

PURA News

Purdue University Retirees Association

September 2016

Purdue University Retirees Association Health Insurance Plans Renewed for 2017 With Lower or Flat Premiums For Most Members

The Benefits Committee of the Purdue University Retirees Association (PURA) has renewed the PURcare and Medicare Advantage PPO group health insurance plans with United Healthcare (UHC) for 2017 **with a small reduction in premium for most PURcare members and no premium increase for Medicare Advantage members.**

No changes were made to either plan for 2017. The goals of the committee were to maintain the very best medical and drug insurance plans with the lowest premiums possible, while maintaining your ability to manage your health care with your Medicare doctor.

PURcare, the Purdue sponsored Senior Supplement plan and Part D Prescription Drug Plan, will continue for 2017 with the same medical/drug and vision benefits as 2016. The total premium will be \$263.85 per member per month, a small reduction in the premium from 2016.

PURcare members with Rx coverage from the Veterans Administration - for 2017 the Supplement-only premium will be \$193.70/member/month, a slight increase.

**\$263.01 \$274.52 \$268.32 \$262.94 \$276.22
\$263.96 \$263.85**

Question: What Do These Numbers Represent?

Answer: PURA PURcare Plan Premiums for 2011-2017!!!

Purdue Human Resources Support Continues:

PURA members continue to receive outstanding support from Purdue Human Resources. Our plans support some of the cost of this staff. Please phone or contact Kate LaMar with questions at klamar@purdue.edu or 765-494-1694 for assistance.

The premium for the Medicare Advantage PPO Plan for 2017 will be the same as for 2015 and 2016 at \$208.49/member/month. There will be no change to Hospital/Medical co-pays or Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

The PURA Benefits Committee worked with representatives of UnitedHealthcare, Aon Hewitt Consultants and the staff of Purdue Human Resources over the past year reviewing data and studying various aspects of the health care industry to determine the best plans for all.

Members should be advised that the future introduction of many specialty drugs, some costing thousands of dollars per month, and the ever escalating health care costs will make holding the line on premiums very difficult for future years. The Benefits Committee is working on educational materials that will help members understand what to expect in the future and to continue to manage their health care in the most cost effective manner possible. Follow the PURA Newsletters, PURA Web page and look for a scheduled workshop for the latest information.

Members enrolled in either of the retiree group plans who do not want to make a change: your coverage will automatically continue for 2017 – no re-enrollment.

If you decide to terminate your Purdue Retiree group coverage for a non-Purdue plan, you will not be able to join again at a later time.

\$208.49 \$208.49 \$208.49

Question: What Do These Numbers Represent?

Answer: PURA Medicare Advantage Premiums for 2015-2017!!!

Your PURA Benefits Committee:

Don Gentry, Chair; Melinda Bain, PURA President; Robert Bain; John Beelke; Charles Brown; Linda Duttlinger; Fred Ford; Solomon Gartenhaus; Sue Hiser; Harry Morrison; Betty Nelson; Larry Pherson; Sandy Singer; Cliff Swensen; Leon Thacker; Roberta Thomas; Olivia Wood; John Trott, President Elect of PURA. Human Resources Staff: Kate LaMar; Eva Nodine; Michele Salla and Teresa Wesner.

September 15-16 CALC Symposium Open to Retirees

The Center for Aging and the Life Course (CALC) is hosting the symposium, *Time Horizons and Optimal Aging*, on September 15 and 16. Over 20 retirees attended last year's symposium and found the material interesting and stimulating.

This year there will be a public art exhibit that examines the art of aging from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 15, in the PMU West Faculty Lounge. There are also two public lectures on Friday morning, Sept. 16, beginning at 9:00 in Fowler Hall.

The symposium speakers are David J. Ekerdt, PhD, Professor of Sociology and Director of the Gerontology Center at The University of Kansas, and Laura L. Cartensen, Professor of Psychology and the Fairleigh S. Dickinson Jr. Professor of Public Policy at Stanford University. David

Ekerdt studied retirement timing and is now focused on how people decide to give away their material possessions. He will speak generally about the dynamics and time horizons of aging but is likely to include issues on how our sense of time leads us to begin "transferring possession" to others. Laura Cartensen will focus on how people manage their emotions as they age and how our time horizon shifts our motivation and life goals. Our view of the future is critical to aging well.

All lectures are free but you must register to attend. The registration form may be found on the PURA web site, www.purdue.edu/retirees.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to learn more about aging. We hope you will be able to attend the art exhibit and/or the lectures. CALC received a grant from the PURA Activities and Opportunity Endowment Fund in support of this event. (S. Hiser)

Insurance Assistance to Official Retirees Under Age 65 Now Available

October – and open medical insurance enrollment – are just around the corner. With that in mind, now is a good time to start thinking about your insurance needs and choices for the upcoming year.

