



Retiree Bulletin

Fort Jackson, South Carolina

Volume I • 2004

From the President . . .

Dear Fellow Retirees,

The past six months have been an unusual time of change at Fort Jackson. MG David Barno returned from his successful mission to Hungary, only to be re-assigned to Afghanistan and promoted to Lieutenant General as the senior officer responsible for ground operations. COL Steve Fondacaro had been named Deputy Commander of Fort Jackson. COL Chip Martin came on board as Chief of Staff. COL Brent Johnson continued as "City Manager" of Fort Jackson in the aftermath of a change in the way Army posts are administered. In October, BG Leslie Fuller was officially welcomed as Acting Commander of Fort Jackson... only to be re-assigned to a mission overseas soon thereafter.

We are now delighted to add our welcome to BG Abraham Turner as the new Commanding General of the U.S. Army Training Center and Fort Jackson. He assumed command on 9 January 04 in front of a full house at the Community Activities Center. BG Turner came to us from Camp Doha, Kuwait, where he served as C3, Coalition Force Land Component Command. This is really a welcome home to BG Turner, his wife Linda and their three children... since the general was commissioned through the ROTC program at S. C. State University in Orangeburg.

During his comments at the assumption of command ceremony, BG Turner cited four primary goals as post commander. One of these goals is to ensure outstanding support of the retiree community. He noted the significant contribution of retirees... indicating that we would not have the Army we have today if it had not been for the service of military retirees to our great nation. I believe we can all look forward with enthusiasm to BG Turner's leadership and his support of retiree needs.

In another change, Bambi Campbell (MWR Marketing Director) will be leaving. Bambi has been instrumental in assembling and publishing each Retiree Bulletin for the past several years. She has done a superb job and we wish her well.

Looking ahead, Retiree Services Officer Karen Williams is already well into the planning phase for Retiree Appreciation Day. As you know, this event is a highlight of the year at Fort Jackson for each of you. The people at Fort Jackson really go overboard to ensure that your time is well spent, from the always impressive troop review to the theater presentation, booths and luncheon at the CAC. This year's event is planned for Saturday, 24 April 2004, starting at 0900 hours with the Darby Field ceremony. Each of you and your families is invited and encouraged to participate. You will see displayed all of the important retiree benefits available from Fort Jackson as well as bring to life the new commander's commitment to serve the retiree community.

At the national level, much attention is being given to the Army Retirement Services program. As noted in Army magazine in October 2003, "the 20 to 30 years a soldier and family devote to Army service are often followed by 30 to 40 or more years as retirees and families continue to support and serve the Army in spirit and dedication. The Army owes the best Retiree Services program possible to those who have given and keep on giving... once a soldier, always a soldier".

It is also important that each of you monitor carefully the BRAC (Base Realignment and Closing) program and its potential impact on Fort Jackson. Your strong support will be a vital factor in the post's future.

Here at Fort Jackson, our Retiree Council represents you. The Council roster is included on the back page of this bulletin, representing all services, both officer and enlisted. Our mission is to serve as the eyes and ears of the Commanding General on just how well Fort Jackson is serving you... the retiree community. Your thoughts, comments and questions are always welcome and will help each of us to do our job better for you.

Sincerely,

Jack S. Hupp, COL, USA (Retired)
Chairman
Fort Jackson Retiree Council

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Directorate of Human Resources

Retirement Services Office

The Retirement Services Office is located in the Strom Thurmond Building, Bldg 5450, Room 200, located on Strom Thurmond Blvd. The hours of operation are from 0730 - 1630, Monday - Friday (closed on all Federal holidays). The phone number is (803) 751-6715/5523.

Concurrent receipt of both retired pay and Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) disability compensation has become a reality.

Signed by President Bush on November 24, 2003, Public Law 108-136 authorizes a 10-year, phased elimination of the DVA disability offset to retired pay. This will affect members with non-disability retirements, without regard to years of service. Those who retired as a result of a service-related disability are also eligible. These members must have at least 20 years of qualifying service. In all cases the retiree must be rated at least 50% disabled by the DVA.

