Calvert Retired School Personnel Association

May 2020 Summer Issue



# **CRSPA**

President's Message

### Greetings everyone!

What to say! I hope you have all been able to observe social distancing and keeping safe. I'm so bored I actually planted flowers for the first time in my life! I'm not a fan of getting on my knees in the dirt but I needed to do something, anything! You know I was desperate if I was playing in the dirt! Anyway, I guess you know we won't be able to break bread together next month. I am disappointed as I was looking forward to your company and some good southern cooking! Our board meeting next month is cancelled to but there were members of the board who were planning on bringing you important information. Once we are able to share we will get that information to you. Our state organization is at a standstill too. The annual meeting has been cancelled. They have decided that the state board will meet to consider the items that would have been considered at the state meeting. The results of that much abbreviated meeting will be shared with local presidents and eventually printed in the state newsletter. If I receive information I will definitely pass it on. I really don't have anything else for you. I've been stuck here just like you. I am blessed in

that my husband is a non-essential worker and has been here with me the whole time, so at least I have company. I would ask a favor. My one and only child is an essential worker in the criminal justice system in Manassas. She has been on quarantine for the last 10 days with fever and mild symptoms. If you could remember her in your prayers, I'd appreciate it. She's alone down there and being stuck in the house with no one is really taking its toll.

Please stay safe and be well my friends. If you are lonely and would like to chat with a serious talker, call me! 443-771-3400. I'll chat you up!

Anna laughlinamf@gmail.com



## Save These Dates

2019-2020 CRSPA Meeting Dates

Executive Mtgs

May 6th, 1 PM on Zoom
 Informational email coming soon

**General Meetings** 

May 20th, 1 PM on Zoom
 Informational email coming soon



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### **In Memoriam**



Alfreida Shaw August 18, 1939 - April 22, 2020

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Alfreida Shaw (Mullins, South Carolina), who passed away on April 22, 2020, leaving to mourn family and friends. Family and friends are welcome to leave their condolences on this memorial page and share them with the family.

A graveside service will be held on Tuesday, April 28th 2020 at 2:00 PM at 2931 US-76, Mullins, SC 29574.

## "A teacher affects eternity." Henry Brooks Adams

### **Remembrance of Departed Members**

We pay tribute to friends whose lives have brought us joy, whose deaths brought us sadness, but whose memories bring us inspiration to carry on the work.



Those we have lost this year.

Cynthia Diana Dickerson
Betty Lynn Roberts
Faye Coutts Graff
Phyllis Skinner Johnson
Judith A. Bibb
Sally Norris Douglass
Alfreida Shaw

Their beautiful spirits are indomitable and their influences will endure. In mystery we are born, in mystery we live, and in mystery we die.

# **CRSPA's Next Meeting**

#### **CRSPA Executive Board**

2019-2020

#### **President**

Anna Laughlin

laughlinamf@gmail.com

**Vice President** 

**Linda Mooney** 

#### **Immediate Past President**

Barbara McKimmie

#### **Recording Secretary**

Jan Travers

#### **Corresponding Secretary**

Fran Armstrong

#### **Treasurer**

Vicky Karol

#### **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 20th

Place: ZOOM
Time: 1pm Meeting

Program: Cost: FREE

Please look for an email from CRSPA with directions and a link to Zoom and our meeting. This email will be coming the week of May 10th.

## **Door Prize Winners**

Barbara Fringer Barbara Brown Philip Logan Ray Enrico



Jack Brown Debbie Smith Jan Travers Shirley Long



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MARYLAND RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

# Happy Birthday CRSPA Members

June	July	<u> August</u>
Mary Horsmon 5	Nancy Highsmith 1	Leila Baddour 4
Patricia Young 5	Casey Duehrssen 6	Berta Airey 6
Patrick Buzzerd 6	Karen Neal 11	Inez Jones 9
Josephine Deska 6	Nicholas Parr 12	Valerie Weems-Garber 9
Deborah Smith 7	Carole Wagner 14	Barbara Fringer 13
Donna White 11	Glen Moulton 15	Jean Radeacker 13
Susan Hammond 14	Gayle Reid 17	Donna Robertson 13
Gretchen Jankovitz 16	Sandra Derr 19	Shirley Long 23
Rose Marie Mraz 16	Carolyn Distler 20	Carol Donovan 25
Carolyn McHale 24	Desiree Stamps 25	Irving Long 27
Bonnie Peterson 25	Sally Ayres 27	Patrice Jenkins 28
Beatrice Simpson Brown 28	Alice Plater 27	Evonne Thompson 29
Charles Craft 29	Kathryn Coleman 28	Lynn Cox 30

## Retirees Health, Prescription, Vision, and Dental Insurance Plans Bridget Scott

scottb@calvertnet.k12.md.us

Due to the Pandemic, we were unable to mail out our normal Open Enrollment packets.

