



Fort Hood Retirement Services Bulletin

September 2009

By Fort Hood Retirement Services

Published by the Retirement Services Office, Installation Adjutant General, Fort Hood, Texas, as a service to military retirees and their Family Members or survivors within the jurisdiction of this installation. Articles appearing in this publication do not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the Commander of Fort Hood or the Department of the Army. Inquiries or comments should be directed to the Editor, Mrs. Beth Waller, Retirement Services Officer, Building 18010, Fort Hood, Texas 76544-5056. Telephone: (254) 287-5210 / 3368 or DSN 737-5210 / 3368 or 1-800-403-6640.

A Note From The Commander, III Corps and Fort Hood And Command Sergeant Major, III Corps and Fort Hood

Every summer we take time to remember what makes our Country so great. We remember not only how our great Nation came to be, but also those who made the dream possible, and those who continued to guard our freedom from that day forward. Your unique experiences and unwavering support are great assets to Fort Hood and Central Texas, and we are proud to have in our community so many that have done so much to keep our Nation free.

Each of you are invaluable members of our community actively and regularly contributing to Fort Hood and Central Texas. Your experience and dedication help to make Fort Hood the best military installation in the United States and Central Texas our Nation's finest military community and we are all indebted to each of you for all you have done and continue to do. Thank you for your decades of honorable service.

Today's generation of Soldiers is doing their part to preserve our way of life and we continue to be astounded at their accomplishments. They are faced with obstacles few before them have faced in Nations that have only known tyranny and chaos, and still they continue to succeed in helping rid the world of international terrorism. We are proud of the Soldiers we are privileged to have here at Fort Hood, and we encourage each of you to get to know this generation of men and women who are sacrificing so much for their Country as many of you have in years past.

Sincerely, LTG Rick Lynch, Commander, III Corps and Fort Hood
CSM Neil Ciotola, Command Sergeant Major, III Corps and Fort Hood

Still Proud ~ Still Serving ~ Still Saluting

A Note From The Garrison Commander & Garrison Command Sergeant Major

Serving in our Nation's military is one of the most admirable professions and accomplishments I know. I count as a blessing every day that I continue to serve our Army and I'm so proud of our Soldiers and Families who have endured tremendous challenges over the past eight years.

I likewise pass along our praise and admiration to you today for your lifelong service and sacrifice. Our Nation's freedom is the result of your unequivocal love and honor to duty and country, and for that we proudly salute you. We stand here today in awe of your accomplishments, and the time you vested to make all of our military services better places for our Sons and Daughters to serve. Our motto "Still Proud – Still Serving – Still Saluting" reflects your character and loyalty to our great country. You have left a great legacy for our young men and women to follow. Our Soldiers serving today are immensely proud of those who fought with dignity and selfless dedication in our Nation's wars before them. This October 23rd and 24th, 2009 Fort Hood welcomes back all Retired Soldiers and their Families to show our deepest appreciation for all you have given us and continue to give.

We look forward to seeing you at Retiree Appreciation Day. Come out and enjoy all the activities!

Sincerely, Colonel William V. Hill III, Fort Hood Garrison Commander
Command Sergeant Major Donald Felt, Fort Hood Garrison Command Sergeant Major

A Note From The Installation Adjutant General

Once again we proudly welcome you to the 35th Annual Retiree Appreciation Day. Your lifetime of devoted service to our Nation truly reflects your patriotism for our country. Today we thank you for all your sacrifices and the freedom we enjoy. We also want to show our gratitude to all Family Members: spouses, children, mothers, and fathers who day after day endured the pain of separations, deployments and the greatest sacrifice of all: losing a loved one serving in the Armed Forces.

In this year's newsletter we feature several newly implemented programs for our Military Families. Two of those programs are "The Tragedy Assistance Program (TAPS)" and "The Survivor Outreach Services (SOS)." These programs provide a variety of services to support Survivors of Soldiers who passed while in combat or on active duty.

If you have any suggestions to improve this newsletter or the Retiree Appreciation Day, please give us your feedback. Ms. Beth Waller and her team have worked many hours to ensure the continuation of this yearly event and your input does make a difference. Again, it is our honor and pleasure to welcome you back to the Central Texas area.

Sincerely, Ms. Marlean C. Druce, Installation Adjutant General

Retirement Services Office Location

The Retirement Services Office is located in Building 18010, Rm. B118, on T.J. Mills Blvd and Battalion Avenue. We offer information and assistance on all retirement topics. Please keep in mind that you may choose to make a face-to-face appointment with us, to discuss any issues/concerns regarding retirement. For assistance with Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC), please call first to ensure that you have the required supporting documentation to complete the application. Because many inquiries can be resolved telephonically we encourage you to call us at **(254) 287-5210. 287-3368 / 287-8761 / 285-5926 or 1-800-403-6640. We are open Mon through Wed & Fri: 0800 to 1130 and 1230 to 1600, Thursday, 0900 to 1130 and 1230 to 1600. We are closed on all federal holidays.**

35th Annual Retiree Appreciation Day Agenda

FRIDAY, 23 OCTOBER 2009

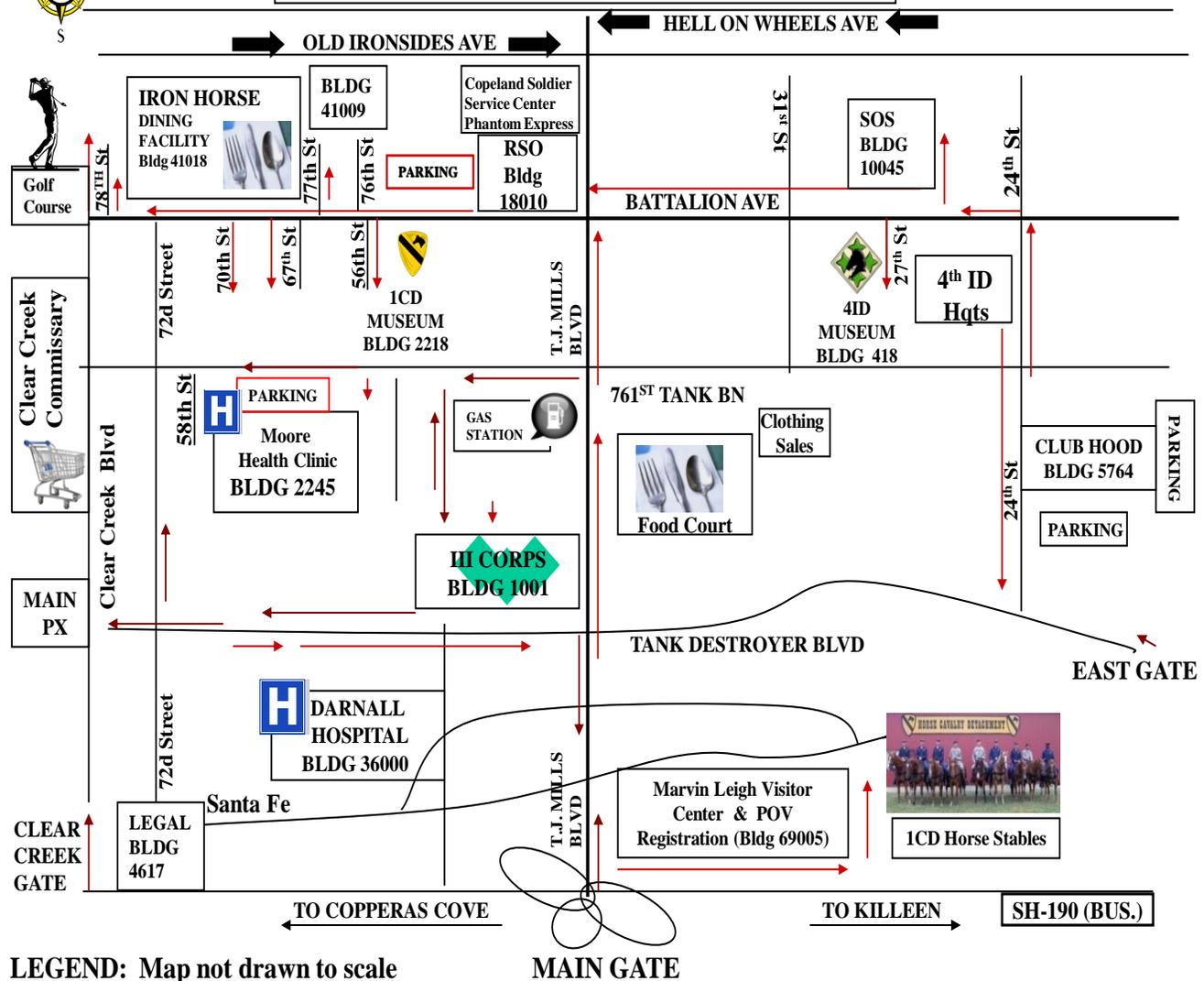
0800 – 1600	LEGAL ASSISTANCE	BLDG 4617, 72d & SANTA FE
0800 - 1600	MOBILE VET CENTER	BLDG 18010, Battalion Ave
0900 - TBD	RETIREE GOLF TOURNAMENT	COURSES OF CLEAR CREEK
1000 – 1400	COMBAT RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION (CRSC) APPLICATION ASSISTANCE	BLDG 18010, Battalion Ave
1600 – 1700	RETIREE CELEBRATION	CLUB HOOD, BLDG 5764
2030 - TBD	“SPAGHETTI DINNER” SPONSORED BY CLEAR CREEK COMMISSARY	CLEAR CREEK COMMISSARY

