

Genesee County Employees' Retirement System
1101 Beach Street, Flint, MI 48502 (810) 257-2626

Fall 2016 NEWSLETTER

Retirement Office News:

Tracy Khan
Retirement Services Administrator

Retiree health, life, dental and vision benefits are **not** administered by the Retirement Office. They are administered by the Human Resource Departments of your respective employers:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Jennifer Draheim	810-237-6120	General County
Payroll	810-257-3736	GHS (CMH)
Cherry Grant	810-767-4920	Roads
Shannon Holder	810-732-7870	Water/Waste
Jerilyn Klich	810-732-5570	District Library
Vickie Fishell	810-686-2160	Mt. Morris
Sherry Baker	810-606-6138	Gen. Memorial

CONGRATULATIONS, RETIREES!

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>EMPLOYER</u>
COOPER, DON	10/1/2015	PARKS
SUGDEN, MARTIN	10/12/2015	LIBRARY
MCCREEDY, KIMBERLY	10/31/2015	FOC
DUNKEL, JACQUELINE	11/4/2015	CONTROLLER
TROUTMAN, CARLTON	11/4/2015	GHS
BROOKS, PAUL	11/7/2015	SHERIFF
ROTH, JEFFREY	11/14/2015	MT MORRIS
RUSSELL, GINA	12/14/2015	CIRCUIT CT
BERKERY, LISA	12/28/2015	IT
BEST, MICHELLE	1/5/2016	HEALTH
COOLE, PAMELA	1/5/2016	TREASURER
DAVIS, HELEN	1/9/16	FOC
DUNN, THERESA	1/9/2016	CONTROLLER
TIPPEN, KAREN	1/9/2016	FOC
SHERMAN, GORDON	1/20/2016	GHS
ROEPER, CATHY	1/30/2016	HEALTH
TOCARCHICK, DEBRA	2/3/2016	CONTROLLER
BURTON, SYLVIA	2/12/2016	FOC
CONWAY, CALVIN	2/27/2016	GHS
MAUPIN, JERRY	2/27/2016	BUILDING
PERKINS-WERELEY, CINDY	3/9/2016	GHS
ANDERSON, LINDA	4/1/2016	FOC
BURNHAM, MARGARET	4/2/2016	CIRCUIT CT
SCHROEDER, RONALD	5/6/2016	W&W
CARR, LORETTA	5/7/2016	GHS
DEWITT, KENNAN	5/12/2016	PROSECUTOR
RENNER, ROY	5/21/2016	BUILDING
HAGLER, CAROL	6/1/2016	PROSECUTOR
OSMON, CINDY	6/1/2016	GHS
WRIGHT, GREGORY	6/11/2016	SHERIFF
KNAUER, ELIZABETH	6/16/2016	GHS
HARBURN, CHRISTY	7/1/2016	HEALTH
SUDBERRY, NEITA	7/2/2016	GHS
ANDERSON, PAULA	7/9/2016	GHS
BOULTON, JOSEPH	7/17/2016	SHREIFF
MCVITTIE, MARY	7/23/2016	GHS
SCHAFER, WILLIAM	7/29/2016	LIBRARY
CARTER, CYNTHIA	7/30/2016	SHERIFF
ARNDT, ANTHONY	8/8/2016	W&W
MELTON-PERRY, DIANE	8/13/2016	CIRCUIT CT
MONTGOMERY, PAMELA	8/18/2016	GCARD
COOK, TREVER	8/19/2016	SHERIFF
MARBLE, MARSHA	8/20/2016	GHS
BLACKWELL-HICKMON, BRENDA	8/27/2016	HEALTH

SNOW, JOHNATHON	9/1/2016	SHERIFF
BENNETT, JOHN	9/17/2016	ROADS
STROTHERS-GRAVES, SHERYL	9/26/2016	GHS

OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THOSE RETIREES AND BENEFICIARIES WHO HAVE PASSED SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER:

ABBOTT, HARRY	SHERIFF
ABBOTT, SHIRLEY	SHERIFF
ANDERSON, RUTH	GCCARD
AVRIN, GERALD	GHS
BACON, NORMAN	PROSECUTORS
BAKER, ELLEN	ROADS
BATROW, SYDNEY	GHS
BELL, CATHY	FOC
BENAWAY, IRENE	ROADS
BILL, PATRICIA	W&W
BRAMLET, KEVIN	SHERIFF
CARAS, JOAN	EQUALIZATION
CARSO, JACK	PROBATE CT
CHERRY, MARGARET	ANIMAL CONTROL
CONEY, CLOTEAL	TREASURER
DANIEL, EVA	HEALTH
DAVIS, FLORENCE	SHERIFF
DAY, CAROL	LIBRARY
DEMOCK, EDITH	SHERIFF
DIEBOLD, EDWARD	ROADS
EARLEY, PHYLLIS	SHERIFF
ECKERT, ERNEST	SHERIFF
ERVIN, ELSIE	LIBRARY
EVANS, WILLIAM	DISTRICT COURT
FLOYD, DONALD	SHERIFF
HALL, DONA	COOP EXT
HAMILTON, BRENDA	ROADS
HOFFMAN, JOHN	W&W
HOLLINGSHEAD, LARRY	ROADS
KERWIN, THOMAS	GHS
KING, LETTA	ROADS
MALLORY, WILLIAM	MEMORIAL
MARSHALL, ALVIN	ROADS
MCCOMB, ELIZABETH	ROADS
MCDONALD, WAYNE	FOC
NEVELS, PAUL	SHERIFF
NEWBERRY, RHONDA	GHS
PARRITT, ROBERT	GENERAL
POIT, CARL	GVRC
POTTS, GLENN	GENERAL
RISON, VERA	BD OF COMM
RODGERS, CHRISTINE	GHS
SAWYER, SUMIE	MT MORRIS
SEARS, KAREN	GHS
SMITH, DORTHY	PROSECUTOR
TREVITHICK, DIANE	GHS
WILLIAMS, DEBORAH	HEALTH
WOOLDRIDGE, LEE	GHS

Just a reminder that the Retirement Office is now located in the Controller's Office of the Genesee County Administration Building. The telephone numbers remain the same; however, the fax number is now 810-257-3560.

