



**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

**Retiree Appreciation  
Day 2009.**

*Page 1/Pull out*

**Pharmacy Benefit En-  
hanced.**

*Page 2*

**Council Members Re-  
sign.**

*Page 2*

**Crossing Guard Volun-  
teers Needed.**

*Page 2*

**Casualty Assistance for  
Retirees.**

*Page 3*

**Retiree Council Contact  
Information.**

*Page 3*

**MWR .**

*Page 4*

**ID Card Renewal  
locations.**

*Page 5*

**New Commissary.**

*Page 6*

**Campbell Connection.**

*Page 7*

**Updating Retiree  
Records.**

*Page 7*

**TRICARE and the new  
Health Care Law.**

*Page 7*

# FORT CAMPBELL RETIREE BULLETIN 2010

AUGUST 2010

## Retiree Appreciation Day 2010

**30 October 2010**

**Registration 0700/Opening Ceremony 0800**

If you missed the Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) last year, you missed a lot! Interest was so great that we ran out of room during the opening ceremony. But don't dismay. We have fixed that issue and will have plenty of room this year for Retirees and Family Members.

This year the event will be held on 30 October 2010 from 0700 to 1600 at the Passenger Processing Center (PPC) on Campbell Army Airfield, the same location as last year. The event in October is going to capitalize on all of the best things from past RADs, including breakfast, an exceptional Health Fair, and great Retiree related products from AAFES. To make the event as convenient as possible, all resources and organizations other than the ID Cards section will be located at the PPC under one roof (The ID Card office in Bldg 2577a will be open from 0800 to 1500).

At registration, you will be assisted by our very own Fort Campbell Retiree Council so you will be able to put a face with the name. After registration you will be able to roam through the activity hall, get your Flu shot at the Health Fair, or reserve yourself a seat for the opening ceremony.

The opening ceremony will begin with the Fort Campbell High School JROTC posting the colors and the Pledge of

Allegiance. COL Dominic J. Caracillo, Deputy Commander, 101st Airborne Division (AASLT) and Senior Commander, Fort Campbell, KY, will introduce the first of two exceptional Guest Speakers: Mr. Pradeep Gidwani, TRICARE North Region Director and LTG (Ret.) Roger Thompson Jr. of AUSA from Washington DC. Mr. Gidwani will brief on changes to TRICARE benefits as well as the state of recent contract negotiations and LTG Thompson will provide an in depth update on benefits and legislation.

Blanchfield Army Community Hospital will sponsor a health fair to provide preventive health, dietary, height/weight, blood pressure screenings and other valuable information related to your health. Pneumonia and Influenza vaccinations will be available for Retirees and Spouses, as well as Shingles vaccinations.

Fort Campbell is scheduled to provide numerous static displays manned by Soldiers recently returned from a tour of combat duty in Iraq and/or Afghanistan. The displays will feature weapons and equipment used by Soldiers in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Come by and see the changes to equipment you used when you served!

Brunch will be served in a Dining Facility (DFAC) from 1000-1300 for \$4.85. You will be

able to have breakfast, lunch, or a combination of both. Since we began offering a meal in the DFAC we have yet to receive a negative comment so come enjoy a great meal!

The door prize give-away will be held after lunch in Bay "D". AAFES again tops off the list of door prizes with a special gift. The door prize give-away will begin promptly at 1300 so don't be late! Remember, you must be present to win.

We will also make identification tags (dog tags) for any Retiree that wants a set. In order to reduce wait times, please fill out the form in the Pull-out and mail it to us so we can make a set in advance and have it ready for you. You may also have a set made while you wait.

And if these are not enough reasons to attend, there will be a special tour of Fort Campbell after the door prize give-aways including an Air Assault demonstration at Sabaulaski Air Assault School, a visit to Pratt Museum and an opportunity to familiarize with current small arms weapons at the Engagement Skills Trainer (EST). The EST is how today's Army trains with weapons and allows small units the opportunity to work on marksmanship skills and fire team coordination. The EST allows Soldiers to fire replica weapons at realistic target scenarios, all inside a building rather than on a range. The weapons are exactly like live fire weapons, have realistic recoil, and must be reloaded while firing.