This legislation also expands the field of eligibility for Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) to include retirees with 20 years who have a combined disability rating of less than 60%, but repeals the authority for Special Compensation for the Severely Disabled (SCSD). SCSD recipients will be the first to see increases to their retired pay effective January 1, 2004 for the payment dated February 2, 2004.

Implementation of the full legislation is complex and is not possible by January 2004. DFAS is working closely with the DVA to implement this legislation and issue the payments to all eligible retirees as soon as possible. Although full implementation may take several months, payments will include monies that are due retroactive to January 1, 2004.

ID Card Section

ID card section issues cards to Retirees, eligible family members, Reservists, National Guard, and active duty Soldiers assigned to another installation. If you have any questions concerning documentation for yourself, or any family members, such as newborns, marriage/remarriage, full time students etc. please contact our office.

Identification Card Section: 5450 Strom Thurmond Blvd Room 109 / Hours of operation: 7:30-4:00 M-F / POC: Mrs. Newell (803) 751-6024 / Front desk (803) 751-7731

If you are traveling from Charlotte, Asheville, or Myrtle Beach area, please contact our office and we can recommend sites that are located closer to you or you can visit the RAPIDS website at www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/ to locate a facility.

Please remember: Sponsor must always sign the DD form 1172 unless you have a power of attorney, or you are your own sponsor, i.e.. Widow or widower's DoD beneficiary [URFS]

Medical News

TRICARE, Medicare, Skilled Nursing Facility Care & Long-Term Care ... Similar Names, Different Benefits

TRICARE, Medicare, skilled nursing facility care and long-term care. Each has the word "care" in its name, but is in itself a totally unique health care benefit. So what are skilled nursing facility care and long-term care? Are either covered benefits under Medicare or TRICARE? What about TRICARE For Life (TFL)? Does this mean TRICARE pays all health care expenses for eligible beneficiaries? If you are a Uniformed Services beneficiary, family member, survivor, or provider, you need to know the difference.

TRICARE is the Department of Defense (DoD) medical entitlement program that covers eligible Uniformed Services beneficiaries (active duty, retirees, family members and survivors) for medically-necessary care. Eligible beneficiaries may receive care at either a DoD military treatment facility (MTF) or from TRICARE-authorized civilian providers.

To be eligible for TRICARE, all Uniformed Services sponsors and family members must be enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). Sponsors needing to enroll themselves or family members may contact or visit their unit personnel office, their nearest identification card issuing facility, or contact the Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office (DSO) Telephone Center at (800) 538-9552. To locate the nearest military ID card facility visit www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/. Additional information on DEERS eligibility is available on the TRICARE Website at www.tricare.osd.mil/deers/default.cfm.

Medicare is a health insurance program for people age 65 or older, people who are under age 65 and disabled, and those who have End-Stage Renal Disease. Medicare benefits are separated into two parts: Medicare Part A (hospital insurance), which helps pay for services such as hospital, skilled nursing facility care, home health and hospice care. Medicare Part B (medical insurance) helps pay for services such as doctors, outpatient care, laboratory tests, physical and occupational therapy, as well as health care services, for example, mammograms, flu shots and more.

Medicare, TRICARE and TRICARE For Life. For beneficiaries who are Medicare and TRICARE eligible, TRICARE and TRICARE For Life (TFL) pay secondary to Medicare for services covered by Medicare and TRICARE. For health care services covered under Medicare but not TRICARE, beneficiaries are responsible for paying Medicare cost shares or deductibles. For health care services covered under TRICARE but not Medicare, beneficiaries are responsible for paying the TRICARE cost shares or deductibles. To use TRICARE or the dual eligible TFL benefits, Medicare-eligible beneficiaries regardless of their age must have Medicare Part A and be enrolled in Medicare Part B, if other than active duty family members. For Medicare-eligible active duty family members, when the sponsor retires, TRICARE requires family members purchase Medicare Part B, regardless of age, in order to continue TRICARE coverage. If a family member under age 65 does not purchase Medicare Part B at the time the sponsor retires, he/she may incur Medicare penalty costs when they apply for Medicare part B before they turn age 65. For beneficiaries who have other health insurance (OHI), TRICARE pays after other insurance plans have paid. Skilled Nursing Facility Care

