

Dec. 23, 2013



Island Insight



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

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

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Ask the Garrison Commander

1 Percent Raise For Feds Coming

Next Month: Most federal employees are now officially assured of their first across-the-board pay raise in four years following an executive order by President Obama to implement the 1 percent increase next month. Obama had proposed the increase as part of his fiscal 2014 budget request; after Congress took no action, the White House in August signaled its intention to

use an executive order instead. The raise was all but guaranteed after lawmakers took no action to block it in the October agreement ending the 16-day partial government shutdown; in Monday's order, Obama implemented it for most of the civilian workforce, along with uniformed members of the military. The increase does not apply to some 200,000 blue-collar civilian workers paid under the Wage Grade schedule, according to

the American Federation of Government Employees, a union which is pursuing legislation to extend it to them as well. The 1 percent increase will be the across-the-board boost for federal civilians since 2010; during the freeze, however, many federal employees have continued to receive pay boosts through step increases and



"HOME OF US ARMY LOGISTICS"



performance bonuses. In a Monday statement, House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer, D-Md., called the across-the-board hike “a modest but important step” that recognizes the need for a cost-of-living adjustment for federal workers and members of the military. ([More](#)) ([Pay Charts](#))

New Locality Pay Areas? Not in 2014:

We wrote some time ago that plans were in the works to add a number of locality pay areas for the federal government beginning in January 2014.



But, unfortunately for those workers who are in these new locality areas (*which includes the Quad Cities*), that is not going to happen. In a memo from the Federal Salary Council issued late in 2012, the recommendation was that “since there are only 12 areas meeting the criteria, we believe they could all be introduced at once in 2014 provided adequate funding for locality pay increases in 2014.” ∞ The locality pay areas that were going to be added in 2014, but now **will apparently be implemented in 2015**, are as outlined by the Federal Salary Council. ([More](#))

Obama Signs Bipartisan Budget Deal, Defense Bill:

Rounding out a tough and frustrating year, President Barack Obama signed a bipartisan budget deal Thursday easing spending cuts and a defense bill cracking down on sexual assault in the military, as the president and Congress began pivoting to the midterm election year ahead. Obama put his signature on both hard-fought bills while vacationing in Hawaii, where he has been regrouping with his family since Saturday. The bill signing marks one of Obama's last official acts in a year beset by a partial government shutdown, a near-default by the Treasury, a calamitous health care rollout and near-perpetual congressional gridlock. ([More](#)) ([DoD Article](#))



Will Feds Be Asked to Sacrifice More in 2014?:

By most accounts, 2013 was not a good year to be a federal employee. Feds were hampered by a third consecutive year of frozen pay, forced to absorb furloughs and slashed budgets from sequestration, sent home without pay or forced to work with only the promise of delayed paychecks during the government shutdown,

Upcoming Dates

- Jan. 1:** New Year's Day (*Federal Holiday*)
- Jan. 7-9:** DA Photo Studio on RIA
- Jan. 8:** Senior NCO Tenant Meeting, Arsenal Island Golf Clubhouse, 11:30 a.m.
- Jan. 13-17:** Training- Unit Prevention Leader, Baylor Conf RM
- Jan. 20:** Martin Luther King Remembrance Day (*Federal Holiday*)
- Jan. 22:** U.S. Army Health Clinic Open House, Bldg. 110, 1:30-4 p.m.
- Jan. 22:** General Officer BOD Mtg., 1:30 p.m., Arsenal Island Clubhouse (T)
- Jan. 23:** Martin Luther King Remembrance Day Event, Location/Time TBD
- Jan. 23:** Community Information Meeting, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 9 a.m.
- Jan. 23:** Safety Occupational Health Advisory Committee, Bldg. 90, Room 25, 10 a.m.
- Jan. 23:** RIA Council of Colonels/Deputies Luncheon, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 11:30 a.m.
- Jan. 28:** Monthly Community Information Exchange, 9 a.m., Arsenal Island Clubhouse
- Jan. 28:** RIA Retirement & Retreat Ceremony Dress Rehearsal, 2 p.m.
- Jan. 29:** RIA Retirement & Retreat Key Leader Rehearsal, Heritage Hall, 2 p.m.
- Jan. 30:** RIA Retirement & Retreat Ceremony, 2 p.m., Bldg. 60, Heritage Hall
- Feb. 3-7:** Quarterly Transition Assistance Program Workshop, Bldg. 56
- Feb. 5:** Real Property Planning Board, Baylor Conf RM, 10 a.m.
- Feb. 11-13:** DA Photo Studio on RIA
- Feb. 12:** Tenant Senior NCO Meeting, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 11:30 a.m.
- Feb. 26:** RIA Tenant Senior Leaders Luncheon, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 11:30 a.m.



