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Fund Office Hours:
Monday – Friday
8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Holiday Closings:
The Pipe Trades Services office will be closed on December 24th, 25th and 31st and January 1st

www.tcpt.org



TCPT is now Pipe Trades Services MN

As you can see at the top of this newsletter we have changed our name and updated our logo to better define who we are, what we do and who we serve. With significant member populations in Saint Cloud, Mankato and Rochester as well as retirees all over this great state – “Pipe Trades Services of Minnesota” is a better reflection of our identity.

This organization has been serving members in the pipe trades industry since 1965 and as we continue to grow and adapt to the changing regulatory, legal and political landscape for employee benefits, this new name and logo along with the descriptive language “Health & Pension Funds” more accurately describes our purpose. See inside for more details on the new look.



PIPE TRADES SERVICES MN

HEALTH & PENSION FUNDS

Serving the pipe trades industry in Minnesota

A little more detail on our new look...

- We have kept the “pipe” portion of our most recent logo – because it has strong brand recognition and it reflects that we are here for members of the pipe trades industry.
- “Health & Pension Funds” inside of the pipe states what we do for our members, we manage their health & pension funds
- On the left side of the logo the figure with the heart reflects the “health” funds and our health mission; the dollar sign reflects the “pension” funds and the assets needed for retirement.
- At the bottom there is an additional description that says “Serving the pipe trades industry in Minnesota”

This change was based on feedback from the boards of trustees, staff and members; thank you to all that provided input and feedback, we are pleased with the final product and look forward to serving the pipe trades members throughout Minnesota.



PIPE TRADES SERVICES MN

FAMILY HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTERS

Serving the pipe trades industry in Minnesota

Health & Wellness Centers Are Here!

We have been telling members about this exciting project over the last year and now we are ready to launch!

In keeping with the theme from our new name and logo for the health & pension funds we have a new logo specifically for our health & wellness centers.

- You will notice that this logo is similar to our overall logo using the same “pipe” from our most recent logo and the same name “Pipe Trades Services of Minnesota”
- The wording inside the pipe is different and says “Family Health & Wellness Centers” to define what we will do at these centers
- The figures on the left side of the logo depict a “family” and the heart inside the middle figure represents “health”
- “Pipe Trades Services MN” and the line “Serving the pipe trades industry in Minnesota” says that these health & wellness centers are exclusively for members of the Pipe Trades unions that participate in our health fund



Please read this newsletter in its entirety as there are a number of new and interesting items of significant importance for our members.

Are You Interested in Improving Your Health and the Health of Your Family?

....we're here to help!

Pipe Trades Services MN
Health & Wellness Centers



As a refresher, please review the Q & A below with regard to the Health & Wellness Centers.

Q. Why would we open Health & Wellness Centers?

A. The current medical delivery system is not based on value or outcomes but generally on how many procedures are performed. It is focused on treating patients after they become sick.

We are looking to provide convenient access to care with an emphasis on prevention, health and wellness. We will also be focused on early detection and treatment of chronic conditions and promoting health awareness while keeping members engaged in good health.

Q. What services or programs will be offered by the health & wellness centers?

A. The health & wellness centers will offer all of the primary care services you would expect from a family physician/general practitioner.

- Primary Care – colds, flu, asthma, diabetes etc.
- Acute Care – chronic disease care, cardio care etc.
- Preventive Care – immunizations, physicals, health coaching and counseling
- Pharmaceuticals – select prepackaged generic medications dispensed on site
- Employee education
- Care programs specific to male and female needs

Q. Who can use the health & wellness centers?

A. The health & wellness centers will be available to all active members and their dependents as well as pre-Medicare retired members and dependents covered by the Pipe Trades Services Welfare Fund. You must be eligible for benefits on the date of your appointment

The health & wellness centers will not be available to members covered by Medicare or to treat workers compensation claims, auto accident or other third party medical claims.

What would be the difference for me as a patient?

The employed physician at these health & wellness centers will not be compensated based on the number of tests or procedures they perform; they will also not be incented to see as many patients as possible. Their goal and the goal of our health & wellness centers will be to spend the time necessary with our members. The following points show the ways in which our health & wellness centers will be different:

- Initially office visits will be scheduled at 30 minutes of physician time, not the usual 10 minutes that is more typical today
- No deductible for office visits at our health & wellness centers
- No office visit copay for visits at our health & wellness centers
- Generic prescription drugs with no copay will be dispensed by the physician at the time of the office visit. (most common generic prescription drugs)

An important point to keep in mind is that members using our health & wellness centers should be ready and willing to make lifestyle changes; to understand the key role that a patient has in partnership with a physician to improve their own health and the health of their family members.

