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Retirement Weekly

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Moving to a low-tax state could still prove costly

Do your homework before changing your residence

By Neil Downing, CFP®

Pulling up stakes to avoid taxes?

Not so fast.

Unless you plan carefully — and follow through on those plans — you could end up owing tax to your old state.

This is an especially important point to keep in mind if you are retired or about to retire and thinking about moving from a high-tax state to a low-tax state. There are lots of ways to trip up from a tax standpoint — and your old state may be watching closely, with its hand out.

Consider the case of Sidney Swartz, chairman of Timberland, the well-known maker of boots, clothes and other items.

Swartz and his wife, Judith, owned homes in Massachusetts (which has an income tax) and Florida (which doesn't).

They were in the process of building their social and civic ties to Florida when they sold Timberland stock on two occasions in late 2004, generating capital gains each time, court papers show.

The Swartzes said they were Florida residents for tax purposes and therefore owed no income tax to Massachusetts.

The Massachusetts Department of Revenue, however, asserted that the Swartzes were Massachusetts residents for tax purposes and as a consequence owed about $827,000 in state income tax, plus about $63,000 in interest, court documents show.

The couple appealed, but the Massachusetts Appellate Tax Board earlier this year ruled against them.

The Swartz case is not unusual. Similar matters crop up in other states, too, especially given the economy, said Kathleen Thies, a lawyer and state tax analyst for tax-information publisher CCH, of Riverwoods, Ill., a Wolters Kluwer business.

"Because of the economic climate right now, states are really trying to shore up their revenue sources," she said. Thus, residents who claim to have officially switched residence to a low-tax or no-tax state, such as Florida, are the focus of greater scrutiny by tax officials

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in their old states. "States are really being more aggressive," she said.

Taxes a priority

At the heart of the matter is where to reside for tax purposes. Taxes aren't the only consideration when weighing a move; there are other issues to ponder, such as family, friends, business links, charitable ties, climate, energy costs and real estate values.

But for those who don't have a strong desire to stay in their home state, and are seeking to relocate, taxes are often a priority issue — maybe the top issue, said Patricia A. Thompson, vice chair of the American Society of Certified Public Accountants' national tax executive committee.

"I've had people ask me, 'Where am I moving after I retire?' " based solely on which location affords the most favorable tax treatment, said Thompson, tax partner at Piccerelli Gilstein & Co. LLP, a CPA firm in Providence, R.I.

For clients concerned chiefly about taxes, the income tax is usually at the top of their list, said Gary A. Phillips, a lawyer and member of Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman & Leonard, P.A., a law firm based in Hackensack, N.J.

One reason is the tax treatment of amounts they plan to withdraw from retirement plans and IRAs that they've built up through a lifetime of work.

Every withdrawal could be subject to state income tax depending on where you live. But if you can establish yourself as a Florida resident for tax purposes, withdrawals can escape state income tax, said Phillips, editor of *On the Road to Florida: Cole Schotz's Practical Guide to Changing Your Residence from New Jersey or New York*.

Multiple states

Establishing yourself, for tax purposes, as a resident of a low-tax or no-tax state can be fairly straightforward.

For example, suppose you sever all your ties to Illinois. You move lock, stock and barrel to Florida, and set up all your ties there; you no longer have any business, professional, social or other links to Illinois. In that case, Illinois tax authorities would be hard-pressed to claim you as an Illinois resident for tax purposes, Thies said.

At the other extreme, suppose you spend one month each year at a rented condo in Florida, but reside for most of the year back in Illinois — where all of your personal, business, professional and social links are, as well as your principal residence. In that case, you'd probably have a hard time persuading Illinois tax authorities that you've become a Florida resident for tax purposes.

But for those who are somewhere in the middle, between the extremes, the determination can be far more complex, Phillips said. This is especially true for people who maintain a residence in more than one state, with ties to more than one state, he said.