encumbered with disparaging rhetoric after various scandals and threatened by a wide array of legislative proposals to cut various benefits. ([More](#))

New Federal FEHB Insurance Plan Allows For New Style Of Health Coverage:

After a bipartisan deal struck by Congress, federal employees will soon have the option for a new type of health insurance plan that allows them to select any one other eligible family member to join them for coverage, in a program formally dubbed “Self Plus One.” Typically, previous plans either allowed for a federal employee to choose coverage on an individual basis or on a family basis, with nothing in-between. ([More](#))



Eagle Watches & Clock Tower Tours:

The park rangers with the Rock Island District, Corps of Engineers' Mississippi River Visitor Center will once again be conducting eagle watches and Clock Tower Building tours through the



Visitor Center on **Jan. 4, 5, 25, 26**, as well as **Feb. 1, 2, 8, and 9**. These dates are on Saturdays and Sundays at 9-10:30 a.m. and 12:30-2 p.m. These events will combine both the eagle watches and historical Clock Tower Building tours. Reservations are required and group size is limited. For more information or to make reservations call the Visitor Center at (309) 794-5338.

Holiday Closures: The following closures will take place on Arsenal Island during the holiday period between **Dec. 16**

and Jan. 3: • Between **Dec. 25 and Jan. 1** all RIA activities will be closed. • **Dec. 16 – Jan. 3** Holiday Schedule, Military half-day schedule. •

Dec. 22 – Jan. 6 Arsenal Island Golf Clubhouse closed. • **Dec. 22 – Jan. 6**, Island Oasis closed. • **Dec. 23 – Jan. 3**, Baylor Conference Center/Classroom One closed. • **Dec. 24**, Installation Equal Employment Office closed. • **Dec. 24**, RIA Museum and Resource Center closed. • **Dec. 24-27**, Installation Security & Intelligence Office closed. • **Dec. 24-27**, Bldg. 60 & 350 Cafeterias & Kava Café closed. • **Dec. 24**, Bldg. 212 Cafeteria closed



(limited menu on **Dec. 26 & 27**) • **Dec. 24, Dec. 31**, Fitness Center hours change to 4:45 a.m. – 4 p.m. • **Dec. 24, Dec. 31**, CDCs & SAC/YC hours change to 6 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. • **Dec. 24, Dec. 31**, Parent Central Services & FCC Admin office hours change to 7 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. • **Dec. 24, Dec. 31**, ACS hours change to 7 a.m. – 12 p.m. • **Dec. 24**, Exchange hours change to 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. • **Dec. 26**, Commissary closed. • **Dec. 27**, Physical Security Office closed. • **Dec. 27**, ASAP/EAP closed.

RIA Garrison DPTMS Installation Security & Intelligence Division

Closure: The Rock Island Arsenal Garrison DPTMS Installation Security & Intelligence Division will be closed all day starting Tuesday, **Dec. 24**, through Friday, **Dec. 27**, and will resume normal customer service hours (7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.) on Monday, **Dec. 30**. Any personnel who are retiring or separating, and require a security clearance debriefing are asked to out-process with the Garrison Security & Intelligence Division the week of **Dec. 16-20** during normal customer service hours, Monday, **Dec. 23**, prior to 3 p.m. or on Monday,



Dec. 30, during normal customer service hours. ([System Access/Authorization Requests](#)) ([JPAS visit requests](#))

Blood Drive: The Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center is hosting a blood drive in the Caisson Room (First Floor, Bldg. 60), on **Friday, Jan. 10 & 17, 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. A **2nd shift** blood drive will be held in the Cafeteria (Bldg. 210) beginning at **6:30 p.m. on Jan. 10**. A **3rd shift** blood drive will be held in the Cafeteria (Bldg. 210) beginning at **2:15 a.m. on Feb. 22**. To sign up for a blood drive held on either the 2nd or 3rd shift, donors should contact their shift supervisor. ([Blood Transfusion En Route to Trauma Center Keeps Navy Vet Alive](#))



Charlie Corpuscle Says, "*Fall is definitely in the air. Did you know that when someone "falls," your blood donation helps to pick them up? In some cases, it is the reason patients are able to get up and carry on in life. On behalf of the patients whose lives*

you have "picked up," thank you."

