

Banner Blue News

Handicap Parking News



Many people deny that their medical condition is debilitating enough to require closer, handicapped parking. They underestimate the benefit of closer parking and how much energy it saves, allowing a disabled person to run errands, shop, go to doctor appointments, travel or participate in other activities, without wearing themselves out and jeopardizing their health even more. If you have a medical condition which may allow you to have a handicapped parking permit, talk to your doctor. Know what your state requires for you to obtain or renew a handicapped parking placard or license plate. There are differences between the states regarding what is required. Some states charge a processing fee, while other states offer handicapped parking permits for free. Some states require a doctor's prescription along with an application. The fraudulent use of disability plates and placards has come under closer scrutiny in many states, including Illinois. Many members who previously received a handicapped parking placard or plate may no longer qualify for one. Wabash members who receive their medical care at the Decatur outpatient clinic are asked to make an appointment to determine if they meet the qualifying criteria before completion of the applicable forms required to obtain or renew the plate or placard.

Wabash Membership Cards

The current Medical (Blue Cross/Blue Shield) and Prescription Drug (LDI) benefit cards are shown below. Please discard your old cards and present the new cards to your health care providers and pharmacy. The new cards contain updated contact information needed to process your claims correctly and quickly.



Chiropractic Benefit Change

At the March meeting, the Board raised the Chiropractic Care Benefit to 80% of approved charges to a maximum of \$900 per calendar year for Plans 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 17, 18, 19, 21, and 22.

Wabash Management

- Stephen Speagle - Board Chairman
- Mike Patrick, Vice Chairman
- Clarence Chabak- Retiree Rep
- Stephen Stone, BRS
- Eric Ashley, IBEW
- Charles Cox, BMOWE
- Rick Hayden, UTU
- Tim Hunt, NCFO
- Jeremy Jones, IAMAW
- Paul Stewardson, BRC
- Lucy Derlitzki, Alternate Retiree Rep
- Tamara Bivins, Administrator

Contact Us

Administration

Customer Service

Claims and Benefits

Membership/Eligibility

888 - 800 - 9161

217 - 429 - 5246

Decatur Outpatient Clinic

217 - 425 - 9642

The Banner Blue News

is published quarterly by
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Hospital Association.

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Any crafts associated with
Wabash Association may submit
articles or announcements
concerning Health & Welfare
to Janet for publication in
future editions.
Their inclusion is
subject to space available
and appropriateness as judged
by Editor and management.

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Dues News

1. **IDENTIFY** - Always put the member name(s) you are paying dues for on the memo line of your check so the correct account is credited.
2. **AUTO-PAYMENT** - An automatic payment program is available which allows your monthly dues to be automatically withdrawn from your bank account on the 5th of each month. If you are interested, please call the Association at 1-888-800-9161 and ask for Member Services.
3. **ON-TIME PAYMENT** - During these difficult economic times, it is sometimes easy to let monthly dues go unpaid. Keep us informed of your situation. We will work with you to make it through difficult times. Non-payment of your dues can result in:
 - Claims cannot be paid for any months for which dues have not been received.
 - Your coverage could be terminated
 - You would need to complete a six-month waiting period before coverage is reinstated
 - Coverage would be subject to a twelve-month exclusion period for pre-existing conditions upon reinstatement

Mental Health Benefit

Effective January 1, 2010, all mental health and substance abuse services must be precertified. Precertification is required even if you received mental health benefits prior to January 1, 2010. Present your provider with your new medical benefit card that contains precertification instructions and contact information.

In Memory

Evelyn Alsbury
Donna L Bates
Rupert S Blair
Orville L Bradley
Lorraine E Burns
William F Cyrus
Louis Dupree
John D Ferry
William C Hall
David F Hoover
Frances E Kearney
William L Lessley

Walter Machnik
Roxie K Moorehead
Orvall L Mygatt
Ola V Pike
Eugene F Ploussard
Elsie J Ronimous
Emma G Smith
Donald J Smith
Dennis Speer
A Mae White
Cherie Woods
Richard D Wornstaff

Thomas E Wynn

Wabash extends condolences to
family members and
Wabash members who have
recently passed away. Life can
be the same after a trinket has
been lost - but never after the
loss of a treasure.



Wabash Memorial Hospital Association
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www.wabashcannonball.org

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COBRA



The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) temporarily reduces COBRA premiums for members who experienced a COBRA qualifying event that was due to involuntary termination of employment. Eligible members pay only thirty-five percent of their COBRA premiums and the remaining sixty-five percent is reimbursed to Wabash through a tax credit. The involuntary termination must generally occur during the period that began September 1, 2008 and ends on March 31, 2010. The premium reduction applies to periods of health coverage that began on or after February 17, 2009 and lasts for up to fifteen months. Individuals who have reached the end of the original premium reduction period of nine months will have additional time to pay extension-related reduced premiums that were due prior to notice being provided. If you believe you meet the criteria for a premium reduction, contact Member Services to receive an application.

Prior Authorization Needed For Asthma Medication

Because of the increased risk of severe exacerbation of asthma symptoms in some patients that use a long-acting beta agonist (LABA) such as Serevent, Foradil, Symbicort and Advair, the FDA recommends review of the drug use for patients with asthma. Prior authorization of prescriptions for LABAs will now be required to ensure appropriate use based on the FDA guidelines.

Pledged To Life & Health

After 126 years, Wabash Memorial Hospital Association remains pledged to the life and health of its members:

- Employees who care about you
- Credentialed providers
- Benefits that use your due's dollars wisely while providing state of the art medical care



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125 Years of Railroaders Serving Railroaders

Spring- 2010

A Publication of
Wabash Memorial Hospital Association

Election For Board Representative

At the Annual Board Meeting on June 25th, the Board shall select a retired member to serve on the Board for a two-year term to represent retired members. An alternate will also be selected for a two-year term at that time. The alternate shall substitute when the representative is unable to attend a Board meeting. Retirees are currently served by Representative Clarence W. Chabak and Alternate Lucile Derlitzki.

Retired members may be considered by submitting the following information to the Administrator prior to June 1st:

- Name, address and qualifications;
- A petition supporting your candidacy signed by no less than ten retired members in good standing;
- A short list of issues you would focus on if selected.

The term begins after Board approval at the June meeting.

CanTrust Rx

Wabash offers an imported mail order drug program offering discounted prices on brand name drugs without a generic equivalent available in the United States. CanTrust Rx Midtown Pharmacy in Winnipeg, Manitoba will fill your prescriptions and ship them right to your door. CanTrust Rx is a Canadian licensed retail, mail and internet pharmacy with over thirty years of pharmaceutical experience. Complete the participant form available on the Pharmacy page of the Wabash website (www.wabashcannonball.org) or call Lydia at CanTrust Rx at 800-640-2221 for more information.



Wabash Holidays

Wabash Association Administration Office, Outpatient Clinic and Fitness Center will be closed Good Friday, April 2nd and Memorial Day, Monday, May 31st.