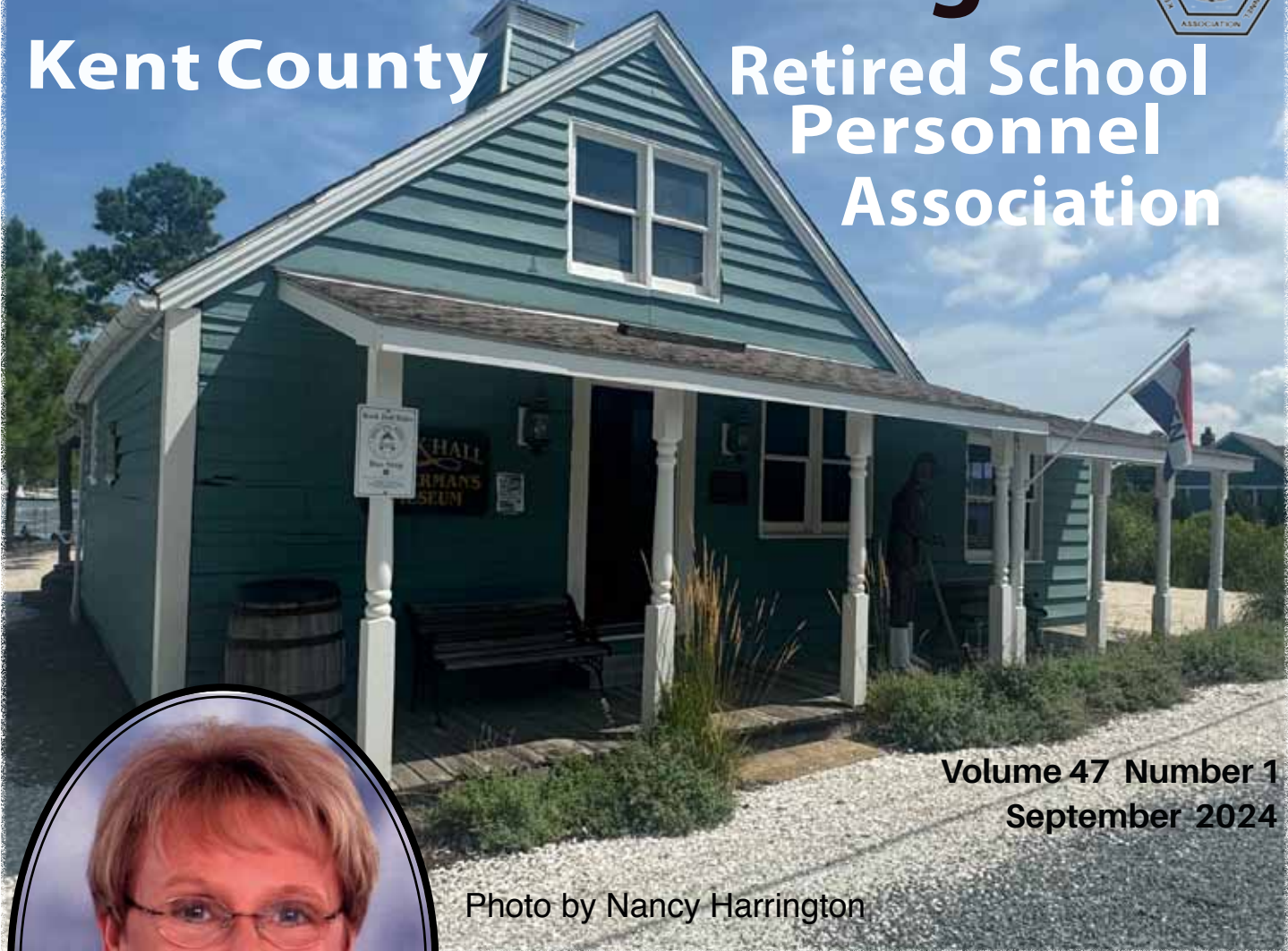


# The Bell Ringer



## Kent County

## Retired School Personnel Association



Volume 47 Number 1  
September 2024

Photo by Nancy Harrington



Greeting Retirees,

Hope everyone had an enjoyable summer! It was certainly hot and dry...but the summer fruits and vegetables were delicious.