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 January,

February, March, April and May:

Official DA Studio Photography (DA, Government passport and command photos) will be offered at Rock Island Arsenal **Jan. 7, 8, and 9; Feb. 11, 12 and 13; March 11, 12 and 13; April 22, 23 and 24; and May 6, 7, and 8** (Note changes to previous April dates).

Appointments may be scheduled online by submitting a DA Form 3903 Work Request using the [Visual Information Ordering Site](#) for the available times: 7 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.

Arsenal Island Employee Local

Discounts: *The following discounts are exclusively*

available to Arsenal Island employees –

Double Tap

Firearms: Double Tap Firearms offers a 10 percent firearm discount and \$15

firearm transfer fee in Illinois to active duty and retired military personnel in the QCA ([🔗](#)). **Bennigan's Rock Island:** Arsenal employees, service men, service women you are always welcome at Bennigan's in Rock Island, and to show



you how much your welcome here, we offer a 25 percent discount off your meal, any day any time (☺).

Pepperjack's Restaurant & Lounge in Davenport:

Rock Island Arsenal employees receive 20 percent off their Pepperjack's entrée when they present their Arsenal identification card (one discount per ID) (☺). **New Life**

Chiropractic Clinic: Arsenal Island employees, we're offering you a 20 percent discount on our services (☺).

Goebel Family Dentistry: Active duty members of the military receive a 10 percent discount on all services. All other Arsenal civilian employees who are new patients can receive either the free exam and x-rays or a free whitening treatment on their first visit (☺). *This information is included for general workforce interest and does not constitute endorsement of the businesses or products.*

Arsenal Traffic/Construction

No Arsenal Traffic/Construction related announcements this week.

Building/Space Closures

☺

No Building/Space Closure related announcements this week.

Active Duty/Reserve Zone

☺

President Signs Spending Bill For Military Pay, Bonuses:

President Barack Obama signed House Resolution 3304, yesterday, which provides pay and bonuses for U.S. service members, enhances counter-terrorism efforts overseas, builds security capacities of key U.S. partner-nations, expands efforts to prevent sexual assault and strengthens protections for victims. Here is the text of the president's statement on the signing of the bill: Today I have signed into law H.R. 3304, the "National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2014." I have signed this annual defense authorization legislation because it will provide pay and bonuses for our service members, enhance counter-terrorism initiatives abroad, build the security capacity of key partners, and expand efforts to prevent sexual assault and strengthen protections for victims. ([More](#))

All Service Members Get Expedited

TSA Screening: The Transportation Security Administration announced that

starting Dec. 20, the agency will officially extend TSA Precheck expedited screening benefits to all U.S. armed forces service members in time for the holiday travel season. TSA said all service members—including those in the Coast Guard, Reserves and National Guard—will be able to use the expedited screening program at more than 100 participating airports when flying on nine major U.S. airlines. ([More](#))

Straight Talk from Odierno on Uniforms, Women in Combat Arms and PT Tests:

The Army is closing in on picking the Operation Enduring Freedom Camouflage Pattern, or MultiCam, to replace the Universal Camouflage Pattern, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno told Army Times. The 38th chief of staff of the Army sat down with Army Times on Dec. 18. The long-awaited policy on appearance standards and the plans for replacing UCP were among the topics discussed. Based upon Odierno's remarks, it appears that the Army will soon transition from UCP to MultiCam, the pattern adopted for use in Afghanistan in 2010. ([More](#))