**Continued on Page 6.**

## Pharmacy Benefit Enhanced

The TRICARE Management Activity is introducing significant new enhancements to beneficiaries as it combines its mail-order and retail pharmacy contracts into one new contract: TRICARE Pharmacy. The TRICARE Pharmacy Program provides outpatient prescription drugs to 9.5 million beneficiaries. TRICARE selected Express Scripts, Inc. to provide beneficiaries with mail-order, retail and specialty pharmacy services. Express Scripts currently handles millions of prescriptions each year through mail-order and retail pharmacies.

The improvements to the TRICARE Pharmacy program include the Specialty Medication Care Management program in the mail-order pharmacy; expansion of the Member Choice Center providing assistance to help beneficiaries switch their military treatment facility (MTF) prescriptions to mail-order; and one call center phone number: 1-877-363-1303.

The Specialty Medication Care Management program is for beneficiaries using the mail-order pharmacy for their specialty medications. It is structured to improve their health through continuous health evaluation, ongoing monitoring, assessment of education needs, and management of medication use.

The decision to combine mail-order and retail contracts resulted from obser-

vations that commercial insurance companies were doing the same thing with positive results. Combined call centers and claims processing will help control Department of Defense pharmacy costs.

The TRICARE Pharmacy Program is designed to provide the medications beneficiaries need in a safe, convenient and cost-effective manner. The program has three objectives.

**Provide a uniform, effective and efficient benefit.** TRICARE provides beneficiaries with four high-quality pharmacy options: MTF pharmacies; the mail-order pharmacy; the TRICARE Retail Pharmacy network; and non-network retail pharmacies.

**Encourage mail-order pharmacy use.** The mail-order pharmacy is the least expensive option when not using a MTF pharmacy. Beneficiaries receive up to a 90 day supply of maintenance medications delivered directly to their home. The mail-order pharmacy now offers a program providing enhanced education to promote safe use of specialty medications requiring special handling and administration; frequent dose changes; and possible benefits from additional clinical monitoring. The Member Choice Center is available at 1-877-363-1433 to help beneficiaries switch prescriptions to the convenient, cost-effective mail-order pharmacy.

**Promote patient safety.** All prescriptions dispensed to beneficiaries through MTFs, the mail-order pharmacy and retail network pharmacies are rigorously checked for accuracy and potential drug interactions by referencing new prescriptions against a beneficiary's prescription history.

The TRICARE Retail Pharmacy network includes all major national chains, more than 100 regional chains and more than 20,000 independent community pharmacies. Beneficiaries who are concerned about their current pharmacy's participation in the TRICARE retail network should ask their pharmacist if they are in the TRICARE network. Remember, the Retired military identification card is proof a Retiree qualifies for pharmacy benefits.

Also, if you are enrolled in Medicare Part D you will pay a premium, deductible, and co-pay for your medication. As the TRICARE pharmacy benefit is low or no cost to you, there is no reason to enroll in Medicare Part D unless you are below the U.S. poverty line and qualify for financial aid on your Part B premiums.

For more information visit [www.tricare.mil/pharmacy](http://www.tricare.mil/pharmacy) or [www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE](http://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE), or call 1-877-363-1303.

### Retiree Council Members Resign

Two Retiree Council members have resigned after a combined 40 years of exemplary service to the Fort Campbell Retiree community. COL John Patrick has served on the council since 1980 as a member of the Fort Campbell council and as a member of the East Tennessee Smoky Mountains sub-council. COL Patrick has been the bedrock of the council for decades and was instrumental in the creation of retired Military license plates in Tennessee, among too many other programs and changes to list. COL Joseph Britton, a retired Dental Officer, began serving on the Fort Campbell council in 1999 as the subject matter expert on Dental matters including insurance and the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program. His advice and counsel to the Retiree Council has been critical in ensuring issues are examined thoroughly and brought to the attention of the CSA Retiree Council.

