



PENSION • PRESS

The Newsletter of the Houston Municipal Employees Pension System

www.hmeps.org

A Letter From the Chairman

Dear Plan Participants:

Welcome to HMEPS Spring 2009 newsletter! For many, Spring is a time for taking stock, cleaning up and clearing out the clutter that accumulated over the winter. This month's newsletter offers some valuable tips on getting your financial house in order.

I'm excited about the launch of our education outreach program, which is designed to provide more opportunities for participants to learn about their pension benefits. Can't make it to the HMEPS office for an individual session on your pension benefits? Now, benefit counselors can go to your workplace to answer your questions about pension benefits and retirement plans. And we're holding these meetings at different times – early mornings and evenings for example – to accommodate municipal employees' various work shifts.



Sherry Mose
Chairman

There's more good financial news. I'm pleased to introduce Steve Waas, our in-house Financial Counselor. I hope you will take some time to read about Steve, a Certified Financial Planner who is now available for individual counseling. Steve can help you on many types of financial issues, not just pension matters. I know you may feel like climbing under the covers to wait out this financial storm, but don't. I encourage you to take advantage of Steve's expertise and let him help you map out your financial future.

I also want to issue an early "save the date" invitation for the 4th Annual City of Houston Financial Fitness Expo, which will be held the week of Oct. 18-24. We have just started planning this year's event, but I promise it will be even bigger and

(Continued on Page 2)

HMEPS Educational Outreach Program Offers Participants Opportunities to Learn More About Their Pension Benefits

The 25,000 participants of HMEPS, whether just starting their careers with the City or receiving a pension benefit, all face a myriad of questions about their pension benefits and retirement plans. For many, it can be an intimidating process, especially when factoring in families and other life occurrences.

HMEPS is here to help, and we've expanded our educational services. HMEPS has launched its Educational Outreach Program, which uses a team approach to provide participants with the information they need today to make decisions about their HMEPS benefits and other financial issues as well, such as paying for a child's college or planning for retirement.

We have been holding "field meetings" at different City departments where a HMEPS benefits counselor and our new staff Financial Counselor meet with a group of employees to outline HMEPS benefits as well as discuss other financial issues and answer questions. These on-site classes are flexible, free and

designed to accommodate our hard-working participants' schedules. This is in addition to individual counseling we continue to offer at HMEPS' downtown office.

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Sr. Benefits Counselor Terri Murray discusses pension benefits with a Parks & Recreation Department crew as part of HMEPS' educational outreach program.

A Letter from the Chairman (Continued from Page 1)

better than last year’s successful expo, which attracted more than 850 people! We’ll have detailed information about the expo later this year.

In this edition, we also have a report on HMEPS’ investments and their market value. Obviously, some of HMEPS’ investments reflect the turmoil of the times, but it’s important to remember that the economic roller-coaster does not affect our ability to pay benefits. We have a well-diversified investment portfolio and a highly disciplined investment approach that has brought us great success and will get us through this recession.

The economy also is a priority for the 81st Texas Legislature, which is in session until June 1. The deadline for filing bills was March 13 and House and Senate committees are busy deciding

which of the many measures filed will make it to a final vote. HMEPS staff members are closely monitoring lawmakers’ actions and we are prepared to respond quickly and appropriately to any proposal that could affect the pension system. I’ll give you a full recap in the next newsletter of any pension-related legislation that passed.

Your Chairman,



Sherry Mose

Newman’s Place in HMEPS History

HMEPS recently recounted its history in the 2008 Report to Participants, but our history isn’t complete without noting the accomplishments of Rod Newman. In 1992,



Newman was elected as the first African American to serve on the HMEPS Board. Sixteen years later, he was elected Chairman, breaking ground once again as the first African American elected to that post since the creation of the fund in 1943.

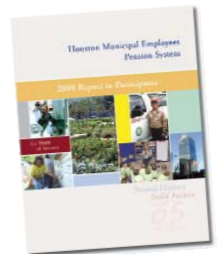
The staff of HMEPS would like to honor Newman for his 16 years of dedicated service to HMEPS and its participants. He was a strong, decisive leader at HMEPS who always looked out

for our participants’ best interests. HMEPS is a better organization because of his leadership and his unwavering spirit ensures his place in HMEPS history.

Newman continues to serve as an advocate for City of Houston employees as the City’s Human Resources manager.