Q. Why can't Medicare members, workers compensation or other third party claims be treated here?

A. In addition to not having deductibles or copays these wellness centers will not have the traditional billing or paperwork associated with other health & wellness centers. Medicare, workers compensation, auto claims and other third party claims have significant paperwork and billing issues and other administrative requirements that don't meet this model.

Q. How can the Welfare Fund save money if the health & wellness centers don't charge copay and there is no deductible?

A. Funding for the centers will come largely from redirecting dollars that would be paid to other external providers. (For more information on the first year funding see the ERRP notice in this newsletter) Costs for the physician and clinic site are paid directly by the fund and will be lower by cutting out a number of "middlemen" in the current system. Also cutting out the paperwork and billing systems will realize additional savings. Most importantly, one of the most significant advantages is that owned health centers allow medical professionals to practice medicine free from the distraction, paperwork and bureaucracy of a third-party payer system and focus on what they were trained to do: make people well!

Q. Will there be any out of pocket costs for me when using the Health & Wellness Centers?

A. There are no costs for any services rendered at the centers, however if you are referred to a hospital, a specialist or have lab work that is sent to an outside provider those services will have charges associated with them and they will be submitted through the Welfare Fund for coverage just as they are now.

Q. What if I have other insurance coverage?

A. Even if you have other coverage available, if you are spouse or other dependent eligible for benefits through the Pipe Trades Welfare Fund you are able to access and receive care at the Health & Wellness Centers.

Q. What if I have a condition that is not treated at the health & wellness center?

A. The patient would then utilize the Pipe Trades Welfare fund just as you do now and seek medical care from other providers within the network. The physicians at our centers will have intimate knowledge of the hospitals and specialists in the area and will help coordinate referrals and your overall care.

Q. Who are the doctors and nurses that will work in the health & wellness centers?

A. In working with a professional medical management company we will hire physicians and other medical professionals that share the vision of improving health and wellness, treating people before they are sick and giving our patients the time they deserve.

Q. Will I have to use these centers?

A. No, employees are free to visit any provider you choose. We do believe that these health & wellness centers will be beneficial to our members and their dependents and that over time the health & wellness centers will grow as we do a better job of knowing our members, serving our members, improving the health of our members and giving them the medical treatment and support they deserve!

If you have a current family physician and are happy with your patient/physician relationship, by all means stay connected to your current physician, and thank you for taking responsibility for your health.

Q. How do I make an appointment?

A. Simply contact the Pipe Trades Services office at 651-645-4540. We will handle the appointments for either site. Very shortly you will be able to go online and make your own appointments, we will keep you updated as we develop and rollout the website for the Health & Wellness Centers.

This truly is a new way to deliver and pay for medical care and we are excited about the opportunities for both the fund and our members! We look forward to seeing you at the open house in December.

Wellness Center Locations and Hours

Based on the concentration of our member population, the first health & wellness center will be in White Bear Lake. The second location will be in Maple Grove and we hope to be opening that site within the next 60 days. Additional locations and days will be based upon member demand.

The White Bear Location is 4520 Centerville Road, Saint Paul MN 55127, just off Interstate 35E and Hwy 96. The entrance and main parking lot is on the upper level behind the building.

Because we don't know exactly what the demand will be from our members, defining hours is a difficult task. We will start with both morning and evening hours as the schedule reflects and we will continue to adapt based on the needs of our membership.

WHITE BEAR LAKE SITE INITIAL SCHEDULE*

Mondays	7:00am - 4:00pm	Dr. Rawson
Tuesdays	7:00am - 4:00pm	Dr. Pena
Wednesdays	10:00am - 7:00pm	Dr. Rawson
Thursdays	7:00am - 1:00pm 9:00am - 6:00pm	Dr. Rawson Dr. Pena
Fridays	Closed	

The hours listed above start on Wednesday December 19 after the open house dates.

Closed December 24th, 25th and December 31st and January 1st

**subject to change*

Health & Wellness Centers Open House



White Bear Lake
4520 Centerville Road, Saint Paul

Monday December 17

2:00pm to 7:00pm

and

Tuesday December 18

2:00pm to 7:00pm

- ✓ See our new space, meet the physician and have some refreshments
- ✓ Get a free flu shot if you haven't gotten one yet this year

Physicians are not available for appointments on these open house dates

Please call the Pipe Trades office at 651-645-4540 or send an email to Wellness@PipeTradesServices.org to let us know you're coming so we can adequately plan for the open houses

Commitment Day!

01.01.2013

Every Year January 1st rolls around and many of us make a New Year's Resolution. This year we would like to ask members to make a commitment on 01/01/2013 to improve your own health and the health of your family members!

