

# Montgomery County Public Schools Retirees Association, Inc.



P.O. Box 4367 Rockville, MD 20849-4367

www.mcpsra.org

Volume 2024-25, Issue #2

December, 2024



## PRESIDENT'S

### MESSAGE

Dr. Debra Munk  
President - MCPSRA

Dear MCPSRA Members:

With the Holiday season now upon us, it is time to reflect on the past year...

MCPSRA has had a banner year, with a number of successes and new initiatives. Plus, our membership has increased, giving us more leverage in our advocacy efforts.

For example, MCPSRA was successful in negotiating with MCPS regarding dental implants and hearing aids. Beginning in January, all members may use their \$2000 dental allowance for implants. In January 2025, hearing aids will be covered for all members who are not yet Medicare eligible. This was a huge win for us!

We have added several new Board Members, including Becky Hubbard, former teacher at Maryvale Elementary and Galit Zolkower, former principal



September MCPSRA Happy Hour at Lone Oak Farm Brewing Company

of Summit Hall Elementary. Becky and Galit are leading our membership campaign and have been instrumental in promoting activities to increase opportunities for socialization. With support from Chris Sutter and Judy Mills, they organized a Happy Hour at Lone Oak Brewing in September, a Zoom Meeting for all members on October 22, and are currently organizing a Retiree Homecoming Party for ALL retirees at the CESC auditorium on January 10, 2025 from 3-5:00 PM. This fall they surveyed all members to determine members' interests and attitudes toward retirement.

In addition to increasing social gatherings, members have also taken part in community service, thanks to Judy Mills, our Community Service Chair. MCPSRA participated in a volunteer day at InterFaith Works on Nov. 20, and is currently collecting elementary age children's underwear, socks and toiletries for school health rooms.

As you consider end of the year donations to charitable institutions, please remember our partnership with InterFaith Works (IW), a non-profit organization addressing poverty and homelessness in our county. MCPSRA will match your donation up to a total of \$2000. So, once you make your donation to IW (<https://www.iworksmc.org>) contact Steve Raucher, MCPSRA treasurer, and he will send IW the matching funds.

Additionally, remember our Toolkits Project, which has been in continuous operation since 2003, marking two decades of support for needy young people! We rely on your donations and compassion to enrich the lives of children who have few or no school supplies at home to support their learning.

## MCPSRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD)

### Officers:

President	Dr. Debra Munk	240-426-8407
Vice President	Reginald J. Ott	301-452-5449
Immediate Past President	Dr. Carol M. Dahlberg	301-253-2212
Parliamentarian	Fred S. Evans	301-706-3993
Recording Secretary	Marla Caplon	240-793-8288
Treasurer	Dr. Stephen M. Raucher	301-318-4969

### Committee Chairs:

Archives	Marti Gray	301-641-8896
Budget Development	Dr. Stephen M. Raucher	301-318-4969
Community Service	Judy Mills	240-223-7271
Consumer Education	Deb Berner	301-455-8608
Financial Review	Bill Gregory	410-241-8731
Hospitality/Luncheons	LeeAnn Kaye	301-598-5480
--- Co-Chair	Trish Bendler	301-540-5160
Insurance and Benefits	J. Thomas Hickman	301-929-9660
Legislative	Fred S. Evans	301-706-3993
MCPSRA Projects	Joan Donovan	301-253-6099
--- Co-Chair	Trish Bendler	301-540-5160
Membership	Marti Gray	301-641-8896
--- Co-Chair	Becky Hubbard	240-643-8610
--- Co-Chair	Galit Zolkower	301-570-6424
Newsletter Editor	Dr. Russell G. Wright	301-806-7252
Nominating	Dr. Carol M. Dahlberg	301-253-2212
Political Action	VACANT	
Public Relations	Dick Lipsky	301-318-0613
Recognition	Joan Donovan	301-253-6099
Scholarships (MCPSRA)	Bill Stief	301-956-5891
Social Media	Christina Sutter	301-471-3637
Trips	Bernadette Rager	301-774-0345

## MCPSRA Luncheons Resume with a Smashing Success



Rave reviews for the MCPSRA October Business Meeting/Luncheon at our new location—Argyle Country Club. On October 31, over 100 retirees enjoyed scrumptious food, an inviting atmosphere and an informative program on how to avoid consumer fraud. Attendees also heard from three of our scholarship winners.