SATURDAY, 24 OCTOBER 2009

0700 – 0845	OLE TIMERS BREAKFAST SPONSORED BY PIONEER SERVICES, ASYMCA, EISENHOWER BANK & AUSA	CLUB HOOD, BLDG 5764
0800 – 0845	REGISTRATION AND UPDATES	CLUB HOOD, BLDG 5764
0900 – 0915	OPENING CEREMONY	CLUB HOOD, MAIN BALLROOM
0915 – 0930	WELCOME ADDRESS	CG / REPRESENTATIVE
0930 – 0935	PRESENTATION OF SERVICE PROVIDERS	MR. GREEN, DIR, HR
0935 – 0945	PRESENTATION OF RETIREE COUNCIL & INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER	LTG (RET) PALMER CHAIRMAN, RETIREE COUNCIL
0945 – 1000	GUEST SPEAKER	TBD
1000 – 1030	DOOR PRIZES/ADMIN ANNOUNCEMENTS	LTG (RET) PALMER / MRS. WALLER
1030 – 1230	COUNTY FAIR ACTIVITIES	CLUB HOOD, BLDG 5764
0900 – 1400	HEALTH FAIR, CRDAMC	Moore Clinic, Bldg 2245, 761 st Tank Bn
0900 – 1600	ID CARD ISSUE & DEERS TRANSACTIONS	BLDG 18010, Battalion Ave
0900 – 1600	COMBAT RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION (CRSC) APPLICATION ASSISTANCE	BLDG 18010, Battalion Ave
0900 – 1600	PHANTOM EXPRESS	BLDG 69005, near main gate (Visitor Center)
1100 – 1600	LEGAL ASSISTANCE (WILLS, POA, ETC)	BLDG 4617, 72d & Santa Fe
1130 - 1400	LUNCH (EXTENDED HOURS) IRONHORSE DINING FACILITY	BLDG 41018, 77 TH Street & Old Ironsides Ave
1200 – 1600	MUSEUMS (1 ST CAV, 4 TH INF DIV & 3d ACR)	1CD, 4ID and 3d ACR
1400- 1500	1 ST CAV HORSE DETACHMENT DEMONSTRATION	1CD HORSE STABLES
1700 - TBD	RETIREE ROUND-UP DINNER SPONSORED BY THE GREATER KILLEEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	CLUB HOOD, BLDG 5764



RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY



LEGEND: Map not drawn to scale

MAIN GATE

Bus transportation will be available on Saturday, 24 October 2009 from Club Hood.

RETIREE'S FREE SHUTTLE ROUTE



BUS STOP	BLDG #	DESTINATION	DEPARTURE TIMES
1	5764	CLUB HOOD	*On the .30 hr ~ i.e. 1030 hrs
2	418	4 th ID & 3ACR Museums	.35 ~ 1035 hrs
3	2245	Moore Health Clinic	.45 ~ 1045 hrs
4	4617	Legal Office	.55 ~ 1055 hrs
5	41018	Ironhorse Dining Fac.	.00 ~ 1100 hrs
6	2218	1CD Museum	.10 ~ 1110 hrs
7	18010	Copeland Bldg (RSO)	.20 ~ 1120 hrs

*A special trip will be added at 1330 from Club Hood to visit the Horse Stables demonstration.

**Departure times are approximated however; buses will run continuously throughout the day.

Retiree Appreciation Day Event Information

Retired Military Golf Tournament

The Twenty-Eighth Annual Retired Military Golf Tournament will be held Friday, 23 October 2009, 0900 at The Courses of Clear Creek. This is a great opportunity to see old friends! However, the event is limited to the first 144 entries received from retired personnel, their Family Members and survivors. So hurry and fill out the attached entry form to ensure your place in the tournament. Please mail the entry form to: **The Courses of Clear Creek, P.O. Box K, Fort Hood, TX 76544**. The tournament will be individual by flight, shotgun start. The entry fee is \$35.00 per person, and it includes green fees, cart fees, and \$10.00 towards purchase of prizes. **For additional information call (254) 287-4130.**

Retreat Ceremony

A Retreat Ceremony will be held Friday, 23 October 2009, 1600 hours at Club Hood. This ceremony will honor Fort Hood Soldiers retiring during the month of October. In addition, the Commanding General, III Corps and Fort Hood (or his designated representative) will recognize the Distinguished Honorary Retiree (to be announced).

“Spaghetti Dinner”

We are happy to announce that this year the Clear Creek Commissary will sponsor a Spaghetti Dinner! It will be held on Friday, 23 Oct at the Clear Creek Commissary starting at 2030 hours. The meal is free and there will be prizes, too! In order for the Commissary to have enough food for everyone you must RSVP. Please mail your RSVP NLT 8 Oct 09 with the enclosed form at the back of the newsletter or you can call the commissary at **(254) 493-3905**. You can also e-mail to james.kissiar@deca.mil. Come on out and enjoy this wonderful event.

Opening Ceremony/County Fair

On Saturday, 24 October 2009, 0900, the Opening Ceremony will be held at Club Hood Main Ballroom. The guest speaker will be announced at a later date. The opening ceremony will be followed by the County Fair also at Club Hood from 1030 to 1230 hours. Among the services available for you at the fair will be renewing your ID card, getting a power of attorney, and many others. This is in addition to locations at the Copeland Soldiers Service Center (ID cards) and III Corps Legal Assistance Office located at bldg 4617, between Santa Fe and 72d Street. For your convenience, wills will be drawn at their Santa Fe Legal Office. Also, a representative from Cleveland Retired Pay (DFAS-CL) will be attending to answer your pay questions or assist you with pay issues. Additionally, a representative from the Armed Forces Retirement Home is scheduled to attend, to answer questions related to both premier retirement communities in Gulfport, Mississippi and Washington, D.C. Those eligible to apply will enjoy the finest lifestyles in their retirement with exceptional residential care and extensive support services.

Don't forget to come early for the Ole Timers Breakfast beginning at 0700!

We are proud that Pioneer Services, Armed Services YMCA, Eisenhower Bank and AUSA have teamed up to sponsor the Ole Timers Breakfast!

In order to attend you **must RSVP NLT 15 Oct 09**. Please return enclosed registration form at the back of this newsletter if you would like to attend. Grand Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Bacon or Sausage, Hash Browns, Grits, Biscuits, SOS, Coffee or Hot Tea.

Come on out, enjoy breakfast and visit some old friends!

Retiree Appreciation Day Event Information (Continued)

VA Mobile Counseling Center ~ OPEN HOUSE!

We are delighted to announce the first showcasing of the first VA Mobile Vet Center (MVC) at this year's Retiree Appreciation Day. The Mobile Vet Center joins a fleet of 50 new traveling counseling centers funded by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The state of Texas is marked to receive three Mobile Vet Centers, one of them to reside in the nearby city of San Antonio.

