



## **Coalition and Valued Associates Advocacy and Actions...**

The Coalition and the ALA are extremely saddened by the news that CAPT Marshall Hanson, Co-Director of the National Military Veterans Alliance and Government Affairs Director for the Reserve Officers Association, passed away yesterday. We honor his service to our country, his advocacy on behalf of the military community he loved, and will forever cherish his legacy of friendship. Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire Hanson family.

The Coalition and valued associate organizations consistently share information with our members regarding their Commissary and Exchange benefits; and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation programs. Trending articles and posts on the SaveOurBenefit [Facebook](#) page include:

### **DoD seeks healthier food choices for troops**

(Military Times) Concerns about healthy food choices on military installations have led defense officials to launch the Healthy Base Initiative (HBI), a comprehensive study of dining facilities, fast food, and vending machine options.

Col. Brian Foley, garrison commander at Fort Meade, Maryland - one of the HBI pilot sites - told American Logistics Association members that he has a "great partnership" with commissary and exchange officials on post. The commissary periodically holds its own farmers market with fresh produce placed out front, and the exchange shoppette has moved its fresh fruit to the front of the store.

The Defense Commissary Agency, exchanges, and industry partners are supporting the HBI efforts...

### **Did you know that commissaries, exchanges, and the supporting industry are the largest employers of Veterans and military families?**

These programs continue to recognize the value of hiring our Veterans and military spouses. The American Logistics Association member companies announced this week that they have met and exceeded their goal of hiring 25,000 Veterans and military spouses as part of the First Lady's Joining Forces Initiative...

### **Military Times staff writer, Andrew Tilghman wrote an excellent summary of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission's Interim Report, which was released last week. In his article [Pay panel appears wary of cutting compensation](#) he states:**

"For years, the Pentagon's top brass has called for an overhaul of the entire military compensation system, claiming that the cost of troops' pay and benefits is soaring unsustainably and threatening future funding for readiness and weapons modernization. But a highly influential panel of experts appears to be unconvinced..."

**Air Force releases Morale, Welfare, Recreation survey**

A random sample of 50,000 Airmen and civilians will receive an email invitation asking them to participate in a Recreational Interest Survey to help determine new, revised, and improved activities and programs. Participants will be asked to mark activities they have done in the past 12 months, activities they would like to do again, or specific activities they would like to try. If you receive the survey, we encourage you to take it. **#SaveOurBenefits**

<http://www.aerotechnews.com/davis-monthanafb/2014/07/03/air-force-releases-morale-welfare-recreation-survey/>

[Twitter](#) post: Protect your commissary and exchange benefits by using your benefits! **#SaveOurBenefits**

We encourage you to join the **SaveOurBenefit** [Facebook](#) page and follow us on [Twitter](#).