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President's Message by Tom Slater

We have to stop meeting this way. Or not! Being a member of a membership organization in the time of a pandemic is not for sissies. Is everyone ZOOMed out? Will we ever be able to hang out with our former colleagues again? The answer is YES. But who knows when. We don't know that we will have any in-person events in the near future. We will cross our fingers, and perhaps we can have a membership breakfast on December 8, but don't count on it. Safety comes first, especially for people of a certain age – i.e. us!

The state organization, MRSPA, has been ZOOMing to beat the band and will continue to do so. The FCRSPA's Board of Directors meet via ZOOM on August 11 and will ZOOM again in October. It was nice to see so many friendly faces again. As usual, the membership team has been hard at work. We want to welcome our new newsletter editors, Jenny Powell and Lee Jeffrey and thank them for jumping in to help us out. Many thanks to Judy Brandenburg and Kathy Campagnoli for taking on a new project to send "thinking of you" cards to our members who are in nursing homes. We may consider a whole-membership ZOOM meeting after the first of the year if there is interest and we still cannot get together in person. Your thoughts on whether you might participate in this would be appreciated.

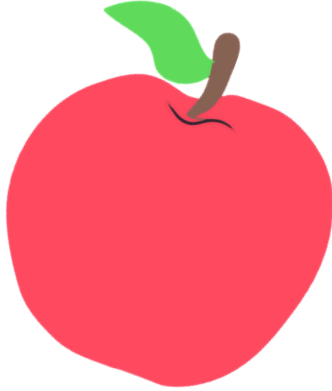
One thing that we can do at home is VOTE. Details on how to vote via mail are included elsewhere in this newsletter. Of course, you can still vote early at a polling place or wait until Election Day. New polling locations at high schools have been established. VOTE as if your life depended on it because it might.

Stay safe!

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FCRSPA Scholarship Update, July

Six scholarships were awarded from the FCRSPA Fund and from the FCRSPA/Petre Fund to: The two funds are managed by the Community Foundation of Frederick County with the criteria reviewed annually by the FCRPSA Board of Directors and Dr. Richard and Pat Petre.

Several members of FCRSPA, Bonnie Strine and Shirley Stroup, are part of the Community Foundation Review Panel which selects the winning recipients.

FCRSPA encourages members to contribute in March to the scholarship funds as part of the Community Service Committee outreach. In addition, a number of members contribute annually and often dedicate the funds in honor or memory of an individual. Contributions allow the fund to grow and continue to provide scholarships to Frederick County students. Thank you for your dedication to helping students complete their education.

Each year, the scholarship recipients are invited to the FCRSPA July Picnic. Because of the COVID19 pandemic, this year's picnic was cancelled. Bios from four of the recipients are included in this newsletter. (Rebekah Meredith and Emma Bernardoni also received scholarships, but no bios were received.)

Sasha Pabis will graduate from Flagler College with degrees in **Elementary Education** and

Deaf Education, as well as a minor in American Sign Language. She is an active member and volunteer of Flagler's Deaf Awareness Club and is passionate about bringing recognition to Deaf community and culture. She is also a member of Kappa Delta Pi, the International Education Honor Society, as well as Alpha Chi, the National College Honor Society. In addition, Sasha is an English for Academic Purposes Tutor, where she provides second language support to multilingual learners. Sasha has continued to gain experiences in K-12 classrooms by working with a variety of students, such as deaf, blind, and ESOL students, and has recently been awarded Teacher Candidate of the Month by Flagler College's Education Department. Overall, Sasha aspires to complete her Master's degree in Deaf Education and inspire her students to love learning.



FCRSPA Scholarship Update, Continued

Alexia Chavez-Brown is a rising sophomore at Bethany College (WV), and a graduate of Oakdale High School (2019). At Bethany, she studies with a major in **Spanish** and a minor in **Secondary Education** with the goal of becoming a high school Spanish teacher. Now in college, she has been so excited to take content-specific Spanish classes such as Spanish for the Medical Profession and Latin American Literature. Being able to take classes as those has been a dream of hers! At Oakdale High, Alexia was a member of various honors societies as well as Student Government, Dance Team, and Drama Department. She volunteered her time at FMH at the Information Desk. Now at Bethany, Alexia is a member of Phi Mu Fraternity, as well as various clubs such as the Student Activities Council and Spanish Club. She was also recognized as an Honors Scholar and Presidential Scholar at Bethany College. She is a part of the executive council for her Phi Mu chapter, and serves as the Director of Harm Reduction and Prevention. Her role is to ensure the safety and health of her sisters. She wants to thank the Frederick County Retired Teachers Association for their support on her academic journey and hopes that everyone is staying safe and healthy!



