

ECHOES

Vol. LVIII No. 1

The Prince George's Public School Retirees Association Newsletter

September 2023

PGPSRA Founded and Established June 18, 1964

Greetings to our Retirees across Maryland and beyond!!

To all of you who renewed your membership in PGPSRA, you have been generous in these challenging times. Your financial support is critical for the local organization. It is my pleasure and honor to welcome our new members to PGPSRA. Thank you for joining our organization.

I am humbled to have the opportunity to continue serving another year as President. Due to the resignation of our newly elected President, Bill Barnes, your PGPSRA Board has met and they have elected me to continue and fill out Bill's term. I thank them and ask that you continue to support me to lead PGPSRA.

Thanks and appreciation go to the Honorable Brooke E. Lierman, Comptroller of Maryland, the Honorable Dereck E. Davis, Treasurer of Maryland, and Carla J. Duls, MRSPA President for attending our last meeting. They ensured us that working together we can continue moving forward with our agenda and purpose.

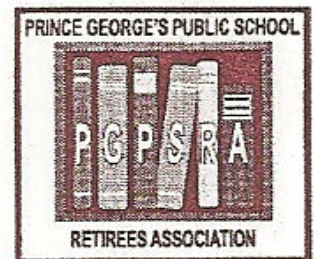
Brenda Barnes, Scholarship Chair introduced the scholarship recipients. George Denny introduced the Prince George's Teacher of the Year followed Courtney Pringle, Community Chair who presented a video of the Graduation/Prom Grant recipients. The meeting was filled with energy, fellowship, and information.

Thanks to Addie Martin for planning and implementing a highly successful trip to Sight and Sound for the production of "Moses". Members in attendance expressed a great deal of enjoyment and satisfaction.

If you are a member who normally attends the meetings and were not there, you were noticeably missed. We invite you to attend our September Meeting. Please invite others and let us keep our focus on why we exist. Finally, I am grateful that we all are EMPOWERED TO SERVE!!

Oretha

Oretha Bridgwaters-Simms, President



President's Report	1
Remembrance	5
Bits and Pieces	7
Reservations	7





FOR
PRESIDENT

SUSIE PROCTOR

After working in the Prince George's schools as a special education teacher and participating in PGCEA, she was appointed to fill the seat in the Maryland House of Delegates vacated by the death of her Husband. She has been a delegate since 2015. Susie remains a strong voice for education in Annapolis and has agreed to work just as hard for us at PGPSRA.



FOR
RECORDING SECRETARY

ALONIA SHARPS

Alonia is a retired executive administrator from Prince George's Community College and currently serves as the board chair for the Educational Systems Federal Credit Union. She has been honored to receive the Gladys Noon Spellman Award for service to the Community. She has agreed to be your Recording Secretary.



FOR
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

SHARON COLLINS

Sharon is a new face for us at our meetings and a recent retiree. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Sorority and has worked on many community projects. As our Corresponding Secretary she will be able to help us keep better in touch with everyone and bring new ideas to the position.

Officers and Committee Chairs of PGPSRA

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

President-Elect: Vacant

Past President/Nominating: Oretha Bridgewater

Recording Sec.: Vacant

Treasurer: Barbara J. Atwater

Corr. Secretary: Vacant

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

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

Bylaws: Vacant

Comm. Service: Vacant

Consumer Ed.: Vacant

Historian: Don Conway (donconway5@icloud.com)

Inspirations: Dan Williams (hapycmprs@mac.com)

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

Membership: Jannette Wundrow
(jannetewundrow@comcast.net)

Newsletter and Programs: Bonnie Brose
(bcbrose@comcast.net)

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

Recognition: Dr. Beatrice P. Tignor

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

Trips: Addie Martin (amartin668@aol.com)

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

Inspiration for May

If I Could Teach You, Teacher

If I Could Teach You, Teacher

If I could teach you, teacher,
I'd teach you how much more
you have accomplished
than you think you have.
I'd show you the seeds
you planted years ago
that are now coming into bloom.
I'd reveal to you the young minds
that have expanded under your care,
the hearts that are serving others
because they had you as a role model.

If I could teach you, teacher,
I'd show you the positive effect
you have had on me and my life.
Your homework is
to know your value to the world,
to acknowledge it, to believe it.
Thank you, teacher.

By: Joanna Fuchs

Dan Williams, Chair



ECHOES WILL BE COMING BY EMAIL!

We will be working to have better communication with you by sending more information out electronically. Echoes is one such communication and we will be letting you know. Meanwhile, as given elsewhere in the newsletter, please let MRSPA know your email if you don't already have one listed with them. If you are already getting it electronically, you are already on our list and that will continue.

FROM OUR STATE GOVERNMENT

Honorable Brooke E. Lierman, Comptroller of Maryland and the first woman in that position, and the Honorable Dereck E. Davis, Treasurer of Maryland—a graduate of Prince George’s Schools, brought us valuable information at our May meeting. We thank them for taking some of their valuable time to visit with us.



MRSPA PRESIDENT VISITS

Bringing news from our state association is Carla J. Dulls, our current MRSPA President. It is always good to hear what is happening around the state and at our headquarters in Odenton. Thank you, Carla



PRINCE GEORGE’S TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Benjamin Tasker Middle School has been proud to be “home” to Evelyn Policarpio, this year’s teacher of the year. She is pictured here, in the center, with her principal, Dr. Kendra Hill. Thank you both for sharing your work with us and thank you, both, for creating a school with great ideas, teachers and students!