Our new MRSPA president, Betty Weller, shared the new motto for MRSPA.....Opportunities to "ADVOCATE, SERVE, and CONNECT." We need to share this motto with our new retirees. They are Rose Asplen, Joseph Evans, Carole Manley, and Carol Griffin. Should you see these folks in the community make that personal contact and encourage them to join us.

KCRSPA does need to celebrate 101 unified members, 4 local members, and 4 Emeritus members. Nice job membership!

*(Continued on page 2)*



**CLAPPER**  
WHAT'S IN THE BELL

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Please place these important luncheon dates on your calendar:

October 3rd - New Retirees introduced to the membership

December 5th - Holiday Scholarship Basket Raffle

March 6th - A History Lesson

June 5th - Installation of new officers

There is another important date for you to remember. The Senior Citizen Hall of Fame luncheon is on Thursday, October 17th, when Susan Clark will be honored for her service to the community. If you would like to join in the celebration, please send your check of \$35 to Nancy Harrington by September 18th.

Hope to see all of you at our Fall luncheon at the "Flying Decoy" Restaurant in Rock Hall on Thursday, October 3rd.

*Nancy Harrington, President*

#### A BASKET OF GOODIES

Our first project this year is to fill a basket of packaged goodies for the teachers in each school in the county. Think about a time when at the end of the day when you just needed a snack. Please bring your favorite packaged snack {chocolate, crackers, chips, cookies, tea, granola bars, etc.} to our Fall luncheon to be placed in one of the five baskets that will be delivered one to each school. We will also place MRSPA/KCRSPA info in the basket for the personnel in each school to read and be informed about our great association.

#### **Editor Notes -**

Welcome back to a new season/year of issues of *The BELL RINGER*!! Every effort is made to get this to you, the member, as soon after the Executive meets as possible. Much of the business is transacted at the Executive Committee level and you should know what is happening. Possibly of equal, or greater, importance is the info and reservation form for the upcoming General Meeting. It is in less than a month. The meeting will be October 3, 2024 and we will gather at the Flying Decoy Restaurant in Rock Hall (previously Baywolf). It would be nice to see a good size crowd since it's been all summer since we last met.

This newsletter has the usual content, and as editor I thank the Executive Committee members for their timely submissions of materials so this newsletter can go out.

There are minutes where available.

The treasurer's report is included. Debbie does an excellent job at a task that takes some time.

President Nancy gives her report.

Check birthdays of the next four months.

There is an article about our local member becoming the MRSPA President. Congratulations to Betty Weller! I will add that Kent County has had several members become State President. How many can you name?

There is more detailed information on the scholarship winners. I think this is an important thing we do. While we gave information on the winners in the May newsletter, the names were kept for this issue so as not to have the information out before the actual presentation.

You will find in Nancy's membership that we, KCRSPA, have achieved an accomplishment. Namely membership improvements. Be sure to read the details.

I try to keep posting a list of Executive Committee Members so you will know where to find them. Emails and addresses are included. Due to this newsletter being on the website, phone numbers are not included, but are available to you in the Directory.

The June cruise of 2023 was repeated in 2024 due to the enjoyment. Check out the photos in this issue taken by Lea Hunley and forwarded by her daughter. Why not be a part of that if it happens in 2025!

Finally, I will repeat myself to remind all members of the meeting on October 3, 2025, at 11:15 am at The Flying Decoy Restaurant in Rock Hall. Reservations are due by September 23. Let's get a big number to attend!!!!

## KCRSPA June General Meeting & Luncheon

*(Non-minutes)*

The meeting was laid back and informat due to the nature of a cruise down the lazy Chester river. Consequently there no minutes written. The MRSPS President Carla and her husband were in attendance and she spoke briefly. President Nancy shared the names of new retirees and thanked Kathy & Nancy for organizing and handling the cruise.

*Then we partied!!!*



## KCRSPA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Minutes**

**September 5, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by President Nancy Harrington. Members present were Cathy Clark, Glenn Michael, Nancy McCloy, Charolette Potts, Betty Weller, Lea Hunley, Sue Crooks, Debbie Smith, Nina Newlin, and Vice President Susan Clark.

We recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes - The minutes of the previous meeting, May 2, 2024 were approved as printed in the May newsletter.

Treasurer's Report - Debbie Smith gave the treasurer's report and Glenn moved approve and Nancy McCloy seconded, report approved.

President's Report – Nancy welcomed the attendance of State President, also member of KCRSPA, and mentioned the theme that Betty has adopted for her term of - "Advocate. Serve and Connect!"

Committee Reports –

Archives – At the March 25 meeting the contents of the Archives will be on display.

Bylaws/Policies – the revisions are complete and will be signed.

Community Service – Glenn read Billie Lynne's report which will be in the newsletter

Legislative – Betty mentioned that the legislature is not in session so nothing new to report

Program/Hospitality – Kathy Clark detailed the venue, Flying Decoy, and possible menu for the October meeting. All responses will be due by September 23. Complete details in the newsletter.

Membership – we now have 101 Unified members. All time new high. Also, we received certificates for the most new members and the highest percentage of new members of the small counties.

Trips/Social Events – the American Music Theater trip is Nov. 6, also a fall get together may be planned.

Sunshine – no report

Webmaster – Nina is working on the website page. More needs to be done on it.

Old Business – nothing requiring action

New Business - there is a Zoom Meeting for presidents

- will be gift bags for schools

- Christmas Raffle baskets will be done by Executive committee, but each should ask a member to assist so as to spread the involvement.

- the members of KCRSPA are asked to attend the Oct. 14th Board of Education Meeting to show the Board and new superintendent who we are. Details at the General Meeting.

Glenn moved adjourn and no second. Action was taken to adjourn.

*Respectfully submitted, Glenn Michael, Acting Secretary*

*The minutes from the June 2024 General Meeting were not recorded as such, but there were no votes on any issues, so a synopsis of actions is printed here. Action on them should not be needed at the meeting.*

*The set of KCRSPA Executive Committee Meeting minutes are from the meeting held on Sep. 5, 2024. They will be approved at the next Executive Committee Meeting on Nov. 7, 2024. They are provided here so that all members can know the actions approved and discussed at the Executive Committee Meeting. Members are welcome to attend Executive Meetings.*



# BIRTHDAYS

KCRSPA celebrates you with a card for your birth date and recognizing the years of your important life.

If your address changes, please contact Sue Coleman by calling 410-648-5252 or email magpiesuz@gmail.com  
If a member is sick or losses a loved one, contact Sue so she can send a card from KCRSPA

**SEPTEMBER**  
 Marie Fenner 9/1  
 Stephanie Lindsey 9/2  
 Leah Schlenker 9/6  
 Gwen Swinson 9/9  
 Dorothy Ringgold 9/16  
 Linda Fry 9/19  
 Laretta Freeman 9/23  
 Amy Crowding 9/25  
 Cynthia Phillips 9/27

**OCTOBER**  
 Ida Nabb 10/5  
 Doug Walters 10/7  
 Terri Mullikin 10/7  
 Sue Coleman 10/12  
 Tina Johnson 10/19  
 Kathy Clark 10/21  
 Ruth Wilson 10/26

**NOVEMBER**  
 Bonnie Smith 11/3  
 Herman Gay 11/4  
 Tracey Williams 11/4  
 Sally Jastram 11/15  
 James Lupis 11/16  
 Brenda Shorter 11/20  
 Edna Phillips 11/23  
 Lloyd Taylor 11/24  
 Susan Clark 11/25  
 Helen Tyson 11/25  
 Anna Hurd 11/26  
 Becky Glenn 11/30

