

# ECHOES

Vol. LVII No. 1

The Prince George's Public School Retirees Association Newsletter

September 2022

**PGPSRA Founded and Established June 18, 1964**

From the President,

I hope you've had a chance to enjoy the summer and decompress before we start our new season at the September meeting for PGPSRA. We have more work to do to grow our membership and to work actively with government and its entities so that all retired school personnel will be secure economically, socially, and professionally in retirement.

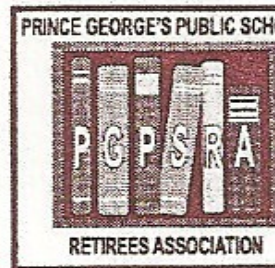
With this new season, we have all seen a drop in COVID cases and opportunities to get out and about. Some of our members gathered to say goodbye to Imogene Woodley, an active PGPSRA member for over ten years. She is moving from Maryland to Austin, Texas to be with her extended family members. Even though we took precautions, it sure was great to see everyone and get those warm and overdue hugs. Please continue to be diligent and cautious. Mask up, wash hands frequently and enjoy your time together.

Our general meeting dates for the new 2022-2023 year are: September 28<sup>th</sup>, November 16<sup>th</sup>, January 25<sup>th</sup>, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, and May 17<sup>th</sup>. All meetings will be held at the Prince George's Education Association Headquarters Building at 11:00 am. The PGCEA building is located at 8008 Marlboro Pike in District Heights.

Please join us for the September 28<sup>th</sup> General Meeting and lunch. We will thank Dwayne Brown who assisted Dr. Brose with our end of year scholarship video. We will also invite Councilmember Edward Burroughs and Council Chair Calvin Hawkins to our meeting to discuss the new Senior Tax Credit Bill, CB-029-2022.

I am humbled and honored to serve as President of PGPSRA during the 2022-2023 year. I am committed to continuing to create opportunities that lift PGPSRA and strengthen our fellowship, support, and especially service. Until we meet, please get outside, go hiking, or do some gardening: both are good exercises! Remember, we may be retired but We're Still In!

Oretha Bridgewater-Simms



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## Officers and Committee Chairs of PGPSRA

President: Oretha Bridgwaters-Simms  
(obridge@verizon.net)

President-Elect: William Barnes (billbarnes2011@gmail.com)

Past President/Nominating: George Denny  
(george.dilden@yahoo.com)

Recording Sec.: Gretel James (gret2349@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Dr. Edward Vest (homevest552@comcast.net)

Corr. Secretary: Courtney Pringle (pringc@aol.com)

Auditing: Susan Fortgang (sfort@msn.com) & Leah Fowble  
(pepper3495@aol.com)

BOE Liaison: Addie Martin (amartin668@aol.com)

Bylaws: Vacant

Comm. Service: Courtney Pringle (pringc@aol.com)

Consumer Ed.: Norma Martof (nmartof@verizon.net)

Historian: Don Conway (donconway5@icloud.com)

Inspirations: Dan Williams (hapycmprs@mac.com)

Legislation: Dr. Beatrice P. Tignor (beatignor@aol.com)

Membership: Maryann M. Royall (maryakaroyall@aol.com)  
and Linda G. Butler (lindab1217@verizon.net)

Newsletter: Bonnie Brose (bcbrose@comcast.net)

Programs: Bonnie Brose and Norma Martof

Webmaster/Parliamentarian: Dr. William Brose  
(wmbrose@comcast.net)

Recognition: Dr. Beatrice P. Tignor

Remembrance: Jayne Johns (jaynejohns@verizon.net) and  
Linda Butler

Scholarships: Vera J. Davis (301 452 350) & Brenda Barnes

Trips: Addie Martin (amartin668@aol.com)

Scholarship: Brenda L. Barnes (blbarnes128@aol.com)

## Calendar for 2022-2023

### Executive Committee

(These are at PGCEA Center and start at 10:00am)

September 7

November 2

January 4

March 1

May 3

June 7

### General Membership Meetings

(Meetings to start at 11:00am place TBD)

September 28

November 16

January 25

March 22

May 24

**Mark your calendars now!!**

## Prince George's County Public Schools

Substitute TEACH

With Us!