Safety Spotlight

☺



IMCOM Leaders Stress Holiday

Safety: Happy Holidays! We are reminded that the winter holiday season is here with the changes in the leaves and a chill in the air. I encourage you to take time to be with your Family, recharge your batteries, and celebrate the holidays responsibly. If you are attending holiday parties, avoid drinking and driving or getting into a vehicle with someone who has been drinking. During the winter season, snow and ice can make driving hazardous. Take your time while driving, maintain a safe distance from the car in front of you, and arrive safely. Be prepared for a possible break-down by keeping a winter safety kit in your car. Plan rest stops every two hours and don't drive to far in any day. Be mindful of holiday stress because it can hit you when you least expect it. Relax and have fun. If stress builds, seek support and help from a Battle Buddy, Family member, friend, counselor, doctor, or clergyperson. ([More](#))

Equal Opportunity Focus

Women Still Face Bias in Hiring,

Advancement in Federal Service: This year, women made great strides in breaking federal glass ceilings. The Pentagon has ordered services to open

more combat positions to women, and it looks like Janet Yellen will become the first female Fed chief. Yet the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission felt compelled to release a report on obstacles to women's achievement in federal offices. In 2010, Office of Federal Operations Director Carlton Hadden directed attorneys inside EEOC to put together a work group that would reach out to equal employment opportunity representatives, affinity groups and diversity organizations to talk about the challenges facing women in the federal workforce. ([More](#))

OPM Reports Increase in Hiring

Disabled: The Office of Personnel Management this week said that hiring of workers with disabilities increased in fiscal 2012 to more than 16 percent of new federal hires. The data came as part of an OPM report required under a 2010 executive order aimed at hiring more disabled employees into the federal workforce. The federal government hired 16,653 people with disabilities by the end of fiscal 2012, according to the report, increasing the number of permanent employees with disabilities to 219,975 at the end of the 2012 fiscal year—boosting their representation in the federal workforce from 10.97

percent of the workforce in fiscal 2011 to 11.89 percent in fiscal 2012. ([More](#))

Morale, Welfare & Recreation (MWR)

Visit the MWR website at www.riamwr.com for information on all MWR programs. Also [click here](#) to become a fan on Facebook, or Twitter [@golf1897](#), and stay up to date on all the great MWR offerings here at the Arsenal.

Dec. 23 - Jan. 6, Arsenal Island Golf Clubhouse Closed For Lunch:

During the above period the Golf Clubhouse will close for regular lunch operations. All pre-booked functions will be unaffected by the closure. Call (309) 782-6319 for more info.

Dec. 24 & Dec. 31, Early Closure of Child Youth and School Services:

In order to allow our staff to spend time with their families we will be closing all CYSS programs at 3:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. ([Memo for more info](#))

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](#))

World's Toughest Rodeo: The World's Toughest Rodeo features the fan's favorite events: Bull Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding and Bareback Riding. The Midwest's fastest cowgirls will also compete in the Women's Barrel Racing. LTO has discounted tickets available for both days. \$31, \$21 & \$16. On sale until **Jan. 6.**

Date: **Friday, Jan. 24**

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

WWE Live: Don't miss all your favorite superstars for one night only on the Road to WrestleMania! World Heavyweight Champion John Cena, WWE Champion Randy Orton & WWE Tag Team Champions the Rhodes Brothers. Tickets on sale until **Jan. 21.**

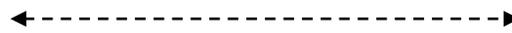
Date: **Sunday, March 2**

Time: **5 p.m.**

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



Early Closure of Child Youth and School Services: In order to allow our staff to spend time with their families we will be closing all CYSS programs at 3:30 p.m. on **Christmas Eve and New Years Eve.** ([Please see this memo for more info](#))



Army Community Service (ACS)



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



Sergeants through Colonels

Authorized Direct Access to AER

Services: Effective **Jan. 1** sergeants (E-5) through colonels (O-6) are authorized direct access to Army Emergency Relief

(services) according to a policy memo from AER HQ Nov. 21, 2013. For traditional AER assistance using AER Form 700, Sergeants and above may come directly to the AER section without a Commander's or First Sergeant's approval. Soldier's using the AER Commander's Referral program (AER Form 600 for "quick loans") will still need to have the Commander's or First Sergeant's approval, as will all Privates, Specialists and Corporals (E-1 through E-4) for all AER services. POC is [Jon Cook](#), (309) 782-1499.

