



Dec. 19, 2016

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:



www.usagria.army.mil/News/II.aspx

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Weather Doesn't Deter Arsenal Wreath Ceremony

For Brig. Gen. Richard B. Dix, Saturday's Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Rock Island Arsenal was important for a number of reasons. Speaking at Rock Island National Cemetery, Brig. Gen. Dix thanked the hearty souls who braved the cold and snow



to participate and volunteer locally along with others at nearly 1,000 locations across the country and overseas in the remembrance ceremonies. "Every wreath we place is a visible symbol of our sacred promise to remember our veterans," he told the small crowd. He said he wanted to, "honor their memories and to pay them back in some small way for the sacrifices they have made for us. "We place these wreaths in the spirit of remembrance and spirit of sympathy and condolence to those who grieve the loss of deceased veterans at a time of year when these losses may feel especially poignant," he said. "Thank you very much. It shows all of us how important this ceremony really is to America." ([More](#)) ([Army News Service](#)) ([QC Times](#)) ([KWQC](#)) ([WHBF](#))

Upcoming Dates

Dec. 20: Grief Support Grp, EAP, Bldg. 56, 1st Flr., Rm. 104, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Dec. 20: Emotional Intelligence, EAP, Bldg. 56, 1st Flr., Rm. 104, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Dec. 26: Christmas Day (*Federal Holiday*)

Dec. 27: Grief Support Grp, EAP, Bldg. 56, 1st Flr., Rm. 104, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Jan. 2: New Year's Day (*Federal Holiday*)

Jan. 3: Overseas Orientation, ACS Training Room, Bldg. 110, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Jan. 5: Discovery Time Playgroup, TBD
Jan. 6: Advanced Résumé Class, ACS Training Room, Bldg. 110, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Jan. 6: Sponsorship Training, ACS Training Room, Bldg. 110, 12-1 p.m.

Jan. 12: Discovery Time Playgroup, TBD

Jan. 13: MVRBC Blood Drive, Lock & Dam Lounge, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Jan. 16: Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday (*Federal Holiday*)

Jan. 19: Discovery Time Playgroup, TBD

Jan. 19: Military Dads, TBD

Jan. 20: MVRBC Blood Drive, Lock & Dam Lounge, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Jan. 20: Quad Cities and Arsenal Tours - JMTC Factory Tour, TBD

Jan. 26: Newcomers Orientation and Bus Tour, Arsenal Island Clubhouse, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Jan. 31: Military Spouse Fun Night, ACS, Bldg. 110, 6-8 p.m.

Feb. 3: Sponsorship Training, ACS Training Room, Bldg. 110, 12-1 p.m.

Campaign Officials Extend CFC Deadline

The most recent Illowa Bi-State Combined Federal Campaign status report shows donations at 58 percent, or \$230,988 of the \$400,000 annual goal. The CFC open season, originally scheduled to conclude on Dec. 13, has been extended to **Dec. 31** according to campaign officials. CFC is comprised of more than 24,000 charities and spans 151 regions benefitting local, domestic and international recipients. Money raised in the Illowa CFC -- Illinois + Iowa -- covers 37 counties in the region, and more than a third of the donations remain in the local and regional area. Donating just \$1 per week can provide:

- 50 hours of activities for seniors at seniors centers
- 68 meals to low-income individuals
- 36 hot meals delivered to homebound elderly
- Trained volunteer tutors to help with reading and math for 12 elementary school students
- Bilingual beginning-to-read books to build early literacy skills for 10 children
- Three 30-minute appointments for health assessment and counseling to individuals facing physical, developmental or mental health challenges

Donations are tax deductible and help families all year. Federal employees, including military personnel, can ePledge to CFC through Dec. 31 via [the MyPay system](#), which has a drop-down CFC menu added to the pay change menu. Those without access to [MyPay](#) can donate using hardcopy payroll deduction through **Dec. 23**. Contact your CFC keyperson for a hardcopy form. CFC donations can be set up for incremental withdrawals throughout the 26 biweekly pay period of 2017. CFC-related questions can be answered by dialing 309-782-8352 or 8348.