Additionally, the new MCPSRA Service Project got off to a great start. Many donations for an elementary school health room (boys' and girls' underwear, socks, sweatpants, leggings) were collected. Bottle caps continue to roll in to support our *Toolkits* project. (See related article on page 3.)

As you can see, there is a lot happening!! If you have not yet attended a business meeting/luncheon you need to put it on your calendar. Don't be left out. Come and make new friends, renew friendships, enjoy delicious food and have a terrific time!!

Your next opportunity is February 27, 2025. I hope to see you there.

Save the following dates for future luncheons:

February 27, 2025  
 April 24, 2025  
 June 12, 2025

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-598-5480 or [geolakaye@gmail.com](mailto:geolakaye@gmail.com)

LeeAnn Kaye



**'TIS THE SEASON FOR GIFT-GIVING**

As the holiday season comes around each year, we look forward to the festive and joyful time we spend with family and close friends. We enjoy all the decorations, the delicious meals and decadent sweets, and, yes, the gifts so thoughtfully selected and given to one another. Many long hours of hard work are spent on assuring that everything turns out perfectly. Therefore, most of us will agree that the holiday season can also be a very stressful and harried time as we plan and prepare all the food for the many meals and gatherings, as well as try to budget for, shop, and wrap the ideal gift for each person on our list.

In times past, it used to be the custom to hand make, with much thought and care, each gift we gave one another whether it be a hand-knitted sweater or mittens, homemade cookies, breads, and candies, or even something you grew and canned from your garden. "Honestly," you say, "when was the last time you heard of anyone having the time to do that?!" Well, there has been a resurgence in recent years to rethink the whole idea of gift giving not just during the holidays but throughout the year by putting more meaning and effort into the gifts we give while saving time and money, too.

Here is a suggestion that you may want to consider during this season of gift giving that may make your life much easier and add new meaning to what you receive or give as gifts. "Please don't get me anything! There isn't a thing I really need or want," I tell my children and friends. But when they insist that I give them an idea, I have requested that they make a donation in my name to a few of the local and national charities and organizations that I have selected for the good work they do for the neediest of the poor and helpless. I would like you to consider doing the same by selecting and donating to our own association's **Toolkits Project**. And yes, your gift will be regifted to children in need in the form of a kit of school supplies they need at home to support their learning at school.

Many of you have donated to this much needed and highly successful project during the twenty years of its existence because you know it benefits needy children right here in Montgomery County. More and more individuals have chosen to send their donations in honor of, or in memory of, loved ones, something that I did personally last month with the passing of my husband Jim. If the donor provides the name and address of the person to whom an acknowledgement should be sent, we are more than happy to do so.

(Continued on page 10.)

**SUPPORT FOR THE MCPSRA TOOLKITS PROJECT**

Please provide 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Optional: In memory of \_\_\_\_\_ In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Send acknowledgement to \_\_\_\_\_

Select one: \_\_\_\_\_ \*email me a receipt at \_\_\_\_\_

(\*preferred)

\_\_\_\_\_ mail me a receipt (only if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_ no receipt is necessary

# Welcome New Members

## Joined in September 2024

Marie-Francoise L. Baker	11915 Stonewood Ln. N., Bethesda, MD 20852	301-518-5854
Karen E. Caroscio	14307 Bauer Dr., Rockville, MD 20853	301-503-8922
Susan R. Cram	34843 Seagrass Plantation Ln., Dagsboro, DE 19939	302-500-3430
Ruth A. Hugo	18023 Bilney Dr., Olney, MD 20832	301-401-5849
Marilyn Kay Jacobs	10617 Glenwild Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20901	301-706-9766
Ronald Joyner	3 Adams Dr., Silver Spring, MD 20902	301-461-7771
Ellen M. Rohan	3583 S. Leisure World Blvd., Silver Spring, MD 20906	301-351-0485
James T. Royster	19000 New Hampshire Ave., Brinklow, MD 20862	301-570-0724
Joellyn K. Walsh	4071 Sand Trap Ct., Mount Airy, MD 21771	301-363-5057
Helen J. Webster	6417 Park Hall Dr., Laurel, MD 20707	301-938-1834

