

# TALBOT COUNTY RETIRED



# SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

The Little Red Schoolhouse

## President's Message

Happy New Year to each of you! 2018 is settling in and many of us make our resolutions to make this year a better one than last. By now, you may have already broken some of those promises !! Looking back: In September 2017 our association has increased its membership ( thank you Peggy ) In November some of your board members attended the legislative workshop in Annapolis ( Bertha Wilson, Debbie Chance, Brenda Davidson and myself ). Bertha has written her report and you will find it within this newsletter. Since September you have received 2 newsletters, thanks to Midge. Many cards, congratulations, get well, & sympathy have been mailed out to our members - thanks Brenda. Hopefully you have attended our luncheons to meet up with friends. We have had one at Chesapeake College and another at Latitude in Oxford, Maryland. Thanks to Mary, Chic, and Pat for their planning. Hope you came to our holiday luncheon at Latitude. It was lovely - 60 members attended!! At each luncheon, we the TCRSPA, remember to give. Through the dues that you generously give, we gave to Brighter Christmas Fund, the Fine Arts donation to Mollie Connolly ( provides her with funds to better her music program ) and we have collected for Care Packs and Theresa Ward's Little Library. We also gave generously to a school that lost everything during a hurricane this fall.

The New Year will bring two luncheons, and our pre-retirement workshop as well as a state meeting in Bowie, MD. Please enjoy our luncheons, encourage others to join TCRSPA, and continue to support our Community Service donations.

Retirees are busy people! Do you have friends who volunteer in our schools? Volunteer in the library, in the hospital, at the Senior Center, with CASA, and Habitat for Humanity?? Some are helping in churches teaching Sunday School, singing in choirs, and serving on boards. Many of you may be enjoying traveling and some are caregivers for parents and for grandchildren. Where do we find the time???

Our pensions enable us to live in our own homes. We are able to enjoy shopping and take vacations. We may still be able to purchase cars help grandchildren with tuitions. This is the lifestyle for the 21<sup>st</sup> century retiree! I'm glad you decided to be a member of TCRSPA. PLEASE join the state MRSPA if you have not done so. Our pensions depend on a strong membership! See you in March at our luncheon! Spring is just around the corner ( fingers crossed!)



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## News from Debbie Chance ~

The Talbot County Retired School Personnel Association held its annual Holiday Luncheon at Latitude 38 on Tuesday, December 5, 2017. The atmosphere was festive as friends and colleagues enjoyed visiting with each other in the holiday spirit. Gift baskets were raffled off to raise funds for the Neighborhood Service Center and a 50/50 drawing was held to support the Martha Greene Scholarship that is given to area students each summer. Joining the group were guest speakers Katie Fox, Tonya Hayman, and Sheriff Joe Gamble. Mrs. Fox is the 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year for Talbot County. She has taught for fifteen years and has spent the last ten of those as a kindergarten teacher at Tilghman Elementary. Mrs. Hayman is the first Support Staff of the Year for Talbot County. She has worked in Talbot County Public Schools for forty-six years and continues to love her work! Tonya currently works at Easton Middle School as an instructional assistant. Sheriff Gamble spoke about the Talbot Goes Purple initiative and discussed future plans for the program. He highlighted the important contributions that educators can make in relation to the growing opiate addiction problem.



Katie Fox



Tonya Hayman



Joe Gamble

# Christmas Luncheon at Latitude 38



At our luncheon on December 5th, Elois Brown or “Tutti,” almost 80, Elizabeth Dobson or “Libby,” 99, and Audrey Woolston, 90, were honored at our TCRSPA Memorial Service.

Mary Reeser lights candles as Chic Harrison reads tributes to each, fondly remembering their lives and many contributions to the Talbot County community. They will be sadly missed.

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## Life after Retirement: Peggy Mundt

submitted by Dee Rein

Following a brief boring job stint after Mary Washington College graduation, Peggy Mundt followed a college friend to Caroline County in search of a teaching position. Five years in the classroom and then some time off for rearing her two children led Peggy back to education in Talbot County in St. Michaels. With a science major and a history minor Peggy was looking to teach science, but found herself with a schedule of junior high level math, world history and senior English. "I had no idea how to teach English!" she exclaims. World history was a better fit. Two years later a science opening allowed her to pursue her first love for 33 total years in Talbot County.

One memorable science activity was the annual trip to Baltimore taking top science students to the Maryland Science Symposium. Her students were fascinated with a Johns Hopkins event for new doctors witnessing the birthing process of a ewe. When the bus arrived to take them home, they were forced to leave before the blessed event was concluded. To their excitement, a young doctor came rushing out to inform them just prior to departure that the ewe had birthed triplets. Science was always engaging for students in Mrs. Mundt's class!

