



# *The Informer*

## The Fort Eustis Retiree Newsletter

May 2011

**RETIRED  
AND  
STILL  
SERVING**



### **Retiree Appreciation Day**

**On Saturday, May 14,** The Fort Eustis Retiree Council will host the Annual Fort Eustis Retiree Appreciation Day. This event is Free and open to all. The opening ceremony will begin at 9 a.m. in the Food Court of the Main Post Exchange. Dozens of organizations focusing on service to the Military Retiree will be represented. The Retiree Council will be represented at both the Exchange and the Commissary. There will be lots of specials for retirees at the Golf Course and Bowling Alley and at many other Morale and Welfare Activities. There will be an antique car show in the Exchange parking lot and the AAFES Driver of the Year will be on hand with his 18 Wheeler Truck. The Post Exchange will offer specials, celebrating Retirees, including bingo, games, drawings, and door prizes. One such event is the popular spin the "Wheel of Fortune" from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the entrance to the facility. Everyone participating will win a prize. The Commissary will have a Case Lot Sale, many specials, prize drawings and give-a-ways. The Retiree Council will conduct a raffle with a long list of prizes for retirees in the Mall area. So, if you are a Military Retiree or spouse, come join in all the fun at the Fort Eustis Retiree Appreciation Day. No reservation required. Just show up and enjoy the activities and free gifts.

# CONSOLIDATED SUPPORT CENTER

Bldg 650 Monroe Avenue

The Military Personnel Branch has relocated to the Consolidated Support Center (Old NCO Academy, across from 7th Sustainment Dinning Facility). Other agencies located in Bldg 650:

Military Personnel Branch    Retirement Service Officer (RSO)  
 ID Cards/DEERS    Military Travel    Army Community Service    Housing  
 Child/Youth Services    Military Finance Center    Transportation  
 Casualty Office remains in Bldg 601 Hines Circle

## Military ID Card Facilities in this Area

### US ARMY

Fort Monroe  
 Craven Health Clinic Bldg 82, Rm 250  
 Hampton, VA  
 Mon-Fri, 0800-1600  
 Phone: 757-788-2960

Fort Story  
 Bldg 517  
 Virginia Beach, VA  
 Mon-Fri, 0800-1600  
 Phone: 757-422-7752

Fort Eustis  
 Bldg 650, Rm 123  
 Fort Eustis, VA  
 Mon-Fri, 0800-1600  
 Phone: 757-878-0948

### US AIR FORCE

Langley AFB  
 Bldg 15, Rm 103  
 Hampton, VA  
 Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri  
 0730-1600    Wed-0830-1600  
 Phone: 757-764-2270/2276

### US NAVY

Naval Weapons Station  
 Bldg 1797, Rm 1  
 Yorktown, VA  
 Mon-Thu, 0800-1500  
 Fri 0800-1200  
 Phone: 757-887-7702/7706

Norfolk Naval Station  
 Inside Navy Exchange  
 Norfolk, VA  
 Mon-Fri, 0900-1700    Sat 0900-1500  
 Phone: 757-444-9226

## Updated SSN Removal from ID Cards

Phase One of the removal of the SSN from ID Cards was implemented in 2008 by removing the Dependent's SSN and replacing it with "XXX-XX-XXXX". This phase is estimated to be completed by the end of 2012 as ID cards are issued or renewed.

Phase Two will incorporate a ten digit DoD ID number that will be printed on all DOD ID cards in lieu of the SSN. All individuals who are eligible to receive DoD benefits such as, commissary, exchange or TRICARE will also receive a DoD Benefits Number.

This update phase should be ready to implement no later than the end of May 2011.

Phase Three will remove SSN's from barcodes on all DoD ID cards and is scheduled to begin by calendar year 2012.

The updated approach to phase two provides a clear transition plan away from the unnecessary use of the SSN within DoD with the least impact to operations.

## Military & Veteran Associations

Members of the military community - Veterans, Active-duty, Reserve, National Guard, or their family members have the opportunity to join or otherwise benefit from several types of associations and organizations. ranging from fraternal to charity. These military specific organizations can provide advocacy, help you network to access job opportunities, tap into benefits, lobby congress, or find support. In addition, the Air Force (Civil Air Patrol) and Coast Guard (CG Auxiliary) offer civilians the chance to volunteer and contribute to our nation's defense, This also includes several official State Defense Forces or Civilian Militias . For a directory of military/veterans associations and organizations listed by type and service affiliation refer to the —Military and Veteran Associations [veteransupportcenter.org](http://veteransupportcenter.org)

## VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA) CAREGIVER PROGRAM

Caregivers are the family members and loved ones who provide care for Veterans who are living with the effects of war, disability, chronic illness, or aging. They deserve VA's highest level of support. On 1 February 2011, the Department of Veterans Affairs opened a toll-free National Caregiver Support Line housed at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center campus in Canandaigua, New York. The number is 1-855-260-3274. The support line serves as a primary resource/referral center to assist caregivers, veterans and others seeking caregiver information to help in the care of our Nation's Veterans. VA employees who are licensed clinical social workers will answer calls to the National Caregiver Support Line.

