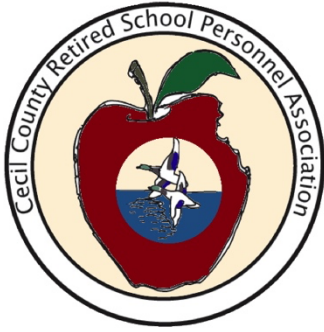




The Chalkboard

CECIL COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 39 NUMBER 1

Elkton, Maryland

September 2025

2025-2026 OFFICERS

President: Mary Ellen Butkiewicz

Immediate Past President: Anne Humphrey

Corresponding Secretary: Joan-Marie Parker

Recording Secretary: Cheryl Lee

Co-Treasurers: Anne Humphrey
Paul Humphrey

Website: <http://www.cecilrspa.org/>

MD State Website: <https://www.mrspa.org/>

FUTURE MEETINGS

Tues, Aug 26, 2025 - Executive Meeting 10:00 am

Tues, Sept 23, 2025 - Luncheon 11:00 am

Tues, Nov. 11, 2025 - Executive Meeting 10:00 am

Tues, Dec 9, 2025 - Luncheon 11:00 am

Tues, Jan 13, 2026 - Executive Meeting 10:00 am

Tues, Feb 10, 2026 - Luncheon 11:00 am

Tues, April 14, 2026 - Executive Meeting 10:00 am

Tues, May 12, 2026 - Luncheon 11:00 am

Elkton United Methodist Church
219 E Main St
Elkton, MD 21921



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I hope you had a memorable summer and are refreshed and ready for a new year. I can't help myself, when I'm in Walmart I still survey all the school supply bins!

I am honored to serve as President for another term. We have several committee members who will be "retiring" after serving for many devoted years. Tony Mattern has managed our funds diligently and will be replaced by Ann and Paul Humphrey. Sherry Lewis welcomed new members to our association and will be handing this task to Amy Ide. Cheryl Lee will be assuming the duties of Recording Secretary from Signe' Mika. Bill Ide will succeed the duties of Publications Chair from Gretchen Ginder. I have been blessed to have the support of these committee members — they make our association great.

With the new school year, school nurses again will need help providing supplies for students. Paula and Kay work endlessly to make sure these needs are met. We can help by donating what is listed in this newsletter, or a monetary donation is always appreciated to purchase what is requested.

The strength of our association lies within you, our members. I would like to encourage you to reach out to a retiree and encourage them to join CCRSPA. Equally important, MRSPA membership helps our state to keep our pension safe. It would also be great to see more of our present members join us for our first luncheon on Tuesday, September 23, 11:00 at Elkton United Methodist Church. Come see the wonderful things happening in Cecil County.

Respectfully yours,
MaryEllen Butkiewicz

CCRSPA MINUTES – May 20, 2025

Our meeting was called to order at 11:20 by President Mary Ellen Butkiewicz. The CHALKBOARD was accepted and ok'd.

OUTREACH: Paula said requests from school nurses come in September, January, and March. The requests continue to be for snacks, waters, and clothing. The schools are very grateful.

NOMINATIONS: Mary McCleary was nominated for the Hall of Fame. Kathy Mullen received Honorable Mention for volunteerism. Congratulations to both!

MEMBERSHIP: There has been some turnover with people leaving, while others join. We currently have 249 full members and 24 local only members.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Members are still being asked to receive The Chalkboard on line, if at all possible. It is on our website. Obituaries will also be posted on the website. Apparently, some non-members have been receiving the publication. A notice has been sent to them from Bill Ide.

Debbie Chance from the State Department inducted new officers who were present. Anne and Paul Humphrey will be our new co-treasurers. Outgoing officers were thanked with very thoughtful cards and gift cards.

GRANTS: Our grant program was started in 2019. Grants of \$100-\$200 were given to teacher applicants. This fall we gave 9 grants. Seven were for \$250.00, one was for \$210.00, and one for \$270.00. Over the years we have awarded grants to 32 teachers, totalling \$6,330. Displays of their ideas were shown at our luncheon. They were very impressive.

