



# Allegheny County

June 2024

## Retirees Association

# NEWSLETTER

P.O.Box 15285 • Pittsburgh, PA 15237 • 412-459-7674

Website: <http://acretirees.org> • Email: [acretireeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:acretireeassociation@gmail.com)

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### NEWSLETTER

Kathy Burk, *Editor*  
Guillermo Cole, *Contributing Writer*

### Message from

## PRESIDENT JACK EXLER

It's Spring and the daffodils are in full bloom. As we think about sunny and the warm days of summer, we start to plan vacations and outings.

While on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, plan to come to the Annual Picnic. This year the picnic will be at the Lodge in North Park. Come connect with fellow retirees for good food, games and great conversation.

This year at the picnic, we are accepting donations of canned goods to benefit the food bank. Please bring canned goods for a worthy cause.

Wednesday, July 24, 2024, come cheer on the Pittsburgh Pirates as they take on their divisional rivals the St. Louis Cardi-

nals at 12:35 PM. PNC Park is one of the most beautiful major league ballparks in the nation. The price is \$38 which gives you a game ticket and a \$10 food voucher. LET'S GO BUCS!

Lastly, the board is starting to discuss possible programs and activities for 2025. If you have suggestions for program topics or outings, please email your suggestions to: [ACRetireeAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:ACRetireeAssociation@gmail.com).

I look forward to seeing you in the upcoming months.

Take care.

Jack Exler  
President

### Calendar of

#### LUNCHEON MEETINGS

##### SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 (Wednesday)

Noon Luncheon Meeting -

**Fun Times Celebration**

*RSVP not later than September 22, 2024*

##### OCTOBER 16, 2024 (Wednesday)

Noon Luncheon Meeting -

**Speaker Morgan Meers will present Trolley Museum history and volunteer opportunities.**

*RSVP no later than October 9, 2024*

##### NOVEMBER 20, 2024 (Wednesday)

Noon Luncheon Meeting -

**Retirement Board & Medicare Updates.**

*RSVP no later than November 13, 2024*

##### DECEMBER 11, 2024 (Wednesday)

Noon Luncheon Meeting -

**Holiday Party Fun**

*RSVP no later than December 4, 2024*

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Allegheny County  
Retirees Association  
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Pittsburgh, PA 15237



# Congratulations

## NEW RETIREES LIST

### FEBRUARY,

Coholic, Christian  
Ciarallo, Bernard  
Gardner, Kevin  
Bailey, James  
Benvenuti, Ray  
Brody, Mark  
Clark, Michelle  
Colaizzi, Salvatore  
Corigliano, Keiith  
Diesel, Melissa  
DiGregory, Suzanne  
Fitzgerald, Rich  
Furfaro, Rosa  
Hancock, Daniel  
Hobson, Valerie  
Jadloweic, Carl  
Morris, Renee  
Murphy, Colleen  
Noll, Norbert  
Opferman, Michael  
Paletta, Joseph  
Peairs, Michael  
Pellegrini, Lisa  
Prentice, James  
Schanck, Maryann  
Stone, Shirley  
Szulkowski, David  
Welty, Douglas  
Boyle, Willaim  
Fischer, Kevin  
Giles, Renee  
Mangretta, Anthony  
Miller, Sandra  
Taylor, Callen  
Valicenti, Teresa  
Hillman, Wendy  
Emmerling, Kurt  
Weinstein, John  
Pleva, Karen

### MARCH

Avetta, Christopher  
Horne, Donald  
Jenkins, Cynthia  
Kindler, Peggy  
Looper, Denise  
Moore, Joseph  
NaQel, Thomas  
Obrien, Jaqueline  
Stadtmitter, Steven  
Tamuschy, John  
Wadowsky, Robert  
Williams, Karl

