



Retirement Plan Services Communicator

July 2015

No. 6

From the Desk of the Director

Dear Retirees,

You may have heard or read about a recent mistake made by our actuary while working on the annual actuarial report. I would like to assure you that this was not an error made in the calculation of retiree monthly benefits but in the projection of liabilities over the life of the plan.

Please contact ERS by email at ers@milwaukeecountywi.gov with questions or concerns. We monitor the site frequently throughout the day and respond as quickly as possible. We have both local (414-278-4207) and toll-free (877-652-6377) phone numbers.

Hope you all are enjoying the summer!

Marian Ninneman, Director

By *Vivian Aikin*

THE POWER OF ONE: RUTH HANA AND "CANS FOR CHARITIES"

If asked to name a person whose charitable giving has made a difference in the lives of others, you might immediately think of Warren Buffett, Bill Gates or Michael Bloomberg. But there is someone right in our midst who also fits the definition of philanthropist: Milwaukee County retiree Ruth Hana.

In 1985, while an employee of the Milwaukee County Department of Human Services, Ruth began collecting and redeeming aluminum cans and giving the proceeds to charity. After her retirement in 1995, she kept collecting. Her efforts have been truly remarkable and the numbers back it up.

Over the years, Ruth collected close to 400,000 cans all by herself. By enlisting the help of friends, neighbors, Marquette University students and her DHS co-workers to collect on her behalf she was able to amass a mind-boggling total of 1,092,165 cans!

Ruth turned those discarded cans into serious cash: \$85,194.61 to be exact. She was then able to give generously to a wide variety of charities important to her. Among them are Child

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Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

—*Maya Angelou*

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Welfare (\$28,263.65), American Red Cross (\$16,658.90), the Milwaukee County Department on Aging Senior Meal Program (\$12,000), and the Salvation Army (\$4,945.56). Ruth would often give in the name of someone else. After learning that the child of a co-worker had been diagnosed with cystic fibrosis, Ruth arranged for a \$1,300 donation to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in the child's name. For several years Ruth supported the Holiday Toy Chest project, a joint venture by Milwaukee County, Goodwill Industries and Channel 6 to provide Christmas gifts to abused and neglected children in foster care, with generous contributions.

Ruth's generosity has not gone unnoticed. The Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett have honored her. She is a charter inductee of the Milwaukee County Senior Citizen Hall of Fame. Both Channel 4 and Channel 6 and the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* have run feature stories about Ruth.

Earlier this year, Ruth made the difficult decision to stop collecting cans. With typical modesty, she decided, upon turning 85, that she "had to stop sometime". Through her efforts, Ruth proved that one person can indeed make a difference in the world. Thank you, Ruth, for showing the rest of us the power of one.

Congratulations to Our June Retirees!

*Kathleen Armstrong
Diane Beckley
Louis Cooper
Gary Drent
Dawn Jashinsky
Kevin Johnson
Susan Le Mere
Gary Loging
Kevin Madson
Michael Nepper
Gayle Roddick
Monserrate Rosado*

*Geneva Saeger
Steven Schmitt
Susan Schwegel
Gillian Simpson
Kathleen Stenzel
Cathy Stieff
Thomas Swokowski
Judith Taylor
Keith Thrower
Deborah Voith
Derrick Washington
H. Ann Weber*

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In Memoriam

Please keep the families of these recently deceased retirees in your thoughts:

William Braun
Charlotte Buchenthal
Beradine Chapman
Clara Derzay
Violet Fojut

Patrick Gallagher
Margaret Gasiorowski
Herbert Goetsch
Victoria Gregory
Glenn Guenther

Herbert Harris
John Hatzi
John Imp
Marcey Jaskulski
Josephine La Gesse

Jose Llanas
Tammie Palmer
June Schnyder
James Wilkerson

Market Value of Pension Fund Period Ending June 30, 2015

Total Fund Composite	\$1,756,461,765
Fixed Income Composite	\$331,697,522
US Equity Composite	\$440,832,096
International Equity Composite	\$338,026,565
Hedged Equity Composite	\$191,208,454
Real Estate Composite	\$190,186,260
Infrastructure Composite	\$147,429,811
Private Equity Composite	\$78,175,400
Total Cash Equivalents	\$38,905,657

2015 Check Disbursement Schedule

Friday, July 31	Friday, October 30
Monday, August 31	Monday, November 30
Wednesday, September 30	Thursday, December 31

CONTACT INFORMATION

Retirement Services

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877-652-6377

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Life & Health Benefits

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