

NEWS AND NOTICES

1. A **Local** Scholarship from the **LCRTA** (Lake County Retired Teachers Association)

This scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior to recognize ability and achievement, contribution to the community, and a desire to pursue a career in education. One scholarship of \$1000 will be awarded in the spring to a senior planning to major in Education. The money will be given after completion of one semester of college education. Send your contribution check to **LCRTA, P.O. Box 8107, Gurnee, IL 60031**. Mark the memo line on your check "LCRTA Scholarship." Please see our website for more information and an application form at **www.lcrta.com**

2. A **State** Foundation / Scholarship from the **IRTA** (Illinois Retired Teachers Association)

In 1985, after identifying a large number of former educators who were experiencing financial difficulties because of low pensions and rising inflation, the IRTA established the Illinois Retired Teachers Association Foundation, Inc. The initial purpose of the Foundation was to build an endowment to provide assistance to retired educators. Since that time, the Foundation has assisted retired educators with living expenses, provided scholarships to aspiring teachers, worked to protect the rights of the elderly, and provided grants to educators.

Send your contribution check to **LCRTA, P.O. Box 8107, Gurnee, IL 60031**. Mark the memo line on your check "IRTA Foundation."

3. If you have any **changes** in your address, e-mail, or phone number, please contact Dave Dier at (847) 526-5599 or his e-mail at **dier@writeme.com**. There will be a new Directory printed this spring; so if you have any up-dates or changes, let Dave know about them ASAP! Thanks.

4. The TRS board voted last week to lower the estimated rate of return that the system expects to get from its investments to 7 percent. The rate had been fixed at 7.5 percent. Actuaries hired by the system recommended the lower rate of return and said the primary reason is that inflation is expected to be lower than originally anticipated, affecting investment returns.

5. **Larry Pfeiffer** is the IRTA endorsed candidate for TRS Annuitant Trustee. Larry began his career as a teacher of agricultural education and welding teacher at Carlinville High School. Larry was recognized as the Illinois Outstanding Beginning Agricultural Education Teacher, the Illinois Agriscience Teacher of the Year. Larry completed two additional advanced degrees from the University of Illinois which allowed him the opportunity to serve in education administration positions. From 2002- 2015, Larry served as the Regional Superintendent of Schools for the Regional Office of Education #40, which comprises the counties of Macoupin, Greene, Jersey and Calhoun. During his tenure as the Regional Superintendent, he was active in local, state and federal educational initiatives. Larry served as the President of the Illinois Association of County Officials in 2014 and is the current President of Macoupin County Retired Teachers Association.