In retirement Peggy is still busy. Bridge, 500 and other card games are favorites. She and good friend, Jane Barton shop and lunch every Friday as well as playing Hand and Foot, a version of Canasta brought back from Florida by Jane. Family jobs such as mending for the grandchildren are ways to continue helping others. The *Smithsonian Magazine* and *National Geographic* are logical reading favorites for a retired science teacher.

Peggy notes that it is she recommends having a age, like Jane, are understand her thinking. what's coming, like into old students, usually as teaching was through



tiresome to be totally alone, so variety of friends. Friends her comforting because they Younger friends help explain technological changes. Running at Walmart, is always a joy, just the years.

## TCRSPA Spring Luncheon on Tuesday, March 13, 2018

**Place:** Easton High School Chef Cook Classroom. A delicious lunch will be prepared by the program's students. Parking is always **limited**. Please think about riding with friends. To avoid being trapped in the parking lot by the buses, we will need to leave the Chef Cook Classroom by 2:15 pm.

**Time:** Lunch will be served at 11:30 am due to student schedules. **Please try to arrive by 11:00!**

**CHANGE IN SECURITY PROCEDURES:** EHS staff is asking that we try to complete security prior to March 13 to save any inconvenience at the time of the luncheon. You can:

~Send a copy of your ID to Chic Harrison when you send your reservation and we will take care of security.

~Stop by the main office at EHS and have your ID scanned by Friday, March 9.

~Scan a copy of your ID directly to [lbanning@talbotschools.org](mailto:lbanning@talbotschools.org).

(Copies of ID will be shredded once they have been scanned into the system)

~If you have been scanned at any other TCPS building this school year, you may ask that school to email Lynne Banning at EHS and she will accept that notice.

Any of these will take care of security, you will only need to sign in at the office and proceed to the Chef Cook classroom. **EVERYONE will still enter through the main office.**

If you choose to wait until the day of the luncheon, please be aware that you may have difficulty with a timely security check in. Make sure you have your ID with you. No one signed up for the luncheon will be turned away.

After you are through security in the office, you will enter the lobby. Take the hall on the **right** side of the lobby toward the cafeteria. You will then take the second hallway to the **left**. We will have a person in the main hall to help direct you to the Chef Cook Classroom.

**Cost: \$10.00** To cut down on confusion at the door, PLEASE mail your reservation, with menu selections and \$10 check (made out to TCRSPA) so that it is received by MONDAY, MARCH 5, at the latest. **SEATING IS LIMITED** for this luncheon, so please be prompt in your reservation, with payment, as we will fill slots on a first come, first served basis.

To make the reservation process easier, please send your reservation form and payment, and copy of Driver's License (if interested) to: **Chic Harrison, 29300 Will Street, Easton, MD, 21601.**

**MENU** Name \_\_\_\_\_ Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Soup (Choose One)

\_\_\_ Maryland Vegetable Crab

\_\_\_ Broccoli Cheddar

Salad (Choose One)

\_\_\_ Mixed Greens with assorted dressings

\_\_\_ Fresh Fruit Salad

Entrée (Choose One)

\_\_\_ Grilled Reuben on Rye Bread and side

\_\_\_ Chicken Cordon Bleu Sandwich and side

Dessert (Choose One)

\_\_\_ Double Chocolate Mousse

\_\_\_ Coconut Cream Pie

\_\_\_ Fresh Fruit

Tea or Coffee will be offered.

There will also be a 50/50 raffle available and the collection for the "Martha Greene Summer Scholarship".

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## CONSUMER EDUCATION

Submitted by Doris Valliant

### **BEWARE AND BE AWARE!**

Can you spot an imposter? According to a recent AARP survey, 85% of adults feel confident they can. However, imposter fraud is among the fastest growing types of scams precisely because we think we're immune to it. Here are a few imposter scams now playing out across America. The Jury Duty Manager: "Hi, I'm calling from the courthouse, and you missed jury duty. Pay \$400 or go to prison." The Government Clerk: "You have unclaimed property with our state. Simply pay this fee and we will release it to you." The Bank Verifier: "There's a data problem with your checking account. Please verify this information so we can confirm things and fix the error." The Police or Fire Department: "We're raising money for officers (or firefighters) injured in the line of duty. How much will you be donating today?" **NEVER accept a pitch or give any information to a stranger—on the phone, in person over the Internet—without first independently verifying that it's legitimate!**