Natalia Chavez-Brown

I am elated to be a recipient of a FCRSPA scholarship! I am sorry to hear the picnic has been cancelled, but my bio is below.

My name is Natalia Chavez-Brown and I am a sophomore at Bethany College in Bethany, West Virginia. I am involved in many on campus activities including Phi Mu sorority, where I am the New Member Director, and German and Spanish clubs, where I serve as Secretary. I am also a Presidential Scholar and a member of the Honors Program. I am proud to announce that both semesters of my freshman year, I was on the President's List! I am majoring in **Elementary Education** with a minor in **Spanish**. After graduating college, I aspire to be a Kindergarten ELL teacher. I found my true passion for ELL teaching when I did an internship at Hillcrest Elementary School during my senior year of high school at Oakdale. While at Oakdale, I was involved in SGA, Dance Team, Theater, and various Honors societies!

Thank you so much for your support! Your generosity makes my dreams more tangible.

Regards,
Natalia Chavez-Brown

FCRSPA Scholarship Update, Continued

Piper Jons

I was born and raised in Maryland, my family moved to Frederick County in 2013. I attended Urbana Middle School and Urbana High School. Along with my twin sister, Grayson, I played soccer from a young age; and we both joined FC Frederick in middle school. I played soccer all four years at UHS, but discovered my real passion my sophomore year.

In an effort to stay in shape for soccer, I joined the Indoor Track team and that decision has changed everything! As a member of the Indoor and Outdoor Track teams, I have had the opportunity to compete in 4 Maryland State Championships, as well as 2 trips to Nationals. My love of the sport has also greatly impacted my college decision.

I am so excited and very proud to be joining the Elon University Track & Field team this fall. At Elon I will have opportunities on the track; but I will also have opportunities to further explore my interest in **Child Development** and **Early Childhood Education**. I first discovered my interest in early education by working with young children in my Child Development classes at Urbana.

My high school years in Frederick County

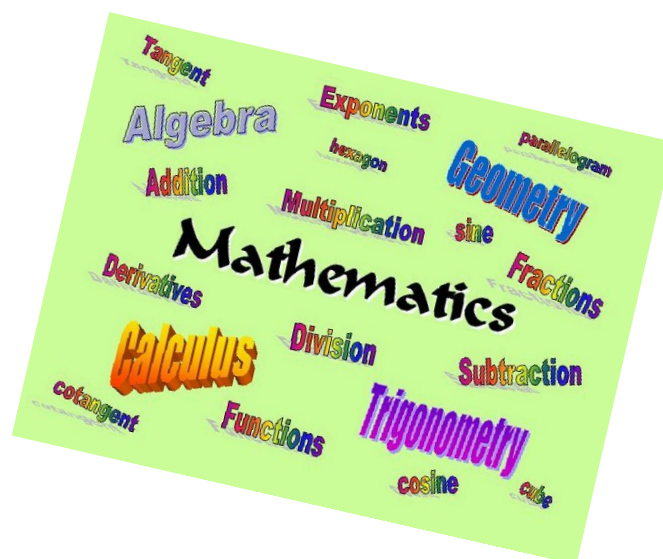


Emma Bernardoni

I graduated from Walkersville High School in 2017 and am entering my senior year at Shepherd University this fall. I play for the women's soccer team at Shepherd and I am also in the Honor's Program. I am majoring in **Secondary Education - Mathematics** and intend to pursue a career as a high school mathematics teacher. Eventually, I plan to return to school to earn a Master's in

Special Education with a focus on Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Thank you again for this opportunity!



Insurance/ Health Updates

Submitted Joe Polce

Virtual Check-Ins

Medicare still covers virtual check-ins with doctors. Virtual check-ins allow you to talk to your doctor or nurse practitioners or physician assistants using your phone or other type of audio/video system without going to the doctor's office. Medicare also covers E-visits and Medicare telehealth. CareFirst also covers these visits.

COLA for 2020/2021

The Maryland cost of living adjustment for retirees that started July 2020 was set at 1.812%. Enjoy.