We thank both men for their continued service to the Nation and the Fort Campbell community and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

### Fort Campbell Requests Retirees to Volunteer as School Crossing Guards

The Fort Campbell Military Police and Fort Campbell Schools are jointly in need of volunteers for School Crossing Guards. There are 11 positions to be filled across the 8 elementary and middle schools on Fort Campbell. If you are reliable, can pass a criminal background check, can work at least one 50-minute shift a week, and love the smiles of children, you qualify. There are many shifts, times, locations, and days to choose from. All equipment and training provided. If interested in more information, please contact Military Police SSG Bruno at [rocco.bruno@us.army.mil](mailto:rocco.bruno@us.army.mil) or (270) 798-2483. Although the school year on Fort Campbell starts August 5<sup>th</sup>, you may contact SSG Bruno throughout the school year if interested in volunteering.

**Remember to keep your mailing address updated with DFAS. You may change your address using MyPay, by calling the RSO at 270-798-5280/3310, or by contacting DFAS at 1-800-321-1080.**

## Casualty Assistance- Preparing for the Inevitable

Although most people would rather not talk about it, the issue of what needs to be done upon a retiree's death is pertinent and should be addressed in order to provide valuable assistance to the survivor. Many times each month, the Retirement Services Office receives calls from grieving survivors who have no idea what to do or where to turn. The Casualty Assistance Center (CAC) and the Retirement Services Office are available to provide support and assistance to the survivor then and in the future.

In the event of a retiree death several actions must be taken as soon as possible. First, the survivor needs to contact the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) at 1-800-269-5170 or 1-800-321-1080 and report the death. You will need the retiree's social security number and the date of death when you call. DFAS will then take steps to close out the pay account to prevent overpayment. If the retiree was enrolled in

the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) or Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan (RSFPP), they will take additional steps to initiate pay accounts for eligible survivors. DFAS will also send out paperwork that will need to be filled out and returned.

Next, call the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213, the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) at 1-800-538-9552, and Department of Veterans Affairs (if the retiree was receiving disability compensation) at 1-800-827-1000. Lastly, contact the Ft. Campbell CAC at 270-798-4727/4729/2085. Additionally, the Army Casualty Website at <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/TAGD/CMAOC/cmaoc.htm>, provides valuable information.

The CAC is the primary proponent on Fort Campbell for service-member deaths and are truly subject matter experts. They will provide

valuable assistance such as paperwork for pay and benefits, as well as one-on-one, personal assistance to help survivors through this difficult time. Keep in mind that paperwork for pay and benefits must be accompanied by a certificate of death.

Some retirees handle all of the family finances, keeping this information to themselves. This creates a huge problem upon their death, as the survivor has no idea of what and where bank accounts, life insurance policies, or investments are located. It is a good idea to organize all of this information so that the survivor can easily access these accounts.

Survivors handle this situation differently. Many grieve deeply and have a hard time dealing with the death and the myriad things that have to take place. Take the time to prepare for this traumatic event in order to make it easier for the survivor in this most difficult time.

## Fort Campbell Retiree Council

The Retiree Council is your voice on issues important to you, the Army Retiree. Listed below is contact information for the Retiree Council member closest to you. Contact them with issues you would like for them to bring to the attention of the Chief of Staff, Army Retiree Council. We want to know what you are thinking!

