

ECHOES

Vol. LIII No. 1

The Prince George's Public School Retirees Association Newsletter

September 2018

PGPSRA Founded and Established June 18, 1964

A LIVING LEGACY

On June 18, 1964, fifty-four years ago, educators organized this auspicious organization to ensure that all school employees would always have an advocate to speak out on issues that concerned them as well as provide an avenue to allow them to utilize the many skills, talents, and abilities acquired during their active work experience.

The results have been most rewarding. A benefit of organizing ourselves and speaking with one collective voice is huge. It's a voice that speaks loudly and clearly on vital issues that concern us. Moreover, our affiliation with other associations through the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association provides additional benefits.

We have truly benefited from that legacy. It is praiseworthy, and as we preserved these past accomplishments, let's ensure that those who will be joining us will grasp the need for our organization and heartily continue the work it began fifty-four years ago.

I am proud of our organization and the people who have stepped to the forefront to continue the work as a "labor of love."

It's commendable! We are fifty-four years older. We are doing an outstanding job. We continue to present outstanding programs and serve the many needs of our schools and communities. We are providing meaningful activities to keep our members constructively involved.

Even so, there is a need for a new crop of leaders, ideas, and activities to take us to the next level of action and activities . . . the next level of success.

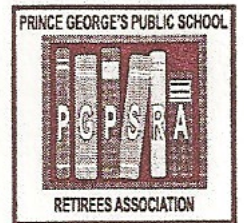
Our affiliation with MRSPA provides us with many benefits that enrich us by giving us enjoyable, pleasant, purposeful, and active lives. Never forgetting that the number one benefit is the Association's vigilant monitoring of our pensions and pertinent legislation that affect our health and welfare. *Numbers count!*

Invite a friend to become active. Tell a friend about the many benefits of membership: Mindful that active participation in activities keeps the mind and body active and healthy. Additionally, MRSPA's benefits include reasonable purchase cost-savings as we participate in a variety of activities available through its website.

We are making a difference in the schools and communities as we invest a little of our time.

I look forward to welcoming you at our first meeting on September 26, 2018, 11:00 a.m. at the Prince George's County Education Association Building, 8008 Marlboro Pike, Forestville, Maryland 20747. The Program Committee, co-chaired by Bonnie Brose and Dr. Norma Martof will present representatives from the 911 Center who will be discussing hands only CPR.

Lorraine Williams Johnson, President



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PGPSRA Wins Two Awards For Community Service

Members of the PGPSRA Community Service Committee received awards from the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association (MRSPA) for their efforts on behalf of the residents of Prince George's County. The awards were presented at the MRSPA Annual Meeting last May.

The Community Service Committee's Graduation and Prom Expenses for Economically-Challenged Students Project was MRSPA's 2017-2018 Community Service Project Winner. Committee members were Ethel Brown, Betty J. Nicholson, Stanley A. Tweedy, Courtney Pringle, Lillie F. Artis, Gloria J. Douglas, Mary G. Pannell, Lillie Belle James, Mary Isbell, Deotha B. Bobo, and Don Conway.

Meanwhile, Ethel L. Brown, Chair of the PGPSRA Community Service Committee, received MRSPA's Individual Honorable Mention Award for her volunteer efforts.

Congratulations to our volunteers for their efforts on behalf of our community.



Congratulations, Ethel!

Officers and Committee Chairs of PGPSRA

President: Lorraine Johnson (johnson6608@comcast.net)

Past President/Nomimating:

George D. Denny, Jr (george.dilden@yahoo.com)

President-Elect: George D. Denny

Recording Sec.: Nicole Dias (nicoledias134@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Dr. Edward Vest (homevest@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: Marylouise J. Isbell (maryi32@verizon.net)

Comm. Service: Ethel Brown (202 285 5524)

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

Historian: Don Conway (donjoy5@comcast.net)

Inspirations: Gretel James (Gret22@msn.com)

Legislation: Sue Finan (sfinan77gmail.com)

Membership: Charline Jacob (J3518acob@aol.com)

Newsletter: Bonnie Brose (bcbrose@comcast.net)

Programs: Bonnie Brose and Norma Martof

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

Recognition: Fran Doyle (penguinCI@msn.com)

Remembrance: Jannie Goldston (clay1231@verizon.net)

