

Wayne County Employees' Retirement System

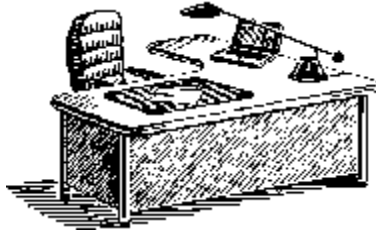
Volume 26, Issue 2

June 2010

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Messenger

From the desk of the Director



Well, the Red Wings are out of the playoff picture (but so too are the Washington Senators and more importantly the Pittsburgh Penguins). The Tigers appear to be playing well and hopefully will make the playoffs this year. The Lions on paper look great but, well the Lions are the Lions!

They say that all good things must come to an end and as such this will be my last article for the Messenger. I retired effective June 1, 2010 as well as Richard Noelke my Deputy Director and Kimberly Lawton my Secretary. The Board has offered both Rich and Kim a personal service contract for up to 1 year to help with the transition process. Robert Grden, the Deputy County Treasurer and a current Board member, was appointed the new Director effective October 1, 2010 but a new Deputy Director has not been selected as of the date of the writing of this article.

I have had a long career with the County and an opportunity became available that I decided to take advantage of. Although this is a rather sudden departure and I didn't plan on retiring just yet, I decided I needed to take advantage of the opportunity that opened up to me. I will be working for a vender, marketing an investment that I think will make an excellent investment for most retirement plans. Since I will be bringing this investment to Wayne County for possible future investment, I will not be running for the Retirement Board as a Retiree Trustee as that would be a conflict of interest. However, keep your eyes open in future elections as I may throw my hat in the ring at some future date!

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

I, John W. Hubert, Retirement board trustee will not seek re-election as trustee. My term ending as trustee is December 31, 2010. The purpose of this notice is to allow time for any retiree interested in the trustee position to start the process.

Best Wishes to All,

John W. Hubert

Correction—Check Dates

The check dates in the March 2010 Messenger were in error; please refer to the correct information on page 2. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.



Office Directory**General Information**

Main (313) 224-5890

Toll Free (888) 600-6033

Fax Number (313) 224-1917

Email: webmaster@wcers.org

Payroll

Lost Check (313) 224-2774

Direct Deposit (313) 224-2354

Taxes (313) 224-2354

Garnishments (313) 224-2354

Insurance

Health (313) 224-7721

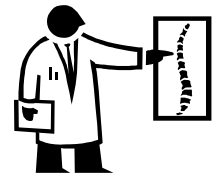
Dental (313) 224-7721

Vision (313) 224-7721

Life Insurance (313) 224-5572

**Check Dates****The following are the dates of your retirement checks for the 2010 year:***January Check 01/04/2010**February Check 02/01/2010**March Check 03/01/2010**April Check 04/01/2010**May Check 04/30/2010**June Check 06/01/2010**July Check 07/01/2010**August Check 07/30/2010**September Check 09/01/2010**October Check 09/30/2010**November Check 11/01/2010**December Check 12/01/2010***ANNOUNCEMENT - Open Enrollment**

2010 Healthcare Open Enrollment Period will be held during the month of August, with changes effective October 1st. Watch the mail for your open enrollment guide during the last week of July. Call Wayne County Benefits Administration at 877-220-7721 for more information.

**Messenger Submissions**

Got the inside scoop on some information to share with other retirees? Send it in. We'll put it in the Messenger!



Questions ??? - Here's the answer!

Q. How does Medicare coordinate with my Wayne County retiree health insurance plan?

A. *In general, Medicare is primary to a retiree group health plan unless you are covered under another group health insurance plan for active employees (for example, your spouse is still actively working and you are covered under his/her policy); in that case the active policy is primary, Medicare is secondary and the County policy would be tertiary.*

Q. How long does it take to process my optical reimbursement?

A. *Processing takes approximately 30 days.*

Q. What services are covered under my health insurance plan?

A. *Please contact your insurance carrier for specific service inquiries. The phone number is on the back of your insurance card.*

Q. Why am I paying more than my co-pay for prescriptions?

A. *Because there is a mandatory generic prescription requirement, you will pay the difference between generic and brand name if the doctor prescribes a brand name drug in addition to your regular co-pay.*

Q. What type of dental plans does Wayne County offer to retirees?

A. *Wayne County offers four dental plans which are DMO plans (Dental Maintenance Organizations - must go to dentists in the network). Golden Dental, DenCap Dental, Delta Care USA and Midwestern Dental Plan. Please contact 1-877-220-7721 for more information.*

