

April 2007



**Kettle Moraine
UniServ Council**

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Volume 24 No. 7

May 8
KMUC Rep. Assembly
5:30

Racer's Hall
W4408 Cty Rd C
Plymouth

May 9
**CBC/President's
Meeting**
6:00 p.m.
KMUC Office

May 14
**ESP Year End Social &
Stress Management
Training**
5:30—7:30
KMUC Office

May 22
Exec. Com. Meeting
4:30 p.m.
KMUC Office

May 28
**Memorial Day
Office Closed**

*KMUC is affiliated with WEAC and
NEA*



KMUC's Legislative Dinner

KMUC's Legislative Dinner was held March 19, 2007 at Millhome Supper Club. Our locals were represented by 143 members. Legislators or their representatives who attended were Dave Anderson, District Director for Rep. Thomas Petrie, Rep. Steve Kestell, Marlene Mielke, Regional Representative for Senator Kohl, Bob Schweder, representing Sen. Russ Feingold and Rep. Bob Zeigelbauer. Three of our local Superintendents attended as well as five school board members and there were nine WEAC Governance and Staff members. After dinner, Vaughn Vance from WEA Trust gave a power point presentation on Health Care Costs and Reforms.

Below you will see some of the statistics and information he shared with the group.

How much has the cost of health care increased?

If the price of milk had skyrocketed at the same rate as medical services in the last four decades, a gallon today would cost you a whopping \$30.



Defining Excellence. Delivering Value. The Trust Difference.



His presentation was very interesting. Some of the most expensive medical care is delivered in Wisconsin.

◆ Eight out of the top ten highest-priced metropolitan areas for physician costs in the United States are from Wisconsin. Some of the causes for this are unrestrained technology, cost shifting,

unnecessary utilization, inefficiencies, prescription drugs, uninsured lifestyle/health risks, provider charges, direct-to-consumer advertising, differential pricing, aging population and redundancy.

- ◆ Some of the health care inefficiencies begin with 30% of health care dollars wasted on administration and poor quality, the system is fragmented (i.e. claims processing) and compliance. Possible responses to this could be uniform pricing, price/quality transparency, a centralized processing system and centers for excellence.
- ◆ There are many brand name drugs available in a generic equivalent for a MUCH cheaper price. A few examples would be a prescription for prozac would cost approximately \$245 when the generic equivalent fluoxetine would cost under \$25, prilosec costs approximately \$190 and the generic equivalent prilosec OTC would cost under \$25.
- ◆ In 1997 the FDA permitted prescription drug advertising which has led to market growth versus competition. The direct-to-consumer advertising expenditures by the pharmaceutical industry exceeds \$3.3 billion. Some of the possible responses to these issues would be ban drug advertising and there are currently two bills underway to alleviate this, speed to market reforms for generics and evidence-based drug formularies—ex. tiered drug cards.

After Vaughn's presentation, each of the legislatures were given a few minutes to address the group and then questions were asked by some of the members. Thank you to all those who attended.

ESP Year End Social & Stress Management Training

Date: May 14, 2007
Time: 5:30—7:30 p.m.
Place: KMUC Office
Dinner Included

The social will begin at 5:30 with a cookout and training will begin at 6:00. There is no cost for the training. If interested in attending, please contact Sarah at 920-565-2913 or by email at berths@weac.org.

Kohl Teacher Fellow Award

Four of our local members were honored with the Kohl Teacher Fellow Award on April 15 at Oconto Falls High School. The recipients were Douglas Guyette, Manitowoc High School math teacher, Debra LaDuke, Kohler elementary teacher, Karen Sullivan, North High School Home Economics teacher and Norah Vandermolten, New Holstein elementary teacher. Each teacher will receive a \$1,000 Fellowship and an additional \$1,000 grant will be awarded to the teacher's school for the use in innovative educational projects. CONGRATULATIONS!!

Understand WRS—Your Pension Plan

Do you completely understand your state pension? If not, this is a presentation you can't miss!

WEA Trust Member Benefits is offering a FREE presentation to help you learn about this important benefit.

Learn how to:

- ◆ Read and interpret your pension statement.
- ◆ Calculate your Wisconsin Retirement System pension benefit.
- ◆ Choose an appropriate annuity option.
- ◆ Purchase forfeited service.
- ◆ Determine whether you will have a retirement income gap.

Understanding Wisconsin Retirement System—Your State Pension

When: **July 9, 2007**

Where: **Kettle Moraine UniServ Council office in Sheboygan**

Time: **10:30 a.m. or 6:00 p.m.**

There will be opportunities for questions during the presentation. Spouses are welcome. Seating is limited. Register now to attend one of the presentations! Call 1-800-279-4030, ext. 8563

Want a one-on-one meeting to discuss WEA Trust Member Benefits' programs? You may sign up for an individual consultation one of three ways:

- ◆ Call 1-800-279-4030, ext. 8563
- ◆ Email kschiller@weatruck.com
- ◆ In person following the presentation

Individual consultations are being held on July 9 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and July 10 and 11 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Kettle Moraine UniServ Council office in Sheboygan. Appointment times fill up fast, so sign up early!

Violence—Impact & Coping

Be accepting. Don't judge your emotional responses, or those of loved ones, as right or wrong. They are what they are.

Connect. Most of us find comfort and reassurance in speaking candidly about our concerns with close friends and family. We all need somebody to tell it to. When others come to you, remember to listen more than you speak.

Limit media exposure. Media coverage of violent and tragic events can be unrelenting. Create "time outs" from the bad news—take walks, do relaxing activities, play with your kids. Unplug

Be safe. Educate yourself and your loved ones about "street smarts" and common sense security. Review what to do in an emergency. In addition to being a good idea, this will afford some sense of control.

ol for use in innovative educational projects. CONGRATULATIONS!