### APRIL

Argyle, Nora  
Bell, Carla  
Chiaverini, Kenneth  
Clark, Curtis  
Conroy, Marylou  
Cregan, Daniel  
Evrard, David  
Ewin, Paul  
Faris, Kimberly  
Gallagher, Trent  
Glowacki, Michael  
Halaburka, Thomas  
Haney, Stephen  
Hursen, Richard  
Hutchison, Daniel  
Indino, Debra  
Iverson, Felita  
Johns, Barbara  
Komm, Linda  
Matthews, Marian  
Monroe, Susan  
Mroch, Christine  
Peretich, Linda  
Pisciotta, Janine  
Price, Richard  
Sable, Stephen  
Scanlon, Michael  
Seminatore, John  
Stone, Rade  
Watts, Cordelia  
Wilson, Kenneth

## MARCH

### LUNCHEON MEETING

The first ACRA luncheon of the year, which took place in March, was a resounding success. Our guest speaker, David Baer, delivered a fascinating presentation about the life of Pittsburgh's very own inventor and titan of the Golden Era, George Westinghouse. The event was made even more special through the efforts of Sandy Hackmeister who generously shared some of her home-baked "Westinghouse Cookies" decorated with the famous Westinghouse "W" in blue sugar sprinkles.



*Sandy Hackmeister presenting a large Westinghouse Cookie to our presenter, David Baer.*



*The March Luncheon Meeting was very well attended.*

## APRIL

### LUNCHEON MEETING

In April, Carleton Young returned to ACRA for a second time. The topic of Young's talk was Family History: From the famous and heroic to the Infamous and Notorious. This time he talked about his personal journey of discovery regarding his own family history.





*In the Spotlight*

## **JOANNA MCQUAIDE:**

*Long-time ACRA Director & Board Secretary*

*by Guillermo Cole*



Shortly after joining ACRA in 2015, JoAnna McQuaide was recruited by then Vice-President Guy Tumolo to serve as a director and board secretary and remained in the positions until her latest term ended in December 2023.

Throughout her tenure, JoAnna diligently worked with other board members to help organize and implement numerous activities and programs such as member luncheons, guest speakers, field trips, membership renewals and retiree outreach.

Not long after becoming involved with ACRA, however, JoAnna dealt with a serious personal health crisis. In March 2016, after suffering several weeks of fatigue and malaise, she collapsed and was rushed to the hospital. After undergoing various tests, she was diagnosed with chronic kidney disease despite having no known risk factors and within a few months began dialysis treatments.

In September 2019, JoAnna was able to bounce back thanks to a kidney transplant that allowed her to discontinue dialysis and regain her well-being and freedom to resume an active lifestyle.

In addition to enjoying travel, golf and various social activities, JoAnna did volunteer work for many non-profit organizations such as the Brentwood Library, the Bridge to Independence shelter program for women and children, the In Visions housing program for the intellectually disabled, and the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program for lower-income taxpayers.

Growing up in the South Hills, JoAnna attended elementary schools in Mt. Lebanon and Brookline before going to South Hills High School for a couple of years and then went to Brentwood High School her final two years and graduated in 1972. She went on to earn a Bachelor of



Science at Penn State in 1975 and a Master of Business Administration at Duquesne University in 1981.

JoAnna's career in county government began in 1977, working as a caseworker in Child Welfare Services. By 1981, she transitioned to being a contract monitor in the finance department of the MHMR (Mental Health/Mental Retardation) program and in the ensuing years was promoted to Associate Director and Deputy Director, a position from which she retired in 1999.

Only 44 years old at the time of her retirement from county government, JoAnna continued working over the next 15 or so years managing finances for numerous non-governmental agencies in the human services and health care field. At around age 60, she fully retired and joined ACRA.

Gary Watson, JoAnna's boyfriend, proposed marriage to her on a trip to Italy last October and the two married in April. They had their wedding reception at the Doubletree Hotel in Greentree in the Duquesne Room, the very same banquet hall where ACRA has its member luncheons,

The couple enjoyed a two-week honeymoon, traveling to both Charleston and Hilton Head Island in South Carolina as well the Biltmore in Ashville, North Carolina, billed as America's largest mansion and long on JoAnna's bucket list of places to visit.

