

CRSPA



Hello everyone,

May 19, 2021 will be our last CRSPA General Meeting for this year. Please plan on attending this meeting. We will be sharing information, virtually via Zoom, regarding your health benefits. Next year, we plan on going back to in person gatherings at Christ Church Hall, and continue to offer the meetings virtually via Microsoft Teams for members out of the area.

Below you will find pertinent information on your retirement cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) and how to protect yourself from scams.

Cost-Of-Living Adjustments (COLA)

Payees may be eligible to receive COLAs on their retirement allowance each July. The adjustment is tied to the U.S. Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index. A member must be retired at least one year as of July 1 to be eligible to receive that year's increase. For example, a payee with a retirement date of July 2018 would become eligible for their first COLA in July 2019. A payee with a retirement date of August 2018 would become eligible for their first COLA in July 2020.

Service earned before July 1, 2011, receives a COLA based on the plan provisions in place when the service was earned. For service earned on or after July 1, 2011, the adjustment is capped at 2.5% when the system's investment fund earns or exceeds its assumed actuarial rate of return (currently 7.45%) or capped at 1% in years when this rate is not met. This cap does not apply to members and retirees of the Employees' and Teachers' Retirement System.

Protect Yourself from Scams

The Maryland State Retirement and Pension System ("System") takes data security and the privacy of your personal information very seriously. It is extremely rare that you will receive an unsolicited call from them. As in all cases of an unsolicited phone call, you should not share your personal or financial information based upon that call.

Big **THANK YOU** to Linda Mooney for the Zoom classes "Technology Skills for Retired Calvert County Educators". They have been well attended and appreciated. There will be one more class on May 20th. Check your emails for updates.

AND check out the short [TECH TIP VIDEOS](#) on our website!

Normal office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. They do not contact customers in the evenings, on weekends, or on state holidays.

They will never call you to demand immediate repayment of an amount allegedly owed to the System. And, they will never require you to provide your bank account information so that they can directly debit your bank account, or ask you to wire transfer money to them, or to make repayment using prepaid debit, credit or gift cards.

If you are uncertain as to the legitimacy of someone representing the Maryland State Retirement and Pension System, please hang up and immediately contact customer service unit at 410-625-5555 or 800-492-5909.

The Maryland Attorney General's Office has a booklet entitled "A Consumer Guide for Seniors" that provides helpful suggestions to help you protect your personal information. The guide can be read online at www.oag.state.md.us/seniors.htm or a free copy can be ordered by mail by calling 410-576-6500.

Another valuable source of information regarding the prevention of fraudulent and deceptive business practices is the Federal Trade Commission. Their article "How Not to Get Hooked by a 'Phishing' Scam" can be found at: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-recognize-and-avoid-phishing-scams>.

Thank you for your membership, and participation during this year. We are so anxious to see you in person on October 6, 2021. Please reach out to invite your retired friends and colleagues to join our wonderful organization.

Best regards,

Vicky Karol

CRSPA President





Alice I. Sewell
Our longest serving Emeritus Member
March 16, 1925 - January 22, 2021

Alice was born in Huntingtown, Maryland. She peacefully departed this life at her home in Prince Frederick.

Education was important to **Alice**. She loved spending hours reading. She walked many miles to attend Huntingtown Elementary School which was located across from the present-day location of Patuxent Church. High school academics took place at the Central Colored High School located on Armory Road in Prince Frederick. After graduating, **Alice** attended State Teacher's College in Bowie. She received her degree in 1946 and began her teaching career in Calvert County.

Alice's career spanned 26 years. After Calvert County, she traveled weekly to Kent County on the Eastern Shore and taught for 2 years from 1951 to 1953. **Alice** had to take the ferry, which presented many challenges. After leaving Kent County, **Alice** moved to Baltimore City and taught for 19 years.

Alice received her Master of Science degree from Morgan State University on June 2, 1969.

Alice was married to the late Francis E. Sewell. From this union was born a son, Elliott Bradley, with whom she shared a special bond to the end.

Alice belonged to Patuxent United Methodist Church, American Legion Women Auxiliary Post 220, and the Calvert Retired School Personnel Association.

After retiring, **Alice** studied typing, macrame, upholstering, pottery, sign language, playing the piano, and tap dancing. She loved fishing and spent many hours fishing on the shoreline, and on Mr. Henry Bean's Charter Boat. Although **Alice** no longer partied like she did as a young woman, she still enjoyed family and friends' picnics, holiday meals, music and dancing.

Alice leaves her love and memories with her son, Bradley, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives, and friends; along with special friends Darlene Long, Aliease Coates, and Russell Costley.

