

August 27, 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](http://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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## **Fallen Service Members Remembered at O-C Tribute:**



Sheltering from the deluge at Davenport Memorial Park on Sunday, Eric Swanson spoke of the "awesome responsibility" of looking out for the families of fallen soldiers and for those soldiers who return from war injured. The veteran helped organize the weekend-long Tribute to Our Fallen, which reached a

crescendo Sunday at the closing ceremony held under a tent erected as protection against the heavy rain. Two drenched bagpipers played "Amazing Grace" during the ceremony, as the heads of those who huddled under the tent bowed in reflection. Mr. Swanson said the emphasis of the weekend had been on the Gold Star families, those who have lost family members who served. About 70 of them gathered for a private event Saturday evening. Brig.

Gen. Kendall Penn, deputy commanding general, First Army, spoke at the closing ceremony of the gratitude he felt from the local community for the men and women who serve their country. "This event is truly a statement of support," he said. Pat Lue, of Carbon Cliff, knows what it's like to have a family member at war. Her son served three tours in Iraq. She's volunteered at the Tribute to Our Fallen for seven years. "It kept us sane while my son was in Iraq," she said. "I



was grateful when he came back, but for the other mothers that didn't get their sons back ... " ([More](#))

## **Arsenal Drill Tests First Responders:**

The crumpled remains of a car explosion, dozens injured beside a road and a man in uniform being pulled from a vehicle and tackled were



among a few scenes Thursday morning as the Rock Island Arsenal underwent a mass casualty test. Despite blood-soaked bodies, wrists that appeared to be severed and car parts lodged underneath legs, what happened at 8:30 a.m. on Arsenal Island was only a test. "This is an important event for us as we gather all of our resources both on and off the island, from the Iowa and Illinois sides," Joel Himsl, Rock Island Arsenal's garrison manager, said following the drill. Teams from the Rock Island Arsenal Fire Department were joined by first responders from Davenport, Moline and Rock Island as well as by the FBI and the American Red Cross of the Quad-Cities Area. ([More](#)) ([Dispatch](#))

## **Defense Cuts Could Cost Quad-Cities Businesses \$31 Million:**

Looming national defense cuts will eliminate about \$31 million in federal contracts for Quad-Cities businesses, according to a new report from The Center for Security Policy, a Washington, D.C.-based organization. The center, which bills itself as a nonpartisan think tank concentrating on security issues, did a detailed look at local economic impacts of a 10-year, \$500 billion cut to the nation's defense budget scheduled to go into effect Jan. 1 unless Congress reaches an agreement on broader budget issues. The reports are free and available at [forthecommondefense.org/districts](http://forthecommondefense.org/districts). ([More](#))



## **Pay Freeze to Continue into Next**

**Year:** President Obama said he will exercise his statutory authority to set an across-the-board federal civilian pay increase, but that the increase would not take effect until after the expiration of an anticipated six-month continuing resolution to fund the government. In an



# Upcoming Dates

- Aug. 28:** Read Comics In Public Day
- Aug. 29:** Marine Forces Reserve 96<sup>th</sup> Birthday
- Aug. 31: Blue Moon 🌕
- Sept. 1:** 73<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the start of WW II
- Sept. 2:** V-J Day
- Sept. 2:** 67<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Signing of the Japanese Instrument of Surrender
- Sept. 2-8:** National Suicide Prevention Week
- Sept. 3:** Labor Day (Federal Holiday)
- Sept. 8:** Federal Lands Cleanup Day
- Sept. 8-14:** National Seat Check Saturday and Child Passenger Safety Week
- Sept. 9:** National Grandparents Day
- Sept. 9-15:** National Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week
- Sept. 9-15:** National Assisted Living Week
- Sept. 10-14:** National No Bully Week
- Sept. 10:** World Suicide Prevention Day
- Sept. 11:** Patriot Day
- Sept. 14:** National Anthem's 198<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Sept. 15:** Woodsy Owl's 41<sup>st</sup>. Birthday
- Sept. 16:** Mexico's Independence Day
- Sept. 16-22:** National Adult Immunization Awareness Week
- Sept. 16-22:** National Clean Hands Week
- Sept. 16-22:** National Unmarried and Single Americans Week
- Sept. 17:** Citizenship & Constitution Day
- Sept. 18:** U.S. Air Force, Air National Guard 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday
- Sept. 18:** World Water Monitoring Day
- Sept. 19:** National Talk Like a Pirate Day
- Sept. 21:** POW/MIA Recognition Day
- Sept. 22:** First Day of Autumn (Autumnal Equinox)
- Sept. 22:** National Hunting and Fishing Day
- Sept. 22:** National Public Lands Day
- Sept. 23:** Gold Star Mother's Day
- Sept. 27:** Ancestor Appreciation Day
- Sept. 30:** Gold Star Family Remembrance Sunday



Aug. 21 letter to Senate and House leaders, the president said he would invoke authority granted to him by Title 5 of the U.S. Code to implement an alternative pay plan—in this case, a 0.5 percent 2013 pay increase for federal civilian employees covered by the General Schedule and certain other pay systems. Current locality pay percentages for 2013 would remain at 2012 levels, the letter stated. ([More](#))

## **Party Platform Takes Aim at Federal Workforce:**

The Republican Party unveiled its national platform Tuesday, revealing its plan to downsize the federal workforce, trim federal benefits and privatize airport screeners. The platform calls for a wholesale reinvention of the federal government, which has become "bloated, antiquated and unresponsive to taxpayers," according to the plan. "It is our intention not only to improve management and provide better services, but also to rethink and restructure government to bring it into the twenty-first century," the drafters of the Republican plan wrote. ([More](#))



## **Election Season, Hatch Act Don't**

**Mix:** The Hatch Act is designed to prevent corruption in politics and to protect federal employees from political influence. It restricts federal employees from any political participation in the workplace.

According to federal employment law firm Tully Rinckey PLLC, the number of Hatch Act complaints received by the Office of Special Counsel has surged in the last decade. In FY 2011, it received 451 new Hatch Act complaints, a 144% increase over the number in FY 2001. The number of warning letters issued by the OSC was up 178% in the same time period from 59 to 164. ([More](#))



## **108,000 DoD Civilians Would Lose**

**Jobs Under Sequestration:** The Defense Department would be forced to cut 108,000 civilian employees from its work force next year if automatic budget cuts take effect Jan. 1, according to a new report. Defense contractors would see more gradual cuts as existing contracts run out and are not renewed, according to the Aug. 24



report by the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments. ([More](#))

## **Army Mobilizes For First Financial Audit in Its History:**

The Army is gearing up for an audit of its "Statement of Budgetary Resources" by 2014 and an audit of all financial statements by 2017. "Gearing up for an audit affects more than just the resource management community," said James Watkins, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for Financial Operations. "It affects contracting, payroll, acquisition, logistics and other business functions. The Army is changing the way it does business and people all over the organization are seeing the impact." ([More](#))