The intent of the Mobile Vet Center initiative is to assist combat Veterans and victims of sexual assaults who cannot travel to a VA hospital or center. The Department of Veterans Affairs ultimate goal is to reach underserved military Veterans living in rural America with high-quality readjustment counseling.

Currently the Department of Veterans Affairs is working to increase the number of trained counselors in Post Traumatic Stress Disorders (PTSD) and a number of other behavioral issues to set up shop in small communities. These contract counselors will coordinate with the MVC personnel to perform intake, fill out the initial forms and get the Veterans to the level of counseling they need. The Mobile Vet Centers will also be used to participate in events typically staffed by local Vet Center's staff, including homeless "stand-downs", veteran community events, county fairs, and unit reunions at sites ranging from Native American reservations to colleges.

While most MVCs will be used as Vet Centers for the delivery of counseling and readjustment services, the local Vet Center team leader may arrange with VA hospitals or clinics in the region to provide occasional support for health promotion activities such as health screenings and health fairs. Additionally, because of their multi-purpose functionality the mobile vet centers can be utilized to support emergency medical missions such as: hurricanes, tornados and other natural disasters in the local areas.

The \$300,000, 38-foot motor coaches, houses two separate areas suitable for confidential counseling. The rear compartment doubles as a rolling business center, with fax, printer and copier capabilities. When fully operational, Veterans will be able to apply for benefits and have their documentation transmitted to VA on the spot. These state-of-the art mobile centers are staffed with professional counselors, social workers, and outreach specialists and will travel to geographically dispersed areas, where counseling is limited or non-existent. With Texas being one of the largest states in the nation, providing care to Veterans in rural areas has long been a challenge. The motor coaches will supplement VA's 232 current Vet Centers, which are scheduled to increase to 271 facilities by the end of this year.

