

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC.



WWW.MCPSRETIREES.ORG
MCPSRA MAILING ADDRESS:
P. O. Box 4367
ROCKVILLE, MD 20849-4367

VOLUME 2011-12, ISSUE #3

FEBRUARY 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



A Special Thank You to our Board of Directors, who are working hard for all of us. A group of us traveled to Annapolis to attend the MRSPA Legislative Workshop. We gained lots of information and learned strategies that we can use as we communicate with our legislators. We also participated in the MRSPA Postcard Campaign – "Don't

Shift Retirement Funding." Recently, a small group met with Senator Rich Madeleno to discuss our position on pensions.

Some attended the George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy Saturday School's 25th celebration. The Saturday school provides tutoring and mentoring services to over 3,000 Montgomery County students annually helping to prepare them for college and career readiness.

Ten Board members attended the Committee for Montgomery Annual Legislative Breakfast. Speakers were Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett, U. S. Senator Benjamin Cardin, U. S. Representative Chris Van Hollen, and Maryland Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. We were introduced to many people and talked with some of those who attended.

Two Board members attend the Employee Retirement Planning Session each month. We give a short talk about what MCPSRA does for all retirees. Our recruiting brochure is available for all.

The Political Action Committee met with those running for Board of Education in the Primary Election. They have a set of questions to ask candidates. Their replies are noted and discussed and recommendations are made to our members.

Scholarship Committee has prepared an announcement of available scholarships for 2012. It will be distributed to all MCPS employees. After applications are mailed in, they will be read and evaluated. The top applicants will be interviewed for the scholarships which are given in June.

Our membership numbers have decreased due to deaths. This means that we need to recruit more members. If you are a member, invite a retiree to an MCPSRA Luncheon. If you are not a member, why not come to one of our luncheons as our guest! If you plan to attend as a guest, notify a Board member, so you can be included in the reservation count. You will enjoy a nice lunch, find someone you know, and hear a guest speaker. See you at a luncheon.

Joy Schwab

2012 Elections

Every two years, the Association's Political Action Committee (PAC) invites candidates who are running for office to complete a questionnaire and to interview with the committee. We do this as a service to members because many of the candidates and their positions on issues of interest to MCPSRA are not well known, and for many of us, it's difficult to get information about those individuals for whom we will have an opportunity to vote. This year we interviewed only Board of Education candidates.

Based on the candidates' questionnaire responses and interviews, the PAC is making the following recommendations for Board of Education:

BOE At-Large: Phil Kauffman

**BOE District 2: Jeanne Ellinport or Fred Evans
(vote for one)**

BOE District 4: Christopher Barclay

Both Mr. Kauffman and Mr. Barclay are incumbents who have supported MCPSRA positions. Ms. Ellinport and Mr. Evans are new and both demonstrated knowledge of retirees' issues and the challenges which face us as well as Montgomery County Public Schools. They deserve your support.

The Primary Election is Tuesday, April 3, 2012.

Everyone can vote for Board of Education. If you are registered without party affiliation, you can vote in the Primary for BOE. Even though candidates must run in a particular district, every registered voter may vote for all Board of Education candidates.

The District 4 race will not appear on the ballot in the Primary Election because there are only two candidates. In the other races, the top two vote getters in the Primary will be on the November ballot.

The following members served on the interview team: Betsy Doyle, Mary D'Ovidio, Jane Hardy, Gerry Johnson, George Kaye, LeeAnn Kaye, Ken Muir, Steve Raucher and Joy Schwab.

If you would like to become involved in one of the campaigns or are willing to post a yard sign, e-mail: LeeAnn Kaye geolakaye@verizon.net or call 301-598-5480.

See page 7 of this newsletter for important dates for the Primary Election.

MCPSRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President.....	Joy G. Schwab.....	301-253-3294
	schw35@aol.com	
Vice President.....	Stephen M. Raucher.....	301-460-9092
	sraucher@comcast.net	
Immediate Past President.....	Gerald W. Johnson.....	301-466-1714
	LGFJHN@aol.com	
Recording Secretary.....	Mary D'Ovidio.....	240-246-7818
	ldovidio01@comcast.net	
Treasurer.....	Kenneth K. Muir.....	301-460-9583
	kkmuir@aol.com	