MG Lindsay Freeman	Hopkinsville	KY	270-886-7179
MG Greg Gile	Memphis	TN	901-748-0569
COL David Hafele	Kingsport	TN	423-245-4446
COL Bruce Clem	Clarksville	TN	931-920-8088
LTC Mary Bryant	Clarksville	TN	931-920-9367
LTC Earl McDowell	Chattanooga	TN	423-622-8473
LTC Larry Causey	Bowling Green	KY	270-842-6753
LTC Ray Eldridge	Henderson	TN	731-989-0703
MAJ James Taylor	Murray	KY	270-753-2076
CW5 Robert Huffman	Clarksville	TN	931-368-9176
CW3 Randal Whetsell	Clarksville	TN	931-552-2803
CSM Ronald Warrick	Clarksville	TN	931-645-8208
CSM Sidney Brown	Clarksville	TN	931-431-3443
CSM Harry Todd	Cadiz	KY	270-522-0138
SGM Russell Cain	Clarksville	TN	931-648-4596
SGM James Motley	Friendship	TN	731-285-3058
1SG Willard Eldridge	Tazewell	TN	423-626-6832
MSG Robert McBee	Hermitage	TN	615-942-5601
SFC Larry Cannon	Memphis	TN	901-357-6346
SFC Glenn McBee	Knoxville	TN	865-546-4906

**Fore!**

Cole Park Golf Club is open year round. Enjoy 18 holes of golf and cart rental for \$26 per person, Monday through Friday, \$29 per person on weekends and holidays, and 9 holes of golf and cart rental cost for \$15 per person. Open from 7:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. daily, golfers can play during the day or enjoy the twilight special for \$15. The twilight special is offered Monday through Friday after 3 p.m., and allows golfers unlimited golf until dark. Open play and scheduled tee-times are accepted during the week, and on the weekends and holidays as well. Keep up on your "A" game or warm up before you begin your play at the driving range or putting green. Membership packages are also available, so come on out and get swinging. For all your golfing needs visit the pro shop or give Cole Park Golf a call at (270) 798-4906.

**Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR)****MWR...Is For All of your Life!**

Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) is a department of the US Army and exists because the US Army is committed to the well-being of the community of people who serve, as well as those who have served our nation, and understand that life is not all work and no play. People need a balance between work and play, they need

time to relax, work out, and have fun. MWR provides a comprehensive network of support and leisure services designed to enhance the lives of Soldiers, their Families, DoD Civilians, Military Retirees and other eligible participants. For more information about all the MWR programs visit us at [www.fortcampbellmwr.com](http://www.fortcampbellmwr.com), or

become a fan and follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com\FortCampbellMWR](http://www.facebook.com\FortCampbellMWR). You can also call our MWR Public Relations office at (270) 798-7535, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.; and Thursday 12:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m., or our 24 hour automated phone line at (270) 798-3172.

**Have a Striking Good Time at Hooper Bowling Center**

Looking for a great time without spending a lot of money? Look no further than Hooper Bowling Center and Restaurant. You can grab everything from breakfast at their in house snack bar, to new bowling gear in their pro shop. Hooper is open 7 days a week, with hours ranging from 9 a.m. until midnight on various days. The restaurant has everything from breakfast sandwiches to calzones and is open Monday through Saturday, starting at 7 a.m. Not only does Hooper have

an eight lane party room available to rent, they also have a pro shop that is stocked with the latest balls, bags, and shoes. The pro shop is open daily when manager is present at the center and open on the weekends seasonally. To occupy your time in between frames there is new electronic 24 number Bingo. This year Hooper introduced "Dollar Nights," which take place every Monday from 4 p.m. until 9 p.m. and have been a huge success. "Dollar Nights"

are a great and inexpensive way to have some fun. Shoe rentals and games are only \$1 each per person. For under \$10 you and another person can play up to three games each with shoe rental. In this day and age that is one huge deal! Hooper also has several different leagues that do not require a year round commitment. For more information on all the great offers Hooper Bowling Center has, give them a call at (270) 798-5887.

**Fort Campbell's Delicious and Varied Food**

Sportsman's Lodge is conveniently located outside of the gates of Fort Campbell and easily accessible to the Retiree community. The "Best of Clarksville" famous schnitzel buffet and other great German favorites can be enjoyed Tuesday through Friday for lunch from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday for dinner from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday for dinner from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m.,

and Sunday for lunch 12 noon until 4 p.m. The buffet is not offered at all mealtimes however, but a full menu is always available to satisfy all of your other cravings for German favorites. With great German-American food and a spacious facility for hosting your special events such as retirement dinners, wedding receptions, banquets, and more; what else can make Sportsman's Lodge fantastic? How about of-

fering a 10% discount to seniors and 10% discount to each patron who presents a church bulletin on Sundays (discounts cannot be used together). For all the poker players out there, Sportsman's also offers FREE Texas Hold'em, with games every Tuesday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Have questions? Or to make a reservation, call (931) 431-4140.

