

Jan. 9, 2012



Island Insight



This publication is published weekly and contains information about, for, and of interest to the Island Workforce. This document is also available on the island intranet under "Information" and on the installation website at www.ria.army.mil under "About USAG-RIA" and then "News" and "Local News."

Island Insight Submission: <http://www.ria.army.mil/sites/IslandAnn/announcement.cfm>

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INCLEMENT WEATHER OPERATING STATUS

Rules Restrict Political Activity by

DoD Personnel: With election activity steadily picking up, defense officials are in the process of issuing regular election-year guidance to remind military and Defense Department civilians that they're subject to rules regulating their involvement in political activities. This issue -- one the department regularly addresses during election periods -- came to light earlier this week after an Army Reserve soldier

in uniform appeared endorsing a political candidate. Several sets of rules help to protect the integrity of the political process, DoD officials said. DoD Directive 1344.10 applies to members of the armed forces, whether they serve on active duty, as members of the reserve components not on active duty, as National Guard members in a nonfederal status, and military retirees. In addition, the Hatch Act applies to federal civilian employees, and

employees also are subject to widely published DoD guidance that discusses participation in political campaigns and elections. These rules are designed to prevent military members' or federal civilian employees' participation in political activities that imply -- or even appear to imply -- official sponsorship, approval or endorsement, officials said. The concern, they explained, is that



actual or perceived partisanship could undermine the legitimacy of the military profession and department. ([More](#))

RIA Winter Weather Operations

Update: Last year the Quad Cities experienced a historical blizzard with snowfall amounts of

1-2 inches per hour totaling a record tying 18.4 inches and producing the rare occurrence of thunder snow. This was an eye opening experience that forced us to re-look how the Arsenal operates during severe winter storms. Since that storm we have updated our plans to include some new communications tools and policies to include: • Soldiers, their Families, DA Civilians, contractors and visitors of RIA should visit the website below for information on installation delays and closures during severe winter weather. No CAC needed, so you can monitor at home ([CLICK HERE](#)) • The Garrison Installation Operations Center monitors current and projected hazardous weather conditions and advises the Garrison Manager. • RIA closures, delays and early dismissals will be made by the Senior Commander, Garrison Manager and other key leaders. • Information will be sent through command channels as



soon as a decision is made and will be posted to the RIA Inclement Weather Operational Impact Page as soon as possible. • Organizations are encouraged to use the RIA Inclement Weather Operational Impact Webpage to post their organizations status during inclement weather. • Post closures will include closing of all non essential garrison services (e.g. CYSS, Dining Facilities, Gym, etc.)

POTUS to Propose 0.5 Percent Increase in Federal Worker's Pay:

President Obama is on track to propose a modest increase in federal civilian workers' pay as part of his 2013 budget due in early February, an administration official confirmed Friday. The 0.5 percent pay increase comes after two years during which civilian pay was frozen to save billions. The 2013 pay increase is far less than the current rate of inflation, which stood at 3.4 percent in November compared to a year earlier. ([More](#))



Proposed Pay Raise Draws Ire From

All Sides: ∞ The formula outlined by the Federal Employees Pay Comparability Act calls for a 1.2 percent

Upcoming Dates

- Jan. 9:** National Clean-Off-Your-Desk Day
- Jan. 13:** AMBER Alert Awareness Day [🔗](#)
- Jan. 16:** Martin Luther King Day (*Federal Holiday*) [🔗](#)
- Jan. 17:** 21st Anniversary of Operation Desert Storm
- Jan. 22-28:** Tobacco-Free Awareness Week [🔗](#)
- Jan. 23-27:** No Name-Calling Week [🔗](#)
- Jan. 27:** National Eosinophilia Day [🔗](#)
- Jan. 29:** Thomas Paine Day
- Feb. 1:** National Freedom Day
- Feb. 1-7:** National Patient Recognition Week [🔗](#)
- Feb. 2:** Groundhog Day
- Feb. 3:** National Wear Red Day [🔗](#)
- Feb. 3:** National Patient Recognition Day
- Feb. 4:** USO 71st Birthday [🔗](#)
- Feb. 4:** World Cancer Day [🔗](#)
- Feb. 5:** Super Bowl XLVI [🔗](#)
- Feb. 5:** Army Emergency Relief 70th Birthday [🔗](#)
- Feb. 5:** National Weatherman's Day
- Feb. 5-11:** Burn Awareness Week
- Feb. 6-12:** Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week [🔗](#)
- Feb. 6-12:** World Salt Awareness Week [🔗](#)
- Feb. 7:** Nat. Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day [🔗](#)
- Feb. 11:** National Inventors' Day
- Feb. 12:** Abraham Lincoln's Birthday
- Feb. 12:** Darwin Day
- Feb. 12-19:** Children of Alcoholics Week
- Feb. 13-17:** Random Acts of Kindness Week
- Feb. 14:** Valentine's Day
- Feb. 14:** National Donor Day
- Feb. 14:** National Pet Theft Awareness Day
- Feb. 19:** 71st USCGR Birthday [🔗](#)
- Feb. 20:** Presidents' Day (*Federal Holiday*)
- Feb. 19-25:** National Engineers Week [🔗](#)
- Feb. 19-26:** Military Saves Week [🔗](#)
- Feb. 24:** Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day [🔗](#)
- Feb. 24:** Great American Spit Out [🔗](#)



increase to federal salaries in 2013, but Congress and the president routinely ignore that formula when setting pay raises. But Rep. Dennis Ross, R-Fla., who oversees the House subcommittee overseeing federal workforce issues, thinks federal employees are overcompensated when compared with their private-sector counterparts. He called the proposed raise evidence that Obama "is a public-sector union puppet." "This pay raise is symbolic at best and pure politics at its worst," Ross said in a statement Jan. 9. "Just days after he weakens our national defense, he gives government unions a raise. Astounding." ([More](#))