Committee Chairs

Archives.....	Elizabeth P. Doyle.....	301-947-0733
	edoyle3233@aol.com	
Auditing.....	George B. Thomas, Sr.	301-460-6960
	georgegbtla@msn.com	
Budget.....	Kenneth E. Huff.....	301-622-2161
Development	kenandmarylou@gmail.com	
	Ernest Solar.....	703-938-8122
	elsolar@verizon.net	
Community.....	Mary D'Ovidio.....	240-246-7818
Service	ldovidio01@comcast.net	
Consumer Education	To Be Announced	
Hospitality/Luncheons.....	LeeAnn Kaye.....	301-598-5480
Co-Chairs	geolakaye@verizon.net	
	Trish Bendler.....	301-540-5160
	patricia_bendler09@comcast.net	
Insurance and Benefits.....	J. Thomas Hickman.....	301-929-9660
Co-Chairs	CTMAR28@yahoo.com	
	Stephen M. Raucher.....	301-460-9092
	sraucher@comcast.net	
Legislative.....	Jane Hardy.....	301-774-9494
	hjanehardy@aol.com	
MCPSRA Projects.....	Joan Donovan.....	301-253-6099
Co-Chairs	jcjdouvan@aol.com	
	Trish Bendler.....	301-540-5160
	patricia_bendler09@comcast.net	
	Jane Hardy	301-774-9494
Membership.....	Juliette Trevino	301-460-9670
	jgtrevino@comcast.net	
Newsletter Editor.....	Carol M. Dahlberg.....	301-253-2212
	jdahlberg2@verizon.net	
Nominating.....	Elizabeth P. Doyle.....	301-947-0733
	edoyle3233@aol.com	
Parliamentarian.....	Nickie Neary.....	301-869-0057
	nearynic@msn.com	
Political Action.....	LeeAnn Kaye.....	301-598-5480
	geolakaye@verizon.net	
Public Relations.....	Fred S. Evans	301-424-5169
	fredevans1970@gmail.com	
Recognition.....	Joan Donovan.....	301-253-6099
Co-Chairs	jcjdouvan@aol.com	
	Jane Hardy.....	301-774-9494
Scholarship.....	Joy G. Schwab.....	301-253-3294
Co-Chairs	schw35@aol.com	
	Ann Eberly.....	301-766-7550
	anneberly36@myactv.net	
Trips.....	Frieda J. Price.....	301-926-2286
Co-Chairs	fjprice@verizon.net	
	Mary Ann Davis.....	301-253-6256
	giddygam@verizon.net	
Louise S. Walker.....	Richard C. Ahlberg.....	301-251-5560
Scholarship		
MRSPA Membership.....	Elizabeth P. Doyle.....	301-947-0733
Recruitment Chair	edoyle3233@aol.com	

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

The Board of Directors meets at 9:30 am on the first Thursday of each month with the exception of July. All MCPSRA members are welcome to attend the meetings which will be held in Room 129 in CESC on the following dates:

- February 2, 2012
- March 1, 2012
- April 5, 2012
- May 3, 2012
- June 7, 2012

LUNCHEON DATES

MCPSRA business meetings and luncheons are held at the Golden Bull in Gaithersburg four times a year.

Dates remaining for 2011-2012 are as follows:

- February 23, 2012
- April 26, 2012
- June 14, 2012

Please save these dates. We hope to see you there!

New Superintendent to Headline Program for February 23 Luncheon

Our February 23 luncheon will include the premiere MCPSRA appearance of our new Superintendent, Dr. Joshua Starr, as its featured speaker.

Dr. Starr is a passionate champion for all students and is committed to ensuring that Montgomery County Public Schools meet the needs of students across the spectrum. This appointment builds upon the work Dr. Starr began as a teacher in 1993 and has spanned a variety of educational positions. Dr. Starr was the superintendent in Stamford, CT, (2005-2011) where he distinguished himself by increasing student achievement for all subgroups, emphasizing increased academic rigor, standardizing curriculum, advancing the use of technology, creating business and civic partnerships, and emphasizing community and family engagement efforts aimed at supporting all children in the classroom.

Previously, he served at the executive level in the New York City Department of Education, the largest school system in the nation, where he held the position of Director of School Performance and Accountability. Dr. Starr also served New York City as Deputy Senior Instructional Manager.

Dr. Starr began his career as a special education teacher in the New York City Public Schools working with severely emotionally disturbed adolescents. He has also served in administrative roles in Plainfield, New Jersey, and Freeport, New York. A self-professed life-long learner, Dr. Starr brings enormous energy, intellect and enthusiasm to his new post as superintendent of schools for MCPS. He holds a doctorate degree in administration and social policy from the Harvard Graduate School of Education and has published articles in many journals in the field of education.