Q. How do I change my federal tax withholdings?

A. *You can submit a written request (with your signature), contact our office at 224-2354 to request a W-4P tax form or visit our website at www.wcers.org.*

Q. I want my pension payments direct deposited into my bank. What do I do?

A. *You can obtain a direct deposit application by calling our office at 224-5890 or online at www.wcers.org.*

Q. Today is the 5th, I have not received my pension check. What do I do?

A. *Call the office at 224-2774 on or after the 10th of the month to request a lost check affidavit. Our office will then request a replacement check.*

Q. I've moved. How do I notify you of my new home address?

A. *You must send a written request to change your home address. You can obtain a Change of Address form by contacting our office or downloading it the form from www.wcers.org, **all requests must be signed by the retiree.***

Q. How do I change or check on my listed beneficiaries?

A. *Contact Ms. Thompson at 313-224-5572.*

Wayne County Road Employees' Association

The Wayne County Road Employees Association is having their annual Retirement Banquet:

DATE: Wednesday, October 6, 2010

6:30 PM

PLACE: Crystal Gardens

16703 Fort St.

Southgate, MI 48195

COST: \$26.00

Contact: Sandy Bose - 734-414-9716

Mike Krywy - 586-431-1005

Jean Like - 586-268-4954

Margaret Zimmerman - 734-955-2363 (CMY)

WAYNE COUNTY SENIOR FUNFEST 2010

Where: WARRENDALE PICNIC SITE IN HINES PARK

When: Saturday, June 26, 2010

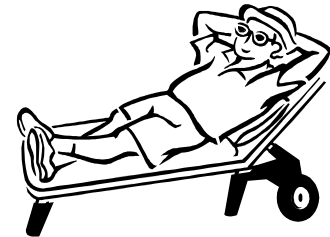
Rain or Shine

Age 60 and over only

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Lunch will be served at 11:30 AM

Bingo



Wheel of Fortune

Information Tent

Health Screening

Warren Avenue between Telegraph and Ann Arbor Trial

For Tickets and additional information contact

Wayne County Senior Citizen Services at:

(313) 224-0860 for North and Eastern Wayne County, that is Detroit, Hamtramck, Highland Park, the Grosse Points and Harper Woods. Please Call (734) 727-7357 for all other areas of the County

Obituaries

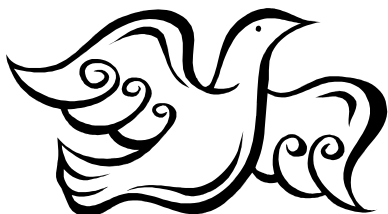
Addie Goodman	Sheriff's Dept	1/22/2010
Albert Kassir	WCGH	4/1/2010
Albert Sayre spouse of Vivian Sayre	Jobs & Econ. Dev.	4/6/2010
Alice Mason spouse of Ray B Mason	Sheriff's Dept	1/9/2010
Allan Lake	DPS	2/14/2010
Amelia Buysse spouse of Roger Buysse	Deferred/Social Welfare	2/19/2010
Anna Baynes	Deferred	3/17/2010
Anna L White spouse of Thomas White	DPS	1/15/2010
Anna Sanson	Auditors	4/10/2010
Anthony Shannon	Sheriff's Dept	3/17/2010
Antje Wolfe	Commission	11/21/2009
Art Rolaff	Roads	1/24/2010
Arthur Tousignant	Roads	2/2/2010
Artis Glover	Roads	5/4/2010
Arviel Blackburn	DPW	4/12/2010
Beatrice Shank	Roads	1/19/2010
Benjamin Pumo	Library	4/10/2010
Bernard C Kennedy	Buildings	3/11/2010
Bernard Keiffer	Roads	2/17/2010
Betty J Burkhart	OPS/Buildings	3/14/2010
Candies Dover	OPS	4/15/2010
Catherine Fornwald	Deferred (CDC)	12/16/2009
Claudia Broadnax	WCGH	1/27/2010
Cynthia Martin	Terminated	3/1/2010
Doris Zelinski spouse of Richard Zelinski	Roads	2/6/2010
Dorothy Glore	WCGH	4/16/2010
Dorothy Harmon	Auditors/Bldgs	10/15/2009
Dorothy Knudsen	WCGH	3/10/2010
Dorothy O'Day	Probate Court/Juvenile court	1/11/2010
Edith Melchert	WCGH	2/21/2010
Edmund Kordas spouse of Victoria Kordas	Roads	12/16/2009
Edward Adamczyk	DPS	2/14/2010
Edward Elliott	DPS	3/18/2010
Edward Sokolowski	DPW	1/20/2010
Elisa Davis	WCGH	3/24/2010
Ellen Witcher spouse of Len Witcher	Management & Budget	3/5/2010
Elsie Stocker	Auditors/Bldgs	3/10/2010
Estelle Rosenberg	Prosecuting Attorney's Office	1/10/2010
Ethereda Lee	Circuit Court	1/14/2010
Evelyn MacDonell	WCGH	1/24/2010
Gaylord Bowerman	Roads	1/26/2010