In Memorium

Courtney D. Pringle
May 24, 1938-June 2, 2023

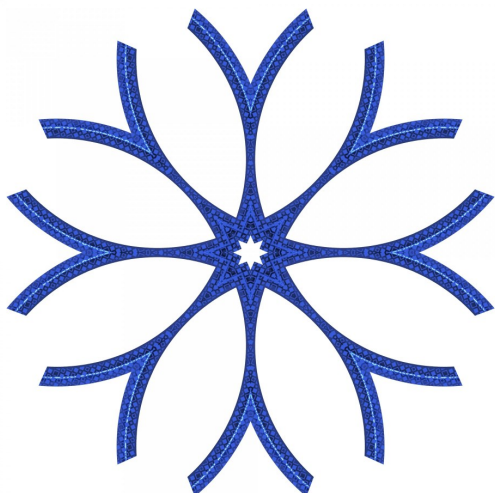
PGPSRA was saddened to learn of the passing of Courtney Pringle on June 2. Courtney was a long-time member of PGPSRA and chair of the association's Community Service Committee, which meets the needs of students, staff and parents of some of our disadvantaged schools.

During her education career she taught at Crestview and James Ryder Randall Elementary Schools.

A memorial service was held for her on June 7 at the Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts (CAAPA) in Fort Washington. The CAAPA has established the Courtney D. Pringle Scholarship in her honor to benefit Black students, education, and Black classical musicians.

NOTICE

Dr. Vest's computer crashed last month and all of his ListServe list has been permanently lost. We are working to put together a list of all our members who have given MRSPA their email addresses. If you have one—or know one you can have someone gather information for you from us, please notify Lonna Siskind at MRSPA.ORG. We can get information to you faster and you can contact us easier if we are able to communicate by email. Meanwhile, check out what we have on our PGPSRA.ORG website. Dr. Brose tries to keep it as up-to-date as possible.



Remembrance

John Thomas	09/14/2022
Frankie A. McMillan	04/26/2023
Hayward Mckie	05/15/2023
Camillio DiMuzio	04/03/2023
Courtney D. Pringle	06/04/2023

Jayne Jones and Linda Butler, Chairs

Upcoming Trip
Prince George's Public School Retirees Association
(PGPSRA)



Location

Toby's Theatre in Columbia, MD.
Wednesday, October 25, 2023
12:30p.m. – 3:00p.m.

Departure Details

9:30a.m.- Departure from MD – Equestrian Center
14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro MD 20772

10:30a.m.- Doors open at Toby's Theatre

11:00a.m.- 12:00p.m.- Buffet

12:30p.m.- 3:00p.m.- Showtime

4:00p.m.- Estimated time of Arrival back to Equestrian Center

Cost

Price: \$125 per person (includes trip, bus, and buffet)
***tax and gratuity included**

CONTACT INFORMATION

Addie Martin
(301)868-6081

amartin668@aol.com

BITS AND PIECES

Happy SEPTEMBER birthday wishes to several of our Emeritus members: Hilda Norwood of Upper Marlboro will be having her 91st birthday on the 4th; Beatrice Marshall of Washington, D.C. will be celebrating her 97th birthday on the 5th; two ladies will be observing their birthdays on the 6th, when Margaret Routten of Port Royal, S.C. will be turning 101, and Marguerite Simpson of Washington, D.C. will be reaching 98 years of age; Linnie Marshall of Beaufort, SC, will be observing her 93rd birthday on the 12th; Frank Pearlman of Greenbelt will be observing his 91st birthday on the 14th, while Jane Hand of Catonsville will be marking her 101st birthday on the 14th; Ruth Hanson of Annapolis will be celebrating her 103rd birthday on the 20th; Lorraine Griggs of Bridgeville, DE. will be having her 94th birthday on the 23rd; and Wanda Antonacci of Riverdale reaching her 93rd birthday on the 28th.

Happy OCTOBER birthday greetings to other Emeritus members: Rosie Lee Summers of Ft. Washington will be celebrating her 95th birthday on the 1st; Elizabeth Schlaefli of Henrico, VA. will be marking her 94th birthday on the 5th; Betty Fannelli of Cumberland, VA. will be having her 94th birthday on the 12th.

Bobbie Jean Wilks Shockley of Laurel retired from Largo High School in 2016. She has continued to be involved with children: volunteering with the Prince George's Public Library, the Kids Achieve Club (in person and online), reading with children and tutoring, including private tutoring, and working with her daughter as she planned Vacation Bible Camp. Bobbie Jean has enjoyed travel to Lancaster, PA. and to local sites of interest. She and her husband, Louis, celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary this past year. They have one daughter, Paula Renee', who is an IT worker at the University of Maryland Medical Center. Bobbie Jean's family has "adopted" a multi-national (Malaysia and England) family, who have now acquired U.S. citizenship. Both families are enjoying this relationship.

**** To contribute to BITS & PIECES, contact JannetteWundrow@comcast.net

PGPSRA September Meeting

September 27, 2023

PGCEA Office

Forestville, Maryland

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:

Barbara J. Atwater

2101 Willow Switch Lane

Upper Marlboro, MD 20774-4216

Name(s) _____

Amount Enclosed **\$18** (checks payable to PGPSRA) for each box lunch reservation— \$ _____

(We need the count by the Sept. 20 mail delivery!).

PGPSRA

Barbara J. Atwater, Treasurer
2101 Willow Switch Lane
Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

Editor:
Bonnie Curry Brose
bcbrose@comcast.net



We're on the web!
www.pgpsra.org



VISIT THESE WEBSITES www.MRSPA.org and www.PGPSRA.org
If you have not already done so,
send your email address to Dr. Vest
To get the latest, quickest news.