JoAnna lives in the Bower Hill condominium community in Mt. Lebanon.





## SEEK AND FIND

Hidden within the mysterious grid below are the partial names of characters from various television shows in the 1950s, 60s, and 70s. If you can find fifteen or more of these, you are a true genius of vintage television. Only part of their name is included in the puzzle.

- |                                              |                                          |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art (Linkletter)    | <input type="checkbox"/> Marsha (Brady)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Andy) Taylor       | <input type="checkbox"/> (Maxwell) Smart |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chilly (Billy)      | <input type="checkbox"/> (Danny) Thomas  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Richie (Cunningham) | <input type="checkbox"/> (Mary) Richards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (Wednesday) Addams  | <input type="checkbox"/> Bruce (Wayne)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rod (Serling)       | <input type="checkbox"/> Perry (Mason)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Uncle (Fester)      | <input type="checkbox"/> (June) Cleaver  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laura (Petrie)      | <input type="checkbox"/> Archie (Bunker) |

**Mystery Name:**

Fred \_\_\_\_\_

D	W	O	M	A	N	R	U	D	M	E	A	X	W	Y	G
A	N	D	Y	A	O	E	N	R	A	W	D	J	A	C	K
X	I	A	O	V	R	T	J	O	X	M	Y	U	X	A	R
E	T	N	B	B	U	Y	C	E	W	A	Y	N	E	R	N
L	S	N	O	R	I	N	G	W	E	R	N	E	S	S	W
I	A	Y	L	A	L	E	P	G	L	M	Y	S	H	O	E
N	C	O	P	D	A	M	P	E	L	L	O	P	B	N	D
K	A	L	E	Y	D	P	A	D	G	N	S	S	E	A	N
L	I	P	F	L	I	N	T	S	T	O	N	E	R	I	E
E	H	P	E	T	R	I	E	L	O	R	D	R	E	R	S
T	H	E	S	M	A	R	T	C	G	N	O	L	A	N	D
T	Z	J	T	U	R	P	Q	U	E	X	R	I	B	E	A
E	Z	N	E	T	B	U	N	K	E	R	O	N	O	S	J
R	A	N	R	E	Y	C	U	N	N	I	N	G	H	A	M
Z	X	D	R	Y	B	I	L	L	Y	U	P	A	E	S	E