In such a situation, a key is your domicile — the state in which you're regarded to permanently reside. You can have multiple residences in multiple states, but you can only

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Book offer

The law firm of Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman & Leonard, P.A., has copies available of its book, *On the Road to Florida: Cole Schotz's Practical Guide to Changing Your Residence from New Jersey or New York*. It was written by lawyers in the firm's tax, trusts and estates department. To request a free copy, send an e-mail to the following address:

mshuman@coleschotz.com. **RW**

Where reliance on property tax is greatest

The following table shows the states in which governments rely most on property taxes as a source of revenue:

State	Fraction of Tax Revenue Coming from Property Taxes
New Hampshire	61.6%
Rhode Island	42.3%
New Jersey	42.2%
Florida	41.3%
Vermont	40.1%
Texas	38.8%
Michigan	37.5%
Illinois	36.8%
Wisconsin	36.2%
Connecticut	36.0%

Note: Includes property tax on residential and commercial real estate (mostly local revenue), as well as personal property tax on cars, boats, etc. (mostly state revenue).

Source: Tax Foundation calculations based on data from Census Bureau's government finance data for state and local governments during fiscal year 2008.

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have one domicile. (You can leave a state and still be domiciled there, depending on your ties to that state and other factors.)

The Minnesota Department of Revenue uses the following definition: “Your permanent residence (domicile) is the place you intend to make your home for a permanent or indefinite period of time. It is your legal residence. Your permanent residence, once established, continues until you take steps to establish a new residence.”

And there’s the rub. You can claim to be a resident of a state such as Florida, but are you domiciled there for tax purposes?

Key factors

In the Swartz case mentioned earlier, the issue was crucial. If they were Florida residents for tax purposes, they wouldn’t have faced Massachusetts income tax on their capital gains. If they were officially Massachusetts residents, they would have faced state taxation.

A bunch of factors came into play, and the list ran long. Following are some points that could be deemed to be in the couple’s favor:

- They owned a home in Delray Beach, Fla., with six bedrooms, five bathrooms, a

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three-car garage and a pool — and a total of 300 feet of ocean frontage.

- They owned a condo at Boca West, in Florida, which included golf privileges at the Boca West Country Club.
- The couple spent fewer than 183 days in Massachusetts in 2004, the year at issue.

Following are some elements that could be deemed to favor Massachusetts tax authorities:

- The Swartzes owned a home in Marblehead, Mass. – with five bedrooms, five-and-a-half bathrooms, plus an ocean view.
- During the tax year at issue, the couple bought a condo in Brookline, Mass., to be closer to their children and grandchildren, who lived nearby.
- The couple's American Express credit card statement, the Boca West Country Club statement, and the Palm Beach County, Fla., real estate tax bill were all addressed to the couple's Marblehead, Mass., home.

Weighing all this and other evidence, the Massachusetts Appellate Tax Board ultimately found that the Swartzes were Massachusetts residents for tax purposes.

Their "family, social and personal ties established that they did not have the requisite intent to abandon their Massachusetts domicile and change their domicile to Florida before either of the sales of Timberland stock," the appeals board chairman said in the ruling. (The Swartzes now have an appeal pending before the Massachusetts Appeals Court.)

Without addressing the Swartz case specifically, Phillips said that states are aggressively enforcing the rules. So if you move to Florida from a high-tax state in the Northeast, for example, "You need to commit to Florida. You can't do this half-heartedly; people have to have a realistic set of facts for this to work," he said.

Estate tax

Keep in mind that the state income tax is just one star in the tax constellation. Another is the estate tax — a tax that generally may be levied against the value of the assets you leave upon your death.

The federal estate tax — also known as the death tax — no longer exists; it expired at the end of 2009 (though it is currently scheduled to bounce back in 2011).

However, more than a dozen states have their own estate taxes, according to a CCH tally. Ever since a number of states severed ties with the federal estate tax, in 2001 or shortly thereafter, and essentially established their own estate taxes, people have become more aware of the state estate tax — and client inquiries about the topic have increased, said Phillips, the estate-planning lawyer whose practice is largely based in New York and New Jersey.

Estate tax at the state level

In general, the estate tax – also known as the death tax – applies to the value of someone's assets when that person dies. Among the states that levy an estate tax are:

- Connecticut
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Minnesota
- Nebraska
- New Jersey
- New York
- Ohio
- Oregon
- Rhode Island
- Vermont
- Washington
- The District of Columbia also has its own estate tax.

List is as of January 2010; state laws are subject to change.
Source: CCH

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And you don't have to be Rich Uncle Pennybags to trigger such a tax. In New Jersey, for example, the threshold is just $675,000. As a result, if a decedent's net taxable estate is valued at more than $675,000, the estate may trigger the tax. In Rhode Island, the threshold is $850,000. In New York and Massachusetts, it's $1 million.

