

TALBOT COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



RETIRED PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

The Little Red Schoolhouse

President's Message:

Happy New Year everyone! It's a time of new beginnings. It's a brand new year - 2012, twenty twelve, or two thousand twelve, whatever you choose. **NEW BEGINNINGS** - what does that mean to you? If you watch just a bit of TV, the media tells us it is time to exercise, diet, get healthy and fit. But a new beginning might mean signing up for a new class to learn something new, a trip to go to a new destination, maybe a new job, a new pet. Anyway - you get the idea. Something new for you to do in the new 2012 year!

If you did not attend the December luncheon, you missed a good time! The food was excellent and our guests from MRSPA were impressed! They travel all over the state and attend countless events. We enjoyed having Talbot's Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Angela Asmussen, as our guest, and she gave an excellent talk about her career. (not too long and very interesting) She recognized a few of her former teachers that were with us. We had a lovely setting at Easton Club and time to visit with friends (most important). Our newest member, Janet Mullikin, joined us and so did Carol Fegel. We hope they will

continue to come out and support the organization. Maybe we will see them again in March!

Thank you Mary and Chic for your efforts in making this a lovely day. Chic Harrison and Jennifer Wheeler gave us a lovely service in honor of and remembering our departed friend and member, Clara Schlotzhauer. Harold Schriver reminded our group that Roger Clark's wife Carol passed away very suddenly. Keep Roger and his children, Jodi and Michael, in your prayers.

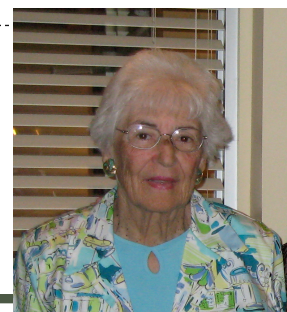
As you go about your days this new year remember to put a good word out there about your retired personnel association to friends that may be eligible to join us. The strength of our association is in our numbers. God Bless and stay well. Remember that "tomorrow is not promised." Use your well earned retirement in a way that makes you happy and complete.

Dotty Olds



Congratulations to Marian Miller!!!

The Easton Hospital just dedicated their all-faith chapel in her name, cited her over 16,600 hours of volunteer work. What a well deserved honor!



Consumer Education

Submitted by Joyce Schriver

1. St. Vincent DePaul accepts household goods, furniture, and clothes for needy families in our area. Their new location is now behind Walmart. They will provide pick up service.
2. The Maryland Attorney General's Office has a booklet entitled "A Consumer Guide for Seniors" that provides helpful suggestions to help you protect your personal information. The guide can be read online at www.oag.state.md.us/seniors.htm or a free copy can be ordered by mail by calling 410-576-6500.
3. Several computers have been specifically designed for seniors that are easy to use:
 - a. Talking touch screens (@ \$600 - \$999).
 - b. HP Senior PC comes completely set up and ready to use out of the box.
 - c. Autopilot desktop computer offers speech to text capabilities that let you write letters,
4. The MVA recently announced that it has added an emergency contact option to Maryland Driver's Licenses. Maryland drivers can add up to three emergency contacts to their license. The contact information is stored electronically on an individual's license and will be available only to authorized personnel. You can go to MVS's website at www.mva.maryland.gov to add these contacts.
5. The Home Instead Senior Care office in Easton has announced the "Salute to Senior Service" program to honor community volunteers. The program will include a search for the most outstanding volunteer in each state, and will culminate in a national "Salute to Senior Service" in May. Nominations will be accepted at www.SalutetoSeniorsService.com through March 15.

emails, and documents by speaking into the computer's microphone (\$1100- \$1800).

d. The iPad 2 tablet is simple and easy to understand.

Nomination forms can also be obtained at ckoehler@homesinsteadinc.com.

Membership Report

One of our main goals remains focused on building our membership. Our membership has increased by 5 state members! We have a total of 119 members that have joined the state retirement system. That is an increase of 4.39%. Talk to folks that you know that may not have joined us. There is strength in numbers.

Anyone interested in joining can call me at 410-770-9372 for forms and information.

Dotty Olds
Membership Chairman

Please send your email addresses to Jan McCrea so you can receive your newsletters by email instead of regular mail to save money for TCPSRPA.

Send your email address to jmccrea7678@gmail.com

TCPSRPA Plans a Tour of Poplar Island

TCPSRPA has planned a tour of the Poplar Island Restoration Project for June 20, 2012.

