



## April 2018 Retiree Newsletter

### Employees' Retirement System Of The City of Milwaukee

789 North Water Street, Suite 300, Milwaukee, WI 53202

(414) 286-3557 or (800) 815-8418

Visit Our Website: [www.cmers.com](http://www.cmers.com)

Questions or comments: e-mail [norm@cmers.com](mailto:norm@cmers.com)

### **Reminder**

ERS does not take the following changes over the phone: **address, banking information, beneficiary changes or tax withholding elections.** This policy is to protect our retirees from fraud and/or identity theft.

If you need to make any changes, you can visit [www.cmers.com](http://www.cmers.com), click on the green "Forms" button, and then click on the form you want to print. Once you have completed the form, send it to the ERS address listed at the top of the form. If you do not have online access, please call our office and ask that the form you need be sent to you.

**The post office will not forward your pension check or direct deposit notification to a new address, even if you have completed a change of address form with the post office.** You must notify ERS of any permanent or temporary address changes. If ERS does not have your correct address, the post office will return your check or direct deposit notification to our office. Also, if you are having your mail temporarily held at the post office, your check or direct deposit notification will be returned to our office.

### **Tax Withholding**

If you have completed your tax filing for 2017 and discovered that you owe too much or are getting a refund that is bigger than it needs to be, you may want to adjust the amount being withheld from your pension payment. Withholding forms may be obtained by calling our office or by visiting the ERS website [www.cmers.com](http://www.cmers.com). On the website, click on the green "Forms" button, and then click on the form you want to print. Go to the second page, print the withholding form, complete, and send to the address listed on the top of the first page. If you are unsure how much you should have withheld, please consult a tax professional. The ERS staff are not allowed to give tax advice.

### **2017 Tax Filing**

If you need a replacement 1099-R tax statement for 2017 (or any earlier year), please contact the ERS office. Since it is after April 17, 2018, there is a \$15.00 processing fee for each reissued 1099-R tax statement. You will need to submit a check payable to the Employees' Retirement System and a note with your name, mailing address, social security number or payee ID number, and the year(s) for which you will need a replacement.

### **Information for Retirees with Medicare**

CMS, the authority that manages Medicare, will be issuing replacement Medicare cards starting this month, and is anticipating the replacement of all cards over the next 12 months. This new card will replace the existing Medicare cards you have, and will include a new identity number called the Medicare Beneficiary Identifier (MBI). The MBI will replace the HICN that is currently used (that looks a lot like your social security number). More information about this can be found on CMS's website at [www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare.html](http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare.html). Your benefits will not be impacted with this change.

#### *In Memoriam*

#### *ERS Retirees who have recently died:*

Cleo Alexander-DPW-Sanitation  
Donald Baral-MMSD  
Phylis Barker-MPD  
Nora Bilansky-MPS  
Anthony Bova-MPD  
Joseph Brown-MPD  
James Brzezowski-MFD  
Gordon Dejewski-Municipal Equipment  
Irene Dillig-MPS  
Joseph Fretschel-MPD  
Bernesteen Gee-MPS  
Stephanie Harrell-MPS  
Robert Hillman-Comptroller  
John Hrin-MPD  
Donald Huber-MPS  
George Jacobs-Municipal Equipment  
Cyrus Johannes-MPS  
James Konczal-Port of Milwaukee  
Geraldine Koperski-MPS  
Albert Lue-Hing-MMSD  
Esther Luna Lopez-MPS  
Ronald Lunford-MPS  
Lillian Monigal-Library  
John O'Leary-MFD  
Jerome Pelczynski-MPD  
Maria Perez-MPS  
Vel Phillips-Common Council  
Richard Pope-DPW-Sewer  
Jeanne Rabe-MPS  
Mariena Rice-MPS  
Michael Rostankowski-DPW-Infrastructure  
Lawrence Smart Jr.-Building Inspection  
James Sokolowski-MFD  
William Steirer-Traffic Engineering &  
Electrical Services  
Richard Tarczynski-MPD  
William Tillman-Municipal Equipment  
Theresa Tracy-MPS  
Mavis Trester-MPS  
Paul Udvare-MPD  
Connie West-City Development  
Burton Wood-MPS  
Michael Word-Neighborhood Services

## Phone Tree Changes

In order to serve you better, we are updating our phone system. When it is released, you will hear our new menu options that will allow you to be directly connected to the staff person you need. When you call, please listen carefully to these new options.