Panetta: 'Sequestration' Would

Upend Military Strategy: The Defense Department's new 10-year strategy will go "out the window" if the federal Budget Control Act's additional spending cuts go into effect next year, Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta said. "If we had to do over a trillion dollars in cuts in this department, I have to tell you that the strategy that we developed, we'd probably have to ... start over," Panetta said during an interview with Rachel Martin that aired



today on the NPR program "Weekend Edition." ([More](#))

FERS Annuity Supplement:

Understanding the "Earnings" Test: Those employees covered by the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) who retire before age 62 under the FERS normal (voluntary) or early retirement rules are entitled to the FERS annuity supplement. But a FERS annuitant who retires before age 62 and who is employed after retiring from federal service may lose part, or all, of the FERS annuity supplement if the amount the annuitant earns exceeds the "exempt amount." This column discusses the "earnings" test that applies to the FERS annuity supplement. ([More](#))



CSM Change of Responsibility

Ceremony: U.S. Army Sustainment Command's CSM Change of Responsibility Ceremony will take place Wednesday, **Jan. 18**, at 10 a.m., Bldg. 299 (NW End). Maj. Gen. Patricia McQuiston cordially invites you to attend the ASC Change of Responsibility between Command Sgt. Major Stephen Blake and Command



Sgt. Major James Spencer. The ceremony will be followed by an award and retirement ceremony in honor of Command Sgt. Major & Mrs. Stephen Blake. Uniform is ACU w/ Black Beret for military; casual for civilian.

Arsenal Island Sesquicentennial

History Breaks: 2012 marks the installation's 150th anniversary. Sponsored by the Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society and as part of the Arsenal Sesquicentennial, a "history break" will be conducted the **second Thursday** of the month from January to December. Join us in the **Caisson Room, Bldg. 60, first floor, south wing, from 12-1 p.m.** As these presentations occur during lunchtime, you may bring a brown bag lunch or purchase food at the adjacent food court. Employees can sign up for these professional development opportunities in [TEDs](#) (search term "History Breaks"). Due to the size of the room, participation is limited to 50. On **Jan. 12**, learn about "Rock Island Arsenal: History and Sites." Using early photographs and images of many current



eligible to donate blood, less than 10 percent do annually.

The Army encourages its employees to volunteer as candidates for any of the variety of medical donor programs, including blood, bone marrow, and organ donor/transplant programs. For additional information [click here](#).

Travel Warning – Philippines: The Department of State warns U.S. citizens of the risks of terrorist activity in the Philippines. While most of the recent incidents of terror have occurred on the island of Mindanao and in the Sulu Archipelago, U.S. citizens are reminded that terrorist attacks could be indiscriminate and could occur in any area of the country, including Manila. Public gathering places may be targeted, including (but not limited to) airports, shopping malls, conference centers and other public venues. Military and DoD employees traveling outside the United States are required by regulation to attend an Area of Responsibility briefing within 90 days of travel. Contact your commands respective Antiterrorism Officer for



further information. The JMC ATO can be reached at (309) 782-1823 and the ASC ATO can be reached at (309) 782-5809. The USAG-ATO can be contacted at (309) 782-0116. For tenants without ATO's on the installation, the USAG-ATO will provide the briefing.

Travel Alert – Senegal: The Department of State alerts U.S. citizens to the potential for civil unrest and disturbances in Senegal prior to and directly following the upcoming Presidential elections scheduled for **Feb. 26**. Political demonstrations in June of 2011 were particularly violent, and as certain dates in the election cycle come to pass, the potential for similar confrontations exists. Please note the U.S. Embassy in Dakar has requested that all non-essential travel to Senegal be deferred from **Jan. 16** through **March 2**. Military and DoD employees traveling outside the United States are required by regulation to attend an Area of Responsibility briefing within 90 days of travel. Contact your commands respective Antiterrorism Officer for further information. The JMC ATO can be reached at (309) 782-1823 and the



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Travel Alert – South Pacific Cyclone Season: The Department of State alerts U.S. citizens residing in or traveling to the South Pacific region about the ongoing threat of tropical cyclones affecting the area. While tropical cyclones in the South Pacific may occur throughout the year, the South Pacific Tropical Cyclone Season began on **Nov. 1** and ends **April 30**. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration recommends that people living or traveling in regions prone to tropical storms and tropical cyclones be prepared; for further information about tropical cyclone preparedness, please visit NOAA's Tropical Cyclones Preparedness Guide [HERE](#).



Arc Business Supply BSC
Holiday/Inventory Hours: Closed **Jan. 16**.