### **STAY SAFE IN THE COLD WEATHER**

Most of us feel cold now and then during the winter. But did you know that being really cold could make us very sick? As older adults, we can lose body heat much faster than when we were young. Aging changes make it harder for us to be aware of getting cold, and hypothermia happens before we realize just how cold we've become. Becoming cold outside or living in a very cold house can lead to hypothermia, so it's important for us to pay attention to the cold. For example, a gentleman in Vermont turned his heat down to 62 degrees to save money. Fortunately, his son checked on him and discovered he was shivering, speaking slowly and having trouble walking. He wrapped his father in a blanket and called 911. Now the father keeps his heat at least at 68 degrees and wears a sweater in the house. That's good advice for all of us. Keep thermostats at 68 degrees or higher, and close off rooms not in use. Dress warmly on cold days even if you're staying inside. Throw a blanket over your legs; wear socks and slippers. Drink alcohol moderately or if at all because it can make you lose body heat. Have friends and family check on you during cold weather. Finally, avoid space heaters that can become fire hazards or cause carbon monoxide poisoning.

### **PREVENT WINTER INJURIES WITH THIS ADVICE FROM ANCIENT CHINA**

**Shoveling snow:** The "Gyro-scope"—Keep your shovel close to you and dig using the big muscles of your legs and behind, not the puny ones in your back and arms. Breathe slowly and evenly as you squat, twist, rotate and toss.

**Walking icy paths:** The "Stealthy Scout"—Send one foot forward slowly, assess your stability and then put weight on that foot. Now sneak your other foot forward and do the same, like a sly mythical creature.

**All tasks:** The "Smart Sparrow"—Use an opponent's strength to your advantage. Hire the eager teenager next door for winter chores, while you mindfully sip cocoa inside, or perhaps a healthful chai.

## **TCRSPA To Offer Book Scholarship**

At their February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting the TCRSPA Executive Board voted to create an annual \$300 scholarship to recognize and encourage a graduating Teacher Academy completer who plans to pursue a degree in education. Since the Teacher Academy, based at St. Michaels Middle/High School, has students from both high schools who meet as one class, one program completer will be selected each year. In April Terry Callahan and Doris Valliant will meet with Gia Ristvey, the Teacher Academy instructor, to distribute applications to the senior students. The TCRSPA Book Scholarship Committee, along with Ms. Ristvey and Pam Clay, supervisor for the Teacher Academy, will select the senior recipient. We will be using the June and Christmas raffle baskets as part of the funding for this scholarship. Donations are also accepted, and a basket will be available at the March and June luncheons if you would like to make a donation. A donation to the book scholarship also can be made in honor or in memory of someone.

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## **Community Service Committee**

Many thanks to all members who donated books to Little Libraries. The books were delivered to Mrs. Ward and were greatly appreciated.

At our next luncheon, we will be collecting items for the Neighborhood Center Youth Program. They are in need of hand sanitizer, paper towels, Kleenexes, snacks such as potato chips and Doritos, bottles and boxes of juices, and fruit cups.

The Neighborhood Center is also in need of a volunteer for the summer program to help from June through August. If you are interested in being a volunteer for the summer program, please call Ms. Marilyn Neal at 410 - 822 - 5015. If you have questions please call.

Bennie Milton 410-476-3734

Doris Roach 410-822-3563



**Luncheons for  
2018**

**Tuesday, March 13**  
Chef Cook Class @ EHS

**Thursday, June 7**  
Chesapeake Landing

**Executive Board  
Meeting Dates**

**Feb. 5, 2018**

**April 9, 2018**

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

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



## Sunshine Committee

submitted by  
Brenda Davidson

Sending Sunshine  and warm weather to all of you!

In November, we remembered many of our members with Thanksgiving cards, including our Emeritus members and our Shut-In members. We also sent Get Well wishes to Jan McCrea after her knee replacement surgery. A “Thinking of You” card was sent to member Linda Roberts. Upon the death of member Audrey Woolston, we sent a sympathy card to her family.

In December, we acknowledged our Emeritus members with holiday cards. We also gave gifts of lotions and cookies to our Shut-In members. A big “Thank You” to our member Barb Lewis for wrapping our gifts - they were lovely! And another big “Thank You” to those members who volunteered to deliver the gifts. We presented Jane Barton with a small gift for her 99th birthday, too.

In mid-December we were presented with a \$50.00 donation to our Book Scholarship in memory of Mrs. Audrey Woolston from her colleague and friend, Mrs. Beverly Brash. A Thank You card was sent to Mrs. Brash along with an acknowledgement card to Mrs. Dale Dowling, daughter of Mrs. Woolston.

We remembered our member Pat Early with a “Thinking of You” card after her shoulder surgery in January. A note of sympathy was also sent to member Peggy Ford and family after the death of her mother-in-law.

Think Spring!  
Brenda ~ 410-310-9051

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TCRSPA

c/o Dotty Olds

7415 Tour Drive

Easton, MD 21601