Although the United States is the most powerful and greatest nation on earth, the one area in which we do not excel is health. There is significant information available about the dangers of smoking, the risks of living a sedentary lifestyle with very little physical activity or exercise and the downside of eating a diet of fast food or processed prepackaged foods. Even with all of the available information it is amazing that a majority of American adults are overweight and undernourished! With time, being overweight predisposes the typical American adult to diabetes, hypertension, and depression and increases the risk of death in all age categories. The incidence of diabetes alone has risen by a third since 1990 and treatment costs exceed \$100 billion per year.

Unlike many diseases, the cure for obesity is known! The "cure" includes changing your eating habits by excluding processed foods & eating more fruits and vegetables and adding exercise into your daily routine. Doing these two main things consistently will result in

we care about the wellbeing of all members in the pipe trades family

reducing your chances of chronic conditions, lessen the need for medications and you will feel better.

In addition other items such as managing stress, improving sleep habits, using safety belts, wearing helmets, working safely etc. all lead to improved wellness, more productivity and a happier healthier life.

Lastly, diligently managing any medical conditions you may have is also important. You can do this by listening to your physician, following medical orders, taking medications as prescribed and believing that living healthy is worth the effort.

The bottom line in all of this is that we are here to help. Generally members enter the pipe trades when they are young and spend their entire lives covered under the welfare plan. Husbands and wives, fathers and sons, brother and sisters all participate and we care about the wellbeing of all members in the "pipe trades family".

Recently we have had better financial experience than expected, which has been passed on to our members by way of no premium or contribution increases by actives or retirees over the past few years. This is because our members are taking advantage of the health & wellness programs being offered.

Now is the perfect time to take action and bring optimal health to yourself and your family

Preventive Services

Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) certain preventive tests and procedures must be covered without members having to pay a copayment or co-insurance or meet your deductible. This applies only when these services are delivered by a network provider. Please visit the website at www.tcpt.org for a complete list of preventive services for adults and children. You will find a link called "Health Care Reform Documents" on the "Members" page under "News"

Other programs

In addition to the above programs we also have relationships with the following providers that we consider "Centers of Excellence"

Back Program

Physicians Neck & Back Clinic (PNBC)

Imaging

The Center for Diagnostic Imaging (CDI)

Wellness Commitment

for Members of the Pipe Trades Welfare Fund

I understand and believe that my health is one of my greatest assets.
I make this commitment for myself knowing that my choices
affect my wellbeing, my family, friends and co-workers.

I commit to:

- ★ Actively participate in my health and personal wellbeing every day
- ★ Establish a strong and ongoing relationship with a primary care physician
- ★ Establish reasonable goals to enhance my health and well-being
- ★ Support my spouse and other family members in their health and wellness goals
- ★ Have a healthy approach toward food and eating
- ★ Make exercise a regular and enjoyable part of my life
- ★ Strive to cut out unnecessary risks and bad health habits
- ★ Make time for my family and reduce unnecessary stress
- ★ Find ways to create and find joy in life

Name _____ Alternate ID _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Signature _____ Date _____

This pledge is available and can be printed from the Pipe Trades website. Print one for yourself and each of your family members, sign it and hang it on the refrigerator as a daily reminder of your commitment. This commitment fits seamlessly with what we are planning to accomplish with the Pipe Trades Health & Wellness Centers. We will keep a copy of your commitment on file at the Centers and is in lieu of having copays or deductibles associated with your visits.

The Welfare Fund also has the following programs to support you in your commitment to be as healthy as you can be!

Health Coaching – Health & Wellness coaching has proven to be a powerful tool in helping people take charge of their personal health. For those with chronic conditions, to those with concerns about family health history, to those who are healthy and want to stay that way... health & wellness coaching can help.

Healthy Pregnancy Program – this is one of the most important events in your life and making sure you get the best care for you and your baby is our goal

Tobacco Cessation – The negative health effects from tobacco use is undisputed. We have a comprehensive program to help you kick the habit.

Fit Choices – This health club reimbursement program is very popular and utilized by over 800 Pipe Trades members. Members and spouses can receive a \$20 per month credit by exercising at the club 8 times per month.

For information on any of these programs contact the Pipe Trades Health & Wellness Hotline through Medica at 1-866-343-5717

Summary Annual Report

FOR TWIN CITY PIPE TRADES PENSION SUPPLEMENT AND RETIREE HEALTH PLANS

This is a summary of the annual reports of the Twin City Pipe Trades Pension Supplement Plan and Twin City Pipe Trades Retiree Health Plan for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

The full annual reports for the benefit plans are filed with the Internal Revenue Service as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) under the following employer identification numbers:

Twin City Pipe Trades Pension Supplement Plan 41-1539354 Twin City Pipe Trades Retiree Health Plan 16-1657260

TCPT Pension Supplement Fund Basic Financial Statement

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$607,284,124 as of December 31, 2011, compared to \$624,076,518 as of January 1, 2011. During the plan year the plan experienced a change in its net assets of \$-16,792,394. This change includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had total income of \$21,269,541, which included employer contributions of \$24,141,228, employee contributions of \$0, gain/loss of \$0 from the sale of assets, and earnings from investment of \$-4,025,988.