"A teacher affects eternity." Henry Brooks Adams

Save These Dates

2020-2021 CRSPA Meeting Dates

Executive Mtgs/Zoom

- Aug 25th
- Dec 1st

General Meeting/Zoom

- May 19th @ 11am
- Oct 6th



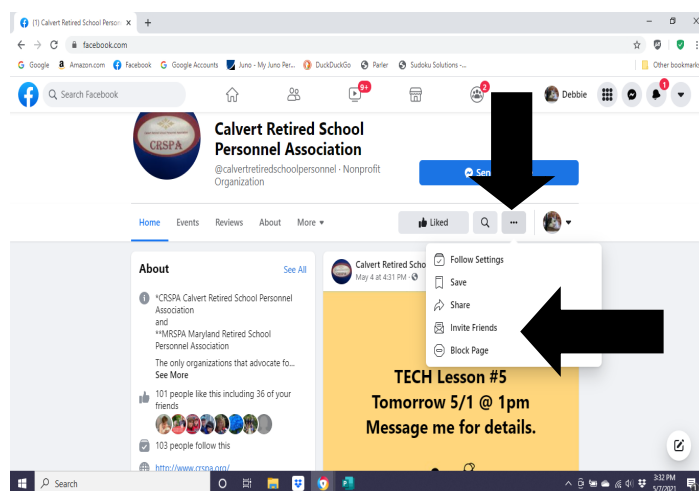
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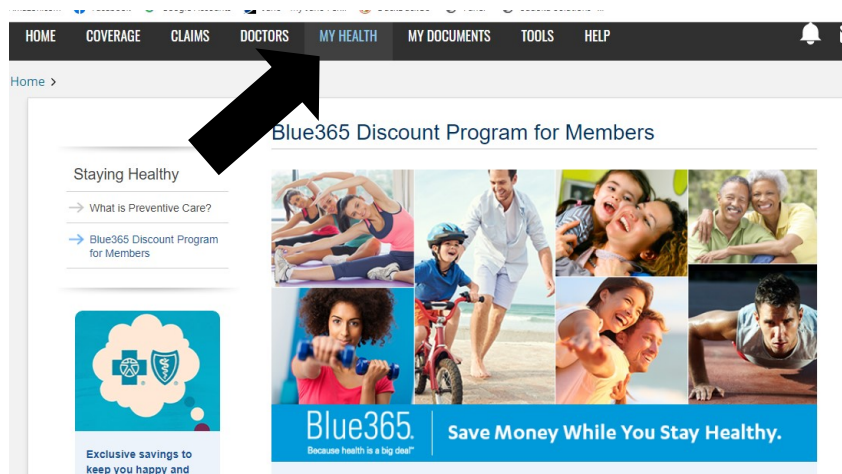
Help us recruit new members!

HOW TO: invite your FB teacher friends (retired or still teaching) to join our FB page and learn about us.

- 1.) Open Facebook
- 2.) Go to the Calvert Retired School Personnel Association page. You can either click on the icon from one of the posts, or put "Calvert Retired School Personnel Association" in the search bar on the top left of you FB page, then click on the icon.
- 3.) Go to the three dots on the right side ... Click that and pull down to "Invite Friends".
- 4.) This will pull up your friends list. If a friend already LIKES the CRSPA page, they will not be listed there.
- 5.) Click on which friends to invite. These can be current retirees or active teacher friends who may be interested.
- 6.) Click SEND INVITES



From the desk of Jan Travers



During a Zoom meeting with Bridget Scott on health coverage the following website was shared where you can sign up for discounts on: shoes, fitbits, bikes and watches. You are looking for Blue365 Discount for Members Program under the MY HEALTH tab, once you have an online account with CareFirst set up.
www.carefirst.com/ccps

From the desk of Lynn Cox

CRSPA's Next Meeting

CRSPA Executive Board

2020-2021

President

Dr. Vicky Karol
karolvd@comcast.net

Vice President

Linda Mooney
ljmooney16@gmail.com

Immediate Past President

Barbara McKimmie

Recording Secretary

Jan Travers
janettravers@yahoo.com

Corresponding Secretary

Fran Armstrong
farmstrong@comcast.net

Treasurer

Merry Ellen McGown
mellen20639@yahoo.com

Newsletter

Debbie Hance
debbiejhance@gmail.com

Safety Tips

If you think you are a victim of fraud involving COVID-19, call the National Center for Disaster Fraud hotline at 1-866-720-5721.



Date: Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Place: Zoom

Time: 11am—1pm Meeting

Program: Remembrance of Members

Health and Prescription Plan/CCPS HR

Cost: Free

Please look for an email from CRSPA with a link to our Zoom meeting. This email will be coming the weekend before the meeting.