SCHOLARSHIPS: The scholarship program began in 1987. As of 2025, there have been 60 scholarships rewarded for a total of \$53,950. This year we are pleased to give \$1500 each to two young men, Daniel Tserkis and Connor Suprik.

TRAVEL: Fred spoke briefly about a planned trip to Bermuda in September. It will be a three-day trip on Celebrity, and the final cruise with Hill Travel.

Our meeting concluded at 12:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Signe' Mika



FALL LUNCHEON

Tuesday, September 23rd - 11:00 AM

Elkton Methodist Church

MENU

White Ziti (vegetarian)
Stuffed Shells w/marinara sauce
Pasta Primavera
Meatballs
Glazed Carrots
Garden Salad
Cookies/Brownies
Iced Tea, Water, Hot Tea, Coffee

**If you have specific diet restrictions, please contact Shirley for possible alternatives.*

Please pay by check or have \$25.00 in cash.

Email or call by Sunday, September 14th

Reply to Shirley Montgomery at:

shirlnems@gmail.com or 302-731-5371

Please be aware that if you RSVP, then you are responsible for the cost of your lunch even if you don't attend. We pay our caterer based in the number of lunches ordered.

Did you know that we have a huge raffle at each luncheon with usually around 30 prizes! The raffle supports our service projects!

How's your level of knowledge on lepidopterology?

You will be an expert after the luncheon program in September! You will finally know the difference between a butterfly and a moth. You'll ace all the Jeopardy questions in the MOTH category!



SEPTEMBER'S PROGRAM

The Man of the Cloth - The Man of the Moth

Please come and join us to hear Pastor Eric Warner's (Elkton United Methodist Church minister) moth presentation on native giant silk moths. Pastor Eric has been an insect and moth enthusiast since he was a child. He graduated with two BA degrees in 2006, one in Christian Ministry and one in Youth Ministry. He moved from Ohio to Maryland in 2007 to serve as a youth pastor of Immanuel United Methodist Church in Crisfield, Maryland and have since served up and down the shore including in Pocomoke City, Powellville, Salisbury, Sudlersville, and Elkton. He was ordained in 2015 after receiving his MDiv from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington DC and has been the pastor of Elkton United Methodist Church since 2020.



The Moth

A. Harris

A moth got in our classroom
and my classmates all got scared.
I tried to say, "it's just a moth"
but sadly, no one cared.

Miss Simons went to kill it
but it flip-flapped out of reach.
I told her I could help.
"Just hurry up, I'm trying to teach."

I opened up the window,
used my book to block its way,
and soon enough, it flittered out
and off it flew away.

SERVICE PROJECT

It is a blessing to be able to help the students in our schools in Cecil County. We are continuing our support of CCPS students by helping the nurses have needed supplies on hand in their school health rooms. Thank you to everyone for your generous donations to the Kids Fund.

For our September 23rd luncheon, please continue to bring in your donations for Kids Fund. We will be getting a list of requested items from our school nurses, but we can always count on the following request:

- Cases of bottled water
- Snacks
- personal hygiene items
- Boys and Girls underwear- size 5T- 14
- Ladies' underwear- S, M, L
- Gender Neutral Children's sweatpants 5T -14
- Gender Neutral Adult sweatpants - S, M, L

Monetary donations are also appreciated.



STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS & TEACHER MINI GRANTS

In late September, we will be offering grants of up to \$300 each to CCPS teachers for something they want to do with their classes that requires extra funding. Since 2019, we have awarded \$6,330 to 32 teachers. Our recipients have been from all grade levels and disciplines, including English, ELA, chemistry, science, G&T, media, guidance, art, PE, AVID, STEM academy, math and career readiness, and the nursing department at CCST. We are hoping to award at least 8 grants this year.

Applications are to be submitted by Thursday, October 30, 2025. Winners will be notified by Friday, November 7th and will receive their checks the following week.