All the information and documentation that you need are on the Calvert County Public Schools website at this link:

http://www.calvertnet.k12.md.us/departments/human resources/hr program information/ retiree benefits

- There are absolutely no coverage changes to our current insurance plans for the upcoming fiscal year. All benefits for 2019-2020 will be the same in 2020-2021.
- Beginning July 1, 2020, there is, on average, a 3.0% increase in Health/Prescription premium rates. Some plan increases are more than 3.0% based on the experience/usage of each plan and associated plan costs.
- The Vision and Dental premium rates for next year will remain unchanged.

If you know of a fellow retiree who may not have access to the CCPS website, please reach out to them and let them know. Have them contact Bridget at <a href="mailto:scottb@calvertnet.k12.md.us">scottb@calvertnet.k12.md.us</a> or at 443-550-8315 if they have any questions.



### Maryland Retired School Personnel Association

Dear MRSPA Member,

Some of you have contacted us recently with questions about the stability of the Maryland pension fund or to see if your monthly retirement or pension deposits will still be made. In our effort to keep you informed and to ease your mind, please read the latest *Retirement News Highlights* which succinctly and accurately describes the state of the pension fund. You can access the article here.

We know you may be fearful, so wanted you to see that your monthly deposits/checks will be coming as they do every month, and as they continued to do during the recent Great Recession. Thank you for staying home and staying safe during the pandemic. And thank you for your continued membership in MRSPA.

Sincerely,

Wanda Ruffo Twigg Executive Director



MRSPA - 75 Years of Connecting, Protecting and Making a Difference!

Maryland Retired School Personnel Association 8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A Odenton, MD 21113-1508

# Good times at our March Meeting......



DFC William Durner Community Action Team of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office







Presentation of Safety and Security for Seniors



























# CRSPA's Spring 2020 Legislative Report

Submitted by: Ray Enrico, Legislative Chair

The Maryland General Assembly passed 660-plus bills in its abbreviated 2020 legislative period. Almost all were passed in the last four days our legislators were in session and are now awaiting the attention of Governor Hogan. Our elected representatives are expected to complete this year's session at the end of May, but those plans may change due to COVID-19 virus restrictions.

Among the 660+ bills that were passed are

- HB001/SB001 <u>Built to Learn Act of 2020</u> Provides \$2 billion over the next five years for school construction and renovation throughout the state.
- HB1661/SB1079 <u>State Budget-Revenue Stabilization Account Transfers-</u>Coronavirus Authorizes the governor to transfer funds from the state's "rainy day fund" to various state agencies to respond to the effects of the COVID-19 virus.
- HB1300/SB1000 Blueprint for Maryland's Future
  - Provides for a \$32 billion overhaul of the state's education system over the next decade per the recommendations of the Kirwan Commission.

By April 10<sup>th</sup>, Gov. Larry Hogan put a freeze on any state spending or hiring across all agencies unless it directly related to addressing the COVID-19 crisis.

Hogan provided the update in a wide-ranging press conference Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, adding that he's unlikely to sign into law any of the 679 pieces of new legislation passed by the Maryland General Assembly earlier this year if they require increased spending. Although he didn't mention it specifically, that could include the education spending proposal recommended by the "Kirwan Commission." The bill requires \$3.8 billion in annual public education funding by 2030. A spokesperson for the governor declined to comment specifically on the legislation.

"The state will be tapping into and spending much of, perhaps even all, of the state's rainy day fund balance," Hogan said. "Responding to this crisis will likely create a multi-year budget issue, which will require further substantial budget reduction actions."

A spokesperson for the governor's office said Friday there is an estimated \$1.18 billion available in the rainy day fund, based on the current 2020 fiscal year budget.

Hogan's update on state spending came just hours after Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot announced his department is predicting a \$2.8 billion loss in state revenue due to the pandemic that has infected nearly 7,000 Marylanders and killed more than 170 as of Friday April 10, 2020. (Carley Milligan, Digital Editor, Baltimore Business Journal - 4/10/20)

## What Do Our Local Elected Officials Have To Say?

(Calvert Recorder 3/20)

"Progressives in Annapolis focused on raising taxes during a pandemic, while people are losing their jobs and their lives. I find this disgusting." Del. Mark Fisher (R-Calvert, St. Mary's)

"I'm not voting for any tax increases. There is no reason to put taxes on the public, especially during this time of crisis." Del Jerry Clark (R-Calvert, St. Mary's)



VISIT



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

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