Scholarships: Delores Brown (brownjr1@verizon.net) & Brenda Barnes

Senior Outreach: Jayne Johns (jaynejohns@verizon.net & Brenda Barnes

Trips: Addie Martin and Nicole Dias



BITS AND PIECES

Happy **September** birthday wishes to some of our Emeritus members: Mrs. Beatrice Marshall of Washington, D.C. will be marking her 92nd birthday on the 5th; two ladies will be celebrating on the 6th: Ms. Marguerite Simpson of Washington, D.C. will be having her 93rd birthday and Mrs. Margaret Routten of Port Royal, S. C. will be having her 96th birthday; Mr. John Connor of Annapolis will be reaching his 91st birthday on the 9th; Ms. Jane Hand of Catonsville will be turning 96 years-old on the 14th; Mrs. Ruth Hanson of Annapolis will be marking her 98th birthday on the 20th; both Ms. Barbara Davenport of Glenwood and Mr. Camillo DiMuzio of LaPlata will be having their 91st birthdays on the 23rd; and Mrs. Mildred Gray of Mitchellville will be celebrating her 98th birthday on the 24th.

Happy **October** birthday greetings to some other Emeritus members: Mr. John Jenkins of Franklin, W. VA. will be marking his 95th birthday on the 9th; Mr. Charles Hudson of Silver Spring, will be celebrating his 96th birthday on the 24th.

Carolyn Sullivan of Lanham, retired from Carrollton Elementary School in 1996; however, she continues to substitute there and at Kenmore Middle School. Carolyn belongs to a fun "Red Hat" group, and during the summer she swims at the New Carrollton Pool, where the ladies teach themselves water aerobics three times a week. She enjoys the PGPSRA bus trips. She recently participated with her grandson, Kevin, and his Eagle Scout Troop in a very valuable project "Rise Against Hunger" to package 10,152 meals to send to Honduras. Carolyn travels to Blue Hill, Maine several times a year to visit with her son and grandson on their organic farm, where they raise cattle, chickens, heritage turkeys, ducks, and pigs. During the long, cold Maine winters her son, who is a CPA, works as an accountant. Carolyn's daughter has her doctorate in Physical Therapy, and she works both at Annapolis Physical Therapy and makes nursing home visits to provide seniors with therapy. Carolyn's son-in-law teaches tech-ed at College Park Academy. Carolyn has four grandsons: Daniel, who recently graduated from the University of Maryland and was commissioned Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force, is now stationed in Texas and receiving pilot training; Justin, who will be a student at the University of Maryland this fall; Kevin, who will be in high school in Severna Park in September; and Charlie, the eight-year-old in Maine, who lives on the farm and likes playing baseball. Unfortunately, Carolyn has had a sad year, as her husband, Bob, the love of her life for over 50 years, passed away earlier in 2018.

Judith Turpin Oarr retired in 2000 from Douglas High School in Upper Marlboro, where she found it a pleasure to teach British Literature. Judith lives in College Park with her close friend, Rusty Allen. She serves on the College Park Recreation Board, enjoys needlepoint, and travel. She has been to Iceland, Norway, Ireland, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, Greece, Alaska, Hawaii, and Turkey more than once. Judith spent some weeks this past summer with her son, Christopher, and his wife, who live in Istanbul, Turkey. She was there during the Ramadan Religious celebration but, was not required to observe the daily fasting. However, she enjoyed the interaction with hospitable Turkish people, as well as, delicious food. Judith has another son, Richard, who lives with his wife, in Alexandria, VA. along with her two grandchildren, Sydney and Brittany.

To contribute to BITS & PIECES, contact: jannetteWundrow@comcast.net or 301-390-7324

MEMBERSHIP

Soon we will see those yellow buses going back and forth all day, see children walking loaded down with heavy book bags, our **STILL WORKING** friends will not be able to join us for morning coffee or lunch...and you will be smiling as you sleep late each day because you are **RETIRED!**

However, on September 26th we hope you wake up early and come to join your other retired friends at our first meeting for 2018-2019. New officers and new retirees will be there to greet you along with the former members from recent years. Come out for information, fellowship and an enjoyable lunch.

You may find Betty Nicholson and Gloria Douglas (winners of \$20 Door Prizes) Susan Fortgang, Alice Hutchinson, Helen Lewis and Don Williams (winners of \$5 prizes) returning to see if they are to be repeat winners because they left the May meeting smiling. Thanks to Don for giving his winnings to our scholarship fund.