SCAN HERE TO APPLY

### Substitute Teacher Compensation Rates:

Substitute Teacher — \$150.00 daily  
Retire Rehire — \$175.50 daily  
Substitute Paraprofessional — \$12.50 hourly

**Long-Term Rates:**  
Substitute Teacher — \$213.75  
Retire Rehire — \$232.50

Call 301-780-2191 or  
Email [Substitute.Teacher@pgcps.org](mailto:Substitute.Teacher@pgcps.org)  
for more information

[www.pgcps.org/offices/humanresources/substitute-teaching/how-to-apply](http://www.pgcps.org/offices/humanresources/substitute-teaching/how-to-apply)

The Prince George's County Board of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, citizenship status, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to designated youth groups.



## BITS AND PIECES

Happy **SEPTEMBER** birthday wishes to several of our Emeritus members: Mrs. Beatrice Marshall of Washington, D. C. will be celebrating her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 5<sup>th</sup>; two ladies will be having their birthdays on the 6<sup>th</sup>: **Mrs. Margaret Routten of Port Royal, S.C. will be turning 100 years-old**, and Mrs. Marguerite Simpson of Washington, D.C. will be reaching her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday; Ms. Linnie Marshall of Beaufort, S. C. will be having her 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday on the 12<sup>th</sup>; **Mrs. Jane Hand of Catonsville, MD. will be having her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 14<sup>th</sup>**; Mr. Camillo Di Muzio of LaPlata will be turning 95 years-old on the 20<sup>th</sup>, while **Mrs. Ruth Hanson of Annapolis will be reaching 102 years-old on the 20<sup>th</sup>**; Mrs. Lorraine Griggs of Bridgeville, DE. will be celebrating her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday on the 23<sup>rd</sup>; and Ms. Wanda Antonacci of Riverdale, will be having her 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Happy **OCTOBER** birthday greetings to other Emeritus members: Mrs. Elizabeth Schlaefli of Henrico, VA. will be marking her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday on the 5<sup>th</sup>; and Ms. Betty Fanelli of Cumberland, VA. will be having her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

Linda Penn (Mattox Yancey) Bond of Silver Spring, retired in 2005 from University Park Elementary, having taught grades 2.3.4, and 6. She has kept busy since: serving as Secretary for the Tuskegee Airmen Wives Auxiliary, with membership in the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, serving as a Maryland Notary Public, working in an ENT Medical Practice, participating in a Book Club Group in the Popular Run Community of Silver Spring, volunteered for contributing to, or working with, the Homeless through her church, attending a weekly tennis clinic, and enjoyed attending a few ballet performances at the Kennedy Center and a few Georgetown University Men's basketball games. Linda married her childhood friend in 2011. Together, she and her husband have five adult children, and he also has four grandsons and three granddaughters. In 2013, Linda was proud to attend her daughter's graduation from Boston University's Brussels Campus, She and her husband have traveled in the U.S. to Coronado, CA., Miami, FL., Hilton Head, S.C., St. Louis, MO, as well as, to British Columbia, Canada, and they have also sailed on a Western Caribbean Cruise. The Bonds have always enjoyed entertaining family and friends in their home – until the Covid pandemic caused everyone to become conservatively cautious.

Vera Jones Davis of Laurel, retired from Benjamin Tasker Middle School in 2017..She has been a very active volunteer since retiring: serving as a member of the PGPSRA Scholarship Committee, tutoring K-12 history and government, teaching FBAG (Funtional Behaviorial Assessment-Based Groups), doing clerical work at the PGPCS Office of Student Records, and working at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in the Narwhal Whale Exhibit. (Narwhal whales spend their entire lengthy lives in Artic waters, and they have inspired legends in the Inuit Society.) Vera has enjoyed travels to Jamaica, Negril, and Hawaii. Sadly, she lost her husband, Dwaine Davis, last year. Together they had five daughters, 14 granchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

\*\*\*To contribute to BITS & PIECES, contact [jannetteWundrow@comcast.net](mailto:jannetteWundrow@comcast.net) or 443-949-9857

(October 2022 Trip to Consider)

### The Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park and Visitor Center

For those who may be interested, the Harriet Tubman Visitor Center is right outside of Cambridge, MD and provides a self-guided tour and film 45-60 minutes, to explore Harriet Tubman's life and legacy. The site also has a museum store, theatre and legacy park.