Treasurer's Report—May 2021

Opening Balance:
Checking Account **\$8576.86**

Activity

Expenditures:
Meals on Wheels **\$2615.00**

Ending Balance: **\$5961.86**



VISIT

Like and Follow us
on Facebook.

[facebook.com/
calvertretiredschoolpersonnel](https://facebook.com/calvertretiredschoolpersonnel)



www.crspa.org

*For the latest newsletter,
meetings, legislative updates,
photos, and more.*



Congratulations Membership Committee

Happy Birthday CRSPA Members



June

Mary Horsmon 5
Patrick Buzzard 6
Josephine Deska 6
Deborah Smith 7
Adrian Beard 10
Donna White 11
Susan Hammond 14
Gretchen Jankovitz 16
Rose Marie Mraz 16
Carolyn McHale 24
Bonnie Peterson 25
Beatrice Simpson-Brown 28
Charles Craft 29

July

Nancy Highsmith 1
Casey Duehrssen 6
Karen Neal 11
Nicholas Parr 12
Carole Wagner 14
Glen Moulton 15
Gayle Reid 17
Sandra Derr 19
Carolyn Distler 20
Desiree Stamps 25
Sally Ayres 27
Alice Plater 27
Kathryn Coleman 28

August

Leila Baddour 4
Cheryl Yates 5
Berta Airey 6
Inez Jones 9
Valerie Weems-Garber 9
Barbara Fringer 13
Jean Radeacker 13
Donna Robertson 13
Lavetta Hutchins 20
Shirley Long 23
Carol Donovan 25
Irving Long 27
Patrice Jenkins 28
Evonne Thompson 29
Lynn Cox 30

CRSPA Community Outreach Spring Project—Calvert Meals on Wheels



CRSPA donated a total of \$2615 collected from members. This will allow Calvert MOW to purchase 500 meals for the homebound.

Thank you Members!

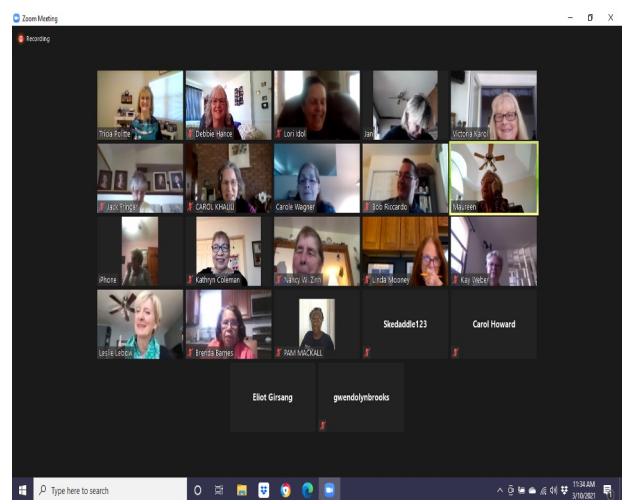
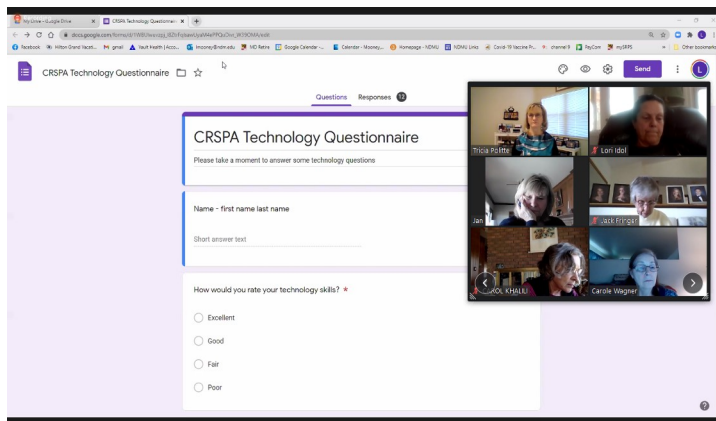
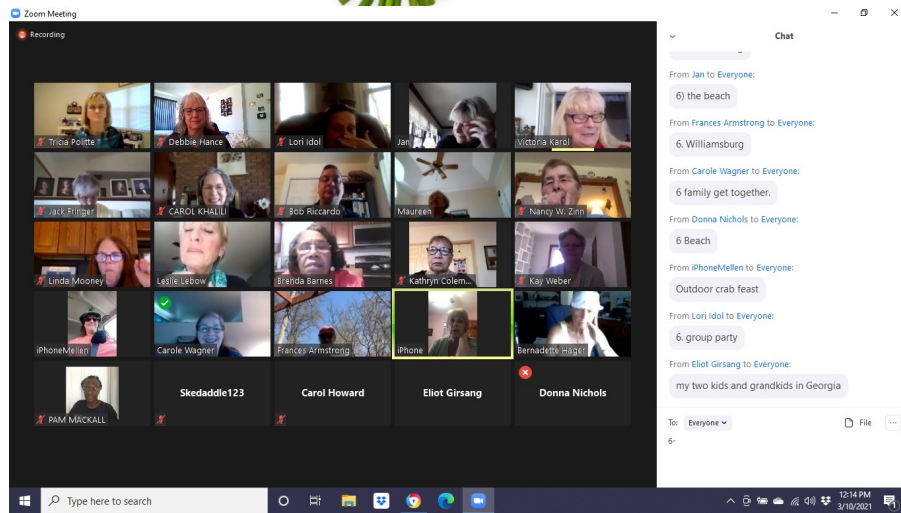
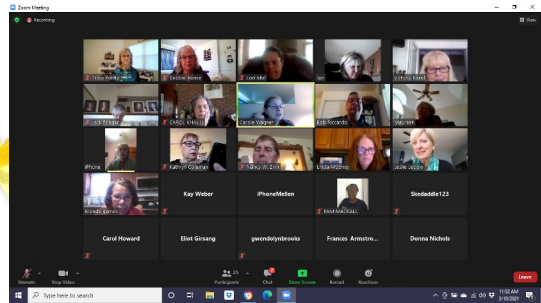
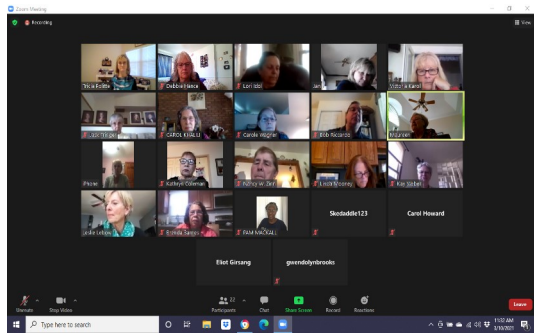