Total plan expenses were \$38,061,935. These expenses included \$314,576 in administrative expenses and \$37,747,359 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries, and \$0 in other expenses. A total of 6,883 persons were participants or beneficiaries of the plan at the end of the plan year, although not all of these persons had yet earned the right to receive benefits.

TCPT Retiree Health Fund Basic Financial Statement

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$113,344,508 as of December 31, 2011, compared to \$104,487,973 as of January 1, 2011. During the plan year the plan experienced a change in its net assets of \$8,856,535. This change includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had total income of \$14,021,649 which, included employer contributions of \$12,952,032 employee contributions of \$0, gain/(loss) of \$544,505 from the sale of assets, and earnings from investment of \$525,112.

Total plan expenses were \$5,165,114. These expenses included \$426,851 in administrative expenses and \$4,738,263 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries, and \$0 in other expenses.

Your Rights To Additional Information: You have the right to receive a copy of each full annual report or any part upon request. The items listed below are included in that report for the Pension and Welfare Plans.

- An accountant's report.
- Financial Information and information on payments to service providers.
 - Assets held for investment.
 - Transactions in excess of 5% of plan assets.
- Information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled separate accounts, master trusts, or 103-12 investment entities in which the plan participates.
- Actuarial information regarding the funding of the plan

To obtain a copy of each of the full annual reports, or any part of a report, write or call the Office of the Plan Administrator, Twin City Pipe Trades Service Association, Inc., 700 Transfer Road, St. Paul, MN 55114, and Telephone 651-645-4540. The report is furnished without charge.

You also have the right to receive from the Plan Administrator, on request and at no charge, a statement of the assets and liabilities of each plan and

accompanying notes, or both. If you request a copy of the full annual report from the Plan Administrator, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report.

You also have the legally protected right to examine each annual report at the main office of the Employee Benefit Plans, 700 Transfer Road, St. Paul, MN 55114 and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, DC. Requests to the Department of Labor should be addressed to Public Disclosure Room N 1513, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210.

You have received this report in accordance with requirements of ERISA because you were a participant in at least one of the plans. Receipt of this report does not in any way imply that you were a participant in all of the listed plans. This report does not create any rights, or give benefits to you, other than those you were entitled to under the terms of a particular plan in which you qualified to be a participant. If you have any questions regarding whether you are a participant in a particular plan, or what benefits or entitlements are due you from a plan please contact the Service Association office.

Summary Annual Report

FOR TWIN CITY PIPE TRADES PENSION AND WELFARE PLANS

This is a summary of the annual reports of the Twin City Pipe Trades Pension Plan and Twin City Pipe Trades Welfare Plan for the period May 1, 2011 to April 30, 2012. The full annual reports for the benefit plans are filed with the Internal Revenue Service as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) under the following employer identification numbers:

Twin City Pipe Trades Welfare Plan 41-0761972

Twin City Pipe Trades Pension Plan 41-6131800

TCPT Welfare Fund Basic Financial Statement

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$72,280,260 as of April 30, 2012, compared to \$62,177,306 as of May 1, 2011. During the plan year the plan experienced a change in its net assets of \$10,102,954. This change includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had total income of \$64,447,253 which included employer contributions of \$52,050,005, employee contributions of \$4,817,057 gain of \$7,762 from the sale of assets, and earnings from investment of \$1,553,120.

Total plan expenses were \$54,344,299. These expenses included \$1,804,612 in administrative expenses and \$52,539,687 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries, and \$0 in other expenses.

INSURANCE INFORMATION

The plan has (a) contract(s) with, United Health Group-Medica, United Health Group-Medica Advantage Plan and Medica Passport to pay certain Retiree Health Benefit Claims. The total premiums paid for the plan year ending April 30, 2012 were \$6,566,858.

TCPT Pension Fund Basic Financial Statement

The value of plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$650,481,659 as of April 30, 2012, compared to \$653,415,583 as of May 1, 2011. During the plan year the plan experienced a change in its net assets of \$-2,933,924. This change includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had total income of \$38,742,885 which included employer contributions of \$34,209,634, employee contributions of \$0, loss of \$-6,951,427 from the sale of assets, and earnings from investment of \$11,097,278.