These vehicles are also boosting our National economy as they are being manufactured for VA by Farber Specialty Vehicles in Columbus, Ohio.



~~~~ OPEN HOUSE LOCATION ~~~

**Bldg 18010, Copeland Soldier Service Center
Front Parking Lot on the corner of
Bn Ave and T.J. Mills**

**Friday and Saturday, 23 – 24 Oct 09
from 0800 to 1200 and 1300 to 1600 hours**

Retiree Appreciation Day Event Information (Continued)

Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center (CRDAMC) Health Fair

The Health Fair will be at **Charles T. Moore Health Clinic, Bldg 2245, 761st Tank Battalion Ave**, 24 October, 0900-1400 hours. As of date, Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center (CRDAMC) expects to have the flu vaccine for the fair. The Zostavax Vaccine (Shingles Vaccine) will be available for the Health Fair. The pneumonia shot and tetanus booster will be available for those needing these vaccines. Please bring shot records for verification and update. Self Care Classes and Dietary Supplement Classes will also be held at various times throughout the day. This year's Health Fair is based on the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommendations for Clinical Preventative Services, and will include a combination of screenings and education.



For updated information on the availability of the flu shot at Fort Hood, CRDAMC will put the information out through local media channels. You can also call the Fort Hood Retirement Services Office for information on availability at 254-285-5926/ 287-5210 or 1-800-403-6640.

ID Card Issue and DEERS Transactions

ID Card Section will be open for ID Card Issue and DEERS Transactions, 24 October 2009, from 0900 – 1600 hours in the Copeland Soldiers Service Center, Bldg 18010. For your convenience two ID Card stations will also be at the County Fair location from 1030 – 1230 hours. See information provided under ID Cards in this newsletter for documents needed or please call 254-287-5670/2518.

Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) Application Assistance

Assistance in completing CRSC applications will be available at the Copeland Soldier Service Center, 23 October 2009, 1000 – 1400 hours and Saturday, 24 October, 0900 – 1600 hours. Please bring your DD Form 214, VA Decision Rating Letter (with disability code sheet) and any other supporting documents you would like to file with the application. Eligible applicants include Retirees who served 20 years or more on Active Duty, or Reservists who are at least age 60 (in receipt of retired pay) and are entitled to retired pay that is offset by VA payments; and have at least 10% VA disability rating that is combat-related. Due to a recent law change, Medical Retirees who have **less than 20 years** but meet the other previous criteria are also eligible to apply.

Reservations are not necessary; however, please contact the Fort Hood RSO if you would like to apply on one of these dates so we can have adequate staff members on hand. Our phone numbers are (254) 287-5210 / 287-3368 or 285-5926. For additional information regarding the CRSC process, please visit the Web site www.crsc.army.mil or call 1 (866) 281-3254.

Retiree Appreciation Day Event Information (Continued)

Legal Assistance

Legal Assistance will be available on 23 October 2009 from 0800 – 1600 and also on 24 October 2009, 1100 – 1600 at their new location: **Bldg 4617 (corner of Santa Fe and 72d Street)**. For your convenience there will also be Legal Assistance available at the County Fair Location from 1030 – 1230 hours for Powers of Attorney (POA) only. This is a great time to update wills and POA if needed. For more information please call **(254) 287-7901 or 287-3199**.

Vehicle Post Decals/Bell County Vehicle Registration/Phantom Express

The **Vehicle Control Center** has implemented an on-line post decal request system. For your convenience, you may request vehicle decals on-line via email or fax, and pick them up at the Marvin Leath Visitor Center 24 hours later on the next business day. Additionally, customers who process an on-line request do not require a ticket number. When you enter the center go to the MP counter to the far right and present your driver's license, insurance card, military ID, and State Vehicle Registration to validate the information provided on-line.

You may visit their Web site at <http://pao.hood.army.mil/newcomers/visitor.center.htm> and email the information to the following email address: hood.des.pmo.vehreg@conus.army.mil. The Marvin Leath Visitor Center is open **Monday through Friday from 0730 to 2230 hours, closed weekends and federal holidays**.

As of 17 July 2009, current military ID card holders are NOT required to have a temporary pass to enter post. Additionally, the public is welcome to visit Fort Hood and gain easy access by simply showing a current driver's license between 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. any day of the week. For more information and after hours procedures, please call **(254) 287-9909**.

Phantom Express Registration: The Phantom Express Office at print (31 Jul 09) remains at Bldg 23023 on the corner of Tank Bn Blvd and 56th St; however, a new building is under construction and should open by 23 October 2009 (Retiree Appreciation Day weekend). Please check local news media or call **(254) 553-1104** for more information. The new bldg number is 69005, and is located next to the Marvin Leath Visitor Center.

Phantom Express normal hours of operations are Monday through Friday 0800 to 1600. However, on Saturday, 24 October the Phantom Express will be opened for special hours from 0900 to 1600 hours.

In order to register, please bring the following:

- 1) **Military (Retired) ID card**
- 2) **Valid & Current Car Insurance Card**
- 3) **Valid & Current DoD Decal Number & Expiration Date**
- 4) **Valid & Current Driver's License**
- 5) **Valid & Current Vehicle Registration**

Bell County Vehicle Registration has a location on post. The Vehicle Registration is located next to the **Marvin Leath** Visitor Center, in Bldg. 69004. Their hours of operation are Monday through Friday 0800 to 1645 hours. Their phone number is **(254) 618-4180**. Please call ahead to ensure hours of operation have not changed and for additional information.

Lunch at Troop Dining Facility

Please note that lunch this year will be at Iron Horse Dining Facility, Bldg 41018, located between Old Ironsides Ave. and 77th St. The menu will include steak and shrimp. **Please complete the registration at the back of this newsletter if you plan to attend so we will have a count. Cost: \$4.25** (cost subject to change – pay at Dining Facility – cash only please).

Retiree Appreciation Day Event Information (Continued)

1st Cavalry Horse Detachment Demonstration

The 1st Cavalry Horse Detachment will again entertain with their awesome cavalry horse demonstration on 24 October 2009, 1400 hours at the 1st Cavalry Horse Stables, located near the main gate (see enclosed map). All museums will be open from 1200 to 1600 hrs on Friday and Saturday!

Fort Hood Museum Information

1st Cavalry Division Museum:

Hours of Operation: 0900 to 1600 – Monday through Friday;
1200 to 1600 Saturday and Sunday and Federal Holidays.
The museum is closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.
For additional information please call **(254) 287-3626**.

4th Infantry Division Museum:

Hours of Operation: 0900 to 1600 – Monday through Friday;
1000 to 1600 Saturday and Sunday and Federal Holidays.
The museum is closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.
For additional information please call **(254) 287-8811**.

3ACR Museum: To date the 3dACR museum is tentatively scheduled to be opened for the Retiree Appreciation Day, but hours of operations are not readily available.

Retiree Appreciation Round-Up Dinner

This year Club Hood will be the location for the Retiree Round-Up Dinner. The social hour will be from 1700 to 1800; Dinner will begin at 6:00 pm followed by Door Prize Drawings. The dinner menu is Breast of Chicken Veronica served with rice pilaf and white wine sauce supreme, rolls & butter, iced tea, coffee, water and dessert. **The cost of the dinner ticket is \$18.00 per person and must be paid in advance (price includes gratuity).** There will be a *CASH BAR* also. ATM machines are available at Club Hood (there may be a bank charge to use ATM machines). Dress is casual. Persons desiring to attend must complete the application on page 25, and mail it with a check or money order made payable to Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce to arrive no later than 16 October 2009. Tickets will NOT be mailed to you, but will be available for pick-up on the day of the event.

Your early response will allow us to better plan for the number of persons desiring to attend. Tickets are available first come, first serve, so please mail your application and funds today. (NO Cash Please.) No refunds will be made after 16 October 2009. **For more information call the Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce at 254-526-9551.**

RV & Hotel Information For Retiree Appreciation Day

Retiree Appreciation Day guests requiring overnight lodging will need to personally arrange for accommodations in the civilian communities near Fort Hood. The list of local hotels/motels in this newsletter is provided for information only and does not represent official endorsement by the U.S. Army. The list was compiled from information in local telephone directories and from lists prepared by the Killeen and Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce. Please see list of local area hotels/motels on page 10 of this newsletter.

Belton Lake Outdoor Recreation Area (BLORA) RV Parks

Another lodging alternative is the Recreational Vehicles "RV" camp. BLORA RV parks offers a variety of RV sites complete with electricity, water, and sewer hookups, as well as picnic shelters. Sites are filled on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Winter prices start at \$12/single and \$15/double per day. For reservations or additional information visit their website **www.hoodmwr.com/rv_camp.htm** or call **287-2523**.

West Fort Hood Travel Camp and local area hotels/motels

The West Fort Hood Travel Camp offers a full service RV campground and vehicle storage facility. You may pull your recreational vehicle on line 24-hours a day, seven days a week, year round. All sites have 24-hour hook-up capabilities. Prices start at \$10.50/single for nightly back-in. For reservations or additional information visit their Web site at www.hoodmwr.com/travel_camp.htm or call (254) 288-9926.