As a general rule, your estate escapes the tax if it is left to your surviving spouse. But if you're a widow, a widower or otherwise single, your estate could get stung by the tax.

Leave behind a $10-million estate in New York or New Jersey, for example, and the state could claim $1 million in state estate tax, Phillips said.

Clients typically raise the income tax as their chief tax consideration, "because they see the income tax every year; they don't see the estate tax every year," Thompson said. Nevertheless, it is an important consideration, especially for those who have amassed assets over a lifetime, she said.

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States with no income tax

For those planning to move in retirement, some states are the "most intriguing" because they have no personal income tax. They include:

- Alaska
- Florida
- Nevada
- South Dakota
- Texas
- Washington (state)
- Wyoming

Note: List is of January 2010; state laws are subject to change.

Source: CCH

Where the income tax is king

The following table shows the states where governments rely most on personal income taxes as a source of revenue:

State	Fraction of Tax Revenue from Personal Income Taxes
Maryland	40.4%
Oregon	39.7%
Massachusetts	36.8%
New York	33.6%
North Carolina	33.1%
Connecticut	32.5%
Kentucky	32.0%
Minnesota	31.5%
Virginia	30.9%
Ohio	30.0%

Note: States and localities generally lump wages, dividends, interest and capital gains together when applying their individual income taxes.

Source: Tax Foundation calculations based on data from Census Bureau's government finance data for state and local governments during fiscal year 2008.

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In summary

Keep tax issues in mind when choosing the state in which you want to reside in retirement. Income taxes are a top priority, but estate taxes, sales taxes and real estate taxes can be too. Do some research on your own, and consult a professional, especially where significant income and assets are involved. And if you elect to move to a no-tax or low-tax state, such as Florida, from a high-tax state, remember that your old state will be watching — and will seek to tax you if possible. It's nothing personal; "they just don't want to see that revenue go," Thies said. **RW**

About the author: Neil Downing, CFP®, is an Enrolled Agent with a master's degree in taxation who has written three books on personal finance.

Residency factors

Some people mistakenly believe that if they spend fewer than 183 days in a state, they won't be treated as residents of that state for tax purposes, said lawyer Gary A. Phillips, a member of the Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman & Leonard law firm based in Hackensack, N.J. But the "number of days" rule is just one factor that state tax authorities may use in attempting to treat you as a resident for tax purposes, he said.

Following are some primary factors:

- Where your home is
- Where your business activity is
- The number of days you reside in the state
- Where you keep items that are near and dear to you (such as jewelry, pets, collectibles)
- Where your family connections are

Following are some secondary factors:

- Where you are registered to vote
- Which state issued your driver's license
- Where your vehicles are registered
- The state in which you maintain professional licenses
- Where you have your mail delivered
- Your declaration of domicile
- Your homestead declaration

Following are some other possible factors:

- The location of your bank accounts
- Where you qualify for unemployment insurance
- The state in which you filed previous resident tax returns
- The state where you earn your wages
- The location of your fraternal, social or athletic memberships
- Your place of worship
- Where your spouse and/or dependents reside

No single factor determines your state of permanent residency, according to the Minnesota Department of Revenue. "Even though some factors may be more important than others, all relevant factors are evaluated . . . ," the agency says

Source: Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman & Leonard; Minnesota Department of Revenue

Your Money

Getting the right care at the right place and cost

By Alan Lavine and Gail Liberman

At some point in your retired life, expect to need help. Maybe it's already getting tougher to cook, clean a big house, do laundry or pay bills.

While you still have many active years left, it's a good idea to research your options in advance, discuss them with your family and plan for the expense.

The cheapest route when you need more help doing simple basic chores often is to depend on your family, note Paul and Lori Hogan in their book, *Stages of Senior Care.* But if you wind up living in the same home with family, expect family members to spend an average added cost of $5,000 to $8,000 annually. That's to cover such things as added food, transportation, medical care and medication. Plus the kids may need to add ramps, railings and widened doorways to their home. Your hosts also may need to cut back on their jobs—slashing not only their household income, but also important Social Security benefits they might need down the road.