## **Army Fire Departments Best in DoD:**

The Department of Defense's Best Large and Small Fire Departments of the Year awards have been won by Fort Benning, Ga., and Fort Meade, Md., respectively. The Fire and Emergency Services Departments at Benning and Meade earned the DOD



awards for achievements in 2011, after they were selected as best in the Army. U.S. Army Garrison Daegu, South Korea, also won Best Medium Fire Department at the Army level of competition. ([More](#))

## **Rock Island Arsenal Military Community 9-11 "Memorial Walk":**

D. Scott Welker cordially invites you to take part in a 2.25 mile 9-11 "Memorial Walk" on

**Tuesday,  
Sept. 11 at 6  
a.m.** in



memory of the more than 9,880 civilians, Soldiers, Marines, sailors, airmen, coast guardsmen, and Department of the Army civilians (as of Aug. 8, 2012) who made the ultimate sacrifice since Sept. 11, 2001. Participants will receive a bundle of 25 small U.S. Flags, each flag representing a life lost since 9-11, and asked to remember their deeds and sacrifices; we will carry their legacy into the future and forever honor their selfless sacrifices in the name of freedom. At the conclusion of the Memorial Walk, participants will humbly place their U.S. Flags in a Field of Honor, which will remain in place until just after reveille on Friday, Sept. 14. It is our sincere desire that this

Memorial Walk evokes a new sense of re-commitment to the task at hand. Tuesday, Sept. 11; assemble at 6 a.m., start at 6:30 a.m.; location: 9-11 Memorial (across from Memorial Field); Uniform: military personnel-duty uniform/patrol cap/assault pack (military backpack); civilian-casual/tennis shoes (walking attire).

## **Rock Island Arsenal Military Community 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony**

**Ceremony:** D. Scott Welker, Executive Director, US Army Sustainment Command, cordially invites you to attend a 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony on **Tuesday, Sept. 11, at 1 p.m.**, at the RIA Twin Towers Monument, in memory of the 9,880 Americans killed on Sept. 11, 2001, and the subsequent Overseas Contingency Operations. • World Trade Center: 2,606; • American Flight 11 (North Tower): 87; • United Flight 175 (South Tower): 60; • The Pentagon: 125; • American Flight 77 (The Pentagon): 59; • United Flight 93 (Shanksville, Pennsylvania): 40; • 6,530 Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen, Coast Guardsmen, and Department of



Defense Civilians (as of 8 August 2012). Uniform: Military Personnel-ASU/Class A (sister service equivalent) / civilian-casual.

## **National POW/MIA Recognition Day**

**Ceremony:** On Friday, **Sept. 21**, the Rock Island

Arsenal will host a

[POW/MIA](#)

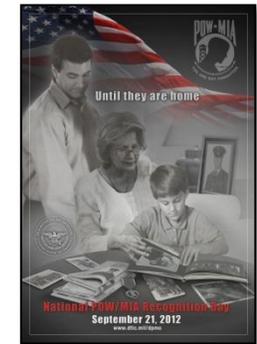
[Recognition Day](#)

[Observance](#). "Until

They Are Home" is the theme for this year's Recognition Day. The ceremony

will be held at the POW/MIA Marker on Rodman Avenue, across from the

War Remnants display, in Memorial Field, beginning at 10 a.m. Observances of National POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities. It is traditionally observed on the third Friday in September each year. This observance is one of six days throughout the year that Congress has mandated the flying of the National League of Families' POW/MIA flag. The others are Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day and Veterans



Day. ([Defense Prisoner of War \\* Missing Personnel Office Site](#))

## **CFC Essay Contest -- Tell Us Your Story:**

After numerous requests the CFC committee has decided to bring back the Essay contest. If you feel that you, a friend, or a family member has been helped by one of the thousands of agencies involved in the CFC, then this is a great opportunity to tell how one of these agencies has touched you, a friend or a family member. We will even assist you with putting your thoughts together. Please have your entries in by **Sept. 15**. I would encourage you to [see the attached flyer](#). Topic: "How CFC Has Helped Me" The essay should describe how a CFC sponsored charity such as Boy or Girl Scouts, American Cancer Society, Diabetes Foundation, Humane Society, etc., has benefitted you or your family. ([More](#)) ([Illowa CFC](#)) ([Facebook](#))

## **VIOS Schedule for September:**

Official DA Studio Photography (DA, Government Passport and Command Photos) will be offered at the Arsenal **Sept. 11, 12 and 13**. Appointments may be scheduled online by submitting a DA3903 Work Request using the [Visual](#)

[Information Ordering Site](#) for these available times: • Tuesday, **Sept. 11**, 7:20 a.m. – 3:40 p.m.; • Wednesday, **Sept. 12**, 7:20 a.m. – 3:40 p.m.; • Thursday, **Sept. 13**, 7:20 a.m. – 3:40 p.m. Click on "Frequently Asked Questions" for more information. Walk-in appointments are not available. Photographs will be taken at the Photo Studio (Bldg. 56, basement, by elevator). Priority is: 1. Active duty Soldier's DA photos; 2. Official government passport photos; 3. Official command photos; 4. DA photos for Army Reserve and Army National Guard Soldiers (not on active duty). The 8"x10" head and shoulders-command photos will be printed and available digitally. Additional prints can be ordered in VIOS. To obtain an official government passport photo: 1. Schedule a passport photo appointment at the RIA VIOS website. 2. Go to Transportation to obtain a printed DA Form 3903, Multi-Media/Visual Information work order, signed by the Passport Agent in block 14. 3. Present that DA3903 form to the photographer before the passport photo is taken. You will receive two 2"x2" passport photos. All scheduled dates can be found on the RIA VIOS website FAQ.

**Feds Feeds Families:** Congratulations Rock Island Arsenal. You helped to make the 2012 "Feds Feeds Families" food drive a great success. A special thank you goes out to the Soldiers of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command who distributed all of the collection cans, picked-up the donations weekly and delivered over 3,000 lbs of food to the River Bend Foodbank. We are sincerely appreciative of your support!

## **CAC/Military ID Office Reduced Hours:**

Attention – reduced hours in CAC/Military ID office on **Friday, Aug. 31**. Due to temporary staffing constraints, the CAC/Military ID office will take no appointment or walk-in customers after 1:30 p.m. on **Friday, Aug. 31**.