Esprit de Corps Toastmasters Club:

The Esprit de Corps Toastmasters Club meets the first and third Wednesdays each month in the Clock Tower Building. We love guests. You may visit as often as you wish before deciding if you would like to join us. Check us out. No one is beyond hope for becoming a skilled and confident speaker.

Date: **Wednesday, Jan. 18**

Time: **11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.**



Arsenal Workforce Discount: Bayside Smoothies, a local family-owned business, is giving all Arsenal Island employees a 10 percent discount off of purchases at their location at 2730 W. Locust Street in Davenport. Patrons can call their orders ahead at (563) 391-6360 for pick-up. To see their menu check out [their website](#).



Arsenal Traffic/Construction

One Lane Closure of South Ave: There will be a one lane closure for east bound traffic on South Street from Gillespie Street to Second Street beginning at 8 a.m. on Friday, Friday, Jan. 13. This

partial closure is necessary to make repairs to a gas line. South Street will remain down to one lane traffic until Jan. 16.

Traffic Change at the Davenport Gate:

Effective **Jan. 16**, all southbound (Illinois-bound) traffic crossing the Government Bridge will be required to stop at the intersection with the Davenport Gate regardless of the time of day. This change is not anticipated to significantly affect inbound Arsenal traffic flow given the extremely short queue space for traffic entering the Davenport Gate. Outbound Rock Island Arsenal traffic will remain unchanged.

Government Bridge Closures: This is to provide you information on Government Bridge Closures. The Government Bridge will be closed two separate days in January. The first is **Jan. 15**, the second is **Jan. 21**. On Sunday, **Jan. 15**, the Government Bridge will be closed to perform needed maintenance and tests. The bridge will be closed from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. This work will preclude "all" traffic from crossing the bridge as it will be parked in the "open to navigation" position. On Saturday, **Jan. 21**, the Government Bridge will be closed to "vehicular" traffic from 7 a.m. - 5p.m. This closure

is necessary to allow workmen to place equipment and materials on the "I" wall that will be used for the repair of the pedestrian walkway(s) and supporting steel on either side of the Swing Span. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Labor Relations Specialist or Ombudsman.

Building/Space Closures

Closure: There will be construction projects requiring closure of the archway opening with man doors on basement level of Bldg. 102 and 104, northwest corner of the respective courtyard entrances by passenger elevators. Alternative routes for entering and leaving the buildings will need to be used for approximately 2-3 weeks. Construction will begin **Jan. 23**.
Time: **7 a.m.**

Bldg. 60 SW Stairwell Closure: Bldg. 60 SW stairwells, basement to 3rd floor will be closed for cleaning and construction improvements from **Dec.27 through March 31**. Notifications will be posted on all entries to the stairwell by Dec. 19. POC is Amy Henry at (309) 948-1020.

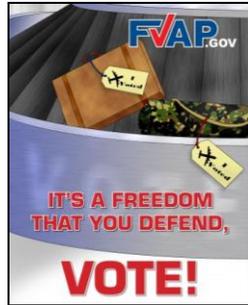


Active Duty/Reserve Zone



Casting Absentee Ballot Easier Than Ever:

The Army Voting Assistance Program is designed to make registration, voting information, materials and assistance readily available to all eligible Army voters. The program seeks to educate eligible voters about the importance of voting and provide every opportunity to register. "2012 is a crucial year for the nation as a whole, especially in our military community. Exercise your right as a Soldier and vote," said Lt. Col. Rajesh Lobrecht, 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command deputy G-1, voting assistance officer. January 2012 is an important month for military and overseas voters because it marks the beginning of a new year and due to recent changes to federal and state laws, service members overseas are now encouraged to complete registration every year. ([More](#))



Safety Spotlight



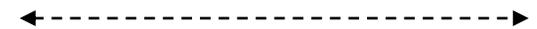
Free Training Opportunity - OSHA

30 Hour Course: The Garrison Safety Office is hosting a 30-hour OSHA Training Course, **Feb. 6-10**, in Room 4 of the Baylor Conference Center (Bldg. 103-104, 3rd floor). Course hours are 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday – Thursday; and 7-11 a.m. on Friday. The course is free of charge. The course covers safety topics from general OSHA and Army safety requirements, as well as specific topics employees can use to make their workplaces safer. This course meets the requirements for Collateral/Additional Duty Safety Officers. Employees may sign up in [TEDs](#), key word: 30-hr. Additional course information may be obtained from Ed Welch, (309) 782-6798. If your organization does not have access to [TEDs](#), please call Ed Welch at (309) 782-6798 to enroll. Class size is limited to 26 students. Additional classes will be scheduled as needed.

Army Safety Gram – Fighting Off Old

Man Winter: For many people, working or playing in cold weather can be a positive experience. You may feel invigorated by the bracing air and feel like doing your work with more physical energy than usual. When it comes to leisure, cold weather offers many

enjoyable activities whether it's skiing, skating, snowmobiling or ice fishing. Unfortunately, all the enjoyable aspects of working or playing out in cold weather can turn negative if you are not dressed warmly or dryly enough. Never underestimate winter's blast. They call winter an "old man" but he's far from frail. In fact, he's apt to strike a deadly blow when you least expect it. ([More](#))

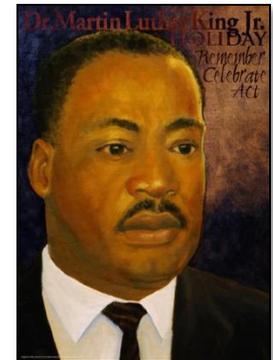


Equal Opportunity Focus



Martin Luther King Jr. Observance:

First Army and the Army Sustainment Command's Equal Opportunity Office invite you to our Martin Luther King Jr. Observance, **Jan. 12**, 1-2 p.m., in Heritage Hall, Bldg. 60. The guest speaker will be Rev. Tyrone Crider with a musical tribute by the Westbrook Singers. DA Civilians can register in [TEDs](#) using the keyword "MLK Observance". For any additional information or accommodations please contact Sgt. First Class Evadne Benson



at (309) 782-9060 or Sgt. First Class Willie Jordan at (309) 782-3021.

