

# THE TATTLER



## THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL CLARE COUNTY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

August 8, 2023

### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

It's hard to believe summer is almost over! Luckily, we don't have to prepare for the school year. Although, we DO have to prepare for next year's guest speakers! If you know someone who might be willing to speak to our chapter, please let me know.

Our topics set by MARSP are:  
Legal/Business; Public Policy/Legislation; Senior Issues; Local School Issues/Education; Health Insurance; Art/ Culture.

Thank you again for your participation with last month's membership survey. Your opinion means so much in helping us grow. The Executive Board spent time last month pouring over the results and had a robust conversation about setting goals for our chapter. We should have the plan done before the end of the year. Special thanks to the Executive Board for spending extra time each month supporting our chapter!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Terry Petrongelli  
President  
MARSP Clare County Chapter



### WHERE CAN I GET A COVID VACCINE OR BOOSTER?

- **Pharmacies, health departments, clinics and other locations:** Shots and boosters are administered at retail pharmacies and facilities affiliated with the Michigan health department, certain federally qualified health centers, local clinics and other locations, such as doctor's offices.
- Use the federal government's vaccine website [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to search for vaccination sites by zip code. Get the same information by texting your zip code to 438829 or by calling 800-232-0233.
- You can check with **your primary physician's office** to see if COVID-19 vaccinations are offered.
- If you are a veteran, **the Department of Veterans Affairs** offers COVID-19 vaccinations at VA facilities. Sign up online or call 800-827-1000 to make an appointment.

-Catherine Maddux  
AARP Michigan, April 2023



## MARSP HEALTH COVERAGE SURVEY RESULTS

Thanks to all of you who spent time sending opinions to MARSP about specific aspects of the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System (MPERS) healthcare plan, including vision, hearing, and dental.

MARSP received an overwhelming response from members, with over 6,000 individuals participating and sharing their experiences.

The results of this exercise will play a pivotal role in shaping the future of MPERS healthcare plans for *all* public school retirees. Key findings from our in-depth analysis:

### Vision Coverage

- 80% of respondents were satisfied or somewhat satisfied.
- 80% desire better frames and lens coverage.
- 25% prefer eye exams once per year, not every two years.
- Comments emphasized the need for yearly frame/lens replacement and exams.

### Hearing Coverage

- 38% of respondents don't use this benefit.
- 70% of the remaining respondents were satisfied or somewhat satisfied.
- 47% want more device choices.
- 46% seek an increase in provider options.

### Dental Coverage

- 80% of respondents were satisfied or somewhat satisfied.
- 55% want a higher yearly coverage cap.
- 51% desire increased coverage for bridges, implants, and dentures.
- Some respondents reported issues with their preferred dentist no longer working with Delta Dental.

## CLARE COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES CONGREGATE DINING CENTERS

The Clare County Senior Services Department operates senior dining centers throughout the county. Our centers provide seniors with fun, food, friendship and an opportunity to remain connected to the greater community. The program provides nutritious meals to persons 60 years and older. Each meal provides one-third of the daily recommended allowance. Reservations are requested.

### Dining Center Locations

#### Lake George:

#### Lincoln Township Hall

175 Lake George

989.588.9841

Manager: Deb Trim

#### Hours:

Monday-Friday: 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

#### Harrison:

#### Harrison Palace Senior Center

212 Broad Street

989.539.6515

Manager: Cheryl Myers

#### Hours:

Monday-Friday: 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

### Congregate Program

The two dining centers provide a hot meal five days a week, dining in or pick up / take out. Please make a reservation at least one day in advance.