Poplar Island, recently on the verge of extinction, is today a national model for habitat restoration and the beneficial use of dredged materials. Starting in 1994, the island is being returned to its former size and important ecological function. Poplar Island sits about 3 miles off the coast of Tilghman Island and can be reached only by prior arranged boat tours.

Our tour will start by boarding a Maryland Environment Service boat at Tilghman Island and going through Knapps Narrows to Poplar Island Visitor Center. There we will board a bus and tour the island. The boat is not ADA accessible . You would have to be able to climb a ladder to get on and off the boat. Once on the island you board a bus. You ride the bus around the island. It is not a walking tour! I have been on this tour before and have found it to be physically easy and extremely interesting! I highly recommend it.

Trip: Tour of Poplar Island June 20, 2012

Cost: The Boat and Bus Tour is Free.

Location: Boat leaves from the Maryland Environmental Services on 21548 Chicken Point Rd. on Tilghman Island at 9:00 a.m. You must be there before 8:45 a.m. to allow time for boarding. The bus tours Poplar Island and then the boat returns to Tilghman by 12 p.m. If you want to stay and have lunch, we will make reservations at Harrison's House, but with individual checks so you can just order from the menu.

Sign Up Now: Call Mary E. Reeser at 410-822-4410. The boat only holds only 24 people. So we will honor the first 24 people and then keep a waiting list. You may take one guest. Further details will be provided at the March Luncheon.



Poplar Island visits EES kindergarten.

Pre Retirement Workshop

TCPSRPA is again sponsoring and hosting their annual PRE RETIREMENT WORKSHOP on February 15, 2012. This workshop is designed for Talbot County Public School employees who are considering retirement in the next three years. As retirees, we know how confusing this process can be. We want to help our Talbot County Public School Employees by providing an informative workshop in a relaxed setting. A counselor from the Maryland Retirement System will make the main presentation with a question and answer follow up. Other information will be presented on health insurance, social security, TCPSRPA, MSRPA and financial planning. This year's workshop will again be held at Easton High School's Chef Cook Classroom. We will start with a light dinner made by the students under the direction of Linda Brown. Mrs. Dotty Olds, president of TCPSRPA, will welcome the prospective retirees, and Mrs. Dorothy Palmer will extend greetings from our State Association. Ms. Eunice Roberts will be representing the Talbot County Board of Education and will answer any questions you might have.

Many thanks to our pre retirement committee, Judy Kohn, Mary Hawkins and Mary Reeser for their hard work in organizing this successful workshop.

Community Service Committee

Many thanks to everyone who donated items to the Neighborhood Service Center. The items were greatly appreciated.

At our March luncheon we will be collecting items for the Pines in Easton. They could use the following items: hand sanitizer, facial tissues, socks, men's handkerchiefs, mouthwash, lotion, body powder, combs, brushes, and toothpaste.

If you have questions, call us.

Bennie Milton - 410 -476 -3734

Elois Brown - 410 - 476 - 3574

Executive Board Meeting Dates

Feb. 6, 2012

May 7, 2012

TCEC @ 9:30 a.m.

**All TCPSRPA members are
invited to attend.**



Snow Senses

by Morgan Starnes, age 7
Oakton, MD

Silent.

Before the roar of the plow,
or the crunch of my boots.
It is silent.

Impressive Mother Nature
made a white blanket
beneath the dark starry sky.

The ice flakes shimmer
like a fairy wand
and smell like frozen flowers.

An arctic wind pulls me out the door.
I run.
My laughter disturbs the silence.

The snow celebrates!

TCPSRPA Spring Luncheon

March 7, 2012

Place: Easton High Chef Cook Class

Time: 11:30 a.m. Because of student schedules, lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m.

Cost: \$10.00

Luncheon Dates

Wednesday, March 7, 2012
Easton High School Chef Cook Class

Monday, June 4, 2012
Newly renovated Oxford Community Center

Menu

Soup Choose One:
 MD Crab
 Broccoli Cheese

Salad Choose One:
 Mixed Greens
 Fresh Fruit

Entrée Choose One:
 Grilled Rueben on Rye bread
 Turkey Salad Plate

Dessert Choose One:
 Chocolate Parfait
 Coconut Meringue Pie

Please call or mail reservations with your check (\$10) by February 28th to
 Mary Reeser
 358 St. Aubins Terrace
 410-822-4410
 or
 Chic Harrison
 29300 Will Street
 410-822-1209
 Easton, MD 21601.

We are honored to have Melissa Shearer, National Teacher of the Year, as our guest speaker! Also invited are Dr. Karen Salmon, Charlie Connelly, and Eunice Roberts.

Door Prizes

Remember: If you won a door prize last time, refill the bag and bring it to the luncheon.

