

Western Electric Retirees Group

Omaha Works Volunteers formally the Heartland Pioneers



Volume 2 Issue 44

August 6, 2019

Rick Madej notified us of the passing of Shirley. Shirley worked in 30 Bldg. in the injection molding area.



Shirley J Peterson.

Aug 6, 2019

Peterson, Shirley J. December 19, 1935 - August 5, 2019

Of Gretna. Preceded in death by her husband, Richard Peterson; parents, Raymond Bolon and Mary Hill; sisters, Mary Ann Muniz and Patricia Pacifico. Survived by her children: Deborah (Ronald) Glazebrook, John (Linda D.) Barris III, Linda S. Barris, Sheryl (Brian) Schroeder, Jeff Barris (Cyndie), Robert (Cheryl) Peterson; nine grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; one great-great-

grandchild; brother, David Bolon. VISITATION: 5-7pm Wednesday at Gretna Chapel. SERVICE: 10am Thursday, August 8, 2019, at Gretna United Methodist Church, 11457 S 204th St., Gretna, NE. Interment: Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Omaha, NE. Memorials to Peterson Park or G.U.M.C.

ROEDER MORTUAR

Gretna Chapel

11710 Standing Stone Drive
Gretna, NE
(402) 332-0090 | www.RoederMortuary.com

Gordy Viner
ePostmaster
g.viner@heartlandpioneers.com

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Trump Administration Issues Plan for Drug Imports

The Trump administration announced last week (July 31) a plan for allowing the importation of cheaper prescription drugs from other countries, particularly Canada. Alex Azar, Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), issued a plan outlining the steps it will take, including issuing a regulation to allow for states and pharmacies to submit drug importation pilot programs for approval. Since 2009 the National Retiree Legislative Network has advocated that Americans, especially retirees living on fixed incomes, be allowed to have access to safe, lower priced imported drugs that meet the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) safety standards.

The NRLN's lobbying efforts to gain prescription drug importation has included Action Alerts to members of Congress and President Trump; a petition to President Trump signed by 5,824 NRLN grassroots advocates, a meeting that the NRLN Executive Director and I had with an HHS Under Secretary, and two installments of our whitepaper on high prescription drug prices that we have lobbied on Capitol Hill during fly-ins. (Access whitepaper.)

Our lobbying efforts for the importation of safe and lower priced medicines is a testament to the NRLN's tenacity to constantly keep pressure on policy makers and our patience to gain our objective.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- SUBSCRIBE to receive periodic emails,
- ACT on NRLN Action Alerts,
- CONTRIBUTE to NRLN's lobby effort, or
- Make a tax-deductible DONATION to our American Retirees Education Foundation (AREF) research

An important element of the Administration's plan is that the FDA will work on safety guidelines for drug manufacturers who want to import any drugs they sell in foreign countries to the U.S. market. The manufacturer would have to prove to the FDA that the overseas version of the drug is the same as the FDA-approved version, and allow Americans to purchase the same drug for less money.

Ned Sharpless, acting FDA Commissioner said, "The FDA has the resources to do this. The agency is interested in considering any reasonable proposal that maintains the bedrock of safety and efficacy for the American consumer."
"For the first time in HHS's history, we are open to importation," Secretary Azar said on a call with reporters. "What we're saying today is we're open. There is a pathway. We can be convinced."

As you would expect, the pharmaceutical industry, a powerful force in Washington, DC, opposes the plan. "We haven't spoken about this plan with the pharmaceutical industry," Azar said.

Azar said complex regulations setting up the system could take "weeks and months." He called on Congress to pass legislation that would lend its muscle to the effort, making it harder to overturn the policy in court [from drugmaker lawsuits].

Bill Kadereit, President
National Retiree Legislative Network

BREAKING NEWS

NATIONAL RETIREES LEGISLATIVE NETWORK
REPORTING THE NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW

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Social Security's Definition of Disability

08/01/2019 02:15 PM EDT

This month marks the 29th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which was signed into law by President George H.W. Bush on July 26, 1990. Disability affects millions of Americans. It can inhibit peoples' quality of life and their ... [Continue reading →](#)



Planning to travel abroad this summer? Before you go, remember that Medicare usually does not cover health care services or supplies while you're traveling outside the United States (except in these rare cases).

Learn More

That doesn't mean you have to travel abroad without health coverage. Here are 3 ways you can get health coverage outside the U.S.:

1. If you have a Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap) policy, check your policy to see if it includes coverage when traveling outside the U.S.
2. If you have Medicare Advantage or another Medicare health plan (instead of Original Medicare), check with your plan to see if they offer coverage outside the U.S.
3. Consider buying a travel insurance policy that includes health coverage.

Safe travels!

Sincerely,
The Medicare Team

Please visit the websites of the plant and people of the former Omaha Works. All sites are administered/maintained by retired volunteers for your enjoyment and providing useful and interesting information and notifications:

www.Heartlandpioneers.com

www.Omahaworks.net

www.Weoma.com

www.Owrg.org

Gordy Viner

g.viner@heartlandpioneers.com

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Omaha Works Volunteers Retiree Group | P.O. Box 541233, Omaha, NE 68154

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