Normal operations with normal hours (6:15 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.) will return on **Tuesday, Sept. 4**. As a friendly reminder, customers of the CAC/Military ID Office should make appointments [via their website](#). Use of this scheduling tool helps ensure that all our customers receive fast, friendly service. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. Questions may be directed to: Renee



Michl, DHR, (309) 782-1320,  
[renee.j.michl.civ@mail.mil](mailto:renee.j.michl.civ@mail.mil)

**Open Season Dates:** The annual federal benefits open season will run **Nov. 12 – Dec. 10** this year. During that time, FEHB enrollees can change plans or change types or levels of coverage, and those eligible who are not enrolled can join. Plan brochures this year will have a separate section on deductibles, copayments, coinsurance, out-of-pocket limits and other costs; covered services, examples of covered services, and excluded services; and rights to continue coverage and grievance and appeal rights. OPM also is revamping its own brochure to make it more concise and easier to understand. The open season also allows enrollments or changes in the FEDVIP vision-dental insurance plan; as with FEHB, if a FEDVIP enrollee makes no changes, current enrollment will continue in the upcoming calendar year, subject to any coverage or cost changes. However, a new enrollment is required every year during the open season under the flexible spending account program.



## **FEHB 'Underserved' Areas Revised:**

The list of "medically underserved" areas for FEHB program purposes will change slightly in 2013, OPM has said. States on that list are deemed to have critical shortages of primary care physicians. The designation requires FEHB fee-for-service plans to provide benefits to participants who use any health care provider licensed to perform the medical service at issue. The new list is Alabama, Arizona, Idaho, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Wyoming. South Carolina was added and Alaska and Kentucky are being dropped. ([More](#))

**Blood Drive:** The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center is hosting a blood drive in the Caisson Room (First Floor, Bldg. 60), on **Friday, Sept. 14, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.** If you would like to donate at this blood drive, feel free to e-mail [SHoegerl@mvrbc.com](mailto:SHoegerl@mvrbc.com) with the time you'd like to schedule, or call their Donor Center at (563) 359-5401, ext. 119. A **2<sup>nd</sup> shift** blood drive will be held in the Cafeteria (Bldg. 210) beginning at **6:15 p.m. on Aug. 31**. A **3<sup>rd</sup> shift**



blood drive will be held in the Cafeteria (Bldg. 210) beginning at **2:15 a.m. on Sept. 21**. To sign up for a blood drive held on either the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> shift, donors should contact their shift supervisor.



**Donation Has It's Rewards!**  
*With Memorial Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Labor Day holidays, summer can be an especially challenging time in terms of keeping our blood supply stable. To create awareness of this need, and to thank donors who take the time to donate during the summer season, the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center will be holding a daily drawing for a \$50 gas card starting Monday, May 21 and running through Saturday, Sept. 8. Any donor who gives at Arsenal Island Blood Drives May 25 - Aug. 31 will automatically be entered into the daily drawing..*

**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](#).**

**DLA On-line Tools:** Defense Logistics Agency is promoting the availability of



on-line tools. In FY13, the primary medium for distributing the Customer Handbook and the Conversion Schedule (Julian calendar) [will be via the DLA website](#). For more info, contact DLA representatives at (309) 782-2232/3089.

## **National Veterans TEE Tournament, Sept. 9-14, Iowa City, Iowa:**

This national event provides legally blind and eligible disabled Veterans an opportunity to develop new skills and strengthen their self-esteem through adaptive golf and bowling events. Each year, the TEE Tournament uses a therapeutic format to promote rehabilitation, fellowship and camaraderie among participants. The event provides eligible Veterans with an opportunity to participate in therapeutic adaptive sporting activities which demonstrate that having a visual or physical disability need not be an obstacle to an active, rewarding life. Volunteers needed, **Sept. 9-14**, for the following positions: • Golf Buddies (no knowledge of golf needed) – help Veterans get meals, get on buses, and assure buses are loaded with equipment and supplies. • Shuttle Drivers – to



transport Veterans from QC Airport to Iowa City and back as needed. • Runners and other Miscellaneous Assistance – Volunteers are needed in all areas of the event, and any days or times that can be volunteered will be greatly appreciated. If you would like to be a Golf Buddy, contact [Kirt Sickels](#), (319) 358-5963. If you would like to help shuttle or serve in any other capacity, assuring Vets are well cared for, contact [Todd Wendling](#), (319) 621-5957. ([More](#))

**"Bridging The Gap" – Stand Down for Homeless Veterans:** Bridging The Gap-QCA will be holding a Stand Down for Homeless Veterans **Sept. 13, 14, & 15**, at the QCCA Expo Center in Rock Island. The purpose of Stand Down is to provide a one-stop-shop for homeless veterans to find homeless services. 30+ Quad-Cities area agencies are expected to attend the event to offer services to homeless veterans. "Bridging the Gap" Homeless Veterans Stand Down is more than an assemblage of services. It is a group of volunteers and participants brought together in the spirit of caring and



respect. They hope to inspire the hope, strength and will of the homeless veteran so each can gather the individual, internal energy and initiative to rebuild his or her life. Registration is required for the event and will take place **Sept. 13**, 4-6 p.m., and **Sept. 14**, 7 a.m. – 12 p.m. Leading up to the event Iowa WORKS Eastern Iowa Veterans Unit is collecting new winter weather boots, new men's and women's shoes in all sizes and monetary donations for their [17<sup>th</sup> annual "Shoes for Veterans" drive](#) thru **Sept. 7**. Donations can be dropped off at Iowa WORKS Eastern Iowa, 902 W. Kimberly Road Suite 51, Davenport (Village Shopping Mall) from 8:30-4:30 Monday-Friday. Donations will be distributed to homeless veterans at the Stand Down. In addition, [Dr. Stacey Willey, a local Chiropractor from Rock Island](#), is collecting men's socks and undergarments during the month of August, for the Stand Down. Every donator will receive a consultation, exam and X-rays for only \$39 with a donation. If the appointment is scheduled on a Wednesday during the month of August, the visit will be free with a donation. Dr. Willey's office is located at 3832 14th Ave., Rock Island. Quad-Cities Stand Down will also accept donations of socks, gloves, coats



and other cold-weather items for distribution to area homeless veterans at the Veterans Appreciation Day Football Game at St. Ambrose University at Brady Street Stadium, **Sept. 15**, at 1 p.m.

**Birdies for the Brave:** TPC Deere Run Presents -- Birdies for the Brave, Monday, **Oct. 8**, 1 p.m.

Shotgun start, at TPC Deere Run in Silvis, Ill. Birdies for the Brave



fundraising events benefit the military homefront groups that are part of the U.S. Department of Defense's America Supports You initiative. For information on each homefront group, please visit each group's individual website or go to [www.BirdiesfortheBrave.com](http://www.BirdiesfortheBrave.com).

**King's Harvest Golf Tournament:**

King's Harvest, a non-profit, is looking for golfers to play in a tournament supporting our work with homeless and needy in the Quad Cities. Email [golf-tournament@mediccombb.net](mailto:golf-tournament@mediccombb.net) for a registration form. Former Hawkeye great and NFL player Tim Dwight will be a guest golfer, his foursome to be raffled.