Obituaries

George Raymond spouse of Nora Raymond	WCGH	2/19/2010
Geraldynne McKinney	Common Pleas Court	4/21/2010
Gladys Walker	Health Dept/Air Pollution	1/15/2010
Harold DeVoll	Sheriff's Dept	1/12/2010
Harriett Downs	Library	3/17/2010
Helen Micol	Roads	3/22/2010
Helen Murphy	OPS/Roads	1/30/2010
Horace Gilmore	WC Circuit Court	1/25/2010
Jack Tyrrell	DPS	1/31/2010
Jacquelyn Gay	WCGH	4/2/2010
James Jones	Sheriff/Probate Court	2/26/2010
James Tencza	WCGH	3/12/2010
Janet Jackson spouse of Robert Jackson	DPS/Roads	1/24/2010
Jessie Thomas	Auditors-Youth Home	5/1/2010
John Fowler	Buildings	3/27/2010
Johnnie Reed	State Transfer	1/23/2010
Joseph Genier	Buildings	1/29/2010
Julia Greene	Treasurers	4/3/2010
Julius Cooper spouse of Jennifer Cooper	Sheriff's Dept	1/8/2010
Luella Pepper	WCGH	2/19/2010
Marjorie Hoag	Library	3/24/2010
Marjorie Pope	County Clerk	1/21/2010
Mary Goff	WCGH	1/29/2010
Mary Modrzejewski	Board of Commissioners	4/25/2010
Mildred Fluhart	WCGH-Deferred	3/20/2010
Muriel Bell	WCGH	2/27/2010
Patricia Allgeyer spouse of John Allgeyer	DPS / Roads	2/26/2010
Patricia LeFevre	Social Investigator	1/10/2010
Paul Lesner	Plan 1	1/9/2010
Peter Cassey	Bureau of Taxation	4/7/2010
Phyllis Rowe	Roads	4/8/2010
Raymond Kosick	Roads	1/15/2010
Raymond Robidou	Airport	5/2/2010
Robbie Clayton	WC Juvenile Court	1/30/2010
Robert Bacon	Deferred	1/17/2010
Robert Beard	HCS	3/28/2010
Robert Eston	Bailiff/36 th District Court	3/7/2010
Robert Pello	Sheriff's Dept	4/18/2010
Steve Warady spouse of Margaret Sawyer-Warady	Health Dept	3/29/2009
Steven Turak	Library	3/27/2010

Obituaries

Verna Gross	Recorders Court / Probation	2/24/2010
Virginia Ringelberg	Juvenile Court	2/4/2010
Walter Preston	Roads	3/8/2010
Walter Richards	WCGH	3/26/2010
William C Kuckenbrod	Deferred	4/11/2010
William Yager	Airport/Roads	2/13/2010
Wilma Zeleznik	Friend of the Court	3/30/2010



I am ready to meet my Maker. Whether my Maker is prepared for the ordeal of meeting me is another matter.

- Winston Churchill



Life Changes

Please contact our office of any life changes you may experience, changes like marriage, divorce, death, birth/adoption, relocation of residence, etc. Any one of these changes may have an impact on your benefits

Going Green

With so many retirees choosing to have their direct deposit statements sent to them through email, it has really generated a significant cost savings. We have 1,293 retirees who currently have their statements emailed to them which is saving the County \$568.92 per month in postage alone, not to mention paper, envelopes, and labor.

If you have direct deposit and a statement is mailed to your home please consider having the information emailed directly to you. Just complete the form below and return it to our office.