Fort Hood Guest House Reservation phone number: (254) 532-5157.

Copperas Cove (adjacent to Fort Hood)

- ~ **Best Western Inn & Suites**
321 Constitution Drive
Copperas Cove, TX 76522
(254) 518-3363 or 1-800-518-4406
<http://www.bestwesterntexas.com>
- ~ **Howard Johnson Express Inn**
302 W. Hwy 190
Copperas Cove, TX 76522
(254) 547-2345
www.super8.com
- ~ **Relax Inn**
1714 W. Hwy 190
Copperas Cove, TX 76522
(254) 542-6615 (no web site)

Killeen (adjacent to Fort Hood)

- ~ **Holiday Inn Killeen/Fort Hood**
300E. Central Texas Expwy
Killeen, TX 76541
(254) 690-5511
www.holidayinn.com
- ~ **Best Western of Killeen**
2709 E. Bus. Hwy 190
(254) 526-6651
www.bestwesterntexas.com
- ~ **Plaza Hotel**
1721 E. Central Texas Expwy
(254) 634-1555
www.hawthorn.com
- ~ **Comfort Suites**
2709 Cunningham Road, Killeen, TX
(254) 634-5560
www.comfortsuites.com

Killeen (adjacent to Fort Hood)

- ~ **Shilo Inn Suites Hotel**
3701 South W.S. Young Drive
(254) 699-0999/1-800-222-2244
www.shiloinns.com
- ~ **Baymont Inn & Suites**
2506 Trimmier Drive
(254) 554-3615
www.baymontinns.com
- ~ **Executive Inn**
1601 E. C. Tex Expwy
(254) 699-4081
www.executiveinnkilleen.com
- ~ **Howard Johnson**
803 E. Central TX Expwy
(254) 526-4343
www.hojo.com
- ~ **Hampton Inn**
2702 O W Curry Drive
(254) 554-7110
www.hamptoninn.com
- ~ **Sleep Inn & Suites**
8700 Central TX Expwy
Killeen, TX 76541
(254) 616-2345
www.sleepinn.com

For additional information on lodging in the Copperas Cove and Killeen areas, please go to www.copperascove.com/lodging.htm or www.gkcc.com for a more complete listing.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Fort Hood Retiree Services Web Site

You can find all sorts of information, web sites, and forms by visiting the Fort Hood Retiree Services Website. Go to www.hood.army.mil. On the gray header column, click "Retirees"; then click on "Retiree & Veteran Support"; then click on "Retirement Services & Info." This is our site.

Fort Hood's Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE)

We invite you to tell us what you think about Ft. Hood services. Your voice matters and it counts! "ICE" is a web based customer feedback system, which allows you to comment on over 250 Fort Hood establishments and services. Positive and negative comments will be addressed within 72 hours and it's anonymous. Fort Hood patrons can link to the installation's ICE site by visiting www.hood.army.mil and click on the "ICE" button located on the lower right corner of the webpage. Select the link, **All Fort Hood Agencies**. Then pick a category of service about which you wish to comment. All submitted comments will remain in an anonymous status, unless you choose to provide us with your contact information.



Fort Hood Phantom Distro Service

In the spirit of keeping you inform with what's happening at The Great Place, Fort Hood has created a Web site with you in mind: **Fort Hood Phantom Distro Service**. The web site, it's meant to augment the Sentinel (Fort Hood's newspaper), cable TV (Commander's Access Channel 10), and publicity through DFMWR, AAFES and other command information channels. You can learn about upcoming events, special activities and much more. For a calendar of upcoming activities log in to: http://www.hood.army.mil/phantom_distro/.

Update DEERS Information – TRICARE

To ensure eligibility for TRICARE benefits, beneficiaries 65 and older must have their current address on file with the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). Update change of addresses on the TRICARE Web site: www.tricare.mil/mybenefit or **update DEERS address by:**

- Visiting the nearest military personnel office that has an ID card facility.
- Calling Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office (DSO) telephone center at **1-800-538-9552**.
- Mailing the address change to DMDC Support Office, ATTN: Address Updates, 400 Giggling Road, Seaside, CA 93955-6771 (Please include the Sponsor's SSN in your correspondence.)
- Faxing your change of address to DSO, Attn: COA at (831) 655-8317.
- Sending an e-mail message to addrinfo@osd.pentagon.mil. Messages sent should be lower case only and include: the sponsor's name, social security number and telephone number, name(s) of Family members affected by the address change, and the start date for the change.
- TRICARE For Life. Once a beneficiary and/or spouse reach age 65, DEERS should be updated to reflect Medicare eligibility with Part A/B on Medicare Card. For issuance of ID card, Medicare Card must be presented on or after the effective date of Medicare eligibility.

If you need to update other information, contact or visit the nearest military ID card issuing facility to determine the documentation required to make the needed changes. Another option is for beneficiaries to mail or fax the appropriate documentation to the DSO (see above), and include an attention line, Attn: R&A. Requests received without the required documentation are returned unprocessed.

ID Card Information

Locations

The Fort Hood ID Card Section is located at The Copeland Soldier Service Center, Building 18010, Room B115, on the corner of T.J. Mills Blvd and Battalion Avenue. The hours of operation are Mon, Tue, Wed, and Fri from 0730 to 1530, and Thu 0900-1530. **Saturday is by appointment only.** These hours are subject to change, so if you are coming from out of town, please call us at **(254) 287-5670 or (254) 287-2518** or visit our website at **http://www.hood.army.mil/ag/idcards_info.htm**. For your convenience other issuing facilities as listed below:

For personnel living in the Austin, Round Rock, and Georgetown areas - You can now obtain your ID Cards or enroll in DEERS at Camp Mabry, Austin. Hours of operations are Monday - Saturday 0800 to 1800 hrs. Please call prior to visiting us at **1-512-782-6841**.

The Customer Service Unit, 301st Fighter Wing (Reserve), Naval Air Station, Fort Worth, is currently issuing ID Cards and vehicle decals for military retirees and their Family members. Please call **(817) 782-6852** for current hours of operation and additional information.

The Customer Service Unit, Texas Air National Guard, Fort Worth is currently issuing ID Cards for military retirees and their Family members. Please call **(817) 852-3238** for hours of operation.

Now you can update your address information through the Internet at the following Web site: **www.tricare.mil/deers/**. For more locations near you, log on to **www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/owa/home**.

ID Card & DEERS Document Requirements

PLEASE NOTE: Homeland Security requires all adults to provide two forms of State or Federal Issued Identification to receive a Military ID Card. One must be a photo ID. Without these identifications, an ID card cannot be issued.

All retirees and Family members who are in need of a new ID card because of mutilation, expiration, or loss need to bring the following documents. These documents allow us to verify status in case the ID card computer system shuts down:

- a. Retirees: Retirement orders or DD Form 214.
- b. Family members **must be accompanied by their Sponsor or have a valid Power of Attorney (POA)**; additionally, the following documents are required to obtain an ID Card:
 - (1) Retirement orders or DD Form 214 (for first-time Retirees).
 - (2) Birth certificate (**containing at least one of the parent's names**). If parents are NOT married, then you must present court documentation signed by a judge determining sponsor is parent.
 - (3) Marriage certificate or certified copy (with seal).
 - (4) Letter from college registrar's office stating that the dependent is a **full-time student** and the **expected date of graduation** (for dependents age 21 to 23).
 - (5) Divorce decree.
 - (6) Adoption papers.
 - (7) Unmarried surviving spouse must present DD 214, marriage certificate, death certificate, and birth certificate for surviving children's ID card.
 - (8) To replace lost ID cards requires two forms of ID (i.e. driver's license, birth certificate, social security card, etc) and a picture ID, plus all above documents.
 - (9) Former spouses that qualified for ID card must have members DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) for each period of service in addition to above requirements.
 - (10) The signature of the military sponsor is required before issuance of Family member's ID cards or a valid Power of Attorney from sponsor. If not signed in front of the verifying official, the application must be notarized if sponsor is not with Family members.

ID Card Information (Continued)

Assistance Letters for medically incapacitated Family Members

If ID card holders are medically incapacitated, a current doctor's signed statement on letterhead is required stating that assistance is needed for someone to shop for them, and if the condition is temporary or permanent. The person that will be doing the shopping must accompany the ID card holder and have some type of picture ID (i.e. driver's license) when coming in for a letter. Only one person is authorized a shopper's letter. Assistant letters are issued for one year at a time or when that person is no longer medically incapacitated, whichever comes first. A current doctor's letter is needed for renewal.

Robertson Blood Center

Retirees and their Family members are encouraged to donate blood for use by deployed units and in military hospitals. As Soldiers deploy, the pool of available donors has shrunk. Donating blood has been called by some as the "closest thing to being in a foxhole with Soldiers." For your convenience, additional information regarding blood donation can be obtained on their Web site: www.militaryblood.dod.mil/fthood.

On Fort Hood, blood donations are collected by Soldiers at the Robertson Blood Center. The Robertson Blood Center is located in Building 2250, on 761st Tank Battalion Avenue, next to the Thomas Moore Clinic. The center is open from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Other times, mobile drives, questions, and concerns may be answered by contacting the Blood Donor Recruiter at (254) 287-5938.

Darnall Army Medical Center

Pharmacy News

The Pharmacy at the Clear Creek Main PX is for patients that have phone in refill prescriptions. Wait times vary, depending on the day of the week. To refill by telephone 24 hours a day call: (254) 288-8911, 288-8912, 288-8917, 288-8918, 286-7295, 286-7296; **Toll-free** (Outside local calling area) **1-800-351-3636**.

