



April 20, 2015

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 Garrison Internet page under "Information" and on the installation website at www.usagria.army.mil under "News" and then "Local News."

Island Insight Submission: <https://home.ria.army.mil/sites/ii/ii.cfm>

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First Army Working Group Coordinates Future Warfighting Training

Ensuring commanders and Soldiers have training opportunities to hone their warfighting skills was the focus of a Training Support and Synchronization Working Group held this week in First Army headquarters here. In his remarks



to the First Army, Army National Guard and Army Reserve senior leaders in the group, First Army Commanding General, Lt. Gen. Michael S. Tucker, emphasized the importance of challenging, realistic training events for reserve-component units. "Making command decisions in the field on the employment of his or her forces is the crucible that allows commanders to grow to be leaders. We owe them that," Tucker said. He cautioned that if training opportunities aren't seized, "We're going to have brigade commanders who have never commanded a battalion in the field, or they may command a brigade and never take it to the field. We need to flesh this out and have no unit and no leader left behind. ([More](#))

Upcoming Dates

- April 24:** SAAM Run/Walk, RIA Memorial Park, 6:20 a.m.
- April 24:** Walk-in Pet Clinic, RIA Fire Dept., 1-6 p.m.
- April 25:** Murder Mystery Dinner, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 6 p.m.
- Feb. 26:** Council of Colonels, Arsenal Island Clubhouse Veranda, 11:30 a.m.
- April 28:** Volunteer Recruitment & Training, ACS Bldg. 110, 9 a.m.
- April 28:** Military Spouse Fun Night, ACS/USO, Bldg. 110, 6 p.m.
- April 29-30:** Spring Vendor Fair, Heritage Hall, Bldg. 60, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- May 1:** Sponsorship Training, ACS Bldg. 110, 12 p.m.
- May 1:** Island Wide Social, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 4 p.m.
- May 2:** RIA MWR Army 10-miler Qualifying Run, RIA Sports Complex, 6:30 a.m.
- May 2:** Pretty In Pink Doll Party, Quarters One, 1 p.m.
- May 5-7:** DA Photos, Bldg. 56 Basement, 7:20 a.m.
- May 5:** Overseas Orientation Briefing, ACS Bldg. 110, 9:30 a.m.
- May 8:** Cinco de Mayo Golf Scramble, Arsenal Island Golf Course, 9 a.m.
- May 8:** Military Spouse Appreciation Day, ACS/USO, Bldg. 110, 10 a.m.
- May 8:** Advanced Résumé Class, Bldg. 103, Baylor Conf. Rm, 1:30 p.m.
- May 10:** Mother's Day Brunch Buffet, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 10:30 a.m.
- May 15:** Hearts Apart Support Group, ACS Bldg. 110, 10 a.m.

Arsenal Holds Job Fair for Soldiers, Veterans

A job fair had the Rock Island Arsenal packed with people looking for work today. Soldiers and veterans got a chance to meet representatives from 60 companies and 20 academic institutions to see what careers are available as well as educational training. Plenty of people from Illinois and Iowa were there. "You can hear the buzz in the room right now," said Kathy Anderson, Program Manager of Home Base Iowa. "This career fair at the Rock Island Arsenal will be incredibly helpful, in terms of making sure those transitioning and retiring service members land well and they're employed at great companies." Organizers say today's event exceeded their expectations. If you couldn't make it, you can still learn more about the resources here. ([More](#))



ASC Helps Vets Find Jobs, Further Education

Members of U.S. Army Sustainment Command represented the command at an employment and education event in Heritage Hall, April 15. The event, hosted by U.S. Army Garrison -- RIA, was intended to create opportunities within the community for employment, education, training and networking. Melinda Verstraete, G-1 (Human Resources), ASC, represented ASC at the event. "The turnout today was excellent," she said. "It's very unfortunate that so many veterans are unemployed, but it's a very positive thing to see so many people here where we can assist them in finding employment and making them aware of the programs available to them." ([More](#))



With Online Learning for Feds, OPM Sees Narrowed Skills Gap

Federal employees and their families can now add online college to the list of benefits offered by the government. Following up on the success of its first continuing education program, the Office of Personnel Management on Monday announced its partnership with Champlain College, a 137-year-old private college based in Burlington, Vermont. Federal workers and their spouses will be able to enroll in degree or certificate programs before the start of the summer 2015 semester. The admission deadline is June 5. ([More](#))



Proposal to Change Commissary Workers' Status

A significant gap in wages and benefits offered to commissary workers and exchange employees doing the same jobs appears to be rooted in a simple fact: The Defense Commissary Agency is funded by taxpayer dollars, while the exchanges are self-supporting businesses that pay their employees out of store profits. Converting commissary employees to the same pay scale as exchange employees — the nonappropriated fund system — would save DeCA about \$110 million a year in staffing costs, according to a recommendation from the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission. ([More](#))



Proposals Could Require Federal Employees to Pay More

Congress is back at work from a two-week recess, but key issues involving federal employee benefits addressed in budget plans passed by both chambers are on the congressional back burner at least temporarily. The budget measures differed in various ways, although both would require employees to pay higher retirement contributions on the order of six percent of salary more. They also assumecuts to achieve spending limits, which the House, at least, assumes would be done by

targeting the FERS “special retirement supplement” and the government’s contributions to FEHB premiums, reducing the rates of return in the TSP’s government securities G fund, and cutting the federal workforce by attrition. ([More](#))

Army Fire & Emergency Services

Army Fire & Emergency Services is part of the garrison Director of Emergency Services providing professional structural and aircraft fire protection, confined space and technical rescue, hazardous materials response, wildland firefighting, emergency medical services support, fire prevention and public education services, and other emergency related services tailored around the needs of each garrison. Army F&ES professionals are nationally certified in a multitude of related disciplines including hazardous materials response, confined space rescue, technical rescue, National Incident Management System command and control, structural and aircraft firefighting and rescue. The fire prevention professionals meet all of the above certifications and are certified in design document reviews, construction safety practices, the Life Safety Code, risk analysis processes, public education techniques, and similar related areas. The firefighters undergo training on a regular basis to maintain these critical certifications. ([More](#))

Café Cashier Trial

Dear valued Company Kitchen/Treat America customer, effective April 20, for a trial period of 30 business days, the Bldg. 60 café will offer a cashier station. This trial will end **May 29**. The cashier station will be available for breakfast 7-9 a.m., and for lunch 10:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. The cashier station process will entail the following: • Customers will still have to pay for their meals first; • You will come to the station; • The cashier will ring up your order; • You will pay and receive any change; • Your order will then be processed, your ticket will print at the proper station; • You receive your food; • There will still be two self-service kiosks available for use in Bldg. 60’s café. If you have any questions regarding the upcoming changes please feel free to contact me at rockisland60@tafoodservices.com. Thank you for your continued patronage.

