



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS  
GENERAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
233 E. FULTON, SUITE 216  
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503

DECEMBER 2013  
VOL. 2  
ISSUE R

# *The Retirement Register*

## *Enhanced Direct Deposit Capabilities—New!*

Retirees/beneficiaries will now have the option of having their monthly pension checks directly deposited into as many as three (3) different bank accounts. Recipients will need to complete a direct deposit form indicating the order in which they want to have the deposits processed, and how much they would like deposited in each account.

The Authorization for Automatic Direct Deposit form can be obtained in the following ways:

1. by contacting the Retirement Systems Office at (616) 456-4300
2. by visiting the Retirement Systems' website:  
<http://grcity.us/retirement-systems/General-Retirement-System/Pages/default.aspx>
3. by completing the form on the back of the monthly Earnings Statement from The Northern Trust Company.

Please note the completed and signed authorization form needs to be sent to the Retirement Systems Office at 233 E. Fulton, Suite 216, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

## *13th Check Update*

The City Commission recently amended City Code, Section 1.302, "Thirteenth Check Pension Supplement." *Fund Availability* will now be determined by the five-year net market value investment rate of return (rather than book value), which will more accurately reflect the performance of the plan. The five-year net market value investment rate of return on June 30, 2013 was 6.5%, therefore there will not be a 13th Check issued on January 31, 2014. Please note that the members of the covered groups listed below **are not** eligible for the 13 Check program:

### *Covered Group*

APAGR & APAGR 61st District Court  
GREIU & GREIU 61st District Court  
Crime Scene Technicians/Latent Print Examiners  
GREIU Public Library Rank & File and Supervisory Bargaining Units  
Emergency Communication Supervisors

### *Termination Date With The City*

On or after October 21, 2008  
On or after March 24, 2009  
On or after May 12, 2009  
On or after July 9, 2009  
On or after September 13, 2011

The above listed groups are instead eligible for an Escalator increase, as follows:

### *Covered Group*

APAGR & APAGR 61st District Court  
GREIU & GREIU 61st District Court  
Crime Scene Technicians/Latent Print Examiners  
GREIU Public Library Rank & File and Supervisory Bargaining Units  
Emergency Communication Supervisors

### *Amount & Waiting Period*

1.0% after four years of retirement  
1.0% after four years of retirement  
1.0% after six years of retirement  
1.0% after four years of retirement  
1.0% after six years of retirement

Please call the Retirement Systems office at (616) 456-4300 if you have any questions.

## New Retirees

The Trustees and staff of the General Retirement System are pleased to congratulate the following new retirees:

Kathleen Black	(Clerk)	07/02/13	James Radabaugh*	(Parks & Comm. Events)	10/01/13
John Hardy	(Library)	07/03/13	Bryon Taylor	(Motor Equipment)	10/05/13
Carl Savickas	(Streets & Sanitation)	07/16/13	Karen Lewis	(61st District Court)	10/25/13
Clarence Williams, Jr.	(Motor Equipment)	07/18/13	Gloria Stauffer	(Parks & Recreation)	10/25/13
Evelyn Torres	(Police)	07/27/13	Cathy Cunningham	(Streets & Sanitation)	10/29/13
David Morrison*	(EP-WWTP)	08/01/13	William Cunningham	(Clerk)	11/16/13
Frederick Bialk	(EP-WWTP)	08/04/13	Michael Kooistra	(Water)	11/21/13
John Schweizer	(EP-WWTP)	08/13/13	Sarah McCarville	(Library)	11/28/13
Patricia Zwiers	(Water)	09/04/13	Daniel Heyer*	(Neigh. Improvement)	12/01/13
Roger Davila	(EP-UEDCD)	09/10/13	Karen Vegter	(61st District Court)	12/03/13
Linda Wagenmaker	(Water)	09/18/13	Ora Denise Peterson	(Water)	12/27/13
Dan Driesens	(Streets & Sanitation)	09/19/13	James Peck	(61st District Court)	12/28/13
Terry Helton	(Income Tax)	09/28/13			

\*Deferred Member

## Pension or Insurance Questions?

If you have questions regarding your pension, please contact the City of Grand Rapids Retirement Systems Office at **(616) 456-4300**. All address, direct deposit, federal withholding, or name changes **must be sent in writing** to: **City of Grand Rapids Retirement Systems, 233 E. Fulton Street, Suite 216, Grand Rapids, MI 49503**. Changes received by mid-month will be effective at the end of that month.

**City health insurance** questions should be directed to Insurance Services at **(616) 456-3300**. **Seniors Choice insurance** questions should be directed to **(888) 228-3002**.

## December Earnings Statement

Please keep your December Earnings Statement from The Northern Trust Company handy as it contains valuable information for the 2013 tax year. This statement lists the following important information:

- Gross pension paid
- Total taxable pension
- Total taxes withheld
- Net pension received
- Total non-taxable pension
- Total healthcare deductions

## In Memory of Departed Friends

Evelyn Dekker*	05/02/13	Adrian Mast*	08/24/13	Celia Dykstra*	11/05/13
Judith Davis*	06/19/13	Clifford Bremer	08/26/13	Edith Olman*	11/09/13
Donald Van'T Hof	06/26/13	Charles Claver	09/15/13	Constance Budnick*	11/11/13
Glynn Willis	07/18/13	Leonarda (Nell) Myers	09/21/13	Thomas VanderLip*	11/16/13
Catherine Occhipinti*	07/23/13	Raymond Barley	09/23/13	Sharon Bloem*	11/20/13
Hilda Cox	08/03/13	Christine Childers*	10/20/13		

\*Denotes a beneficiary