Scholarships for Students with

Disabilities: Now is the time for high school juniors and especially seniors to start looking for college scholarships. If your student has a qualifying disability or special need, there are scholarships specifically to assist those students. There are federal grants available to qualified students, but more specific to students with disabilities is the U.S. Department of Education's TRIO Programs. TRIO programs are operated in conjunction with numerous colleges and universities across the country offering education grants for students from disadvantaged backgrounds, including those with severe disabilities. Availability of these programs will vary depending upon the institution. [For more](#)



[information visit RIA EFMP](#) see Additional Resources-Education or contact [Jan Saito](#), Exceptional Family Member Program Manager at (309) 782-4736.

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, 1st floor, East.

Martin Luther King Day of Service – January 2014: Beat the post-holiday blues this month by helping your community and yourself. The King Day of Service on Martin Luther King Day, January 20, 2014, offers you the opportunity to spend a day helping your community in a direct way. The social connection and sense of shared purpose that one gains from community service can often help one feel better. However, if you haven't been feeling well lately and nothing seems to help, consider

scheduling a free, confidential counseling session offered by the Rock Island Arsenal Employee Assistance Program. Master-level counselors provide short-term counseling and referral assistance. Call the EAP at (309) 782-4357 to schedule an appointment. The EAP is located in Bldg. 56, 1st Floor, East Wing and convenient hours are available from 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. You can also access an anonymous mental health screening at www.militarymentalhealth.org. The Rock Island Arsenal EAP hopes you have a great start to the New Year. If you would like to learn more about King Day of Service please visit www.mlkday.gov.

Understanding PTSD: Classes are being offered for those who wish to learn more about the nature and treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder **Jan. 14, Feb. 11**, Tuesdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m., Bldg. 56, 1st Floor, Room 122. Call (309) 782-4357 to reserve your spot. Presented by the Rock Island Arsenal Employee Assistance Program.

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.

National Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month: The month of December is National Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month.

According to the Center for Disease Control, everyday 36 people in the United States die and approximately 700 more are injured in motor vehicle crashes that involve an alcohol-impaired driver. This Holiday Season, don't put your life, or anyone else's life on the line. Be smart and be responsible. If you are going to drink, don't drive. If you are going to drive, don't drink. Don't allow one bad decision haunt you for the rest of your life.



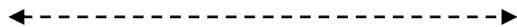
Grief Support Group: Grieving? We can help. The Employee Assistance Program is sponsoring a support group for individuals who are mourning the death of a loved one. The group meets on Tuesdays, 3-4 p.m., Bldg. 56, 1st



floor, Room 122. For more information contact Rita Baugh, EAP counselor, at (309) 782-2552.

Stress Management: Do you want to learn effective strategies to reduce stress? Sign up for a Stress Management Class. **Jan. 28 & Feb. 25**, Tuesdays, 10:30–11:30 a.m., Bldg. 56, 1st Floor, Room 122, Call (309) 782-4357 to reserve your spot. Sponsored by: Employee Assistance Program.

Smoking Cessation Group: Did you make a New Year's resolution to quit smoking? The Employee Assistance Program offers an educational group for people who would like to quit smoking. The group meets each Wednesday, 3-4 p.m., at the EAP office in Bldg. 56, 1st floor.



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.

RIAFCU Scholarship: Do you or someone you know need money for college? R.I.A. Federal Credit Union is awarding three \$1,000 scholarships for the 2014/2015 school year. Any primary member of R.I.A Federal Credit Union with an account in good standing is eligible to apply. An individual may join R.I.A. for the sole purpose of eligibility. The IL Quad City Credit Union League is also awarding scholarship monies for the 2014/2015 school year. Applications for either scholarship program are due **Feb. 15**. Applications may be picked up at the R.I.A. branch in Bldg. 61 or [download an application here](#).

"Lunch and Learn" with the University of Iowa: Come and learn about our education opportunities, Tuesday, **Jan. 7**, 12-1 p.m., in Bldg. 56, Classroom #2. Please RSVP to Michel Potarelli at 319-335-3782.

Tuition Assistance Changes to Take Effect For 2014: Beginning Jan. 1, there will be a cap on the number of semester hours that can be taken using Tuition Assistance, and tighter TA eligibility rules. Soldiers will be able to use TA one year after graduating from initial entry training, known as IET, said Brig. Gen. David. K. MacEwen, adjutant

general of the Army, Human Resources Command, Fort Knox, Ky. ([More](#))

Scheduled Closure: Western Illinois University will be closed the following Tuesdays for Winter Break – **Dec. 24** and **31**. The National Testing Center will also be closed on those dates.