– *Camellia Austin, Rock Island Arsenal Manager, Treat America Food Services*



Corps to Host Boating Safety Classes

Boating can be a fun and entertaining summer activity but one close call on the water can end it all. To help get ready for the upcoming boating season, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi River Project will be offering free boating safety education classes at the Mississippi River Project Office in Pleasant Valley, Iowa. Classes will be offered **April 25** and **May 2**. Only one eight-hour class is required to complete certification. Pre-registration is required, space is limited, and the classes fill quickly. To register, contact the park rangers at (309) 794-5338.



Blood Drives

The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center is hosting a blood drive in the room outside the Lock and Dam Lounge (in Bldg. 60), on **Friday, May 8 & 15, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.** If you would like to donate at this blood drive, feel free to e-mail SHoegerl@mvrbc.com with the time you’d like to schedule, or call their Donor Center at 563-359-5401, ext. 119. There will also be a **3rd Shift** blood drives in the Bldg. 211



Cafeteria on Thursday nights, **May 22 & 29**. These drives begin at 2:15 am. Donors should see their Supervisors to sign up. **Also, a slight change in that every donor must present photo ID or a blood donor card to be eligible to donate blood. Arsenal badges are acceptable.**

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](#).

VIOS Schedule for May and June

Official DA Studio Photography (DA, Government passport and command photos) will be offered at Rock Island Arsenal on **May 5, 6, 7** and **June 9, 10, 11**. Appointments may be scheduled online by submitting a DA Form 3903 Work Request using the [Visual Information Ordering Site](#) for the available times: 7:20 a.m. - 3:40 p.m. Click on "Frequently Asked Questions" on the [VIOS site](#) 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 DA Form 3903 to the photographer before the passport photo is taken. You will receive two 2" x 2" passport photos. All scheduled dates can be found on the [RIA VIOS website](#) FAQ.

Walk-In Pet Vaccination Clinic

The Great Lakes Veterinary Services will be hosting a pet vaccination clinic Thursday, **April 23**, 1-6 p.m.; and Friday, **April 24**, 8 a.m. – 12 p.m., at the Rock Island Arsenal Fire Department. All active duty military, military reserve and National Guard, military retirees, and dependents with valid identification cards are eligible to use this service. There is a charge for all services provided with payment in cash or check only. Please see [our website](#) for prices. Questions? Please call at (847) 688-5740 ext. 4.



RIA SAAM Walk/Run

The Rock Island Arsenal SHARP Team invites you to help raise awareness against sexual assault by participating in the Rock Island Arsenal Sexual Assault Awareness Month Walk/Run on Friday, **April 24**, at 6:15 a.m., beginning at the Memorial Field parking lot. The theme for SAAPM is "Eliminate Sexual Assault: Know your Part, Do your Part." Please, no pets allowed at the event.

Honor Flight Golf Outing

Join us for the Inaugural R.I.A. Federal Credit Union Honor Flight Golf Outing, Friday, **April 24**. Check-in begins 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$300/team or \$75/person. There's a 36 team limit. Lunch will be provided at check-in. A 19th Hole Party at the Clubhouse is also included. Proceeds will benefit Honor Flight of the Quad Cities. Send registration and/or sponsorship payment(s) to: Jake Ward, R.I.A. FCU, PO Box 4750, Rock Island, IL 61204. POC for the event is Jake at 563-355-3800 ext. 7004 or jward@riafcu.com.

Davenport Army Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps 8th Annual "Blue Devil" Raider Challenge

The Davenport Army Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps is hosting the 8th Annual "Blue Devil" Raider Challenge, at Naval Operations Support Center Rock Island, Bldg. 218, on Saturday, **May 2**. High Schools from Iowa, Michigan, and Wisconsin, are participating in the challenge. The challenge will start approximately 7 a.m. with the award ceremony at 3 p.m. The challenge is five major events: Army PT Test, Rope Bridge, Raider Challenge Course, Surprise event and 10K road march. Come out and support your local Army JROTC! For additional information contact 563-323-9900, x113; or moralezj@davenport.k12.ia.us.



RIA Ladies Golf League

Looking for evenings of fun and fellowship? If so, the RIA Ladies Golf League is the place. The league begins **May 12** and ends **Aug. 25**. The league plays on Tuesdays at Saukie Golf Course and is for all levels of play. Kickoff meeting will be **April 14**. If interested please attend kickoff meeting or contact [Jeanine Blevins](mailto:Jeanine.Blevins@ria.org) at 563-324-3465 or [Brenda Hanes](mailto:Brenda.Hanes@ria.org) at 309-794-0115 for further information.

AMC Band Coming to the Quad-City Area

Save the date... Rock Island Arsenal invites you to enjoy a free jazz concert, performed by the Army Materiel Command Band, at LeClaire Park in Davenport on **June 11**, 6-7:45 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. The AMC Band proudly serves the Soldiers and civilians of the U.S. Army Materiel Command stationed at more than 140 locations worldwide. The band, with its eight music performance teams, travels extensively throughout the country and overseas supporting 30 installations, 26 major tenants, seven Army field support brigades, 11 subordinate commands, and four separate reporting activities within the AMC enterprise. Since November 2003, the band has deployed in support of AMC Soldiers and civilians forward deployed in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. The AMC band has performed in Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Afghanistan and the United Arab Emirates. The band is under the purview of the AMC chief of staff.



Mark Your Calendars - Army Birthday Fun Run & Cake Cutting

The Army turns 240 years old this year. Come help us celebrate **June 12** by participating in the 5k fun run and later join us for the cake cutting ceremony. The AMC Band will perform and they always impress so don't miss out on this opportunity to hear these talented Soldiers perform. To take part in the run, meet in front of Quarters One at 6 a.m., the race will start at 6:30 a.m. after reveille and all (military, civilian, family members, general public, etc.) are invited to participate. Call 309-782-6787 for more info. There will be a cake cutting ceremony the same day held in Heritage Hall, Bldg. 60, at 11 a.m. ([Flyer](#))



240th Army Birthday Ball

The Rock Island Arsenal and Quad-City area military community will celebrate the 240th Army Birthday Ball on Saturday, **June 13**, starting at 5:30 p.m., at the Quad Cities Waterfront Convention Center, 2021 State Street, in Bettendorf. Cost per Person is \$45 per person (E-7/GS-8/WG-6/NF3 and above); and \$38 per person (E-6/GS-7/WG-5/NF2 and below). Dress... Military: Dress Mess/Army Service Uniform with white



shirt and bow tie; Civilian: Tuxedo or dark suit. Please RSVP by **May 18** to ASC Protocol at 309-782-2410. The event will include: a social hour/receiving line; the National Anthem and posting of the Colors; streamer ceremony; champagne toasts; dinner; guest speaker – Sgt. Gary Beikirch, Medal of Honor recipient; Retiring of the Colors; and Dancing. Child care will be offered on-post in a CYSS facility from 5-11 p.m. Children will be provided a heavy snack mid-way through the night. Please feed your child dinner before arriving. RSVPs for childcare are due by **May 29**. Children must be registered with CYSS. Call 782-6793 to make reservations.

Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club Golf Tournament Scholarship

Are you an avid golfer or just play for fun or exercise? Come join us Tuesday, **June 2**, at the Arsenal Island Golf Clubhouse, for the RIAWC Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament. You can join in as an individual or as a team. Cost is \$125 per person or \$500 as a team. Registration will be 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.; shotgun start at 1 p.m.; banquet dinner 6-8 p.m. What a way to get out and have some fun. If you are interested in participating it is not too late to sign up. Thanks for your continued and dedicated support in assisting our youth here in the Rock Island Arsenal Community. ([Flyer](#))

RIA AUSA Annual Golf Outing - Save the Date

Save the Date! RIA AUSA will hold its annual golf outing and fundraiser on Friday, **July 17**. Sponsorship and entry forms will be forthcoming soon. Visit www.ria-ausa.org to keep posted about chapter activities. ([Flyer](#))

Arsenal Island Employee Local Discounts

The following discounts are exclusively available to Arsenal Island employees — **New Life Chiropractic Clinic:** All Arsenal Island military and civilian employees will receive a 10 percent discount off its services located at 2500 18th Street in Bettendorf. **Quad-City Area Chick-fil-A:** All local military personnel and immediate family may show their government issued ID and receive a free Chick-fil-A Chicken Sandwich any Monday in April 2015 from 5-7 p.m. at any Quad-City area Chick-fil-A location. **Chocolate Manor:** All Arsenal Island military and civilian employees will receive a 10 percent discount off their total purchase on any of our award winning homemade chocolates at 110 E. 2nd St., Davenport, just show your ID. **Roosters Sports Bar and Grill:** All military and civilian's get 10 percent off their bill. Come head down for lunch at 2130 3rd St., Rock Island, new specials daily. **Peachwave Frozen Yogurt:** Peachwave, 3431 Devils Glen Rd., Bettendorf, offers a 10 percent discount every day to all military and veterans. *This information is included for general workforce interest and does not constitute endorsement of the businesses or products.*



Arsenal Traffic/Construction

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Fort Armstrong Avenue Construction

Rock Island Arsenal is performing road work on the intersection of Fort Armstrong Avenue and Rock Island Drive. This work has resulted in a full vehicle closure of the Arsenal's Rock Island Gate and Rock Island Viaduct, as well as restricting vehicles crossing the Government Bridge to "Installation-only" traffic. Signs and barricades are posted to warn and direct traffic. The American Discovery Trail will remain open. At that time the Rock Island Gate will be closed and the

Davenport Gate will be opened 24/7 for ingress and egress to Rock Island Arsenal. This will continue until construction work is completed, currently anticipated to be in **late May or early June**. Upon project completion, the Rock Island Gate will reopen for normal operations.

Parking Lot 2E and Buffington Street Closures

Parking Lot 2E, located North of Bldg. 220, and access to Flagler St. from Rodman Ave. are planned to be closed for repair beginning April 15 for about eight weeks. Pedestrian access to the JMTC facilities through the turnstiles and gates in this work area will also be closed. Immediately following the parking lot completion, Buffington St., from Rodman Ave. to Parking Lot 3H (parking lot west of Bldg. 350) will be closed for repair. Work on Buffington St. is anticipated to last about six weeks. Western traffic is encouraged to use North Ave. and Whittemore St. Eastern traffic is encouraged to use North Ave. and Gillespie St. Short duration, one lane closures on Rodman Ave. may occur near Buffington St. during this work time. Signs and barricades will be used to warn traffic and close areas during repair.

Parking Closure Near Bldg. 64

Effective **March 1** through Wednesday, **July 1**, the Directorate of Public Works will begin replacing the roof on Bldg. 64. Parking along the east side of the street (2nd Street) will be closed **March 1 through May 8**. Parking along the west side of the street (3rd street) will be closed **April 17 through July 1**. During these closures fencing, barricades, and signage will be positioned, as required. Timeframes may be extended depending on weather related issues.

Rock Island Viaduct Sidewalk Closed to Pedestrians

"Sidewalk Closed" signs have been erected at either end of the Rock Island Viaduct sidewalk. These signs were placed because of the tripping hazard that the condition of the sidewalk presents. Attached illustration indicates the suggested alternative route (STR276 American Discovery Trail and Pedestrian Bridge) during the closure.



Building/Space Closures



There are no announcements at this time.



Active Duty/Reserve Zone



Army Reserve's 107th Anniversary

April 23 marks the 107th anniversary of the Army Reserve, which began with the passage of Senate Bill 1424 in 1908. This legislation authorized the Army to establish the Medical Reserve Corps - a specialized team of medical officers who could be ordered to active duty in times of emergency. Today's operational force of approximately 200,000 highly-skilled Soldiers provides life-saving, life-sustaining capabilities to the Army, joint force and the nation through 148 career fields. The

Army Reserve represents most of the Army's critical military enabling capabilities medical, logistical, transportation, full-spectrum engineering, civil affairs, legal, and chemical. The leadership and technical expertise of its Soldiers play a key role in the Army's modernization efforts, helping the Total Force to retain overmatch through the next decade and beyond. ([More](#))

House Panel Advances Military Retirement Overhaul

A House panel on Thursday advanced a package that would overhaul retirement benefits for military personnel, expanding perks for those who do not spend a large portion of their careers in the armed forces. The House Armed Services Military Personnel Subcommittee approved several proposals from a compensation reform commission in its markup of the fiscal 2016 National Defense Authorization Act, while ignoring several others. Included in the measure is a proposal to automatically enroll new troops in the federal employee Thrift Savings Plan with a matching contribution from the government. Military members currently can participate in the TSP, but are not enrolled automatically and do not receive a matching contribution. ([More](#))

Military Spouse Appreciation Day

On Military Spouse Appreciation Day, we celebrate military spouses' contributions to keeping our country safe. America's military spouses are the backbone of the families who support our troops during mission, deployment, reintegration and reset. They are the silent heroes who are essential to the strength of the nation and they serve our country just like their loved ones. Join us Friday, **May 8**, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., at the ACS/USO in Bldg. 110, for an open house, free refreshments, and to say thanks to those who serve alongside their military husbands and wives. Call 309-782-0829 for more info. ([Flyer](#))

Army Regs Prohibit Eating Popular Health Bar-Hemp Seeds Source of Protein, Banned By DA

For anyone who relies on protein bars as an afternoon or after workout snack, they should be warned about nonmilitary friendly ingredients in their all-natural selections. "Strong & Kind" bars which include Hickory Smoked, Roasted Jalapeno, Honey Mustard, Thai Sweet Chili, and Honey Smoked BBQ, contain hemp seeds in their ingredients. These seeds may contain low levels of tetrahydrocannabinol, a chemical found in marijuana, which the Army believes may be detectable in drug screening tests. This ingredient is not included the Kind fruit and nut bars and a complete list can be found at www.kindsnacks.com. The Army's position on the consumption of hemp seeds, or its derivatives, is similar to its sister services and follows laws and guidelines set forth by U.S. law enforcement agencies. Army Regulation 600-85 para 4-2, (p) states that, "...Soldiers are prohibited from using Hemp or products containing Hemp oil." And the "...Violations of paragraph 4-2 (p) may subject offenders to punishment under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and or administrative action." ([More](#))

