



February 2020

VOLUME 13, NO. 1

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## President's Message *by Tom Slater*

Happy New Year to all of our members. We have an exciting array of programs and activities for 2020. Our December breakfast was a great success in that lots of toys were collected to distribute to children who otherwise would go without. In addition, our speaker for the breakfast, Dr. Brit Kirwan, brought with him his usual enthusiasm. He explained how much more Maryland needs to do to assure that we have a world-class educational system. The Kirwan Commission Report recommendations will be the major issue in this year's Maryland General Assembly.

For our March luncheon, we kick off a series where we are inviting former students of our school system who have had successful careers to come back and tell us how their experiences in Frederick County Schools impacted their future career. Our March luncheon speaker will be Linda Singh, a retired major general of the Maryland Army National Guard. She served as Maryland's 19<sup>th</sup>, and only female, adjutant general from 2015 to 2019. As adjutant general she was responsible for the daily operations of the Maryland Military Department, which includes the Maryland National Guard, Maryland Emergency Management Agency and the Maryland Defense Force. She was a senior advisor to the Governor of Maryland. Prior to her appointment as adjutant general, General Singh served more than 30 years in both enlisted and officer ranks, including overseas deployments to Kosovo and a combat tour to Afghanistan. She has received over 20 awards and decorations including the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star Medal. Please try to attend our March luncheon to see old friends and hear from an inspiring speaker.

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## **Health/Insurance Update**

*Submitted by Joe Polce*

### **Benefits Office Change**

Doris Toms, our contact person in the benefits office has retired. Doris was very helpful in helping retirees with insurance issues and she will be missed. Evelyn Davis will be our new contact until a replacement for Doris is hired. Evelyn's contact information is:

Email: [evelyn.davis@fcps.org](mailto:evelyn.davis@fcps.org).

Phone: 301 644 5115

### **Medicare Part B Premiums/Deductible for 2020**

The Medicare Part B premium has been set at \$144.60 which is up from \$135.50. This premium is based on an individual income of less than or equal to \$87,000 or a joint income of less than or equal to \$174,000. A chart indicating the complete scale for Part B premiums can be found at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

The Part B deductible has increased from \$185.00 to \$198.00 for 2020. Remember this deductible must be paid before CareFirst will process medical claims.

### **A Message from Medicare**

Happy New Year from Medicare. Get a healthy start to the New Year by seeing your primary care doctor for your yearly wellness visit. It is covered if you've had Medicare Part B for longer than 12 months. Use this visit to develop or update your personalized prevention plan to help you stay healthy all year long. Medicare covers this wellness once every 12 months.

**Wishing all a very happy and healthful 2020**

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## **Remembrance and Sunshine Committee**

Please notify us if you know of any members who are ill, have passed away or who have had an immediate family member pass away. We will send thinking of you, get well, and sympathy cards.

**Brenda Martz**

[brmartz@comcast.net](mailto:brmartz@comcast.net)

**Faye Buckingham**

[buck0107@comcast.net](mailto:buck0107@comcast.net)

# March “Dandee” Luncheon

**Tuesday, March 10, 2020  
Noon (Doors open at 11:30)**

**Frederick Elk Lodge 684  
289 Willowdale Dr.  
Frederick, MD 21702**

**Cost \$20.00 (Members & guests)**

## **Menu**

**Fried chicken  
Hush Puppies**

**Mashed potatoes  
Cole slaw**

**Succotash  
Assorted pies**

***Celebrating Frederick County Graduates***  
***Speaker:***  
***Linda Singh, Major General (ret.)***

Reservation form for Luncheon found on page 13 of the newsletter.

All reservations must be received by February 20, 2020



# HELLO Membership Musings

Who do you know?

**Do you know a former colleague who is retired and not a member?** Consider inviting them to join us. Members can be as involved as little or as much as they wish.

**Do you know someone who is no longer a member?** Please reach out and ask them to come back!

### Did you know?

FCRSPA has members in 18 states, coast-to-coast!  
 AND 14 members have crossed the Bay Bridge  
 to enjoy the retired life  
 on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and in Delaware.  
 Wherever you live,  
 let us hear how you are spending your best retired life!  
[myfcrspa.org](http://myfcrspa.org)



Kathy Hartssock joined us for the  
 Holiday Breakfast  
 after her recent move to Delaware.