Editorial: Celebrating Martin Luther King Day:

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was one of the driving forces behind the American Civil Rights Movement and remains an iconic figure in the world today as evidenced by the recent dedication of his monument so prominently displayed in our Nation's Capital. To celebrate his birth, life and dream, federal offices, schools and banks across America will close to honor his teachings of nonviolence and equal rights. Over the years, this federal holiday has transformed into a national day of community service in which Americans come together and work to help one another. As we celebrate the various holidays throughout the year, let us remember that this holiday symbolizes our Nation's and Army's commitment to a society based on the principles of freedom, justice and equality for all people. As our Army works to achieve our vision for diversity to be the national leader in embracing the strengths of diverse people in an



inclusive environment, let us also lift up our fellow human beings both at home and around the world to honor Dr. King's memory and reaffirm our common humanity. ([More](#))

29th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Service:

The 29th Annual Dr. King Jr. Memorial Service and Award celebration honoring the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be held on Monday, **Jan. 16**, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. The theme for this year's program is "The time is always right to do the right thing." During this event, we will present the "I Have a Dream Award" and the "Tia Farrah Rice" award to acknowledge contributions made to the community by a Rock Island resident. ([More](#))

MKL Event - Augustana College:

Augustana College and the Quad Cities' Dr. King Celebration Committee invite members of the community to join them for the annual tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebrate his legacy with speakers, music, dance and theatrical performances.
Date: **Saturday, Jan. 14**
Time: **6 p.m.**
Place: **Centennial Hall, 3703 7th Ave.**

Garrison EEO Interactive Customer Evaluation:

The Garrison Equal Employment Opportunity office Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) is now available by clicking [HERE](#) to go to their website to complete the Ice survey. If you are commenting on a Special Emphasis Program select the program from the drop down menu provided.



Morale, Welfare & Recreation (MWR)



Morale, Welfare & Recreation

(MWR): Visit the MWR website at www.riamwr.com for information on all MWR programs. Also [click here](#) to become a fan on Facebook and stay up to date on all the great MWR offerings here at the Arsenal.

MWR Super Bowl Party: Head over to Heritage Hall (Bldg. 60) on Sunday,

Feb. 5 and watch the biggest game of the year on multiple screens. Doors will open at 3 p.m. \$5 cover charge includes a chili & hot dog buffet. There will also be drink specials and door prizes. Please



call (309) 782-6319 for more information. ([Flyer](#))
Time: **3-10 p.m.**

2012 RIA Fitness Center Health Fair:

The annual RIA Fitness Center Health Fair is the place to gather helpful information on every aspect of your physical, mental, and emotional well being. 80+ exhibitors will be present with information on various topics such as heart and cardiovascular health, neurology, chiropractic care, and much more. Call (309) 782-6789 for more information. ([Flyer](#))
Date: **Wednesday, Feb. 15**
Time: **10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Non-Appropriated Fund (NAF)

Equipment Silent Auction: The Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Directorate will conduct a silent auction on **Jan. 18 & 19**, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. The auction which will take place at Bldg. 112, will offer bargain hunters a great opportunity to purchase used NAF equipment at rock bottom prices. ([Flyer](#)) ([Listing of Items](#)) There will be a "viewing day" conducted on **Jan. 17**, 1-3 p.m., where patrons can see the items up for bid prior to the actual auction. Call (309) 782-3956 for more information.

Trivia Night: Call up to nine of your smartest friends and join us for our monthly trivia at Heritage Hall, Bldg. 60. Cost is \$10 per player with mulligans and double bonuses available. Food & drink available. Prizes for 1st - 3rd place. Open to everyone. Call (309) 782-6319 for details. ([Flyer](#))
Date: **Thursday, Jan. 19**
Time: **6 p.m.**

Arsenal Island Golf Clubhouse

Holiday Hours of Operation: Will be closed for the season during the period of **Dec. 22 - Jan. 31**, re-opening for lunch on **Feb. 1**. Lunch is served Tues.-Fri. No bar operations in the clubhouse until **Feb. 1**.

Arsenal Club Bar: The bar in the Arsenal Club (Bldg. 60) will be open Thurs. and Fri. evenings at 2:30 p.m., beginning **Jan. 12**.