MEMBERSHIP ALERT

**MRSPA Membership Chair: Betsy Doyle
Juliette Trevino**

MCPSRA Membership Chair:

MRSPA is the state “watchdog” of our pension and retirement funds as well as of our health-care coverage. It is up to all of us to help recruit new members. The more members we have, the more attention and support we have in Annapolis. Where do we get these new members? We get them from you, our retirees, of course!! As chairperson of the state membership committee, I challenge all of you to recruit and to sign up just one (1) new member. Please talk to all of your retiree friends and encourage them to sign up if they are not already members. We have included this form for you to give to those who are not yet members.

WE DO NEED YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT!!

=====CUT HERE=====

**COMPLETE THIS FORM ONLY IF YOU ARE APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP
Maryland Retired School Personnel Association
Montgomery County Public Schools Retirees Association
Application for Membership**



Name _____ Soc. Sec. # _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Email _____

Please sign authorization for dues deduction (see below) **or** make check payable to MCPSRA.

NOTE **Mail to: MRSPA** **MRSPA DUES** **\$45.00**
ADDRESS **8379 Piney Orchard Parkway** **(This includes both state and local dues.)**
 Odenton, MD 21113

I hereby authorize the Retirement and Pension System of the State of Maryland to deduct annual membership dues for the MRSPA and the MCPSRA from one of my retirement checks each membership year. I understand that my social security number is required if

I wish to become a dues deduction member. SSN _____

This authorization will remain effect until cancelled by written notice mailed to the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association.

Signature _____ Date _____

NEW MEMBERS – FEBRUARY, 2012

Ann Lillian Coren	6449 Browsing Deer	Columbia, MD 21045	410-290-7834
Paul J. Fahrner	333 Little Quarry Rd.	Gaithersburg, MD 20878	301-977-2562
Joan Kaplan	4515 Willard Ave. Apr. 504S	Chevy Chase, MD 20815	301-237-6013
Marvin Mostow	9903 Montauk Ave.	Bethesda, MD 20817	301-564-5662
Shirley D. Reed	2220 High Fly Terrace	Silver Spring, MD 20902	301-996-0107
Darlene A. Simmons	6805 Damsel Court	Greenbelt, MD 20770	301-474-8125
Marge Stembel	127 Eastmoore Dr.	Silver Spring, MD 20901	301-681-5142

MCPSRA DIRECTORY CHANGES – MCPSRA is updating its directory. If you have changes of name, address or telephone number, please send the corrections to our **Membership Chair Julie Trevino** at jgtrevino@comcast.net or **14720 Waterway Dr., Rockville, MD 20853**.



Random Acts of Kindness

What motivates people to do what they do for others? Is it with the hope of getting something in return? Is it for personal gain or recognition? Or is it our innate human nature to be compassionate and charitable in an effort to improve the well-being of those less fortunate than ourselves? Most of us would agree that a caring spirit guides a person's generosity.

Recently much media attention was given to the story of individuals who performed random acts of kindness by paying off lay-away account balances so that economically disadvantaged parents could see the joy on their children's faces when they had presents to open during the Holidays. After the first heart-warming story was reported, hundreds of others across the nation were motivated to do the same in their home towns. One California mother, a recipient of such kindness, was in tears as she told reporters that she could now afford to put food on her table as well as gifts under the tree. Did these generous people want personal recognition, media interviews, or a good citizen's award? No! These kindhearted "angels" were rewarded only by the warmth they felt inside when they thought of others before themselves. Could this inspire a new Holiday tradition in each one of us? What a wonderful thing that would be!

Do we need a holiday or special occasion to remind us that we could be doing random acts of kindness throughout the year? Let's hope not! We will find, as we look back upon our lives, that the moments when we really lived were the moments when we did things in the spirit of love. Perhaps we will forget tomorrow the kind little things we say and do today, but the recipients may cherish them over a lifetime. All of us who chose a career in the field of education were gifted with a compassion for and a life-long love of children. We willingly gave our all each day because we knew that children are the world's most valuable resource and the best hope for the future. We all realize, though, that the future is purchased by the present.

Recognizing the desperate need for our **Toolkits, Books, and Backpacks Project** here in Montgomery County has inspired hundreds of individuals over the last eight years to perform "random acts of kindness" by donating thousands of dollars to provide needy children with more than 9,600 kindergarten toolkits of school supplies, 5,500 new books to take home, and 150 backpacks of materials and books for homeless children. Why has this project been so successful for so long? Maybe it is because each of us possesses a compassionate and caring spirit that is nurtured by charitable generosity. Let your life-long love of children guide you in support of this very worthwhile project. Please use a few of the 86,400 seconds you were gifted with today to perform a much needed act of kindness by filling out the sponsorship form below and sending in a **TAX-DEDUCTIBLE** donation to our project. May you glow with the warmth of knowing that you are making a difference in the lives of our county's beloved children.