Annual Pension and DROP Statements Mailed

Annual Pension Statements (Active employees) and DROP Statements (participants with a DROP balance as of 12/31/08) were mailed in March. Each packet mailed also contained the 2008 Report to Participants, which the staff of HMEPS hopes participants enjoy reading.



If you did not receive your statement(s), please call the HMEPS office.

Hit the Links to Help Support the Houston Employee Relief Organization (HERO)

The Houston Employee Relief Organization (HERO) recently announced plans for a golf tournament in an effort to raise awareness and funds for the organization. HERO provides financial and emotional help for survivors of municipal city employees killed while serving the residents of Houston.

The HERO golf tournament is currently scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at the Memorial Park golf course. There will be a shotgun start at 12:30 pm and registration will be from 10 am to 12 pm. Harry Hayes, Director of the Solid Waste Management Department, is the tournament chairperson. More information can be found at the HERO website, www.houstonhero.org.

“The HERO golf tournament will be a great way to raise funds for a worthy cause,” said HMEPS Trustee Lonnie Vara, who also sits on the HERO Board of Directors. Vara plans on hitting the links the day of the tourney. “Details are still emerging but we

are looking for sponsors for each hole, as well as offering ‘big ticket’ items for an auction following the tournament.”

HERO assists the survivors of a municipal employee who is killed while doing his/her job by providing the surviving spouse with immediate financial assistance to help defray costs associated with the funeral and to meet family needs, by providing financial assistance to surviving dependents after a review and approval of the HERO Benefits Committee recommendations, and by providing funds for the continuing education of dependent children.



HERO is patterned after the long-established 100 Club, whose funding assistance is limited to survivors of police officers and firefighters killed in the line of duty.

You don’t have to be a golfer to make donations to HERO – donations are accepted anytime at the HERO website:

www.houstonhero.org/donate.html

HMEPS INVESTMENTS

Market Value by Asset Class

| | November 30, 2008 | February 28, 2009 |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Domestic Equity | \$320,780,588 | \$288,506,735 |
| International Equity | 221,818,901 | 243,806,059 |
| Fixed Income | 288,396,611 | 386,219,462 |
| Real Assets | 281,706,652 | 275,978,488 |
| Alternative/Private Equity | 323,057,710 | 300,017,211 |
| City of Houston Note* | 378,513,368 | - |
| Cash | 4,959,369 | 178,394,433 |
| | \$1,819,233,199 | \$1,672,922,388 |

* City refunded the note January 8, 2009 by paying HMEPS \$381 million in cash.

HMEPS Election Results

In results announced February 26, the HMEPS Board of Trustees re-elected Sherry Mose to the position of Chairman, Mark V. Mancuso was elected to the position of Vice Chairman and Lonnie Vara to the position of Secretary. Please join us in congratulating Mose, Mancuso and Vara in their elections.

Important Tax Information for Retirees

The Making Work Pay credit provision was signed into law on February 17, 2009, as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. This provision requires HMEPS to withhold less income tax from your pension benefit, even if you are not eligible for the Making Work Pay credit. This means you ultimately may have to pay more income tax because of the required reduced withholding. The only way for you to avoid the reduced withholding is to submit a new Form W-4P to HMEPS specifying the amount you want withheld or claiming fewer exemption allowances.

You are not required to make a change to your current withholdings, but if you do not want to have your withholding reduced, you need to file a new withholding form (Form W-4P) with HMEPS.

To change the amount of federal income tax withheld from your retirement benefit, complete and submit HMEPS Form W-4P located on our website (www.hmeps.org/forms), and scroll down to form "W-4P", and specify the amount you want withheld, or request fewer exemption allowances (if applicable).

If you have questions regarding these changes, please contact the IRS or a qualified tax advisor. HMEPS is not able to advise retirees on tax issues.

To learn more about Making Work Pay please go to: www.irs.gov.

Planning On Moving or Changing Addresses?

Are you in the process of, or already moved to, a new address (or one different from the current address HMEPS has on record)? If so, and you are an active City employee, you need to contact your payroll representative to ensure the City has your correct address on file. The payroll system for the City stores two addresses, but HMEPS can only capture the first address you have listed. If you are a retiree, you need to submit a "Change of Address" form to the HMEPS office (available from the HMEPS office or on the website at www.hmeps.org).