MWR Leisure Travel Office

☪
Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Bldg. 60. The office is closed for lunch from 10:30–11 a.m., (309) 782-5890. ([email](#)) ([website](#))

Leisure Travel Closure: Leisure Travel will be closed for observance of Martin Luther King Day.
Date: **Monday, Jan. 16**
Time: **9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

Holiday Closure: Outdoor Recreation will be closed on Monday, **Jan. 16** in observance of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.
Time: **7:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.**

Chicago Cubs vs. Milwaukee

Brewers: Hey Cubs and Brewer fans. Do we have a deal for you. Let us provide the transportation to Milwaukee, Miller Park, and a game ticket for only \$84 per person. Seats on sale now. For more information contact the Leisure Travel Office.
Date: **Saturday, May 12**
Time: **12:05 p.m. (game time)**



Circa 21: Southern Crossroads: Southern Crossroads tells the tale of a hilarious traveling family of singers and musicians during the Great Depression, trying to eke out a living with their musical talents. Enjoy live musicians and such great classic hits as "Keep It on



the Sunny Side", "I'll Fly Away", "Midnight Special" and many more!

Date: **Saturday, April 14**

Time: **5:45 p.m.**

Cubs vs. Cardinals: The Chicago Cubs will be taking on the defending World Series Champion St. Louis Cardinals at Busch Stadium. The bus will **depart at 8 a.m.** from the COL Davenport Pavilion area. Seats on sale now for \$104 per person.



Date: **Saturday, July 21**
Time: **3:05 p.m. (game time)**

Circa 21: Spreading It Around: An upbeat comedy about a well-to-do widow living in a retirement community in Florida. Tired of handing out money to their neglectful, unappreciative children, Angela Drayton and her friends set up an organization which gives to those really in need. Discounted seats are \$43.50

Date: **Saturday, May 26**

Time: **5:45 p.m.**

Grease at Circa 21: This is the 1950s Rock 'n Roll Musical: Rydell High's

spirited class of '59 captures the look and sound of the 1950's in a rollicking musical. Grease is one of the longest running shows in Broadway history. It is a lively and funny musical which includes such favorites as "Summer Lovin," "Beauty School Dropout," "Greased Lightening," "We Go Together" - all of the '50s favorites that made this musical a Broadway and film blockbuster. Discounted tickets are \$43.50. Please call (309) 782-5890 or visit the Leisure Travel Office in Bldg. 60 to purchase tickets.

Date: **Feb. 18**

Outdoor Recreation is Your Winter Sports Equipment Headquarters:

Whether you need a pair of skis (nordic or alpine), a snowboard, snow shoes or ice skates, Outdoor Recreation located in bldg. 333 has you covered with our large selection of high quality and affordable equipment rentals. Call (309) 782-8630 to reserve your equipment or for more info.

Adler Theatre: Damn Yankees: This is the story of a 1950s middle-aged baseball fanatic who trades his soul to the Devil for a chance to lead his favorite team in the pennant race against The New York Yankees only to realize

the true worth of the life (and wife) he's left behind. Discounted seats are \$46.

Date: **Friday, March 23**

Time: **7:30 p.m.**

Adler: Red Green's Live Wit & Wisdom Tour:

It is time to bring out the flannel shirt, find those suspenders, dig out the duct tape and join Red Green for a famous Possum Lodge meeting. Ticket on sale now for \$47.50 (Floor Seating)

Date: **Tuesday, May 1**

Time: **7 p.m.**

Skiing, Snowboarding & Snow

tubing Outings: Join Outdoor Recreation for a fun day of Skiing, Snowboarding, and Snow Tubing at Snowstar Winter Sports Park in Andalusia, Ill. on **Jan. 20** and **Feb. 17**. Cost is \$13/person for snow tubing. Skiing & Snowboarding lift tickets are \$10, with equipment rental being \$10 at Snow Star. Need to get a quick lesson before hand? Ski lessons are \$4 and board lessons are \$9. If carving up the slopes over and over again is not your idea of fun, then grab a cup of hot cocoa and cozy up to the bonfire at the bottom where you'll have a great view of all the activities. Participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from Snowstar and should meet there no later



than 4 p.m. Outing goes till closing time at 10 pm. Please call (309) 782-8630 to sign up. Minimum of 15 people required to sign up or outing will be cancelled. ([Flyer](#))

Discount QC Mallards Tickets: Visit Leisure Travel in Bldg. 60 to get your discount tickets to watch the Quad City Mallards dominate the rink all season long. Tickets are available in the lower bowl for every home game this season for only \$15. Call (309) 782-5890 for more info.

Need a Vacation?: Do you need help planning your vacation - let the leisure travel staff help turn your vacation into a dream vacation. Stop by or call our office at (309) 782-5890. Let us do the work.

Child, Youth & School Services

☉ **Martial Arts:** SKIESUnlimited is offering Martial Arts for ages 6-18 years old. The winter session is **Dec. 1 – Feb. 28**. Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays 5-5:55 p.m. Please contact (309) 782-5969 for additional information.

All Child, Youth & School Services Holiday Hours of Operation: Jan. 2, New Years Day Observed - Closed (H)

Dance: SKIESUnlimited is offering Dance for ages 3-5 years old. The winter session is **Dec. 5 – Feb. 27**. Classes will be held on Mondays, 9:30-10 a.m. Please contact (309) 782-5969 for additional information.

Tumbling/Gymnastics: SKIESUnlimited is offering three sections of tumbling for ages 3-5 years old. Beginning tumbling will be held on Mondays 9-9:30 a.m. Intermediate Tumbling will be held on Mondays 10-10:50 a.m. and Thursdays 9:30-10 a.m. Please contact (309) 782-5969 for additional information.