There will also be a 50/50.

Telephone Tree

Please call your members and remind them to make reservations for our next luncheon by Tuesday, February 28, 2012. The luncheon will be at the Easton High School Chef Cook Class on Wednesday, March 7, 2012, at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$10.00. If they want to car pool, please let us know when they call.

Please have them notify :
 Mary Reeser
 358 St. Aubins Terrace
 410-822-4410
 or
 Chic Harrison
 29300 Will Street
 410-822-1209
 Easton, MD 21601

**MRSPA - Fall Legislative Workshop - Miller State Office Building,
Annapolis. MD- Nov. 17,2011**

Maryland's 2012 Economic Challenges- A major question addressed by nearly all of the presenters centered around this one question- " How can we protect Maryland's people in a tough economy. Supporting data included the following : The Economy is floundering. Revenues are low and are growing slowly. Services are already below the Pre- recession level. The National Product is growing too slowly for a sustainable recovery. Job Growth is uneven and it is not enough to reduce the unemployment rate. Income is stagnant. Housing Foreclosures are still high, sales are still low, and prices have been greatly reduced. Consumer Spending is growing slowly. Economic Growth has resumed, but not enough to fuel a broad sustaining economy. Jobs are not coming back . Maryland's jobs have changed from the pre- recession peak.. These are some of the major threats to our economy: Federal spending Cuts, Federal debt limit, State and Local Spending Cuts, not just Maryland but the Middle East , The Situation in Europe and the General Fund Revenues. Maryland's Revenue Estimated Growth for next year is only at 2.8 %. This is really not good news. To fully support the budget would require 12% estimated growth. Maryland's Revenue Estimates include General Funds and income from the Slots. The underlying problem is that the budget leaves a billion dollar long term problem for the upcoming year. There are two important things about the Maryland Budget Process, namely: the Budget must be balanced and the Maryland General Assembly cannot add to the Budget. Expenditures are already 2 billion dollars below the projection made before the recession. Cuts are hurting Public Schools, Local Roads and Transit Systems. Parks and Environment, Prisons & Probation Staff, Child Care etc. Last year , public employees and teacher retirement contribution increased, benefits were reduced ,employees and savings were partially divested to General Funds. There is one big item left for the 2012 Legislative Year- Expect a proposal for partial local funding and multi- year phase-in. Local governments are being hit the hardest now. State Taxes are growing slowly & local taxes continue to decline. More cuts are not the answer. All Retired School Personnel are being asked to attend " Save Our State Community Conversation Groups nearest to where they live to discuss the challenges we face and the sensible solutions that we need to keep moving Maryland forward.

Bertha B. Wilson - Legislative Chair

Bob Burris by Chic Harrison

Bob was born in Delmar, Delaware. He and his wife, Iralene, have two children, Michelle Renee and Robert Kirk.

He graduated in 1954 from Seaford High School and was drafted into the U.S. Army. He was deferred to the R.O.T.C., which he attended at Utah State University. After a medical discharge in 1958, Bob continued his education. He received his A.A. degree from Wesley College in Dover, DE, his B.S. degree from Utah State University, and his M.E. degree from Salisbury State College. He has participated in numerous professional programs as well.

Bob's teaching experience includes: 1962-1966 Stephen Decatur High School in Berlin, MD, as an Industrial Arts, Driver Education, and Physical Education teacher; 1966 (summer) MD State College in Princess Anne, NDEA Institute Activity Director; 1967-1988 Easton High School Athletic Director; 1976-1988 EHS Assistant Principal; and 1988-1992 EHS Physical Education teacher. He held many offices in national, state, Bayside, and District 8 athletic programs. He was State Athletic Director for 1986 and inducted into the MD State Athletic Directors' Hall of Fame. Bob was also one of the founders of the Bayside Conference and the Maryland Athletic Directors Association.

Community Service has been a big part of Bob's life. He has been a member of St. Mark's Methodist Church, the BPOE # 1622, the Talbot County Mental Health Association, the MD Retriever Club, Little League Baseball, and American Legion Post # 91. He has been reelected to the Talbot County Board of Education until 2014.

Bob worked in education for 34 years. He retired in 1992 after 28 years in Talbot County. He helped lead the push for an elected school board by testifying before the House and Senate Committee in Annapolis.

Life after retirement for Bob Burris, yes indeed. He enjoys time with his family, traveling, carving duck decoys, fishing, hunting, buying-selling-refinishing antiques, taking care of school business, and is our liaison with the Talbot County School Board.

Bob, enjoy life!

