

The Bell Ringer

Kent County Retired School Personnel Association

Volume 341 Number 3 February 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Can you believe there are 30 days until Spring. I think we all are ready for Springtime, bright sunshine and soon time to plant flowers.

This is my last message to the KCRSPA members as your President. Health issues have forced my decision to resign at this time. The Executive Committee received my letter at their meeting on February 6, 2020. It has been one of the pleasures in my life to be a member of such a wonderful group of friends who have never forgotten their dedication and love for education. **It is now my pleasure to welcome as our new President, Susan Crooks.** Her enthusiasm for the mission of KCRSPA and service as co-chairman of the membership committee indicates she will do a great job.. Congratulations Susan.

The Scholarship Committee's new application for KCHS graduating seniors has been sent to the KCHS guidance office and posted on the KCHS website. We are looking forward to receiving applications for our three \$1,000 scholarships. It is through the generous donations of our members and friends of former Superintendent A. Lorraine Costella that we are able to award these scholarships.

MRSPA has started a mini-grant program that teachers across the state can apply for that are student needs-based projects specific to their individual schools that may not be funded by their local school systems. Six such awards had been awarded.



Kent County had one applicant, Cailley Cochran, special education teacher at H.H. Garnet Elementary School. Her project was not one chosen to be funded, however, the KCRSPA Executive Committee has voted to award Cailley the full \$300 so that she will be able to complete her proposal. Cailley and her Principal, Brenda Rose, have been invited to our March 5th luncheon meeting at the Country Club to share her project and to receive her award.

One of the projects your Association embarks on every year is to read to our elementary students on Dr. Suess Day. Members, under the direction of Kathy Clark, will be reading in each of our elementary schools on March 4th. Give Kathy a call if you'd like to join in.

Don't forget to bring canned goods for the Food Pantry on March 5th.

Scholarship Fund

Kent County Retired School Personnel Association Scholarship award is given to a Kent County High School graduate who has been accepted at an accredited institution. Preference is given to students planning a career in education. So far this year 27% of the KCRSPA members donating \$25.00 or more. Five donations were made to honor or memory of an educator. The fund also received \$255.41 from the trip \$77.00 from the meeting 50/50 and \$204.00 from the Christmas basket raffle . The Scholarship fund now holds \$5100.41. If you have not yet donated you can send your check made out to KCRSPA note Scholarship in the memo line.

Mail to :Emily Masse
24704 Chestertown RD
Chestertown MD 21620

Scholarship Donation Form

NAME _____

DATE _____

Amount _____

In honor or memory of:

: _____

Thank you for your support.

Sunshine
Sue Coleman will send out birthday cards to KCRSP. If your address has changed, please contact her by calling 410-648-5252 or email magpiesuz@gmail.com. If a member is sick or has a loss, contact Sue so she can send a card from the KCRSPA.

Scholarship

Personal notes of thanks were sent to colleagues of Lorraine Costella for very generous donations made to the Dr. Costella scholarship. Thank you to all of you who have donated to our scholarship fund.

Our scholarship application has been revised and delivered to KCHS. I have had conversations and emails with a number of people concerning our scholarship goals.

Ms Matthews in guidance and teacher Caren Saunders assure me that our scholarship will be presented to students. We are hoping for more response this year. Please help by presenting our case to your church group , PTA and friends. Completed applications are due to Charlotte Potts by April 1st.

State Senator, Stephen Hershey

420 James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Phone: 410-841-3639 | 301-858-3639 |
Toll-free in MD: 1-800-492-7122 ext. 3639
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Barbara Gillin

Margaret Larson



SUNSHINE

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MARCH

- Jed Howell 3/5
- Patsy Reihl 3/14
- Olythea Hunley 3/19
- Virginia Newlin 3/20
- Geraldine Pauls 3/21
- Dale Atkinson 3/24
- Sylvia Maloney 3/26
- Trudy Anderson 3/26

APRIL

- Peachie Moore 4/3
- Jean Wright 4/11
- Linda Wesley 4/15
- Barbara Gillin 4/19
- Joanne Coveney 4/22
- Lorraine Costella 4/25
- Kathleen Jones 4/28
- Sue Bedwell 4/29



MAY

- Nina Burt 5/7
- Billie L. Roberts 5/7
- Joyce Powell 5/9
- Sharon Gordon 5/17
- Ann Moss 5/18
- Mark Schivley 5/19
- Fay Miller 5/23
- Miriam Spriggs 5/27
- Joe Massey 5/31

Community Service

For the first time in ten years there are no nominees for the MRSPA community service

award from our group. So, no application for this volunteer award has been submitted. It is due March 20th.