**Membership and Switch & Save applications**  
 are included at the end of this newsletter.

**MRSPA and FCRSPA** work hard to protect your retirement benefits and provide numerous other benefits.

The membership committee continues to contact FCPS retirees as they set off on their retirement journeys. We need to put (and keep) FCRSPA/MRSPA in the retirement vocabulary. If you know of any retiree who is not a member, please invite them to join us.

As of **January 6, 2020**, we have **752** Unified members PLUS **38** Local Only members for a **Grand Total of 790** members.

## *In Memoriam*

Robert Malcolm Byers  
 4/3/1929 ~ 11/1/2019



Meade Felton  
 5/6/1927 ~ 11/22/2019

Helen Kerns  
 2/26/1935 ~ 11/4/2019

Josephine Gilbert  
 1/19/1929 ~ 1/4/2020



Barbara McCutcheon Martin  
 8/4/1926 ~ 11/26/2019

Kenyon Parker  
 3/8/1925 ~ 12/14/2019

Theresa Vance  
 10/9/1936 ~ 11/24/2019



*New Members*

Christa	Angelone
Karen	Baker
Lynn	Folk
Lisa Ann	Frederick
Beverly Sue	Hill
Margaret	Mulcahey
Shirley	Olsen
Kathy	Renn
Victor	Reyes
Barbara	Thompson
Moira	Weldon



*Changes*

Member		Address	Phone	Email
Anne (Pat)	Beck			
Fred	Brown Jr.			
Viola	Carroll			
Carolyn	Derr			
Kathleen	Hartsock			
John & Penny	Jurchak			
Norma	Kelsey			
David & Linda	Markoe			
Kirsta	McCullough			
Evelyn	Orndorff			
James & Helen	Reed			
Pam	Shaw			
Kathy	Thayil			
Dorothy	Wood			
Kathryn	Zepp-Imhoff			



### Membership Roster

A limited number of hardcopy 2019 Membership Directories are for sale at \$2.00 each. Please contact Debbie Thackston at [deborah.thackston@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.thackston@gmail.com) if you would like one. They can be picked up at her home or mailed to you for an additional cost. We do not plan to print more, so these are offered on a first come, first served basis!



### ARE YOU OR YOUR SPOUSE A VETERAN?

[Military Exchange](#) allows honorably discharged veterans to shop online and get exchange pricing for great buys on laptops, cosmetics, jewelry, etc. You pay no sales tax and no shipping if your order is over \$49. Your order comes right to your door in days.

All you need is information from your DDA 214 discharge paper to sign up. Go to [www.shopmyexchange.com](http://www.shopmyexchange.com) and click **Veterans online Shopping Benefit: Take the First Step** in the upper right hand corner.

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### TRAVEL WITH PAULA

Long time FCRSPA member, Paula Blundell is providing opportunities to enjoy various dinner theater shows and day trips. The first of these is a presentation of “EVITA” at Other Voices Theater, located at 244 South Jefferson Street in Frederick, on March 7.

“EVITA” is a musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber based on the book by Tim Rice. The play recounts the incredible true story of Eva (EVITA) Peron, who starts life as a poor girl, goes on to become an actress and finally the wife of the President of Argentina, Juan Peron. This tale of love and politics shows the battles and triumphs Evita experienced in her short, but amazing life.

If you would like to join in this dinner theater experience, please contact Paula Blundell at [Pblundell@comcast.net](mailto:Pblundell@comcast.net). The cost is \$39.00, not including gratuity. Doors open at 6:00 with dinner at 6:30. Show begins at 7:30.

Be sure to contact Paula ASAP if you wish to attend.

Final payment made out to Other Voices Theater is due to Paula by February 15.



# No-Sew Blanket Making



From left to right:  
Marci Smith, Mitzi Smith, Sally Smith, Linda Sanders, Rise Lanier, Dottie Wood, Cita Angelety, Regine Schwab, Jodi Herche

A big thank you to the ladies pictured above and Jan Lounsberry who helped make 10 blankets for Children of Incarcerated Patents Partnership. Our next no-sew blanket making get together will be February 19 from 12:00-3:00 in the Spires Cafe at the Career and Tech Center. February 27 will be our snow date. If you would like to join in the fun please contact Sally at [simplysally@comcast.net](mailto:simplysally@comcast.net) by February 15. Hope you can make it.