COVID 19

It may be a long time before we get back to a normal life style. The scientists and most medical professionals tell us to wear a mask, social distance and wash our hands often to help control the spread of the virus. It doesn't seem like many of the young adults feel the same way. A lot of us are in that age group that is most vulnerable to the virus. Please stay safe.

Insurance Council

The Council will begin meeting virtually in September. As of now there are no pressing issues that will impact our health coverage. The Delta Dental contract will expire on June 30, 2022 so discussions will begin in the spring of 2021 on a request for proposal (new contract).

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

Faye Buckingham

Because this has been a difficult, challenging and lonely time due to the pandemic for the past several months, we hope we can share a smile with you through this message and that you know you are in our thoughts. Our hope is that we will be able to get together as a group soon and continue to enjoy each others company. Take care and be safe!"

FCRSPA Friends

Ways to Safely Vote

There's no mistaking that the election this November is one of the most important of our lifetimes. And during a worldwide pandemic, it's crucial to have a plan for how you will safely vote. The safest way to vote is by mail. **You have until October 27, 2020 to request your ballot and there are several ways to register to vote or request your mail-in ballot.**

If you have a MD drivers license or ID card: [You can request a mail in ballot or register to vote online by clicking here](https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1) or visiting: <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineVoterRegistration/InstructionsStep1>

If you don't have a license or ID card, you can download the form [by clicking here](https://elections.maryland.gov/voting/documents/Absentee%20Ballot%20Application%20English.pdf) or by visiting :[https://elections.maryland.gov/voting/documents/Absentee Ballot Application English.pdf](https://elections.maryland.gov/voting/documents/Absentee%20Ballot%20Application%20English.pdf). When you receive your ballot, complete it following the directions and mail it in.

Once you've requested a mail-in ballot, [you can track it through the Board of Elections website by clicking here](https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch) or by visiting: <https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch> to make sure you get it.

Or, you can also go in person to the local Board of Elections office to request your ballot, if you are unable to print it out. Frederick County's Board of Elections is found at 340A Montevue Lane in Frederick. Remember to wear a mask and practice social distancing. To find any other county's board of elections [click here](https://elections.maryland.gov/about/county_boards.html) or by visit https://elections.maryland.gov/about/county_boards.html

If you are opting to mail-in your ballot, please give yourself ample time to return it. Unfortunately, resources at the US Post Office are causing delays. So make sure you act early! If you would rather use one of the eight (8) secure drop boxes around Frederick County, they can be found at the following locations:

Board of Elections Office at 340A Montevue Lane Frederick
 Catoclin High School
 Middletown VFD Activity Center
 Urbana Library
 Talley Rec Center
 Brunswick Middle School
 Gov T. J. High School
 Oakdale High School



If you decide to vote in person, you can vote at any of the 4 early voting locations from October 26 – Nov 2:
 Gov T J High School
 Catoclin High
 Urbana Library
 Middletown VFD Activities Center

On November 3, Election Day, you can vote in person at any of the above or at:

Cornerstone Church	Middletown High School
Brunswick Middle School	Oakdale High School
Frederick High School	Tuscarora High School
Talley Rec Center	Urbana High School
Linganore High School	Walkersville High School

Who was our first FCRSPA woman President?



Log onto www.FCRSPA.org to find out. Click FCRSPA History. She was a Frederick High School "Problems of Democracy" teacher. How appropriate in today's world. In fact, I had her class.

August 26th is Women's Equality Day and the first celebration was held in 1973 to commemorate the 1920 adoption of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. Congratulations on the 100th birthday. Let's all VOTE!

Our website is generally up to date with relevant information, so please look us up when you wish.

Carroll Kehne, Jr.

Website Chair

Community Services

Submitted by Irene Bailey and Claudia Harrington

With our meetings and luncheons cancelled for the time being due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Community Services Committee has become aware of a few ways FCRSPA members can still donate money and/or time to assist FCPS students. The amount you would have spent on lunches and school supplies can do a lot of good in our community.