German Language: SKIESUnlimited is offering German Language classes for the winter session, **Dec. 5 – Feb. 27**. Class for 3-5 years will be held on Mondays 3-3:30 p.m. Class for 5-18 years will be held on Mondays 4-4:45 p.m. Please contact (309) 782-5969 for additional information.

Spanish Language: SKIESUnlimited is offering Spanish Language classes for the winter session, **Dec. 1 – Feb. 23**. Classes for 3-5 years old will be held on

Thursdays 3-3:30 p.m. Classes for 5-18 years old will be held on Thursdays 4-4:45 p.m. Please contact (309) 782-5969 for additional information.

Child Care Spaces Still Available: Are you looking for top quality, affordable and convenient child care? Child, Youth & School Services currently has spaces available for Full & Part-time Preschool age care. Call (309) 782-0791 for more info and to reserve your space.

Army Community Service (ACS)

☉ ACS is located in Bldg. 110, 1st floor SE; Visit our [ACS website](#) or phone (309) 782-0829. Call ahead for special accommodations when attending ACS classes. Find us on Facebook [click here](#). 24/7 Sexual Assault Hotline: (309) 229-8412



Military Spouse Employment Partnership: Military Spouse Employment Partnership (MSEP) is a new service from the Department of Defense designed to link National and International Employers with Military Spouses (plus teens and Military



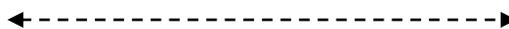
Personnel in Transition). Employment seekers can explore the employers that have been vetted and promised to give special consideration to the Military. One can also sign up to receive résumé and job search preparation assistance through Military One Source, as well as use the Job Search Tool to see their current listings locally and world-wide. Please visit www.msepjobs.com for more information.

W-4 Withholding Calculator at www.irs.gov: Time for Federal tax withholding W-4 for the year. Go to www.irs.gov; in search window type "Withholding Calculator." The calculator will ask for pertinent tax information and provide withholding methods to equalize your withholding with your potential tax liability for 2012. Need more Tax Planning assistance contact ACS (309) 782-0815.

Four New AER Categories of Assistance: Army Emergency Relief (AER) is pleased to announce the addition of four new categories of assistance: Dental Care for Family Members; Furniture; Rental Vehicles; and Replacement Vehicles. For more information please visit www.riamwr.com/acs/aer.htm or call (309) 782-0815.

Newcomer's Briefings Schedule: New to the Island and want to know all that there is to do and what's available to you here at Rock Island? If so, make sure to get signed up for one of the upcoming newcomer's briefings. Upcoming date is **Jan. 26**. Call ACS at (309) 782-0816 or stop by the office in Bldg. 110 for more info and to sign up.

Special Needs Inclusive Recreational Activities: The Quad City Sled Hockey Association is a co-ed, multi-age, inclusive sport that welcomes all persons with and without a disability. It is a sport that allows play between siblings, neighborhood friends; you can even play with your parents, teachers, and coaches. The new season has just started with plenty of time to join the fun, friendship, and opportunity for individuals of all ages and abilities to experience the benefits of team sport activities. For more information, check out [Facebook](#) or contact the Exceptional Family Member Program Manager at (309) 782-4736 or Janice.n.saito.civ@mail.mil.



Employee Assistance Program



Employee Assistance Program: For free, confidential counseling assistance or for information on services that are available, call (309) 782-4357. Normal business hours are 7 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For additional information on the Employee Assistance Program, go to www.riamwr.com or [Facebook](#).

Anonymous Online Mental Health Screening – January 2012: Beat the post-holiday blues this month by helping your community and yourself. The King Day of Service on Martin Luther King Day, **Jan. 16**, offers you the opportunity to spend a day helping your community in a direct way. The social connection and sense of shared purpose that one gains from community service can often help one feel better. However, if you haven't been feeling well lately and nothing seems to help, consider taking a free screening offered by the Rock Island Arsenal Employee Assistance Program. These screenings can help you detect common mental health conditions that you can't just snap out of. However, with treatment you can be on your way to feeling like your old self again. The screenings are available [HERE](#) enter keyword ASAP. Screenings are confidential and you will receive immediate feedback along with steps



you can take if you are concerned about your results. The Rock Island Arsenal EAP hopes you have a great start to the New Year. If you would like to learn more about King Day of Service please visit www.mlkday.gov

PTSD Support Groups: You don't have to go through this alone. The Rock Island Arsenal Health Clinic and Employee Assistance Program are sponsoring support groups to assist you through this difficult challenge. Contact Rita Baugh, EAP counselor, at (309) 782-2552 for more details.

Smoking Cessation Group: Start the New Year with a healthy plan to quit smoking. The Employee Assistance Program offers an ongoing educational support group for people who would like to quit smoking. The group meets each Wednesday, 3-4 p.m. at the EAP office located in Bldg. 110, 1st floor, SE wing.



Education/Training Review



Army Continuing Education Services: Army Continuing Education Services has new hours from 7 a.m. – 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. We are located in Bldg 56, 1st floor. We would like to

introduce our new Guidance Counselor, Stephanie Allers and new Education Technician, Jessica Shepherd. If you required assistance please stop by or call us at (309) 782-2065.