Medicare and TRICARE cover only medically-necessary care. Skilled nursing facility care benefits are covered under both Medicare and TRICARE. A skilled nursing facility (SNF) is defined as a facility that has the staff and equipment to provide skilled nursing care and/or skilled rehabilitation or other medically-necessary health care services to include prescription medications. Medicare and



FORT JACKSON

RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

24 APRIL 2004 / 0900 - 1400



For more information contact:

Ms. Karen Williams, Retirement Services Officer
Strom Thurmond Building 5450 Strom Thurmond Blvd., Room 200
Hours of Operation: 0730 - 1630, Monday - Friday (closed on all Federal holidays)
Phone: (803) 751-6715 or 751-5523

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

TIME	ACTIVITIES
0900-0930	PARADE HONORING RETIREES BY 4TH BDE
0930-1000	REFRESHMENTS / REVIEW STATIC DISPLAY
1000-1005	MOVE ALL INTO POST THEATER #3
1005-1010	WELCOME BY GARRISON COMMANDER
1010-1040	REMARKS BY COMMANDING GENERAL
1040-1055	INTRODUCTION OF RETIREE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN
1055-1130	PRESENTATION OF SERVICES AVAILABLE TO RETIREEES – AAFES / DeCA OVERVIEW / DFAS-CL
1130-1145	CLOSING REMARKS BY GARRISON COMMANDER
1145-1300	HORS D'OEUVRES SERVED AT THE COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES CENTER CATERED BY THE OFFICER'S CLUB

Please Note:

The following booths will be located at the
Community Activities Center from 0900-1400

TRICARE, Delta Dental, Medicare, DENTAC, MEDDAC, MWR, Vehicle
Registration, SC Dept of Veteran's Affairs, Fort Jackson Credit Union,
Defense Finance and Accounting Service, Legal Assistance, Armed Forces
Retirement Home, AAFES, Commissary, AER, TREA, SJA

ID Card service will be available from 0900-1400 at the
Strom Thurmond Bldg # 5450 Room #109



TRICARE cover medically necessary skilled nursing care and rehabilitative (physical, occupational and speech) therapies that are provided in the skilled nursing facility. The SNF covered benefits include room and board, prescribed drugs, laboratory work, supplies, appliances and medical equipment. For the skilled nursing facility benefits to be covered by TRICARE the SNF must be Medicare-certified and enter into a participation agreement with TRICARE.

For skilled nursing facility care to be covered under both Medicare or TRICARE, eligible beneficiaries must have a qualifying hospital stay of three consecutive days or more, not including the day of discharge from the hospital. They must also enter the SNF within 30 days of being discharged from the hospital.

SNF care is not nursing home care. The preponderance of services provided must be skilled nursing interventions to qualify for admission to, or continued stay in a SNF. If the qualifying hospital stay for the beneficiary is determined by Medicare to be not medically necessary, the SNF admission and any subsequent claims will be denied by Medicare and TRICARE. The beneficiary may appeal the denial through Medicare and through TRICARE if TRICARE is the primary payer.

Medicare limits the number of SNF care days it covers to 100 days per benefit period. This benefit period begins with the first day (not included in a previous benefit period) on which a patient is furnished skilled nursing facility care and it ends with the close of a period of 60 consecutive days during which the patient did not receive hospital care or was not in a skilled nursing facility. In other words, under Medicare, a new benefit period starts when a beneficiary has not received hospital or skilled nursing facility care for 60 days in a row. TRICARE, however, covers SNF care for more than 100 days as long as the care is medically-necessary. After a dual-eligible beneficiary exhausts the 100-day Medicare SNF benefit, a Medicare claim denial for additional days must be sent to TRICARE before TRICARE can pay a beneficiary's SNF claim. The SNF benefit is not available overseas except in Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands where Medicare certified facilities exist.