## Joined in October 2024

Annette C. Coats	4657 Newington Rd., Jefferson, MD 21755	
Teresa A. Demosky-Tippett	5806 Catocin Vista Dr., Mount Airy, MD 21771-6029	301-367-3124
Ellen L. Gagnon	314 West Montgomery Ave., Rockville, MD 20850	301-830-2107
Rhonda Glines	13 Awkward Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20905	301-384-8319
Larry Harp	17312 Parson Grove Terrace, Olney, MD 20832	240-328-0668
Dorothy Hyatt	11242 Alton Rd., Frederick, MD 21701	443-310-0577
Carol L. Kohan	18925 Cross Country Lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20879	301-926-1027
Jennifer Martin	7405 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912	301-452-4782
Thomas A. Martin	12 Madrigal Ct., Germantown, MD 20876	301-793-1917
Marla R. Orenstein	3543 Toddsbury Lane, Olney, MD 20832	301-367-4159
Richard Pottinger	6276 Merion Dr., Fayetteville, PA 17222	717-352-7229
Felita Smith	10002 Oxbridge Way, Bowie, MD 20721	301-646-3902
Kate J. Stephansky	3608 Winter Laurel Ter., Olney, MD 20832	301-260-9298
Carole Tauber	31 Via Bellia, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270	301-641-2827

## Membership News by Becky Hubbard

First and Foremost: THANK YOU... THANK YOU... THANK YOU... for choosing to be a member of MCPSRA!

We don't say thank you enough these days and we want you to know how very much we appreciate your membership and your trust in us to speak on your behalf. Remember that the more members we have the more powerful our voice becomes.

We had a fabulous "Why MCPSRA" ZOOM meeting in October. It was great to see so many retirees Zoom in with us. With such a great response we have decided to make it a more regular occurrence — keep your eyes open for the next one - great things to come!



If you are able, we would love to have you join us at The First Annual MCPSRA Retiree Homecoming Party. We will hold a party for all of us in the Central Office Auditorium. No worries about the dark room, our smiles and fellowship will bright everything up.





# Announcing The First Annual MCPSRA Retiree Homecoming Party

Come reconnect with former colleagues  
and enjoy food, raffles, and fun.

Date: January 10, 2025

Time: 3:00- 5:00 pm

Place: Auditorium at CESC

850 Hungerford Dr #167, Rockville, MD 20850



The event is FREE for ALL retirees, not just MCPSRA members.

Please RSVP to: [mcpsramembership@gmail.com](mailto:mcpsramembership@gmail.com)

In the coming year, we have big plans to engage more with our members! We're planning ZOOM calls, Happy Hours, and are working on some other exciting ideas for fellowship. Stay tuned!

Thank you again for being a member, if you know a retiree that is not or has let their membership lapse, bring them to our January party or encourage them to rejoin, here's the link: <https://www.mrspa.org/join-renew>

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## MCPSRA Consumer Education by Deb Berner December 2024-January 2025

**\*It's A Wonderful Time of Year –so be safe!**

Time sure whips by! We are approaching the season of giving and taking as well as the end of the year 2024...can you believe it? And unfortunately, mail and package thefts continue to be on the rise during this time too. Here are some ways to protect your mail or other deliveries from thieves.

- Pick up your mail promptly after delivery.

- Do not leave it in your mailbox overnight. If you are expecting checks, credit cards, packages or other negotiable items, ask a trusted friend or neighbor to pick up your mail, or if you never received your items, contact the issuing agency immediately.
- Do not send cash in the mail.
- Tell your Post Office when you will be out of town, so they can hold your mail until you return.
- Report all suspected mail theft to your local police and Postal Inspector.
- Losses are documented by the US Postal Inspection Service to identify problem areas and assist Inspectors in tracking down thieves. Report suspected mail losses to Postal Inspectors by calling 877-876-2455 or at [www.uspis.gov](http://www.uspis.gov).

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**\*Time to Shop ‘til You Drop!**

For the “fashionista in you,” January is a popular month to shop for apparel. This time of year marks the end of the winter fashion season, so clothing retailers offer deep discounts on sweaters, coats, ski gear, and other cold-weather items so that they can clear out inventory and make room for spring merchandise. [Savings.com](http://Savings.com) is a great resource to snag thousands of coupons and promo codes. Sign up for free and save money when you shop at your favorite online stores.

**\*Support During Challenging Times**

This past year has been tough and stressful for me, my family, and many of my friends. Whether it was the election, the loss or illness of loved ones, or the challenging weather, it’s likely that many of you have felt the weight of it all as well. The good news is that help is available.

