



Representing Public Employees of Nevada

# FEBRUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

## Henderson Chapter

Meeting Site: American Legion Hall, 425 E Van Wagenen St  
More info: (702) 491-4861 Vicki Cameron, President

*Editor: ppetruso@aol.com*

### PERS REPORT

BY Terri Laird, Executive Director

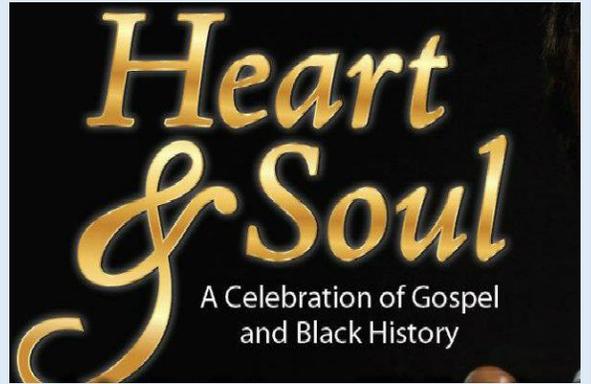
The PERS Board met January 18 in Carson City with no change to outstanding issues. The NPRI vs. PERS lawsuit is in appeal and the Nevada Supreme Court has scheduled oral arguments for March 7, 2018. Over 100,000 retirees will be impacted by the court's decision on public access to retiree information.

The PEBP Board met January 25. PEBP has continuing issues: outsourcing, customer service, improving services for Medicare recipients, and walking the tightrope between services and costs.

**Via Benefits** (formerly Towers Watson OneExchange) is scheduling one-on-one meetings with **Medicare HRA specialists** in Las Vegas Grant Sawyer Office Building, 555 E Washington. The specialist will help with forms requesting reimbursements and the documents you need to verify expenses. To discuss and find solutions to Medicare HRA problems, book an appointment for February 13-14-15, 8 am to 4 pm. March 12 & 13, 8 am to 4 pm, the appointments will be held at CSN, Cheyenne campus. The number to call for an appointment is 1-844-266-1395.

If you are a member of PEBP and receive a survey, complete it. It is important. Also, please contact RPEN headquarters with specific complaints if you feel you have not been given good customer service by PEBP or Via Benefits/OneExchange. Because of the potential impact on our members, RPEN Advocate Marlene Lockard is closely following PEBP proposals and actions.

RPEN has good relationships with the executive officers of both agencies and staff speaks to them frequently.



### Feb. 12 - Regular Monthly Meeting

**2:30 PM Speaker: Gina Joliff, Geriatric Case Manager.** Learn about the types of home care, legal considerations, paying for care, local resources, and more.

### Feb. 8 – 11 Best Dam Film Festival

Noon daily to 10 pm. Tickets: \$10 per program, \$35 per day, \$100 4-day pass sold online or at the theater. [damshortfilm.org](http://damshortfilm.org)

### Feb. 11 – Chinese New Year’s Celebration

See the Lion Dance! Folkloric music and marital arts demonstrations. 2 pm. Main Theater, Clark County Library, E. Flamingo. Free.

### Feb. 17 – Henderson Symphony Orchestra

Rimsky-Korsakov’s “Scheherazade” 8 pm. Green Valley Ranch. Free.

### Feb. 24 Heart & Soul - A Celebration of Gospel Music and Black History

Live gospel performances by numerous choirs, dance performance, food and merchandise vendors. Black History Month! Free 11 am – 3 pm Henderson Events Plaza, Water Street. Free.

### Mar. 12 - Monthly Chapter Meeting

Mary Camin, CERT Program Specialist  
**COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM**  
offers training in planning and responding to the next disaster.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Make a difference in your community by donating a few hours a week or one day a month to assist others and share your time, companionship, and skills.

Did you know that isolation may be the number one risk to your health and mental well-being as you grow older? Keeping yourself involved provides more than the self-satisfaction of doing good.

