



Employees' Retirement System Communicator

March, 2010

No. 3

Contact Information

Employees' Retirement System

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

Life & Health Benefits

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

Newly Retired

Pauline Brand
Craig Dansby
Leroy Fields
Marie Golanowski
Jeffrey Goulee
Dana Gutzke
Henry Herron
Vivian Hoskins
Louise Huck
Katherine James
Judy Kuehmichel
Ann Oldenburg
Allen Prentice
Linda Sellers

In Memoriam

Please keep these recently deceased individuals in your thoughts:

Virginia Bayer
Edward Bonis
Doris Brown
Ealie Chadwick
Joseph D'Alessio
Bernard Emer (Mary)
Mary Finke
Eleanor Gregory
Gertrude Johnson
Elmer Kindsfater
Donald Malak
Lula Patton
George Senft
Armandie Simpson
Earl Turley
Priccilla Walter

A Message from the ERS Manager

Retirement should be one of the most enjoyable periods of your life. Financial stability is the foundation that allows a retiree to coordinate the other meaningful activities, like exercising, hobbies and traveling. Not everyone who retires from the County receives a large pension. Many former employees struggle to make ends meet especially in today's difficult economy. To that end, it is important to be aware of the numerous resources available in Milwaukee County.

IMPORTANT FINANCIAL INFORMATION

- Two thirds (67%) of people receiving Social Security pensions do not have to pay income tax on their payments.
- You can work and receive Social Security. Receiving a full Social Security payment allows you to earn unlimited income, with no impact on your payment.
- Many states exempt pensions from taxes and have no Social Security, property, income or sales taxes.
- Many retirees are eligible for some level of Federal and State Veterans benefits but have no knowledge of their entitlement. Veterans benefits can include mortgage loans, educational subsidies, disability payments and funeral expenses.

Our Milwaukee County Department on Aging publishes an excellent resource guide entitled "It's Your Choice". This free guide offers information on care management, food services, home repair, health care and other senior citizen services in our community that are available at little or no cost. To obtain a copy, contact the Department on Aging at 414-289-6874.

Other important telephone numbers:

- **Social Security Administration:** 1-800-772-1213
- **Veterans Administration:** 1-414-382-1753
- **Milwaukee County ERS:** 1-414-278-4207 or 1-877-652-6377
- **Milwaukee County Benefits:** 1-414-278-4198

V-3 Update – Member Self-Service

ERS is pleased to see that Retirees are using the newly released V-3 Member Self Service module. The frequently asked questions below will provide tips related to logging in to the system, passwords and uses.

What do I do if I forget my password?

Click on the "Forgot Password" link on the login screen, and the steps to recover your password will be emailed to you.

How do I change my password?

Click on the "Account Settings" link in the upper-right hand side of the login screen. You can also click on the "View/update Your Password and Other Account Settings" link in the lower left of the screen. Follow the instructions to change your password.

If I do not use Self Service will my benefits be affected?

No. Self Service is completely voluntary.

Can I submit forms and documents on line?

Forms and documents **cannot** be submitted at this time. However, you can download or print the forms and documents, sign them (required) and then mail them to the ERS office at 901 N 9th Street, Room 210-C, Milwaukee, WI 53233.

If you have questions about V-3 or Self Service, please Contact Annette Olson (email: annette.olson@milwcnty.com / phone: 414-278-4208).