Jean Wright has been nominated as our volunteer for the Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame . Sue Crooks will submit that application.

SEUSS ON THE LOOSE

Dr. Seuss' birthday lands on Monday, March 2nd this year. That's 3 days BEFORE our March luncheon. If you are interested in reading in one of the elementary schools on that day, please contact Kathy Clark at :410-778-2548 or gdclark2@verizon.net. We read to pre-K through second grades, usually in the morning. A schedule will be provided once we have all our volunteers. Your time and effort in this worthy cause are greatly appreciated AND it's LOTS OF FUN!

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Laura Brown, Director | David S. Goldberger, Deputy Director | Mary G. Brown, Executive Director

Kent County Retired School Personnel Association Executive Comm.

February 6, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by our President Fay Miller at the Library Annex in Chestertown.

We all rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The agenda was presented by Fay and Jean Wright approved and Kathy Clark seconded and all approved.

Those in attendance: Kathy Clark, Nancy Harrington, Emily Massey, Charlotte Potts, Jean Wright, Sue Crooks, Margie Baker, Lee Hunley, Sue Coleman and Winnie Walters.

Minutes from December 5, 2019 were presented and accepted by Kathy Clark and seconded by Nancy Harrington and all approved.

Treasures Report will be presented at our meeting in a March, as Emily has been away and arrived home the night before, she has a lot of mail to update.

President's Report: Fay Miller

Fay thanked all of those that came down to our house to work on our Scholarship application and it has been to be revised and delivered to KCHS. MRSPA Lobby Day in Annapolis on Tuesday of March 3, 2020 from 10:00 to 12:00 P.M, has changed, and it falls on our meeting day. Our State President and Area Director were to come to our meeting on March 5th, now they won't be coming because of this change. Kent County had one applicant for MRSPA Classroom Mini-Grant. She is Cailley Cochran from H.H. Garnet Elem. School. Fay made a suggestion that she was one of us, and could we see presenting her with \$300.00 from KCRSPA. A motion was made by Kathy Clark, and after discussion from the group a second from Sue Coleman and all approved. Kathy Clark will visit H. H. Garnet Elem. and speak with Brenda Rose and set a time to present this award.

Vice-Presidents Report: Sue Crooks Nothing at this time.

Standing Committee Report:

Archives/ Lee Hunley NR

By Laws : Margie Baker NR

Community Service: Sue Crooks gave report on The Seniors Citizens Hall of Fame.

This year's nominee will be Jean Wright.

Legislative: Betty Weller not present

Programs/Hospitality : Kathy Clark told us about Dr. Seuss Day , March 4th, she needs reader's

She also said she has supplies left from last year to give the children.

Our March 5th luncheon will be at the Country Club. Quest Speaker will be Wayne Gilcrest. Jean Wright has offer to sell the 50-50 tickets. Newsletter needs to be too Terri by Feb. 12th., and ten mailed by the 14th in order to give the Country Club numbers.

Membership: Nancy Harrington reported for February KC has 97 members with 0% increase. Please welcome Christina Johnson as a new member. Sad in the passing of Barbara Gillian. Invite Joan Wise to our March meeting. MRSPA gained 87 new members. Still offering switch and save to eligible member's for a one time \$10.00 redirected in state dues. Nancy also told us about the Nov.4th bus trip to The American Music Theater. She checked in on several restaurant's to change our Lunch stop. After much discussion we decided to go the Miller's. She still waiting on a call from Bus Co. for any price changes.

Sunshine: Sue Coleman thanked Nancy for the generous gift of cards from her Mother. She will need stamps soon.

Unfinished Business: Kathy Clark said she thinks our phone tree needs updated.

New Business: Fay Miller presented the Vice President Sue Crooks and the Secretary Edwina Walters with letters of her resignation effective immediately. She stated that after talking with her Dr. Doctor and the rough winter she has had with her health, she has come to the conclusion that her resignation at this time was best for her. She will continue to be member and lend her support.

Adjournment :11:40 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Edwina W. Walters, Secretary