RIA Personnel Retire With Combined 267 Years of Service

A retirement ceremony for five Soldiers and four Department of the Army civilians stationed at Rock Island Arsenal was held in Heritage Hall, here, Dec. 8. Melanie Johnson, deputy to the commander, Joint Munitions and Lethality Life Cycle Management Command and Joint Munitions Command, presided over the ceremony. "Their collective knowledge and leadership have made an enormous difference and impact to our Army - not only to the accomplishment of the mission, but also to the people they have mentored, coached, trained, led and supported during their careers," said Johnson. Johnson also thanked the family members for supporting the retirees throughout their careers. The U.S. Army Sustainment Command hosted the event and provided the color guard.

[\(More\)](#)



Mentorship Program Graduation Ceremony Held At ASC Headquarters

A graduation ceremony was held for participants in U.S. Army Sustainment Command's 2016 Mentorship Program, here, Dec. 14. This was the first group to graduate from the revamped Mentorship Program in several years. The ASC Mentorship Program provides new Rock Island Arsenal employees with opportunities to build personal and professional relationships with senior RIA personnel. Col. Lance R. Koenig, chief of staff, ASC, thanked mentors for volunteering, and encouraged mentees to take what they gained from the experience with them throughout their careers. [\(More\)](#)



Beauty, History of Quarters One Shared Sunday

The weather outside Sunday was frightful, but inside the cozy, festively decorated Quarters One, it was delightful. At two showings, the Colonel Davenport Historical Foundation welcomed over 80 guests for its fourth-annual Christmas Tea at the historic Italianate-style villa. The elegant event -- featuring many tasty gourmet snacks and refreshments -- is a fundraiser for the foundation and a rare opportunity for a public tour of the 1871 mansion. There are annual "ghost hunters" tours of Quarters One each fall, but otherwise, the Christmas Tea is the only regular public tour during the year, said tour guide Jolene Keeney. The vice president of the Rock Island Arsenal Historical Society and board member for the Col. Davenport House, she has given tours of Quarters One since 2008. ([More](#))



ASC Holds First S-8 Conference in Four Years

The U.S. Army Sustainment Command's lead personnel for financial management traveled from around the world to attend an S-8 (Resource Management) conference at ASC headquarters in Building 390, here, Dec. 7-9. The purpose of the event was to help synchronize financial management efforts across ASC's area of responsibility and to collaborate on solutions to current challenges, according to Cheryl Vincent, director, G-8 (Resource Management), ASC. This was the first S-8 conference held at ASC in four years.



"We want to be the best stewards of the command's resources as we can be," said Vincent. As a general-level command, ASC headquarters has a G-8 that is in charge of financial oversight and management. As colonel-level commands, each of ASC's Army Field Support Brigades has a designated S-8. The G-8 provides funding to the S-8s who then work to 'obligate' (spend) it on services and material to troops. ([More](#))

Obama Thanks Feds One Last Time before Leaving Office

With just over a month left in the Obama administration, the White House held a special recognition ceremony on Dec. 13 to recognize the work federal employees do for the American people. "Over these past eight years you have hauled our government to a place where it is smarter and faster and more responsive to the needs of the American people in the 21st century," President Barack Obama said in a video message. "Whether you're a young person who just signed up because you want to make a difference or a career employee who has dedicated your life to that pursuit, I want you to know that it has been my privilege to call you my colleagues." During the ceremony, feds from the U.S. Digital Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, the National Weather Service, the Environmental Protection Agency and more took to the stage to talk about innovative projects that have had a direct effect on the American public. ([More](#))