If you need help, but not medical care, a licensed home health aide may be one option. An aide charges a median hourly rate of $19, according to a Genworth Financial study. The April study spanned nearly 13,000 long-term care providers in 436 regions nationwide.

Other options for those who still can conduct most chores may be adult day care centers. These often are operated by local governments and organizations, such as religious organizations, the YMCA or United Way. They may be free or low-cost. Genworth pegs the national median daily rate of adult day health care at $60.

There are retirement communities, senior apartments, senior housing or independent living communities.

In these settings, typically for persons at least 55 years-old, you must be able to take care of yourself. But you may be served two to three meals daily. You're also provided with housekeeping, recreational activities, a beauty shop, sometimes a drug store and bank, activity rooms, libraries, golf courses and local transportation. Some communities have a physician available at certain times.

Of course, costs vary by geographic area. However, active over-55 communities, such as the luxury Sun City Arizona, outside Phoenix, can run $50,000, the Hogans suggest. This can buy a one-story house or condo with one bedroom and one bath. By contrast, homes in the same community can cost $600,000. Property owners also pay monthly fees of more than $400.

Other types of independent living facilities may charge $1,500 to $4,000 per month to rent a studio or full one-bedroom apartment respectively.

Once you need medical care and are unable to live alone, an assisted living facility could be worth your consideration. The national median monthly rate for one person in a one bedroom assisted living unit runs $3,185, Genworth reports.

If you need 24-hour nursing care, a nursing home may be the way to go. Nursing homes run $185 daily for a semi-private room and $206 daily for a private room, Gen-

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Your Money

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worth says.

Don't forget. Some government or non-profit assistance may be available for all these services. Medicaid may cover you if you meet certain asset requirements. For qualifying veterans, an "Aid and Attendance" pension program may help cover assisted living costs. State and local agencies may offer some of their own programs.

Resources to contact to learn what's available in your area include: http://www.Eldercare.gov or 1-800-877-1116 and the Area Agency on Aging at http://www.n4a.org. Dial "211," to reach a referral center, sponsored by the United Way.

For sources of information on independent living facilities, go to Web sites such as http://www.assistedseniorliving.net and http://www.helpguide.org.

If your financial resources are stretched by these added anticipated costs, consider contacting an elder law attorney, who may be able to help get you qualified for government benefits. You can search for an elder law attorney, certified by the National Elder Law Foundation at http://www.Nelf.org, or the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys at http://www.naela.org. Read their biographies at http://www.martindale.com. In addition, members of AARP may be eligible for a 45 minute free consultation by an attorney with at least three years experience through its Legal Services Network at www.aarplsn.com.

About the authors: Spouses Gail Liberman and Alan Lavine are syndicated columnists. Their latest book is "Quick Steps to Financial Stability" (Que/Penguin). You can contact them at http://www.moneycouple.com.

Duly noted…

- Communities, government and the public and private sectors will need to make sweeping changes to accommodate older Americans' desire to remain in their homes, according to "The MetLife Report on Aging in Place 2.0: Rethinking Solutions to the Home Care Challenge." In the coming years adjustments will need to include homes in which residential design, health care services and new monitoring technologies are combined with comprehensive community care services to form a dynamic and efficient home health management system. Multiple studies in the past 10 years have shown that most Americans over age 45 prefer to remain in their own homes, even when assistance with activities of daily living is necessary. The MetLife report focuses on the age 65+ population, now 13% of the U.S. population. It says the age 85+ population, at greatest risk of being disabled, is expected to grow to 8.7 million people in 2030 from 4.3 million in 2000. Referred to as AiP2.0, this new Aging in Place blueprint envisions a more efficient use of available resources and an enhanced and better coordinated service delivery mechanism, while also leading to the creation of business opportunities for the private sector. Learn more at "The MetLife Report on Aging in Place 2.0: Rethinking Solutions to the Home Care Challenge," which can be downloaded from http://www.MatureMarketInstitute.com. **RW**

News in Brief

U.S. retirement deficit reaches $6.6 trillion

A trillion here and a trillion there and pretty soon you have a deficit — a $6.6 trillion deficit. Yes, that's the gap between the pensions and retirement savings that American households have today and what they should have today to maintain their standard of living, according to study published this week by the Center for Retirement Research in conjunction with Retirement USA.