Maintaining a current address is necessary to ensure you receive important communications from HMEPS, including election notices, annual statements, Reports to Participants and more. If you need assistance, please call the HMEPS office at 713-595-0100.

HMEPS Board Members, Executive Director Give Retirees Updates at Recent ARHME Meeting

Attendees at the January meeting of the Association of Retired Houston Municipal Employees (ARHME) heard presentations and had the opportunity to ask questions of HMEPS Chairman Sherry Mose, Trustees Lonnie Vara and George Bravenec, and Executive Director David L. Long.



Presentations covered different topics: Mose



introduced herself to the association membership and gave attendees an overview of the Board and of her responsibilities as Chairman. Vara dis-

cussed the City's HERO program (see article on page 2) and Long provided information on the pension system, and answered questions.

George Bravenec is the Chairman of ARHME.

For more information about ARHME, visit their website at www.arhme.net or call 281-298-2725.



HMEPS Executive Director David L. Long addresses the members of the AHRME.

HMEPS' Educational Outreach Program (Continued from Page 1)

"HMEPS has always offered its participants the opportunity to learn about their pensions. But with a very large, diverse workforce like we have with the City we wanted to introduce some more flexible options," says David L. Long, HMEPS' Executive Director. "This includes holding meetings at department locations in the early morning or late at night so that employees on different shifts are able to attend the meetings. Or perhaps a participant wants to have a more personal meeting at the HMEPS

office with family members in attendance. We now have multiple options that can accommodate everyone's schedule."

There are additional ways to learn about HMEPS benefits, including using our website and attending a financial expo later this year. We've outlined our educational services below, but you can always call the office at 713-595-0100 and a HMEPS representative will get you headed in the right direction.

5 Ways You Can Learn More About Your Pension Benefits

1. Meet with an HMEPS Benefits Counselor

You may call and schedule a one-on-one meeting with your HMEPS benefits counselor at the HMEPS office. During the meeting, the counselor will explain your pension benefits and answer questions you may have. You may make an appointment to meet with counselors Monday-Friday during regular office hours.



2. Meet with the HMEPS Financial Counselor

You may call and schedule a one-on-one meeting with the HMEPS Financial Counselor, Steve Waas, at the HMEPS office. During the meeting, Steve will assist you with question you may have about financial matters.

3. Attend a Field Meeting

HMEPS benefits counselor(s) will visit your specific City location and give a 1 to 2-hour (approximate) presentation and answer questions. Field meetings are typically reserved for 5 or more employees. If you would like to attend a meeting at your location, please have your supervisor call the HMEPS office to schedule a meeting.



4. Visit the HMEPS website at www.hmeps.org

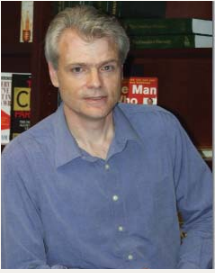
The HMEPS website is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week from any computer with internet access. You can read and download HMEPS Forms, print publications, news updates, articles and more. If you do not have a computer, numerous City libraries have computers with internet access.

5. Attend the 4th Annual Financial Fitness Expo

The 4th Annual Financial Fitness Expo will once again be held in conjunction with National Save for Retirement Week, October 18-24, 2009. Exact times and locations of the Expo will be announced in the early Fall.



Open for Business: HMEPS Now Offering Financial Counseling



Steve Waas
Financial Counselor

HMEPS is offering a new service, individual financial counseling for its participants. Certified Financial Planner™ Steve Waas, who has over 25 years experience in financial planning, banking and risk management, is available to help participants address a wide variety of financial issues. We asked Steve a few questions about his role at HMEPS.

Q. You have many years experience in financial counseling. How is your role at HMEPS different?

A. “The great thing about this job is that I can do it with complete objectivity. I’m not paid by any bank, brokerage firm, or insurance company. So I have no pressure to push any particular product or service. I can focus entirely on giving participants unbiased information to help them make the best informed decision possible.”

Q. How can you help participants manage a DROP account after retirement?

A. “Retiring participants have several options to choose from with respect to their DROP accounts, and it can get confusing. I can help them sort out these options and give careful consideration to the pros and cons of different decisions. This can be one of the biggest decisions a participant will make regarding their retirement.”