Long-Term Care/Custodial Care. A beneficiary's health care needs are reviewed at various times by staff members at a SNF to determine if skilled nursing care is still required. Though a determination may be made that skilled care is no longer medically-necessary, a beneficiary may still require assistance in performing "activities of daily living" (ADLs) which require a different type of service known as long term care, sometimes called "custodial care."

Long-term care and any other service provided to assist a person with eating, dressing, bathing or performing activities of daily living, are not covered benefits under Medicare, TRICARE or TRICARE For Life. Whether the care is performed in a nursing home, assisted living facility or at a beneficiary's home, neither Medicare nor TRICARE will cover the cost of providing LTC. The cost of LTC coverage may vary and must be

borne by the patient or through private long-term care insurance. To qualify for LTC benefits, most insurance carriers require that a person need assistance with at least two ADLs.

Long-Term Care Insurance Programs. As a result of fiscal year 2001 legislation, Congress authorized the Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP), sponsored by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). Persons eligible to purchase LTC coverage provided by the government include: active duty and retired members of the Uniformed Services, certain members of the Reserves and their family members; employees of the federal government and their spouses, parents, step-parents, parent-in-laws and adult children. Additional information on federal long-term care insurance is available at www.opm.gov/insure/ltc/ or by calling (800) LTC-FEDS or (800) 582-3337.

Many commercial insurance carriers also offer long-term care products and services for people needing assistance with medical or non-medical personal care needs. Beneficiaries who require additional information on long-term care, may contact the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services at (800) Medicare or (800) 633-4227, to request a copy of *Choosing Long Term Care; A Guide for People with Medicare*.

Contacts for Beneficiaries Needing Assistance. Beneficiaries who need assistance understanding or using their TRICARE or TFL benefits are encouraged to contact their regional health services and support contractor (HSSC) for assistance. A list of regional toll-free numbers for HSSCs is available on the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil. Beneficiaries may also contact their local TRICARE Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinator (BCAC). Telephone numbers and contact information for BCACs are available on the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/bcacdirectory.cfm. Beneficiaries may also contact the DOD TRICARE Information Center (888) DOD-LIFE or (888) 363-5433, for up-to-date TRICARE information.

Beneficiaries needing additional information regarding Medicare benefits may contact the Social Security Administration, toll-free at (800) 772-1213. Additional Medicare information is available at www.medicare.gov.

Although the overall benefit for each of these programs may vary, TRICARE, Medicare, skilled nursing facility care and long-term care are each committed to providing beneficiaries with the care they need to restore wellness and health.

An Important Message About TRICARE & Medicare

Recently, the House and Senate passed the "Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003." This bill is extensive and complex, and it makes dramatic changes to Medicare. It is important for uniformed services beneficiaries to understand the effect these changes may have on them in the near future and in the years to come.

A preliminary assessment of some of the bill's provisions is presented below. As additional provisions of interest to uniformed services beneficiaries are identified, and as more information becomes available, we will update this site. We intend to work closely with beneficiary representatives to ensure that important information gets the widest possible distribution. In the meantime, if beneficiaries have questions about their TRICARE benefits, they should contact their local TRICARE Service Center for assistance.

Medicare Prescription Drug Benefits. For most Americans, the most significant aspect of the new bill is that it introduces an outpatient prescription drug benefit. This does not affect uniformed services beneficiaries their TRICARE pharmacy benefits will continue as a separate program.