As you may know, Harriet Tubman (born Araminta Ross 1822-1913) was a runaway slave from Maryland who over the course of 10 years, and at a great personal risk, led hundreds of slaves to freedom along the Underground Railroad (a secret network of safe houses) where runaway slaves could stay on their journey to freedom.

She later became a leader in the abolitionist movement, and during the Civil War she served as a nurse, cook, scout and spy.

Following the tour, we will then have lunch at the Suicide Bridge Restaurant in Hurlock, MD or a seafood restaurant near the Bay Bridge

Please email me ([amartin668@aol.com](mailto:amartin668@aol.com)) or call me at (301)-868-6081 if you are interested or have questions.

Best regards,

Addie Martin, Trips Chair

## YOUR MRSPA LEADERSHIP

CONGRATULATIONS, GEORGE DENNY FOR A SUCCESSFUL TERM!!





### TREASURER'S REPORT – JULY 2022

#### OPENING BALANCES:

Checking Account	\$21012.19
Savings Account	126.86

#### ACTIVITY - CHECKING ACCOUNT:

Receipts	3.21
Expenditures	0.0
0	

#### NO ACTIVITY IN SAVINGS ACCOUNT

#### CLOSING BALANCES

Checking Account	21015.40
Savings Account	126.86
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$21142.26</b>

Edward N. Vest  
Treasurer

## REMEMBRANCE

### 2022

Anne Pickney Prince	3/12
Emidio Cicolini	4/09
James Griffin	3/31
William B. Simmons	1/08
Diane C. Fingers	4/12
Amanda V. Sealey	4/19
Caroll W. Smith	4/29
Billy R. Bryant	5/22
Florine Sjoblad	5/30
Constantine H. Bayz	6/10
Barbara Grimes	6/4
Helen Endo	2/7
Raymond L. Scopel	7/2
Mildred F. Evans	7/1

### 2018

John Jenkins	11/5
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### Date Unknown

Norma Mueller  
Kenneth Turner

Submitted by:

Jayne Jones and Linda Butler, Co-Chairs



## Community Service Update

Community Service workers have been busy this summer. We have been taking a look at our schools in Southern Prince George's County to see what schools we will select for giving assistance in the up coming 2022 - 2023 school year. We will select four elementary schools and one high school. This is not an easy task. The schools' principals are holding meetings around the clock making it difficult to get in touch with them. Never the less we will persevere.

The needs of the various schools are far from needs of the past. This is the digital age and their wants are in this category. We will look at our budget for the ensuing year and proceed from there.

We welcome new members. to come join us as we make new waves in the coming school year..

Courtney Pringle  
Chairman



**A Memory....come and be a part of the New Year, 2022-2023!**

## PGPSRA AWARDS AT MRSPA ANNUAL MEETING



## RESERVATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

Our **September 28, 2022** General Membership Meeting will meet at PGCEA CENTER in Forestville. (8008 Marlboro Pike) It will be good to see everyone!!

**We must have your reservations by September 21.** Please put your check in the mail so that he can count you for the box lunch. There will be a variety of sandwiches offered. You may choose to bring your own lunch, if you like. The cost of lunch is \$15 and the checks are to be made out to PGPSRA. Mail it to Dr. Vest at:

7908 Klovstad Drive  
Fort Washington, MD 20744

**President Bridgewater-Simms has arranged a speaker for us to explain the new Prince George's County Council Act that will be of interest to all of us**  
AN ACT CONCERNING A PROPERTY TAX CREDIT FOR ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS for the purpose of establishing a property tax credit for certain elderly individual

**We hope you have had a great summer and are ready to take on the 2022-2023 PGPSRA year.**

If you have any questions direct them to: Ed Vest .....[homevest552@comcast.net](mailto:homevest552@comcast.net)

## PGPSRA

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Fort Washington, MD 20744

Editor:  
Bonnie Curry Brose  
bcbrose@comcast.net



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**We're on the web!**  
**[www.pgpsra.org](http://www.pgpsra.org)**

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**VISIT THESE WEBSITES [www.MRSPA.org](http://www.MRSPA.org) and [www.PGPSRA.org](http://www.PGPSRA.org)**

If you have not already done so,  
send your email address to Dr. Vest  
To get the latest, quickest news.