**Retirement Services Office Web Address**

The address is <http://www.campbell.army.mil/retirement> or you can go to the Fort Campbell website at [www.campbell.army.mil](http://www.campbell.army.mil) and click "Services", then "Retirement".



# ID Card Renewal Locations

There is no need to drive all the way to Fort Campbell to have a new identification card made. Listed below are military posts, bases, and armories where you can go to have a new ID Card made. Please call the organization first to ensure they can assist you and to coordinate what paperwork or documentation will be required. Be advised that many National Guard Armories may not be open every day. Always call first to ensure the organization can assist you when you visit. You may also use the internet to find locations by going to <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/owa/home>.

State	City	Unit	Address	Telephone
Alabama	Redstone Arsenal	Military Personnel Division	3494 Roadrunner Rd.	(256) 842-2413
Kentucky	Fort Campbell	Military Personnel Division	2577 A Screaming Eagle Blvd	(270) 798-2424
Kentucky	Fort Knox	Military Personnel Division	Bldg.1384, Rm 103, Chaffee Ave.	(502) 624-1818
Kentucky	Greenville	Wendell Ford Tng Ctr	4675 State Route 181 N	(502) 607-7990
Kentucky	Louisville	123rd AW Kentucky ANG	1101 Grade Lane	(502) 413-4210
Indiana	Evansville	HHD 380th QM BN	2900 East Division St.	(866) 245-0878, ext.213
Missouri	Cape Girardeau	AG HQ MO Cape Girardeau	2626 Independence St.	(573) 339-6209
North Carolina	Charlotte	145th AW NC ANG Charlotte	4930 Minuteman Way	(704) 391-4153
North Carolina	Charlotte	108th Trng Cmd Army Res Center	1330 Westover St.	(704) 342-5108
North Carolina	Charlotte	NOSC Charlotte	6115 North Hills Cr., Suite A	(704) 598-0447, press "0"
North Carolina	Greensboro	NOSC Greensboro	7838 McCloud Rd., Triad	(336) 668-0053
Tennessee	Chattanooga	NOSC Chattanooga	4051 Amnicola Highway	(423) 698-8955, ext. 114/113
Tennessee	Gray	I & I Staff, MCR Gray	251 Don May Rd., Suite 101	(423) 467-2202/2208/2193
Tennessee	Memphis	164th AW Tennessee ANG	4593 Swinnea Dr., Bldg 4607	(901) 291-7220
Tennessee	Memphis	Memphis National Guard Armory	2610 E. Holmes Rd.	(901) 543- 7638, press "7"
Tennessee	Millington	NSA Mid-South	522 Integrity Dr., S-456	(901) 874-6419/6421/6430
Tennessee	Nashville	118th AW Tennessee ANG	240 Knapp Blvd., Bldg 801, Rm 171	(615) 399-5536
Tennessee	Nashville	AG HQ TENNESSEE ANG	3041 Sidco Dr.	(615) 313-0594
Tennessee	Nashville	NRC Nashville	1515 Davidson St.	(615) 228-6894
Tennessee	Nashville	640th RSG Nashville	3598 Bell Rd.	(615) 231-4267
Tennessee	Knoxville	NOSC Knoxville	2101 Alcoa HWY	(865) 522-2414
Tennessee	Knoxville	Knoxville National Guard Armory	3330 Sutherland Ave.	(865) 582-3210
Tennessee	Knoxville	134th ARW McGhee Tyson ANG	134 Briscoe Dr.	(865) 985-3254/Appt line
Tennessee	Smyrna	NG Volunteer Trng Site	686 Fitzhugh Blvd	(615) 267-6300
Tennessee	Tulahoma	Arnold AFB	111 Von Karman Rd.	(931) 454-3544