As we age, we inevitably face the reality that loss and illness become more present in our lives. Whether it’s the death of a spouse, a child, or even confronting a terminal diagnosis ourselves, these moments can feel overwhelming and isolating. But while these topics are hard to discuss, they are too important to face alone. Communities are increasingly offering a variety of services designed to provide support, comfort, and dignity during these challenging times.

I recently completed some volunteer training through Caring Matters (CM), a nonprofit organization that specializes in grief counseling and other bereavement and support groups. I served for ten years on the CM board and am currently a trustee. I plan to volunteer as a **Good Grief** counselor for students in MCPS who have experienced the death of a significant person in his/her life either recently or years ago. Any elementary, middle, or high school student in a Montgomery County private or public school may participate in the program. I also volunteer as a driver for **Just Rides**, a program through CM that provides transportation for adults and seniors who need a ride(s) to their treatment or doctor’s appointments.



Finally, whether you or a loved one is facing these challenges, it’s important to remember that there is support available. By connecting with community services that offer everything from emotional support to practical care, seniors and their families can find solace, dignity, and strength during some of life’s hardest moments. Please contact me if you would like more information on many free services provided or available opportunities to volunteer. No one needs to confront these moments alone.

**\*Happy Holidays!**

As you enjoy the winter months and the holiday season, consider making your New Year’s resolution one of peace—both for yourself and others. Volunteering is one way to make a difference, but remember this powerful thought by Leo Buscaglia:

*Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.*



Wishing you peace, joy, and meaningful connections in the year ahead!

\*Please check out the November/December **Consumer Connection** newsletter on the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association site at <https://mrspa.org> for more updates and information.



**Facebook Public Page**



**Maryland MCPS Retirees Association**  
#1000 - 427 members  
The MCPS Retirees Association is a non-profit organization for MCPS (Maryland) retirees.

## Check out MCPSRA on the internet!

## Stay Connected!

## Like



**Facebook Private Members Group**



AA | montgomeryschoolsmd.org

**MCPS RETIREES ASSOCIATION (MCPSRA)**

**MCPS Web Page**



## Share

## Join

## And

## Follow

**Instagram**  
Marylandmcpsretirees



Instagram



## ***In Memoriam***

**The following MCPSRA Members have passed away:**

### **AUGUST**

**Alan D. Brown  
Judith E. Docca  
Bernice V. Kisliuk  
Barron L. Stroud  
Margaret L. Williams**

### **SEPTEMBER**

**Robert E. Bellison  
Regina G. Deputy  
Mary Deslattes  
Betty J. Manchak  
Harold Quayle, Jr.**

### **OCTOBER**

**Sandra L. Attick  
David S. Cross  
Peter Lerario  
Ida Lou Polcari**

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## **Community Service Update by Judy Mills**

The MCPSRA 2024-2025 Service Project is providing Elementary School health rooms with children's undergarments, socks, sweatpants and leggings. Principal feedback guided us to partner with Rosemary Hills Elementary School, Silver Spring, MD. If Members' support exceeds the needs of one school, we hope to expand this partnership!

Members brought unopened packs of leggings, sweatpants, underwear and socks to the MCPSRA October luncheon! Please continue to bring items to upcoming MCPSRA Luncheons (February, April, June) or In-person activities. (Next In-person activity is in January.) Or, you may ship items to MCPSRA % Judy Mills, community service chair, 11205 Maine Cove Drive, North Potomac, MD 20878 (Shoutout to the anonymous Amazon package donation.) If you'd like us to do the shopping, you may also send checks payable to MCPSRA, % Judy Mills, address above (Shoutout to Karen W.)

Many thanks to our members who attended Interfaith Works on November 20th for a Day of Service and spent the afternoon stocking the food pantry and sorting and hanging donated clothing for men, women and children. Our members provided great feedback and so the next day of service is scheduled for January 7, 2025. We will send out a reminder via Facebook and Email Blast. Visit the IW website anytime to register for a two-hour block of service with other like-minded folks helping others. <https://www.iworksmc.org/> With our continued in person and financial support, Interfaith Works provides food, clothing and shelter to our most vulnerable community members.

To all Members (including family and friends) who responded to a Call to Service over the last 12 months—**THANK YOU!** We know there are many inspiring stories of service to others, whether mentoring adults or



children, pulling weeds or planting gardens, donating a pint of blood, dusting off artifacts at a museum, or shelving books at a library. Do you have an inspiring story to share? If so, please email me [judy.mills549@gmail.com](mailto:judy.mills549@gmail.com) and we'll publish it in an upcoming newsletter. Your personal account of service may inspire others to serve. Be sure to indicate whether or not to use your name and please limit your story to 150 words or less.