-----detach here-----

MCPSRA TOOLKITS SPONSORSHIP FORM

Please provide (print clearly) the following information and mail it along with a check (payable to: **MCPS Educational Foundation**, with "**Toolkits Project**" on the memo line) to Mrs. Joan Donovan, 13 Hilton Court, Gaithersburg, MD 20882-3521

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

I would like to sponsor # _____ toolkits at \$10 per kit. Donation enclosed: \$ _____

Optional: In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Send acknowledgement to _____

LEGISLATURE IN SESSION! WATCH OUT!

The Maryland General Assembly convened January 11 and will be in session through mid-April. Some issues they consider could have an important effect on retirees.

A *Gazette* article in early January said Governor Martin O’Malley “is weighing a proposal to shift some of the pension costs for the state’s public school teachers to the local governments that employ them.” If that happens, it won’t affect our pension benefits, but it could reduce or eliminate our health benefits.

The state may seek to shift some pension costs to the counties because those costs have risen sharply in the last decade. With more aid to education (the so-called “Thornton Act”), teacher salaries have been increased. When that happened, the amount that must be set aside for their pensions increased, too. Teacher pension, debt service, health, and transportation costs are the big drivers of the continuing budget deficits that Maryland has seen for many years.

Senate President Mike Miller has proposed the pension cost shift for several years—unsuccessfully. But, if the governor proposes it, the shift may happen.

Why would retirees’ health care costs be affected? As you know, MCPS retirees pay 36% of the cost of our health benefits; the school system/county pays the remainder. But they don’t have to. There is no law that requires local boards of education or counties to pay any of their retirees’ health care. They do it because it’s the right thing to do. But, if the county got saddled with an additional \$90 million (in Montgomery’s case) of education-related costs, it may look for places to reduce or eliminate non-mandated costs.

The problem is, some legislators don’t even recognize this problem. At the MRSPA Legislative Workshop in November, the House chair of the Joint Pension Committee didn’t know that retiree health costs were paid by local boards. She thought teachers and retirees were part of the State Employees health system. State employees and teachers are part of the same retirement system; some may think we’re part of the same health system. We are not!

You need to make sure your legislators know this important fact! Call or write them today. The easiest way to communicate with them on this issue is to use the MRSPA website. Here’s how.

1. Find the MRSPA website at www.mrspa.org. If you don’t know how, go to your library or ask a teenager.
2. On the MRSPA home page under Member Access, sign in by entering your MRSPA member number (in the address block of your state newsletter) in the “Username” block. In the “Password” block, enter the beginning initial of your first name and your last name with no space in between.
3. In the Members Area, click the TAKE ACTION box. That should bring up your state legislative district number. Click on CONTINUE. You should see the names, addresses, Annapolis telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of your delegates and senator. To send each an e-mail, click on the box next to their name.
4. Then, under “E-Mail Templates” click on “DO NOT SHIFT RETIREMENT FUNDING” for a “canned”

message, or “Compose Your Own Message”. Click on Continue and you will see the message or a space to write one. Click on Continue again to send the e-mail.

If your delegates and senator don’t get your e-mail about this important issue, they won’t understand the problem and may not think we care.



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Quarter page	3.5 ” wide x 4.75” tall	\$60
Half page	7.5” wide x 4.75” tall	\$110
Full page	7.5” wide x 10.0” tall	\$200

An ad cannot exceed the above dimensions and should be emailed to the Newsletter Editor as a WORD attachment or camera ready in the mail

Deadlines for future Newsletters are as follows:

March 2, 2012 for the April 2012 issue
May 4, 2010 for the June 2012 issue

Send advertising copy (jdahlberg2@verizon.net) or by mail to Newsletter, P.O. Box 4367, Rockville, MD 20849-4367. Mail check payable to MCPSRA (in advance of publication) to Treasurer, P.O. Box 4367, Rockville, MD 20849-4367

IN MEMORIAM

The following MCPSRA Members have passed away in 2011 as reported by January 5, 2012.