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From the Sunshine Committee

ADVICE FROM A CARDINAL

- Stand out in a crowd
- Go out on a limb
- Be a bright spot in others' lives
- Speak up
- Be home before dark
- Add color to your life
- It's okay to be a little flashy

Senior Discounts and Deals

from Jean Milligan to Dotty Olds

As I was waiting in line behind an older gentleman at Wendy's recently, I heard him ask for his senior discount. The girl at the register apologized and charged him less. When I asked the man what the discount was, he told me that seniors over 55 gets 10% off everything on the menu, every day.

Being that age myself (or a little older), I figured I might as well ask for the discount too. As I waited for my turn, I thought about the consequences of doing so. If the employee asked me for I.D., it could be embarrassing having to show my license. But if she didn't ask for proof, I would get depressed that I really did look "old" and that I

didn't need to prove it. Since I always like to save money, I boldly asked for the discount, and sadly she just rang up the discount (even though I am convinced I don't look a day over 54).

Anyway, this incident prompted me to do some research, and I came across a list of restaurants, supermarkets, department stores, travel deals and other types of offers giving various discounts with different age requirements. I was actually surprised to see how many there are and how some of them start at the young age of 50.

This list may not only be useful for you, your friends and family, but it might also be appreciated by your clients. You might consider sending them an e-mail about it and link to our site in the e-mail, or maybe include it in your newsletter.

Restaurants

Applebee's: 15% off with Golden Apple Card (60+)
 Arby's: 10% off (55+)
 Ben & Jerry's: 10% off (60+)
 Bennigan's: discount varies by location
 Bob's Big Boy: discount varies by location (60+)
 Boston Market: 10% off (65+)
 Burger King: 10% off (60+)
 Captain D's Seafood: discount varies on location (62+)
 Chick-Fil-A: 10% off or free small drink or coffee (55+)
 Chili's: 10% off (55+)
 CiCi's Pizza: 10% off (60+)
 Culver's: 10% off (60+)
 Denny's: 10% off, 20% off for AARP members (55+)
 Dunkin' Donuts: 10% off or free coffee (55+)
 Einstein's Bagels: 10% off baker's dozen of bagels (60+)
 Fuddrucker's: 10% off any senior platter (55+)
 Gatti's Pizza: 10% off (60+)
 Golden Corral: 10% off (60+)
 Hardee's: \$0.33 beverages everyday (65+)
 IHOP: 10% off (55+)
 Jack in the Box: up to 20% off (55+)
 KFC: free small drink with any meal (55+)
 Krispy Kreme: 10% off (50+)
 Long John Silver's: various discounts at participating locations (55+)
 McDonald's: discounts on coffee everyday (55+)
 Mrs. Fields: 10% off at participating locations (60+)
 Shoney's: 10% off
 Sonic: 10% off or free beverage (60+)
 Steak 'n Shake: 10% off every Monday & Tuesday (50+)
 Subway: 10% off (60+)
 Sweet Tomatoes: 10% off (62+)
 Taco Bell : 5% off; free beverages for seniors (65+)
 TCBY: 10% off (55+) Tea Room Cafe: 10% off (50+)
 Village Inn: 10% off (60+)
 Waffle House: 10% off every Monday (60+)
 Wendy's: 10% off (55+)
 White Castle : 10% off (62+)

Goodwill: 10% off one day a week (date varies by location)
 Hallmark: 10% off one day a week (date varies by location)
 Kmart: 20% off (50+)
 Kohl's: 15% off (60+)
 Modell's Sporting Goods: 10% off
 Rite Aid: 10% off on Tuesdays & 10% off prescriptions
 Ross Stores: 10% off every Tuesday (55+)
 The Salvation Army Thrift Stores: up to 50% off (55+)
 Stein Mart: 20% off red dot/clearance items first Monday of every month (55+)

Grocery

Albertson's: 10% off first Wednesday of each month (55+)
 American Discount Stores: 10% off every Monday (50+)
 Compare Foods Supermarket: 10% off every Wednesday (60+)
 DeCicco Family Markets: 5% off every Wednesday (60+)
 Food Lion: 6% off every Monday (60+)
 Fry's Supermarket: free Fry's VIP Club Membership & 10% off every Monday (55+)
 Great Valu Food Store: 5% off every Tuesday (60+)
 Gristedes Supermarket: 10% off every Tuesday (60+)
 Harris Teeter: 5% off every Tuesday