Beneficiaries who desire to participate in the Medicare outpatient prescription plan should enroll when first eligible. If a beneficiary does not enroll when first eligible, and subsequently desires to do so, an annual late penalty would normally be assessed. However, TRICARE pharmacy benefits are considered a creditable prescription plan under the



bill, and as such, uniformed services beneficiaries who do not enroll in the Medicare prescription drug benefit when first eligible do not have to pay an annual penalty if they subsequently enroll because they involuntarily lost their eligibility under TRICARE. Individuals could involuntarily lose their TRICARE eligibility when a dependent widow or widower remarries a person who is not a uniformed services member or retiree, or when a dependent and member or retired member divorce, and the dependent spouse does not qualify under the law as an eligible former spouse for TRICARE benefits.

The TRICARE pharmacy benefit provides excellent coverage and wide availability of services through military facilities, retail pharmacies, and mail order. Thus, it is likely that the vast majority of uniformed services beneficiaries will not find it advantageous to enroll in the new Medicare pharmacy benefit. TRICARE and Medicare will need to establish procedures for coordination of benefits for beneficiaries who do decide to sign up for the Medicare benefit.

Part B Premiums. The bill makes three very important changes relating to enrollment in Medicare Part B, the Supplementary Medical Insurance Program. The first two changes affect persons not enrolled, or paying surcharges because they enrolled after they were initially eligible for Part B:

First, uniformed services beneficiaries who would be eligible for TRICARE For Life, but are not enrolled in Medicare Part B, may enroll without penalty during a special enrollment period through December 31, 2004. The special enrollment period will be announced via Medicare on the TRICARE Web site (www.tricare.osd.mil) and publicized widely.

Second, uniformed services beneficiaries who enrolled in Medicare Part B in 2001, 2002, 2003, or 2004 and are subject to a premium surcharge for late enrollment in Part B can get those surcharges eliminated by demonstrating that they are covered under TRICARE. The elimination of surcharges is effective January 1, 2004, but the Department of Health and Human Services will need to work out procedures to be followed. Procedures will be announced via Medicare on the TRICARE Web site (www.tricare.osd.mil) and publicized widely.

The third change made by the bill affects all seniors, not just uniformed services beneficiaries. The Part B premium will be tied to income, beginning in 2007. Individuals with incomes above \$80,000 will pay more, and couples with incomes above \$160,000 will pay more.

Medicare Advantage Program The bill introduces several enhancements to the current Medicare+Choice program that are expected to increase the availability of private plans offering benefits to Medicare beneficiaries. TRICARE For Life beneficiaries can enroll in Medicare+Choice plans (and TRICARE will reimburse their copayments). More details about Medicare+Choice plans are available on the Medicare Web site: <http://www.medicare.gov/Choices/Overview.asp>. Most people eligible for Medicare use traditional fee-for-service Medicare.

The bill includes provisions for a pilot program beginning in 2010 (the Comparative Cost Adjustment program) that could result in increased Part B premiums for persons in traditional fee-for-service Medicare, if sicker patients gravitate to private plans in the test sites.

Provider Reimbursement Provisions .The bill includes numerous provisions relating to reimbursement of hospitals, physicians, and other service providers. Significantly, physicians will receive a 1.5 percent payment increase in 2004 for 2005, rather than the reduction that was anticipated.

Medicare Part B Deductible .The bill increases the Medicare Part B deductible to \$110 in 2005 and indexes it to inflation for subsequent years. This should have minimal impact on uniformed services beneficiaries, since the Medicare deductible is payable by TRICARE.

Medicare Part B Late Enrollment Penalty Waived For Military Retirees

Congressman Ed Schrock(R-VA) announced today military retirees receiving TRICARE for Life benefits will not be penalized for late enrollment in Medicare Part B. The provision, included in the language of H.R. 1, the Medicare Prescription Drug and Modernization Act of 2003, provides a waiver for TRICARE beneficiaries who pay a penalty for their late enrollment in Medicare Part B.