***Please consider sending a check to the treasurer of FCRSPA to benefit SHIP (Student Homelessness Initiative Partnership). SHIP's goal is to "provide new clothing, funding for youth enrichment activities, counseling services, and emergency shelter when no other options exist" (from the website www.shipfrederick.com). This will be our FCRSPA community service project. We'll take your generous contributions and make a group donation. Maybe we'll get a little press coverage with a photo in the newspaper. **Please make checks payable to FCRSPA with SHIP on the notation line and mail to:**

Shirley McDonald

***Still have new, unused toiletries to donate? A box will be placed in the vestibule of President Tom Slater's office for collection. The address is 129 W. Patrick St., Suite #9, Frederick. Products will be given to SHIP for homeless FCPS students. (Thanks, Tom!)

***The YMCA staff needs help with tutoring programs. They need teachers for phone, email, or Zoom contact to assist with academic questions from students ages 5-12. They would also appreciate in-person volunteers (the volunteer application is required for this option). Please see the letter in this newsletter from Christy Whittington, Regional Director and/or contact Kim Selby, Volunteer Coordinator at ksselby@frederickymca.org or 301-663-5131 ext.1222.



Become A SHIPmate
Make a difference in a child's life.



August 6, 2020

Calling all Retired Teachers!!

The YMCA desperately needs your help in tutoring children ages 5-12 years old in our YMCA Learn Y / Y Cares program that will be starting on Monday August 31, 2020. We will be located at Tuscarora, Oakdale, Centerville, and Green Valley Elementary Schools. We will also have programs at F.C.C. children's center and The YMCA Arts Center in downtown Frederick. There are 3 ways listed below in which you could be of assistance to our YMCA Learn Y/Y Cares program.

1. If you would be willing to be on call or through email to help our YMCA staff with any academic questions the students bring to them.
2. By participating in a weekly site zoom meeting to help students with any academic questions that they may have.
3. If you would like to volunteer on site at one of our locations listed above from 9am-12pm, Mon.-Fri. (Volunteer Application needed for this option.)

Please contact Kim Selby our YMCA Volunteer Coordinator at 301-663-5131 ext. 1222 with questions about the volunteer process or email her at kyselby@frederickymca.org with your completed application if you would like to be onsite at one of our locations listed above to tutor. I have attached the volunteer application to expedite our YMCA volunteer process. If you have program specific question please email me or call me using the information below.

Your knowledge and expertise would greatly help out our students attending virtual school/zoom rooms and our YMCA program staff. Our YMCA students will have 3 hours of virtual school with FCPS teachers in the mornings from 9am-12pm daily Monday through Friday. We will also have our Zoom Rooms open throughout the day for synchronized learning opportunities. Thank you for considering to partner with the YMCA this upcoming school year to make sure that our youth in Frederick County are staying well educated during these most difficult and ever changing times. Your help would be greatly appreciated by me as well. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Christy Whittington

Regional Director

cwhittington@fredeickymca.org

(O) 301-663-5131 ext. 1272

(C) 240-772-7731

YMCA OF FREDERICK COUNTY

1000 N. Market Street, Frederick, MD 21701

P 301-663-5131 F 301-663-5363 www.frederickymca.org

Our Mission: "To put Judeo-Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all."



YMCA OF FREDERICK COUNTY VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Contact Information

Name _____

Street Address _____

City ST ZIP _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Social Security # _____

Date of Birth _____

Are you 18 years of age or older? Yes or No (If not, parent or guardian must sign application)

Please list the names of relatives or friends employed by the YMCA and their relationship to you?

Background: Please list any other names that you have used in the past _____

Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense? Yes or No If no, please describe:

During which hours are you available for volunteer assignments?

- Weekday mornings Weekend mornings
 Weekday afternoons Weekend afternoons
 Weekday evenings Weekend evenings

Interests: Circle the volunteer areas that interest you:

Fun Runs – Healthy Kids Day – Crafts Coordinator - Games Coordinator – Youth Sports Coach

Youth Fitness Instructor – Fitness Instructor – Tour Guide – Front Desk Hospitality – Facility

Assistance, Volunteer Coordinator – Public Relations/Marketing Volunteer – Campaign Volunteer

Other: _____

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Special Skills or Qualifications

Summarize special skills and qualifications you have acquired from employment, previous volunteer work, or through other activities, including hobbies or sports.

Person to Notify in Case of an Emergency

Name	
Street Address	
City ST ZIP	
Home Phone	
Work Phone	
E-Mail Address	

References: Please list 3 friends, teachers or employers with whom you have known for at least 2 years who could provide a reference:

Name:	
Address:	
Telephone	Relationship:
Name:	
Address:	
Telephone:	Relationship:
Name :	
Address:	
Telephone:	Relationship:

By submitting this application, I affirm that the facts set forth in it are true and complete. I understand that if I am accepted as a volunteer, any false statements, omissions or other misrepresentations made by me on this application may result in my immediate dismissal.