Refill Pharmacy at the Main PX:

The Refill Pharmacy is located in the Fort Hood Main PX on Clear Creek Road inside the Customer Service area. Because of the large number of patients, Darnall requires that patients request refills in advance. Patients may use the 24-hour automated telephone refill system, or mail in their requests using forms provided by the pharmacy.

Refill Pharmacy Hours: Monday through Saturday: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Pharmacy Telephone: (254) 288-8801 for questions or comments, call 254-288-8800 or 288-8159

Main Outpatient Pharmacy: The Main Outpatient Pharmacy is located in the basement of the hospital. New prescriptions, including those written by civilian providers (for medications that are stocked) are dispensed from this pharmacy.

Main Outpatient Pharmacy Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday: 8 a.m. - 7 p.m., Thursday: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Thursday: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturdays, Holidays, and Training Holidays: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sunday: Closed

Retired Pay Information

MyPay Information On-line

A convenient way to check on your retired military pay status is by login into the Web site: <https://mypay/dfas.mil>. If you do not have an established PIN number, click on request pin number and one will be sent to you in the mail. Once you receive your temporary PIN number you will be able to log in and choose your own permanent PIN number. MyPay makes it easy for you to view and make changes to your pay without having to wait on hold or mail in your changes. Try it today!

Change/Update Retired Pay Information

Retiree changes in address or status: retirees are responsible for updating their pay file at DFAS-CL within one year of the event if they marry, remarry, are widowed or divorced and need to make or update an SBP election or beneficiary information (for unpaid allowances). Additionally, changes of address should be submitted, as they occur to ensure receipt of retiree pay, newsletters, 1099R forms, and retiree account statements. If communicating by fax, include your SSN on all pages and sign your request.

Retiree requests for pay changes: you may also start, stop, or change allotments and change direct deposit information by calling the toll free number below.

If in receipt or entitled to retired PAY:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
Cleveland Center
PO Box 7130
London, KY 40742-7130
Telephone #: 1-800-321-1080
Fax # 1-800-469-6559 (Retired Pay)

If in receipt or entitled to SBP:

DFAS-US Military Annuitant Pay
PO Box 7131
London, KY 40742-7131
Telephone #: 1-800-321-1080
Fax#: 1-800-982-8459 (Annuitant Pay)

Military Pay Integrated Voice Response System (IVRS)

The Retired and Annuity pay program has simplified the menu options for the Integrated Voice Response System (IVRS). The IVRS is a speech recognition answering system, and callers may speak their responses through the entire main menu or they can press the appropriate phone button.

When calling 1-800-321-1080 follow the following steps from the main menu:

- For the "MY PAY" program or for garnishments, say or press 1 (you must know your PIN #)
- For help with Veterans Administration (VA) disability pay, say or press 2
- To report a death, say or press 3
- To receive the most recent 1099-R for taxes, say or press 4
- For all other inquires say or press 5

If you select Option 5, the system will direct you to the next menu as follows:

- If you're a Military Retiree, say or press 1
- If you're a Survivor of a Military Retiree, say or press 2
- If you're calling about your Voluntary Separation Incentive, say or press 3
- To repeat this menu, say or press 8

If you are a Military Retiree

- To obtain specific personalized account information, say or press 1
- To change your address or reissue a 1099-R, to start/stop or change allotments or Direct Deposit, say or press 2
- For non-receipt of a payment, say or press 3
- For CRDP or CRSC compensation or open-season, say or press 4
- For more options, say or press 5

Military Pay Integrated Voice Response System (IVRS) (Continued)

For Annuitant Menu (for Survivors)

- To obtain specific personalized account information, say or press 1
- To change your address or reissue a current year tax statement, or to start, stop, or change your allotments, or Direct Deposit, say or press 2
- For non-receipt of a payment, say or press 3
- For receipt of your initial annuity payment, say or press 4
- For your taxes, say or press 5
- For direct deposit information, say or press 6
- **To speak to a Customer Service Representative, say or press 0**

For more Options...

- For your taxes, say or press 1
- For allotment information, say or press 2
- For former spouse information, say or press 3
- For Survivor Benefit Plan information, say or press 4
- For beneficiary information, say or press 5
- **To speak to a Customer Service Representative, say or press 0**

Additional Information Resources

Call Toll-Free 1 (800) 558-1404

A new telephone news line system has been implemented for those Retirees and surviving spouses who do not have computer access. By calling **(800) 558-1404**, Retirees and spouses can be informed using this easy-to-use menu-driven service. Callers can select from several different topics that are compiled from various electronic news sources. Topics include pay and annuity matters, medical and health care, and other benefits and entitlements. This new line joins the e-Afterburner, Air Force Retiree News Service, and Air Force Retiree Web site at www.retireees.af.mil in providing the latest news and information to the service's retiree community. It is important to notice that even though the Air Force is the Lead Component sponsoring this news line, the service is FREE to use by all Retirees regardless of service component. Try it today!

Killeen Heights Vet Center

The Killeen Heights Vet Center is located at 302 Millers Crossing, Suite 4, Harker Heights, TX 76548. The Vet Center provides many services for Veterans including readjustment counseling for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) for combat veterans and support and understanding about PTSD for Family members; Sexual trauma and harassment counseling for both sexes, all eras; and Bereavement Counseling for Family members of Armed Forces Personnel who died in service of our country. For more information, call **254-953-7100**; fax number **254-953-7120**. Hours of Operations are: Mon – Fri from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Also, please note that Fort Hood Retirement Services has a representative at the Vet Center on Thursday afternoon, 1300 – 1600 hrs.

Texas Veterans Commission Information

The state of Texas has provided assistance for the veterans, their dependents and survivors since 1927. Mr. Gary Ivy is the TVC counselor at Fort Hood, Texas. His office is located in the Copeland Soldier Service Center, Bldg 18010, Room A308, phone number **254-287-3341**. He can assist in filing original disability claims as well as reevaluations and amended claims. The TVC also assists the surviving spouse on any Veteran Benefits upon the retirees' death. Casualty cases are handled by appointment only. For more information, log on at www.tvc.state.tx.us.

Casualty Information

Report Deaths Promptly

The death of retired Army members should be reported to the nearest Army post as soon as possible. This includes Army Reservist and Army National Guard members who are in a pay status. Please report deaths to the Casualty Assistance Office, Building 126, Battalion Avenue, Fort Hood or call **(254) 287-7200**.

Army Career And Alumni Program (ACAP)

Are you currently retired and looking for a job?

If you are within two years of retirement or currently retired, the Fort Hood ACAP Center provides extended eligibility timeframes for use of ACAP services! Army retirees and their Family members may now use the system on a space available basis for the rest of their lives. We are located in the Copeland Soldiers Service Center, BLDG 18010, or call the ACAP Center for more information: 254-288-ACAP (2227) or 254-288-JOBS (5627) or visit our web page at www.acap.army.mil for more job opportunities.

Survivor Outreach Services (SOS)

New Outreach Services on Fort Hood!

The SOS program is a new Department of Defense initiative to provide support services to Survivors of Soldiers who have fallen in combat as well as support to the Survivors of **all** Soldiers who have passed while on active duty. Army Community Services (ACS) and the Casualty Assistance Center (CAC) are working jointly to provide short-term and long-term case management to Families of Survivors. The SOS Program works in conjunction with military and civilian agencies, and partners with non-government agencies to provide the following types of ongoing support to surviving Family Members: Support Groups, Focus Groups, Bereavement Camps, Financial Assistance, Information and Referrals. The SOS office is located on Battalion Avenue, Bldg. 10045, Fort Hood. You may also visit their website at www.hoodmwr.com/ACS/SOS.html or contact them at (254) 288-3655.

Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS)

The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) is a Veterans Service Organization dedicated to helping Armed Forces families rebuilt their lives after the tragic loss of a loved one. TAPS offers a wonderful, loving program to connect you with others who have also suffered the loss of a loved one serving in the Armed Forces. TAPS is a member of the Association of Death Education and Counseling and the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, and is able to offer information about bereavement support groups throughout the nation. TAPS offers for you, 24 hours a day, free of charge resources such as: TAPS National Survivor Network, grief and trauma counseling, and crisis intervention. Additionally, TAPS offers the "Good Grief Camp" for young Survivors, the only program of its kind for children who have lost a parent, sibling or loved one in military service. The TAPS Web site, www.TAPS.org, is a place where you can find resource material, register for the Survivor Seminars, read stories from other military survivors and chat with their support group. You may also contact us through our 1-800 number at **1-800-959 TAPS (8277)**.