Financial Readiness

Financial Readiness enables Soldiers and their Families to attain financial stability and flexibility by avoiding the personal and professional stressors of poor money management. Financial Readiness protects Soldiers from predatory and unscrupulous lenders and poor financial decisions. When Soldiers feel confident financial affairs are secure, they can focus on their missions without worrying about things at home. In return, the Army improves Soldier, Family, and mission readiness. The financial readiness of Soldiers and their Families is a priority for the Army because it has a direct effect on mission readiness and Soldier and Family satisfaction with the Army's mobile lifestyle. Unit financial readiness is essential to sustaining successful deployments. The Army

provides tools and services, including personal financial counselors, on-demand, surge support, and telephonic counseling to help Soldiers and their Families reduce their debt and achieve financial stability over the Soldier lifecycle. ([More](#))

Military Spouse Fun Night

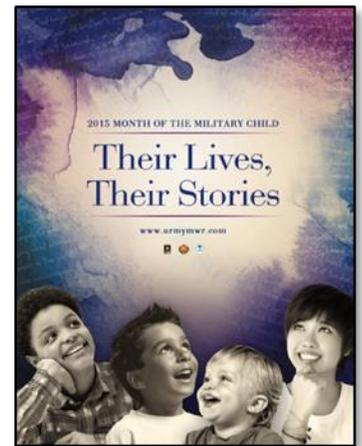
Attention Active Duty Military Spouses – Join us Tuesday, **April 28**, at 6 p.m., in the ACS/USO spaces (Bldg. 110), for an evening to celebrate your contributions as a military spouse as we celebrate Military Spouse Day. We will have door prizes and fun activities planned for you. For more info, please call 309-782-4736. ([Flyer](#))

RIA MWR Army 10-miler

All active duty military are invited to try out for the Rock Island Arsenal Army Ten Miler team by competing in the **May 2** qualifying run. The top eight finishers (male or female) will comprise the Rock Island Arsenal team. Run starts at 6:30 a.m. in front of the Sports Complex here on Arsenal Island. Call 309-782-6787 for additional general information. All runners must register at the Fitness Center by **April 17**. The registration form is included in the attached packet. The completed registration needs to be returned to the Fitness Center where participants can pick up their number or they can just go to the Fitness Center and sign up and pick up their number. Call 309-782-6202 for additional information about the registration. Volunteers are also needed for this event. Interested Soldiers can contact the [POC](#) to volunteer and assist with the event. ([Flyer](#))

Month of the Military Child: "Their Lives, Their Stories"

Military children face unique challenges: extended family separations, frequent moves and the stress of deployments. In 1986, the Department of Defense designated April as Month of the Military Child (MOMC) to recognize the personal sacrifice and important contributions of military children. The MOMC observance is an opportunity to thank and applaud Army children for their support of a ready Army and recognize their role in strong Army Families. Total Army Strong underscores the Army commitment to the total Army Family -- Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians, and Families. It acknowledges that the strength of the nation is built on the readiness and resilience of every member of the premier all-volunteer Army and commits to a system of programs and services that strengthen resilience and help children and youth mitigate the unique demands of Army life. It also reminds us that the strength of Soldiers comes from the strength of their Families. ([More](#))



Putnam Museum is a Blue Star Member Institution

The Putnam is now one of more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and the Department of Defense. Any active duty military personnel including National Guard and Reserve, and up to five family members, receive free admission to the Museum and Science Center **Memorial Day through Labor Day**. "We are honored and excited to be able to bring this program to our Quad Cities Military families," said President and CEO Kim Findlay. "Through our participation in the Blue Star Museums program, we are able to show our continued support for all



our active military and thank them for their hard work and sacrifices." Leadership support has been provided by MetLife Foundation through Blue Star Families. The program provides families an opportunity to enjoy the nation's cultural heritage and learn more about their new communities after a military move. The complete list of participating museums is available at arts.gov/national/blue-star-museums.

Inaugural Island-wide Baby Shower

Mark your calendars and save the date for the Inaugural Island-wide Baby Shower hosted by the Iowa State Chapter, Mississippi Valley Division March of Dimes. The event will take place **May 19**, 10 a.m. – Noon, at the Arsenal Island Golf Course Clubhouse. This baby shower is for all expecting Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve with military ID card holder spouses. To RSVP for the event, contact Deena at 563-323-6378. Space is Limited.



YMCA Camp Abe Lincoln Military Kids Camp

Military Kids Camp is a specialty camp for children with parents in the service. It is a great opportunity to build a community for military children ages 8-16 from **June 28 - July 3**. We have funding this year and are pleased to offer this camp again, free of charge. Space is limited, so we are currently [accepting applications here](#).

Military 4-H Scrapbooking SPIN Club

Explore, Engage, Innovate... the world of scrapbooking. Take photos you have and create a scrapbook that will last a lifetime. Each month youth will learn a new scrapbooking technique and create a page. Snacks will be at each meeting. Eligibility includes military youth, ages 12-18. This program will meet every 3rd Wednesday of the month, **Feb. 18 to Dec. 16**, 5:30-7 p.m., in the Cassion Room, in Bldg. 60. Cost includes a supply fee of \$20; non-4-H members add a \$20 program fee (fee waivers available upon request). [Register online today!](#) Or for more information call the University of Illinois Extension, Rock Island County 4-H Office at 309-756-9978. University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate call 309-756-9978 at least two weeks in advance.



Safety Spotlight



**ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG**



Army Releases Spring/Summer Safety Campaign

The Army's annual spring/summer safety campaign was recently released online by the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center. This iteration of the yearly promotion, which includes feature articles, posters and public service announcements for use by safety professionals and unit leaders, is the first dual-season campaign produced by the USACRC in several years. Starting in 2012, the center released a separate campaign at the beginning of each season, but feedback from the field indicated the previous approach was a better fit for addressing issues at all Army installations. "Our safety professionals didn't feel the single campaigns gave them time to effectively build their seasonal programs," said Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Farnsworth, director of Army Safety and commanding general, USACRC. "There's a lot of variability in when the seasons come and go in our various locations,

and what's timely for some might be too late for others. I feel the combined campaign will better meet everyone's needs." ([More](#))

Equal Employment Opportunity Focus



Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

DEOMI's 2015 Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month poster is now available for download from DEOMI's website at www.deomi.org/SpecialObservance/posters.cfm?CatID=1 The PowerPoint presentation may also be downloaded from www.deomi.org/SpecialObservance/presentations.cfm?CatID=4 Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is celebrated in May each year. This year's theme is "Many Cultures, One Voice: Promote Equality and Inclusion."

Morale, Welfare & Recreation



Morale, Welfare & Recreation (MWR)

Visit the MWR website at www.riamwr.com for information on all MWR programs.