Date: **Friday, Sept. 14**

Time: **7:45 a.m.**

**Red Cross of the Quad Cities Annual Golf Outing at TPC Deere Run:** Hit

the greens on one of the Quad Cities' premier golf courses on **Sept. 17**. Enjoy lunch and 18 holes of golf at TPC Deere Run while supporting Red Cross services in our community. Space is limited - sign up is required by Sept. 10. Contact Allison at (309) 277-4005 for more information.

Time: **11:30 a.m.**

**2012 Cards for the Troops:** 5<sup>th</sup> Annual

Cards for the Troops, Arsenal Island Golf Club - join us for a fun evening of stamping cards for our deployed troops to mail home to loved ones. RSVP-[mssipple1@gmail.com](mailto:mssipple1@gmail.com). No stamping experience necessary. Please bring one roll of Scotch double-tape. Optional dinner at 5 p.m.; request with RSVP.

Date: **Tuesday, Sept. 25**

Time: **6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.**

**Rock Island Arsenal Historical**

**Society Meeting:** Kickapoo tribe member, Rudy Vallejo will talk about the bald eagle. If you join us for this indoor picnic, advanced reservations must be made with Linda at (563) 355-6165, by **Sept. 3**. The 7 p.m. program is free

and open to the public. For more information call Kris (309) 782-3518.

Date: **Thursday, Sept. 6**

Time: **6 p.m. Dinner; 7 p.m. Speaker**

**Arsenal Attic Thrift Shop &**

**Boutique:** Filled with great merchandise ... open every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Attention consignors: Forms now available on Facebook – log on and search for RIAWC. Consignors earn 70 percent of sale prices. Help make this the best year ever for the Thrift Shop. POC: (309) 782-6977

**Pet Vaccine Clinic:** The Great Lakes Veterinary Treatment Facility will be hosting a pet vaccination clinic on Thursday, **Sept. 6**, 1-6:30 p.m.; and Friday, **Sept. 7**, 8-11:30 a.m., at the Rock Island Arsenal Fire Station Fire Station. For more information [click here](#). POC: [corinn.hardy@us.army.mil](mailto:corinn.hardy@us.army.mil), (515) 450-2447

**Make-A-Wish 5k Run/Walk for**

**Wishes:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Walk/Run for Wishes is scheduled for **Oct. 13**, at Modern Woodmen Park. There will be a 5k fun run/walk and one-mile walk. Walk for Wishes provides an opportunity to raise funds to improve the lives of our local children with life-



threatening medical conditions by granting a wish.

Time: **10 a.m.**

## Arsenal Traffic/Construction

### Moline Arsenal Bridge Closure - Annual Roadway Sealing – Sept. 1:

The Directorate of Public Works is scheduling vehicular closure of the Arsenal Bridge on the following date/time for Annual "Roadway Sealing." Signs and barricades will be placed during the closure. Moline Arsenal Bridge: Closed for Sealing - Saturday, **Sept. 1**, 6 a.m. - 6 p.m. Rain Date: Sunday, **Sept. 2**, 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.

### Closure of Sylvan Drive, Sept. 9 – Oct. 14:

The Directorate of Public Works plans to close Sylvan Drive to all thru traffic from **Sept. 9 – Oct. 14** to repair the railroad crossing. Parking lot 2H, located West of Bldg. 208 and on the West side of Sylvan Drive will remain open and will be accessible for parking from Rodman Avenue only. All employees who park in parking lot 2H are advised to use the Davenport gate to access the parking lot from Rodman Avenue. Barricades and signage will be positioned at appropriate locations to inform employees and visitors of the

street closure and detour routes (see attached). Point of Contact is Randy Brockhouse, (309) 782-2153.

### Notice to Workforce Regarding Temporary Closures of Hillman Street:

For the safety of workers and drivers alike, we will be implementing intermittent road closures along Hillman Street in the V-Area (vicinity of buildings 332, 333, 336, 337, 340, 341, 343, 345 and 355) when workers are loading or unloading trucks. These closures will occur as necessary and the section of road that is closed will be dependent on where work is being performed. The closures will use large barricades with "Road Closed" signs attached. There will also be warning signs posted in advance of the closure area to ensure that drivers have an opportunity to take a different route. The use of barricades to close the roads will begin in the near future. Another notice will be sent to remind employees prior to implementation. At this time, we would also like to remind everyone that road closures are in place for good reason and that driving around or moving barricades to go through the road closure is not only unsafe, it is illegal and you can be issued a \$140 ticket for failure to obey a traffic control device.

**Davenport River Drive Closure:** On Tuesday, May 29, Davenport Public Works closed River Drive from Iowa Street to Oneida Ave to begin underground utility improvements and re-surfacing. This is Phase I of a three Phase project. Phase I will close River Drive until **mid to late August**. Phase II and III are not expected to close the road completely. We expect to have one lane open in each direction. Those phases will not start until Phase I is complete. Overall, River Drive is not going to be a commute of choice for several months and detours will be in place.

## Building/Space Closures

**Closure of North Entrance, West Side, Bldg. 102:** Beginning **Aug. 29**, the Directorate of Public Works will close the North entrance on the West side of Bldg. 102. This closure is necessary for replacement of the exterior deteriorated steps and sidewalk. Repairs are scheduled to be completed by **Oct. 23**. Pedestrian traffic should walk on the West side of Gillespie when traveling between South and Rodman Avenues. Signage and safety fence will be positioned at appropriate locations.



## Active Duty/Reserve Zone



### St. Ambrose University Military

#### Appreciation Day: Please help St.

Ambrose University celebrate the American military and its veterans on **Sept. 15**. First, we welcome you and your family to join us for a pancake breakfast with current SAU students at 9:30 a.m. in the Cosgrove Hall Cafeteria, 518 W. Locust St, Davenport. Parking will be available in our Gaines Street lots. Please RSVP for yourself and guests for the breakfast by **Sept. 1** at [GatesAndrewA@sau.edu](mailto:GatesAndrewA@sau.edu). Then attend the 1 p.m. Fighting Bees football game at Brady Street Stadium in Davenport. Active military and veterans admitted free with Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs ID. Thank you for your service. The family of U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Nathan Cox will conduct the pre-game coin flip in recognition of Quad Cities area Gold Star families. Sgt. Cox was a St. Ambrose student prior to being killed in action in 2008. Maj. Gen. Yves Fontaine (ret.) and Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen Blake (ret.), former leaders of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command at the



Rock Island Arsenal, will receive Fighting Bee Awards at halftime, presented by Sr. Joan Lescinski, President, and Andrew Gates, Coordinator of Veterans Recruitment and Services. Quad-Cities Stand Down will accept donations of socks, gloves, coats and other cold-weather items for distribution to area homeless veterans.