CRSPA is in need of a Recording Secretary

- ⇒ Shall serve as a member of the Executive Board and Executive Committee
- ⇒ Shall take the minutes and maintain a full record of all business transacted at regular and special meetings and meetings of the Executive Committee



Good times at our March Meeting.....



CRSPA Scholarship Award Winners—2021

CRSPA Scholarship Committee has chosen four recipients and rewarded each with a \$1000 scholarship. All four students were chosen for their academic excellence, extra-curricular activities, and passion to become educators of the future.



Victoria Godfrey, PHS

Victoria plans to attend St. Mary's College of Maryland. She hopes to become an art teacher



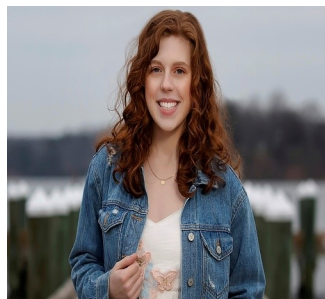
Shrya Jones, CHS

Shrya plans to attend Chesapeake College in Wye Mills, MD. She would like to become a middle school physical education teacher. She is in the TAM program at Calvert.



Jaron Scott, HHS

I'd like to thank you and the CRSPA Scholarship Committee for awarding me your scholarship! I received your letter and would like to notify you that I will be attending Hampton University this fall. Once again, thank you for the opportunity. It is very much appreciated.



Madelyn Wilson, NHS

I am so honored and grateful to be receiving the CRSPA Scholarship. I will be attending West Virginia University this Fall and was just accepted into their Honors College. I love children and cannot wait to make a difference, like many of my teacher's have done in my own life. I am proud to be graduate of Northern High School and the TAM program! Again, I am so grateful to be receiving this very generous gift.

VISIT



New Member Recruitment Incentive!
Earn a \$10 gift card for each **NEW MEMBER** you sign up as a **DUES DEDUCTION** member.



This allows automatic renewal, so no membership interruption while
saving trees , time , and postage  !
Write your name on the membership application, as recruiter.
Return the completed application to:
MRSPA
8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A
Odenton, MD 21113

Questions: Email MRSPA at mrspa@mrspa.org or call MRSPA at 410-551-1517



Connecting, Protecting, Making a Difference

www.crspa.org

*For the latest newsletter, meetings,
legislative updates, photos, and
more.*

CRSPA

Debbie J Hance
4805 Regal Lane
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