In 2001, Congress enacted TRICARE for Life, which re-established TRICARE healthcare coverage as a wraparound to Medicare for military retirees age 65 and older. To take advantage of the TRICARE for Life program, military retirees must be enrolled in Medicare Part B. Enrolling in Medicare Part B carries a late fee, but now this fee will be waived. Effective Jan 1, 2004, Medicare-eligible military retirees with 20 years of service (or classified as such) who enrolled in Medicare Part B between January 1, 2001 and December 31, 2004 will no longer pay the late enrollment penalty. There is no refund for penalties paid prior to January 2004. The Secretary is required to rebate premium penalties paid for months on or after January 2004 for which a penalty does not apply as a result of this provision, but for which a penalty was collected. "It is important to deliver the highest quality services to our military retirees. TRICARE for Life is a successful program that keeps a promise to our military servicemen and women. They should not be penalized by Medicare for participating in a benefit that was promised to them when they joined the military. I will be following this issue closely in the coming weeks to ensure that the law is implemented in a timely manner," states Schrock.

Secretary Tommy Thompson and the Department of Health and Human Services have the responsibility to implement this new policy.

Moncrief Exceeds The Army & Military Health System Average Patient Satisfaction Scores Again

For the second consecutive quarter, Moncrief Army Community Hospital has exceeded the Army and Military Health System (MHS) average in 20 of 21 possible categories for the FY 03 4th quarter DOD Health Affairs patient satisfaction survey. For the complete results please visit our homepage at <http://www.moncrief.amedd.army.mil/MTFactionplan.htm>. According to COL Gallagher, the Moncrief Commander, the scores are a result of a concerted effort by Moncrief staff to exceed their customers' expectations and following the Army and WE CARE values. *CPT Charles Unruh, Chief Clinical Services Division.*

Pharmacy

Toll-free (refills): 866-489-0950 / Refill (local): 751-2250 / Main Outpatient Pharmacy: 0730-1730 (M-F) / Refill Pharmacy: 0900-1800 (M-F) Main Outpatient 751-2385 / Refill, Voice: 751-4609 / Refill, Automated 751-2250

NOTE: NEW!!!! Before your spouse, family member or close friend involved in your healthcare can pick-up your prescriptions, we require your signed authorization. You can pick-up an authorization form in the pharmacy or in Medical Correspondence, Room 903. Kathleen Bryant, RHIT HIPAA Privacy Officer (751-4510)



Our pharmacy has experienced a huge surge in patients and prescription volume. Since October 1, 2003 our Main Outpatient Pharmacy has had 21 days where we have seen over 600 patients. Our average daily patient volume for December has been 596 patients, filling 1389 prescriptions. During the same 8 day period last year, we averaged serving 488 patients daily with 1100 prescriptions, an increase of almost 22%.

We strongly encourage those with refills to use the PX refill pharmacy instead of increasing the wait time for all our beneficiaries. Please call all refills in using the automated call-in system at 751-2250 (local call) or (866) 489-0950 (toll free).

By using the refill pharmacy service, the pharmacy staff can provide you faster new prescription service at the hospital pharmacy. Refills called-in via the automated system are picked up at the Main PX Refill Pharmacy.

All refills called-in Monday through Thursday, before 1400, will be ready for pick-up the following normal duty day. All refills called-in Friday through Sunday (before 1400) are ready for pick-up on Monday. Refills called in on federal holidays will be ready the second normal duty day after the holiday.

Due to the increase in prescriptions and patients, an additional 24 hours will be needed for refills.
LTC David Andersen, Chief Pharmacy

Breaking News!

TRICARE Management Activity (TMA) recently announced the "2004 TRICARE Best of the Web" award winners. This second annual competition recognizes the best of TRICARE on the Web throughout the Military Health System (MHS). The Web sites are judged on a combination of basic elements and unique features that help beneficiaries easily find important information, schedule appointments and contact the hospital. Moncrief won the "Most Customer-Focused" Website Award!