As you read this newsletter and you think of others who have retired from *Prince George's County Public Schools* I hope you contact them to see if they have joined PGPSRA and plan to attend the meeting. If not invite them to come and go with you. Share items from this newsletter that you think they should know and encourage them to come out and see how they can be involved. We have a few officers but many members who can help make our organization better by joining the different committees or bringing fresh ideas to PGPSRA. Consider what committee you can might helpand sign on at the meeting.

We will be looking for you!

C. Jacob, M. Isbell and F. King
Membership Committee



2018-2019 Meeting Dates

September 26

November 28

January 23

March 27

May 22

The Executive Board meets on the first Wednesday of each of these months. Traditional Planning for the following year is in June.

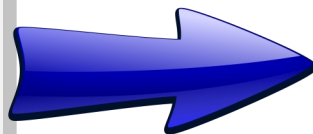


Emailing Echoes

Thanks to all of you who sent in your permission to email Echoes to you.

Unfortunately, there were less than 20 who did so. This will help with our budget problems.

All are reminded that **ALL** Echoes are available at the PGPSRA website.



AUGUST TREASURER'S REPORT:

OPENING BALANCES:

CHECKING ACCOUNT - \$ 227.63
 SAVINGS ACCOUNT - 28.83

ACTIVITY – CHECKING ACCOUNT:

RECEIPTS - 2475.14
 EXPENDITURES - 150.00

NO ACTIVITY IN SAVINGS ACCOUNT

BALANCES AS OF JULY 31:

CHECKING ACCOUNT - 2552.77
 SAVINGS ACCOUNT - 28.83
 TOTAL ASSETS - \$2581.60

Thank you.

Edward N. Vest, Treasurer



Thank you, Fay, for spending your Birthday with us! Hope you are enjoying being a “Has Been”.

REMEMBRANCE by Jannie Goldson, Chair

Barnes, Celeste Dorothea	04/03/2018	Barton, William Thomas	12/19/2017
Bowen, Mary Theresa	03/27/2018	Cartwright, Reuben	04/28/2018
Chandor, Jr., Horace "Hobie"	04/14/2018	Colborn, Marilyn Boote	07/23/2018
Dameron, Maria Teresa	05/09/2018	Davis, Hazel H.	07/27/2018
Foxx, Brenda	07/14/2018	Lepesqueur, Visitacion "Betty"	05/17/2018
Ott, Ronald	04/11/2018	Parks, Vilma	07/18/2018
Robbins, Lynda R.	05/26/2018	Robinson, Lorenza Y.	04/16/2018
Thomas, Colleen	02/06/2018	Walters Dorothy	08/ /2018
Walton, Peggy Lee			03/24/2018

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Legislative committee is gearing up for a busy year. New faces in the Prince George's Delegation plus an election in November will require updates that are pertinent to our needs. If you are interested in contributing in any way you are more than welcome.

Here is information and a short profile about Prince George's County Public Schools new CEO taken from the county web site.

Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker III announced the appointment of Dr. Monica Goldson as Interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS). A 27-year veteran of PGCPS, Dr. Goldson brings deep knowledge of PGCPS and a commitment to improving public confidence in the school system. Dr. Goldson has steadily climbed the PGCPS leadership ranks, most recently serving as Deputy Superintendent of Teaching and Learning. In this role, she oversaw initiatives in curriculum and instruction, special education, testing, college and career readiness, and student services. She previously served as Chief Operating Officer. Dr. Goldson was unanimously selected July 12 by the Board of Education to serve as Acting CEO, succeeding Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell. She announced a reorganization of central office executive-level and managerial positions with the goal of redirecting at least \$1 million to schools.

Fast Facts: Dr. Monica Goldson

- Potomac High School graduate
- Former Deputy Superintendent of Teaching and Learning and Chief Operating Officer
- Longest PGCPS tenure of any recent superintendent/CEO
- Founding principal of Dr. Henry A. Wise Jr. High School
- PGCPS parent

Sue Finan, Legislative Chair

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

The team surpassed the previous year by servicing a total of 2,268 students during the 2017-2018 year.