RIA Welcome Club Announce Applications For Scholarships: A fundamental principle of the Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club is to generate funds to support philanthropic endeavors within the Quad-Cities metropolitan areas. The RIAWC Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for Scholarships until **March 15**. Interested applicants may download an application from the RIAWC Web-Site, (www.riawc.org). Applications are also available at the RIAWC Arsenal Attic on Tuesday's or Thursday's from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the School Support Services Office in Bldg. 110. Once the application is completed, it should be sent to: Rock Island Welcome Club, ATTN: Scholarship Chairperson, P.O. Box 3186, Rock Island, IL 61204-3186, Applications will not be accepted after **March 15**.

Richard C. Maguire Scholarship: The Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society will again sponsor the \$1,000 Richard C. Maguire scholarship; being offered to an individual studying for a Master's degree

or Doctorate in history or a related field. Applications are available upon request at rimahoch@aol.com. Return by **May 1**.

NDIA Scholarships 2012-2013: The NDIA Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for its \$1,500 scholarships. Scholarship applications and eligibility criteria may be found by clicking on the scholarship application line at www.ndia-ia-il.org. Applications must be postmarked by **March 31** or earlier. For additional information call (563) 650-3252.

Sgt. Paul Fisher Scholarships: NDIA is now accepting applications for the awarding of two \$1,500 Sgt. Paul Fisher scholarships. Scholarship applications and eligibility criteria may be found by clicking on the scholarship application line at www.ndia-ia-il.org. Applications must be postmarked by **March 31**. For additional information call (563) 650-3252.

AER Scholarships for 2012-13 Available On-line: Army Emergency Relief (AER) scholarship on-line applications for spouses and dependent children are now available through April 2012 at www.aerhq.org and look under the Education Assistance button. For



more information call (309) 782-0815 or jon.c.cook.civ@mail.mil.

Coming Soon--USA Staffing: During FY 11 and 12, the Department of the Army is deploying a new automated, job application system called USA Staffing (USAS). The Rock Island Arsenal CPAC is currently set to transition in April. In the interim, all RIA (Army) vacancies are posted on both www.armycivilianservice.com & www.usajobs.gov. Start building your account and resume in USAS now if you haven't already done so. Please take a moment to visit the following links for additional information: www.usajobs.gov; [Application Manager](#); [Applicants Brochure](#). Stay tuned for additional announcements regarding this transition.

Defense Commissary Agency / PX

☺
The [Rock Island Commissary](#) makes fresh fruit baskets daily for you! Shopping for someone who has everything? Problem solved. They are hungry for fresh fruit. Just buy them a fruit basket and relax. Ask our friendly staff to make you one or order one in advance. Check out local specials and

get POC information [HERE](#). For information on this and other Commissaries, visit: www.commissaries.com ([Facebook](#))

PX/AMCSS Annual Inventory - Store Closing:

The PX, AMCSS, and Barber Shop will be closed on Saturday, **Jan. 21**, for the entire day for our annual inventory. The PX and AMCSS will be open regular hours on Monday, **Jan. 23**, and the Barber Shop will re-open on Tuesday, **Jan. 24**.

Commissary Surcharge Helps

Military Take Care Of Its Own: When military service members shop their commissary, they have the opportunity to save a substantial amount of money, while contributing to the improvement of the commissary system. That's because for almost 60 years, Congress has required commissaries to collect a surcharge on purchases to make them more self-sustaining. "Every time our customers shop at the commissary, they are not only saving money because we sell at cost, but they are also taking care of their own," said Joseph H. Jeu, DeCA director and CEO. "Their purchases help improve commissary facilities for their brothers and sisters in uniform." The surcharge, which has been set at five percent for more than 28 years, is used

to build replacement stores, renovate and repair existing stores, and purchase equipment such as freezers and cash registers. These funds help maintain and modernize stores at a reduced cost to taxpayers; by law, they cannot be used for any other purpose. ([More](#))

Can't Find an Item at the Commissary -- Attention All Commissary Shoppers:

Is there something you just can't find at the commissary? Just let a member of our management team know and we will see if we can bring it in for you. Your commissary - it's worth the trip.

Sales Flyers: Patrons can visit the [AAFES website](#) and sign up to receive free online sales flyers.

Arsenal Archive

☺
Information for the *Arsenal Archive* is made available by the [Rock Island Arsenal Museum](#). The Museum is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, Noon to 4 p.m. The museum is closed on Mondays and major holidays. Admission is free.



Arsenal Island Sesquicentennial

History Breaks: Next year, 2012 will mark the installation's 150th anniversary. Sponsored by the Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society and as part of the Arsenal Sesquicentennial, a "history break" will be conducted the **second Thursday** of the month from January to December. Join us in the Caisson Room, Bldg. 60, first floor, south wing, from 12-1 p.m. As these presentations occur during lunchtime, you may bring a brown bag lunch or purchase food at the adjacent food court. Employees can sign up for these professional development opportunities in [TEDs](#) (search term "History Breaks"). Due to the size of the room, participation is limited to 50. On **Jan. 12**, learn about "Rock Island Arsenal: History and Sites." Using early photographs and images of many current historic sites located on Arsenal Island, this program presents a general history of Rock Island Arsenal. Upcoming topics include a history of Quarters One, a history of the Davenport House, and "RIA by Rail: Bridging the Mississippi."