Volunteers are needed to serve as **Long Term Care Ombudsmen** in skilled nursing facilities. Be an advocate and voice for those who cannot speak or those who request assistance to help resolve complaints. Commitment: Training and 4 hours a week for one year. See Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division website [adsd.nv.gov/Programs/Seniors/LTCOmbudsman/LTCOmbudsProg/](http://adsd.nv.gov/Programs/Seniors/LTCOmbudsman/LTCOmbudsProg/)

The **Rape Crisis Center** of Las Vegas needs male and female volunteers to assist sexual assault victims. Staff needs help answering crisis calls 24/7, visiting victims in hospital, and making referrals for those seeking assistance. Commitment: Training and 4-6 hours weekly for six months. See the website [rclv.org/volunteer/](http://rclv.org/volunteer/)

The **Henderson Pavilion** on Green Valley Parkway is seeking guest services volunteers. The Pavilion provides a high level of service for each guest and family-friendly entertainment.

**Ticket Takers** greet incoming guests and help with tickets.

**Hosts** welcome guests, answer questions or escort to seating area.

**Ushers** greet each guest and escort them to their seat.

Contact Diane Schultz at 702-267-4849.

**Henderson Parks and Recreation Volunteers** work in numerous programs, from community cleanup and park/trail adoption to child care, youth sports, and assisting seniors.

Complete the volunteer application and mandatory background check authorization on the city website.

Browse the list. The Bird Viewing Preserve needs volunteers as does the Trail Watch program.

**Dining Room volunteers** are needed for lunch service at Heritage Park Senior Facility 10:30 to 1:30 and the Downtown Senior Center 11:15 to 1 pm, Monday through Friday. Contact Sue Kohl at 702-267-2950.

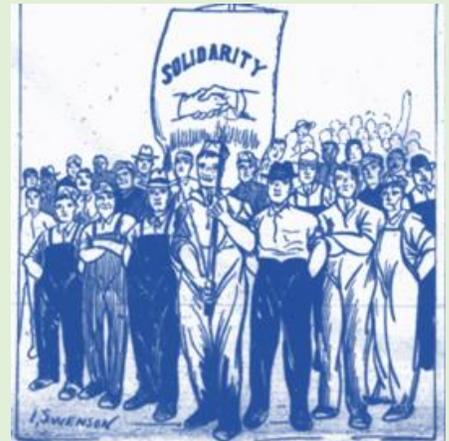
For other City service programs and special projects, contact VOLUNTEER CONNECTION PROGRAM at 702-267-4039.

The **Henderson District Public Libraries** need volunteers as does **Friends** of Henderson Libraries. You can assist librarians in a number of ways, some of which have physical demands, and you can help Friends by working in the book stores and Amazon sales. Pick up a volunteer application at any library branch.

## TURN ON THE BLUE!

The legislature's Interim Retirement & Benefits Committee will meet February 22 10 AM at the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, room 4401. This is our chance to see the Committee in person: Senator Ben Kieckhefer, Republican SD # 16 Carson City, Chair; Senator Julia Ratti, Democrat SD # 13 Washoe; **Senator Joyce Woodhouse, Democrat SD #5 Henderson/Clark**; Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton, Democrat #AD 14 Clark; Assemblywoman Olivia Diaz, Democrat AD #11 Clark; and Assemblyman Al Kramer, Republican AD # 40 Carson/Washoe. The meeting agenda is not published yet; it will be found on the Legislature Website soon. This is a very important oversight committee and we need to show them how committed we are to defending our benefits.

**JOIN THE BLUE BRIGADE at the SOB** wearing your royal blue RPEN tee shirt.



**DO YOU BELIEVE YOUR PENSION IS SAFE?**

California's Supreme Court will consider an appeal court ruling that public pensions can be reduced for active employees. (California reduced pensions for new employees five years ago, as did Nevada.) In a case brought by firefighters, the 1<sup>st</sup> District Court of Appeals Justices said "... the law is quite clear that they are entitled only to a 'reasonable' pension, not one providing fixed or definite benefits immune from modifications." If this stands, will reducing the pensions of retirees be far behind?

**MEMBERSHIP COUNTS!** VP Vicki Cameron needs volunteers to attend the PERS retirement meetings at the LV office on Eastern near the airport. Invest 2 to 4 hours in your future and distribute RPEN applications to the public employees that attend these meetings.