## IN MEMORIAM\*

Name	Date of Death	Name	Date of Death	Name	Date of Death
DENNIS KOCIAN	12/1/2023	MARYJANE DOERFLER	1/9/2024	JOSEPHINE ODDO	2/28/2024
JOSEPH RAGO	12/4/2023	ROBERT JESTER	1/10/2024	JOSEPH RUSSO	2/29/2024
ROCCO RIZZO	12/4/2023	JAMES LESKO	1/12/2024	MARY MURRAY	2/29/2024
FLORENCE KENNY	12/5/2023	CHRISTINE OVESNEY	1/13/2024	MARY WIECHELT	2/29/2024
MICHAEL PASCUZZI	12/6/2023	SHIRLEE NELSON	1/13/2024	CAROLYN PENTERMANN	3/1/2024
WILLIAM ZABEL	12/6/2023	THEO MIERLEY	1/18/2024	DIANE NELSON	3/2/2024
KAREN ANGELO	12/10/2023	RONALD WOSHNER	1/18/2024	LOUIS BISSACOTT	3/5/2024
ROBERT SKAGGS	12/13/2023	NORMA MCGRATH	1/25/2024	RICHARD FOWLER	3/6/2024
SANDRA MORGAN	12/14/2023	WALTER ARCHACKI	1/25/2024	TERRANCE CUMMINGS	3/6/2024
ANNA DESTOUT	12/15/2023	STANTON JONAS	1/29/2024	HARRY PLUSQUELLEC	3/7/2024
RANDOLPH HARRISON	12/18/2023	DANIEL DETWILER	1/30/2024	EDWARD GNIAZDOWSKI	3/8/2024
BERNARD TOMASIC	12/20/2023	EDNA WECHSLER	1/31/2024	TERRA MATTHEWS	3/8/2024
NANCY BIRCH	12/20/2023	JOHN MURPHY	2/5/2024	RUTH KING	3/9/2024
DIANE DAUGHERTY	12/23/2023	LARAINÉ COLEMAN	2/6/2024	PAUL LATONE	3/14/2024
MARY KIRSCH	12/25/2023	EUGENE POEPPERT	2/7/2024	TIMOTHY BOYLE	3/14/2024
THEODORE STOROZ	12/25/2023	LAURA JOHNSON	2/7/2024	BERNARD ROSSMAN	3/16/2024
SHARON SCHWEIZER	12/27/2023	RICHARD STRITZINGER	2/17/2024	CONNIE SMITH	3/17/2024
JAMES SCISCIANI	12/30/2023	ALFRED CARL	2/18/2024	MARGARET HOLDCROFT	3/18/2024
PHILIP SPANO	12/30/2023	THERESA MARTIN	2/18/2024	PATRICIA LAVSA	3/21/2024
PAULETTE CIGNETTI	12/31/2023	GERTRUDE TRUAX	2/22/2024	HARRY CRAMER	3/24/2024
RITA HARTMAN	1/2/2024	JUDITH BINGHAM	2/22/2024	FLORENCE KOST	3/26/2024
THOMAS LOGAN	1/3/2024	WALTER PLATEK	2/24/2024	MARGARET FORBUS	3/28/2024
JOHN TURNER	1/4/2024	ALBERT INTRIERI	2/25/2024	MARY GALTZ	3/28/2024
LYNDA CONNOLLY	1/6/2024	GARY KNOTTS	2/25/2024	DANA DAVIS	3/29/2024
HELEN CARDILLO	1/7/2024	DALE THORNS	2/26/2024	WILLIAM WISEMAN	3/29/2024
HELEN DEANGELIS	1/9/2024	CLIFFORD BROWN	2/27/2024	JUDY BOWSER	3/31/2024

\*As provided by the Allegheny County Retirement Board



# AN AMAZING JOURNEY

by Hugh Hachmeister



My wife Sandy and I left Pittsburgh on a beautiful fall day, headed to Athens, Greece. There we began our trip of a lifetime. We arrived in Athens, Sunday morning September 24th. We headed out to explore the sights & sounds of the Plaka, to see the Acropolis and the spectacular view of the region and its three million residents. We enjoyed exploring the city sampling the Greek delicacies including the spanakopita & baklava, along with the vibrant Greek history and culture.

After enjoying a rooftop breakfast overlooking the Acropolis, our cruise began. Our first Ports of Call were the Greek Islands of Santorini & Mykonos, featuring hilltop villages with blue topped white-washed structures overlooking brilliant blue waters. The vibrant pedestrian villages offered us the traditional tastes of Greece.

Istanbul is a dynamic city of more than 20 million people. Divided by the Bosphorus Strait, it is in both Europe & Asia. There we visited the Blue Mosque, the Hagia Sophia, the Grand Bazaar, the Spice Market, the Beyoglu District/ Istiklal St. with its historic Art Nouveau architecture. Later it was with dinner in the fisherman's village with street performers.

Our next stop was Ephesus, Turkey, considered to be one of the best-preserved ancient cities in the world with its amazing Library of Celsus and the 24,000 seat Great Theatre, which still hosts concerts. Built in the 3rd Century BC, Ephesus is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Following a leisurely day crossing the Mediterranean Sea, we arrived in Egypt

where we spent two days in Cairo. We visited the oldest known Egyptian Pyramid – the Stepped Pyramid of Zoser, along with Egypt's first Capitol, Memphis. We were amazed at the massive scale of the structures along with how they were constructed over 4000 years ago. A camel ride around the pyramids was before a lunch in the pyramids shadow. We visited the Great Sphinx, that was carved out of a single piece of bedrock. We then saw the Fortress of Babylon, the Al-Azhar Park, considered one of the world's 60 Greatest Public Spaces.