Island Wide Social

Join your Island colleagues Friday, **May 1**, at 4 p.m., at the Arsenal Island Clubhouse, for a fun evening of appetizers, drinks, networking, and socializing and karaoke. This event is open to the entire RIA workforce. Call 309-782-4372 for more info. ([Flyer](#))

Cinco de Mayo Golf Scramble

Get your foursome together and get signed up for our annual spring golf outing Friday, **May 8**, at 9 a.m., at the Arsenal Island Golf Course. Cinco de Mayo is the theme for this year's four-person preferred shot scramble. Call 309-793-1604 for more info and to register your team. ([Flyer](#))

Mother's Day Brunch Buffet

Treat mom to a delicious all-you-can-eat brunch buffet Sunday, **May 10**, 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the beautiful and historic Arsenal Island Clubhouse. Cost is \$22.95/adult and \$9.95/child (12 & under). RSVP by **May 7** by calling 309-782-4372. ([Flyer](#))

2015 U.S. Army Soldier Show

It's Army entertainment like you've never experienced before. The Soldier Show is a live Broadway-style variety performance featuring our best talent. It's singing, it's dancing and it's amazing! The Soldier Show returns to the Quad Cities for a one-night only performance on Friday, **May 15**, at 7 p.m., in the Adler Theatre. This free show is open to the general public and tickets can be picked up at the following locations on-post:

- Leisure Travel Office (Bldg. 333)

- Fitness Center (Bldg. 67)
- Army Community Service (Bldg. 110)
- MWR Main Office (Bldg. 110)
- ASC Protocol Office (Bldg. 390)

Tickets can also be picked up off-post at the Adler Box Office. ([Flyer](#))

America's Kids Run

Mark your calendars Saturday, **May 16**, at 9 a.m., at Memorial Field, for the 2015 America's Armed Forces Kids Run. This is open to the public, so please be sure to share this event with all your friends and family. We will have a variety of races for children ages 3-13 years old.

- 100 yard dash 3-4 year olds
- 1/2 mile run 5-6 year olds
- 1 mile run 7-8 year olds
- 2 mile run for 9-13 year olds

These are all for fun, and non-competitive. Register by **April 30** for \$8/child to be guaranteed a t-shirt and finishers medal. Price increases to \$10 on **May 1**. The races will begin at 9 a.m. We will also have a family fun zone with lots of activities after the races. Register at:

<http://getmeregistered.com/RIAAmericaKidsRun> or call 309-782-0511 for more info. ([Flyer](#))

Online Tee Times Now Available at the Arsenal Island Golf Course

Spring and golf season are here and getting on the tee box just got easier. We're happy to announce that you can now book tee times for the golf course through our website. Just point your browser to: <http://tinyurl.com/AIGC-TeeTimes> and book your tee time up to seven days in advance. Call the pro shop at 309-793-1604 for more info or to make your tee time over the phone.

Entire Month of April, Oil Change Special at the Auto Skills Shop

April is Spring Car Care Month, a good time to kick the tires and check the fluids after a long cold winter and in anticipation of summer driving conditions. All month long you can get a full service standard oil change (includes up to five quarts of oil, oil filter and 25 point inspection) for just \$21, or a full service Mobil 1™ synthetic oil change for \$51 (includes up to six quarts of Mobil 1™ oil, oil filter and 25 point inspection). Call 309-782-8631 to schedule an appointment or for more info. ([Flyer](#))

MWR Leisure Travel Office



Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Bldg. 333. The office is closed for lunch from 10:30–11 a.m., 309-782-5890. ([email](#)) ([website](#))

Murder Mystery Dinner

This delightful evening of fine dining and whodunnit comedy, Saturday, **April 25**, at 6 p.m., at the Arsenal Island Clubhouse, will have you guessing till the end. Local comedy/mystery troupe "It's a Mystery" needs your help to solve the mystery of the "Murder in the Double Wide," so make your reservations to make sure you don't miss out on this fun and entertaining evening. Cost is

\$45/person and reservations can be made by calling 309-782-4372. Reservations required by **April 23**. ([Flyer](#))

MWR Spring Fair

MWR has invited 40 vendors to participate at this two-day vendor fair. All sorts of products will be offered from Enchiladas to Scentsy. This event will be held in Heritage Hall dining area, Bldg 60.

([Flyer](#))

Date: **Wednesday, April 29**

Time: **9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Pretty In Pink Doll Party

This is our first Pretty In Pink Doll Party. The party will take place at Historical Quarters One. Finger food and dessert buffet, free photo with your favorite doll, movie with free popcorn and other activities. Cost is \$25 per person. Limited seating. For more details contact the Leisure Travel Office. ([Flyer](#))

Date: **Saturday, May 2**

Time: **1-3 p.m.**

Chuggington Live! The Great Rescue Adventure at the Adler Theatre

The Great Rescue Adventure the trainees are on their first day of advanced training, and are eager to impress their mentors by mastering new roles that test their courage, speed, and determination.

Limited discount seats available for \$33.50. Section B, Row G, Seats 1-10.

Date: **Tuesday, May 12**

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

NASCAR Race Bus Trip

Calling all race fans! Get your tickets for the MWR bus trip Sunday, **May 17**, and be there in person to watch all the high octane action at the opening weekend of the 2015 Iowa Speedway season while leaving the hassle of driving, traffic and parking to us. Tickets are \$69/person and includes transportation and entry to the race. You are allowed to bring a small cooler on the bus but it must fit under the seat. Tickets are on sale until **April 27** and you can get your tickets by visiting: <http://tinyurl.com/NASCAR-BUS-2015>, stopping by the Leisure Travel Office (in Bldg. 333, next to the Exchange) or calling 309-782-5890. ([Flyer](#))

Professional Bull Riders

Coming to the iWireless Center - The PBR's BlueDEF Velocity Tour is a collaboration between PBR and AEG, the leading sports, entertainment and venue operator in the world, which offers established and up-and-coming bull riders the opportunity to gain the valuable points needed to qualify for the PBR's elite Built Ford Tough Series. Leisure Travel has limited discount seats until **June 1**. Section 116 Rows 9 & 10 are \$49, Section 105 Rows 7 & 8 are \$29.

Date: **Saturday, June 13**

Time: **7 p.m.**

The Sound of Music

This Tony Award winner for Best Musical provides one of the most thrilling and inspirational finales ever presented in theatre. Enjoy such timeless classics as "Do-Re-Mi," "My Favorite Things," "Climb Every Mountain," and more. Leisure Travel has discounted seats available until **June 12** for \$46.

Date: **Saturday, June 27**
Time: **5:45-9 p.m.**

Cubs vs. Cardinals Bus Trip

MWR Leisure Travel has a Cubs vs. Cardinals bus trip scheduled. Cost will be \$99 per person to include transportation and ticket to game. Seats are located in Upper Deck Box Outfield. Departing from RIA at 6 a.m. from the COL Davenport Pavilion. Limited alcohol permitted on chartered bus. Coolers must fit under the seats and not block the aisle. No glass bottles. No smoking permitted on motor coach. Estimated return time will be 8 p.m. ([Flyer](#))

Date: **Saturday, Sept. 19**
Time: **12:05 p.m.**

2015 Adventureland Tickets

Leisure Travel has discounted 2015 admission tickets on sale. Gate price for Adult is \$40; Child is \$35; MWR is \$32. Two years and under free admission.