KEEP YOUR ADDRESS CURRENT!

For those retirees moving and/or changing your address, we would like you to notify us in writing of your change of address and telephone number. This keeps your address current in our files so that you will continue to receive newsletters, checks and direct deposit stubs, tax statements and other important correspondence from the Retirement Office.



Letter from Jeff Cyphert Retiree Representative

This is our annual Fall newsletter from the Genesee County Employees' Retirement System. All of the statistical and financial information comes from the annual Actuary Report performed by Rodwan Consulting Company, fourth quarter 2015 investment performance analysis by Asset Strategies, and the 2015 GCERS Annual Report by Keith Francis and Tracy Khan, our retirement administrator. All information is as of December 31, 2015 unless specified.

At the end of the 2015, the total number of retirees and beneficiaries grew by 30 to a total of 1,717. The following is the summary where we retired from: General County/Sheriff's Department – 997; Genesee Health – 318; Road Commission – 215; Water & Waste – 102; District Library – 53; City of Mt. Morris – 17; and from Genesee Memorial Hospital – 15. The total 2015 retirement allowance paid out was \$44,663,724. We have 49 retirees/beneficiaries over 90 years of age with 1 retiree over 100. The average age at retirement was 52.1 years and the average age for the 1,717 as of the end of 2015 was 67.1 years.

Our pension fund is a matured fund mainly due to the retirees outnumbering the active employees. Another important factor that is affecting our retiree to employee ration is that some of the employer groups are now a closed fund for new employees. The General and Sheriff's groups are now closed to new employees entering our defined benefit plan, as well as the District Library. Part of Genesee Health System is also closed to new employees. At the end of **2008** the retirees numbered 1,438 to 1,205 active employees. At the end of **2015**, the retirees were at 1,717 and the active employees in the defined benefit plan shrank to 671.

The main responsibility of the pension trustees and your retiree representative is to ensure the financial integrity of our retirement fund so that it will have the ability to continue our monthly pension payments for the rest of our lives and our beneficiaries' lives and also the anticipated pension payments for the 671 current employees that are enrolled in the defined benefit pension plan. At the end of 2015, the actuary smoothing valuation for the assets of the fund was \$428,816,188. The actual market value for the assets was \$423,186,239. To promote the best investment opportunities, the GCERS retained 18 active investment managers and a custodial bank. In order to maintain safety, reduce investment risk, and capitalize on various market appreciations, your retirement board advocates diversification of investments. A summary of the pension fund asset allocation by major investment categories was: Domestic Equities – 32.86%; Domestic Fixed – 20.90%; Real Estate – 17.87%; International Equities – 17.35%; Alternatives – 9.47%, and Cash and Equivalents – 1.55%. The actuary annual assumption's return on investments is 8%. Because of this goal, the GCERS continues to demand our money managers to outperform their respective benchmarks. The investment sub-committee has placed a number of managers on probation and replaced those that did not meet our expectation.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015: Tracy Khan has set up the Retirement office as a separate department on the Genesee County Web page. This makes it very easy to find all reports, schedules, forms, newsletters, etc. The Pension Board's secretary, Keith Francis, stated in the annual report: "The total return for 2015 of 1.76%, compared to the Policy Index of .59%, ranks in the 20th percentile among public

funds. The investment year for Genesee County paralleled economy and capital markets. The unemployment rate fell from 5.6% to 5.0%. The average rate of inflation was relatively low at .2%. The U.S. economy grew 2.0%, the slowest pace since 2012. The United States (S&P 500) stock market finished the year up a modest 1.4%. The bond market was also weak with a .6% increase. Also, 2015 was another strong year for commercial real estate as investors capitalized on historically low interest rates and recovering property values. Commercial real estate indexes were up about 10% on the year."

POST RETIREMENT CHECK: The actuary's smoothing average return for our fund was –7.0%. Per our Pension Fund By-Laws, this return did not exceed our goal of 8%, therefore there **will not be** a 13th check this year.

RETIREE ASSOCIATION: There is an independent Genesee County Retirees' Association (GCRA) that meets the first Wednesday of every month at 9:00 a.m. at the Palace Family Restaurant on Saginaw Street south of Maple Road in Grand Blanc Township. Coming to our breakfast meetings is an excellent way to keep up on gossip, see old friends, and be treated to great speakers on such topics as Trust and Wills, Social Security, Medicare, Red Cross, gardening, and bird feeding, just to name a few. The association has a Christmas outing and a June picnic. Come to a meeting and get more details on this year's Christmas outing. Since I attend most of the GCRA meetings, I am available for any questions or concerns. Find more information about the association on the Retirement Web site.

The speaker for our September meeting will be from the Grand Blanc Township Police Department to talk on crime prevention for senior citizens. The current President of GCRA is Karolina Straw, who retired from the General County.

My home phone is 810-694-4778 and my cell phone is 810-347-8667. You can also reach me by e-mail at cyphertjp@yahoo.com. My address is 8035 Embury Road, Grand Blanc, Michigan 48439.

Jeff Cyphert, Retired from the General County
January 1992
Retiree Representative.

