

RETIREE OFFICE NEWS – 171st ARW



Retiree Office
300 Tanker Road #4210
Coraopolis, PA 15108-4210
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412-776-7538, Fax: 7441
171retireeoffice@gmail.com
Office Hours: Thursdays 0800 – 1200



“Never cut a tree down in the wintertime. Never make a negative decision in the low time. Never make your most important decisions when you are in your worst moods. Wait. Be patient. The storm will pass. The spring will come.” ~ Robert H. Schuller

Retiree Office Email Address: 171retireeoffice@gmail.com

Please use this email address for all correspondences, i.e., email changes, retiree news, luncheons, benefits, etc.

Retiree Lunch: **3rd Tuesday** in January, April, July, and October

When: CY 2018 - January 16th, **April 17th**, July 17th, and October 16th

Where: Golden Corral, 900 Park Manor Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(Near Mall at Robinson) (412) 788-1776

“Don’t forget to ask for your military or senior discount!!!”

Time: 1100 hours

*Come join the fun and catch up with old friends over a delicious lunch.
Hope to see you all at the Retiree Luncheon!*

DFAS Retiree Newsletter – March 2018:

<https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/newsevents/newsletter.html>

Veterans Breakfast Club Newsletter – Spring 2018:

<http://veteransbreakfastclub.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/VBC-spring-2018-newsletter.pdf>

Retirements:

Congratulations to our recent retirees who retired from January through March 2018. Please do not hesitate to contact the Retiree Office, if you need assistance.

Rank	Last Name	First Name	Retired
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JAN 2018

LTC	BROWN	JAMES	21-JAN-18
MSG	MANN	JOHN	18-JAN-18
MSG	MYERS	MICHAEL	14-JAN-18
TSG	OWADE	RAYMOND	15-JAN-18
SSG	KANCZES	MATTHEW	28-JAN-18

FEB 2018

LTC	FINGERS	KENNETH	01-FEB-18
CMS	THOMPSON	JOHN	01-FEB-18
SMS	MORRIS	JOSEPH	28-FEB-18
TSG	HUTCHINSON	MATTHEW	28-FEB-18

MAR 2018

TSG	KRALL	NICHOLAS	02-MAR-18
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Sympathies: We extend 'Our Deepest Sympathy' to the families and relatives of the following retirees who passed away. Please inform our office if you hear of the passing of one of our fellow 171st, 112th, or 258TH members. Click on each name to view the obituary.

MSGt Carl A. Framiglio – 16 Jan 2018 – Age 73 – 171ARW/Civil Engineers SQ

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/carl-framiglio-obituary?pid=187920912&view=guestbook>

SSgt Frederick L. Volk – 26 Jan 2018 – Age 89 – 112TFG/Maintenance/Avionics

<http://www.bagnatofuneralhome.com/notices/Frederick-Volk>

MSGt Alfred E. Kutschbach – 13 Mar 2018 – Age 65 – 171ARW/Civil Engineers SQ

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postgazette/obituary.aspx?n=alfred-e-kutschbach-al&pid=188456868&fhid=10273>

MSGt Michael A. Kobylanski – 28 Mar 2018 – Age 65 – 171ARW/Communications Flt

<http://www.statonborowskifuneralhome.com/notices/LtColAndrew-HolkoRet>

CMSgt Donald W. Taylor – 6 Apr 2018 – Age 83 – 171ARW/Maint/Chief of Quality Assurance

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postgazette/obituary.aspx?pid=188673187>

112th Reunion: The 112th Reunion is held on the 112th day of the year and is now scheduled for 2018. Come and enjoy the fun and catch up with old friends. Hope to see you there!

When: Sunday, April 22, 2018

Time: 5 p.m. to ???

Where: 911th Airlift Wing, Community Center (same as last year)

Cash Bar: Includes draft beer, wine, full selection of liqueurs and craft beers

Buffet: 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Billeting: (412) 474-8230 (for those of you who would like to stay over)

POC: Brad L. Gilles

Please Note:

- To get on base, you must have a current Military ID. Those who do not have a military ID must have some form of a picture ID, i.e. Driver's License, U.S. Passport.
- The Community Center is located to the left of the parking lot in front of the Credit Union and old BX building.

TRICARE Prescription Formulary Search Tool :

<https://www.express-scripts.com/static/formularySearch/2.7/#/formularySearch/drugSearch?accessLink=FSTResults>

1. Input gender, age and drug name, then hit SEARCH
2. Select your dosage and click on it
3. It will display the Military, Home Delivery, and Retail Pharmacies, and note if drug is covered and what you pay.

New - 171ARW Financial Counselor:

Did you know the 171ARW has a Financial Counselor to assist military members? I just learned about this service, recently. Stephen has been at the 171ARW for the past 16 months. His primary responsibility is to assist active duty members, but if time allows, he will also assist retirees.

POC: Stephen Fineman, CLU, ChFC, LUTCF – Financial Counselor

Office Location: 171st Headquarters, Medical Classroom, RM #170

Office Phone: 412-776-7606

Cell Phone: 412-443-5743

Email: PFC6.PA.NG@Zeiders.com

PLAN TO ATTEND!

Stephen is hosting a class on “Social Security Benefits” this Thursday, April 19th at 1300 hrs in the Medical Classroom. All are welcome!

New Vision and Dental Plans Coming Soon to Military Families and Retirees – TRICARE Retiree Dental Program ending on Dec 31, 2018:

Press Operations

Release No: NR-081-18

March 19, 2018

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM), in partnership with the Defense Health Agency (DHA) and the Department of Defense (DoD), announced the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) will be offered for the first time to TRICARE eligible retirees and their families during the 2018 Federal Benefits Open Season. Active duty family members will be eligible to enroll in FEDVIP vision insurance.

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program ends on Dec. 31, 2018. Those enrolled in TRDP must choose a dental plan through FEDVIP to have coverage in 2019. Enrollment is not automatic. Today's announcement affects 1.63 million beneficiaries enrolled in TRDP and offers a choice to an additional 1.3 million eligible retired beneficiaries not currently enrolled in TRDP.

Most beneficiaries in a TRICARE health plan may enroll in a FEDVIP vision plan. This comprehensive vision coverage, including eyeglasses or contacts, is in addition to the routine eye examination benefit that many beneficiaries have under TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select.

The Federal Benefits Open Season enrollment period, Nov. 12, 2018 through Dec. 10, 2018, runs concurrently with the TRICARE Open Season. Coverage will be effective Jan. 1, 2019.

FEDVIP currently serves more than 3 million Federal employees, retirees and their families. FEDVIP enrollees give the program high marks for quality and value. It provides comprehensive dental and vision insurance at competitive group rates with 10 dental and four vision carriers for enrollees to choose from.

"OPM is thrilled to offer a variety of quality vision and dental plans to our military retirees and their families, and for the first time, an option for vision insurance to active duty family members," said OPM Director Jeff Pon. "We look forward to providing FEDVIP to the military, their families, and retirees."

For more information, visit [TRICARE.benefeds.com](https://tricare.benefeds.com) to sign up to receive messages, updates, and reminders on the FEDVIP throughout the rest of this year.

See additional information at the following links:

<https://tricare.mil/fedvip>

<https://tricare.mil/LifeEvents> - You may only enroll in a FEDVIP plan outside of open season if you experience a *Qualifying Life Event* that allows you to do so. Any election in a FEDVIP plan remains in effect for the entire calendar year.

<https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/dental-vision/> - You can begin reviewing program options now, to prepare for Open Season, Nov 12 – Dec 10, 2018

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND LINKS:

171st Air Refueling Wing: <http://www.171arw.af.mil/>

911th AW Casualty Assistance Office: (412) 474-8558, Fax: (412) 474-8987

Address: 911th FSS/FSMPS, 2475 Defense Ave, Bldg 316, Rm 112, Coraopolis, PA 15108

Email contact: Melinda J. Arbogast, Melinda.arbogast.1@us.af.mil

Provides assistance to a retiree/spouse/dependent upon the passing of a retired military member or dependent in processing the required documentation and survivor benefits.

Air Force Retiree Services: <http://www.retirees.af.mil/>

AMC Space-A Travel: <http://www.amc.af.mil/amctravel/index.asp>

Department of Veteran Affairs (VA): <http://www.va.gov/> or 1-800-827-1000

Express Scripts – TRICARE Pharmacy: <http://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE/>

Toll-Free within the U.S.: 1-877-363-1303

Retired and Annuitant Pay:

For news updates, general information, and forms: visit the Retired Pay Site, **Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) – Retired Military & Annuitants** <http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary.html>

- Questions about your retired or annuity pay account: 1-800-321-1080, Press 1 then 4, Press 0 (zero) for operator.
- Reporting a Death or Following-Up on a Claim: 1-800-321-1080, Press 1, then Press 1 again, Enter social security number.

For specific questions: Ask DFAS <https://corpweb1.dfas.mil/askDFAS/askRA.jsp>

For discussion on retired pay issues: Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/DefenseFinanceandAccountingService?ref=ts>

Military.com/Benefits: <http://www.military.com/benefits>

Military.com free membership sign-up:

http://www.military.com/Registration/Universal_Registration_Page?ESRC=TAF.bb

National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records: NPRC Customer Service Line 314-801-0800

myPay: <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx> or 1-888-332-7411 Option 5

PA Veteran Affairs: <http://www.dmva.pa.gov/veteransaffairs/Pages/default.aspx> - [.Vw-6qj81BJM](http://www.dmva.pa.gov/veteransaffairs/Pages/default.aspx)

Social Security: <http://www.ssa.gov/agency/contact/> or Call the toll-free number, 800-772-1213. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, call the toll-free "TTY" number, 711

TRICARE for Life (ages 65+): <https://www.tricare4u.com/>

1-866-773-0404 Mon – Fri, 7 a.m. – 10 p.m. CST

TRICARE Select Health Plan (ages 60 to 65): <https://www.tricare.mil/Plans/HealthPlans/TS>

Tricare East Region – Humana Military, 1-800-444-5445, www.tricare-east.com

Tricare West Region – Health Net Federal Services, 1-844-866-9378, www.tricare-west.com

Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Retiree Assistance: 1-877-968-3778

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: <http://www.vets.gov/>

Veterans Breakfast Club: <http://veteransbreakfastclub.com/publications/>,

Contact Todd DePastino at 412-623-9029 or by email at todd@veteransbreakfastclub.com