Get Ready, Get Set, Go-Go-Go to School!: Seeking or Pursuing a College Degree? Have Questions? Meet with school representatives and learn about educational opportunities in the Quad Cities, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Bldg. 56, 1st Floor, Room 121. • Ashford University: (563) 508-0927, **Jan. 24**; • Black Hawk College: (309) 796-5191, **Jan. 9**; • Saint Ambrose University: (563) 333-6170, **Jan. 16**. Military personnel, family members, and DoD civilians are welcome to stop by. No appointments are necessary. Education Center POC: Guidance Counselor, [Lorrie Blumberg](#), (309) 782-6343.

NDIA Academic Year 2014-15 Scholarship: Applications for the Iowa Illinois Chapter NDIA Academic Year 2014-15 scholarship are now being accepted. The scholarship application may be found at www.ndia-ia-il.org. Applications must be postmarked by



March 24. Call (563) 650-3252 for further information.

Sgt. Paul Fisher Academic Year 2014-15: Scholarship Applications for Academic Year 2014-15 Sgt. Paul Fisher Scholarship are now being accepted. High school senior sons and daughters of active duty, reserve, and retired military members in Iowa and northwestern Illinois are eligible to apply. Applications are available on the chapter's web site, www.ndia-ia-il.org. Applications must be postmarked by **March 24.** Call (563) 650-3252 for any additional information.

Commissary / 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](#))

Scholarships for Military Children Program Opens: Applications for the 2014 Scholarships for Military Children Program become available Dec. 3 at commissaries worldwide or on the Internet at www.militaryscholar.org. Applications must be turned in to a commissary by close of business **Feb. 28.** Packages must be hand-delivered or shipped via U.S. Postal Service or other delivery methods, not emailed or faxed. This year's award amount has risen to \$2,000, and the program awards at least one scholarship at each commissary with qualified applicants. An applicant must be a dependent, unmarried child, younger than 21 - or 23, if enrolled as a full-time student at a college or university - of a service member on active duty, Reserve or Guard member, retiree or survivor of a military member who died while on active duty, or survivor of a retiree.

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](#))

This Week in Rock Island Arsenal History – Dec. 23-29: In December 1871, Shop B (Bldg. 60) was completed. On Dec. 29, 1918, Col. Leroy Hillman died of pneumonia while commanding the RIA.

Healthbeat

☪ **Secure Your Prescription Drugs When Hosting Holiday Parties:**

Prescription-drug abuse likely isn't on your mind when you open your home to holiday guests. But it's a major problem in the United States, and you should take preventive action when hosting a party, experts say. "We don't like to think of guests rifling through our medicine chests, but it is a possibility," Courtney Stewart, a research associate at the Indiana Prevention Resource Center at the Indiana University School of Public Health, in Bloomington, said in a university news release. "Play it safe."



Guests will be using bathrooms and placing coats and purses in various rooms," she said. "Prescription drugs of any kind should be placed in a safe location where they are kept locked and out of the hands of guests." ([More](#))

Notes for Veterans

Heitkamp Sponsors Bill to Keep

Disabled Vets in Their Homes: In an effort to ensure America's disabled veterans receive all of the care they need to make sure their lives are of the best quality, Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, D-N.D., along with Sen. Dean Heller, R-Nev., introduced in the Senate the Vulnerable Veterans Housing Reform Act of 2013. Similar legislation passed the House in October. The act changes the way the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development calculates disabled veteran's income, by subtracting their veterans' pension from their income. ([More](#))

Carpooling Announcements

Submit carpooling 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.

Carpool:

- **Ride:** Looking for a ride and pay for gas. Location – Sherwood Forest Apartment, Davenport. Call thru Illinois relay at (800) 526-0857 to contact me at (309) 782-1078 (TTY). ([Email](#))
- **Carpool:** Carpool from Rio, Ill., looking for people to carpool with along 150. Please call (309) 782-5472.
- **Carpool:** New hire with flexible hours seeking to pay for ride from Moline 9th & 53rd, (Franklin School area) (309) 757-5755.

