

MID-JEFFERSON COUNTY RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL APRIL 2017 NEWSLETTER



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March Program: Chelsea Moore Port Neches Public Library *Adult Education Offerings*

- ◆ **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, April 11, 2017 @1:30 PM, **Community Room**, Port Neches Public Library, 2025 Merriman, Port Neches, TX
- ◆ **Program:** Tim Lee, TRTA Executive Director
- ◆ **Hostesses:** Linda Pinner (chairman), Loretta Morman, Olive Hall, and Wanda Borne
- ◆ **Spring Leadership Development Conference:** May 5, 10 AM -2PM, First Baptist Church, 1911 Nederland Avenue

Standing on the edge of a cliff . . .

. . . a message from MJCRSP President Lynne James



Tim Lee
Executive Director
TRTA

. . . hoping the parachute will open if you have to jump? That's how we all feel awaiting an encouraging word from Austin that our defined benefit plan is safe and that our health care will be funded. At the legislative luncheon at the TRTA state convention in Austin this week, delegates got some encouragement, but not as much as we wish. Representatives John Zerwas and Trent Ashby, chairmen of the Appropriations Committee and the Appropriations—Article III Subcommittee respectively, have filed bills in support of our health care, and were touched by the greeting they received from those in attendance. However, behind the scenes, some are working to dismantle our defined benefit plan. Studies are under way to evaluate our the future of our pension, but individuals such as Josh McGee, chair of the Texas Pensions Review Board, have a personal agenda to dismantle government sponsored pension funds and often use skewed data to support their views. It is expected the next session of the legislature will include an organized effort to replace our defined benefit plan with a defined contribution plan, which will not work to our advantage. When Tim Lee visits our unit on April 11, he will surely address those concerns and give us steps to follow to make sure our voices are heard.



If you would like to attend the April 11 meeting, please contact me (lynnej@gt.rr.com or 409-735-6171) before Tuesday , April 4, so we can make sure seats are available. If you would like to meet Tim @ 11 for lunch at the Wheelhouse in Port Neches prior to the meeting, please RSVP to Linda Briggs (rbriggs1@gt.rr.com or 409-982-9146). **There is always a possibility Tim will be called to Austin at the last minute for a committee hearing, so be sure to check our unit website on Monday, April 10, to verify that he will be in attendance.**

Hope to see you there!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.mjcrsp.org.

SPECIAL THANKS to MCT Credit Union and Hebert Library for the use of their facilities in preparing our monthly newsletters.

March meeting highlights



Row 1: Hostesses Gail Krohn, Donna Lumpkin, Dianne Trevey, and Candice Zummo prepare refreshments; Chelsea Moore tells members about interesting offerings at the Port Neches Public Library; Loretta, Linda, Gail, and Wanda enjoy the program.

Row 2: Beulah, Curtis, and Linda listen to Chelsea's presentation as do Patricia and Dianne; Beulah, Linda, and Jolene visit during refreshment time; Richard dons his St. Pat hat; Mary Sue and Wanda lead the refreshment line. **Row 3:** Walter and Dixie, Loretta and Beverly enjoy the holiday treats; Chelsea relaxes after her program

performance and is then joined by her very proud grandmother, Frances Glaze. **Row 4:** Lynne pauses before beginning the meeting; Richard reads a message from Tim Lee he received on his phone.

At the convention —-THE RED SEE!



RED was all you could see at noon on March 29 as retirees from throughout the state filled the gallery of the Texas Senate chamber to support using money from the Rainy Day fund to fund our health care.

HELEN'S HEALTH TIP: Spring is an inspiring time of year; therefore, be awakened, nurtured, and revitalized by this beautiful season of hope.