Q. When a participant becomes eligible for DROP, how should he or she decide whether or not to participate?

A. “DROP is an important financial tool for many participants, but various issues should be considered before committing to it. Do you expect your salary to change much over the next few years? How many years of service do you currently have? Answers to these and other questions can make a big difference regarding how meaningful the DROP program would be for you.”

Q. What other financial topics do you frequently encounter with retirees?

A. “Retirees usually face important decisions about their Social Security benefits, which should be considered in combination with the other important financial decisions they are making at that time. Sometimes retirees make these decisions without really considering all of the consequences - consequences that may last for the rest of their lives.”

Q. Can you help participants decide whether to invest in an annuity? Annuities are aggressively advertised and sold by the insurance industry.

A. “There are many, many different kinds of annuities. Some are fairly straightforward and can be very useful for some people. Others are enormously complex and expensive, and it’s hard to

see how anyone but the salesman could benefit. I can’t recommend that you invest or not invest in any particular product. But I might be able to help you zero in on the key issues and questions you need to address.”

Q. What about other financial products?

A. “I have experience with other topics as well, such as how IRAs and reverse mortgages work.”

Q. Are retirees the only ones who can benefit from your expertise?

A. “You don’t have to be in the near-retirement phase to benefit from this service. I have worked with city employees on issues such as saving for their kids’ college education.”

Q. With the ongoing economic crisis, is now the time to be making difficult financial decisions?

A. “The financial turmoil like we’ve had recently makes some people reluctant to even ask for help. Sometimes there is so much bad news out there that people just want to shut it all out. But it’s important to not crawl into a shell. Make sure you have access to as much information as possible when making important financial decisions.”

Q. Ok, so how does a participant get access to your services?

A. “If you’re planning to meet with your Benefits Counselor, it is sometimes a good idea to schedule a financial counseling session to immediately follow. But you can call the pension office any time to set up an appointment. It’s usually a good idea to speak with me first just to get an idea of what information you might want to bring to the meeting.”

Call Steve Waas at 713-595-0100 or email him at swaas@hmeps.org to set up an appointment.

Consumer Alert Issued Regarding Credit Counseling Services

Recently the Texas Attorney General’s office issued a Consumer Alert regarding credit counseling services and related enterprises. “Credit Counselors” provide education. “Debt Management” firms allow someone to consolidate their debt into a single monthly payment, perhaps at a lower interest rate. “Debt Settlement” or “Debt Negotiation” is a risky procedure involving halting payments to creditors and attempting to renegotiate not just interest rates but the principal owed as well. There are legitimate businesses in this area, but the field is rife with scams and incompetents as well.

Before committing to a service, check to see if there have been complaints against the firm filed at the Office of the Attorney

(Continued on Page 7)

Retirements – July 2008 to February 2009

Aviation

Armstrong, Israel
Bockoff, Michael
Crews, Vera
Cusick, Robert*
Darcey, Maxine
Deyoung, Robert*
Fraser, James*
Gonzalez, Mary
Holloman, Clifford*
Jackson, George*
Kahl, John
Lina, Edwidge*
Martinez, Jose*
Mize, Nancy
Nguyen, Phi*
Norng, Dum
Perez, Luis*
Rocha, Daniel
Rodriguez, Larry
Rodriguez, Luis
Ruiz, Lydia*
Semmelrogge, John
Sturm, Lawrence
Umrigar, Dara
Van Marter, Edelana*

Affirmative Action

Kurian, Joseph

City Council

Watkins, Florence*

Controller

Hu, Robert*

Convention & Entertainment

Galley, Miller*
Nguyen, Dung*
Price, Deborah*

Finance Budget

Bittman, Richard
Shannon, Michael*

Finance & Administration

Assaf, Monica*
Aulbach, Louis
Bowers, Robert
Daniels, Victor
Echevarria, Gloria*
Gray, Gary*
Laird, Margaret*
Jeanes, Linda*
Matute, Maria*
Peters, Gregory*
Pitts-Agurcia, Carol*

Fire

Heredia, Luis
Hunter, Mary
Rosslow, Gracia*
Tapscott, John

General Services

Austin, Karen
Barrera, Vicente*
Burch, James
Chase, Florence*
Fisher, Christopher
Gazdzyszyn, Alina
Hauck, William
Nguyen, Nhan*
Nguyen, Tong
Phipps, Wayne
Sams, Kelton
Stewart, Frank
Vasquez, Lucio

