

TALBOT COUNTY
RETIREDSCHOOL PERSONNEL
ASSOCIATION

The Little Red Schoolhouse

Dear Retiree,

Already, your executive board is planning our meeting days and luncheons for this coming year. We always meet at the Education Center and you are welcome to come and join us. New fresh ideas are welcome and we encourage you to share your thoughts. Doris Roach has agreed to become a member of the board. She will be working with Bennie Milton on our community service committee.

I will be attending a Presidents meeting here in Easton in September. Presidents from the local associations on the shore will be attending. Debbie Chance is our state representative and will be with other delegates in Odenton. It is nice to still have the opportunity to connect with former educators.

November brings our Annapolis meeting. We have the opportunity to listen to our representatives. This is always an interesting day. These folks are working to keep and protect our pensions. Our members count. Numbers count. The bigger the number of members the stronger and bigger voice we have. Please encourage other retirees to join TCRSPA. Peggy Ford is our membership chairman. She is only one person to reach out to new retirees. She can use your help.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support this spring when we were in fear of losing our Health Insurance. We had to speak out and let our voices and presence be heard. This was a fight that had a huge impact on our retirees. Many of you wrote letters to Board of Education members. Many of you attended County Council meetings. Many of you spoke at the Board of Education meeting. Many of you came to our emergency meeting in the library meeting room. Thank you. Thank You. Thank You.

I hope to see you at our coming luncheon at Chesapeake College in October.

Stay well!

Dotty Olds



The Talbot County Retired School Personnel Association held its end-of-year luncheon on Thursday, June 1, 2017, at Chesapeake Landing Restaurant.

Highlights of the event included the presentation of the annual **Memorial Book Award**, given in honor of all TCRSPA members who passed away during the year. This year's award went to St. Michaels Elementary School and was presented to Dr. Indra Bullock, principal of SMES. Special dedication nameplates will be placed inside books purchased for the media center at the school. In addition, special guest speaker **Delegate Johnny Mautz** updated the group about current and pending legislation affecting retirees in the state of Maryland. Great fun and fellowship was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Submitted by Debbie Chance

Delegate Johnny Mautz
(MRSPA Area III North Director) &
TCRSPA co-vice president
Debbie Chance



Dr. Indra Bullock, Pat Clark and TCRSPA
President Dotty Olds



Summer Luncheon in June at Chesapeake Landing



Life after Retirement: Carolyn Farrell

submitted by Dee Rein

Carolyn Farrell joined Talbot County Public Schools after twenty years of elementary school teaching experience in Cumberland, Allegany County. While there she busily taught grades 2, 3, 4, and 5 in various years, earned a master's degree at Frostburg and raised her daughters. Arriving in Talbot, she was pleased to join the Moton Appropriate Assistance staff and later segue to a 4th grade class, her favorite grade to teach. In Carolyn's experience 4th graders' independent abilities and positive attitudes allow teachers to mold them. For her a key reward of teaching was the light bulb moment when a student grasped a concept. Carolyn commented that she was, "always impressed and grateful for the fellowship and support of the dedicated, caring teachers at Moton."

In retirement Carolyn is equally busy, noting that she doesn't know how she ever had time to work, a thought familiar to many of us. Time with children, in this case grandchildren ages 1-18, continues as a focus in her life. Since these children live in Boston, Dallas, and Los Angeles as well as Caroline County, this involves plenty of travel to keep up with their activities and school progress. Carolyn also enjoys exercise activities like yoga and circuit training at the YMCA and bicycle rides in the bicycle friendly terrain here on the Eastern Shore. She and her husband, John, also take day trips to interesting Maryland bike trails and the ocean. John continues to work part time, and Carolyn supports his business. They enjoy the company of Charlie Brown, a Boykin spaniel who she and gets them both out for daily walks. Sewing crafty creations, and reading suspense novels, now that she has the time, round out her life.



Retirement brings flexibility to life for Carolyn. She encourages future retirees to join the Talbot County Retired School Personnel Association because it has a lot to offer and do the things they enjoy. "Retirement gives time and freedom to smell the roses. We all need to do that."