IN MEMORIAM

Evelyn Logan (Ford)

12/8/1926 – 5/14/2025

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Evelyn Logan, a beloved matriarch, devoted educator, and cherished friend, who departed this world peacefully at the age of 98. Her life spanned nearly a century during which she touched countless lives with her kindness and unwavering spirit. Evelyn dedicated 31 years of her life serving as a secretary at Calvert Elementary School. A proud member of the Cecil County Retired Teachers Association, Evelyn nurtured an enduring love for learning and sharing knowledge, exemplifying the virtues of patience and dedication.

Margaret Pitt Bailey

11/6/1920 – 6/25/25

Peggy was educated at Jacob Tome Institute and later earned her degree from Washington College in Chestertown, MD. She began her long and impactful career in education at Elkton High School and later returned to her alma mater, Jacob Tome Institute, where she taught English and French. Peggy then joined the staff at Rising Sun High School, where she would remain until her retirement in 1984. After two decades of teaching, she became a Guidance Counselor, dedicating 41 years to the Cecil County Public School System. She took pride in the accomplishments of her former students, and always said, "They turned out to be good citizens."

Geraldine Anne Long

11/15/1942 – 7/13/2025

Geraldine was a devoted mother and housewife. She worked as a secretary at Elkton United Methodist Church, was a Dental Hygienist/Assistant. Her most recent profession was an aide at Holly Hall Elementary School.

Dorothy Elizabeth Bryant

4/19/1944 – 7/15/2025

Dorothy was born on April 19, 1944, in Perryville, MD. She was the daughter of the late Robert C. Nickle, Sr. and Dorothy McCummin Nickle. A dedicated and familiar face in the community, she faithfully drove a school bus for Marshall Bus Company for over 50 years, safely transporting generations of local children.

CCRSPA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS 2025-2026

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

<u>Community Outreach:</u>	Paula Sheldon
<u>Education/Protective Services:</u>	Tony Mattern
<u>Legislation:</u>	Linda Elwood
<u>Membership:</u>	Amy Ide
<u>Nominating:</u>	Kay DiStefano
<u>Benefits Advisory:</u>	Bill Ide
<u>Programs:</u>	Mary McCleary
<u>Publications - Chalkboard:</u>	Bill Ide
<u>Scholarship/Grants</u>	Charlene Metzger
<u>Social:</u>	Anne Humphrey
<u>Sunshine:</u>	Debbie Pasco
<u>Website:</u>	Tony Mattern



*The Chalkboard is published quarterly,
approximately two weeks prior to our quarterly
meetings (Sept, Dec, Feb, May).*

It is available on our website.

<http://www.cecilrspa.org/>



*For comments or questions contact Bill Ide at
chalkboard21921@gmail.com*

CCRSPA TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking Balance as of 6/30/25	\$925.94
Deposits since 6/30/25	\$1,467.27
Debits since 6/30/25	\$342.90
Checking Balance as of 8/31/25	\$2,050.31
Certificate of Deposit @Cecil Bank 9/11/25	\$12,219.69
Balance on Hand	\$17,006.11

2025-2026 Budget

Income

Kid's Personal Needs	\$1,050.00
Scholarship	\$1,050.00
Interest from checking	\$4.00
Membership Dues	\$2,720.00
Luncheons – Meetings (Quarterly)	\$6,000.00
SUB TOTAL INCOME	\$10,824.00

Expenditures

Management and General Expenses

Chalkboard	\$300.00
Miscellaneous	\$0.00
MRSPA Insurance	\$25.00
Postage	\$150.00
Supplies	\$150.00
Website	\$419.88

Program Services

Kid's Personal Needs	\$1,500
Luncheons (food and supplies)	\$5,400.00
Luncheons (donations for services)	\$600.00
MRSPA Scholarship	\$50.00
Chalkboard	\$300.00
Parton's Imagination Library	\$500.00
Programs for Meetings	\$550.00
Scholarships	\$3,000
Teacher Grants	\$1,600.00
SUB TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$14,194.88

End of Year Forecast

2025 Balance + Income – Expenditures	-\$2,444.94
Certificate of Deposit	\$10,000
(\$2,219.69 will; be transferred from CD to checking)	

