



## TALBOT COUNTY SCHOOL PERSONNEL RETIRED ASSOCIATION

The Little Red Schoolhouse

### President's Message

The October luncheon meeting at Chesapeake College was once again, a great time for all! Many thanks to Debbie Urry and her staff for arranging such a delicious lunch in a festive setting. Mary Reeser, Chick Harrison, and Pat Chapman did an awesome job planning the event and providing door prizes. The contributions for the Care Packs were generously donated by our members and also the Early Childhood staff from Chesapeake College. The children and their families that receive these Care Packs truly appreciate your generosity.

We were pleased to present our Fine Arts Grant to Amanda Leffler, music teacher at Chapel District Elementary School. Amanda shared her gratitude for being part of the Talbot County Public Schools family. As a teacher in New York, she experienced cuts in the fine arts programs leading to job loss and uncertainty for her future. With the grant money she received, she will purchase a bass drum for the fifth grade band.

At this meeting, the budget was presented and approved. Members were reminded that our dues will increase to \$15.00 beginning next year, as voted on last spring. Because we do not participate in fund raising activities, this increase is necessary in order for us to provide grants, continue to send middle school children to summer programs through the Martha

Greene Scholarship program, and reduce the cost of our Christmas luncheon for our members. We also provide one free luncheon for our new members.

We were very pleased to have seven of our twelve new members in attendance at the luncheon. More information and pictures of our new members are included in this newsletter. We warmly welcome them, and thank Peggy Ford for her hard work in increasing our numbers. Strength in numbers is the most effective way to send the message to our legislators that we need for them to protect our pensions and continue to keep health care costs down. If you know a retiree who has not joined TCRSPA, please encourage them to contact Peggy for more information.

Please join us for our Christmas luncheon meeting at Bailey Chase - William Hill Manor on December 1 @ 11:30. It's always a wonderful time to catch up with "old" friends and make some new ones. There will be a raffle for a basket full of Christmas goodies. See you there!

Joyce Schriver, President



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## Fall Luncheon at Chesapeake College



Joyce Schriver and Peggy Ford welcome new TCRSPA members: Susan Lester, Lauren Jenkins, Terry Callahan, Sandy Butler, Hope Murphy, Phyllis Pope, and Midge Kroll.



Amanda Leffler (left), music teacher from Chapel District Elementary, receives our Fine Arts Grant from Liz Wildasin.



Crystal Furnina, nursing instructor, led a tour of the new Health Education Bldg.



**Luncheons for  
2015 - 2016**

**Tuesday, December**

Bayleigh Chase  
(William Hill Manor)

**Tuesday, March 15**

Chef Cooking Class @  
EHS

**Thursday, June 2**

Chesapeake Landing



**Executive  
Board Meeting  
Dates**

**Nov. 2, 2015**

**Feb. 1, 2016**

**April 18, 2016**

**TCEC @ 9:30 a.m.**

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

## Life After Retirement: Ken Evans

submitted by Dee Rein

At age 22 a young Navy veteran in Western Maryland contemplated his choices and decided the GI Bill was his ticket to college. Ken Evans enrolled at Frostburg State Teacher's College without a specific career in mind. When Ken was offered tuition aid in exchange for a promise to teach for three years in Maryland, he took the leading and never looked back. Following student teaching and a year teaching Distributive Education at Allegheny High School, Ken again made a move, this time to Talbot County at the invitation of recruiter John Barrett, who offered an opportunity to teach Social Studies, Ken's chosen field. Throughout his career he contributed his efforts to Easton Middle School and St. Michaels Middle/High School under multiple principals and with wonderful teachers of whom he still speaks in glowing terms.

Ken feels, "Kids shaped my life." Each year he learned something new as a teacher. He commented, "I really appreciate Talbot County giving me the opportunity and principals like Kelly Griffith, Mary Reeser, Roger Clark and Bob Hall who helped me do my best."

Currently Ken has returned to Cumberland for retirement life. He's active with his church where he teaches Sunday School to middle schoolers, visits nursing homes, and participates in soup ministry to home-bound folks. Prison ministry is an area he's exploring. Recently he's been making videos with the kids to find "What has God gifted you with?" helping them connect A to B for their future choices. Of course Ken's two children, Kevin and Ann, and their children occupy an important spot in Ken and his wife's lives. They've also traveled some, recently returning from England and planning an upcoming trip to Europe.

According to Ken, growing old is a challenge as people look at you differently, but he's always enjoyed the camaraderie with kids. He notes, "I'm 74 and still have a spark in me."

Ken Evans' Christian belief is core to his life, and he suggests all retirees, "Find your gift," and stay active. Ken observes that our health may not always permit these activities, so pursue them now!





## **Sunshine Committee**

submitted by

Jan Middleton, Brenda Davidson

Soon the holidays will be here and there's always fun things to do. One place we visited was the Koziar's Christmas Village in Bernville, PA. The village is a converted farm with dozens of buildings with displays of storybook characters to portray Christmas themes. It uses half a million colored lights and tinsel. Children can visit with Santa Claus.

It's open Monday - Friday 6 - 9, Saturday - Sunday 5 - 9:30 Thanksgiving Day thru Jan 1. Phone 610-488-1110. 1 mile S.W. via SR 183, follow signs to Christmas Village Rd. It's fun for the whole family.

Sympathy cards were sent to:

The family of Ray Jenkins August 29

The family of Barbara Nichols September 15

Patricia Mavity on the death of her son September 16.

If you know of anyone who needs " A ray of sunshine " call Brenda Davidson at 410-310-9051.

" Your way of giving is more important than what you give."

*Vietnamese Proverb*

## **HAPPY HOLIDAYS !!**

**TCRSPA Holiday Luncheon**

**Date:** Tuesday, December 1, 2015

**Place:** Taylor Family Auditorium at Bayleigh Chase (formerly William Hill Manor) 501 Dutchman's Lane

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

**Cost: \$18.00**

**\*\*Please enter the property from 518 Idlewild Avenue (between Chesapeake Cardiology and the Orthopedic Center). Follow the winding road around to the auditorium, on your right. You may park on that side of the road or in any public parking areas. You may park in the front entrance lot and walk through the building to the auditorium. Do not park in the cottage parking area. Parking is limited, give friends a ride!**

**Menu Selections:**

Entree #1 Chef's Catch: Lemon Herbed Baked Salmon Filet, Roasted Asparagus and Red Bliss Potatoes.

Entree #2 Roast Tenderloin of Beef: Twin Petite Medallions of Slow Roasted Tenderloin served with au jus on the side, Whipped Sweet Potatoes and Green Beans Almandine.

Both choices will include a Tossed Garden Salad with assorted Dressings, Rolls, Iced Tea or Water, and an Assorted Dessert Buffet with Hot Tea or Coffee.

The Holiday luncheon is always well attended, so to avoid a line at check-in, it would be helpful if you would pay in advance. Thank you!

There will be a Holiday Basket raffle (3 tickets for \$5, or \$2 each), a 50/50 raffle, Door Prizes and the donation for the Martha Greene scholarship available at the luncheon.

**Mailed reservations (preferred option) or calls must be received by Nov. 23, 2015 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.**

Mary Reeser  
358 St. Aubins Terrace  
Easton, Maryland 21601  
410-822-4410

Chic Harrison  
29300 Will Street  
Easton, Maryland 21601  
410-822-1209

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**Reservation Form for TCRSPA Luncheon    Return by Nov. 23, 2015**

\_\_\_\_\_ Entree #1 Chef's Catch (\$18.00 payment enclosed)

\_\_\_\_\_ Entree #2 Roast Tenderloin of Beef (\$18.00 payment enclosed)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Membership Report

Our luncheon at Chesapeake College was a wonderful event. What was so special?? We have recognized some new members to our association. Peggy Ford has been working diligently to recruit some new members. A group picture of those attending is found in this newsletter. Take a look !! Some of your former co-workers and friends are now a part of the TCRSPA . Please come to our next luncheon and welcome these new members. Thank you Peggy Ford – Your hard work has not gone unnoticed! Dotty Olds

Currently we have 135 members.

**Welcome again to our newest members:** Phylis Pope, Laura Jenkins, Hope Murphy, Midge Kroll, Debbi Baynard, Terry Callahan, Chris Noyes, Bonnie Wager, Susan Lester, Sandy Butler, Sandy Lucas and Debbie Harper.

**Our emeritus members:** Jane Barton, Helen Dettbarn, Elizabeth Dobson, Kathleen Francis, Mary Jarrell, Patricia Mavity, Ella Morton, Cynthia Ramsey.

## Flu Shot Information

The Health Department has just informed me that we will have **Flu Shots** sooner than originally anticipated. The flu shot will be offered here at the Talbot County Education Center on **Monday November 16th from 9am to 1pm**. You have to sign up in advance and there is a sign up sheet on my desk. Let me know if you have any questions and pass this along to any coworkers who do not have regular access to email.

Thank you,  
Kari Overington  
Administrative Assistant  
Office of Human Resources  
Talbot County Public Schools  
[410-822-0330](tel:410-822-0330)

## Consumer Education

Submitted by Doris Valliant

### Driving Safely in Dense Fog

Periodically, State Farm emails a newsletter, and this information about driving safely in dense fog sounds like good advice. The safest thing to do is to pull over into a parking area until the fog clears, but a safe area to pull into may not be available. Never pull off on the side of the road, because other drivers may not see your taillights and slam into your car. If you must continue driving, keep these tips in mind. (1) Minimize distractions by turning off your cell phone, radio or other players. (2) Reduce your speed so that you can react safely because you can't see the road or other vehicles. (3) Roll down your window to listen for cars. (4) Use roadside reflectors as a guide to help you navigate twists and turns. (5) Turn off cruise control so that you have more control of your car. (6) Use windshield wipers and defrosters to limit excess moisture on the window. (7) Drive with low beams and fog lights because high beams worsen visibility since they reflect off the fog.

### Safety on Ice—Walk like a Penguin

Avoiding falling is particularly important for seniors, and walking on ice to and from parking lots, buildings or down sidewalks requires special attention to keep from slipping and falling. Walking like a penguin helps to prevent falling, and here's how to do it. (1) When it's cold, assume that all wet, dark areas are slippery so approach with caution. (2) In bad weather, avoid boots or shoes with smooth soles or heels. Instead, wear boots or shoes that provide traction on snow and ice. The best are made of non-slip rubber or neoprene with grooved soles. (3) Use special care when entering and exiting vehicles; use the vehicle for support. (4) Walk in designated walkways as much as possible. (5) *Walk like a penguin: point your feet out slightly. Spreading your feet out slightly increases your center of gravity.* (6) *Bend slightly and walk flat-footed with your center of gravity directly over your feet as much as possible.* (7) *Extend your arms out to your sides to maintain balance.* (8) Keep your hands out of your pockets to increase balance and if you start to slip, your hands are ready to help break your fall. (9) Watch where you're going, and GO S-L-O-W-L-Y. (10) Take short steps or shuffle for stability.

### Be an Optimist and Live Longer

According to researchers, you really are as old as you feel. Those who feel younger than their years live longer than those who feel their age or older, according to a study published in *JAMA Internal Medicine*. The authors conclude that it's likely that those who feel younger have healthy lifestyles, listen to medical advice and have greater resilience. Having an optimistic outlook seems to make living in the present easier and offers hope for a longer future. The good news, say the authors, is that "self-perceived age has the potential to change."



## **Retired Talbot County Educators Love Being Docents!**

Make 2016 your breakout year... become a docent volunteer at the **Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum** and lead guided tours of the campus, exhibits, and artifacts for adults and children. Docent training will be held every Tuesday & Thursday throughout February 2016. This once yearly training course is perfect for talented people like you! The training provides instruction in Chesapeake history, interpretive techniques, and CBMM information and logistics. Participants are required to attend all eight sessions in order to pass. Come join our friendly team of retired educators and professionals and learn what a truly rewarding experience feels like.

For more information, go to <http://cbmm.org/support/volunteer/> or contact Director of Volunteer Program Melissa Spielman at 410-745-4956 or [mspielman@cbmm.org](mailto:mspielman@cbmm.org).

## **National Education Week Open House**

All Talbot County Public Schools will be open to the public for visitation on November 16th and 18th.

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## **Community Service Committee**

Many thanks to all who donated supplies at the Fall Luncheon for the Care Packs of Talbot County. The items were delivered and were very much appreciated.

At our our Holiday Luncheon we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Neighborhood Service Center.

**Thanks,**

**Bennie Milton 410-476-3734      Elois Brown 410-476-3574**

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TCRSPA

c/o Joyce Schriver

28427 Oaklands Road

Easton, MD 21601