Free School Museum

I hope you will enjoy reading the article below recognizing and thanking the many people, most of whom are AARSPA members, whose efforts made the 300th Commemorative Events of the Annearrundell County Free School a huge success!

I would like to thank **Dr. Tim Tooten**, WBAL Education Reporter, for serving as the Emcee. I would like to thank the dignitaries who took time from their busy schedules to attend and/or speak: AACPS School Board Vice-President, **Mr. Silkworth**, Superintendent **Dr. Bedell**, County Executive **Steuart Pittman**, County Council Chairperson **Peter Smith**, and House Delegate **Stuart Schmidt, Jr.**

Kudos to **Bob Moiser**, Chief Communications Officer, from AACPS who was a tremendous help with sound, podium and other equipment. He also sent out press releases and contacted all AACPS parents about the Saturday event for families. He set up a dedicated webpage for the Annearrundell County Free School Museum that we will continue to update and use (aacps.org/freeschool).

The Planning Committee Members did an outstanding job!

- **Bob Kanach** and **John Hammond** ordered, built, worked with Miss Utility and installed the commemorative sign.

- **Bob** washed all the windows and did other prep of the building. He sent out a Constant Contact about the event to all members. He worked with the Lavall Community Association. And, as he does for AARSPA, he did many tasks that often go unnoticed.

- **Millie DeSimone** organized refreshments including making authentic colonial cookies and providing the scrolled recipes for the gift bags. Millie also assisted with cleaning the building and stuffing the gift bags.

- **Don Bailey** arranged for the Meade Senior High School JROTC and Choral Ensemble and helped distribute the postcards promoting the events.

- **Tony Anzalone** assisted with distributing public relations "postcards," coordinating with TAAAC, cleaning the building the Saturday prior to the events and representing AARSPA at the unveiling of the commemorative plaque.

- **Carolyn Webber** and **Glyn Webber** distributed the postcards to every household in Lavall.

- **Deb Ahalt** and **Brenda Gibson** wrote Thank You notes. Deb also kept the event up and running on the AARSPA Facebook page and helped with stuffing the gift bags.

Volunteers on Saturday who supervised an event station for children include:

- **Millie DeSimone** - storytelling and refreshments

- **Carolyn Webber** – writing on slates

- **Carla Duls** and **Deb Ahalt** – coloring pages

- **Don Bailey** – toys in the Keeping Room

- **Millie Gardner** – toys

- **Carolyn Smith** – toys

- **Rick Hornig** – hoop and stick

- **Emily Shipley** and **Rachel Meador**- greeters and distribution of Certificates of Attendance

- **Dianne Feeny** from Hancock's Resolution

- **Katie Dentler** from Linthicum Walks

- **Luvyl Gaub** from Children's Chesapeake Museum

- **Tony Anzalone**, **Bob Kanach**, and **Michele Shipley** who helped wherever needed.

Many of the above and others also helped by attending the events, distributing information about the events and setting up and breaking down tables and other materials for the events.

And, of course, we must not forget the support we received from **Five Star Festivals**, Owner and CEO, **Kathleen Hornig**.

I am sure I have forgotten someone or something. So many people and so much work went into the implementation of these commemorative events celebrating 300 years. I am sure more than 300 hours were spent on preparing and hosting the celebrations!



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New Fall Directory

At the November membership meeting/ luncheon, the new directory was distributed. Just as soon as it was in the hands of our members, we received calls about some errors. As a result, an addendum will be available at the February luncheon for those who have already picked up the directory as well as for those who will pick up the directory at that time. Even the print shop at the board had their set of issues with this directory. We apologize for the errors.

First Meet and Greet

The Membership and Public Relations committees joined forces to invite recent retirees to the Elks Lodge on Truck house Road in Severna Park to learn more about AARSPA and MRSPA. The breakfast proved to be quite a success with 17 people in attendance and many executive board members to meet and greet them. With displays for both organizations and a power point constantly on display, retirees heard about our various activities and opportunities. We signed up 4 new retirees and Deborah Cooke won the drawing for a free lunch at the February luncheon. Wanda Twigg, Executive Director of MRSPA, provided additional insight into the benefits of state membership. Success yielded 4 new members that day. Many thanks to Terry Hicks, an AARSPA member, and his staff for a wonderful breakfast.

Eastern Shore Luncheon

The Eastern Shore Luncheon is scheduled for April 18, 2024, for Suicide Bridge in Hurlock, Maryland. Many thanks go out to Chris Stockett and Julia Barker for finding a location that would accommodate us in a separate dining area. Bob Kanach is handling the details for us. Additional information and the registration form will be in the February issue of the *Informer*.

Your Information

Your information is IMPORTANT to US! As we work diligently to keep the database updated as we learn of changes in your personal information (address, phone), we need your help in making us aware. With each mailing, we have returned newsletters with "no forwarding address," or "return to sender." When this occurs, we then start searching for that missing person so we can correct our information. If you know of someone who has moved, please share that information. We want to keep our members informed, especially our Emeritus members. We want to thank Millie Gardner for assisting us with Emeritus members and Linda Poole for assisting with our deceased members.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are always delighted to acknowledge those retirees who have joined our ranks of active membership.

Kim K. Baicar	Rebecca Hogan
John E. Bechill	Catherine J. Jost
Richard K. Benfer Jr.	Cheryl Menke
Debra Biggs	Christopher Mirenzi
Carolyn Burton-Page	Ellen Oakes
Danelle Chapman	Deborah C. Redden
Maureen Gerrity	Diane E. Schwartz
Barbara Greier	Christina J. Schwarzmann
Amy Hicks	Robin J. Shilkert





February AARSPA General Meeting and Luncheon Thursday, February 8, 2024 Olive Grove Restaurant and Lounge



Our next luncheon and general membership meeting will be held on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at The Olive Grove Restaurant and Lounge, 705 Hammonds Ferry Road, Linthicum, Maryland 21090. Registration will begin at 9:45 a.m. with the business meeting running from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The buffet luncheon will run from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. There is parking on both the right and left side of the building and handicapped spots indicated on the right side.

Should the weather be inclement and Anne Arundel County Public Schools are closed for students, the luncheon will be moved to the snow date of Thursday, February 15, 2024.

The buffet entrée choices are chicken parmigiana, flounder Florentine and lasagna. Each meal will include the famous Olive Grove salad, homemade bread sticks, vegetable of the day, soft drinks, coffee, or tea and assorted sweets for dessert. The cost for the meal is \$32.00 per person.

LUNCHEON RESERVATION- ABSOLUTE DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024.

No refunds after January 17, 2024, and please, no walk-ins.

KEEP THIS UPPER PORTION FOR EASY REFERENCE

Please make your check payable to AARSPA and mail this form and payment to:

Bob Kanach
512 Augusta Drive
Arnold, MD 21012

AARSPA from the Heart will accept the following donations at the luncheon meeting:

- School supplies
- Toiletries
- Pet supplies
- Baby diapers and toilet paper for Sarah's House



Contact Information, should there be any question:

Contact person: _____

Phone number: _____ E-mail address: _____

Name	Chicken Parmigiana	Flounder Florentine	Lasagna
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Cost: \$32.00 per person X _____ number of reservations = Amount enclosed: _____



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