January

Margaret H. Fleming
Thomas E. Rowan

February

Mary D. Enright
Anna D. Strieter
Ruth Kreisman
Margaret B. MacHale
Mary E. Gookin
Donald L. Murphy
Jeanne W. Hogan
Elaine Z. Howes

March

Allen A. Swick
Sylvia Horan
Marjorie Daly

April

Jerry L. Lea
R. Eugene Gurganus
Jeanette Coppa
Joan H. Denton
Horace Peebles

May

Dorothy D. Coburn
Notley J. Offutt, Sr.
Melina A. Ernst

June

Carolyn A. Flather
Winifred S. Dickson
Mary H. Kalandros
Elizabeth D. Davidson

July

Mary Ann Kelley
A. Deane Ducar
Marie Goodman
Lucinda C. Vitez
Shirley Kay
Emma L. Jenkins
George W. Baker

August

Milton J. Van Winkle
Mabel A. Wedberg
John Hinkel
Eleanor Henderson

September

Robert E. Watkins
Floris M. Davisson
William R. Porter
Thomas W. Stevenson
Sarah McCullough

October

Ann M. Jett
Thomas E. Smith
Russell A. Wheeler
Gertrude W. Stanley
Clara S. Wing
Catherine E. Morgan
Leon Kreitman
Albert G. Fiorill

November

Hazel M. Booth
Frank Snyder
Jeanne A. Casula
Walter B. Dockery
Robert A. Gibson
Germaine L. Bindi

December

Dr. Harry Pitt
Don J. Konschnik
David J. Liu
Marilyn L. Teichman
Patricia A. Dee

Dr. Harry Pitt, superintendent of MCPS from 1987-1991, died at his home on December 3, 2011. Dr. Pitt came to MCPS as an assistant principal in 1962. Prior to becoming superintendent, he served as deputy superintendent for 7 years. "He was regarded as a careful steward of Montgomery County Public Schools." The full obituary is in the *Washington Post*, December 13, 2011

MCPSRA COMMITTEES

At the October 27, 2011, luncheon, President Joy Schwab introduced the members of the Board of Directors. During the luncheon, several people indicated that they would like to know what the committees do. In the newsletters, information will be provided regarding the responsibilities of the committees.

Hospitality Committee

The Hospitality Committee arranges for the program, facilities, menus, and other details that are related to the luncheons and business meetings of the association.

Insurance and Benefits Committee

Your MCPSRA Insurance and Benefits Committee is the link between the school systems' benefits department and you, the retiree. We work closely with the leaders of the employee unions, MCEA, SEIU Local 500, and MCAAP as well as the staff at MCPS ERSC (Employees and Retirees Service Center) to review and (hopefully) improve our health benefits. We do this by being part of the JEBC (Joint Employee Benefits Committee) that meets regularly with the MCPS contracted health care providers to review their programs and performance. We also participate in regular reviews of potential new offerings, bid specifications and plans for new or continuing services, MCPS User Satisfaction Surveys, etc.

One of our primary functions is to understand the various insurance plans and offer assistance to members who have questions or concerns that they feel are not being addressed by MCPS through "normal" channels. We are always glad to discuss individual or group concerns and to follow up with MCPS staff to seek further clarification and resolution to our members "problems". So, if you have a question or concern about your retiree health care benefits please feel free to contact us:

Tom Hickman, CTMAR28@yahoo.com, 301-929-9660 or
Steve Raucher, sraucher@comcast.net, 301-318-4969

We may not have all of the answers, but we'll do all we can to find out what they are.

Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee keeps the Board of Directors informed about pending legislation affecting the retired, recommends action concerning legislation when appropriate, represents MCPSRA at hearings on legislation affecting public education and/or welfare of members and report significant findings to the Board of Directors. See p. 5 of this newsletter for important legislative information.

Join a committee: If you would like to become involved and serve on a committee, contact the chairperson listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

Important Dates for the Primary Election

- **Voter Registration Deadline:** March 13, 2012 at 9:00 pm
- **Early Voting:** Saturday, March 24 thru March 29, 2012-10:00 am to 8:00 pm (Sunday hours noon-6 pm)
- **Absentee by Mail Deadline:** March 27, 2012 by 11:59 pm
- **Absentee Voting in Person:** Begins at the Board of Elections, March 28, 2012
- **Early Voting Closes:** March 29, 2012 at 8:00 pm
- **Primary Election Day:** Tuesday, April 3, 2012, 7:00 am-8 pm

OLDEST MAN IN USA TRIATHLON

Charlie Futrell, a former Montgomery County Public School teacher, was written up in *The Orlando Sentinel* as the oldest man to compete in a USA Triathlon sanctioned event. Charlie is 90 years old and now resides in **The Villages** in Florida. A major article recently appeared in the magazine **SPORTS PLEX**.