CCRSPA Donation (Please Clip and retain for your records) Name _____ \$ _____ Ck # _____ Amount Date: _____ ☐ Kids Fund ☐ Scholarship Fund	CCRSPA Scholarship or Kids Fund Donation 2025-2026 Make check payable to CCRSPA, write "Scholarship" or "Kids Fund Donation" in lower left corner and mail along with this slip to: Paul Humphrey 458 Welsh Hill Road Newark, DE 19702 <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%; text-align: center;">Name</td> <td style="width: 40%; text-align: center;">Amount</td> </tr> </table> In Honor of _____ In Memory of _____	Name	Amount
Name	Amount		



MOVING? (Don't forget to update address and phone info!)			
Name _____			
New Address _____ street address state zip			
New Phone # _____ E-mail address _____			
	Mail to:	Amy Ide 130 Black Oak Drive Elkton MD 21921 or via email at amyide@comcast.net	

7 NIGHT BERMUDA CRUISE

June 14-21, 2026

I have arranged group space sailing on Celebrity Silhouette out of Cape Liberty Cruise Port, NJ on June 14, 2026, to Bermuda. We have 16 veranda staterooms, Category V2. Each stateroom total cost (2 passengers) is \$4,163.56 which includes basic Wi-Fi and classic beverage package. Other category staterooms can also be booked, such as ocean view or inside. I would need to price those out for you upon request. Passports must be valid 6 months past June 21, 2026.



A deposit of \$250 per person is due at the time of booking. Travel protection (\$149 pp) and gratuities (\$126 pp) can be added when making the booking. Once booked, you can set up payments with me whenever you like. Final payment will be due prior to March 15, 2026. The last date to make a booking in the group will be February 14, 2026.

I will be arranging bus transfers to/from the cruising port as it gets closer to sailing. You can also drive the 2½ hour trip yourself and park there. If you have any questions, please send an email or give me a call.

Cruise Itinerary:

14 JUN	Check-in	10:30 AM – 2:30 PM
14 JUN	Cape Liberty NJ, Depart	4:00 PM
14 JUN	Statue of Liberty (cruising)	4:45 PM – 5:30 PM
15 & 16 JUN	AT SEA	
17 JUN	Royal Naval Dockyard, Bermuda, Arrive	8:30 AM
18 JUN	Royal Naval Dockyard, Bermuda	
19 JUN	Royal Naval Dockyard, Bermuda, Depart	4:00 PM
20 JUN	AT SEA	
21 JUN	Cape Liberty NJ, Arrive	7:00AM

Fred Metzger

230 Crothers Rd.

Rising Sun, MD 21911

(443) 350-5806

fmetzger@zoominternet.net

Celebrity Silhouette June 14 – 21, 2026 7-night Bermuda

1.Name- First _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Suffix _____

Gender- M ___ F ___ Date of Birth- (month/day/year) _____

Passport No. _____ Exp Date (m/d/y) _____

Address- _____ City- _____ State- _____ Zip- _____

Phone- _____ Cell- _____ Email- _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone- _____ Relationship _____

2.Name- First _____ Middle _____ Last _____ Suffix _____

Gender- M ___ F ___ Date of Birth- (month/day/year) _____

Passport No. _____ Exp Date (m/d/y) _____ Citizenship _____

Address- _____ City- _____ State- _____ Zip- _____

Phone- _____ Cell- _____ Email- _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone- _____ Relationship _____

Rooming with _____

Travel protection- ___ yes ___ no, I decline. (\$149.00 pp) with deposit

Gratuities ___ yes ___ no (\$126.00 pp) with deposit

Bus transportation to and from Cecil County to pier- ___ yes ___ no ___ Cost to be determined

Payment details:

Credit card number _____ Exp date- _____ CSC _____

Cardholder Name- _____ Billing address ___ check if same as above

Deposit amount _____ Insurance _____ Total deposit _____

I agree to pay according to the card issuer agreement. I understand and accept the cancellation policy, terms and conditions.

Signature required for acceptance of the conditions and agreement to credit card use.

Name- _____ Date- _____

Send to: Fred Metzger
230 Crothers Rd.,
Rising Sun, MD 21911
443-350-5806
fmetzger@zoominternet.net