## **Where to Volunteer 2024-25**

**The Truancy Prevention Program** (<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/sao/other/truancyprogram.html>) Fall Semester recruiting underway! As a part of the crime prevention initiatives established by the State's Attorney's Office, TPP works to improve MCPS school attendance by discovering the root causes of truancy, assisting students and their families to increase school attendance. Volunteers meet with students who are chronically absent helping students set goals to improve their attendance. A 10-week commitment, 2-3 hours weekly is required. For information, please contact Rebecca Marcolini at 240-777-7370, [Rebecca.Marcolini@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Marcolini@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov)

**The National Capital Trolley Museum**, ([dctrolley.org](http://dctrolley.org)) Silver Spring, MD seeks a Teacher Coordinator and Volunteers to facilitate Field Trip Programs for school-age children. A Coordinator's salary is available to the right candidate. Volunteers assist in weekday or Saturday activities and tours. Hours vary up to 4-6 hours 2 days/wk. or 5-7 hours/Saturdays. Training and Orientation provided and requires fingerprinting and background check. For information, please contact Marsha Kaiser at 410-422-2742, Email: [marshakaiser0404@gmail.com](mailto:marshakaiser0404@gmail.com)

**Empowering the Ages** (ETA), Rockville, MD, a non-profit organization that facilitates intergenerational programming. ETA facilitates school readiness programming between adults ages 50+ and pre-k students. Volunteers build a relationship with a local 4-year-old and their parent/caregiver for 18-20 months. We provide training and materials for your weekly sessions of reading, playing, and learning with the child as well as conversations with the parent/caregiver. You'll receive support from ETA staff and fellow volunteers in weekly peer group check-ins. Day/time is flexible; commitment is 1-2 hrs./wk.; primarily online/location flexible. **Spanish-speaking volunteers are especially encouraged!** Email [volunteer@empoweringtheages.org](mailto:volunteer@empoweringtheages.org).

**Junior Achievement Finance Park** is a collaboration between DMV-area schools, businesses, educators and volunteer mentors to teach students to be financially capable. Volunteers help guide small groups of middle-school students through a personal budgeting experience, from goal-setting to saving, shopping and bill paying. For a list of individual volunteer opportunities visit [myja.org/volunteer](http://myja.org/volunteer).

**AARP Maryland** state office has a team of volunteers who monitor legislative and other government activity in Annapolis. To get involved, go to [aarp.org/md](http://aarp.org/md) and scroll down to find About AARP Maryland; click on the contact information link, where you can find a volunteer interest form. Among the volunteering categories are "Influencing Lawmakers & Others." Tasks taken up by volunteers vary, from writing hearing testimony to meeting with local lawmakers, to attending virtual strategy meetings, to testifying in Annapolis. The time commitment is up to you. On The Agenda: KEY STATEHOUSE ISSUES: Energy Utilities; Health Care; Long-term Care; Livable Communities; Consumer Protection and Housing. (Summary of June AARP.org Bulletin, Maryland State News, p.37)

**Volunteers Sought for Maryland Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division** –The Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division is looking for volunteer mediators. Volunteers provide an invaluable service to Maryland consumers, resolving consumer complaints against businesses and health care providers and assisting consumers on our hotline. Volunteers work two days per week, 10 hours total in Baltimore or Largo offices. Training, free parking, and a \$20 per day stipend provided. For information, please contact [volunteer@oag.state.md.us](mailto:volunteer@oag.state.md.us) (Summary of July 2024, Retiree News & Notes, sra.org, p.6).

## **Local Volunteer Opportunities:**

[League of Women Voters \(https://www.lwv.org/\)](https://www.lwv.org/) - The League's success depends on the good work and financial support of its volunteers. All volunteer opportunities are time limited and project oriented so you can let us know what works for you. Check out [Volunteering \(https://www.lwvmocomd.org/content.aspx?page\\_id=2664&club\\_id=513039\)](https://www.lwvmocomd.org/content.aspx?page_id=2664&club_id=513039) or contact Ralph Watkins, Chair of the Making Democracy Committee, [mdw@lwvmocomd.org](mailto:mdw@lwvmocomd.org) .