The support line provides information on VA community caregiver support resources. Emotional support for the caregiver will be an integral component of this service. The National Caregiver Support Line is also available to respond to inquiries about the caregiver benefits associated with Public Law 111-163, Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010. The line is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. eastern time. Readers might also want to check out VA's updated caregiver website: <http://www.caregiver.va.gov>

## The MyPay System

MyPay offers faster, enhanced services, security, accessibility and reliability to all customers of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS). MyPay is only for retirees and annuitants who receive their pay through DFAS. You can view, print and save tax statements, change federal and state tax withholdings, update bank account and electronic fund transfer information, manage allotments, make address changes and manage US Savings Bonds. You can provide report of existence, update certificate of eligibility and request email copies of your W-2 tax statements.

Logon to <https://mypay.dfas.mil> to learn more.

Not computer savvy? You can contact DFAS:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

U.S. Military Retired Pay

PO Box 7130

London, KY 40742-7130

Phone: 1-800-321-1080 or Fax: 1-800-469-6559

## Medicare Part B Premiums Update

The Military Retiree Health Care Relief Act of 2011 (H.R.238), was introduced in the 112th Congress by Representative Jo Ann Emerson (R-MO-08). The bill would restore a long broken promise relating to free life time health care by amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable credit to military retirees and their spouses/widows for premiums paid for coverage under Medicare Part B. Veterans are encouraged to contact their legislators and request they actively support this bill and urge their colleagues to do the same. One method to accomplish this is to access the USDR Action Alert site [http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=23523796&queueid=\[capwiz:queue\\_id\]](http://capwiz.com/usdr/issues/alert/?alertid=23523796&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id]) and forward the editable message provided to representatives.

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## DFAS And Other Death Notifications

The death of a military retiree or annuitant can be reported to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service at 1-800-321-1080, 7:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. You can also call the Casualty Assistance Office, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, 757-878-1118, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. or contact the Retirement Service Office 757-878-3648 for assistance.

If the retiree or annuitant was a retired civil servant, notify the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) toll-free at 1-888-767-6738

If the deceased was enrolled in DVA-sponsored insurance such as National Service Life Insurance (NSLI) or Service Members Group Life Insurance (SGLI), you can notify them at 1-800-669-8477.

## Retirees!

### Become a Red Cross Volunteer!

You can use your valuable military experience to be an essential part of emergency services for the American Red Cross! The American Red Cross is a humanitarian organization led by volunteers that provide relief to victims of disasters and helps people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. We depend on volunteers of all ages and backgrounds to carry out our work. Volunteers constitute 97 percent of our total workforce. Last year, 490 active volunteers contributed over 26,968 hours of service. During challenging economical times. Our volunteers continue to:

- \* Respond to local disasters, providing men, women and children with emergency food, shelter and supplies in the areas of Hampton, Newport News and Isle of Wight County.
- \* Assist with providing emergency communications between those in the Armed Forces and their families.
- \* Help people lead safer and healthier lives by providing a variety of trainings such as CPR, First Aid, Aquatics & Water Safety, Babysitter's Training and many more.
- \* Help our community be Red Cross Ready by teaching the necessary steps to prepare for disasters.
- \* Support blood collections by working as greeters and canteen workers at blood drives and assists blood services in the collection of nearly half of the nation's blood supply.
- \* Serve on our Board of Directors and varying committees within our organization.
- \* Participate in fundraising events, providing us the means to change lives daily by providing help when help is needed.

For more information, please contact Dawn Roberts, Volunteer Coordinator at :  
757-838-7320 or by email at [drobot@hrrcdcross.org](mailto:drobot@hrrcdcross.org)



## Army Commemorative Coins

January 31, 2011, the United States Mint began accepting orders for the 2011 United States Army Commemorative Coins. The program includes \$5 gold coins, silver dollars, and clad half dollars issued to recognize and celebrate the founding of the U.S. Army in 1775.

The coins were authorized under Public Law 110-450, the United States Army Commemorative Coin Act of 2008. The prices for each coin include surcharges of \$35 for each gold coin, \$10 for each silver dollar, and \$5 for each half dollar, which are distributable to the Army Historical Foundation to support the construction of the National Museum of the United States Army at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Sales of the commemorative coins will continue until the maximum authorized mintage has been sold. The US Mint offers each coin through individual sales, in proof or uncirculated format.