KCRSPA Treasurer's Report		
July 31, 2024		
(for September 2024 Meeting)		
<b>Business Checking Account</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
07/09/2024	Scholarship Deposit	\$1000.00
07/17/2024	Scholarship Deposit	\$1000.00
07/17/2024	American Music Theater Trip (November 6, 2024)	\$1980.00
07/17/2024	American Music Theater Trip (November 6, 2024)	\$220.00
	<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$4,200.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
07/08/2024	Scholarship (A. Litton)	\$1000.00
07/11/2024	Stamps and envelopes (Debbie Smith)	\$15.79
07/16/2024	Stamps (Sue Coleman)	\$65.28
07/23/2024	Scholarship (A. Kendall)	\$1000.00
07/26/2024	Scholarship (A. Barrett)	\$1000.00
	<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$3,081.07</b>
Starting Balance as of June 28,2024		\$10,273.63
	<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$4,200.00</b>
	<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$3,081.07</b>
Ending Balance as of July 31, 2024		\$11,392.56
KCRSPA Scholarship Fund		
Business Savings Account		
Starting Balance as of June 28, 2024		\$4,692.66
<b>Income</b>		
07/31/2024	Interest Compounded	0.26
	<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>0.26</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
07/09/2024	Scholarship withdrawal	\$1,000.00
(A. Kendall)		
07/17/2024	Scholarship withdrawal	\$1,000.00
(A. Barrett)		
	<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
Starting Balance as of June 28,2024		\$4,692.66
	<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>0.26</b>
	<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
Ending Balance as of July 31,2024		\$2692.92

**DECEMBER**  
 Ray Clarke 12/7  
 Eileen Hahn 12/7  
 Doreen Schivley 12/16  
 Rick Walters 12/17  
 Terry Moody 12/24  
 Charlotte Potts 12/30



# OUR KCRSPA MEMBER BECOMES PRESIDENT OF MRSPA



Members pictured above rode over to the MRSPA General Meeting in support of Betty Weller being Installed as President. The meeting was at Truf Valley Resort in Ellicott City on May 7. Betty adds, " I'm proud to be in a position to continue to represent educators. I'm especially proud to be a member of KCRSPA, a local that works hard to bring in new members."

.....  
**President**

Nancy Harrington  
 530 High Bridge Road  
 Millington, MD 21651  
 nmhar@verizon.net

**Vice President**

Susan (Sue) Clark  
 210 Manor Ave.  
 Chestertown, MD 21620  
 sclark2@washcoll.edu

**Past President**

Glenn W. Michael  
 23169 Old Fairlee Road  
 Chestertown, MD 21620  
 fastaperture@gmail.com

**Secretary**

Brenda Shorter  
 10387 Bunting Road  
 Chestertown, MD 21620  
 bshorter20@gmail.com

**Treasurer**

Debbie Smith  
 209 Pear Tree Pt.RD.  
 Chestertown, MD 21620  
 debbiesmith828@gmail.com

**Archives Chairs**

**Olythea Hunley**  
 PO Box 4  
 Still Pond, MD 21667  
 olytheab@gmail.com

.....  
**Executive Committee 2024 -20245**

**By-Laws Chair**

**Rick Walters**  
 12750 Ireland's Corner Rd.  
 Galena, MD 21620

**Kathleen Jones**

PO Box 561  
 Chestertown. MD 21620

**Legislative Chair**

**Elizabeth Weller**  
 216Duke of Kent Street  
 Chestertown, MD 21620  
 weller.betty@gmail.com

**Community Service**

**Billie Lynne Roberts**  
 26661 Old Still Pond Road  
 Still Pond, MD 21667  
 db.roberts@verizon.net

**Hospitality**

**/Program Co- Chairs**

**Kathy Clark**  
 199 Rolling Road  
 Chestertown, MD 21620  
 gdclark2@verizon.net

**Nancy McCloy**

PO Box 105  
 Still Pond,MD 21667  
 nmccloy@aol.com

**Webmaster**

**Virginia Newlin**  
 12409 Woods Road  
 Worton, MD 21678

**Trips/Social Activities**

**Ruth Wilson**  
 102 East Campus Avenue  
 Chestertown, MD 21620  
 rwilson26@verizon.net

**Membership**

**/Pre-Retirement Co-Chairs**

**Sue Crooks**  
 26895 Mallard RD  
 Chestertown, MD 21620  
 susanlcrooks@yahoo.com

Nancy Harrington  
 530 High Bridge Road  
 Millington, MD 21651  
 nmhar@verizon.net