Using the data from the Federal Reserve Board's Survey of Consumer Finances, the Retirement Research Center has calculated that figure at $6.6 trillion. The deficit figure covers households in their peak earning and saving years—those in the 32-64 age range—excluding younger workers who are just beginning to save for retirement as well as most retirees, according to a release. It also takes into account all major sources of retirement income and assets: Social Security, traditional pension plans, 401(k)-style plans, and other forms of saving, and housing.

The measure assumes people will continue to work, save, and accumulate additional pension and Social Security benefits until they retire at age 65, later than most people currently retire. It also assumes that retirees will spend down all their wealth in retirement, including home equity. The deficit is thus in many respects a conservative number, according to the release. Learn more at http://www.retirement-usa.org/retirement-income-deficit-0.

Duly noted…

- This week, a bevy of retirement income experts suggested at a joint two-day hearing on lifetime income options for retirement plans hosted by the U. S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) and the Department of the Treasury that annuities should be offered as 401(k) in-plan options as well as a default distribution options to workers leaving their company. Read the Lifetime Income Options Joint Hearing Written Testimony at http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/regs/cmt-1210-AB33.html.
- Taxpayers stuck in the current economic downturn will get at least some relief in 2011 thanks to the mandatory upward inflation adjustments called for under the tax code, according to CCH , which this week released estimated income ranges for each 2011 tax bracket. CCH also projects the growing number of other inflation-sensitive tax figures, such as the personal exemption and the standard deduction. "Indexing for inflation has become an established part of our tax system, and it's likely to be a part of the tax law for the foreseeable future even as Congress debates changes to the tax rates themselves," George Jones, JD, CCH Senior Federal Tax Analyst, said in a release. Projections this year, however, are clouded by the uncertainty of expiring provisions in the tax code. If Congress allows the tax cuts within the Economic Growth and Tax Relief and Reconciliation Act of 2001 to expire as called for at the end of 2010, many taxpayers could lose more ground than they will otherwise gain. Retirement Weekly will publish more from this release next week. **W**

HealthWatch

Uninsured rate soars, 50+ million Americans without coverage

The number of people without health insurance rose sharply last year to 50.7 million — an all time high — according to data released this week by the Census Bureau. The Census Bureau today released its annual report - Income, Poverty, and Health Insurance Coverage in the United States: 2009 - marking the first time since 1987 that the number of people in the U.S. with health insurance decreased.

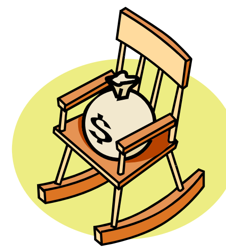
Read the full Census Bureau report at http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/Stories/2010/September/16/~/media/Files/2010/May%20to%20September/census%20report.pdf.

Duly noted…

- The use of generic medications saved the Medicare program and its beneficiaries about $33 billion in 2007, according to a Congressional Budget Office (CBO) report. The CBO "says an additional $14 billion is expected as first-time generics enter the market through 2012. Medicare Part D is Medicare's prescription drug program." Learn more at http://www.cbo.gov/doc.cfm?index=11838.
- In 2008, an estimated 118,495 emergency department (ED) visits involved illicit drug use by older adults (persons 50 or older). Cocaine was the most commonly reported illicit drug (63%), followed by heroin (26.5%), marijuana (18.5%), and illicit stimulants (5.3%). Cocaine was the illicit drug most commonly involved among visits by older non-Hispanic black adults (79%), whereas heroin was the most common among visits by older Hispanic adults (61.2%). Although less than half of ED visits involving illicit drug use (48.1%) resulted in evidence of follow-up care, more than one third of ED visits involving illicit drug use by older adults (35.7%) resulted in hospitalization. Learn more at http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k10/DAWN015/IllicitAbuse.cfm.
- There are big differences in the quality of Medicare Advantage from state to state, according to a Kaiser Family Foundation analysis of a Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) report. CMS rates Medicare Advantage plans on a scale of 1 to 5 stars, with 5 being the highest rating. Medicare Advantage plans received an average of 3.32 stars in 2010. The average state-wide quality rating for Medicare Advantage plans ranges from 4 or more stars in Massachusetts and Minnesota to 2.5 stars in Alaska, Delaware, and Vermont, according Kaiser. Learn more at http://www.kff.org/medicare/upload/8097.pdf. Speaking of Medicare, Kaiser issued another report that highlights Medicare prescription drug plans in 2010 and key changes over the past five years. Learn more at http://www.kff.org/medicare/upload/8096.pdf.
- Kaiser Health News looks at how the new health-care law affects people who get their coverage at work, buy their own health insurance or are enrolled in Medicare. Learn more at http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/Stories/2010/September/15/consumer-guide-health-law.aspx. RW