Army Emergency Relief (AER)

A big "Thank You" goes out to all of the Retirees and Family members who contributed to the AER Campaign this year. The AER Program plays an important role in helping the Army "Take Care of its Own." AER provides financial assistance to Soldiers, active and retired, and their Family Members during valid emergencies. You may contribute to AER at anytime. For more information, please call the Fort Hood Army Community Services AER office at 254-288-5003/6330 or log on at <http://www.hoodmwr.com/acs/frb.html#aer>

Troops to Teachers

Troops to Teachers Still Seeking Military Retirees!

The Troops to Teachers Program continues to seek military retirees who would like to become public school teachers. For retirees with bachelor's degrees, TTT even has financial benefits in the form of either a stipend or a bonus. Under the stipend, TTT may provide up to \$5000 to pay for the costs of a certification program and related expenses. This incurs a three-year commitment to teach in a district where at least 20% of the students are below the poverty level.

The other financial benefit is a bonus, which is paid as an incentive to teach in high-needs schools. If a TTT participant gets hired to teach at a school campus where 50% or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced lunches, the teacher will qualify for a \$10000 bonus instead of the stipend. The bonus is paid out in three payments over a three year period.

For additional information or a registration form for Troops to Teachers, please call the Texas Troops To Teachers Office in Austin at 1-800-810-5484. Meryl Kettler, the TTT coordinator, or her assistant, Dale Reynolds, will be happy to answer questions about becoming a teacher in Texas and funding from TTT.

Retiree Volunteer Opportunities ~ We Want You!

Retirees and Family members, the Fort Hood Community Volunteer Program needs you!

We would love to match you with the volunteer position that best serves the needs of the community and you. Stop by the Lane Volunteer Center, Bldg. 16005, located at the corner of T.J. Mills Blvd (formerly Hood Road and Old Ironsides Avenue, or call 287-VOLS (8657) or 286-5913.

USO Fort Hood

Fort Hood is proud to have a USO facility on Fort Hood located at Bldg 1871, 50th Street, Ft Hood.

Hours of operation are: Monday – Wednesday: 0800 – 1900; Thursday – Friday: 0800 – 2000, and Saturday – Sunday: 1200 – 1800. If you would like to volunteer or make a donation, please call 254-768-2771. For more information, go to the USO website: www.uso.org. Stop by and check out the USO Fort Hood!

Places to stay near U.S. Military Posts

If you are planning on traveling this summer, this is a good Website to visit before you embark on your trip: <http://military-hotels.us/army-hotels.html>. You can use this Web site to learn about hotels, lodges, inns and resorts near and on US Army posts. You can also check room availability, discounts, and reservations with immediate confirmation. They also provide links to on-post temporary lodging facilities for military personnel and retirees, and links to post websites, local weather forecasts, and nearby airports.

Army Echoes

Army Echoes is available online! Log on at <http://www.armyg1.army.mil/RSO/echoes.asp>. This site is full of information for those preparing to retire and those already retired and also their Family members. Would you like to replace your paper *Echoes* with an electronic one? Just register on the secure website and the latest issue will be sent right to your inbox.

Did you know?

Some of your benefits from the State of Texas!

Free Driver's License for Disabled Vets

~ Texas driver's licenses may be furnished free of charge to veterans who have service-connected disabilities rated 60% or more by the VA. Application must be made prior to the time present driver's license expires. Please contact the department of motor vehicles via their Web site at:

www.txdps.state.tx.us/administration/driver_licensing_control/vetExempt.htm

Free Texas Park Admission for Disabled Vets

~ Free admission to Texas State Parks is available to any veteran who has a service-connected disability, which is rated 60% or more by VA. Application may be made at the headquarters office of any Texas State Park by providing satisfactory evidence of service-connected disability (VA letter) and your military ID card. For additional info visit their Web site at **www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/parkinfo/passes/**

Fishing and Hunting license for Disabled Vets

~ Disabled veterans are eligible for special hunting and fishing licenses, at a reduced cost, for those with a service-connected disability of 60% or higher. A resident veteran as described in the law may hunt wild turkey and deer without a resident hunting license if he has acquired a resident exemption hunting license. We have provided a link to the Texas Parks and Wildlife at: **www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/**

Texas State Cemetery Program

~ In November 2001 statewide elections voters overwhelmingly approved Proposition 7, a constitutional amendment that authorized the creation of up to 7 state cemeteries for veterans and their eligible Family Members. The Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Killeen is 174 acres and will be capable of providing approximately 50,000 burials places for veterans, their spouses, and eligible dependent children. Phase I was completed prior to opening and covers approximately 62 acres, including an information center, administration building, committal shelter, columbarium for approximately 1,100 cremated remains, an assembly area for ceremonies, and approximately 6,500 in-ground burial places. Phase II will be implemented when there is a need for additional burial sites. For more information visit their Web site at: www.glo.state.tx.us/KilleenCemeteryWeb/Home.htm

Other Benefits OUTSIDE of Texas

~ Free entry to 147 U.S. national parks will be available this summer: July 18-19 and August 15-16. The National Park Service typically waives entry fees for everyone on National Public Lands Day (the last Saturday in September) and for military and retirees on Veteran's day November 11th. However, this is the first time in 20-plus years that the fees being waived for the entire weekends. For additional information, visit the National Parks Service Web site at: **www.nps.gov**

AAFES Buddy List



SIGN UP AND SAVE! We encourage you to visit and sign up for our local PX Buddy List. Visit us at **www.aafes.com** and click on Local Buddy List link. Remember when you shop the exchange online store, there is no sales tax!

Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (DFMWR)

***Retirees can enjoy many activities right in their own backyard at Fort Hood!
DFMWR offers many recreational programs for retired and active-duty Soldiers and their Families.***

Club Hood is open to the public and all military ranks. Enjoy a variety of delectable dining options: daily lunch specials, Beef and Burgundy dinner on Tuesdays, Family Pasta Night on Thursdays, Surf n' Turf on Fridays or Sunday Brunch the first Sunday of every month. **Call 254-532-5073 for information and reservations.**

Check out Belton Lake Outdoor Recreation Area (BLORA)! Delight in a moonlight cruise around the lake, have a guided fishing tour, bring the grandkids to a youth fishing derby or just enjoy the sunshine. Camp at BLORA by renting a cabin, or park your own RV on site. Also, a favorite Central Texas holiday tradition, "Nature in Lights," runs from November 20, 2009 to January 3, 2010. Enjoy the drive through over five miles of holiday inspired scenes. For more information on Nature in Lights, park entry fees or other BLORA activities, visit the Web site at www.hoodmwr.com/rv_camp.htm or call the BLORA Reservation Office at 254-287-2523.

The Sportsmen's Center encourages and furthers interest in hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. At the center, you will find hunting, fishing and archery, and the recreational use of guns for skeet, trap or other target shooting. The club offers a gathering place for sportsmen, complete with snack bar, pro shop, hunt control office and skeet range. For more information, **call 254-532-4552** or stop by the Sportsmen's Center on Rod and Gun Loop, 53rd Street and North Avenue.

The Courses of Clear Creek is your very own country club, located off of Clear Creek Road. Three nine-hole courses, resurfaced cart paths, a newly renovated clubhouse and top-of-the-line Pro Shop make The Courses of Clear Creek a clear choice for a leisurely afternoon of golf. Call 254-287-4130 for tee times and information.

Take a gamble and play BINGO at the Community Events Center, every Tuesday through Saturday at 6:45 p.m. or on Sundays at 1:45 p.m. The Community Events Center is located on Clear Creek Road, Bldg. 50012, near the Main PX. Enjoy the camaraderie of other retirees and current Soldiers. For more information, call **254-532-9253**.

Bowl a strike at Phantom Warrior Lanes. The number one state-of-the-art bowling facility in all of the Army, PWL has 48 lanes and automatic scoring displays with 42-inch display monitors. Strike Zone snack bar features a delicious cooked-to-order menu. League bowling is offered throughout the year. Call Phantom Warrior Lanes at **254-287-3424** to learn more, or stop by the facility on Clear Creek Road at Santa Fe Avenue, Building 49010.

Looking to get away for a while? Fort Hood's Information, Ticketing and Registration center provides tickets and information for entertainment and sporting events, amusement parks, tourist attractions and popular cultural programs. Special interest tours are also offered for attractions throughout Texas and the Southwestern region. Visit ITR at the shopping center on 761st Tank Bn, bldg. 136, or call **254-287-7310**.

Stay up-to-date on all DFMWR events and activities by receiving the weekly electronic newsletter, Hood Highlights. To sign up, email Kelsey.West@us.army.mil or call 254-287-2007.

Become a DFMWR "NIK" Member. NIK Members will receive "NIK" Exclusives ~ email announcements about upcoming DFMWR events and activities. Sign up by visiting www.hoodmwr.com/nik_reg.htm



IMPORTANT WEB SITES AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Web sites that may interest you

AAFES.....	www.aafes.com
AKO – Army Knowledge Online.....	www.us.army.mil/portal/portal_home.jhtml
Arlington Cemetery.....	www.arlingtoncemetery.org