**Newsletter**

**Glenn Michael**  
 23169 Old Fairlee RD  
 Chestertown, MD 21620  
 fastaperture@gmail.com

**Terri Mullikin**

5885 Cottage Avenue  
 Roch Hall, MD 21661  
 rockhallpixie@verizon.net

.....  
**Sunshine**

**Sue Coleman**  
 178 Birchwood Lane  
 Galena, MD 21635  
 magpiesuz@gmail.com

**Scholarship Co Chairs**

**Billie Lynne Roberts**  
 26661 Old Still Pond Road  
 Still Pond, MD 21667  
 db.roberts@verizon.net

**Sue Crooks**

26895 Mallard RD  
 Chestertown, MD 21620  
 susanlcrooks@yahoo.com

**Charlotte Potts**

PO Box 446  
 Chestertown,MD 21620

**Brenda Shorter**

10387 Bunting RD  
 Chestertown,MD 21620  
 bshorter20@gmail.com

**Little Libraries**

**Terri Mullikin**  
 5885 Cottage Avenue  
 Roch Hall, MD 21661  
 rockhallpixie@verizon.net

**Assisting . . .**

Nancy Harrington,  
 Emily Massey,  
 Debbie Smith,  
 Jean Wright.







KCRSPA  
ON THEIR  
JUNE  
MEETING  
CRUISE



September, 2024  
Scholarship Committee Report

We were pleased to receive twelve completed applications for the KCRSPA 2024 scholarship. The Scholarship committee met to review the applications and selected five students to be awarded our scholarship. Scholarships were presented on May 16, at the KCHS Awards Night by Billie Lynne Roberts and Brenda Shorter. All of these students have achieved academic success and earned the praise of their teachers and community. Each will receive \$1000 to be sent to their college of choice. We wish these students success with the challenges ahead.

- Jaeda Hoxter - Morgan State University - elementary education
- Alexa Kendall - Washington College - elementary education
- Addisyn Litton - Stevenson University - high school art education
- Amaya Barrett - Morgan State University - nursing
- Guadalupe Duarte Arellano - University of Maryland - translator in Business

All monies were mailed to the schools this summer. We received nice notes of appreciation. Guadalupe wrote :  
“Thank you for this incredible opportunity... I am committed to upholding the values and standards associated with this award. “

Some of our scholarship monies come from a group of retired educators started by former superintendent of Kent County Public Schools, Dr. Lorraine Costella. For many years generous gifts from this group have helped us support students in Kent County. We thank Dr. Costella, Dr. Bonnie Ward and friends for their continued support.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND !!**

Thank you to all friends and colleagues who contribute to the scholarship fund. We ask members to make an annual \$25 donation. Your donations are very important to secure our ability to provide scholarships to deserving KCHS seniors. As the prices of everything increase, your donations are very important. It is our mission to provide financial aid to young people as they begin their career paths.

In the newsletter you will find a form to use for donations. Also, in the newsletter you will find a list of members who have made contributions in 2024. Many thanks to those folks.



Jaeda Hoxter



Alexa Kendall



Addisyn Litton



Amaya Barrett



Guadalupe  
Duarte Arellano





## Community Service

Many of our members are doing valuable volunteer activities in the community. We annually recognize outstanding service of members who are positively impacting the community. This year we nominated Susan Clark for the Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame (MSCHF). She actively donates many hours to help improve the lives of others in our community.

Other volunteer activities include donations to local food pantries, clothing and hygiene products donated to elementary and middle schools, and Little Libraries in Kent County where students and adults borrow books. Thanks to Emily Massey and Debbie Smith for maintaining the libraries. Volunteer opportunities are also available at the Rock Hall Watermens' Museum. Recently, items were donated by members to the Animal Care and Shelter Center of Kent County. We received a nice thank you letter from that organization.

Nina Newlin has agreed to join the Community Service committee. Thank you, Nina!

## MEMBERSHIP INFO

Let's celebrate our membership increase! MRSPA presented Kent County with the "Largest Percentage Increase" and the "Largest Numerical Increase" of membership of the small counties in the state. Our membership is 101 unified members, 4 local members, and 4 Emeritus members. If you know of any retirees, encourage them to join us.