Around the Q.C.

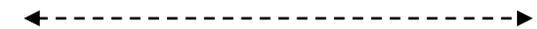
- Jan. 5:** [Chocolate Festival](#) (Quad City Botanical Center, Rock Island)
- Jan. 10-12:** [Quad City Bald Eagle Days](#) (QCCA Expo Center, Rock Island)
- Jan. 18:** [32nd Annual Frostbite Footrace 5K](#) (Scott County Park, Iowa)
- Jan. 19-21:** [QC Farm Equipment Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center, Rock Island)
- Feb. 14:** [Valentine Walk](#) (Watchtower Lodge, Black Hawk State Historic Site, Rock Island)
- Feb. 13-16:** [Outdoor Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center, Rock Island)
- Feb. 23:** [CBRC Chili Chase 4-Mile Run/Walk](#) (Duck Creek Park, Davenport)
- March 15:** [29th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade](#) (Rock Island & Davenport)
- March 19-22:** [Gathering of the Green](#) (RiverCenter, Davenport)
- March 21-23:** [QCCA Flower and Garden Show](#) (QCCA Expo Center, Rock Island)
- April 12:** [Bandits Race to Home 5K](#) (Modern Woodman Park)
- April 12:** [Run for Renewal 5K](#) (Sr. Concetta Park, Davenport)
- May 3:** [Village in Bloom: Festival of the Arts](#) (Village of East Davenport)
- May 3:** [Derby Day Party](#) (Arsenal Island Golf Clubhouse)
- May 3:** [Venus Envy](#) (Bucktown Center for the Arts, Davenport)
- May 10-11:** [Beaux Arts Fair](#) (Downtown Davenport)
- May 17:** [5th Annual You Were Made for This 5K](#) (Young Life, Moline)
- May 17:** [Livefit With Lupus Run 5K](#) (LeClaire, Iowa)
- May 26:** [49th Annual Quad Cities Criterium](#) (Downtown Rock Island)
- June 3-7:** [Quad Cities Senior Olympics](#) (Rock Island)
- June 6-7:** [Rhubarb Festival](#) (Aledo, Ill.)
- June 6-7:** [22nd Annual Gumbo Ya Ya](#) (The District, Rock Island)
- June 7-8:** [QC Pridefest](#) (Downtown Davenport)
- June 12:** [Hot Rod Magazine Power Tour](#) (Isle Casino Hotel, Bettendorf) <http://www.hotrod.com/>
- June 12-15:** [19th Annual Rally on the River](#) (Centennial Park, Davenport)



June 14: [Run for the Hills XC 5K](#) (Crow Creek Park, Bettendorf)
June 14-15: [Juneteenth](#) (LeClaire Park, Davenport)
June 15: [30th Annual Ride the River Bike Ride](#) (Downtown Davenport)
June 17-21: [145th Annual Rock Island County Fair](#) (Rock Island County Fairgrounds, East Moline)
June 21: [Inaugural Micro Brew Mile & 6k Road Race](#) (Moline)
June 21: [Royal Ball Run For Autism 5K](#) (Milan, Ill.)
June 22: [Blossoms at Butterworth](#) (Deere Family Homes, Moline)
June 27-28: [Greek Cultural Fest](#) (Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, East Moline)
June 28-29: [28th Annual Quad City Air Show](#) (Davenport Airport, Mount Joy, Iowa)
July 3: [Red, White & Boom!](#) (The District & Downtown Davenport)
July 3-5: [30th Annual Mississippi Valley Blues Festival](#) (LeClaire Park, Davenport)
July 4: [Firecracker Run & Parade](#) (East Moline)
July 4: [Bettendorf Old-Fashioned 4th of July](#) (Bettendorf)
July 7-13: [John Deere Classic PGA Tour](#) (TPC Deere Run, Silvis)
July 10-12: [Walcott Truckers Jamboree](#) (Iowa 80 Truckstop, Walcott, Iowa)
July 12: [Case Creek Obstacle Run 5K](#) (Coal Valley, Ill.)
July 19-20: [Heartland Jam](#) (Centennial Park)
July 25-26: [43rd Annual Street Fest Presented by the MVRBC](#) (Downtown Davenport)
July 26: [41st Annual Quad-City Times Bix7](#)