We arrived in Israel the following morning for our visit to Bethlehem and Jerusalem. The historical sites we would visit- Manger Square and the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem to Mount Olive, Church of all Nations, Garden of Gethsemane, the Walled City and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem. The following morning, we traveled to Nazareth and the Sea of Galilee where we visited the locations, where Jesus was said to have turned water to wine and multiplied loaves & fish. Following our tour, we returned to the Nautica to enjoy our last evening on board, where we said goodbye to our new friends and prepared for our trip home.

On October 6 we began our journey home at Ben Gurion International Airport in Tel Aviv. Little did we know, that when we would awaken at home the following morning, the situation in that part of the world would be so very different from just a few days earlier when we had been on our Trip of a Lifetime. We are extremely grateful to have experienced so many amazing things and to have arrived home safely.



## A New Holiday Sing-a-long Leader is Needed

This year, Lenny Garlicki plans to retire from his volunteer position as our lead songster at the ACRA Holiday Celebration that is held each year in December. We are deeply grateful for his many years of sing-along leadership.

So, that leads us to our next request. If you can carry a tune and would like to lead others in song, perhaps you would consider whether the role of song leader may be perfect for you.

If you are interested, just drop us an email at [acretireeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:acretireeassociation@gmail.com) or leave a message at (412) 459-7674.

## SEEK AND FIND ANSWERS

D	W	O	M	A	N	R	U	D	M	E	A	X	W	Y	G
A	N	D	Y	A	O	E	N	R	A	W	D	J	A	C	K
X	I	A	O	V	R	T	J	O	X	M	Y	U	X	A	R
E	T	N	B	B	U	Y	C	E	W	A	Y	N	E	R	N
L	S	N	O	R	I	N	G	W	E	R	N	E	S	S	W
I	A	Y	L	A	L	E	P	G	L	M	Y	S	H	O	E
N	C	O	P	D	A	M	P	E	L	L	O	P	B	N	D
K	A	L	E	Y	D	P	A	D	G	N	S	S	E	A	N
L	I	P	F	L	I	N	T	S	T	O	N	E	R	I	E
E	H	P	E	T	R	I	E	L	O	R	D	R	E	R	S
T	H	E	S	M	A	R	T	C	G	N	O	L	A	N	D
T	Z	J	T	U	R	P	Q	U	E	X	R	I	B	E	A
E	Z	N	E	T	B	U	N	K	E	R	O	N	O	S	J
R	A	N	R	E	Y	C	U	N	N	I	N	G	H	A	M
Z	X	D	R	Y	B	I	L	L	Y	U	P	A	E	S	E



## RECIPES BY PAM

by Pam Long

### CRANBERRY CHICKEN SALAD

- 2 cooked chicken breasts halved, diced
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 2 green onions, chopped
- 1/2 cup sweetened dried cranberries (such as Ocean Spray Craisins)
- 1/4 green apple shredded
- 1/4 cup chopped pecans
- 1 tablespoon lime juice
- 1 tablespoon fresh chopped dill
- 1 pinch salt and black pepper to taste

Mix together chicken and mayonnaise in a bowl, stir to coat well. Stir in green onions, dried cranberries, apple, pecans, lime juice, dill weed, salt and pepper.

Serve immediately or refrigerate for several hours or overnight. (the flavor just gets better)

Serves 4.  
Enjoy

## Legal Assistance for Older Pennsylvanians

The Older Pennsylvanians Legal Assistance Program provides access to legal counsel at no charge. The program is designed to address some of the most common legal challenges that face many older adults. Among these legal concerns are elder abuse, housing, health-care, Medicaid, Medicare, guardianship, long-term care and Social Security.

Pennsylvanians aged 60 and older, are eligible for the program, but special priority is given to those with limited income and urgent situations. There is no fee for the services, but donations are always welcome. Court costs and filing fees are the responsibility of the program participants.

To access the services of the Older Pennsylvanians Legal Assistance Program please contact your local Allegheny County Sponsored Senior Center or call the Pennsylvania Department of Aging at 717-783-1550.