**Fueling the Future:** U.S. Army Europe's Fueling the Future initiative runs parallel to and augments the command's Fueling the Team program, and is directly related to the Army's Soldier Fueling Initiative. Fueling the Future is a program to educate and inform elementary school-aged children about nutrition and wellness and to motivate them and their families to eat healthier and be more active. ([More](#))



## Safety Spotlight



### Labor Day Holiday Safety Message

**2012:** On Sept. 3, we will celebrate Labor Day, recognizing all the hard work that has built and sustained our country. The Labor Day weekend has also come to mark the end of summer. It's a last chance to get together with family and friends, and enjoy the activities that make summer great. I

encourage every member of the Installation Management team to enjoy the long holiday weekend-just do it safely with appropriate planning and awareness. If you travel, even for a short trip, take into account increased traffic and other risk factors. Make sure your vehicle is in good working order. Let's wear seatbelts and watch our speed. When operating a motorcycle, wear your safety gear. Avoid anything that impairs your ability to drive safely-texting, drinking, lack of sleep. Do what's right, always! Leaders and first-line supervisors, you really do make a difference. As Labor Day approaches, remind your Soldiers and Civilians that accidents don't take a holiday and ensure that they include risk management in their plans, on- and off-duty. Check the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center website at <https://safety.army.mil> for more information on summer safety, including the travel risk reduction tool TRiPS. All of us should reach out to our buddies and co-workers. Check and ensure they are ready for the weekend. If there are personal issues, talk them through and be the one who prevents a suicide. Prevention information is at [www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/suicide](http://www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/suicide). If you have immediate concerns, contact the Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255. Each of you is valuable to



this Command, as is your family, and we want you all back safe. As Command Sgt. Major Rice and I visit our Garrisons, we see outstanding work. Thank you for everything you do for our Soldiers and Families every single day. Take care of each other and have a safe and great Labor Day. We can have a safe Labor Day, free of accidents and suicides. Army Strong! – *Lt. Gen. Mike Ferriter*

## **Driver Distractions – They're**

**Everywhere:** Driving requires your full attention to safely control your vehicle and respond to events happening on the roads around you. Driving involves constant and complex coordination between your mind and body. Events or things that prevent you from operating your car safely are distractions. The safe operation of your car or truck is your primary responsibility. Do not let these distractions prevent you from the safe operation of your vehicle. ([More](#))

## **Cell Phones and Other Dangerous**

**Distractions:** Many of today's workplaces and households rely heavily on cellular telephones for quick and convenient communication. It seems that we want instantaneous contact. You hear it every day, "There's no way we can do business without cell phones."

Chances are there is a cell phone in your life, used for communicating with the office while you are working in the field or with your children when they arrive home before you in the afternoon. ([More](#))

## **Bringing Leaders into Rider Training:**

The process Soldiers use to get their required motorcycling and driving training will change with the coming of the new fiscal year. Since 2007, Soldiers have used the AIRS, or the Army IMCOM Registration System, to sign up for the driving and motorcycle riding provided under the Army Traffic Safety Training Program. Performed under contract for the Army's Installation Management Command, AIRS allowed Soldiers to self-register by going to an online site, search for the training they wanted and then apply for it. The system allowed safety offices to plan riding and driving training, recognizing the needs of Soldiers at installations world-wide. However, when the contract supporting the AIRS ended, the Army needed to find another way to ensure Soldiers got the needed training. And the Army didn't have to look far for an effective solution that included the Soldiers' leadership into the process. ([More](#))

## Equal Opportunity Focus

**DoD Increases Hiring of People with Disabilities:** Government Grows Disabled Worker Ranks, Struggles to Curb Disability Discrimination: The federal government is getting better at hiring individuals with disabilities, but based upon my experiences with clients, I believe there is definitely room for improvement when it comes to how it treats such employees. The Office of Personnel recently released a report showing that the ranks of disabled individuals employed by the Executive Branch rose over the year by 9 percent to 204,189 in fiscal year 2011. This growth was driven in part by President Barack Obama's Executive Order 13548, which was issued in July 2010 and set the goal of hiring 100,000 people with disabilities over five years. ([More](#))

## Morale, Welfare & Recreation (MWR)

**Morale, Welfare & Recreation (MWR):** Visit the MWR website at [www.riamwr.com](http://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.

**Ghost Hunters' Dinners at Historic Quarters One:** The ever-popular Ghost Hunters' Dinners are back for 2012. Enjoy a gourmet meal at the Clubhouse followed by a presentation by the Rock Island Paranormal Society on the haunted history of Historic Quarters One. After the presentation, armed only with flashlights, guests are invited to search this beautiful building for evidence of the paranormal. The dates planned for 2012 are: **Oct. 1, Oct. 13, and Oct. 31.** Cost is \$45/person and reservations are strongly recommended as these fill up fast. Call (309) 793-1601 for more info and to reserve your spots. ([Flyer](#))



**Oil Change Special at the Auto Shop:** The Auto Shop is offering an Oil Change Special in celebration of October being Car Care Month. Stop in anytime in October and receive standard oil and filter change (up to 5 quarts) for only \$20. Please call (309) 782-8631 to schedule an appointment.

**Free Fall Vehicle Inspection:** Stop by the Auto Shop on **Oct. 27**, 9 a.m. – 2

p.m. for a free Fall vehicle inspection. This free inspection includes fluid levels, tires, suspension and more. Perfect opportunity to get your vehicle ready for the winter. Please call (309) 782-8631 for more information.

**Oil Change Clinic:** Let the pros of the Auto Shop teach you how to change the oil in your vehicle. There will be an Oil Change Clinic on **Oct. 24**, 5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Cost is only \$5. Please call (309) 782-8631 to sign up.

**Pay the Week Day Rate on Labor Day Weekend at the Arsenal Island Golf Course:** In celebration of Labor Day, all of you working stiffs who can't get the week day rate will get it all weekend. That's right, pay the week day rate on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. (**Sept. 1-3**). Call (309) 793-1604 for more info and to reserve your tee time.

**Arsenal Island Golf Course Is Celebrating 2 Years of Public Play:** September marks the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Arsenal Island Golf Course becoming a public course. Come help the most historic golf course in the Quad Cities celebrate with some of the great deals we have going on. Head over to [www.facebook.com/ArsenalIslandGolf](http://www.facebook.com/ArsenalIslandGolf)

or call (309) 793-1604 for more information.

**Now Booking Holiday Parties at the Golf Clubhouse:** Although it's probably tough to think about holiday season with all this hot weather, it's time to start considering where you'll be holding your holiday get-togethers this season. Let our experienced and profession banquet and catering staff help plan your event to ensure that your party is the one that everyone will talk about for years to come. Call Damen at (309) 782-4372 for more info and to reserve your dates.

**Want a Free Bucket of Range Balls?:** All you have to do is 'like' the [Arsenal Island Golf Course Facebook page](#) between now and Labor Day (**Sept. 3**) and we'll give you a free bucket of range balls! ([Flyer](#))

**New MWR Website:** Come check out our new and improved MWR website at [www.riamwr.com](http://www.riamwr.com) for information on all things MWR. We hope that this new layout will make it easier for you to navigate to the information that you need. Please bear with us as we continue to transition all of the files and links from the old web server. If you cannot find the information that you are looking for or just need help navigating



the new layout please feel free to call the MWR marketing office for assistance at (309) 782-4420.