### Recently Retired ERS Members



Collette Adolfsen- Neighborhood Services  
Eileen Asbell- MPS\*  
Bevan Baker- Health\*  
Eddie Boatman- MFD  
Joanna Bohdziewicz-Borowiec-  
Administration\*  
Sean Burke- MPD  
Miranda Case- MPD\*  
Barbara Coyle- Health\*  
Denise Crumble- Health  
Robert Devlin- MPS  
Diane Dolkiewicz- MPS  
Leroy Eschendal- DPW-Operations  
Mary Eul- MPS  
Edward Flynn- MPD  
Julie Gaszak- MPD  
Patrick Gatton- MFD  
Anthony Guehlstorf- MFD  
Lisa Joplin- MPD  
Mary Kapelis- Health\*  
John Karlovich- MPD  
Linda Kartye- MPS  
Elaine Kosmitis- City Development\*  
Elsie Laurila- MPS\*  
Tien Le- MPS  
Kevin Lester- MPS  
Gregory Llanas- MPD  
Barbara Mack- MPS  
Winona Marshall- Administration\*  
Vincent Moton- DPW-Operations\*  
Stuart Mukamal- City Attorney  
Andrew Pulizos- DPW-Infrastructure  
Anthony Randazzo- MPD  
James Richter- DPW-Infrastructure  
Susan Schaller Zak- MPS  
Russell Staerke- Wisconsin Center  
Mary Stevenson- Neighborhood Services  
Thomas Stigler- MPD  
Marie Stone- MPD  
Laura Sutherland- Employee Relations  
John Theis- MPD\*  
Thomas Thelen- MPD  
Charles Wilson- DPW-Operations

\*Deferred

## Scam Alert

Please be aware of scam artists attempting to get information and money from you. Using various tidbits of information, these people may attempt to impersonate the ERS, or other organizations you do business with, with the goal of eventually getting more information or even money from you. If you don't know the caller, or understand the reasons for the call, please don't provide any information. The ERS will not call you and ask you for information without first clarifying why the information is needed. **If you are uncomfortable sharing information immediately, get the staff member's name, and call the ERS back at 414-286-3557 or 800-815-8418 (ERS's main number) and ask to speak with that staff member – that way you will know that the person is reachable at the ERS office. PLEASE NOTE THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL THE ERS EVER ASK YOU TO PAY MONEY IN THE FORM OF GIFT CARDS, PRE-PAID CREDIT CARDS, ETC.**

*"If we all did the things we are capable of, we would astound ourselves." — Thomas Edison*

### **A message from the Milwaukee Police Department... POLICE SERVICES POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

The Police Service **Specialist Investigator positions** are civilian positions for law enforcement personnel that have **retired or resigned from the Department or another law enforcement agency in good standing.**

The Police Service **Specialist positions** are civilian positions for law enforcement personnel that have **retired from the Milwaukee Police Department.**

- Applications will be accepted May 1 – May 31, 2018 and are good for one year. Applicants must reapply every subsequent year. Applications will be accepted again in November 2018.
- Members who already submitted a Police Services and/or Police Services Specialist Investigator application must reapply during this period.
- For further information regarding the enrollment period, please contact the MPD Human Resources Division at 935-7191.

## Stars and Stripes Honor Flight

If you are or know of a World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War or terminally ill veteran from any conflict, please contact Stars and Stripes Honor Flight at [www.starsandstripeshonorflight.org](http://www.starsandstripeshonorflight.org) or call 262-238-7740 to fly with other veterans to Washington DC to see your memorial. The dates this year are 4/14, 5/5, 6/2, 9/15, 10/13, and 11/3. FYI! As the WWII and Korean War vets have priority, at this time there is a 1 ½ year wait for Vietnam vets. So get your application in now.

## May 2018 Pension Payments

- Payments will be **mailed May 30<sup>th</sup>** and **payable May 31<sup>st</sup>**.
- Direct deposits will be posted to your account on **May 31<sup>st</sup>**.
- Processing affidavits for lost April checks will start May 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Deadline for address and account changes is noon on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### Other Dates of Note in May

- Cinco de Mayo – May 5<sup>th</sup>
- Mother's Day – May 13<sup>th</sup>
- Armed Forces Day – May 19<sup>th</sup>
- Memorial Day – May 28<sup>th</sup> – ERS OFFICE CLOSED



Thanks to all who have served our country.