



Employees' Retirement System Communicator

August, 2009

No. 7

Contact Information

Employees' Retirement System

Please contact the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) Division at 414-278-4207 in Milwaukee or toll-free at 877-652-6377 outside of Milwaukee for all Pension questions, including Retirement calculations.

Life Insurance & Health Benefits

Please contact the Life & Health Division with Life and Health Benefits related questions at: 414-278-4198.

Newly Retired

Ophelia Carter
Frank Crisafi
Joseph Dorbilek
Edward Estherchild
Varetta Harris
Renita Hoover
Lottie Hudson
Premella Jackson
Thomas Kriefall
Stephen Misovy
Nancy Olson
Henry Plum
Larry Ricks
Charles Schell
Susan Seidel
Renee Skiba
Paul Solie
Georgine Sullivan
Robert Wall
Willie Wilks

Employees'
Retirement
System

Welcome to the August edition of the *ERS Communicator*. This month we'd like to share some important "housekeeping" information. We'd also like to remind you that updated tax tables have been loaded, and we encourage you to review your current income tax withholding. You can contact ERS for a new tax withholding form.

Direct Deposit — Currently, 96% of retirees participate in the Direct Deposit program. This is a cost effective, safer method for pension payments to you. Lost or stolen checks can be a time consuming process and can delay reissuance for up to three weeks. Participating in the Direct Deposit program also saves paper and supports Milwaukee County's commitment to "go green."

Pension Check Amounts — Please contact ERS immediately if your pension check amount is incorrect. Over or under issued payments require immediate correction. Remember, full repayment of an overpaid pension check, regardless of how the error occurred, is mandated by County Ordinance.."

Changing Bank Accounts — Thinking about changing banks? If you are currently using Direct Deposit to receive your pension payments, ERS recommends that you leave both bank accounts open until

your pension check has successfully been redirected to the new bank account. This will eliminate a gap in your Direct Deposit payments.

Death Notifications — In order to quickly process beneficiary pension benefits, it is essential that ERS be notified immediately of the death of a retiree. ERS will prepare and send a packet of forms to the beneficiary on record. In order for ERS to process ongoing benefits (if any) and life insurance claims in a timely manner, it is important that the forms be completed and returned along with any required documentation as quickly as possible. In addition, please remember to notify ERS of all named beneficiary deaths so we can keep your records up-to-date.

Address/Phone Number Changes — It is critical that we have your current address and phone number. Please send any changes to your address or phone number to ERS in writing.

Get More from Your Health Benefits with myuhc.com

Now, more than ever, consumers are being asked to take on more responsibility and actively manage their health care costs. UnitedHealthCare's website, myuhc.com contains a wealth of information that can help you make more informed health care decisions. It's easy to register!

- 1 Visit www.myuhc.com
- 2 Select "Register Now"
- 3 Type in the requested information
- 4 Get started!

Find a Doctor — Search for a doctor or hospital in your area; See which doctors meet stringent quality standards; Evaluate hospitals on cost, quality and patient safety; Get driving directions and print a map.

Get the Facts — Learn more about your coverage; Check your current eligibility; Look up your deductible or out-of-pocket limits.

Improve Your Health — Take a free online Health Assessment, with recommendations for change; Read the most up-to-date, trustworthy healthy lifestyle advice; Use tools, quizzes and calculators on everything from aging well to world travel.

Get Help with Decisions — Learn more about health conditions or procedures; Connect with a nurse through live, one-to-one online Nurse Chats; Read up on common symptoms and what they might mean

Organize Your Claims — See the status of your current claims; Check past claims history; View your monthly statements; Print copies for your records.

In Memoriam

Please keep these recently deceased individuals in your thoughts:

Nicholas Arvan
Mary Campbell
Martha Cone
Marcy Corby
Mary DeBattista (Donald)
Elizabeth Duchelle
Virginia Granados
Paralee Hood
Connie Kowalkowski
Stephen Kuzmic
Mildred LaGrone
Eleanore Linski (Leonard)
Gertrude Marquardt
Alice Minerath (Raymond)
Eugene Murawski
Katherine Pounds
Elizabeth Powalisz
Stephanie Przybyszewski
Stu Stawicki
Bernard Yonke (Nancy)