Charlie has competed in the **IRONMAN Triathlon** in Hawaii several times and is in the Sports Hall of Fame at East Carolina University. He continues to train and remains in exceptional physical shape.

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(301) 762-8900

PARKING INFORMATION

Overnight trip parking information will be indicated in each trip description. Day trips will leave from Park & Ride lot on Norbeck Rd. & Georgia Ave.

YOUR TRAVEL INFORMATION

PLEASE TAKE TIME TO READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION. SHARE IT, ALONG WITH SPECIFIC TRIP INFORMATION, WITH YOUR GUESTS.

- 1. We all travel at our own risk.
2. There is always some walking involved as we travel. Read each itinerary carefully, keeping in mind your own capabilities.
3. Itineraries, times and details are approximate. Changes are sometimes necessary and unavoidable.
4. Trips are open to members, their families and friends (adults).
5. Smoking and drinking of alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the coach.
6. About three to five days before a day trip, participants are called to remind them of the day and departure time of the trip. For overnight coach trips, about two weeks prior to the date of departure, you will get a letter with up-to-date information, including parking details. One baggage tag per person will be mailed to you.
7. Write a separate check, payable to MCPSRA, for each trip. Include name and date of trip on check...
8. Send check with completed reservation form.
9. Your reservation is definite upon receipt of deposit/full payment, whichever is required. If a trip has to be cancelled because of insufficient numbers of participants needed by the published deadline, your check will be returned to you. Feel free to call to find out if your reservation and payment were received.
10. Refunds are made only when your space can be filled.
11. Gratuities for driver and local guides are not included in the price of the trip.
12. We do not provide transportation to and from the airport for trips that require flying.

Those interested in insurance for overnight trips should call Ellen at Eyre Tour and Travel at 301-854-6600, ext. 3252 or 410-442-1330, ext. 3252 or 1-800-321-3973, ext. 3252.

TRAVEL CO-CHAIRS

Frieda J. Price 301-926-2286
105 N. Summit Ave. #4
Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2935
Mary Ann Davis 301-253-6256
23509 Woodfield Rd.
Gaithersburg, MD 20882-3017

We would like to thank all those who have traveled with us in 2011. We have had many successful and fun trips thanks to our new and frequent travelers. We look forward to continuing a successful travel agenda in 2012 and hope you will join us on our trips.
Happy 2012.

MCPSRA TRIPS in 2011-2012
All trips are listed and described on the web site:

www.mcpsretirees.org

2012 Trips

- March 5 or 8 Philadelphia Flower Show
Theme: Hawaii
April 2 Odyssey Luncheon Cruise
April 17 Renwick Museum and National Portrait Gallery
April 27 Bermuda Cruise
April 29-May 3 Myrtle Beach and Charleston
July 18 Sight and Sound Theatre : JONAH
September 17-19 Finger Lakes, New York
Details in April newsletter
November 3 Hawaii Cruise

ANNUAL ODYSSEY LUNCHEON CRUISE

Monday April 2, 2012

Join and enjoy good food, good service and good company while cruising down the beautiful Potomac on the ODYSSEY III, the only craft of its kind in the U.S. Outside decks and glass ceilings provide panoramic views of cherry blossoms, historic national monuments and Washington skyline.

9:00 am Depart Norbeck Park and Ride Lot
10:00 noon Drive through monuments as time permits

11:00 pm Board ODYSSEY III

11:30am-2:00pm Luncheon and Cruise

3:00 pm Approximate time of return

Included: Transportation on deluxe EYRE passenger motor coach, luncheon and cruise on the ODYSSEY including taxes and gratuities

Not included: Gratuity for the motor coach operator

Cost: \$91.00 per person

Due date: February 28, 2012

Make check payable to MCPSRA and mail with completed reservation form to:

Frieda J.Price,
105 N. Summit Ave. #4
Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2935

“JONAH” at Sight and Sound Theater

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

If you have been with us before to see productions at this state-of-the-art venue, then you’ll want to join us for “JONAH” – a musical re-telling of the story of the Biblical prophet who was swallowed by the whale as he tried to flee from God’s calling.