Davenport Cinemark 53rd 18 + IMAX Theatre

Leisure Travel is selling Platinum Supersaver Prepaid Admission Tickets to Davenport Cinemark 53rd 18 + IMAX theatre (formally 53rd cinemas and RAVE cinemas) These tickets have no restrictions or expiration date.

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 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**.

Volunteer Recruitment & Training

Are you looking for volunteer opportunities to add to your résumé or build your skill set? Army Community Service has lots of opportunities to help other families, meet new people, learn all about our programs, share your knowledge, get a change of pace in your daily life, explore a career path,

be a part of a team, experience new challenges and be proud to know that you are a valued member of the Rock Island Arsenal Community. Volunteer recruitment and training takes place every Tuesday, 9-11 a.m., in the ACS office (Bldg. 110). The next session will take place **April 28**. Call 309-782-0829 for more information. ([Flyer](#))

Sponsorship Training

Have you been appointed to sponsor a new incoming Soldier/civilian? Make sure to attend our monthly sponsorship training session before your new Soldier/civilian arrives so that you can help them adjust to their new duty station quickly and hit the ground running. Training is held on the first Friday of every month from 12-1 p.m. at Army Community Service (Bldg. 110) and lunch will be provided for all service members courtesy of the USO. The next session will take place **May 1**. Registration is required by calling 309-782-0829. ([Flyer](#))

Overseas Orientation Briefing

Are you on orders to PCS out of the country? If so make sure to attend the Overseas Orientation Briefing held on the first Tuesday of every month and learn specifics and tips about your new duty location. The session will take place **May 5**, 9:30-11 a.m., in ACS (Bldg. 110). Call to RSVP: 309-782-0829. Individual relocation counseling is also available by appointment, call 309-782-0829 to schedule your appointment. ([Flyer](#))

Advanced Résumé Class

There will be an Advanced Résumé Class (with emphasis on federal employment) held on Friday, **May 8**, in Bldg. 103, 1:30-3:30 p.m., in the Baylor Conf. Rm. The class is open to all service members, spouses, and their family members, DA civilians (APF & NAF) and their family members, and Retiree's and their family members. Those who are interested must RSVP NLT **May 1** at 309-782-0829 or by email to usarmy.RIA.imcom-central.mbx.usag-acs@mail.mil. There is a minimum of 10 RSVP's or class will be rescheduled. ([Flyer](#))

Hearts Apart Support Group

Hearts Apart Program is part of the Army Community Service Relocation Assistance Program for spouses of service members and Department of Defense civilians and who are separated because of military commitments (deployments, temporary duties, remote tours). Services offered include on-base and off-base resource information, personal support and group activities. The next group session will take place Friday, **May 15**, 10-11 a.m., in ACS (Bldg. 110). If you would like to receive the latest information on the Hearts Apart Program, contact Ann Wood, relocation program manager, 309-782-0816. ([Flyer](#))

Employee Assistance Program



ASAP/EAP is located in Bldg. 56, 1st floor; visit our [ASAP/EAP website](#) or phone 309-782-4357 or 309-782-HELP. Office hours are from 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. After Hour Emergencies: 309-782-6116. Rock Island Arsenal Emergency Services will contact an EAP counselor who will call you back promptly. [Find us on Facebook click here.](#)

Alcohol Awareness Month

April is Alcohol Awareness Month. Alcohol is the most commonly used drug in the United States (National Institute on Drug Abuse). Alcohol is popular, socially accepted, and legal. Yet it is the most frequent cause of individual and family pain and suffering. Alcohol Awareness Month is an opportunity to raise awareness about alcohol misuse and encourage people to make healthy, safe choices. During this month, take time to educate yourself and your loved ones about the dangers of alcohol misuse. One way to educate yourself about your own drinking is to take the anonymous alcohol use self-assessment online at www.DrinkingIQ.org. The Survey is free and can give you feedback about your drinking and if you may be at risk. If you would like to learn more about alcohol or have any questions, please call the EAP at 2-HELP (4357) or look for an EAP staff member at your lunch cafeteria in April.



Education/Training Review



The Rock Island Army Education Center is located in Bldg. 56, 1st 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.](#)

St. Ambrose University Lunch and Learn

St. Ambrose is hosting informative lunch-n-learn sessions to learn how you can take advantage of special tuition rates available for MBA students. In support of our military and civilian personnel on the Arsenal, SAU offers special pricing at a fraction of the regular tuition rate for MBA students. The event will take place **June 11** in Bldg. 56, Room 116, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m., or 12-1 p.m. A light lunch will be provided. Priority will be given to military personnel. RSVP NLT **June 9** to reserve your seat. Call 563-333-6170 or leonardmichelem@sau.edu. The Garrison POC is [Michelle Beck](#), at 309-782-0965.

2015 WID Scholarship

The Iowa/Illinois Chapter, Women In Defense, a national security organization, has established an annual scholarship to provide opportunities of higher education for students who are interested in achieving a place of leadership in their chosen fields. Applicants will be limited to those individuals meeting one or more of the following criteria and who have never received a scholarship from Women In Defense: A current member of the Iowa/Illinois chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association or WID and their dependents; corporate charter members and their dependents; current government employees on Rock Island Arsenal or Iowa Army Ammunition Plant and their dependents. Note: Dependents are defined as children, step-children, children of legal guardian, or spouse. Scholarship applications can be found at www.widiic.org. All applications must be postmarked no later than Friday, **May 1**. For additional information, the point of contact is Sonja Johnson Wills, Scholarship Chair, 571-264-6346.

Army Emergency Relief Announces Opening of Scholarship Application Period

Army Emergency Relief has announced the opening of its scholarship application period. Applications will be accepted from **Jan. 2** until **May 1**. AER supports both the Spouse Scholarship

Program, as well as the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Program for dependent children. Scholarship specifics and the applications are available on [AER's website](#). The Spouse Scholarship can be used for full or part-time students, while the Ursano Scholarship is only for full-time students. Last year AER awarded 3,637 scholarships, totaling more than \$8.8 million to Spouses and Children of Soldiers. "The entire scholarship process is on line," said Tammy LaCroix, manager for AER's scholarship programs. "Last year we found that the on line process worked best for those who downloaded the step-by-step instructions and used them as a checklist." "Applicants are able to create their own profile, submit their documentation online, and check their status," added LaCroix. "This proved to be a huge time saver for both the applicants and the scholarship staff." ([More](#))

RIA AUSA Scholarship Program 2015-2016

The Rock Island Arsenal Association of the United States Army announces the annual scholarship program for 2015-2016 school year. Applications are available on the RIA AUSA web site at www.ria-ausa.org. Eligible applicants must reside in the RIA AUSA geographical footprint covering eastern Iowa and western Illinois identified in the application, and be associated with the military as a current military member, veteran, family member or DoD civilian. Applicants can download the application and return it completed no later than **May 1** to the mailing address listed in the application form. Questions can be directed to the RIA AUSA chapter representative Tim Considine, at considinet@aol.com or by calling 512-565-4089.