Health & Human Services

Babers, Joetta
Bailey-Delesbore, Cynthia*
Banks, Carole
Block, David
Carter, Odile*
De Los Santos, Mario*
Dileo, Monique*
Ellis, Larry*
Fonseca, Maria
Fontenot, Sammie*
Gartner, Robert
Hajin, Mohamed
Hull, Cynthia*
Lewis, Cynda*
Mamarian, Rita
McShan, Sharon*
Merritte, Diana*
Pete, Sharon
Rogers, Robin*
Ross, Audrey
Sanchez, Delia
Small, Carole*
Tran, Tien
Udofia, Eno*
Whitworth, Mary*
Wilson, Joan
Woodard, Andra*
Wykoff, Lodis

Housing

Anderson, Luther
Bunns, Patricia
Brayden, Hope
Crowder, Diana
Elo, Mary

Johnson, Clara
McBride, Vickie
Nelson, Garland
Price, Ellen
Rowe, Laura*
Wagner, Paulette

Houston Emergency Center (HEC)

Beene, Leticia*
Hayes, Ruby*
Letien, Walter
Morris, Sylvia*
Turner, Sharon*

Human Resources

Low, Theodore*
Williams, Danny
Zies, Everett*

Legal

Oommen, Kuruvilla*
Robinson, Judith
Teague, Horace
White, Audrey
Woodring, Stanley

Library

Campos, Ellen
Johnson, Carol
Kiskinis, Adam*
Lam, Susan*
Middleton, John*
Reeder, Caroline*
Roberts, Renate
Roth, Sandra
Strom, Steven*
Tuggle, John*
Waranus, Kathleen

Municipal Courts

Brown, Joyce*
Celestine, Evelyn
Jackson-Charles, Lawanda*
Smith, Thu
Sterling, Wanda
Vasquez, Rosemary*
Wierzbicki, Lucille*

Parks & Recreation

Anthony, Charles*
Barkowski, Joseph*
Bucio, Francisco
Clark, Belinda*
Clemons, Ralph
Cochran, Joe
Cochran, Kathy*

Coe, Sara*
Cortez, Beatrice*
Covarrubias, Maria
Dennis, Henry*
Dickson, Kenneth*
Holmes, Michael*
Jones, Andrew*
Justice, Larry*
Lagaac, Roland*
Maldonado, Juven*
Martinez, Pedro*
Mayo, Deborah*
McGee, Lurline
Shadden, Jefferson*
Torres, Jose
Trusclair, Elton
Volski, Kathy*
Wilmer, Brian*

Police

Anderson, Matthew*
Andrews, Mary
Antasek, Robert*
Binig, Mary
Blevins, Doris
Brown, Charles
Brown, Joyce*
Cobb, Ronald*
Coleman, Johanna
Davis, Godfrey*
Deitrick, Daniel
Ferguson, Roy*
Francisco, Charles*
Garcia, Jose*
Harris, Hardette*
Irby, Robert*
Kocienski, Kenneth
Kropik, Shirley
Lockman, Graciela
Marquis, Rosemary*
Martinez, Michael*
Mcpheil, Mary
Medina, Mary
Montgomery, Francile
Nunez, Johnnie
Sadighi, Nematollah
Schwab, Jay
Stevens Ward, Gladys
Taylor, Eddie*
Torres, Eglá
Tran, Tri*
Williams, Barbara*
Young, James*

Public Works & Engineering

Abrarpour, Masoud*
Alvarado, Javier*

Andre, Lilibeth*
Anthony, Mack
Auville, Melanie*
Barrios, Demetrio
Beasley, Ronald*
Beavers, David*
Belote, Monte*
Boone, Charles
Boutte, James
Branford, Ronald
Brown, Freeman
Bryant, Edward
Butler, Winfred*
Carrillo, Eugene*
Carswell, James*
Castillo, Edward*
Chapman, Wayne*
Chim, Roger
Chiu, Mei Mei*
Coleman, Julia
Collins, Jeffrey*
Conner, Mona*
Cooper, Mark*
Coots, John*
Diaz, Ramiro*
Eck, Michael*
Edwards, Janet*
Garner, Troy*
Glaspie, Thomas
Glass, Delores*
Gonzalez, Alfred*
Griffin, Jack*
Harris, Charles
Ho, Michael
Hunt, Bobby
Jenkins, Rayford
Kelly, James
Krueger, Daniel*
Krzywinski, David*
Lacour, Stevie
Lanier, Patrick
Latourette, Steven
Leal, Eduardo
Lewis, Sheila
Lising, Porfirio*
Lott, Bennie
Maldonado, Ildefonso
Marshall, David
Mayo Jr., Billy*
McCardell, Charlie
Mireles, Edward
Monroig, Kenneth
Morris, Gloria*
Mukerji, Santosh*
Nelson, Leisa*
Nguyen, Anthony
Nunnally, Andrew
Obmaces, Julian
Ocampo, Alejandro*