The \$5 gold coin is intended to represent the U.S. Army's service in war, with depictions of Soldier from different eras. From right to left are Soldiers from the Revolutionary War, Civil War, modern era, World War II, and World War I. On the reverse of the coin is the official emblem of the U.S. Army including their motto "This We'll Defend".

The silver dollar symbolizes the worldwide deployment of the 21st century U.S. Army. On the front is a depiction of a male and female Soldier with a globe in the background. The reverse features an image of the Great Seal of the United States, which has been worn on U.S. Army dress and service uniforms since the early 1800's. Surrounding the Seal are the seven core values of the U.S. Army: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage.

The obverse of the half dollar symbolizes the U.S. Army's service during peacetime. A series of three images appears which depict a Soldier surveying, two servicemen building a flood wall, and the Redstone Army rocket. The reverse symbolizes the Army as the first military service to defend the country. An enlisted Continental Soldier armed with a musket is shown. An inscription reads "First in Service to the Nation" and thirteen stars appear above.

# Army Commemorative Coins





### Fort Eustis Numbers At A Glance

All Area Code: 757

Consignment Shop	878-0190	Auto Craft Shop	878-5440
Riding Stables	878-2835	Inspection Station	878-2480
General Smalls Inn	878-5807	Ticket & Travel Office	878-3694
Post Exchange	887-0293	McClellan Fitness Center	878-5556
Commissary	878-5966, ext 237	Aquatic Center	878-1090
Fort Eustis Club	878-5700		

**Fort Eustis Information 878-1212**

### Outdoor Recreation

Mini Park Rental  
(757) 878-5883

Equipment Rental  
(757) 878-2091

Log Cabins/Travel Camps  
(757) 878-2610

Warwick Pier  
(757) 878-2610

### Anderson Field House Pool

Open to all Military ID Card Holders  
Call (757) 878-6076 for more information

Visit their website at:

[www.eustismwr.com](http://www.eustismwr.com)

### Reggie's Restaurant

Pines Golf Course  
3518 Mulberry Island Road  
Tel: (757) 878-2252

Have a special event coming up?  
This is a great place to host it.  
Please call ahead to schedule.

**Visit Fort Eustis INTERNET web page**

[www.eustis.army.mil](http://www.eustis.army.mil)

**Contact the Fort Eustis  
Retirement Services Officer (RSO)**

[eustis.rso@conus.army.mil](mailto:eustis.rso@conus.army.mil)

**(757) 878-3648**

*We are here to serve you!*

# Fort Eustis Retiree Council

In keeping with the "Total Army" concept, each Department of the Army Installation has established a retirement services program. Fort Eustis has established the **Retirement Services Office** to serve this purpose. When Army Retirees or Family Members need help with military matters, they may call 878-3648 or visit the office located at Bldg 650 Monroe Ave for assistance.

**The Fort Eustis Retiree Council** is officially appointed by the Commander 733rd Force Support Group. The Council represents Army community Retirees, their Families and widows/widowers who are served by Fort Eustis. Council membership includes retired officers, warrant officers, noncommissioned officers and widows and widowers of retirees.

**The Purpose of the Fort Eustis Retiree Council is to:**

- Provide Army leaders with insight into Retiree needs and problems.
- Provide Retirees a channel of communications with Active Army Leaders.
- Provide Retirees an opportunity to influence decisions, policies and legislation that affect them.
- Provide Retirees the opportunity to participate in Army programs affecting their future well being.

**The Retiree Council Represents Retirees Through Service on the Following Committees and Councils:**

- McDonald Army Health Center
- AAFES Post Exchange Council
- Fort Eustis Commissary Council
- Fort Eustis Commissary Focus Group Council
- Fort Eustis Human Resources Committee
- Fort Eustis Club Advisory Council
- Fort Eustis Customer Management Council
- Chief of Staff of the Army Retiree Council

The Retiree Council assists the commander with application of Department of the Army programs pertaining to Army Retirees. We maintain a strong communications link between the Active and Retired communities. We work to resolve problems at the local level. Those problems or issues that cannot be resolved at the local level are forwarded to the Chief of Staff of the Army for action. **Your Fort Eustis Retiree Council** is dedicated to represent the Retiree and their Families. We consider it a privilege to represent you and we invite you to join us. Your valuable military experience could be a great asset to the Council. We welcome your ideas, suggestions and comments. We especially welcome your participation and support.

Respectfully,

VACANT

Chairman

Tyrone Fuller  
Master Sergeant (Ret), US Army  
Co-Chairman

If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact us at: [EUSTIS.RSO@conus.army.mil](mailto:EUSTIS.RSO@conus.army.mil)