Email Authorization Form

I _____, authorize Wayne County Employees Retirement System to send my monthly direct deposit statement to me via this email address

_____ @ _____.

I understand that I will not receive a statement through the US mail. I can cancel this request anytime

Retirement Number: _____

New Retirees

Last Name	First Name	Effective Date	Department
Anderson	Richard	3/1/2010	WCS/Jail
Banaszak	James	4/1/2010	HHS
Brewster	Winston	4/1/2010	Cir. Ct.
Bruetsch	Anne	3/1/2010	HHS/Headstart
Butler	Venessa	3/1/2010	DPS/Rds
Coleman	Willie	2/1/2010	Pros. Atty
Fennessey	John	2/1/2010	Pros. Atty
Flannery	Patrick	4/1/2010	Sheriff
Johnson	Dennis	2/1/2010	DPS/Rds
Johnson	William	4/1/2010	WCC/Dept of Admin
Mccullough	Lillie	4/1/2010	CFS/JDF
Newkirk	Alfonso	3/1/2010	36th Dist Ct. Bailiff
Osterlund	Carolyn	4/1/2010	Deferred
Rieman	Lisa	3/1/2010	HHS/Library
Roach	Robert	2/1/2010	DPS/Rds
Russ	Theresa	5/1/2010	Retirement
Tucker	Rodney	3/1/2010	CFS/JDF
Vincent	Thomas	2/1/2010	Deferred
Wilson	Deborah	2/1/2010	Cir. Ct.

Anniversaries



50th Wedding Anniversary

Jim & Dollie Boggs

October 22, 2010

50th Wedding Anniversary

Harold & Adele Laesch

September 10, 2010



62nd Wedding Anniversary

Robert & Thelma Poet

April 3, 2010



62nd Wedding Anniversary

Jack & Helen Shepherd

June 26, 2010

Jack retired in 1980 from the Forestry Dept. with 32 years of County service

30th Wedding Anniversary

Bob & Marilyn Sheldon

May 3, 2010

"The guys we worked with at the sheriffs dept. were skeptical that we would make it, so I want to show them we've had 30 wonderful years"

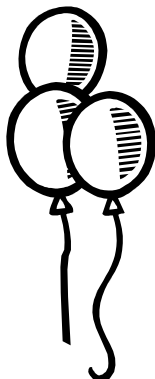
Thank You, Marilyn Sheldon

Birthdays

Happy 89th birthday

Adele Laesch

Juvenile Court



Happy 99th birthday

Anthony Pitrone

Anthony was employed with Wayne County and worked at Eloise from 1945 to his retirement in 1975. He knew those grounds like the back of his hand and still tells stories of his time working there. Still going strong at 99, he looks forward to the news every quarter in The Messenger.

~Joyce Pitrone Hawkins

Happy 87th birthday

Harold R. Laesch

Sheriffs Dept.



Happy 71st birthday

Jim Boggs

Forestry

Happy 91st birthday

Robert Poet

Roads



Wayne County Employees' Retirees Club

The officers and the members of the Wayne County Employees Retirees Club invite Wayne County Retirees, who are not yet members, to join them.

Meetings are held the third Thursday of the month, at 1:30 pm, at the Kay Beard Bldg. (Eloise) in Westland, MI., during the months of January, February, March, April, May, September, October and December. The June and November meetings are luncheons held at a restaurant. There are no meetings held in July and August.

The Retiree Club is dedicated to improving and protecting benefits for Retirees of Wayne County. If you no longer live in the Wayne County area or cannot attend meetings, the periodic newsletters will keep you informed.

For information regarding membership, send your name and address to:

John Hubert, Membership Chairman
Wayne County Employees Retirees Club
P.O. Box 851237
Westland, MI 48185-6337
(734) 455-5317

From the desk of the Director

I have really enjoyed working for the County and especially the Retirement System Board of Trustees. I hope that I have provided good service to both the active employees and especially the retirees over my time in the Retirement Office. I hope that during my tenure you have had confidence that the Plan was in good hands and run efficiently and with the utmost in integrity. I hope that there will be a smooth transition and continued support and confidence in the new administration. I will probably see many of you at upcoming retiree meetings as I plan on joining the Retirees Club.

There will also be a change to the Board of Trustees as Edward Boike, Chairman of the Wayne County Commission, will be retiring and a new Chairperson will be elected and will sit on the Board effective January 1, 2011. Also, John Hubert has decided not to run for re-election so his Retiree Trustee seat will become vacant and must be filled in the upcoming election. Finally, with Rob Grden being named the new Director, his Active Trustee seat will become vacant and it will also have to be filled in the upcoming election. The Primary election will be held in November and if necessary, the General election will be held in December. The actual dates have not been set but nominating petitions will be available sometime in mid August and will have to be returned in mid September to be eligible to run for the position of Retiree Trustee. Hopefully, we will get well qualified and dedicated trustees to fill these vacant positions.