Oriakhi, Godwin
Pena, Alice
Perez, Margaret*
Pharms, Willie
Polite, Andrew*
Price, John*
Rajtak, Stanislaw*
Rawlinson, Patsy
Ritchie, Jesse
Rivera, David
Rodriguez, Edward*
Rodriguez, Martin
Rubio, Serafin
Sam, Gloria
Shivers, Phillip*
Smith, David*
Smith, Larry*
Smith, Michael
Thomas, Judge
Thornton, James
Travis, Richard
Truong, Ngon
Villarreal, Raymond
Virani, Ghulam*
Wade, Ivan
Washington, Charles*
Williams, Brenda*
Wood, Jim*
Woods, Rodrick*
Wooten, David

Solid Waste

Arrington, William*
Dean, Monica*
Dohunt, Clifford*
Emerharole, Patrick*
Figaro, Daniel
Garza, Mercedes
Gatlin, Terry
Gonzalez, Roberto*
Green, Albert*
Jackson, Catherine
Lamar, Gerald
Randle, Odessis
Shaw, Guillermo
Smith, Loston
Wilkins, Dwight*

*Deferred Retirement

In Remembrance

Active Employee and Retiree Deaths – June 2008 through March 2009

HMEPS received notification of the following participants' deaths. We wish to remember these individuals and their dedication and service to the City of Houston.