Area Schools to Visit RIA

The [Army Continuing Education Systems Rock Island Arsenal](#) is coordinating with Quad-City area schools to have them visit with eligible Ed Center patrons where they will meet with school representatives and learn about educational opportunities in the Quad Cities. These visits will take place in Bldg. 56, Room 121, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. The schedule for this fiscal year is: • Ashford University, **July 23**; • Black Hawk College, **July 9**; • Eastern Iowa Community College, **May 7, June 4, July 2, Aug. 6 and Sept. 3**; • Kaplan University, **May 14, and Aug. 13**; • Saint Ambrose University, **July 16**; • Trinity College of Nursing & Health Sciences, **May 21 and Aug. 20**; • Upper Iowa University, **May 13, and Aug. 12**.

Defense Commissary Agency / Exchange



The [Rock Island Commissary](#) and the [Exchange](#) are for active duty military and retirees only. There are exceptions for select items (mainly consumable) at the Exchange that can be purchased by Arsenal Island employees with ID. The 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](#))

Spring Customer Appreciation Case Lot Sale

Commissary Customer Appreciation Case Lot Sales will be held at most commissaries in the U.S. and Puerto Rico for 1-4 days from April 16 to June 28. The dates for the Rock Island Arsenal Commissary are **May 15-16**. You deserve the very best! ([More](#))

Month of the Military Child

Military children make up a very special part of our nation's population. These brave sons and daughters stand in steadfast support of their parents through moves and deployments. To honor their unique contributions and sacrifices on behalf of our country, the Defense Department observes April as the Month of the Military Child. This month and every month, Your Commissary salutes children of U.S. service members around the world. We recognize the challenges you face as part of military life and want you to know that we're here to support you.

Exchange Opens Earlier, Serves Breakfast

The Exchange located on Rock Island Arsenal began opening at 7 a.m. Oct. 1. Also effective Oct. 1, the Exchange began featuring heat-and-eat breakfast items at the front of the store. "We will be running these hours for two months to make sure that there will be demand to be open at 7 a.m.," said Carl Wolfe, store manager, Rock Island Exchange. "We are really hoping with the Exchange having an entire new 'Heat and Eat,' that we will cater to the Soldiers coming on the Island in the morning and we know a lot of them have PT in the mornings and this will give them a chance to grab something before they go in the office for the day." The new open-to-close store hours are 7 a.m. – 6:30 p.m., Monday through Friday; and 8:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. on Saturdays. The "Heat and Eat" items being sold in the mornings will include: Breakfast Tornados, Breakfast Deli Express sandwiches, Cappuccino, and coffee, Roller Bites, and Breakfast Style Pizza. The Exchange will also have a lunch menu to include: Tornado's, Deli Express hot and cold sandwiches, hot dogs, Polish sausage, jalapeno sausage, Roller Bites, egg rolls, and pizza. In addition, the Exchange will also have microwavable meals, soup, and Asian noodles for sale all day long.



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 p.m. Closed Sunday, Monday, federal holidays, the Friday after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Eve. Admission is free. ([website](#))

Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society Meeting

The Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society will have its monthly meeting at 6 p.m. on Thursday, **May 7**, in the Veranda Room of the Arsenal Island Golf Course Clubhouse. The menu for dinner is lemon ranch salad, fresh grilled salmon filet with citrus compound butter, wild rice, steamed cauliflower and panna cotta with strawberry coulis. All dinners include rolls, breadsticks, coffee, tea and water. The total cost is \$14 per person including tax and tip. Our event is open to both members and non-members. Interested parties may choose to attend only the program portion of the meeting at 7 p.m. at no cost. Guest Speaker will be Maryan Wherry, PhD, American Culture Studies. Her presentation is titled: Margaret, Susan and Marguerite: Founding Mothers. It is adapted from

chapters of Quad Cities' Herstories, an anthology of 20 biographies of influential area women. For reservations call Monica at 563-650-4349 or Linda at 563-355-6165 or email chiicaliinda@aol.com. Reservations are due by noon on Monday, **May 4**. Cancellations must be made by the reservation deadline or you will be liable for cost incurred and billed accordingly. If further clarification is required on this notice, please call Kris Leinicke at 309-782-3518. Visit the RIA Historical Society's website at www.arsenalhistoricalsociety.org.

Learn About Civil War Prison Camp on Arsenal Island

Learn about the Civil War prison camp that used to be located on the Arsenal Island. The Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation is hosting this program and lunch on Sunday, May 17 at 1 p.m. at the Arsenal Island Golf Clubhouse. Kris Leinicke, Rock Island Arsenal Museum Director, will give an overview of the history of the Rock Island Barracks, 1863-1865. The presentation is primarily illustrated with photographs and images from the time period. Included are stereoview images and two John Gisch paintings in the collection of the Rock Island Arsenal Museum. ([More](#))

This Week in Rock Island Arsenal History – April 20-26

On April 21, 1882, the RIA procured a power press for punching and drawing metal used for manufacturing tin meat cans, tin cups, 'and' other metal items. On April 21, 1856, the first locomotive crossed the Mississippi River via the railroad bridge from Rock Island to Davenport - the first bridge across the river. On April 22, 1898, the Equipment Department began working two 10-hour shifts, daily. On April 25, 1898, the U.S. Congress formally declared war on Spain. The great flood of 1965 peaked with a crest of 22.48 feet during the last week of April 1965. Arsenal workers volunteered to fill sand bags during their off hours.



Healthbeat

Important Changes in Pharmacy Hours

- **April 29:** Pharmacist will be on duty to check prescriptions beginning at 1 p.m.
- **May 7:** Pharmacist will be on duty beginning at 9 a.m.
- **May 20:** Pharmacist will be on duty until 3 p.m. (if prescriptions are brought in after 3 p.m. you will need to return the following day to pick them up)
- **May 26:** We will not have a pharmacist on duty, we will not fill outside prescriptions, only prescriptions filled will be for patients seen in the clinic that day for acute conditions, routine refills for patients seen in the clinic will not be dispensed.

Please bear with us while we work through a pharmacist shortage. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call Sgt. First Class Robinson-Wilson at 309-782-0989 or 309-782-0943, or you may call Capt. Converse at 309-782-0865.

April Is Women's Eye Health and Safety Month

Women are often the people in the family responsible for taking care of their family's health concerns and often neglect their own health including the health of their eyes. Yet, did you know that two thirds of the people in the world affected by visual impairments and blindness are women even though they represent only 53 percent of the population? The rate of eye disease is on the rise in this country mostly because people are living longer and women, on average, live longer than men. As a result, more women are susceptible to age-related eye diseases such as macular

degeneration, cataracts, dry eyes, glaucoma and diabetic changes of the eye as well as other conditions. Because of this, Prevent Blindness America has designated April as Women's Eye Health and Safety Month to help educate women about the steps that they must take to help prevent vision loss by making their own eye health a priority. While the following recommendations apply to all, during April, the emphasis is on women so that they remember to take care of themselves as well as their families. ([More](#))

Notes for Veterans

After A Year of Frustration, New Bill Would Make It Easier To Fire VA Employees

One year after the largest scandal in the Department of Veterans Affairs history, a congressman says he will introduce the VA Accountability Act, which would give the new VA secretary sweeping authority to fire corrupt or incompetent employees. Rep. Jeff Miller's (R-Fla.) bill comes in response to increasing frustration from lawmakers and veterans service organizations over the slow pace of reform in holding VA employees accountable for a litany of problems, from patient wait times to delays in benefits. ([More](#))

Around the Q.C.