Purdue University, in partnership with the Purdue University Retirees Association and the Henriott Group, Inc., has arranged assistance for official Purdue retirees under the age of 65 and not yet eligible for Medicare, to help you understand your health insurance options in retirement.

The Health Insurance Marketplace (also known as the Exchange), created as part of the Affordable Care Act, offers health insurance options to ensure everyone in the United States has access to affordable health care.

It is likely that some number of Purdue retirees would be eligible for a premium tax credit (also known as a subsidy)

to assist with the cost of healthcare through the Marketplace. There are several plans available and it can be difficult to find a well-matched plan. That's where Henriott comes in. They are knowledgeable and experienced in helping you shop for a plan that best suits your needs.

During Purdue's annual open enrollment period (beginning in late October) the Henriott Group will be ready to assist you as a Purdue retiree to review coverage options for you and your covered dependents who are not yet eligible for Medicare.

Purdue University and PURA are pleased to be able to offer this assistance, and we encourage you to review your options for 2017.

More specific information will be shared in the upcoming months via *PURA News*. In addition, retirees under the age of 65 currently enrolled in a Purdue medical plan will receive information directly from Purdue University in their annual open enrollment brochure. (M. Warren)

Campus & Community Activities Committee Schedules Talk about Early Voting in Tippecanoe County

On Thursday, September 22, at 4:00 PM, PURA members and their guests who are interested in exploring the nitty-gritty processes of early voting and have questions about the voting process may attend a program at the Tippecanoe County Offices, 20 N 3rd St, Lafayette, in the Tippecanoe Room.

The program will discuss how sites for early voting are determined, how the equipment is set up, how volunteers

are found to staff the sites, how early voting occurs, how the time period is established, how people vote when they go to the county office, how the ballots are counted, and where the tallies are kept.

Parking Information: City and County garages are free on weekdays in the evening (6 pm - 7 am); otherwise there is a fee. On-street parking is intended primarily for downtown visitors, patrons and shoppers. During the weekday (Mon.-Fri., 7 am-5 pm), most on-street parking is time restricted (1-hr, 2-hr, or 3-hr). Parking signs in each half-block indicate the time permitted. Sites near the County Offices are mostly 2-hour spaces.

August Monthly Luncheon Featured Discussion of Cancer Therapy and Immunotherapy



Over 90 PURA members attended the August MCL program to hear Dr. Timothy Ratliff, Director of the Purdue Center for Cancer Research and Distinguished Professor of Comparative Pathobiology, speak on Cancer Therapy and Immunotherapy. The Purdue Center, first founded in 1978, is one of 68 National Cancer Centers in the U.S. and one of only 7 centers with a focus on basic science.

Dr. Ratliff described basic science research as making the tools needed to address a cancer invasion. Knowledge about what makes the cancer cell grow then leads to new therapies and treatments to stop or control the growth. This is especially a challenge since cancer cells constantly undergo mutations.

Immunotherapy is the use of the body's own immune

system to fight the cancer. In lung cancer, still the #1 cancer killer in the world, response rates of up to 60% have been observed with a 20% cure rate. Understanding why 40% do not respond is one of the targets for the new U.S. Government "moon shot" focus on cancer.

Dr. Phillip Low of the Purdue Cancer Center is working on genetically modified killer cells. The killer cells are initially grown in the laboratory setting for eventual injection into humans to treat the specific cancer invasion. Although not yet approved by the FDA, one type of leukemia is close to approval for treatment using genetically modified killer cells.

Currently 10-12 years is needed for a lab discovery to proceed through human clinical trials before receiving FDA approval, at a cost of up to 1.7 billion dollars. The "moon shot" focus should be able to reduce the FDA approval time to half the current time. Another very important focus will be to reduce the cost of treatments which are currently in the range of \$100,000. (O. Wood)

PURA Leadership Attends Idea-Sharing Conference

Thirteen of the member schools sent representatives to the annual Big Ten Retirees Association Conference hosted by the University of Nebraska the first weekend in August. Ideas were shared by each association for promoting programs and activities to foster a healthy retirement through both physical and mental health. Conferees were privileged to visit the State Museum of Natural History and the International Quilt Study Center and Museum, both located on campus, as well as several research facilities on Nebraska's new Innovation Center Campus, which is similar in focus to Purdue's Research Park.

Unique to Nebraska is a partnership between athletics and research on sports-related concussions through the Center for Brain, Biology and Behavior which is housed in the



Olivia Wood and Giant Mammoth at Nebraska State Museum of Natural History

football stadium.

PURA President Melinda Bain, Immediate Past President Olivia Wood, and Treasurer Robert Bain represented PURA and brought back practical ideas to share with respective PURA committees for future programming and activities for our members.