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Adair, Margie** | Chacon, Mesinda** | Green, Nellie | Lee, William | Penn, Maggie | Soloman, Mitchell |
| Adams, George | Chatmon, Clifford | Hair, Elizabeth** | Legall, Fitzherbert | Phillips, Cesar | Stewart, Raymond |
| Alderete, Maria | Cherry, Randy | Hambrick, Samuel | Leitner, Ruth** | Phillips, Edd | Talley, Lelia** |
| Alexander, Dorcas | Choma, Patricia | Hardcastle, Sammie | Lemley, Thermalee | Provost, Willie** | Talton, Ruby** |
| Allen, Earnest | Compton, Miriam | Harper, David | Lewis, Samuel | Ramirez, Ramiro | Taylor, Homer |
| Alvarado, Casimiro | Cortez, Marcelino | Harris, Willie Mae | Leyendecker, Jackie | Reedy, Virginia | Taylor, Zeffro** |
| Alviar, Raymundo | Crear, Patrick | Hartzog, Angela | Long, Jack | Reeves, Leavertra | Thomas, Chalottie** |
| Anderson, David** | Curtis, Betty | Hatfield, John | Lopez, Trinidad | Reyes, Lina** | Tickner, Ralph |
| Anderson, Ruby | Delaye, Loraine** | Haywood, Alfred | Lynch, Lola* | Reynolds, Shane | Tinsley, Eleanor |
| Arceneaux, Rita** | DeLeon, Frank | Helmy, Shafik | Dewayne, Lott* | Ring, James | Tobias, Agapita** |
| Armstrong, Manuel | DePingre, Alma | Henderson, Audrey | Lott, Margaret | Rivas, Palmira | Toland, George |
| Ayala, Pedro | Duchane, Murphy | Hicks, James | Love, Bobby | Rivera, Maria* | Treadaway, Lucretia** |
| Bailey, Carol** | Edmond, Leary** | Hill, Theodore | Maharajh, Rishiram | Rodriguez, Robert | Trowbridge, Agnes |
| Bailey, Hosea | Elam, Margoria | Hiligiest, Laverne** | Mares, Leonel | Rollins, Joseph | Trujillo, Margaret** |
| Ballard, Charlton* | Eldridge, Major | Howard, Katherine** | Marks, Herman | Ross, Lonnie | Turner, Angelo |
| Barnich, John* | Escareno, Josefina | Hunter, Morris | Martinez, Rodolfo | Rousey, Joyce | Valentine, Fred |
| Berry, Christine** | Findley, Beulah | Jackson, James | Martino, Joseph | Rusher, Waymon* | Wade, Nadine |
| Bertrand, Nancy | Fisher, Judine | Jackson, Lee | Massey, Zelda** | Salinas, Elier | Walker, Gerard |
| Bigham, Jimmie | Fleming, Jimmy | Johnson, Albert | Matson, Russell | Samuel, Mary** | Washington, Roosevelt |
| Binig, Mary | Fletcher, J. | Johnson, Bobby | Mayes, William | Scott, Inez** | West, Nellie** |
| Bishop, Earnest** | Flores, Patrocinio | Johnson, J. R. | McCray, Viola** | Sepulveda, Celedoni | White, Charles |
| Blaze, Harry | Flores, Pedro | Johnson, Johnnie | McKee, Maline** | Shelander, John | Whiten, Bessie |
| Blount, Lois | Flores, Robert | Johnson, Marshall | McLemore, Lee | Shelton, Marjorie | Wilkins, John |
| Bragg, Daniel | Floresca, Jorge | Jones, Ethel** | Merrifield, Mary | Shepard, Bessie | Williams, Jimmie** |
| Branch, Anne | Folman, Robert | Jones, Patsy | Miller, James | Silva, John | Wilson, James |
| Brock, Frances | Ford, Allen | Joseph, Raymond | Mitchell, Tyrona* | Simmons, Gerald | Windmeyer, Albert |
| Bryce, Theresa | Foster, G. | Jozwiak, Carrie** | Moore, Gloria | Small, Catherine | Yanoushek, Albert |
| Butler, Barbara | Francis, Karen* | Kerns, Mary | Naumann, William | Smith, Arvern | |
| Caddie, Mary** | Gilliam, Wilton | Kirkpatrick, Paul | Oaks, Johnnie** | Smith, Blanche | |
| Campos, Raymond | Glover, Jesse | Kirksey, L. M. | O' Bryant, Hightower | Smith, Everett | |
| Carmichael, Glenn | Goldsberry, Jerry | Kivel, Jessie** | Owen, George | Smith, John | |
| Case, Willie | Gomez, Sotero | Kronwinkler, J. | Park, Clara | Smith, Juanita** | |
| Casserly, R. | Gordon, Esther** | Landi, Daniel | Pasch, Eric | Smith, Ronald | |
| Castillo, Nemeccio | Gossett, Gloria** | Lawson, Joanne | Patterson, Alice** | Smith, Zalee M. | |
| Cavazos, Onofre | Gray, Edward | Lederer, Alois | Peavy, Elenora** | Smither, Lonnie | |

*Active Employee Death
**Surviving Spouse

Pension Payment Schedules: April – June 2009

The following are the dates pension benefit checks will be mailed in the months ahead. The schedule will be strictly adhered to.

- **Monday, April 28, 2009**
- **Wednesday, May 27, 2009**
- **Friday, June 26, 2009**

Direct deposits (ACH) will be deposited on the last business day of each month, as follows:

- **Wednesday, April 30, 2009**
- **Friday, May 29, 2009**
- **Tuesday, June 30, 2009**

If you are interested in direct deposit of your pension benefit checks, please call our office at 713-595-0100.

Consumer Alert (Continued from Page 5)

General (www.texasattorneygeneral.gov) or the Better Business Bureau (www.bbb.org). Check if they are members of national accreditation organizations such as the National Federation for Credit Counseling (www.nfcc.org) or the Association of Independent Consumer Credit Counseling Agencies (www.aiccca.org).

Don't suspend your skepticism just because an organization claims to be "nonprofit." In 2006 the IRS investigated numerous "nonprofit" credit counseling agencies and found that most were erroneously claiming this status.

Read the brochure provide by the Federal Trade Commission "Fiscal Fitness: Choosing a Credit Counselor," available at www.ftc.gov.

If you have questions about how debt affects your financial situation, please call HMEPS' Financial Counselor, Steve Waas.

Pension Press

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Thanks to the HMEPS staff for their contributions
to the ongoing success of the *Pension Press*.

NEWSLETTER CONTENT

The material contained in this newsletter is intended to provide you with important information about your pension participation. The content cannot be taken as the basis of any contractual rights between HMEPS and its participants. If there is a question of interpretation, retirement laws are the final authority.

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