Hats off to: Lillie Artis, Deotha Bobo, Ethel L. Brown (chair), Don Conway, Gloria Douglas, Mary Isbell, Lillie James, Betty Nicholson (secretary), Mary Pannell, Courtney Pringle and Stanley Tweedy (treasurer) for all their hard work.

Thanks also to Dwayne Brown, Videographer, for helping in May's program. The students were not able to attend, but were there in video. The five seniors, from Friendly High School who were able to present their thanks for our assistance in their graduation were: Destiny Allen, Kailah Minor, Cameron Pinkney, Yessly Vasquez, and De Andre Wonsom. We wish them well.

Ethel L. Brown, Chairperson

202 285 5524

Scholarship Committee 2018-2019

This year the PGPSRA Scholarship Committee will award a \$2500.00 scholarship to two deserving students who plan to become educators. Our awardees this year are Tim Provost from Eleanor Roosevelt and Raven Harris from Charles Flowers High School and simultaneously enrolled in the Dual Enrollment Program at Prince Georges Community College, where she received both high school and college credits.

Tim Provost and his father attended the May PGPSRA luncheon at the Comfort Inn. He will attend UMBC in the fall to study music education. He plays several instruments and has completed extensive community service hours. Raven Harris was not able to attend the luncheon but will attend Towson University and major in Elementary Education. “Two Outstanding Future Teachers of America”

Thank you to all of our contributors who bought 50/50 raffles through the year or have given donations. Mr. Dan Williams and Mr. George Denny donated their winnings back to the committee. We extend a special thank you to Ms. Imogene Woodley for the \$150.00 donation. We have received other large monetary donations during the past year. These contributions assist the committee in continuing to give substantial scholarships to students who have planned to continue our education legacy of teaching.

The committee will meet soon to decide how much the recipient's will receive next year based on our current budget restrictions.

Thank you for all your support.



Congratulations, Tim! Looks like Dad is real proud. :-)

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.

DISCOUNTS!!

Check out **Abenity** on Your MRSPA website
for special offers for you.

Visit the site often!

Thank You George
 Now you are a "Has Been"
 and a "Future Hero".
 What a guy!!!



Look at all those certificates! We must be good!!

WE CAUGHT HIM!!

Frank Abagnale, once a notorious con-man, check forger and imposter, is now a world famous security expert. He has been a lecturer at the FBI Academy for nearly 40 years. Leonardo DiCaprio portrayed him in the movie, "Catch Me if you Can". Thousands of companies and organizations currently use his fraud protection programs.

Earlier this summer, several PGRSPA members represented our interests at an intimate luncheon and in-depth discussion with Mr. Abagnale at UMBC. It was an eye-opening experience.

Regretful for his past crimes and the people he hurt, Mr. Abagnale now goes after, with a vengeance, the evil crooks who represent what he once was. The nature of fraud has not changed so much, he told us, but the advent of technology has made it easier and faster to perpetrate, and puts it on a global scale. We have to act as if our identities have already been stolen. It is likely that they have been.

Among many other things, we learned that Bitcoin is a total scam, destined to collapse. We also learned that passwords will soon be on their way out, to be replaced with smartphone applications that are nearly impossible to hack.

Coming out of this conference, Consumer Education volunteers at PGPSRA and MRSPA will follow up with information and recommendations to the membership.

Special thanks go to Hank Greenberg, State Director of AARP Maryland, and MRSPA Executive Director Wanda Twigg, for making this opportunity available to us.



Photo: Phyllis Cherry, John Sisson, Frank Abagale, and Norma Martof

PGPSRA Reservation Form

September 26, 2018 at 11:00 A.M.

PGCEA Center, Forestville

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:

Dr. Ed Vest, 7908 Klovstad Drive, Fort Washington, MD 20744-1729

Name(s) _____

Amount Enclosed **\$15** (checks payable to PGPSRA) for each lunch reservation— \$ _____ **(We need the count by the Sept. 19 mail delivery!)**

A buffet lunch is being catered by, member, Nicole Diaz.

Menu: Fried Chicken , Baked Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Macaroni and Cheese, String Beans, Dinner Rolls, Desserts, Iced Tea and Water.

PGPSRA

Dr. Edward N. Vest
7908 Klovstad Drive
Fort Washington, MD 20744

Editor:
Bonnie Curry Brose
bcbrose@comcast.net



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

Next Meeting
September 26, 2018
PGCEA Center, Forestville
11:00 am