**Electronic Marquee Outage:** The operating system used to update the outdoor marquee signs on either side of the Island has become obsolete and inoperable. Consequently no requests for messages can be fulfilled and the signs have been shut off at this time. The Garrison is working towards a solution and a future message will be sent out as information becomes available about whether the signs can be repaired or replaced.

**Outdoor Grill 350:** The Grill in front of Bldg. 350 will be open on Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., weather permitting.



## 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](#))

**Downtown Chicago Shopping Trip:** Let the Leisure Travel Office handle the transportation and you concentrate on

the shopping. Cost is \$41 per person ... sign up now.

Date: **Saturday, Dec. 15**  
Time: **6:30 a.m.**

**Woodfield Mall Shopping Trip:** Join us for a fun day of shopping at the Woodfield Mall in Schaumburg, Ill. More than 300 stores and restaurants to choose from. Get your seat soon because this bus trip is a sellout.

Date: **Saturday, Nov. 10**  
Time: **6:30 a.m.**

**Six Flags Fright Fest:** Fright Fest at Six Flags Great America is one of the most terrifying Halloween events in the world! With numerous horrifyingly delightful haunted mazes, shows and rides, you and your friends will have the fright of your life. Fright Fest is every weekend in October. Tickets are on sale for \$38 at the LTO.

**Adventureland Tickets Sold-Out at Leisure Travel:** The Leisure Travel Office has sold the last of their supply of discount tickets for 2012. We still have plenty of Six Flags Great America and Six Flags St. Louis tickets though, so stop on by Bldg. 60 for your discount tickets today or call (309) 782-5890 for more info.

**WDW and Universal Tickets:** Leisure Travel cannot order tickets to Walt Disney World or Universal Studios starting Wednesday, **Sept. 12** until Wednesday, **Sept. 26**.

**Historical Quarters One:** Did you know you can rent Historical Quarters One for all of your special events? Give Anna or Eric a call at Leisure Travel for more details (309) 782-5890.

**Noah's Ark Waterpark:** Wisconsin Dells America's largest water park, with 49 water slides and dozens of other various attractions. Leisure Travel has discounted one-day admission tickets for \$30.

**Circa 21 Presents: Smokey Joes Café:** The timeless songs of the golden age of rock 'n' roll come alive in this electrifying production. You will laugh, shout and sing along to more than 40 of the greatest songs ever recorded. Revisit the neighborhoods of the 1950s, 60s and 70s. Seats on sale until **Oct. 1** for \$43.50.

Date: **Saturday, Oct. 13**  
Time: **5:45 p.m.**



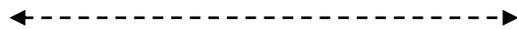
## Child, Youth & School Services





## **Covenant Cottage Child Development**

**Home:** [Covenant Cottage Child Development Home](#) is available for backup, emergency, and hourly care for ages four weeks through 12 years. The home is located on post and is open from 6 a.m. – 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. Army Family Covenant Guidelines state deployed Soldiers are entitled to 16 hours free respite childcare per child, per month. For reservations call (309) 782-6793. We encourage you to call as far in advance as possible because spaces fill quickly.



## Army Community Service (ACS)



ACS is located in Bldg. 110, 1<sup>st</sup> 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



## Employee Assistance Program



**For free, confidential counseling assistance or for information on services that are available, call (309) 782-4357. Normal business hours are from 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday - Friday. For additional information on the Employee Assistance Program see [our website](#) or visit us on [Facebook](#). The new location for the EAP/ASAP is Bldg. 56, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, East.**

### **Prescription Drug Take-Back Day:**

More Americans currently abuse prescription drugs than the number of those using cocaine, hallucinogens, and heroin combined, according to the 2009 National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Each day, approximately 2,500 teens use prescription drugs to get high for the first time according to the Partnership for a Drug Free America. Studies show that individuals who abuse prescription drugs often obtain them from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. Also, there has been a drastic increase in the amount of hospital visits due to poisonings from medication for children five and under. In addition, many Americans do not know how to properly dispose of their unused medicine, often flushing them

down the toilet or throwing them away which are both potential safety and health hazards. Free your mind from the worry of old and expired medication going missing. The Army Substance Abuse Program is providing an opportunity to dispose of your unused and expired prescription drugs. On **Sept. 11 and 12**, the ASAP and Law Enforcement will be collecting unused and expired prescription drugs at the following places and times: • **Sept. 11**, 5:30-8:30 a.m.; and 2:30-4:45 p.m. at Memorial Field Parking lot. • **Sept. 12**, 5:30-8:30 a.m.; and 2:30-4:45 p.m., in the Arsenal Fire Station Bay. Participants bringing in unused or expired prescription drugs for disposal will receive a free coffee mug or gel stress ball. For more information about the prescription drug take-back day call the EAP/ASAP at (309) 782-4357.

### **Suicide Awareness Month –**

**September 2012:** Would you know what to do if someone told you they didn't want to live anymore? Each year, almost 30,000 people die by suicide in the US, and seventy percent of those give warning signs or tell someone about it in advance. Friends and family members are often the best resources to prevent suicide. If someone you care about is saying things like: 'Life isn't



worth living,’ ‘I won’t be around to deal with that,’ or ‘I just can’t deal with everything—life is too hard,’ seek help immediately. Talking to a friend or loved one about suicide can be scary, but keeping it a secret can often lead to tragic results. Suicide is a fatal response to a treatable, and reversible, condition – that condition most often being depression. In observance of Suicide Prevention Month, the Rock Island Arsenal Employee Assistance Program would like to remind you of the free and confidential services offered to you and your immediate family members. Master-level counselors provide short-term counseling and referral services and are available to respond to any concerns you may have about yourself or others in your life. Warning signs of suicide (Call 9-1-1 or seek immediate help from a mental health provider when you notice the following): • Someone threatening to hurt or kill him/herself, or talking of wanting to hurt or kill him/herself; • Someone looking for ways to kill him/herself by seeking access to firearms, available pills, or other means. Seek help by contacting an EAP counselor, a mental health professional or by calling 1-800-273-TALK for a referral should you notice anyone exhibiting any one or more of the following: • Hopelessness; • Rage,

uncontrolled anger, seeking revenge; • Acting reckless or engaging in risky activities, seemingly without thinking; • Feeling trapped - like there’s no way out; • Increased alcohol or drug use; • Withdrawing from friends, family and society; • Anxiety, agitation, inability to sleep or sleeping all the time; • Dramatic mood changes; • Excessive interest, talk or writings focused on death, dying or suicide; • No reason for living; no sense of purpose in life. ([Army Article](#))

**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 fall season 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. 56, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, East.