Tricareonline.com (TOL) The Future Arrives

What if you could make your Military Treatment Facility (MTF) appointments online 24 hours a day 7 days a week? Actually, now you can since we have implemented TRICARE Online, or TOL, at Moncrief by visiting www.tricareonline.com TRICARE Online, or TOL, is an interactive site that offers Moncrief-enrolled TRICARE Prime beneficiaries who register at the TOL website, the ability to book appointments with their Primary Care Managers and receive information on Moncrief clinics and services. The program is easy to navigate, even for new Internet users. All TRICARE beneficiaries can create and maintain personal health journals, check medical symptoms, medication information, consumer health information and disease management tools, as well as access TRICARE claims and benefits information is available. TOL also offers a Medication interaction checker, general health and wellness resources, and separate games and health information just for kids. More interactive capabili-

ties, such as prescription refills will be added in the future.

For additional information go to www.tricareonline.com or call the Worldwide TRICARE Information Center at 1-866-363-3932 or call the Moncrief POC at 803-751-2338. Please look for a computer kiosk set up across from the Moncrief information desk to assist with registration, if necessary.

Community Health Nursing

Community Health Nursing offers a variety of health promotion services/programs/classes – please call 751-5251 for more information.

Moncrief Army Community Hospital Renovation Project

Our facility will be undergoing renovations that will allow us to better serve you. When visiting Moncrief you may encounter some minor inconveniences due to the renovations. The MACH Family Health Clinic (FHC) moved to the 10th floor. Please use the express elevator for quicker service. We have designated an express elevator (you will see a bright sticker on the elevator door) from the ground floor to the 10th floor for those visiting the FHC to prevent long delays; however, we still ask that you allow a few extra minutes to ensure you are on time for your appointments on the 10th floor FHC. The Urgent Care Clinic moved into the area previously occupied by the FHC.

We will have volunteers available on the ground floor and at the new UCC to assist the community with these changes. We appreciate your understanding of any delays or inconveniences due to the renovation. This project is on schedule to be completed by Dec 04. *MAJ Charles Strite, Chief Logistics Div*



FORT JACKSON RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

24 APRIL 2004
0900 - 1400



For more information contact:

Ms. Karen Williams, Retirement Services Officer
Bldg - 5450 Strom Thurmond Blvd., Room 200
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Phone: (803) 751-6715 or 751-5523

Morale, Welfare & Recreation Activities

Autocraft Shop

The Autocraft Shop offers assistance in all aspects of automotive maintenance. We assist with repairing your brakes, engine, chassis, power train, wheels, tune-up, engine timing and cooling system. The Autocraft Shop also changes oil for \$20 up to 5 quarts of oil. We do car washing for \$15 and waxing starting at \$15 to \$35. For information please call 751-5755.

New Outdoor Recreation Facility

MWR's new Outdoor Recreation facility will house outdoor hunting and fishing sales, licenses, post permits, equipment rental including boats, campers, canopies, grills, canoes, kayaks, tents, and stoves, and will begin offering trips and classes such as fishing, rock climbing, hiking, sight-seeing, boating, and hunter's education. This facility will be opening in Spring 2004.



School Age Services

We invite retirees to utilize the Hood Street Child Development Center Hourly Program for short-term youth care. The center is open Monday through Friday 0730 - 1730 and the second and fourth Friday evenings of each month 1800 - 2300. The cost for care is \$2.50 an hour for the first child and \$2.30 an hour for each additional child. Care will be provided for children of retirees on a space available basis, with families having the ability to make reservations one week in advance. We will start providing care for children of retirees effective 17 February 2004. Families must register with Child and Youth Services in order to utilize our services. For more information, contact Central Enrollment at 751-4865 or Hood Street CDC at 751-1970.

Child & Youth Services are expanding program availability to the retiree community. The following Child & Youth Services programs are available to the retiree community: 1st thru 5th grade camps (spring, summer and winter), Middle School/Teen Programs (year around), Youth Sports & Fitness (year around), and Instructional Classes such as piano, Tae Kwon Do, and dance (year around).