Burial and Memorial Benefits.....	www.cem.va.gov/
Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center.....	www.hood-meddac.army.mil
Central Texas Veterans Healthcare System.....	www.centraltexas.va.gov
Center for Women Veterans.....	www.va.gov/womenvet/
Commissary.....	www.commissaries.com
DEERS-Verify Eligibility.....	www.humana-military.com
Department of the Army Retirement Services	www.armyg1.army.mil/rso
Education Benefits and Services	www.gibill.va.gov
EVetRecs (request DD214 and documents).....	www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html
ICE (Interactive Customer Evaluation System)	http://hood.army.mil
Medicare Benefits – Medicare Part B.....	www.medicare.gov
Military Facilities	www.militaryliving.com
MWR Travel Web site.....	www.armymwr.com/portal/travel
My Pay website (DFAS Retirement Pay).....	https://mypay.dfas.mil
Phantom Distro.....	http://www.hood.army.mil/phantom_distro/
Social Security Administration.....	www.ssa.gov
Society for Military Widows.....	www.militarywidows.org
Space A Travel Information.....	http://spacea.info/
Texas Veterans Commission.....	www.tvc.state.tx.us
Texas Vets: Partners Across Texas.....	www.texvet.com

IMPORTANT WEB SITES AND GENERAL INFORMATION (Continued)

Texas Veterans Land Board.....	www.texasveterans.com
Texas Troops To Teachers.....	www.esc13.net/troops
Texas Women Veterans.....	www.texaswomenveterans.org
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors.....	www.taps.org
Travis Fund.....	www.austincommunityfoundation.org
TRICARE Information	www.tricare.osd.mil
TRICARE For Life.....	www.tricare4u.com/apps-portal/tricareapps-app/static/beneficiaries
TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy Program.....	www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE
TRICARE Retail Pharmacy Program.....	www.tricare.mil/mybenefit
Update Address – DEERS.....	www.tricare.mil/deers/
US Army Human Resources Cmd...	https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/TAGD/coldwar/default.htm
US Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.....	www.vetapp.uscourts.gov/
Veterans Administration (VA).....	www.va.gov
VA Compensation, Pension Benefits & Rate Tables.....	www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/
VA Benefits online application.....	https://vabenefits.vba.va.gov
To obtain information regarding:	
• Compensation, pension benefits and rate tables	
• VA health account	
• Order Prescription Medications	
VGLI Online Account Access.....	www.insurance.va.gov

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND GENERAL INFORMATION (Continued)

AAFES (Fort Hood).....	254-532-7200
Army Retiree Mobilization.....	1-800-318-5298
Army Retired Pay Operations.....	1-800-321-1080
Commissary (Ft Hood I).....	254-287-6648
Commissary (Ft Hood II).....	254-287-8401
DEERS Eligibility - DMDC Center	1-800-538-9552
Ft Hood Guest House Reservations	254-532-5157
Fort Hood ID Card Office.....	254-287-2518/5670
Fort Hood Information.....	254-287-1110
Fort Hood Legal Services (SJA).....	254-287-7901/3199
Ft Hood Retirement Services.....	254-287-5210..or..1-800-403-6640
Ft Hood Tax Center	254-288-7995
Legal Services-Dallas/Ft Worth.....	817-782-6007/6008
Medicare.....	1-800-633-4227
Patient Appointment, Darnall Army Medical Center.....	1-800-305-6421
Patient Appt, Darnall Army Medical Center (Local Number).....	254-288-8888
Patient Appt – Cancellations (CRDAMC)	254-288-7777
Pharmacy, Darnall Army Medical Center.....	1-800-351-3636
Reserve Retirements.....	1-800-318-5298
Social Security Administration	1-800-772-1213
Society for Military Widows.....	1-800-842-3451
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS).....	1-800-959-8277
Texas Workforce Commission.....	1-512-340-4300
TRICARE For Life Info Line (65-yrs old or older).....	1-866-773-0404
TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy.....	1-866-363-8667
TRICARE Retail Pharmacy Program.....	1-866-363-8779
TRICARE Retiree Dental Program.....	1-888-838-8737
TRICARE South Information Services	1-800-444-5445
VA Hospital (Temple, TX).....	1-800-423-2111
Veterans Administration.....	1-800-827-1000
VGLI Account Access.....	1-800-419-1473

III Corps & Fort Hood Retiree Council

The III Corps and Fort Hood Retiree Council convenes quarterly to assist Department of the Army and III Corps in identifying and resolving problems and needs of retirees, and also providing recommendations on policies and activities affecting retirees. Listed below are the current Fort Hood Retiree Council Members. If you would like to contact anyone on the council, or become a member, please contact Retirement Services at (254) 287-5210 or 1-800-403-6640.



Fort Hood Retiree Council Members (Pictured From Left to Right)

Row 1: MG(Ret) Stewart C. Meyer, Assoc, Member; CSM(Ret) Darleen K. Kitterman, Member; LTC(Ret) Ronald L. Woodward, Member; Mrs. Shirley J. Greathouse, Member; LTG(Ret) Dave Palmer, Chairman; CSM(Ret) Frank Minosky, Co-Chairman; COL(Ret) Jack Oliver, USAF, Associate Member.

Row 2: Mrs. Beth Waller, Chief, Retirement Services; CW3(Ret) George A. Hanger, Member; SFC(Ret) Adrienne M. Evans-Quickley, Member; COL(Ret) Ralph Gauer, Member; 1SG(Ret) Thomas R. Fisher, Member; COL(Ret) Joslyn V. Portmann, Member; SGM(Ret) Guadalupe Lopez, Member; SCPO(Ret) Stephen R. Lubasky, USN, Member; COL(Ret) Frank D. Somera. Not Pictured: CSM (Ret) Elijah King, Jr., Member and MSGT (Ret) John W. Wood, Sr., USAF, Member.

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RETIRED MILITARY GOLF TOURNAMENT – FRIDAY, 23 OCT AT 0900 HRS

DEADLINE FOR ENTRY IS 8 OCTOBER 2009 OR FIRST 144 ENTRIES

**SEND ENTRY TO: Business Operations Division
The Courses of Clear Creek
P. O. Box K, Ft Hood, TX 76544**

(NAME)

(ADDRESS)

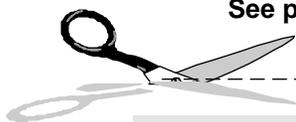
(PHONE)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: The Courses of Clear Creek.

I have my own cart, circle: YES or NO Handicap _____ My age is _____

The entry fee will be **\$35.00** this cost includes green fees, cart, and also includes \$10.00 toward purchase of prizes.

See page 5 of this newsletter for more tournament information or call (254) 287-4130.



SPAGHETTI DINNER AT THE CLEAR CREEK COMMISSARY ~ FRIDAY, 23 OCT AT 2030 HRS

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATION IS 8 OCTOBER 2009

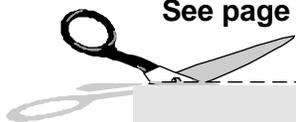
The meal is FREE and you can play BINGO too!

NAME(s): _____

NUMBER ATTENDING: _____

Please mail form to: Ft Hood Clear Creek Commissary, Bldg 50001, Ft Hood TX 76544
Or RSVP by phone at 254-493-3905 or email at james.kissiar@deca.mil

See page 5 of this newsletter for additional information.



ANNUAL RETIREE ROUND-UP DINNER RESERVATION FORM

SATURDAY, 24 OCTOBER AT 1700 HRS

Reservations can be made by sending either a money order or check for the correct amount and returning with this form **NLT 16 October 2009**. For more information please call (254) 526-9551.

Send to: Retiree Round - Up
Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 548, Killeen, Texas 76540-0548

Please make our/my reservation under this name (Please list those attending the dinner so we can make nametags for the event): Name and Rank: _____

Guests: _____, _____, _____,

Contact phone number if there is a question about my reservation: (____) _____

_____ Will attend \$18.00 per person Total amount enclosed \$ _____.

RESERVATIONS CANNOT BE MADE AT THE DOOR DUE TO NEED FOR AN ACCURATE COUNT.

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Retiree Appreciation Day Registration Form

If you plan to attend the Fort Hood Retiree Appreciation Day, please complete this form and mail to: Commander, III Corps and Fort Hood, ATTN: Retirement Services Office, Bldg 18010, Fort Hood, TX, 76544-5056

Rank, Name (Please Print)

Mailing Address

Number of family members who will attend with you: _____

In compliance with the Privacy Act, my signature authorizes you to release the above information to personnel of the agencies I have checked below in order that they may prepare in advance to assist me on my visit to the Fort Hood Retiree Appreciation Day.

(Signature) Date Retired: Month/Year ____/____ # Yrs Served ____

COUNTY FAIR SERVICES - I request counseling or assistance in one or more of the subjects listed below (please check appropriate boxes), and mail it with your registration form above.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. _____ Medical & Dental Info
(TRICARE, Dental,
Pharmacy, App.) | 4. _____ Veterans Affairs
_____ Disability Claims
_____ Education & Insurance Program |
| 2. _____ Retirement Services
Installation Officer
(Retiree Pay, CRDP,
SBP, CRSC) | 5. _____ Adjutant General Services
_____ ID Cards (See Special Instruction)
_____ DEERS Enrollment (See Special Instruction) |
| 3. _____ SJA Section
_____ Legal Assistance
_____ Wills | 6. _____ Combat Related Special Compensation Application
Assistance (Please check date you think you will come)
_____ 23 October or _____ 24 October, 2009 |

OLD TIMERS BREAKFAST – SATURDAY, 24 OCT AT 0700 HRS

_____ I desire to attend the “Ole Timers” Breakfast at Club Hood on 24 Oct 09.
To attend, you must RSVP by 8 Oct 09 so we have a final count prior to the event.
Please submit this reservation to the Fort Hood Retirement Services Office address above.

number _____ (Total in your party attending). Please provide your name(s) below.

NAMES: _____

LUNCH AT IRONHORSE DINING FACILITY – SATURDAY FROM 1130 TO 1400 HRS

_____ I desire to attend lunch in the IRONHORSE dining facility on Saturday, 24 Oct 09.
_____ Number attending (\$4.25 cash per person, lunch, pay when served) (Price Subject To Change)

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE FT HOOD RETIREMENT SERVICES OFFICE, TO ARRIVE NO LATER THAN 8 OCTOBER 2009. THANK YOU!



LEGEND: The time-honored seal of the Department of the Army represents the Army and its traditions. The annulet, symbol of completeness, stands for the completion of military service. The color of the annulet is olive drab in reference to the basic color of the Army field uniform and equipment. Stars are a national and military symbol. They are used on the coat of arms and the seal of the United States, as an identification of the United States on military equipment and on flags of Army officials as well as an insignia of rank for general officers.

THE ARMY RETIREMENT SERVICES EMBLEM:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
COMMANDER
III CORPS AND FORT HOOD
ATTN: AFZF-GC-AG-RS
FORT HOOD, TEXAS 76544-5056
OFFICIAL BUSINESS