8:30 am Depart Norbeck Park & Ride
11:00 am Family-style Lunch at Hershey Farms

12:30 pm Depart for Sight & Sound Theater

1:00 pm Show time – “Jonah”

3:30 pm Depart for home

6:00 pm Arrive Norbeck Park & Ride

Included: Round-trip deluxe 47-passenger capacity motorcoach transportation (with video); lunch; show ticket; tolls, taxes and gratuities

Not included: Gratuity for the motor coach operator
Cost: \$115.00 per person
Due date: June 6, 2012
 Make checks payable to **MCPSRA** and mail with completed registration form to: Mary Ann Davis
 23509 Woodfield Road
 Gaithersburg, Maryland 20882

RENWICK MUSEUM AND NATIONAL
 PORTRAIT GALLERY

Tuesday April 17, 2012

The first Gallery we'll visit will be the Renwick to see "Splendor in the Past," an exhibit which showcases some of the White House's décor. There are ninety-five objects on display including the coverlet for the Lincoln Bedroom crocheted by Grace Coolidge. The collection has been organized in celebration of the White House Historical Association which was formed fifty years ago. Many of the selections for this exhibit were made because of the great stories associated with the items.

The second stop will be the Portrait Gallery and a chance to view "One Life, Ronald Reagan," in celebration of the centennial birthday of our fortieth President. The exhibit focuses on his early years in Illinois and goes through his acting career and his political career up to his presidency from 1981-1989.

9:00 am Depart Norbeck Park and Ride Lot
 12:00 noon Ride to second gallery
 3:00 pm Return to Norbeck Park and Ride Lot
Included: Round-trip transportation on deluxe EYRE

passenger motor coach, travel between galleries

Not included: Gratuity for the motor coach operator
Cost: \$30.00 per person Lunch on your own.

Due date: March 27, 2012
 Make check payable to **MCPSRA** and mail with completed reservation form to: Frieda J. Price,
 105 N. Summit Ave. #4
 Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2935

MYRTLE BEACH - CHARLESTON

April 29-May 3, 2012

Day 1 7 am Depart-Rest stops and lunch stop (on own)
 5 pm Arrive at Myrtle Beach
 6:30 pm Dinner at a local restaurant

Day 2 After a full breakfast, is a free day to relax and enjoy beach and amenities at the hotel.
 Later in day, we travel to Broadway at the Beach for browsing, shopping and dinner on your own. (Go to Google for description of Broadway at the Beach.)

Day 3 Depart for a fun and historic day in Charleston. Visit the famous Magnolia Plantation. Tour the house and gardens. Lunch is on your own.
 Enjoy a narrated Harbor Cruise around Charleston Harbor which features the history of the Old South. We'll have a city tour with a step-on-guide of historic sights. Afterwards, we visit the City Market Place for browsing, shopping and dinner on own.
 8:00 pm Return to hotel

Day 4 Free day for activities of your own choosing.
 Optional Trip to Brookgreen Gardens. (Go to Google for information on the Gardens.) The cost of \$10:00 is not included
 Dinner and show.

Day 5 8:00 am depart for home. Rest stops and lunch stop (on own)
 6:00 pm Approximate arrival time

Included: Round-trip transportation on deluxe EYRE passenger motor coach, 4 nights lodging, 4 full breakfast buffet, 2 dinners, 1 show, sightseeing in Charleston, taxes and tolls. Transportation to Broadway at the Beach and Brookgreen Gardens
 Baggage handling: 1 bag per person

Not included: Gratuity for the motor coach operator and tour guide.

Cost: \$769.00 per person double; \$969 single

Deposit due date: February 17, 2012- Deposit of \$150

Due date: March 22, 2012- Balance due

Make check payable to **MCPSRA** and mail with completed reservation form to: Frieda J. Price,
 105 N. Summit Ave. #4
 Gaithersburg, MD 20877-2935

HAWAII

With NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE
 on the PRIDE OF AMERICA

8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS

NOVEMBER 3, 2012

DAY	PORT	ARRIVE	DEPART
1	Honolulu		7:00 pm
2	Maui (Kahului)	8:00 am	Overnight
3	Maui (Kahului)		6:00 pm
4	Hilo	8:00 am	6:00 pm
5	Kona	7:00 am	6:00pm
6	Kauai	8:00 am	Overnight
7	Kauai		2:00 pm
8	Honolulu	7:00 am	

Inside Cabin Category IC \$2,625

Outside Cabin Category OA \$2,915

Balcony Cabin Category BD \$3,085

**Rates are per person, double occupancy, and include roundtrip airfare from BWI, cruise, port charges and government fees, taxes, and transfers to and from ship.*

Norwegian Cruise Line has advised that all air prices are subject to change and are not guaranteed until full payment has been received.