Times are tough in the County and the State and funding sources have been significantly reduced (property taxes, sales taxes, Federal revenue sharing etc.). The stock markets have rebounded somewhat (although not back to where we were in early 2008), and our retirement fund is still under funded due to recent collectively bargained retirement benefits for most active employees that produced a large unfunded accrued liability. The County is making its required payments to fund this liability, but it is being amortized over a twenty year period pursuant to the Board's current funding policy. Again, the Retirement System is a long term investment plan and will experience both periods of under funding and over funding as time goes on. Your County pension payments are safe and there is no cause for alarm at this time. I am only making these statements so that you have an understanding of the current funding status of the Plan. The State Constitution guarantees that your pension benefits once earned cannot be reduced and as I stated, the County is making its required contributions to the Plan on a quarterly basis and they are current.

The lawsuits regarding the Supplemental Life Insurance, Retiree Prescription Drug Co-pays and a second Prescription Drug Co-pay that went into effect on October 1, 2010 are still proceeding through the appeals process and arbitration process and to my knowledge there is no new information to provide at this time. I understand that there is a new complaint regarding the ability of new disability retirees to get health insurance upon retirement. This does not affect current disability retirees but will affect new disability retirees when they retire with a disability retirement if the County's position is upheld. I believe that a lawsuit was filed by the Unions on that issue.

As you know we have been closed to the public on Fridays due to the rolling layoffs implemented by the County and I understand that the County is now changing to three week long layoffs of AFSCME employees beginning May 28, 2010 through June 4, 2010; July 2, 2010 through July 9, 2010 and September 3, 2010 through September 10, 2010. Due to the limited staff available to handle retiree issues, the Office may close down to the public during those time periods but an official decision will have to be made on that matter at a later date. If you plan on coming down to the office during those time periods make sure you call beforehand to make sure someone will be available to assist you.

(continued on page 11)

From the desk of the Director

Just a reminder that the Retirement Office no longer handles any issues with retiree health care matters. These matters are all handled by the Department of Personnel Benefits Administration Division. Their telephone number is (313) 224-7721 and their e-mail address is benefits@co.wayne.mi.us. Also, effective June 1, 2010 all active and retiree life insurance matters will be handled by the Benefits Administration Division. You should only contact the Retirement Office for matters pertaining to your actual monthly benefit payment, change of address, tax withholding etc. Any matters that deal with health care, life insurance, supplemental dental coverage, COBRA benefits etc should be directed to the Personnel Department at the above listed numbers.

Also, remember that if you have any changes in your life that you should make sure you notify the Retirement Office in writing so that our records will be current. That includes a marriage, divorce, birth or adoption of a child, death of a child or spouse who may be covered by your pension, a change of address, a request for a change of beneficiary etc. We did recently send out a verification of information form and for those of you that received it would request that you assist us by filling it out and returning to our office.

Now a thought provoking comment on how to improve Human Relations:

The most important six words: I admit I made a mistake

The most important five words: I am proud of you

The most important four words: What is your opinion

The most important three words: If you please

The most important two words: Thank you

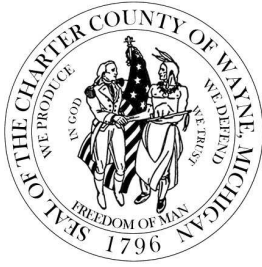
The most important word: WE

And the Least important word: I

Just food for thought but probably fits right in there with the Golden Rule! As my last thought for the Messenger, someone once told me "If you give a man a dollar, at the end of the day all you've really done is given him some money that you will probably make up with your next check but if you give someone some of your time, you have given him a part of your life which you will never be able to recover again." So I would like to thank everyone who has given me your time and shared a part of your life with me. It is a gift that I will cherish forever and which has formed many of my fond memories! As the old song goes, Thanks for the memories!!

Ronald Yee

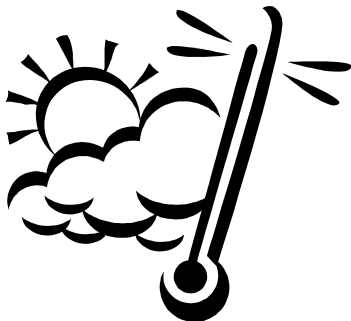
Director



WAYNE COUNTY EMPLOYEES'
RETIREMENT SYSTEM
28 WEST ADAMS
SUITE 1900
DETROIT, MI 48226

FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
DETROIT, MI
PERMIT NO. 1024

Summer



~ A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken. ~

James Dent