July 29-Aug. 3: [95th Annual Great Mississippi Valley Fair](#) (Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds, Davenport)
July 31-Aug. 3: [43rd Annual Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Jazz Festival](#) (RiverCenter/Adler Theatre, Davenport)
Aug. 2: [British Auto Fest](#) (LeClaire, Iowa)
Aug. 7: [2nd Annual Freedom Run 5K](#) (East Moline, Ill.)
Aug. 7-9: [Great Tug Fest](#) (LeClaire, Iowa & Port Byron, Ill.)
Aug. 8-9: [22nd Annual Ya Maka My Weekend](#) (The District, Rock Island)
Aug. 15-16: [10th Annual River Roots Live & Rockin' Rib Fest](#) (LeClaire Park, Davenport)
Aug. 16: [Floatzilla](#) (Sunset Marina, Rock Island)
Aug. 22-24: [World Series of Dragracing](#) (Cordova Dragway)
Aug. 23: [Silvis Home Run 5K](#) (Shadt Park, Silvis, Ill.)
Aug. 30-31: [Rock Island Grand Prix](#) (Downtown Rock Island)
Sept. 1: [Bettendorf Rotary Run with Carl](#) (Life Fitness Center, Bettendorf)
Sept. 5-21: [East West Riverfest](#) (Various QC Locations)
Sept. 6: [Quad City Symphony Riverfront Pops](#) (LeClaire Park, Davenport)
Sept. 6: [¡Viva! Quad Cities](#) (Isle of Capri, Bettendorf)
Sept. 6: [QCA Heritage Tractor Parade & Show](#) (John Deere Pavilion, Moline)
Sept. 6-7: [Beaux Arts Fair](#) (Downtown Davenport)
Sept. 19-20: [Celtic Festival & Highland Games](#) (Centennial Park, Davenport)
Sept. 20: [15th Annual WQPT Brew Ha Ha](#)
Sept. 20-21: [Riverssance Festival of Fine Arts](#) (Lindsay Park, Village of East Davenport)

Sept. 28: [17th Annual Quad Cities Marathon](#)
Sept. 26-28: [Hot Air Balloon Festival](#) (Kennedy Square, East Moline)
Oct. 4: [Night of the Running Dead 5K](#) (Davenport)
Oct. 4: [GiGi's Super Hero Run](#) (Bettendorf)
Oct. 11: [Trinity Quad Cities Classic Regatta](#) (on the Mississippi River in Moline)
Oct. 12: [Apple Fest](#) (Downtown LeClaire, Iowa)
Oct. 23: [Fright Night](#) (The District, Rock Island)
Oct. 25: [Lagomarcino's Cocoa Beano 5K Race](#) (Moline)
Oct. 25-26: [Boo at the Zoo](#) (Niabi Zoo, Milan, Ill.)
Nov. 22: [Festival of Trees Parade](#) (Downtown Davenport)
Nov. 22: [Lighting on the John Deere Commons](#) (John Deere Commons, Moline)
Nov. 22: [Holiday Pops Concert](#) (Downtown Moline)
Dec. 7: [19th Century Christmas](#) (Butterworth Center, Moline)



Island Insight



Col. Elmer Speights, Jr., Garrison Commander; Eric Cramer, Public Affairs Officer; Mark Kane, Editor
The Army publication, Island Insight, is an unofficial publication authorized under AR 360-1 to provide information on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of, about, and of interest to the Rock Island Arsenal community. It is published weekly using word processing software and Adobe



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SOLDIERS LEADERS CIVILIANS FAMILIES

Take 5

Safe and Sober Celebrating

For Hosts

- Collect car keys from guests as they arrive, and return them to only those guests who are not impaired
- Offer alcohol-free beverages and plenty of food so guests have alternatives to alcohol
- Ensure guests leave sober or with a sober designated driver, or call a cab for guests without a ride
- Keep alcoholic beverages off limits to all guests under the age of 21

For Guests

- Make a plan; designate a nondrinking buddy and give them the keys
- Prearrange a taxi service or have the numbers for local cab companies programmed into your cellphone
- Rotate designated driver responsibilities and, if no one else volunteers, speak up and offer to stay sober

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ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG

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