DEPOSIT POLICY: An initial deposit of \$350 per person double occupancy or \$700 per person single occupancy is required to secure reservations and assign cabins. Monthly payments will be accepted. Final balance is due July 20, 2012. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT FRIEDA PRICE - 301-926-2286. FOR RESERVATIONS CONTACT GRAND AMERICAN TOURS, 5 S. MORTON AVE, MORTON, PA 19070- (800)423-0247

RESERVATION FORMS

PHILADELPHIA FLOWER-- SHOW March 5, 2012 (alternate weather date March 8, 2012)

*Name _____ Phone # _____ Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___

Name _____ Phone # _____ If not, guest of: _____

Total # reservations _____ Total amount enclosed _____ Make check payable to MCPSRA.

*Cell phone# _____

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ANNUAL ODYSSEY LUNCHEON CRUISE—April 2, 2012

*Name _____ Phone # _____ Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___

Name _____ Phone # _____ If not, guest of: _____

Total # reservations _____ Total amount enclosed _____ Make check payable to MCPSRA.

*Cell phone# _____

-----cut here-----

A DAY FOR ART IN WASHINGTON, D.C.- Tuesday, April 17, 2012

*Name _____ Phone # _____ Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___

Name _____ Phone # _____ If not, guest of: _____

Total # reservations _____ Total amount enclosed _____ Make check payable to MCPSRA.

*Cell phone# _____

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MYRTLE BEACH - CHARLESTON- April 29-May3, 2012

*Name _____ Phone # _____ Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___

Address _____

Name _____ Phone # _____ If not, guest of: _____

Address if different from above _____

Total # reservations _____ Total amount enclosed _____ Make check payable to MCPSRA.

*Cell phone# _____

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"JONAH" at SIGHT & SOUND THEATER- Wednesday, July 18, 2012

*Name _____ Phone # _____ Member of MCPSRA? Yes ___ No ___

Name _____ Phone # _____ If not, guest of: _____

Total # reservations _____ Total amount enclosed _____ Make check payable to MCPSRA.

*Cell phone# _____

MCPSRA LUNCHEON AND BUSINESS MEETING
Thursday, February 23, 2012

GOLDEN BULL GRAND CAFÉ

7 Dalamar Street
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
Telephone: 301-948-3666

TIME: Gathering at 11:00 a.m.
Business Meeting at 11:30 a.m.
Luncheon at 12:00 Noon
Program following the Luncheon

DIRECTIONS TO THE GOLDEN BULL GRAND CAFÉ:

- Take Exit #11 off I-270 onto Route 124E (Quince Orchard Road Toward Gaithersburg and Montgomery Village)
- Turn RIGHT onto Rt. 355 South (Frederick Ave.)
- Go approximately 0.6 miles
- Turn RIGHT onto Dalamar Street. Restaurant is on the left, parking available to the left or right of the building as well as in the lot across the street.

MENU CHOICES:

Breast of Chicken \$18.00
Broiled Salmon \$22.00
English Prime Rib \$22.00
Vegetarian Pasta \$18.00

MEAL ALSO INCLUDES:

Fresh Garden Salad
Red Skin Potatoes
Vegetable of the Day
Dessert
Choice of Coffee, Hot or Iced Tea, Soda
Cash Bar

Please be aware that if Montgomery County Public Schools are closed that day, the luncheon is cancelled. If there is a delayed opening of any kind, the luncheon will be held.

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RESERVATIONS FOR MCPSRA LUNCHEON/BUSINESS MEETING
Thursday, February 23, 2012, at the Golden Bull Grand Cafe

Gathering: 11:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 11:30 a.m. Luncheon: 12:00 Noon Program

CIRCLE ENTRÉE CHOICE

Name: _____ Phone: _____

e-mail address: _____

Chicken \$18.00
Salmon \$22.00
Prime Rib \$22.00
Vegetarian Pasta \$18.00

Name: _____ Phone: _____

e-mail address: _____

Chicken \$18.00
Salmon \$22.00
Prime Rib \$22.00
Vegetarian Pasta \$18.00

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

YOUR RESERVATION FORM AND CHECK MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, February 17, 2012.
Mail reservation form and check payable to MCPSRA. Mail to:

LeeAnn Kaye
15436 Merrifields Lane
Silver Spring, MD 20906

For information call: LeeAnn Kaye 301-598-5480 or Trish Bendler 301-540-5160
geolakaye@verizon.net patricia_bendler09@comcast.net



MCPSRA Luncheon/Business Meeting

GOLDEN BULL GRAND CAFÉ

Gathering: 11:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 11:30 a.m.

Luncheon: 12:00 noon

Next Luncheon Date

February 23, 2012

The MCPSRA Newsletter is published in
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June.

This is the February 2012 issue.

**Montgomery County Public Schools
MCPS Retirees Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 4367
Rockville, MD 20849**

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