Total plan expenses were \$41,676,809. These expenses included \$3,278,975 in administrative expenses and \$38,397,834 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries, and \$0 in other expenses. A total of 7,190 persons were participants or beneficiaries of the plan at the end of the plan year, although not all of these persons had yet earned the right to receive benefits.

Note 1: Professional, legal and investment management fees included in the administrative expenses listed above were \$2,326,412.

Minimum Funding Standards

An actuary's statement shows that enough money was contributed to the plan to keep it funded in accordance with the minimum funding standards or ERISA

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 - Assets held for investment.
 - Transactions in excess of 5% of plan assets.
- Information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled separate accounts, master trusts, or 103-12 investment entities in which the plan participates.
- Actuarial information regarding the funding of the plan

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You have received this report in accordance with requirements of ERISA because you were a participant in at least one of the plans. Receipt of this report does not in any way imply that you were a participant in all of the listed plans. This report does not create any rights, or give benefits to you, other than those you were entitled to under the terms of a particular plan in which you qualified to be a participant. If you have any questions regarding whether you are a participant in a particular plan, or what benefits or entitlements are due you from a plan please contact the Service Association office.

BLUEPRINT UPDATE

BLUEPRINT FOR RETIREMENT

Investmap Conversion

As we at Sentry Retirement Consultants continue with our efforts to help you achieve your investment and retirement goals, these past few months have been busy ones indeed. For those members with any assets in the plan's traditional model portfolios, the need to eliminate those models and the resulting conversion to Investmap generated many questions and inquiries. The incoming member call volume spiked considerably. All in all, the reaction to the conversion has been a positive one. Investmap is not that much different than the models members have been using for years, except for one major feature, and we feel, improvement. Using the same investment fund options, rather than placing and keeping you in a model with a static asset allocation, Investmap now positions you in an allocation generally suitable for your specific age. Most importantly, it continues "gliding" you to more conservative allocations as you get older. Investmap takes care of this automatically for you! A very large number of you chose to utilize Investmap and we feel that decision will serve you well.

For those members not comfortable with the allocation Investmap assigned to them, you definitely have options. These include using any of the individual core funds, or even constructing your own model portfolio, including the rebalancing feature if you wish. For those of you who feel the allocations Investmap uses for your particular age are good, but just not quite right for your individual situation, you do have the flexibility of tweaking those allocations to either become somewhat more conservative or more aggressive. Call us and we can discuss how you are able to do this.

Finally, for those members who may have let this process slip by, please take a careful look at your next statement and feel free to give us a call with any questions or concerns you might have. You always retain total flexibility with regards to reallocating your account and we are here to help and advise you with that process at any time.

Education and Annuity Products

As we mentioned in the last issue of this newsletter, for those of you who have not taken advantage of the services available to you through Sentry Retirement Consultants, we invite you to visit our website at www.sentry-retire.com. Starting with our next newsletter we hope to be able to draw your attention to articles, information and investment links that will hopefully be of particular interest to TCPT members. In the meantime, we invite you to continue going to the "Newsletters" dropdown under the "Participant Education" tab on our homepage. There you will find quarterly investment articles designed for general retirement plan participants. We hope you will find some of those to be interesting and helpful.

In the last newsletter in the Blueprint Update section we also mentioned that we will feature one article or information on a topic we hope will prove to be particularly timely for the TCPT members. Most of the time, these will address topics and concerns that you, the members are bringing to our attention. In this edition, we would like to revisit something that continues to come up a lot. This is the topic of moving your Pension Supplement Plan assets into an annuity product. The primary reason or to be frank, selling point most often given to you usually involves the word "guarantee". You are typically being told that you can "stay invested in the market, but your money is guaranteed". If you are currently being approached about such a product, or in the event you are at some point in the future, our message to you is very clear.

PLEASE CALL US BEFORE YOU MAKE ANY COMMITMENTS OR DECISIONS!

We sell no investment products at Sentry. Our experience and advice is all that we offer and our only goal is your success in retirement! These annuity products are very complicated and in most cases, the sales pitch can be very misleading. There are many caveats you need to be aware of and watch out for! We will help you sort them all out and give you an unbiased opinion on the suitability of such an investment for your individual situation. It is not that these products cannot be good investments. We just want to help make sure they are not bad ones for you.

For Investment Success Get Connected to Sentry Retirement Consultants

We want to wish you all the best for the remaining days and weeks of fall. Please continue to call or arrange an appointment with us to discuss your Pension Supplement account, your retirement goals and income needs, or any other investment related issues or concerns. For those of you who see retirement on the horizon within the next 5 years, it is especially important to consider letting us help you with an overall review. We are here to help!