[Montgomery County, MD Public Libraries \(https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library\)](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library)- scroll to the bottom of the homepage to the Support Us section and click on Volunteer Opportunities. Also visit the Resources by Age drop-down for an Older Adults Resources section to read about services and opportunities just for you. Next time you visit your Library, be sure to ask about Library Advisory Committees which Advocates for Local Libraries!

[Interfaith Works \(https://www.iworksmc.org/\)](https://www.iworksmc.org/) - Interfaith Works (IW) provides emergency shelter, supportive housing, essential needs, and employment programs to over 35,000 residents of Montgomery County, MD, every year. Currently accepting donations and volunteers are always appreciated.

[A Wider Circle \(https://awidercircle.org/\)](https://awidercircle.org/) is dedicated to “fostering the exchange of goods, skills, and connections from neighbor to neighbor, and by engaging in advocacy to address the root causes of poverty.” [Short-Term Volunteer Opportunities for Adults \(https://awidercircle.org/get-involved/#volunteer\)](https://awidercircle.org/get-involved/#volunteer) available. Currently accepting donations and volunteers are always appreciated.

[Manna Food Center \(https://www.mannafood.org/\)](https://www.mannafood.org/) - “By increasing access to nutritious food for all those experiencing hunger and food insecurity...Ending hunger in Montgomery County is within our reach. Every day, our staff, volunteers, fellow providers and community members move us closer to this reality.” Currently accepting donations and volunteers are always appreciated.

[Montgomery County, MD Public Libraries \(https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/\)](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/) - scroll to the bottom of the homepage to the Support Us section and click on Volunteer Opportunities. Also visit the Resources by Age drop-down for an Older Adults Resources section to read about services and opportunities just for you.

[Montgomery County, MD: \(https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteercenter/Discover\)](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteercenter/Discover) opportunities to serve in MoCo. Out of County opportunities appear on this site, too. Maryland: Help out at local parks across the DMV.

## **Nationwide Volunteer Opportunities:**

[Just Serve \(https://www.justserve.org/\)](https://www.justserve.org/): Volunteer with organizations across the US.

[The Smithsonian Institution \(https://www.si.edu/volunteer\)](https://www.si.edu/volunteer) Discover *countless volunteer opportunities in nearly every one of the Smithsonian's museums, gardens, research centers, and the National Zoo.* [Digital opportunities \(https://transcription.si.edu/\)](https://transcription.si.edu/) are also available.

[National Park Service \(https://www.nps.gov/subjects/volunteer/index.htm\)](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/volunteer/index.htm) and [DC Area National Parks \(https://www.nps.gov/locations/dc/volunteer.htm\)](https://www.nps.gov/locations/dc/volunteer.htm) Discover the great outdoors in a new way by volunteering while taking in the beauty of our National Parks

**Until next time.....Happy Serving!**

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## We Want To Hear From You

Complete the Membership Survey and let your voice be heard.  
Use the camera on your phone to connect with the survey via the QR code below.



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(TIS\_THE SEASON FOR GIFT-GIVING – Continued from page 3)

Now is the time to consider making truly thoughtful holiday gifts to some individuals (who have everything, as they say!) by sponsoring toolkits in their names. Your monetary donation is a gift that keeps on giving since the children receive the kits in July and use the school supplies in them all year long. All donations are tax-deductible. PLEASE remember **to make checks payable to: "MCPS Educational Foundation" with "Toolkits Project" on the memo line.** Thank you for your spirit of generosity during this holiday season and throughout the year in supporting our project.

Joan Donovan

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(Presidents Message continued from page 1.)

At this time of thankfulness and reflection, I want to express my tremendous gratitude to the MCPSRA Board members who give of their time and expertise to serve you, their fellow retirees. Please support us in any way you can...by giving to the Toolkits Project, by attending luncheons, by participating in community service opportunities, and most importantly...by recruiting your retiree friends to join us.

On behalf of the Board and myself, I want to wish you a safe and rewarding holiday season, celebrating with family and friends.



Debra Munk welcomes first-time luncheon attendees.

Warm regards,  
Debra Munk

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

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Permit No. 201  
Suburban, MD

DATED MATERIAL



**MCPSRA Luncheon/Business Meeting  
ARGYLE COUNTRY CLUB**

**Gathering: 11:00 a.m.; Business Meeting: 11:30 am.  
Luncheon: 12:00 Noon; Program 1:00 pm.**

**Next Luncheon Date February 27, 2025**

The MCPSRA Newsletter is published in October, December, February, April, and June.  
This is the December 2024 issue.