## New Commissary in June 2011!

*“The new store will be one of DeCA’s largest at nearly 122,000 square feet.”*



Construction began on a new Commissary at Fort Campbell in November 2009. This is of special importance as nearly 75% of all business the Commissary conducts is from Retirees. The new commissary will be built across the street from the current commissary in the area that used to be known as “AG Row” at a cost of nearly \$22 million. The new store will be one of DeCA’s largest at nearly 122,000 square feet, with 63,000 square feet of sales area. While not much bigger than the current commissary in terms of square footage, the difference in shopping area will be easily noticed as all administrative offices will be located on the second floor. The new building will include an international delicatessen and bakery, convenient self-checkouts, and the latest in display cases and modern decor. The completed facility will provide a modern state-of-the-art shopping facility that will be environmentally friendly and energy efficient. Extensive sustainable and energy saving design features are incorporated into the project, including high efficiency HVAC systems, non-ozone depleting refrigerants, auto sensor restroom fixtures, automatic exterior lighting controls, interior motion sensor lighting controls, energy efficient interior lighting, energy star rated equipment, energy conserving night curtains for open display cases, and refrigeration monitoring and control system (RMCS) for refrigeration, HVAC systems, lighting, and utility metering. Important to Retirees is the amount of handicapped parking. The new commissary will have many more spaces than the current commissary. Check our website <http://www.campbell.army.mil/campbell/directorates/DHR/retire/Pages/RetirementServices.aspx> for updates on the completion of the facility.

If you can only travel to the Commissary one a month or less often the Commissary will do special order and bulk orders. Simply call the Commissary at 270-798-2606 to place an order.

The next Fort Campbell Commissary tent sale will be held from 16-19 September 2010 with special pricing on not only bulk items but many others as well.

### Retiree Appreciation Day (cont’d from Page 1)

Don’t miss this opportunity to fire the Army’s newest weapons.

Of course we will have all of the great supporting organizations for you to talk to at length including Retired Pay from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Association of the United States Army, the Fort Campbell Historical Society and more.

For those that would like the opportunity to purchase Retiree related items like hats, glasses, bumper stickers, etc., AAFES will be selling a large selection of these goods. There will also be a smaller variety of items for Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps Retirees. Cash and checks will be accepted as payment.

So come out and enjoy Retiree Appreciation Day at Fort Campbell this year, all under one roof! We look forward to seeing you there!

### RSVP

Call the Retirement Services Office at 270-798-5280/3310 to RSVP or about the schedule of events, directions, or any other information you may require about Retiree Appreciation Day 2010. Your RSVP is used to determine a headcount for the DFAC so the appropriate amount of food will be available. Please do so no later than 22 October 2010. Of course you may still attend if you don’t RSVP by that date.

Want to stay informed on what's happening at Fort Campbell? Want up to the minute updates? Welcome to the Campbell Connection. Campbell Connection is a new subscription-based Fort Campbell Announcement system that is on-line and at your service. The Campbell Connection Announcement email service is the fastest and most reliable method of receiving information of events happening in and around Fort Campbell.

This new system allows you to choose which announcements you wish to receive, and also allows the entire greater Fort Campbell Community to subscribe to certain classes of announcements such as Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR), Blanchfield Hospital news, and Army Community Services just to name a few. Now Retirees, Family Members, Retirees, Fort Campbell alumnus, and other community members can sign

up to receive announcements, choosing their selections from among the various categories. The sign up link is available on the public internet site ([www.campbell.army.mil](http://www.campbell.army.mil)), which allows anyone with Internet access, worldwide, to subscribe to our announcements. Just click on the Campbell Connection link at the bottom of the page and sign up for your account.