This Week in Rock Island Arsenal

History – Jan. 9-16: The mission of the RIA was significantly expanded in Jan. 11, 1962, when several of the tool and equipment engineering and assembly functions formerly performed by Rossford Ordnance Depot were transferred to the Rock Island Arsenal. Initially the Rock Island Ordnance Depot received this mission, but in May 1962 the RIA established a Tool and Equipment Division that assumed responsibility for tool and equipment engineering activities. In January 1976, Army Management Engineering Training Agency (AMETA) personnel took possession of Storehouse "K" (Bldg. 56). The remodeled building became the AMETA Annex, housing offices, and classrooms. The Secretary of War approved on Jan. 16, 1906, the transfer of RIA land from the Ordnance Department to the Engineering Corps for the construction of the Moline Locks. When Locks and Dam 15 opened in 1934, the Moline Locks were abandoned.

Healthbeat

Novartis Recalls Several Products:

The manufacturer is recalling select lots of Excedrin, NoDoz, Bufferin and Gas-

X Prevention products because the products may contain stray tablets, capsules or caplets from other drugs. The affected bottles may also contain broken or chipped tablets. Novartis Consumer Health announced the nationwide voluntary recall Sunday, January 8, 2012. The recall includes Excedrin and NoDoz with expiration dates of December 20, 2014 or earlier. It also includes Bufferin and Gas-X Prevention products with expiration dates of December 20, 2013 or earlier. ([More](#))

Health Clinic Announcement: Sick Call Hours 7-8 a.m. Clinic closings **Jan 16**, Martin Luther King Jr Birthday. Training Holiday Military, **Jan. 13**. Clinic closed Staff Meeting/Training **Jan. 27** at 11:30 a.m. For any issues or concerns with the RIAHC clinic please call our customer support line (309) 782-0721.

Notes for Veterans

Reserve Website Offers 600,000 Jobs to Veterans:

The large number of veterans coming out of the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan are a good resource for American businesses looking for great employees, said an



Army Reserve general. About 20 million veterans now reside in the United States, said Maj. Gen. Keith Thurgood, chief of staff, U.S. Army Reserve Command. The unemployment rate for those veterans that are coming out of recent conflicts is about 14-18 percent. "For some of the generational cohorts, veterans in the 18-24-year-old range, that unemployment is nearly three times the national average," Thurgood said. The national unemployment rate is about 9 percent now. ([More](#))

Car Pooling Announcements

Submit car pooling announcements via the [Island Announcements](#) page. Please use that page to contact ROCK-RIA-PA to take your announcement off once you have found a ride.

Car Pool:

- **Carpool:** Commuter living in Silvis looking for a ride to Bldg. 60. Employee works from 6:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. with the 2nd Friday off. Willing to pay for ample gas. Contact elizabeth.m.urbaniak3.civ@mail.mil or (309) 782-2817.

Around the Q.C.

Oct. 22-March 24: [Quad City Mallards](#) (iWireless Center)
Jan. 13-15: [Quad Cities Boat & Vacation Show](#) (RiverCenter)
Jan. 15-17: [21st Quad Cities Farm Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center)
Jan. 18-20: [Big Brothers Big Sisters Putt-A-Round](#) (RiverCenter, Davenport)
Jan. 20-22: [Rod & Custom Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center)
Feb. 10-12: [QC Home Builders Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center)
Feb. 10-12: [Iowa/Illinois Regional Auto Show](#) (RiverCenter)
Feb. 16-19: [Outdoor Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center)
Feb. 24-26: [RV Camping Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center)
March 23-25: [Flower & Garden Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center)
April 14: [In-Fisherman Swap Meet](#) (QCCA Expo Center)
March 3-4: [KWQC-6 Women's Health & Lifestyle Fair](#) (RiverCenter)
May 12-13: [Scott County Kennel Club AKC Dog Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center)
March 14-17: [Gathering of the Green](#) (RiverCenter)

Island Insight

Joel Himsl, Garrison Manager; Eric Cramer, Public Affairs Officer; Mark Kane, Editor

The Army publication, *Island Insight*, is an unofficial publication authorized under [AR](#)

[360-1](#) to provide information on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of, about, and of interest to the Rock Island Arsenal community. It is published weekly using word processor software and Adobe PhotoShop using Portable Document Format reproduction for online distribution with the use of federal funds under provisions of [AR 360-1](#) by the Rock Island Arsenal Garrison Public Affairs Office. Contents of *Island Insight* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Army. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Garrison or the Department of the Army. The editorial content of *Island Insight* is the responsibility of the Rock Island Arsenal Garrison Public Affairs Office. Submission of [announcements](#), articles, photos, letters, and graphic art of interest to the general readership is encouraged. All manuscripts are subject to editing and rewriting prior to publication. Postal address: Garrison Manager, 1 Rock Island Arsenal, ATTN: IMNE-RIA-PA, Rock Island, IL 61299-5000. For [submission of announcements to the Island Insight](#): usarmy.ria.imcom-central.mbx.usag-ria-pa@mail.mil; Phone: (309) 782-1121. The *Island Insight* is [available on-line](#).



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. HOLIDAY

*Remember
Celebrate
Act*