Retail And Apparel

Banana Republic: 10% off (50+)
 Bealls: 20% off first Tuesday of each month (50+)
 Belk's: 15% off first Tuesday of every month (55+)
 Big Lots: 10% off
 Bon-Ton Department Stores: 15% off on senior discount days (55+)
 C.J. Banks: 10% off every Wednesday (60+)
 Clarks : 10% off (62+)
 Dress Barn: 10% off (55+)

(60+)
 Hy-Vee: 5% off one day a week (date varies by location)
 Kroger: 10% off (date varies by location)
 Morton Williams Supermarket: 5% off every Tuesday (60+)
 The Plant Shed: 10% off every Tuesday (50+)
 Publix: 5% off every Wednesday (55+)
 Rogers Marketplace: 5% off every Thursday (60+)
 Uncle Guiseppe's Marketplace: 5% off (62+)

Travel

Alaska Airlines: 10% off (65+)
 Alamo : up to 25% off for AARP members
 American Airlines: various discounts for 65 and up (call before booking for discount)
 Amtrak: 15% off (62+)
 Avis: up to 25% off for AARP members
 Best Western: 10% off (55+)
 Budget Rental Cars: 10% off; up to 20% off for AARP members (50+)
 Cambria Suites: 20%-30% off (60+)
 Clarion: 20%-30% off (60+)
 Comfort Inn: 20%-30% off (60+)
 Comfort Suites: 20%-30% off (60+)
 Continental Airlines: no initiation fee for Continental Presidents Club & special fares for select destinations

Dollar Rent-A-Car: 10% off (50+)
 Econo Lodge: 20%-30% off (60+)
 Enterprise Rent-A-Car: 5% off for AARP members
 Greyhound: 5% off (62+)
 Hampton Inns & Suites: 10% off when booked 72 hours in advance
 Hertz: up to 25% off for AARP members
 Holiday Inn: 10%-30% off depending on location (62+)
 Hyatt Hotels: 25%-50% off (62+)
 InterContinental Hotels Group: various discounts at all hotels (65+)
 Mainstay Suites: 10% off with Mature Traveler's Discount (50+); 20%-30% off (60+)
 Marriott Hotels: 15% off (62+)
 Motel 6: 10% off (60+)
 Myrtle Beach Resort: 10% off (55+)
 National Rent-A-Car: up to 30% off for AARP members
 Quality Inn: 20%-30% off (60+)
 Rodeway Inn: 20%-30% off (60+)
 Sleep Inn: 20%-30% off (60+)
 Southwest Airlines: various discounts for ages 65 and up (call before booking for discount)
 Trailways Transportation System: various discounts for ages 50 and up
 United Airlines: various discounts for ages 65 and up (call before booking for discount)
 U.S. Airways: various discounts for ages 65 and up (call before booking for discount)

Activities And Entertainment

AMC Theaters: up to 30% off (55+)
 Bally Total Fitness: up to \$100 off memberships (62+)
 Busch Gardens Tampa : \$3 off one-day tickets (50+)
 Carmike Cinemas: 35% off (65+)
 Cinemark/Century Theaters: up to 35% off
 U.S. National Parks: \$10 lifetime pass; 50% off additional services including camping (62+)
 Regal Cinemas: 30% off
 Ripley's Believe it or Not: @ off one-day ticket (55+)
 SeaWorld Orlando: \$3 off one-day tickets (50+)

Cell Phone Discounts

AT&T: Special Senior Nation 200 Plan \$29.99/month (65+)
 Jitterbug: \$10/month cell phone service (50+)
 Verizon Wireless: Verizon Nationwide 65 Plus Plan \$29.99/month (65+).

Miscellaneous

Great Clips: \$3 off hair cuts (60+)
 Super Cuts: \$2 off haircuts (60+)

Sunshine Committee

submitted by Jan Middleton

As we enjoy a New Year, with new beginnings, the following people needed “a ray of sunshine.”

In November, congratulations were sent to Marian Miller. Thanksgiving cards were sent to our shut-ins: Lib Dobson, Barb Nichols, Connie Rathell, Roscoe Fields, Agnes Orban, and Bev Brash. A sympathy card was sent to Roger Clark for the loss of his wife.

In December, Christmas cards were sent to the shut-ins. Visits with presents were made to them as well, by Mary Reeser, Chic Harrison, Jennifer Wheeler, Elois Brown and Eilleen Kuehn.

In January, sympathy cards were sent to Thurman Bryan and Sallie Yater. Get well cards were sent to Kay Duehrssen and Dotty Olds.

If you know of anyone who needs “a ray of sunshine,” call Jan at 410-822-7280.

TCPSRPA
% Dotty Olds
7415 Tour Drive
Easton, MD 21601