## Updating Retiree Records

Previously, if a Retiree needed to make a change to their records such as a name change due to divorce or remarriage, all they had to do was come by the Fort Campbell Retirement Services Office with the pertinent documentation and we were able to submit the requested change for them electronically. However, with the consolidation of the Human Resources Command (HRC) at Fort Knox, some of

the capabilities that were available at HRC - St. Louis no longer exist. One of those is the records update process. Currently, if a Retiree needs to make a change to their records they must write a letter requesting the change and mail it to St. Louis. The Retiree will need to include their full name, social security number, mailing address, and telephone number along with the supporting docu-

mentation such as marriage license, divorce decree, or court order. The address to send the request is AHRC- Veterans Inquiry Branch, ATTN: PAV-V, One Reserve Way, St Louis, MO 63132-5200. Since this is a new process there is no way to tell how long it will take to make the requested change. We would appreciate any feedback from anyone who tries this as to how it worked for them.

## TRICARE and the New Health Care Law

The question most often posed by military Retirees about the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) is "How does this affect my current health care coverage under TRICARE?" The short answer is TRICARE (including TRICARE For Life) is not supposed to be affected at all. Everyone in the administration and in the House and Senate, including both parties, agree that TRICARE and VA coverage must be held harmless. Although the language in the PPACA does not specifically state that TRICARE or VA health care is exempt from the new law, Congress moved quickly to fix this. On April 26, President Obama signed into law the TRICARE Affirmation Act championed by Congressman Ike Skelton and Senator Jim Webb. This new law ensures that all

TRICARE plans are now considered, explicitly in law, as minimal acceptable coverage under the PPACA.

There is, however, no language in any of the legislation that will increase TRICARE costs or keep costs from increasing. As ambiguous as that sounds, the real meaning is that while costs will not increase directly as a result of the new law, it is very likely that costs will increase in the future as a result of the deficit and DoD budget problems.

Another question important to Retirees is about the language in the new law that allows children to remain covered by a parent's health care until the age of 26. Currently TRICARE cannot make this change because TRICARE itself is a law. The only way to make this happen for TRICARE beneficiaries is to amend that

law. In the House, H.R. 4923, the TRICARE Dependent Coverage Extension Act (also called TRICARE-26), would do just that allowing dependents up to age 26 to remain on TRICARE. TRICARE-26 will be added to the 2011 National Defense Authorization Act (2011 NDAA) which should be signed by October. However, even if it is signed and TRICARE-26 remains as part of the bill the change would not happen quickly as the Pentagon would have to negotiate contract changes, issue new regulations, etc. In the past, similar changes have taken from 12-24 months to be implemented. Additionally, since children over 23 are not considered dependents, it is assumed parents would have to pay a full premium for the additional coverage, but it is really too early to speculate.

# Important Telephone Numbers

Ft. Campbell Retirement Services Officer-Theodore (Ted) Faulkner-(270) 798-5280  
theodore.faulkner@conus.army.mil

Ft. Campbell Assistant Retirement Services Officer- Steve Hickman- (270) 798-3310  
william.hickman1@conus.army.mil

Ft. Campbell I.D. Card Office- (270) 798-2424/4838

Ft. Campbell Casualty Assistance Center- (270) 798-2085/4727/4729

Ft. Campbell Legal Assistance Office- (270) 798-0918/4432

Fort Campbell Vehicle Registration- (270) 798-5047

Fort Campbell Directory Assistance- (270) 798-2151

Turner Guest House- (270) 439-2229

Fort Campbell Commissary- (270) 798-3663

Fort Campbell Post Exchange- (270) 439-1841

DFAS-Cleveland- (800) 321-1080

Department of Veterans Affairs- (800) 827-1000

TRICARE North (Healthnet)- (877) 874-2273

TRICARE South- (800) 444-5445

TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy-(866) 363-8667

TRICARE Retiree Dental Program- (888) 838-8737

Social Security Administration- (800) 772-1213



Retirement Services Office  
IMSE-CAM-HRM-RS  
2577A Screaming Eagle Blvd  
Fort Campbell, KY  
42223

**ARMY RETIREES. STILL PROUD. STILL SERVING. STILL SALUTING.**