## Education/Training Review



**The Rock Island Army Education Center is located in Bldg. 56, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, west end of the building. Office hours: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday. Phone: (309) 782-2065 Fax: (309) 782-7901. Please visit our [website](#) to learn more.**

### **Military Skills to Get Civilian Certifications – Initiative to Help Soldiers Get Jobs After the Army:**

President Barack Obama announced June 1 a new military-to-civilian certification initiative aimed at preparing service members for civilian employment. “Let me tell you something — if you can save a life on the battlefield, you can save a life in an ambulance” Obama said. “If you can oversee a convoy or millions of dollars of assets in Iraq, you can help manage a supply chain or balance its books here at home.” The President followed up by stating, “Today, I’m proud to announce new partnerships between the military and manufacturing groups that will make it easier for companies to hire returning service members who prove they’ve earned the skills our country needs.” The initiative will enable service members to obtain civilian credentials and certifications in high-demand industries free of charge. The services



will also explore how credentialing opportunities can be integrated into existing military training programs. Partnership programs start this year in the manufacturing, machining, logistics, and welding fields. ([More about the initiative](#)) To learn more about current military-to-civilian certifications, visit the Army Credentialing Opportunities Online site: <https://www.cool.army.mil>

**Achieving Results Through Customer Satisfaction and Loyalty:** St. Ambrose University's College of Business is hosting an academic conference **Oct. 12** to teach, discuss, and exchange ideas on the best practices of developing and maintaining customer loyalty in organizations. The conference will foster intellectual stimulation in the community and improve the knowledge of the participants on best practices in the workplace. The all day conference will be held in the Rogalski Center on the St. Ambrose campus. The 12 75-minute breakout sessions will be targeted to participants to meet their current needs regarding customer satisfaction and loyalty in their respective organizations. The target market will be high to mid-level employees from mid to large size organizations in the Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois region. ([More](#))

## **CCME Announces 2012 Scholarship**

**Application:** The Council of College and Military Educators offers \$1,000 scholarships each year to Service members (active duty and veterans) and their spouses working towards higher education degrees. Applicants must submit the [on-line CCME Scholarship Application](#) by **Oct. 1**. The three scholarships are: • CCME Joe King Scholarship (5 awards) applicant must be a uniformed service member (active, reserves, guard). • CCME Spouse Scholarship (5 awards) applicant must be the spouse of a uniformed service member (active, reserves, guard, veteran). • CCME Veteran Scholarship (5 awards) applicant must be a prior uniformed service member (active, reserves, guard).

## **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](http://www.commissaries.com) ([Facebook](#))**

**Food Safety Alerts:** For information about the latest food-safety alerts and product recalls affecting military commissaries, visit [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com) and click on the Food & Product Recalls under the Quick Links box on the front page. For general food-safety information, visit the website and choose Food Safety at the bottom of the page.

**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 to the public, Tuesday through Saturday, 12-4 pm. Closed Sunday, Monday, federal holidays, the Friday after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Eve. Admission is free.**

**Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society Meeting:** Kickapoo tribe



member, Rudy Vallejo will talk about the bald eagle. If you join us for this indoor picnic, advanced reservations must be made with Linda at (563) 355-6165, by **Sept. 3**. The 7 p.m. program is free and open to the public. For more information call Kris (309) 782-3518.

Date: **Thursday, Sept. 6**

Time: **6 p.m. Dinner; 7 p.m. Speaker**

**RIA 150 History Break:** Think about taking a "History Break" to celebrate Rock Island Arsenal's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, **Sept. 13**, Ron

Deiss,

Archeologist,  
Rock Island  
District, U.S.

Army Corps of

Engineers, will talk

about "[Landscape Photography of the](#)

[Upper Mississippi River Taken by](#)

[Henry Bosse](#)." Content: One of the

Mississippi River's greatest

photographers, [Henry P. Bosse](#), created

blue or cyanotype photographs that

documented the U.S. Army Corps of

Engineers' early work on the Upper

Mississippi River, the working boats on

the river, railroad and wagon bridges,

and cities and town. Together, these

images comprise a rich essay on the

evolution of one of the world's greatest



ivers --The Mississippi. Sponsored by the Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society, these lunch and learns will be held the second Thursday of each month in 2012. **Join us in the Caisson Room, Bldg. 60, first floor, south wing, 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"). If you don't have access to [TEDs](#), please call Kris Leinicke at (309) 782-3518 to make a reservation. Due to the size of the Caisson Room, participation is limited to 50. Upcoming presentations include: On **Oct. 11**, Kris Leinicke, Rock Island Museum, will present "Rock Island Barracks." On **Nov. 8**, John Punkiewicz or Lou Ann McCracken, Rock Island District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will present "Mississippi River Navigation History." On **Dec. 13**, Ron Deiss, Rock Island District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will present a Heritage Documentaries video, "[The Rock Island Civil War Prison: Andersonville of the North?](#)"

### **This Week in Rock Island Arsenal**

**History – Aug. 27-Sept.2:** On Aug. 28, 1868, Bvt. Major Gen. Lorenzo Thomas,

Inspector of National Cemeteries visited the RIA. General Thomas recommended that the cemetery be relocated on higher ground at the east end of the island. The cemetery was moved to its present location. The first case of Spanish Influenza appeared at RIA on Aug. 29, 1918. By Nov. 9, 1918, 73 more cases and nine cases of pneumonia had been diagnosed at RIA post hospital. On Sept. 1, 1863, excavation for the first permanent RIA building (Clock Tower) began. In September 1866, the RIA took possession of wagon bridge to village of Rock Island.

## Healthbeat

### **800 Q-C Residents Sought For Cancer**

**Study:** Why do some people get cancer and others don't? Quad-Citians have the chance to help answer that question by participating in the American Cancer Society's nationwide Cancer Prevention Study-3. A news conference Tuesday at Two Rivers YMCA in Moline provided details about the study, which will examine how variables such as lifestyle, behaviors, the environment and genetics cause or prevent cancer. It gets into the science of "why," said Jay Willsher, chief operating officer of Trinity Regional Health System. Mr. Willsher



quoted a volunteer at an enrollment site in Colorado, who said everyone knows smoking cigarettes causes lung cancer. But "few realize that it took three years, 22,000 volunteers and 188,000 study participants to prove it." That, he said, was a great way to describe what impact CPS-3 could have on cancer prevention. ([More](#))

**National Immunization & Influenza Vaccination Awareness Month:** The month of August has been designated as National Immunization & Influenza Vaccination Awareness Month. It is critically important that every Soldier, family member, Department of the Army civilian and health beneficiary receive all required immunizations and obtain their influenza vaccinations to ensure the Army is a healthy and mission ready force. ([More](#))

**Health Clinic Announcement:** Clinic closed Thursday, Staff Meeting/Training **Aug. 30** 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