Summer Camp Options for Youth 1st-5th grade

Each summer, School Age Services provides summer camp options for youth. To participate in summer camp, youth must have completed 1st grade up to completion of 5th grade. Fees are based on total family income. The current fee range is from \$34-\$89 per week for full day camp. Weekly activities include swimming, bowling, computer lab, reading, movies, field trips, character development and arts and crafts. Each week has a special emphasis with activities revolving around a particular theme. This year's camp will be as popular as years in the past. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of the Fort Jackson School Age Services hot, sizzlin', safe and fun-filled summer camp. For more information about Summer Camp 2004 contact the Child and Youth Services Central Enrollment Office at 751-4865 or call James Andrews or Sandra Madera at 751-1136/5040. Summer camp registration starts 1 April 2004.

Before & After School Spaces Are Still Available

Make sure your children are doing something constructive during their out of school time. Spaces are still available in the School Age Services Before & After School Program for youth in grades 1st through 5th.

The Before School Program is located in the Youth Center and operates from 0515-0815, Monday through Friday. Breakfast is served and youth are escorted to on post schools. The After School Program operates from school release to 1830, Monday through Friday. An afternoon snack is served prior to the children's involvement in scheduled activities. Afternoon activities include use of the homework center, computer lab, snack bar area, game room and gymnasium at the Youth Center, the Youth Sports

Complex and other locations on post, such as the Bowling Center, Movie Theater, Indoor Swimming Pool and the Post Recycling Center. Full day services are available to enrolled youth during school out days at no additional cost with the exception of spring and winter break weeks. For more information about School Age Services please contact James Andrews or Sandra Madera at 751-1136/5040.

Victory Travel Center

Victory Travel Center is committed to offering the best possible travel services with our experienced staff. Victory Travel is located inside the Community Activities Center, 6510 Strom Thurmond Blvd. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 0800 - 1700. You can contact us at 751-5812 inside the Columbia area or 1-800-221-3503 outside Columbia, or visit our website at www.jackson.army.mil/mwr/travel.htm

We can assist with all your travel needs from airlines tickets, Amtrak, hotels, car rentals, cruises and vacation packages. We also offer discounted tickets to Disney World, Universal Studios, Sea World, Busch Gardens and many other attractions in the Orlando area. Locally, we have tickets to the S.C. State Museum, Riverbanks Zoo, Carowinds, and Six Flags over Georgia. Dixie Stampede and many other dinner shows and attractions can also be purchased with us. Stop by and see what Victory Travel has to offer.

Army Emergency Relief

March 2003 began the Army's annual fund raising campaign for the Army Emergency Relief (AER). This campaign will be conducted through 15 May 2004.

For 62 years, your AER has assisted more than 3 million soldiers and their families in times of financial emergency. They have been available for us whenever we were stationed around the world, whenever we needed assistance.

AER helps active duty soldiers and their families, retired soldiers and their families and surviving spouses and orphans of soldiers who died while on active duty or after they retired. Financial needs can be food, rent or utilities, emergency transportation and vehicle repair. AER does not receive any government money. Funds come from voluntary contributions from active and retired soldiers, repayment of AER interest-free loans, investment income and unsolicited contributions. All contributions are fully tax deductible. Please help support our mission in assisting you and your families when you have a financial crisis. The Army's desire to "Take Care of Its Own" continues into retirement and programs such as AER - Help the Army Take Care of Its Own. For more information on AER you can call your local AER office at 751-5256 or visit the AER website at www.aer.org.

AAFES News

The Outdoor Living Grand Opening will be held 20 February 2004. Baby Week is 27 February thru 04 March and will feature great gifts for the grand children. Still Serving Weekend is 17-19 September offering special sales just for retirees.

The Commissary is Coming to You!!

A "Commissary Case Lot Sale" is being held in Greenville, SC 26-27 March 2004 at the Navy and Marine Corps Donaldson Center.

For more information logon to www.commissaries.com and click on Ft. Jackson or call (803) 751-5789