Sentry Retirement Consultants
www.sentry-retire.com

John and Steve Ehlers

952-697-3707

john.ehlers@lpl.com

**1660 South Highway 100, Suite 500
St Louis Park, MN 55416**

\$100 Per Account Dividend Declared!

Trustees of the Twin City Pipe Trades Pension Supplement plan declared a dividend of \$100 per account. The TCPT Pension Supplement Plan has approximately 6,800 members so this dividend represents \$680,000 being distributed to member accounts.

The dividend is the result of revenue sharing arrangements negotiated on our members' behalf by the TCPT Pension Supplement Plan, and our service partners Milliman, Wilmington Trust Company and Sentry Retirement Consultants.

You might be asking "how is this possible"? Or, where did this money come from? The answer is that TCPT along with our service providers handles all of the administration of this plan.

Think of it this way, if the 6,800 members from our plan were invested in one of the mutual fund selections directly, and not through this plan – the mutual fund company would have to maintain 6,800 separate accounts, handle all trading activity, mail out 6,800 statements and take calls from 6,800 members.

Well, in this plan the mutual fund has one account in TCPT's name, while TCPT and its partners maintain the 6,800 individual accounts, handle all trading activity, send out all the statements and take member calls. With that information in hand we have been able to negotiate revenue sharing back from the mutual funds

to pay for the work that we are doing – and they are not. After paying for all of our internal costs and those of our service providers the additional funds collected are being returned to member accounts.

The net result is that TCPT Fund members do not have any account maintenance fees, (most accounts of this type have quarterly or annual account maintenance fees) do not pay any transactions costs for trading and there are no fees for withdrawals. In addition the members are each receiving this dividend of \$100.00.

Just as an annual account maintenance fee (if TCPT had one) would be based on a per account basis, the Trustees have decided to allocate the dividend in this same manner.

The \$100 will be added to each account sometime in December and you will see this additional \$100 on your account statement for the fourth quarter 2012.

The dividend will be allocated under the choices you have made for "Future Elections" just like a contribution. If you are a retired member please review your account as your existing balances may be invested differently than the last time you had future elections. If there are differences you can move the dividend to your desired allocation.

We are very pleased to provide this dividend, which is one more reason we believe the TCPT Pension Supplement Plan continues to be "best in class!"

Medicare members of the Pipe Trades who are covered by Medica Group Prime Solution

There will be a small premium reduction for most retirees who are eligible for Medicare.

This premium adjustment is a one-time reduction for premiums in 2013, made possible through the use of federal funds that TCPT has received by continuing to provide retiree healthcare benefits. The overall cost of the coverage for 2013 remains the same as last year, but with the premium adjustment, you will pay a slightly lesser amount per month through 2013.

Note: The adjustment rate will not be available again in 2014 and if the cost again stays the same, you will revert back to the 2012 premium rate.

You will be individually notified of your new premium rate for 2013 before the end of the year.

Medicare members of the Pipe Trades who reside outside the Medica service area and are covered by the out of state Medica Group Passport Plan

There will be a small premium reduction for most retirees who are eligible for Medicare.

This premium adjustment is a one-time reduction for premiums in 2013, made possible through the use of Federal funds that TCPT has received by continuing to provide retiree healthcare benefits. The overall cost of the coverage for 2013 remains the same as last year, but with the premium adjustment, you will pay a lesser amount per month through 2013.

Note: The adjustment rate will not be available again in 2014 and if the cost again stays the same, you will revert back to the 2012 premium rate.

You will be individually notified of your new premium rate for 2013 before the end of the year.

Additionally, this out of state group will again have access to the SilverSneakers fitness center benefit that had been available in the past. As of 1/1/2013, SilverSneakers will replace the Medica Fit Choices fitness center benefit that was available in 2012.

We are very pleased to be able to provide this important benefit that allows for easy use of participating fitness centers around the county at no cost. Watch for a full update from Medica about this benefit improvement.



Retired Members

Early Retiree Reinsurance Program Notices

THE FOLLOWING NOTICE IS REQUIRED UNDER THE FEDERAL PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

What is the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program?

The Early Retiree Reinsurance Program (ERRP) is a Federal Program established under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The program reimburses some of the costs of health care benefits paid on behalf of early retirees. The percentage of large firms providing workers with retiree coverage has dropped from 66 percent in 1988 to 31 percent in 2008. This program was designed to assist those employers still providing retiree coverage.