### **Complicated Claims Slow Down VA**

**Payments:** More complex disability claims filed by new veterans and supplemental claims for increased benefits appear to be the major factors in the large and still growing backlog of unprocessed claims. Veterans Affairs Department officials have cited complexity as one reason for a backlog of 866,928 compensation and pension claims piled up at VA regional offices, including 575,711 that are more than 125 days old. VA data show that Iraq- and Afghanistan-era veterans are averaging slightly more than nine disability issues per claim, far more than any other generation of veterans since World War II. Gerald Manar of Veterans of Foreign Wars said he has seen claims with up to 75 separate disability issues — and has heard of one that lists 125 disabilities. ([More](#))

### **VA Reports Tout Improvements in**

**Care for Women Vets:** In what should be good news for the growing number of women joining the ranks of military veterans, two new reports from the Department of Veterans Affairs indicate a narrowing of the gender gap since 2008 in the quality of the care and services the department provides for women vets. VA said that the improvements are apparent in a set of

measures called the Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS), which VA said are used by most U.S. health plans to measure performance on aspects of health care such as screening, prevention and chronic disease management. According to the department, "VA consistently scores higher than private sector health care on both gender-specific and gender-neutral HEDIS measures." VA said the measures indicated improvements in gender disparities in 12 of 14 areas. The scores were examined in a recently released VA report titled "Gender Differences in Performance Measures." ([More](#))

## Car Pooling Announcements



Submit car pooling announcements via the [Island Insight submission page](#). Please use that page to contact Garrison Public Affairs to take your announcement off once you have found a ride.

## Car Pool:

- **Car Pool:** Looking to join a car pool or ride and pay. IL 84 southbound Fulton/ Albany/ Cordova area. Interested text me at (563) 650-8791.



- **Carpool:** Looking for members to join carpool along the Hwy. 61 corridor from Dubuque to Rock Island Arsenal, 2<sup>nd</sup> shift 2:15-10:30 p.m. Starting in the middle April. [Email](#) or call (815) 651-4624.
- **Carpool:** Commuter living in Rio, Ill., looking for someone to carpool with from Galesburg/Alpha area. Employee works 6 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. w/RDO 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of Pay period. [Email](#) or call (309) 782-5472.



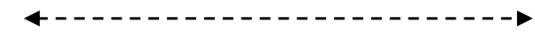
## Around the Q.C.



- Aug. 28-Sept. 5:** [ASA Girls 12U Fastpitch Tournament](#) (Greenvalley Sports Complex, Moline)
- Aug. 30-Sept. 2:** [Antique Motorcycle Swap Meet](#) (Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds)
- Sept. 1:** [8th Annual Labor Day Ride For Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma](#) (The District)
- Sept. 1-2:** [Quad City Air Show](#) (Davenport Municipal Airport)
- Sept. 1-2:** [Rock Island Grand Prix](#) (Downtown Rock Island)
- Sept. 3:** [Bettendorf Rotary 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Run with Carl 5K](#) (Life Fitness Center, Bettendorf)
- Sept. 6:** [13<sup>th</sup> Annual Senior Golf Cart Tour of RiverWay Trails](#) (Multiple Locations)
- Sept. 6:** [911 Barbeque](#) (East Moline Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, 430 30th Ave, East Moline)
- Sept. 7-16:** [East West Riverfest](#) (Quad Cities)

- Sept. 8:** [Quad City Symphony Riverfront Pops](#) (LeClaire Park)
- Sept. 8-9:** [Beaux Arts Fair](#) (Downtown Davenport)
- Sept. 13-15:** ["Bridging The Gap" – Stand Down for Homeless Veterans](#) (QCCA, Rock Island)
- Sept. 15:** [Taming of the Slough](#) (Sylvan Island)
- Sept. 15:** [Brew Ha Ha](#) (LeClaire Park)
- Sept. 15:** [Celtic Festival & Highland Games](#) (Centennial Park, Davenport)
- Sept. 15:** [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (SouthPark Mall, Moline)
- Sept. 15-16:** [Riverssance Festival of Fine Arts](#) (Lindsay Park, Village of East Davenport)
- Sept. 19-21:** [Upper Mississippi River Conference](#) (TBD)
- Sept. 21:** POW/MIA Recognition Day Observance (Rock Island Arsenal POW/MIA Marker)
- Sept. 21-22:** [Our Big Fat Greek Festival](#) (St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Rock Island)
- Sept. 22-23:** [Quad Cities Kite Festival](#) (Centennial Park, Davenport)
- Sept. 23:** [Quad Cities Marathon](#) (Downtown Moline)
- Sept. 27-29:** [Mississippi Valley Quilters Show](#) (Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds)
- Sept. 28-30:** [Hot Air Balloon Festival](#) (Kennedy Square, East Moline)
- Sept. 29:** [17<sup>th</sup> Annual Killer Bee 5K Run/Walk](#) (Rogalski Center Lawn, St. Ambrose Campus)
- Oct. 5-6:** [Midwest Clown Association Convention](#) (Clarion Hotel Conf. Center, Davenport)
- Oct. 6:** [Hilltop Campus Village 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fall Music Festival](#) (Hilltop Park, Davenport)

- Oct. 6:** [Light the Night Walk](#) (Modern Woodmen Park, Davenport)
- Oct. 7:** [Nancy Kapheim Memorial Classic Gone Running 5K Run/Walk](#) (Schwiebert Park, Rock Island)
- Oct. 13:** [3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Walk/Run for Wishes](#) (Modern Woodmen Park)
- Oct. 13:** [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (SouthPark Mall, Moline)
- Oct. 13-14:** [Gun Show](#) (Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds)
- Oct. 23-28:** [FLW National Guard Walleye Tournament](#) (Centennial Park, Davenport)
- Oct. 25:** [Fright Night](#) (The District)
- Oct. 26:** [Bucktown's Deadstock](#) (Bucktown)
- Oct. 27:** [Witches Walk](#) (Downtown LeClaire)
- Oct. 27:** [Daiquiri Factory's Boneyard Boogie](#) (The District)
- Oct. 27-28:** [Rock and Gem Show](#) (Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds)
- Nov. 11:** [Doll Show](#) (Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds)
- Nov. 16-25:** [Quad City Arts Festival of Trees](#) (RiverCenter)
- Nov. 17:** [Festival of Trees Parade](#) (Downtown Davenport)
- Nov. 17:** [Lighting on the John Deere Commons & Holiday Pops Concert](#) (Downtown Moline)
- Dec. 1-14:** [Season of Light-Star of Bethlehem](#) (Augustana College Planetarium)
- Dec. 2:** [19<sup>th</sup> Century Christmas](#) (Butterworth Center, Moline)
- Dec. 7:** [Gallery Hop!](#) (The District)
- Dec. 8-9:** [131<sup>st</sup> Annual Performance of Handel's Messiah](#) (Centennial Hall, Augustana College)



## Island Insight



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