### **Recruitment Incentive**

MRSPA is offering a \$10 gift card to ANY member who recruits a NEW member who signs up for DUES DEDUCTION. All you have to do is get the NEW member to complete an application form, sign up for DUES DEDUCTION, and then WRITE YOUR NAME on the application before sending it to MRSPA. MRSPA will send you a gift card. You can recruit as many NEW DUES DEDUCTION members as you like! Just remember to put your name on each application! The NEW member who signs up for DUES DEDUCTION will also receive the ONE-TIME \$10 reduction in state dues, so their state dues will be \$40 for 2024-2025. Remember that local dues are additional. We are calling on ALL members to assist us in this recruitment effort!

### **Switch and Save Invitation:**

MRSPA has extended an invitation to cash members to switch to dues deduction for 2024-2025. If they make the change, they are eligible for a one-time \$10 reduction in state dues. They would pay \$40 for state dues for 2024-2025, plus their local dues amount. Members need to complete and return the Dues Deduction Authorization Form, which is available on the MRSPA website under Switch and Save (<https://www.mrspa.org/switch-and-save>).



Students at Galena Elementary school enjoying President Nancy's visit to read the book, *Emerald the Green Dragon*, by Dr. Ronald Gilbar, and donated to all the elementary schools by KCRSPA.



## Donations to KCRSPA Scholarship Fund

We appreciate donations made to date in 2024 from the following people.  
Remember: our major mission is to support students planning to further their education.  
Please show your support. Thank you.

Almaz Yosef - in memory of Miriam Spriggs  
Charlotte Potts  
Margie Baker - in memory of Miriam Spriggs  
Suzanne Coleman - in memory of Thelma O'Grady ( Miss Nick)  
Mary Siemen  
Billie Lynne Roberts - in memory of Judy Stap

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### Scholarship Fund

Help us fulfill our mission to support high school students planning their college careers. It is through your donations that we are able to award scholarships to deserving Kent County High School students. These scholarships mean a lot to students and their families.

In the past 16 years our association has awarded more than \$30,000 in scholarships. These awards are made possible by our members who are asked to contribute \$25 annually. Many thanks to those who already made a contribution. Educators need to be in the forefront of supporting students.

***Remember: This is a major goal of our organization!  
All donations allow us to continue the scholarship program.  
Names of donors will be listed in the Newsletter.***

One student wrote : "Thank you for believing in me and my ability to succeed..."

***Please think about a donation to our fund for the next school year and use the form provided.***

***Thank you for your consideration.***

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#### Scholarship Donation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \_\_\_\_\_

In honor or memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your support.**

Checks may be made to **KCRSPA** and mailed to :

**Debbie Smith  
200 Pear Tree Point Rd  
Chestertown, MD. 21620**

**October Luncheon**

Come help us welcome our new retirees and enjoy great food and good company. Chef Chris Golden uses all locally grown and raised products, and creates mouth-watering delights to “tickle the taste buds.”

The Flying Decoy (formerly BAY WOLF) is located on rte.20 (Rock Hall Ave.) in Rock Hall. There is parking behind the restaurant with a ramp up to the door. We are also collecting “goodies” to make a faculty basket for each school. Donations of tea/teabags, coffee/k-cups, hot chocolate, cookies, crackers, etc. are all welcome, as are wrapped candies and chocolates. A basket will be presented to each Kent County school from KCRSPA with hopes for a wonderful, productive year. Hope to see you on October 3rd!

**KCRSPA LUNCHEON**  
**Thursday, October 3, 2024**  
at  
**THE FLYING DECOY**  
**21270 ROCK HALL AVENUE**  
**11:15 Business Meeting/ 12:00 Lunch**

**MENU**

**Choice of Entree:**

\*Harvest Pasta (squash, fresh veggies, basil & walnut pesto, goat cheese, herbed bread crumbs)

\*Chicken Caesar Salad (with croutons on the side)

\*Salmon BLT with fries (salmon cake, bacon, lettuce, tomato on roll)

**Dessert:** Cookie Tray

**Beverages:** Coffee, Tea, Ice Tea

***Please respond by -***

**MONDAY, SEPT. 23rd** making checks  
payable to **KCRSPA (\$30/person)**.

**Kathy Clark 199 Rolling Rd. Chestertown, Md. 21620**

-----  
Please circle your choice of entree:

Harvest Pasta

Chicken Caesar Salad

Salmon BLT

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Amt. Enc. \_\_\_\_\_