NOTICE ABOUT THE EARLY RETIREE REINSURANCE PROGRAM

You are a plan participant, or are being offered the opportunity to enroll as a plan participant, in an employment-based health plan that is certified for participation in the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program. The Early Retiree Reinsurance Program is a Federal program that was established under the Affordable Care Act. Under the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program, the federal government reimburses a plan sponsor of an employment-based health plan for some of the costs of health care benefits paid on behalf of, or by, early retirees and certain family members of early retirees participating in the employment-based plan. By law, the program expires on January 1, 2014.

Under the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program, your plan sponsor may choose to use any reimbursements it receives from this program to reduce or offset increases in plan participants' premium contributions,

Why am I receiving this notice?

The TCPT Welfare Fund applied for and received funds made available through ERRP and as a requirement of receiving these funds, must provide notice to all eligible employees, retirees and dependents.

How does the ERRP program impact me?

The ERRP program and this notice do not impact your eligibility for coverage. Reimbursements received through ERRP will be used to offset Health Plan benefit cost increases for participants in the Welfare Fund. We will be using the ERRP reimbursements to fund the first year of the Family Health & Wellness Centers, to improve the health of the members and lower health care costs as well as to lower the premium contribution for Medicare participants.

co-payments, deductibles, co-insurance, or other out-of-pocket costs. If the plan sponsor chooses to use the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program reimbursements in this way, you, as a plan participant, may experience changes that may be advantageous to you, in your health plan coverage terms and conditions, for so long as the reimbursements under this program are available and this plan sponsor chooses to use the reimbursements for this purpose. A plan sponsor may also use the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program reimbursements to reduce or offset increases in its own costs for maintaining your health benefits coverage, which may increase the likelihood that it will continue to offer health benefits coverage to its retirees and employees and their families.

If you have received this notice by email, you are responsible for providing a copy of this notice to your family members who are participants in this plan.

Antiviral Medication for Influenza

Antiviral treatment will be covered as treatment for high-risk patients only and excluded under all other circumstances.

Antiviral medications, including Tamiflu (oseltamivir) and Relenza (anamivir) are for the prevention or treatment of influenza in high-risk patients.

High risk patients include:

- Adults and children who have chronic disorders of the pulmonary or cardiovascular system, including asthmas

- Adults and children who have required regular medical follow-up or hospitalization during the preceding year because of chronic metabolic diseases, renal dysfunction, hemoglobinopathies (abnormal hemoglobin /anemia), or immunosuppression
- Children and adolescents aged 6 months to 18 years who are receiving long-term aspirin therapy
- A specific condition that poses a risk of serious complications of influenza

Please contact the Fund Office for pharmacy benefit override procedures prior to seeking antiviral treatments if these circumstances apply.

FUND UPDATES

WELFARE FUND

The deductible election forms should be received at the fund office by December 1, 2012. If forms are not received by the deadline members will be defaulted into the same deductible election selected for the current 2012 calendar year.

New ID cards that reflect your deductible level will be mailed to plan participants around the first of the year, please watch your mail.

Reminder: Do not use your Caremark card for prescriptions related to workers compensation claims. Make sure to inform the pharmacist if you have a work comp injury and reiterate the prescriptions should not go through your regular insurance.

RETIREE HEALTH TRUST

The RHT plan is reviewing possible changes that would allow each local union to decide at what level they would like to fund retiree healthcare.

PENSION PLAN

Pension plan statements are now available on the website. After logging into the site click on the pension tab to see your pension statement and related information.

PENSION SUPPLEMENT PLAN

Remember the federal regulations and provisions of the plan are very specific with regard to hardship withdrawals. The hardship provisions are specifically for home mortgage or rent of a primary residence, medical premiums and uncovered medical bills and vehicle payments or major repairs.

Credit card bills, personal loans etc. are not covered under the regulations and plan provisions

LaborCare Health Fair at Target Field was a Huge Success!



Thank you for your attendance at the annual LaborCare Health Fair in May

Once again the event was a huge success with over 5,300 labor union members and their families in attendance. Despite a less than perfect weather day a good time was had by all. Health screening tests, visits with physicians, meeting with quality healthcare providers and learning about today's most pressing health care issues were just a few of the activities available.

This is just one of the many initiatives being put forth by the Pipe Trades Welfare Fund to help members change behaviors, to engage our members and to challenge members to live a healthier lifestyle, to enjoy life and save healthcare dollars at the same time. As we have stated before, estimates say that 40% to 50% of health care costs are related to lifestyle choices – you can and do make a difference! Thank you to all members that attended last year's fair; we hope to see you at Target Field again next year on April 20, 2013!

Every day, you have a chance to make good choices about your health!



**Save the Date
for next year
April 20, 2013**



Lingering Questions?

Investment Questions

Contact Sentry Retirement Consultants at 952-697-3707 or by email at john.ehlers@lpl.com.