The 2017 Big Ten Retirees Association Conference will be hosted by PURA on August 25-27. (M. Bain)

In Memoriam: Tom Haworth, 1943—2016

PURA shares with sadness the passing of one of our board members, Tom Haworth, who had served as the chair of the Trips and Tours Committee since May 2013. He joined Purdue in 1975 as a Human Resource Employment Interviewer, and in 1978 became Human Resource Manager of the Libraries and Audio Visual Center, where he spent the majority of his Purdue career. Tom retired in 2010, after 35 years of service. His energy and friendship will be missed.



Greater Lafayette Museum of Art to Exhibit First Indiana State Flag



The first Indiana state flag will be on display at the Greater Lafayette Museum of Art for two months beginning September 23.

In conjunction with the state's 200th birthday, the Indiana Historical Bureau has agreed to lend it to the museum in recognition of its founding of Art Smart: Indiana, a program that brings art and history to Hoosier classrooms.

The museum will celebrate with a reception at 6:30-8:30 PM on September 23 in conjunction with the opening of another exhibit, Indiana Artists: Bicentennial Members Exhibition in the East and McDonald galleries. The reception is free and open to the public.

The flag will be displayed in the Weil Galleries, which also features an Art Smart art exhibit that spans the history

of the state with original works from private and public collections, as well as the museum's permanent collection. It is believed to be one of only three exhibits statewide that capture all 200 years of the state's history.

The flag was adopted by the General Assembly in 1917 as a part of the commemoration of the state's centennial. A gold torch shines in the center of a field of blue, to represent liberty and enlightenment. Around the torch are 19 stars representing Indiana's place as the 19th state to join the Union.

Art Smart brings art and history to Indiana classroom through its website at <http://artsmartindiana.org>, which includes more than 100+ images from 1800 to present. It also provides a resource catalog and teaching guide developed to meet Indiana educational standards for visual arts, social studies, English language arts, math, science and media studies.

Related Web Sites:

Indiana Historical Bureau: <http://www.in.gov/history/>
Indiana flag: <http://www.in.gov/history/2797.htm>

Fall Wellness Screenings

First and foremost I would like to thank all retirees for participating in our screenings. Without you we would not exist. Our 4th year nursing students and our graduate nurses learn from you. Thank you for your dedication.

All exams are free. Only one wellness screening per calendar year is allowed for retirees and spouses.

Fall dates for Wellness Screenings are as follows. Screenings offered are Total Cholesterol/HDL/Glucose, ear checks, hearing assessment and diabetic foot checks. Fasting is not necessary unless you want a fasting glucose level. Walk-ins are welcome, but you may have a short wait time.

9/23/2016- Lyles-Porter Hall 9am-1pm

9/30/2016- Westminster 9am-2pm

10/7/2016- Lyles-Porter Hall 9am-1pm

11/7/2016-University Place 9am-1pm

Contact me, Chris Rearick, at 496-0308 or email to crearick@purdue.edu to schedule.

Mark Your Calendars!

September 5 *NO PURA Monthly Meeting*— Labor Day

September 9 – **Indiana Bicentennial Torch Relay begins.** Corydon, Indiana, site of the state's first capitol

September 12 **Annual PURA Kickoff Luncheon**, commemorating PURA's 40th Anniversary. 11:30 AM (doors open, luncheon begins at noon), Four Points by Sheraton, West Lafayette

September 22 **Campus and Community Activity - Election Information Meeting** 4:00 PM, Tippecanoe Room, Tippecanoe County Offices, 20 N 3rd St, Lafayette

October 3 **PURA Monthly Meeting**, MCL Cafeteria, 11:00 AM

October 10 **Flu Shots**, Daniel Turf Center, 1340 Cherry Lane, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM. Free. No appointment needed. Bring Purdue ID.

October 12 **Torch Relay through Tippecanoe County.** Begins with a celebration at Columbian Park and then torchbearers will go through downtown Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Purdue.

October 14 **Flu Shots**, Daniel Turf Center, 1340 Cherry Lane, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM. Free. No appointment needed. Bring Purdue ID.

October 25 **Flu Shots**, Kurz Purdue Technology Center, Conference Room A & B, Purdue Research Park, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM. Free. No appointment needed. Bring Purdue ID

November 7 **PURA Monthly Meeting, SPECIAL TIME & LOCATION**
Topic: Tech Toys—great stuff for gifts or gifts for yourself! This meeting will start promptly at 10:30 with the PURA business meeting, followed by the presentation.

Speaker: Scott Ksander

Time: 10:30 AM

Location: Daniel Turf Center, 1340 Cherry Lane, West Lafayette (old dairy barn location)

****RSVP:** Please contact the meeting facilitator, Sandy Komaski, to alert her you will be attending. Contact information: sandyk@purdue.edu or call/text 765-426- 0704