Worth Reading

- US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION: "Emergency Department Visits Involving Illicit Drug Use by Older Adults: 2008," http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k10/DAWN015/IllicitAbuse.cfm
- CENTER FOR RETIREMENT RESEARCH AT BOSTON COLLEGE: "Social Security's Financial Outlook: The 2010 Update in Perspective," http://crr.bc.edu/brief/social_securitys_financial_outlook_the_2010_update_in_perspective.html
- KAISER FAMILY FOUNDATION: "The Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidy Program: Experience to Date and Policy Issues for Consideration," http://www.kff.org/medicare/8094.cfm; "Coverage of Top Brand-Name and Specialty Drugs," http://www.kff.org/medicare/8095.cfm; and "Medicare Prescription Drug Plans in 2010 and Key Changes Over Five Years: Summary of Findings," http://www.kff.org/medicare/8096.cfm



- EMPLOYEE BENEFIT RESEARCH INSTITUTE: "2010 Health Confidence Survey: Health Reform Does Not Increase Confidence in the Health Care System," and "Retirement Income Adequacy for Today's Workers: How Certain, How Much Will It Cost, and How Does Eligibility for Participation in a Defined Contribution Plan Help?" http://www.ebri.org/publications/notes/index.cfm?fa=notesDisp&content_id=4637
- PEW SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS: "Since the Start of the Great Recession, More Children Raised by Grandparents," http://pewsocialtrends.org/pubs/764/more-children-being-raised-by-grandparents-great-recession
- CENTER FOR HEALTH POLICY RESEARCH: "Older Adults Need Twice the Federal Poverty Level to Make Ends Meet in California," http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/pubs/Publication.aspx?pubID=423
- HERITAGE FOUNDATION: "Reductions in Medicare Advantage Payments: The Impact on Seniors by Region," http://www.heritage.org/Research/Reports/2010/09/Reductions-in-Medicare-Advantage-Payments-The-Impact-on-Seniors-by-Region
- AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE: "What Every American Needs to Know about Government-Entitlement Reform," http://www.aei.org/outlook/100991
- MATURE MARKET INSTITUTE: "Aging in Place 2.0 : Rethinking Solutions to the Home Care Challenge," http://www.metlife.com/mmi/research/aging-in-place.html#insights
- WHARTON PENSION RESEARCH COUNCIL: "Turning Wealth into Lifetime Income: The Challenge Ahead," http://www.pensionresearchcouncil.org/publications/document.php?file=885
- PROGRAM ON THE GLOBAL DEMOGRAPHY OF AGING: "Introduction: Social Security and the Challenge of Demographic Change," http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/pgda/WorkingPapers/2010/PGDA_WP_61.pdf and "Data Sets on Pensions and Health: Data Collection and Sharing for Policy Design," http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/pgda/WorkingPapers/2010/WP59_2010.pdf **RW**

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Dear subscribers: Thanks, as always, for subscribing to and reading *Retirement Weekly*. Do e-mail me at rpowell@marketwatch.com if you have questions, comments, criticism or compliments.

Robert J. Powell, III is President of Unison Associates LLC, a Salem, Mass.-based financial education, communication and consulting firm. Powell, who has more than 20 years of experience in the financial services industry, is author of "20 Tips for Retirement Investors," co-author of "Decoding Wall Street", executive producer of PBS' "More Than Money," editorial director of PBS' "The Truth About Retirement" (in development) and a member of the expert faculty at the California Institute of Finance. Previously, Powell served as editor-in-chief of DALBAR's Mutual Fund Market News and columnist for The Boston Herald. Powell owns no shares of any investment mentioned in this week's issue. He currently provides consulting services to the Financial Planning Association and the Retirement Income Industry Association. He also holds a minority interest in Major League Investments.

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E-mail rpowell@marketwatch.com **RW**