**FCRSPA**  
**I Love My Retirement**  
**Happy Hour**

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

4-7 PM

FSK Mall

In front of Macy's



**RESTAURANT  
BREWHOUSE**

Come join the fun at this informal Happy Hour!

BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse

All members and their guests welcome.

No cover, plenty of free parking, run your own tab.

Happy Hour Specials:

\$3.00 Domestic bottled beer

Half off wine by the glass or bottle

\$3.00 chips and dip

\$6.00 select appetizers and House Burger

Please RSVP to Sally Smith

[simplysally@comcast.net](mailto:simplysally@comcast.net)

by February 2, 2020



# Holiday Breakfast



Dr. Brit Kirwan, of the Commission on Innovation & Excellence, spoke about the commission’s report, their recommendations and the status of the process to obtain funding at the Holiday Breakfast on December 10, 2019. Here Dr. Kirwan is listening to a question posed by Dave Markoe. Photo courtesy of Jacob Leftwich, Frederick Career Tech Center student.

Irene Bailey, Sergeant Brian Langton, Claudia Harrington and Beryl Long are pictured here with the proceeds of our annual Toys for Tots campaign. We collected 214 toys and \$40. Photo courtesy of Jacob Leftwich, Frederick Career Tech Center student.







Holiday Breakfast photos courtesy of Jacob Leftwich and Victoria Shovlin, Frederick Career Tech Center students.

# Community Services

*Irene Bailey & Claudia Harrington, Community Services Committee*

Marine Sgt. Brian Langton was thrilled to receive the FCRSPA record donation of 214 toys plus \$40 for the Toys for Tots campaign at the Holiday Breakfast in December. Thank you to all who contributed to the success.

The focus for the March luncheon will be donations for scholarships, but the Community Services Committee will continue to collect any available school supplies and cash to benefit Frederick County’s needy students. Thank you for the school items brought to the breakfast.

Thank you, also, to those who brought hundreds of travel and full-size toiletries to the December breakfast. For the time being, donations of toiletries are not being accepted by FCPS, but Community Services will find outlets such as homeless shelters, Hearty House and Salvations Army for any contributions.

PLEASE limit your donations to new, unopened products. Partially used offerings have been and will be discarded due to sanitary reasons.

### General Membership Meetings

March Luncheon	March 10, 2020	Elk’s Lodge, Willowdale Dr.	Noon
May Luncheon	May 12, 2020	TBA	Noon
Picnic	July 7, 2020	TBA	6:00 pm
Fall Luncheon	October 13, 2020	TBA	Noon



### Board of Directors Meetings Meetings held at CTC – 2 p.m.

March 17, 2020
May 19, 2020
August 11, 2020
October 20, 2020



If you are a Facebook member, you can find our page by searching **Frederick County Retired School Personnel Association**. All requests will be vetted against our membership roster.

## VISIT YOUR WEBSITE!

When was the FCRSPA organized?  
 What was the original name?  
 Who was the first President?  
 What were the dues?  
 Our luncheon cost will amaze you



Take a moment to find these answers and more on the “FCRSPA History” page located at: [FCRSPA.org](http://FCRSPA.org).  
 Submitted by Carroll Kehene, Website Chair.

# Scholarships

*Submitted by Nancy Gordon, Scholarship Chair*

FCRSPA continues in its practice to fund scholarships through the Community Foundation of Frederick County. Decisions on how many scholarships to award from the FCRSPA and FCRSPA/Richard and Pat Petre funds are dependent on the amount of money available from the investments of these accounts and the additional contributions made during the year. This past year the association was able to award five scholarships to deserving students pursuing degrees in education.

If you know of students who may be eligible for these scholarships, the application program will go “live” in early March. Representatives from the Foundation make visits to the Frederick County high schools to explain the process and encourage participation. FCRSPA members, Bonnie Strine and Shirley Stroup serve as reviewers for these two scholarships.

The FCRSPA Board of Directors designates March as the time members are encouraged to contribute to the Scholarship Fund. Those attending the March luncheon at The Frederick Elks may bring their contributions to that event; others may forward their contributions to the association treasurer: Shirley McDonald. Checks should be made payable to Community Foundation of Frederick County, FCRSPA Scholarship Fund in the memo. Of course, contributions can be made at any time throughout the year. The Board of Directors appreciates the continued support of association members through their contributions to the funds.