Name (printed) _____

Signature _____

Today's Date _____

**Parents/Guardian
Signature** _____

Our Policy

It is the policy of this organization to provide equal opportunities without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual preference, age or disability.

Thank you for completing this application form and for your interest in volunteering with YMCA OF FREDERICK COUNTY.

HELLO Membership Musings

~ Debbie Thackston & Marsha Wise

Since our last newsletter, we are pleased to welcome **15** new members. We continue to contact those who have recently retired or are planning to retire in the near future. Thanks to all current members who have been reaching out to recruit new members. Please, if you know a retired FCPS employee who is not a member, invite them to join us. **Membership** and **Switch & Save** applications are included at the end of this newsletter.

Renewal and new membership information can also be found at <https://www.mrspa.org/why-join-mrspa>

As of August 10, 2020, we had 761 **Unified members** PLUS 34 local members for a Grand Total of 795 members.

WELCOME *New Members*

Karen Benfield	
Sandra Dertzbaugh	
Caryn Elizabeth Driebelbies	
John Giffin	
Elizabeth T. Greene	
Janet Harding	
Stacey Hiltner	
Nerida Fuentes Martinez	
Gloria Mitchell	
Kathy Prichard	
Rebecca Reickel	
Julie Seiler	
Raymond Skowronski	
Leslie Thornton	
Mary Tielking	



In Memoriam



Paula Acquaviva
~ 6/28/2020

Gloria Angleberger
5/21/1932~ 7/10/20

Naomi Butler
8/25/1934 ~ 4/18/2020

Carol Jones
7/27/1941 ~5/21/2020

Edward (Ted) Hallock
9/25/1936 ~ 6/13/2020

Mary Sue Littrell
8/23/1939 ~ 7/21/2020

Martha Mackley
4/23/1930 ~ 8/13/2020

Priscilla Masood
12/3/1928 ~ 2/27/2020

Frances Nolan
1/8/1938 ~ 8/9/2020

<i>Membership Changes</i>		Member	Address	Phone	Email
Catherine	Anderman				
Christina	DeFrance				
Virginia	Flaherty				
Lynn	Harden				
Larkin & Sherrie	Hohnke				
Linda	King				
Nancy	Manthey				
Linda	Minnick				
Dorothy	Lowman				
Richard	Moreland				
Jennifer	Powell				
Kathleen	Thayil				
John & Wanda	Zink				

\$\$ Dues are Due \$\$

If you have your dues deducted from your pension check, dues were deducted from your July 31 check.

If you are a cash paying member you have received your dues notice.

Thanks to all who have submitted their payment.

During these times, it is more important than ever to support **MRSPA/FCRSPA** for continued protection of our retirement benefits.

REMEMBER

FCRSPA fields a representative on the Frederick County Public Schools insurance council to advocate for the interests of retirees and to keep us informed of critical and current insurance issues.

MRSPA sponsors a lobbyist in Annapolis, thereby establishing an ongoing presence to monitor issues pertinent to retirees and recommends advocacy when appropriate

Both organizations render support for almost **800 FCRSPA** members in 18 states coast to coast.



??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 and forward to MRSPA.

Email: myfcrspa@gmail.com



If you know of a member who has passed away and should be listed on our Memorial Roster but you have not seen him/her listed, please let us know at myfcrspa@gmail.com
We can't report what we do not know.





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

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

Local and MRSPA Dues

	Local Dues	MRSPA Dues	Total Dues	Total for Dues Deduction Only
Frederick Co.	\$10	\$45	\$55	\$45

The MRSPA Membership year is July 1 through June 30

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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

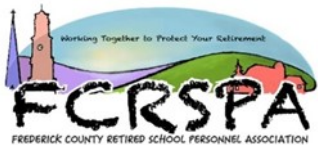
Allegany County	\$20	Anne Arundel County	\$15	Baltimore City	\$15
Baltimore County	\$15	Calvert County	\$10	Caroline County	\$8
Carroll County	\$10	Cecil County	\$10	Charles County	\$10
Dorchester County	\$10	Frederick County	\$10	Garrett County	\$10
Harford County	\$12	Howard County	\$10	Kent County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