- April 23:** [Take Back the Night](#) (Central High School, Davenport)
- April 23:** [Retake Poetry Extravaganza](#) (The Grape Life, 3402 Elmore Ave., Davenport)
- April 25:** [March of Dimes March for Babies](#) (Rock Island Arsenal, Memorial Park)
- April 25:** [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (3-6 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimberly Road)
- May 2:** [Festival of the Arts' Village in Bloom](#) (Village of East Davenport)
- May 2:** [Pacquiao vs Mayweather Fight Watch Event](#) (Golden Leaf, Davenport)
- May 4-10:** [Navy Week Quad Cities](#) (Quad City Area)
- May 9-10:** [29th Quad City Air Show, featuring the U.S. Navy Blue Angels](#) (Davenport Municipal Airport)
- May 9-10:** [Beaux Arts Fair](#) (Figue Art Museum Plaza, Downtown Davenport)
- May 10-11:** [Scott County Kennel Club AKC Dog Show](#) (QCCA)
- May 15:** [Jason's Box REDSwhite&blue Charity Golf Tournament](#) (Golfmohr Golf Club, East Moline)
- May 16:** [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (6-9 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimberly Road)
- May 16:** [2nd Annual Live Fit With Lupus Run](#) (Black Watch Room, Pebble Creek Golf Course, LeClaire, Iowa)
- May 22-31:** [Historic Homes & Gardens of the Scottish Highlands](#) (QC Botanical Center, Rock Island)
- May 25:** [50th Annual Quad Cities Criterium](#) (Village of East Davenport)
- June 1-6:** [25th Annual Quad Cities Senior Olympics](#) (1800 3rd Ave, Rock Island)
- June 3, 4:** U.S. Army & NDIA Small Business/APBI Symposium (iWireless Center)
- June 5-6:** [Rhubarb Festival](#) (Aledo, Ill.)
- June 6:** [QC Pridefest](#) (Downtown Davenport)
- June 12-13:** [Gumbo Ya Ya](#) (The District, Rock Island)
- June 13:** [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In Carshow](#) (4-9 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimberly Road)
- June 13-21:** [Quad Cities Museum Week](#) (Greater Quad Cities)
- June 15:** [YSB-Whitey Verstraete Memorial Golf Outing](#) (Pinnacle Country Club, Milan, Ill.)
- June 17-20:** [Rally on the River](#) (Centennial Park, Davenport)
- June 20:** [2nd Annual Micro Brew Mile & 6K Road Race](#) (Moline)
- June 21:** [Ride the River Bike Ride](#) (Mississippi River bike paths, Iowa & Illinois)

June 28: [Blossoms at Butterworth](#) (Butterworth Center, Deere family homes, Moline)
July 3: [Red, White & Boom!](#) (The District, Rock Island & Downtown Davenport)
July 4: [Firecracker Run & Parade](#) (Run starts at 7:30 a.m. with the parade at 1 p.m., East Moline)
July 4: [Bettendorf Old-Fashioned 4th of July](#) (parade at 10 a.m.)
July 6-12: [John Deere Classic PGA TOUR](#) (TPC Deere Run golf course, Silvis, Ill.)
July 9-11: [Walcott Truckers Jamboree](#) (Iowa 80 Truckstop, Walcott, Iowa)
July 11: [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (6-9 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimberly Road)
July 15-19: [Rock Island County Fair](#) (Fairgrounds, East Moline)
July 17: [Rock Island Arsenal Chapter AUSA Annual Golf Outing](#) (Arsenal Island Golf Course)
July 24-25: [Downtown Street Fest](#) (2nd Street in downtown Davenport)
July 25: [Bix 7 Run/Walk](#) (Downtown Davenport)
July 30-Aug. 2: [Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Jazz Festival](#) (RiverCenter/Adler Theatre, Davenport)
Aug. 4-9: [Great Mississippi Valley Fair](#) (Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, Davenport)
Aug. 6: [Freedom Run 5k](#) (Moline)
Aug. 7-8: [Ya Maka My Weekend](#) (The District, Rock Island)
Aug. 8: [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (6-9 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimberly Road)
Aug. 13-15: [Tug Fest](#) (LeClaire, Iowa & Port Byron, Ill.)
Aug. 15: [Floatzilla](#) (Sunset Marina, Rock Island)
Aug. 28-29: [River Roots Live](#) (Downtown Davenport)
Aug. 28-30: [World Series of Dragracing](#) (Cordova Dragway, Cordova, Ill.)
Sept. 4-7: [Mississippi Valley Blues Festival](#) (LeClaire Park, downtown Davenport)
Sept. 5-6: [Rock Island Grand Prix](#) (Downtown Rock Island)
Sept. 5-7: [Labor Day Weekend Pow Wow](#) (Black Hawk State Historic Site, Rock Island)
Sept. 12: [Quad City Symphony Riverfront Pops](#) (LeClaire Park, downtown Davenport)
Sept. 12: [QCA Heritage Tractor Parade & Show](#) (John Deere Pavilion, Moline)
Sept. 12: [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (6-9 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimberly Road)
Sept. 12-13: [Beaux Arts Fair](#) (Downtown Davenport)
Sept. 18-19: [Celtic Festival & Highland Games](#) (Centennial Park, Davenport)
Sept. 19: [Brew Ha Ha](#) (LeClaire Park, Davenport)
Sept. 19-20: [Riverssance Festival of Fine Arts](#) (Village of East Davenport)
Sept. 27: [Quad Cities Marathon](#) (downtown Moline)
Sept. 25-27: [Hot Air Balloon Festival](#) (Kennedy Square, East Moline)
Oct. 10: [Trinity Quad Cities Classic Regatta](#) (Mississippi River in Moline)
Oct. 10: [Quad Cities Cruisers Cruise-In](#) (3-6 p.m., Davenport Learning Center, 1002 W Kimberly Road)
Oct. 11: [Apple Fest](#) (Downtown LeClaire, Iowa)
Oct. 29: [Fright Night](#) (The District, Rock Island)
Oct. 24: [Lagomarcino's Cocoa Beano 5K Race](#) (Village of East Davenport)
Nov. 20-29: [Quad City Arts Festival of Trees](#) (RiverCenter, Davenport)
Nov. 21: [Festival of Trees Parade](#) (Downtown Davenport)
Nov. 21: [Lighting on the John Deere Commons](#) (Downtown Moline)
Dec. 4-6: [Heartland Emergency Response Conference Expo](#) (QCCA)

Island Insight



[Col. Elmer Speights, Jr., Garrison Commander](#); [Eric Cramer](#), Public Affairs Officer; [Mark Kane](#), Editor

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