**FCRSPA March Reservation Form**

**Tuesday, March 10, 2020**

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY  
Thursday, February 20, 2020  
PLEASE RESPECT THE RESERVATION DEADLINE.  
THANK YOU!**

**Location: Frederick Elks Lodge 684  
289 Willowdale Dr. Frederick 21702**

**Time: Doors Open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is served at 12 p.m.**

**Cost Per Person: \$20.00**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you become a new member within the past 12 months? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
Emeritus  
(90 years or older)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed (\$20.00 per person – Members & Guests)

**Reservations must be received by  
Thursday, February 20, 2020.  
Mail form & check made out to  
FCRSPA  
To  
Ann Keyfauer**

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**MRSPA Membership Application (Please Print)**  
**(New Members Only)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Position at Retirement:**

Administrator/Supervisor  Non-Certificated/Support Staff  
 Teacher/Other Certificated  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Retired from \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Retirement \_\_\_\_\_  
 (County/Local)

**Payment Options:**

Dues Deduction from pension authorization. I hereby authorize annual dues deduction from my retirement check or deposit. This authorization shall remain in effect until I revoke it. By authorizing dues deduction, I will receive a one-time \$10 reduction in my state dues. (see chart on the back)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Social Security Number Required) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Forms with Social Security #'s are destroyed when MRSPA is notified of dues deduction.

Enclosed is a check made payable to MRSPA.

I prefer to pay by credit card. Please go to [www.mrspa.org](http://www.mrspa.org)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Do not share my information with member benefits providers.

I prefer to receive the MRSPA Newsletter electronically.

Referred or Recruited by \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed form to:  
 MRSPA  
 8379 Piney Orchard Pkwy Suite A  
 Odenton, MD 21113

<i>Local and MRSPA Dues</i>				
	Local Dues	MRSPA Dues	Total Dues	Total for Dues Deduction Only
Frederick Co.	\$10	\$45	\$55	<b>\$45</b>

*The MRSPA Membership year is July 1 through June 30*







**MARYLAND RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION**  
 8379 Piney Orchard Parkway, Suite A  
 Odenton, MD 21113-1508

**SWITCH AND SAVE!**  
**AUTHORIZATION FOR ANNUAL DUES DEDUCTION**

I hereby authorize the Maryland State Retirement Agency to deduct state and local annual membership dues for the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association from one of my retirement checks each membership year. This authorization will remain in effect until cancelled by written notice by me. I understand that my full social security number is required, if I wish to become a dues deduction member.

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail this form to the Odenton, MD address above**

**Local Association Dues 2019-2020**

<b>Allegany County</b>	\$20	<b>Anne Arundel County</b>	\$15	<b>Baltimore City</b>	\$15
<b>Baltimore County</b>	\$15	<b>Calvert County</b>	\$10	<b>Caroline County</b>	\$8
<b>Carroll County</b>	\$10	<b>Cecil County</b>	\$10	<b>Charles County</b>	\$10
<b>Dorchester County</b>	\$10	<b>Frederick County</b>	\$10	<b>Garrett County</b>	\$10
<b>Harford County</b>	\$12	<b>Howard County</b>	\$10	<b>Kent County</b>	\$15
<b>Montgomery County</b>	\$10	<b>Prince George’s County</b>	\$15	<b>Queen Anne’s County</b>	\$10
<b>St. Mary’s County</b>	\$10	<b>Somerset County</b>	\$5	<b>Talbot County</b>	\$15
<b>Washington County</b>	\$10	<b>Wicomico County</b>	\$10	<b>Worcester County</b>	\$10

**MRSPA dues (\$35)\* + Local Association dues \$\_\_\_\_\_ = Total Membership Dues \_\_\_\_\_**

\*Switch and Save dues deduction members will receive a one-time \$10 reduction in state dues.  
 MRSPA dues is \$35 the first year and \$45 per year thereafter.

(Recurring Dues deduction is made once/year from the July 31 pension check.)



FREDERICK COUNTY RETIRED  
SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

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??New Contact  
Information??

Address Change?  
Phone Number Change?  
Email Address Change?

Please remember to contact  
us if your contact  
information changes  
so that we can update our  
records.