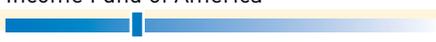
Investment Changes

Through the TCPT website (www.tcpt.org) or on the Voice Response Unit (VRU) at 877-645-8278. On both systems, your user ID is your social security number and your password is the month and year of your birth (MMYY). When on the VRU, you can either follow the prompts, or press "0" to speak to a live person.

Operations or Administration Issues

Call the TCPT office at 651-645-4540.

PERFORMANCE UPDATE

		TOTAL RETURN (%)		AVERAGE ANNUALIZED RETURNS (%)				
		As of	Quarter	Year-To-Date	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year or Since Inception
	Galliard Retirement Income	10/31/12	0.53%	1.79%	2.21%	2.97%	3.54%	4.38%
	PIMCO Total Return	10/31/12	1.77%	9.48%	10.39%	7.60%	8.76%	6.99%
	Income Fund of America	10/31/12	2.80%	10.39%	12.55%	11.32%	2.03%	8.23%
	MFS Value	10/31/12	3.88%	14.36%	14.67%	11.05%	0.05%	0.00%
	Vanguard Total Stock	10/31/12	3.32%	14.12%	14.74%	13.70%	0.84%	0.00%
	Davis NY Venture	10/31/12	3.18%	10.76%	10.76%	8.65%	-2.24%	6.54%
	Hartford Capital Appreciation	10/31/12	6.42%	13.35%	8.92%	5.91%	-4.32%	0.00%
	JP Morgan Mid Cap Value	10/31/12	5.72%	18.35%	20.30%	17.85%	3.98%	10.46%
	Columbia Acorn A	10/31/12	4.16%	12.26%	9.04%	13.92%	1.44%	11.07%
	Royce Low Price	10/31/12	4.66%	1.95%	-5.18%	8.68%	1.02%	10.18%
	Neuberger Berman	10/31/12	5.34%	7.71%	7.12%	14.25%	2.71%	10.72%
	Fidelity Advisor Diversified Intl	10/31/12	6.69%	14.50%	8.47%	4.58%	-6.09%	7.34%
	Capital World Growth & Income	10/31/12	4.92%	14.69%	12.20%	6.62%	-2.26%	10.23%
INDUSTRY INDEXES								
	Barclays Aggregate Bond	10/31/12	0.40%	4.20%	5.25%	6.08%	6.38%	5.39%
	S&P 500 Stock	10/31/12	2.96%	14.29%	15.21%	13.21%	0.36%	6.91%
	Russell 2000	10/31/12	4.41%	11.75%	12.08%	14.82%	1.19%	9.59%
	NASDAQ	10/31/12	1.28%	14.28%	10.91%	13.34%	0.81%	8.39%

* Performance history prior to December 1993 is that of the host fund, also advised by Morley Capital Management

**Quarter, Year-To-Date, 1-Year, and 3-Year are Admiral Share Class, Inception 11/13/00; all others are Investor Share Class.

***Weighted returns based on each fund's representation in the Model Portfolio

Member Reminders

Keeping the following items in mind will help us to serve you better!

Please remember:

- > Rick Eilers has replaced Bob Hansen as the trustee representing Minneapolis Plumbers Local #15 on the Pension, Pension Supplement and Service Association boards. Thank you Bob for your many years of dedicated service; enjoy your retirement!
- > Scott Gale has replaced Rick Eilers as trustee on the Welfare and Retiree Health Funds, welcome Scott.
- > Don't forget www.tcpt.org or www.pipetradeservices.org as a resource for many of your benefit questions. Call the fund office if you have not yet registered for the site.

PIPE TRADES SERVICES MN

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Benefit Fund Trustees

Welfare Fund

William Daugherty
Maggy Kottman
Scott Gale
Michael Tieva
Rick Magler
Paul Batsche
Tom McCarthy
Gary Thaden

Retiree Health Fund

William Daugherty
Maggy Kottman
Scott Gale
Michael Tieva
Rick Magler
Paul Batsche
Tom McCarthy
Gary Thaden

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Russ Scherber
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Steve Pettersen
Paul Jordan
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Pension Supplement Fund

Joe O'Shaughnessy
Russ Scherber
Stan Theis
Rick Eilers
Steve Pettersen
Paul Jordan
Gary Erlander
Kevin Campana
Dave Ybarra

This newsletter is intended to communicate information which may be useful to individuals who participate in one or more of the Twin City Pipe Trades benefit plans. Receipt of this newsletter does not imply that you are entitled to benefits under any plan, and this newsletter does not take the place of or modify the terms of any Twin City Pipe Trades Benefit Plan, or Summary Plan Description (SPD) which describes the benefits available under those plans or modify eligibility or other participation criteria.



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