2017 Martha Greene Summer Scholarship Recipients

On June 7, 2017, the Martha Greene Summer Scholarship was awarded to two Easton Middle School sixth graders, Alecia Teet and Kamryn Thorpe. Each girl chose a camp in their personal interest. Alecia chose a horseback riding camp at Glendale Farms and Kamryn chose to attend a gymnastic camp at Tidewater Gymnastic Center.

Talbot County Retired School Personnel Association has awarded an enrichment opportunity to two Talbot County middle schoolers every summer since 2008. Martha Greene was a true pillar of the Unionville community. Her service to her students, dating back to the 1930's, included educating and caring for them all year long. Mrs. Greene made special efforts to provide her students with summer enrichment experiences, and TCRSPA continues this tradition in her honor.

Kamryn Thorpe (right)



Alecia Teet (below)



CONSUMER EDUCATION FOR FALL 2017 NEWSLETTER

Submitted By Doris Valliant

What are some easy signs that indicate a scam call?

Most companies and government agencies like the IRS are not going to cold call you and threaten you. That's what scams do; they play off some type of emotion, and often it's fear. If you're getting a call or an email that's "very urgent," be wary. The best way to react in any phone scam is to hang up or not to answer at all. The more you talk you could be providing information to scammers without you knowing it. Or they could be recording your voice so they can use that against you to obtain future personal or financial information. Telephone numbers can now be spoofed to look like a local number. Be safe—if you don't recognize the number, don't answer the call. Let the caller leave a message—something that scammers usually do not do.

On the web, don't be fooled by the name displayed as the sender. Inspect the email address—a long series of letters or words after ".com" suggests a scammer sent this email. Be suspicious of links because legitimate companies typically don't include links when they ask you to update information or offer to remedy problems. Instead, companies direct you to their websites. Emails pretending to be from a credit card company usually cite the beginning numbers of an account. Legitimate messages cite the last few numbers because like phone companies, many credit cards start with the same digits.

Want to save on the road?

You might be eligible for a low-mileage discount from your insurer if your car is driven under 5,000 miles a year. You could save \$92 a year. Take a driving class and save \$675 on a typical insurance policy because insurers offer 15 percent off to older drivers who take an online safety course. Want to save at the pump? Buy gas on Monday; it's the cheapest gas day in 23 states according to GasBuddy. Stick to Mondays and save \$325 a year. Avoid hard braking and speeding, which can lower your gas mileage by 30 to 40 percent. At an annual gas consumption of 480 gallons, you'd save \$460.

Like to eat apples?

Finnish researchers studying dietary data collected over 28 years from 9,208 men and women discovered that frequent apple eaters had the lowest risk of strokes compared with non-apple eaters. Experts attribute apple's heart-healthy benefits to antioxidant compounds that inhibit inflammation and that help prevent LDL cholesterol from oxidizing. Plus, the soluble fiber in apples has been shown to lower cholesterol levels. Maybe an apple a day does keep the doctor away! This fall visit an apple orchard. It's a great outdoor trip, and apples are at their best prices.



President' Message:

As your president I am sending this out to you in this first newsletter. This is what our organization is all about. Our Executive committee meets regularly to guide the organization . This keeps our organization alive and well. This is what we do as retirees. We have had careers in public education. Teachers, administrators, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, aides, and secretaries. We are now retired . We still take pride in coming together in our retired years. Below are listed the goals of our association.

1. Advocate benefits and services for retired members. Health benefits (Board Of Education Liaison)
2. Retirement(funding for our pensions)
3. MRSPA –Advocates for our retirement

We support or Talbot County Public Schools

1. Pre- retirement Workshop
2. Volunteer projects
3. Martha Greene summer enrichment scholarship
4. Performing Arts Award ,Memorial Book Award,
5. Teacher of the Year recognition
6. Visit schools during American Education Week

We communicate important information to our members

1. Emails
2. Newsletters
3. Meetings

Participate in Community service

- 1 .Community Civic Service Award
- 2.Volunteer
- 3.Service Projects (Humane Society ,Neighborhood Center, Care Pacts ,Homeless Shelter

We provide socialization opportunities for retired members

1. Luncheons
2. Feature members in our newsletters
3. Send cards and make visits to members(Sunshine Committee)

Fall Luncheon

When: Thursday, October 12, 2017

Where: Chesapeake College, Higher Education Center, Please park in **Lot D**
(or in the circle drive, if the lot is full)

Time: 11:30 AM. (Registration) 11:45 (Welcome, Arts Award, Budget)
12:15 (Lunch)

*Please let us know if you are interested in carpooling.
Carpooling from **Easton Fire Department** parking lot to leave at 11:00 AM.*

Menu: Maryland Crab Vegetable Soup or Chicken and Rice Soup
Assorted Wraps: Deli Ham, Roast Turkey, or Chicken Salad
Tossed Green Salad with Assorted Dressings
Potato Chips
Assorted Pies
Coffee, Hot Tea, Iced Tea, and Water

Program: Dr. Elaine O'Neal and Debbie Urry will share information on the
Salisbury University Elementary Education Cohort Program and other
degrees available for educators.

Cost: \$15.00 Reservations must be made by **Tuesday, October 3rd**. The
committee would prefer that payment be mailed prior to the luncheon. If
reservation is made by phone, you are responsible to make the payment.
Money can not be refunded after the committee has finalized the number of
people attending with Chesapeake College. Thanks for your help with this
matter.

Please make **\$15.00** payment to **TCRSPA**: Send to:
Mary Reeser, 358 St. Aubins Terrace, Easton, Md 21601 (410-822-4410) or
Chic Harrison, 29300 Will St., Easton, Md 21601 (410-822-1209) or
Pat Chapman, 802 Chapel Farm Drive, Easton, Md 21601 (443-786-8617)
by October 3rd to reserve your spot.

Door Prizes, 50/50 Raffle, and Martha Greene Scholarship Donation will be
available.

Flu Shots

They have not yet been scheduled. Please call the contact person below with any questions.

Angelina Khlok
Administrative Assistant, H.R.
Talbot County Public Schools
410-822-0330

Anyone with a new email address (especially former Verizon emails), please contact Jan McCrea at jmccrea7678@gmail.com with your update right away!!

Luncheons for 2017-2018

Thursday, October 12
Chesapeake College
Higher Education Center

Tuesday, December 5
Latitude 38 Restaurant
Oxford

Tuesday, March 13
Chef Cook Class @ EHS

Thursday, June 7
Chesapeake Landing

Executive Board Meeting Dates

Sept. 11, 2017

Nov. 6, 2017

Feb. 5, 2018

April 9, 2018

TCEC @ 9:30 a.m.

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

Welcome New Members

Congratulations to these new members; please welcome them.

Sarah Adams	Linda Allen	Karen Andrews
Diane Brice	Michele Catlin	Linda DePrima
Shirley Gannon	Karen Melhunek	Pete Morey
Penny Plack	Linda Roberts	Lori Satchell
Janet VanRiper	Vickie Wilson	

TCRSPA "Field Trip"

Let's go see Mary Poppins at Easton High School at 2:00 on Sunday, October 22, 2017. Purchase your \$10 ticket early at the EHS or before the show. We can all sit together. Interested? Call Peggy Ford 410-725-1101 or email pjford@goeaston.net

Good News about Membership

At the Spring Maryland State Retired School Personnel annual meeting, Talbot County was commended for increasing and exceeding our membership goals. Please reach out to someone who is retired and would benefit from membership in the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association and our local, Talbot County Retired School Personnel Association and ask them to join. Contact Peggy Ford for membership information.

Remember, MRSPA is your retirement insurance, what a deal!!!

***Interested in hearing from Sheriff Joe Gamble about Project Purple?
Contact Peggy Ford.***

Hello Retired Members,

I (Dotty) have just come home from our first Executive Board meeting of this year. We always want you to feel included in this business meeting. Check this issue of your newsletter. The dates are listed.

1. Please wear your name badge at our Chesapeake College luncheon. We need for our newly retired guests to know us.
2. Kelly Griffith came and talked with us about our schools and the financial situation that they find themselves in. She wants our help to keep tax cap at 2.00 %. That was wear the Tax Cap was set in 1997. NOW the tax per property owner has dipped to 0.7. Our system is struggling with this small amount of revenue. I am inclosing a paper for you to read over. More about this in the coming months.
3. TCPS is supporting J.C. Mitchell Elementary School in Houston Texas. They have lost everything in the floods, including the building. Our exec. Board voted today to give Kelly a check for \$200.00. This will be our community service donation for this year. (this is usually given in March ,but because of this initiative we decided to donate to this cause now.
4. We have updated our website. If you go to www.tcrspa.org you will find us.
5. We are on Facebook too! Talbot County Retired School Personal Association to log in.
6. Our new Executive Director for MRSPA is Wanda Twigg.

Just wanted to let you know that Academy Financial provides member benefits of dental, vision, long term care insurance plans . They have been a partner with MRSPA for over 20 years . If you are interested in speaking to Academy Financial about what insurance plans they offer 410- 825- 5296 or 1- 800-777-4798 or email joseph.barger@LFG.com

Community Service Committee

Many thanks to all who donated to the summer program at the Neighborhood Service Center. The items were delivered and were greatly appreciated.

At our October luncheon we will be collecting for Carepacks. They are in need of the following : single serving containers of cereals and macaroni bowls, filled crackers, applesauce and fruit cups, small packages of peanuts and trail mixes, cereal bars, toaster pastries, canned tuna, instant lunch noodles, canned pasta (prefer pop tops), granola bars, and individual bags of pretzels.

Volunteers are needed to help Carepacks count food items as they set up for monthly packing. If you would like to help count, report to Oasis Covenant Church (old Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church) on the corner of Goldsborough and Aurora Streets. Report between 8:30 and 9:00 on Nov. 16th and/or Oct. 19th. If you have questions, email Ms. Moody at emoody@tcps.k12.md.us.

Bennie Milton and Doris Roach

Sunshine Committee

submitted by Brenda Davidson

Happiness Challenge - The Pen Is Mighty

As I was thinking about this article for our newsletter, I couldn't help but think about all of the wonderful and inspiring words that Jan wrote for the Sunshine Committee. I would imagine that at sometime many of us have received a card or note from her just at the right time. While Jan will no longer be sending the cards and notes, we would like to thank her for a job well done.

With that said, I would like to ask you to reflect on an article that I recently read from the Parade Magazine. "Very little affects our day to-day happiness more than our relationships. While there's no shortcut to nurturing them, small efforts can build on one another to help you reap the rewards of connection."

According to the US Postal Service, the average household receives a personal letter only once every two months. Taking a few minutes to write and send one is an easy way to strengthen the important bonds in your life. With that said, each week this month choose one person to pen a personal note to. It doesn't have to be long. You can simply say hello, or share how much their friendship means to you. Don't be surprised if you soon find your own mailbox a little happier, too.

We've sent some Sunshine to these members since our last newsletter:

- April - Condolences to the family of our dear member Elois Brown
Condolences to our dear member Karen Guthrie
Thinking of You to our sweet Miss Chic
- May - Thinking of You to our friend Mary Reeser during her husband's illness
- June - Thoughts of support for Karen Guthrie
Get Well wishes for Margaret Hollingshead who had a full hip replacement
Congratulations on new Administrative positions in our county to Maureen Lempke, Andrea Wolthers and Tom Callahan
- July - Best wishes to Mrs. Theresa Ward, present staff member at EES-Dobson, for establishing a "Little Lending Library" in Easton in memory of her daughter
Congratulations to Rosemary Morris on her retirement as the Children's Librarian at Talbot County Free Library after 36 years of service
- August- Congratulations to Kim Seidel, Sherry Bowen and James Redman on their new Administrative positions for TCPS
Condolences to our dear members and sisters Gladys Giddens and Dorothy Palmer on the loss of their brother

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

TCRSPA

c/o Dotty Olds

7415 Tour Drive

Easton, MD 21601