President-elect Donald Trump Nominates Vincent Viola as Secretary of the Army

President-elect Donald Trump today announced he intends to nominate former U.S. Army infantry officer and current Virtu Financial Founder and Executive Chairman Vincent “Vinnie” Viola as Secretary of the Army. As Secretary of the Army, Viola will combine a deep background in national security affairs with an impressive track record of leading and managing high-performing teams within the military and the private sector. Viola is a West Point graduate and U.S. Army veteran. He was trained as an Airborne Ranger infantry officer and served in the 101st Airborne Division. Viola has long been engaged with national security issues even after his military service. ([More](#))



DoD Unveils Redesigned National Resource Directory

The National Resource Directory (www.nrd.gov), a website that provides access to services and resources at the national, state and local levels, unveiled an updated design and layout this week. The updates were implemented to make the site more user- friendly for the thousands of service members, veterans and family members who use the Directory each month. “The National Resource Directory has been an invaluable collection of resources for our service members, veterans and their families,” said James Rodriguez, deputy assistant secretary of defense, Office of Warrior Care Policy. “Improving the site and expanding its capabilities was an easy decision.” Enhancements to the Directory include a refreshed appearance, updated search engine, and behind the scenes software updates that will improve the speed and accuracy of managing the programs and services listed. Also included in the redesign is the addition of widgets-, a stand-alone application that organizations can use to enable access to Directory functions through their own websites. ([More](#))



Trust Bedrock of Army Profession

Trust, say Army leaders, is a key component of the Army profession and it is critical to everything Soldiers do. Army leaders from across the force met last week in Fairfax, Virginia, during the Army Profession Forum, hosted by the Center for the Army Profession and Ethic, to discuss, among other things, the role trust plays in the Army profession. Kicking off the day-long event, Secretary of the Army Eric Fanning addressed several hundred Army senior leaders regarding Soldiering as a profession. "We must train on this, train on what we define as our profession, like we train on everything else, so that it's instinctual in a way that maybe isn't for other people, again, because of the incredible things we ask the Army to do, that we ask our Soldiers and civilians to do," Fanning said. "This needs to be ingrained in a way that we wouldn't expect for others outside this profession." ([More](#))



DoD Unveils Plan to Broaden Sexual Assault Support to Men

Defense Department officials announced today the release of the “DoD Plan to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Assault of Military Men,” designed to enhance outreach to military men and increase efforts to help them recover. Army Maj. Gen. Camille Nichols, director of the DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, said sexual assault destroys unit cohesion and threatens force readiness by eroding bonds of trust that make the military strong and effective. The DoD plan, she added, outlines the need to help all service members better understand the unique aspects of



assaults against men and how to prevent them. “Unfortunately, most men would rather be silent than report a sexual assault,” Nichols said. “We are working to encourage men by emphasizing that warriors show strength by seeking help.” ([More](#))

First Army HQ Active Shooter Exercise

On **Tuesday, Dec. 20**, between 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m., First Army HQ will be conducting an Active Shooter Exercise in Bldg. 68. RIA Police department will be notified and will respond to the exercise. RIA dispatch are tracking the event and will respond to 911 calls from First Army. This is a training exercise only.

Company Kitchen Cafés Holiday Hours

All Company Kitchen (Bldg. 60, Bldg. 212 and Bldg. 350) cafés will be closed- all day on **Friday, Dec. 23**. The cafes will operate with limited menus the **Dec. 19 to Jan. 6**. Company Kitchen is part of [Treat America](#), a food service management company that includes [Company Kitchen](#), Bistro Kids, and Bistro Fresh. The Treat America contract is overseen by [RIA Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Business Programs](#), which oversees the contract for the various cafeterias on Rock Island Arsenal, as well as the [Arsenal Island Golf Course and Clubhouse](#), its satellite operation, the [Island Oasis Cafe & Grill](#), and the [Lock & Dam Lounge](#) (formerly the Arsenal Club). [Army MWR](#) is a quality-of-life program that directly supports readiness by providing a variety of community, Soldier, and family support programs, activities and services. Included in MWR are social, fitness, recreational, educational, and other programs and activities that enhance community life, foster Soldier and unit readiness, promote mental and physical fitness, and generally provide a working and living environment that attracts and retains quality for U.S. Army Soldiers, family members, retirees and its civilian workforce. [RIA FMWR](#) is an active participant, and in integral part, of the success of the [Rock Island Arsenal Community Health Promotion Council](#). The RIA CHPC functions as the commanding general's executive agency for the recommendation of priorities and the implementation, synchronization, reporting and assessment of all [Ready and Resilient Campaign](#) plan functions in order to ensure a ready and resilient force. <http://go.usa.gov/xjhzw>



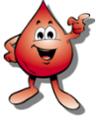
VIOS Schedule for January

Official DA Studio Photography (DA, Government Passport and Command Photos) will be offered at Rock Island Arsenal on **Jan. 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13**. 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. 90, Basement, Room B11). 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. All scheduled dates can be found on the [RIA VIOS website](#)

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, Jan. 13 & 20, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.** If you would like to donate at this blood drive, feel free to email SHoegerl@mvrbc.com with the time you'd like to schedule, or call their Donor Center at 563-359-5401, ext. 119.





Charlie Corpuscles says, *"Did you know? Thirty eight percent of the U.S. population is eligible to give blood, but less than 10 percent actually donate. All donated blood is tested for various viruses and diseases before being transfused. Including: Hepatitis B & C, HIV, HCV, HTLV, Syphilis, West Nile virus and Chagas' disease."*



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](#).

Arsenal Deer Hunt

Rock Island Arsenal played host to an archery hunt to reduce the size of the Arsenal's deer population on Dec. 10 and 11, and will again on Saturday and Sunday, **Jan. 7 and 8**, with an alternate weekend planned for **Jan. 14 and 15** if needed. [POC for the hunt](#) is 309-782-6107.



End of Year Leave Donations

For those wishing to donate annual leave to a federal civilian employee currently accepted into the Leave Transfer Program for an ongoing medical emergency, please complete Statement of Leave Donor (RIA form 690-43) or Request to Donate Annual Leave (OPM 630a) and submit with supervisor signature to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. To ensure a leave donation will be deducted from this calendar year, all donations must be received in the CPAC no later than **Wednesday, Jan. 4**. Generally, the maximum number of annual leave hours an employee may donate per year is one-half of the amount of annual leave he/she is entitled to earn in that leave year, as follows:



Annual Leave Hours Earned Per Pay Period	Maximum Number of Hours that May be Donated
4	52
6	78
8	104

Toward the end of the leave year, the maximum donation decreases to no more than the number of hours remaining in the leave year (as of the date of transfer) the donor is scheduled to work and receive pay. POC Janine Coupee may be reached at PECH-NCR-E, 309-782-1278.

Arsenal Island Employee Local Discounts

The following discounts are exclusively available to Arsenal Island employees — **Scrub Pub of Bettendorf:** Enjoy the lowest priced Drop-Off Laundry service in the area and receive a 10 percent discount at 2124 State Street, Bettendorf, by showing your ID. While performing your own laundry, you can enjoy a variety of food, drinks, and beer. **AT&T Wireless:** As a service member of the U.S. Army you could be saving 15 percent on the monthly service charge of qualified wireless

plans. Visit your local AT&T store at 4500 16th Street, (inside SouthPark Mall) Moline or 3120 E. 53rd street, Davenport, or to purchase online, visit att.com/wireless/USArmy If you visit a local AT&T store, please have proof of eligibility. Mention Discount Code: FAN2421660. **Infinity Salon & Spa:** Located at 220 W 3rd St. in Davenport, we offer 15 percent off services for military and the Arsenal Island workforce. We are a full service salon: hair, manicure, pedicures, massage, waxing, facials, for men, women, and children. Eligible personnel only need to show a military or work ID. **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. **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 Ave., 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

RIA Family Housing Construction Begins, Road, Parking Lot Closures Scheduled

The construction of the Army Family Housing project on RIA east of the Davenport House began Nov. 7. The construction includes road and partial parking lot closures. There are signs at Hillman St. and Whittemore St. informing drivers that no through-traffic is allowed and that the streets have no outlet during construction. Drivers are directed to use Davenport Drive to visit the Davenport House. The US Army Corps of Engineers is managing the Army Family Housing construction project on RIA east of the Davenport House for a **period of 540 working days**.

Update Repair Gillespie Street

On Sept. 6, Public Works began making repairs to Gillespie Street. The road is closed between Blunt Road and the north entrance to Bldg 312. We encourage pedestrians to avoid this area, but they may use the west sidewalk along Gillespie to the south entrance of Bldg. 312 and then cross over to the golf cart path proceeding onto Ramsey Road. If safety becomes an issue, the area will be closed to pedestrian traffic. Orange safety fence is installed around the perimeter of the work area. Please use caution when traveling near the area and be aware of extra truck traffic traveling to the construction site.

Notice for Repair of Gillespie Street

On Aug. 15, the Directorate of Public Works began making repairs to Gillespie Street. The work is being accomplished in multiple phases. Phase I includes the repaving of Gillespie Street from Blunt Road to the north edge of the south entrance to Bldg. 312. Phase II is from the south entrance to North Avenue. Work includes paving, curb and gutter, storm drainage and sidewalk replacement. The project is expected to last approximately **four months** depending on weather. Orange safety fence are installed around the perimeter of the work area. Signs and barricades are in use to detour traffic. Please use caution when traveling near the area.

Parking Area Lot Closed Near Bldg. 350

On Oct. 17, the Directorate of Public Works began a project to repair the emergency generators located in Parking Lot 3L northeast of Bldg. 350. The work includes replacement of an existing generator that feeds critical loads in Bldg. 350. The new generator will be located along the north edge of the parking which requires closing approximately 40 parking spaces during construction. The project is scheduled to be completed by **Friday, July 14**.

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



Military Spouse Briefings

Come join us if you have incoming/outgoing military members/staff, if you are in the military with a spouse, or if you are a military spouse looking for placement opportunities. The Rock Island Civilian Personnel Advisory Center is offering two informational briefings on the Military Spouse Program; how it works and what it has to offer. The briefings will include a program overview, program eligibility and the program requirements along with the documentation requirements and application process for potential placement consideration. In addition, if the military member and spouse are departing, you will receive information on the options available at that time. The Informational Briefings will be held in Bldg. 103, in the 1st floor Training Room. Space is limited so reservations are required. The briefing dates are:

- **Tuesday, Jan. 24**, 9-11 a.m. (reserve your seat no later than **Jan. 12**)
- **Tuesday, Feb. 21**, 9-11 a.m. (reserve your seat no later than **Feb. 9**)

Reserve your seat by calling Ragina Smith, human resources specialist, at 309-782-1305.

Safety Spotlight



ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG



Ready for Winter? TRICARE Shares Safety Tips for the Season

For many, the winter season brings family, merriment and holiday parties. It's easy to forget that winter weather can be dangerous. Don't let the season's severe storms, light dustings of snow or cold temperatures catch you unprepared. Make sure you and your families know how to safeguard yourselves from dangerous winter weather. Snow, sleet and high winds can knock out heat, power and communication services to your home or office. Get prepared for weather-related emergencies, and follow these steps from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention to prepare your home.

- Check your heating systems and have them professionally serviced.
- Inspect and clean fireplaces and chimneys.
- Have a safe alternate heating source and alternate fuels available.
- Install both carbon monoxide (CO) and smoke detectors. Check batteries regularly.
- Stock food that needs no cooking or refrigeration and water stored in clean containers.
- Ensure that your cell phone is fully charged.
- Keep an up-to-date emergency kit.

Don't forget that during the cold weather months our bodies need extra protection. It's best to layer light, warm clothing, gloves, scarves, hats and waterproof boots for wetter weather. Work slowly when doing outside chores, and take a friend and an emergency kit when participating in outdoor recreation. And, don't forget to drink water. Even though you may not feel as thirsty in the cold weather as you do in the summer months, staying hydrated is just as important. ([More](#))

Equal Employment Opportunity Focus



Fanning: Equality, Inclusivity Not An 'Experiment,' But 'American Value'

Secretary of the Army Eric Fanning provided keynote remarks for the National Forum for Asian American and Pacific Islander Military Members and Veterans on Monday at the Women's in Military Service to America memorial located in Arlington National Cemetery. "For more than 150 years, from almost as soon as men and women from Asia began arriving in the United States, Asian-Americans began defending the United States," said Fanning during his remarks. "Asian Americans and Pacific islanders have contributed to the power of our example and the example of our power -- it's a tradition that dates back to the Civil War." The event was sponsored by the President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, or AAPIs, which was restored in 2009 by President Obama. "This initiative by the president is to support military members and veterans in all of our diverse groups, particularly in the Asian-American and Pacific Islander demographic," said Ravi Chaudhary, a member of the president's AAPI commission.

([More](#))

Morale, Welfare & Recreation



Morale, Welfare & Recreation (MWR)

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

MWR Leisure Travel Office



Office Hours

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Bldg. 333. The office is closed for lunch from 10:30–11 a.m., 309-782-5890. ([email](#)) ([website](#))

Paw Patrol Live

Leisure Travel Office has discounted seats to the 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. shows of Paw Patrol Live coming to the Alder Theater on **Tuesday, Jan. 24**. Please contact the office for seating and prices. Discounted seats on sale until **Monday, Jan. 9**, or sold out.

World's Toughest Rodeo

Cinch World's Toughest Rodeo has doubled up on preshow fun as the event will opens at 6 p.m. for a free preshow as we invite fans to "get down in the dirt." Come early and partake in the interactive activities for all ages including pony rides, all access meet and greet with cowboys and entertainers, hop in the clown's barrel for photos, sit on Midnight the bull in the bucking chutes, or get up close and personal with the Cinch World's Toughest Rodeo animal superstars as our staff host behind the chutes tours. The entire arena will overflow with fantastic activities all new for 2017 from 6-7 p.m. Leisure Travel has discounted seating for both Friday and Saturday shows. • **Friday, Jan. 27**, at 7:30 p.m.; Section 102, rows 11 & 12, adult \$35.50, children 12 under \$21.75, Section 201, rows 2, 3 & 4, adult \$25.50, children 12 under \$16.75. • **Saturday, Jan. 28**, at 7:30 p.m.; Section 102, rows 11 & 12, \$35.50 adult/child, Section 202, rows 2, 3 & 4 \$25.50 adult/child. Tickets on sale through Leisure Travel until **Monday, Jan. 16**.

Ghost the Musical

On **Saturday, Feb. 18**, doors open at 5:45 p.m. at Circa 21 presents: Ghost – adapted from the hit film by its Academy Award-winning screenwriter, Bruce Joel Rubin, Ghost the Musical follows Sam and Molly, a young couple whose connection takes a shocking turn after Sam's untimely death. Trapped between two worlds, Sam refuses to leave Molly when he learns she is in grave danger. Desperate to communicate with her, he turns to a storefront psychic, Oda Mae Brown, who helps him protect Molly and avenge his death. Leisure Travel has discounted tickets at \$47.75 on sale until **Saturday, Feb. 4**.

WWE Live Road to Wrestlemania

WWE Live Road to Wrestlemania, **Saturday, Feb. 25**, at 7:30 p.m. – WWE returns to the Quad Cities for the first time in 2017. Leisure Travel has discounted seating on sale; Section 105, Row 9,

seats 1-15; Section 110, Row 10, seats 1-15; \$36.50 per ticket; and Section 104, Row 12, seats 1-16; Section 104, Row 13, seats 1-16, \$48.50 per ticket. See your favorite WWE Superstars including: John Cena, AJ Styles, Dean Ambrose, Randy Orton, Bray Wyatt, Becky Lynch, Nikki Bella, The Miz, Dolph Ziggler, The Usos, and many more (card subject to change).

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**.

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. In addition, [a list of our classes & groups with dates, locations, and times, is located here](#). [Find us on Facebook click here](#).

National Drunk and Drugged Driving 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

Have you been struggling with the recent loss of a loved one? The EAP welcomes you to attend confidential group sessions to share your feelings with others who are experiencing the same emotions and challenges to daily living. Participants will receive support and companionship from others while learning about the grieving process. Groups will be held each **Tuesday** from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the EAP in Bldg. 56, Room 104; to RSVP call 309-782-4357.

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.](#)

Pre-Retirement Briefing

Did you know... it is mandatory that all Soldiers receive a pre-retirement briefing between the retirement application submission date and 120 days before the retirement date or start date of transition leave? – AR 600-8-7, Paragraph 3-1. Upcoming briefing dates are: **Feb. 3, May 5, Aug. 11, and Nov. 3, 2017**. Schedule attendance to the next RIA Pre-Retirement Brief by calling 309-782-7780 or email usarmy.ria.usag.mbx.hrm-tsm@mail.mil.

Virtual Higher Education Track Classes

This course is designed to guide you through the variety of decisions involved in choosing a degree program, academic institution, and funding considerations as well as completing the admissions process. The purpose is to provide educational support services to transitioning service members and Family members. Transitioning service members have priority, but this course is open to all service members and Family members. Each session is four hours a day for two days. Please call our office at 309-782-2065 to be scheduled. These will take place in Room 122, first floor, Bldg. 56, on the following dates: • Thursday-Friday, **Feb. 16-17**, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.; • Wednesday-Thursday, **May 17-18**, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.; • Wednesday-Thursday, **Sept. 27-28**, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.; and • Wednesday-Thursday, **Dec. 13-14**, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

RIA Welcome Club Scholarship Applications Now Available

The Rock Island Arsenal Welcome Club scholarship applications are now available. Applications are available online at www.riawc.com or on post at the Arsenal Attic Thrift Shop (Bldg. 60 basement) or the Education Center (Bldg. 56.) There are two applications: high school seniors and continuing education students. The merit-based scholarship is open to applicants who have not previously received an RIAWC scholarship and who meet the RIA affiliation qualifications set forth in the application. Completed applications must be postmarked by **Wednesday, March 1**. Questions can be sent to Scholarship Chair Nicole Kirschmann RIAWCscholarships@yahoo.com.

RIA SAMC Scholarship

RIA SAMC Scholarship Applications Now Available the Rock Island Arsenal Sergeant Audie Murphy scholarship applications are now available. Applications are available at the Education Center (Bldg. 56.) There is one application: high school senior students. The merit-based

scholarship is open to applicants who have not previously received an RIA SAMC scholarship and who meet the RIA affiliation qualifications set forth in the application. Completed applications must be postmarked by **Wednesday, March 1**. Questions can be sent to Scholarship Chair Joseph Wertz riaaudiemurphy@gmail.com or joseph.s.wertz.mil@mail.mil.



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](#))

If you would like to be placed on our email contact list to receive periodic information on events happening at your Rock Island Arsenal Commissary, please email us at: rockislandarsenal.commissary@deca.mil and type 'Subscribe' in the subject line.

RIA Commissary Holiday Message

Christmas is around the corner. Come visit our Holiday Room where select items are already reduced. The signs with a red slash and red lettering show you the outstanding price reductions. Meat Department is still taking orders for Prime Rib Roast for that fabulous holiday dinner. Keep your loved one healthy with our fabulous vegetable and fruit trays. We also have fruit baskets available for that hard to find holiday gifting item. Don't miss out on these wonderful savings; as always, it is our pleasure to serve you.

'Tis the Season to Save at the Rock Island Exchange

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is ensuring authorized shoppers always find the lowest price this December with a holiday extended price guarantee. From **Dec. 1-24**, all purchases made at the Rock Island Exchange are guaranteed to offer the best value in town as shoppers who find an identical item elsewhere for less will receive an Exchange gift card for the difference. "The Rock Island Exchange wants to be military customers' first choice this holiday season," said Store Manager Lisa Scadden. "This price guarantee, combined with our everyday low prices, price matching and tax-free shopping, should help lighten the load on shoppers' wallet." To receive a gift card, shoppers should bring the original Exchange receipt along with a current local competitor's ad. The holiday extended price guarantee includes shopmyexchange.com as compared to local retailers.

Scholarships for Military Children Opens Dec. 13

This holiday season is full of the usual landmark dates, including Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. However, there's one other date in December which could prove to be almost as important as the traditional celebrations for some military families: Dec. 13 marks the opening of the Scholarships for Military Children Program for the 2017-2018 school year. Now entering its

17th year, the program was created to recognize the "contributions of military families to the readiness of the fighting force and to celebrate the role of the commissary in the military family community," according to the mission statement on the militaryscholar.org website. At least one scholarship worth \$2,000 will be awarded at every commissary location where qualified applications are received. Additional recipients will be selected based on a prorated basis, so more scholarships will be awarded at those stores with larger numbers of applicants. A total of 700 scholarship grants will be awarded this year. ([More](#))

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 Sundays and Mondays, federal holidays, the Friday after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Eve. Admission is free. ([website](#))

This Week in Rock Island Arsenal History – Dec. 19-25

On Nov. 19, 1872, Maj. D. W. Flagler, the RIA Commander, responded to citizen appeals and opened the newly constructed government bridge to the public. Maj. Flagler, in a letter dated Nov. 23, 1874, that was addressed to the Chief of Ordnance, recommended that all wrought iron scrap be retained at the RIA for conversion into high grade bar iron for use in construction of RIA Shops. In December 1871, Shop B (Bldg. 60) was completed.

Healthbeat



TRICARE Continues to Expand Coverage

TRICARE constantly seeks to improve health care coverage. Effective early December, we will expand TRICARE coverage to include the care and treatment of beneficiaries requiring an auditory osseointegrated implant (AOI) to non-active duty family members, and we will also cover the services and supplies needed to diagnose and treat illness or injury of the urinary system. AOI is a prosthetic device implanted in the skull to transmit sounds to the inner ear. They are used when needed for significant hearing conditions resulting from trauma, birth defects or disease. Injuries to the urinary system can include a blunt force, e.g., most commonly motor vehicle crashes, falls, or sports injuries or a penetrating force, e.g., most commonly gunshot or stab wounds, or surgery. Injuries to the urinary tract often occur together with injuries to other organs, especially abdominal organs. Illnesses can include bladder disease or cancer, urinary tract infections and chronic kidney disease. These additions to coverage are on the heels of our recently expanded preventive services and care for congestive heart failure under the TRICARE cardiac rehabilitation benefit. ([More](#))

Notes for Veterans



New Regulation Decreases Cost of Outpatient Medication Copay for Most Veterans

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending its regulation on copayments for Veterans' outpatient medications for non-service connected conditions. VA currently charges non-exempt Veterans either \$8 or \$9 for each 30-day or less supply of outpatient medication, and under current regulations, a calculation based on the medication of the Medical Consumer Price Index (CPI-P) would be used to determine the copayment amount in future years. "Switching to a tiered system continues to keep outpatient medication costs low for Veterans," said VA Under Secretary for Health Dr. David J. Shulkin. "Reducing their out-of-pocket costs encourages greater adherence to prescribed outpatient medications and reduces the risk of fragmented care that results when multiple pharmacies are used; another way that VA is providing better service to Veterans." This new regulation eliminates the formula used to calculate future rate increases and establishes three classes of outpatient medications identified as Tier 1, Preferred Generics; Tier 2, Non-Preferred Generics including over-the-counter medications; and Tier 3, Brand Name. