

RETIREE OFFICE NEWS – 171st ARW



Retiree Office
300 Tanker Road #4210
Coraopolis, PA 15108-4210
Phone: 412-776-7587 or
412-776-7538, Fax: 7441
171retireeoffice@gmail.com
Office Hours: Thursdays 0800 – 1200



“If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under. ~ Ronald Reagan

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 – June 2018:

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

Veterans Breakfast Club Summer 2018 Newsletter:

<http://veteransbreakfastclub.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/VBC-Summer-2018-Newsletter-FINAL-6-5-18.pdf>

Retirements:

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

Rank	Last Name	First Name	Retired
------	-----------	------------	---------

APR 2018

SMS	WELKER	RACHETTA	30-APR-18
MSG	WESTERMAN JR	DANIEL	01-APR-18

MAY 2018

MSG	BLACKWELL	MICHAEL	19-MAY-18
MSG	HERMAN	WILLIAM	21-MAY-18
MSG	RODGERS	DANIEL	22-MAY-18
TSG	BISTARKEY	BRUCE	28-MAY-18
TSG	BUTERBAUGH JR	ROBERT	31-MAY-18

JUN 2018

LTC	BARNES	JACK	29-JUN-18
MSG	THOMAS	WILLIAM	20-JUN-18

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 and leave your condolences.

MSgt William E. Teets – 11 Jun 2018 – Age 78 – 171ARW/Lead Recruiter
<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/william-teets-obituary?pid=189304398&view=guestbook>

LTC Edward Abraham – 28 Mar 2018 – Age 93 – 171ARW/Communications Flt
<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/edward-abraham-obituary?pid=188616237&view=guestbook>

<https://beinhauerfuneralhome.frontrunnerpro.com/book-of-memories/3464230/Abraham-Edward/obituary.php>

SMS Arthur J. Schmitt – 04 May 2018 – Age 92 – 171ARW/Maintenance/Flightline & Dock
[Obituary not available](#)

New Features of the TRICARE Website:

The TRICARE website is your first stop when you have questions about your benefit. At the start of the New Year, we introduced some redesigned features on the TRICARE website that make it easier for you to take command of your health. Beyond the new look and feel of the website, new features and tools will now help you find what you're looking for quicker. Check out these improvements to the TRICARE website:

1. **Find Information Faster.** Need to compare TRICARE plans, find a doctor or find a phone number? Three new search wizards on the [home page](#) have been optimized to make sure you'll answer fewer questions and get to your results faster. Use the [Find a TRICARE Plan](#), [Find a Doctor](#) and [Find a Phone Number](#) tools to see what plans you qualify for, locate a nearby provider or get contact information.
2. **Understand Your Benefit.** TRICARE is changing, so the TRICARE website is better organized to help you quickly understand your benefit. Use the TRICARE website to know [what's covered](#) or what a [qualifying life event](#) is. Need to submit a claim or file a form? You'll find "Forms and Claims" in the top navigation bar.
3. **Access TRICARE On-the-Go.** According to Pew Research Center, half of smartphone users use their phone to look up health information, and 62 percent used their smartphone to look up a health condition. With that in mind, the TRICARE website has been improved for viewing on mobile devices.

And while you're here, now is the perfect time to tackle that to-do list: [schedule your next appointment](#), [change your primary care manager](#), [review costs](#) and much more. Take command of your health and your health care in 2018.

Courtesy of www.tricare.mil

Federal Long-Term Care Insurance: <https://www.ltcfeds.com/>

The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP) provides long term care insurance to help pay for the costs of care you need if you can no longer perform everyday tasks ([activities of daily living](#)) by yourself due to a chronic illness, injury, disability or the aging process. FLTCIP includes the supervision you might need due to a [severe cognitive impairment](#) (such as [Alzheimer's disease](#)).

Long term care is not intended to cure you. It is chronic care that you might need for the rest of your life. This care can span years and can be expensive depending on the type of care you need and location where that care is received. Long term care insurance is one way of helping to pay for these expenses.

Many members of the Federal family are eligible to apply for coverage under the FLTCIP including Federal and U.S. Postal Service employees and annuitants, active and retired members of the uniformed services, and their qualified relatives. To see if you are eligible to apply for coverage, please visit the [FLTCIP eligibility](#) page.

Courtesy of www.ltcfeds.com

Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP):

<https://tricare.benefeds.com/InfoPortal/containerPage?EventName=retirees&ctoken=ccH0TUry>

As you've probably already heard, on December 31, 2018 the Defense Health Agency's TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) will end. Don't worry! You can enroll in dental coverage for next year under the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP). Retired uniformed service members and their families who were eligible for TRDP will be eligible for FEDVIP dental coverage, effective January 1, 2019.

You will not be automatically enrolled in a FEDVIP plan for 2019. You must enroll during the Federal Benefits open Season.

Vision coverage is available!

For the first time ever, vision coverage is available to you and your family members! Retired uniformed service members and their families who were eligible for TRDP, and who are enrolled in a TRICARE health plan, will be eligible for FEDVIP vision coverage. Coverage is effective January 1, 2019, if you enroll during the Federal Benefits Open Season.

How to prepare

Check eligibility

[Determine who's eligible.](#)

Research 2018 plans*

[Compare current 2018 plans and rates.](#)

Sign up for updates

[Receive alerts on key dates.](#)

*This information is for reference only. Plan details and premium rates for the 2019 plan year will be available in October 2018.

Don't miss your opportunity to enroll!

You don't need to take action yet. However, if you'd like dental and/or vision coverage next year, effective January 1, 2019, you must enroll during the next Federal Benefits Open Season:

November 12–December 10, 2018

Click or tap the dates to add them to your calendar.

Premium payment: Once you enroll in FEDVIP, we'll automatically set up an allotment with your pay provider to pay your premiums post-tax. In the event that you do not have enough available funds or allotments to cover the cost, we'll default your payment method to a recurring electronic funds transfer (EFT), which we refer to as an automatic bank withdrawal (ABW).

Courtesy of tricare.benefeds.com

New - 171ARW Financial Counselor:

The 171ARW now has a full-time Financial Counselor to assist military members. His primary responsibility is to assist active duty members and retirees. He hosts a variety of classes regarding benefits and financial planning. Call to schedule an appointment and check on upcoming classes.

POC: Stephen Fineman, CLU, ChFC, LUTCF – Financial Counselor
Office Location: 171st Headquarters, Medical SQ, RM #170
Office Phone: 412-776-7606
Cell Phone: 412-443-5743
Email: PFC6.PA.ANG@Zeiders.com

myPay help on YouTube:

If you've never opened a myPay account, need help changing your myPay password or changing your email address in myPay, check out the online training tutorials available on YouTube.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhx_8nsfXqVjnv_WuYeXc84ImIHBMYe6a

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND LINKS:

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

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

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

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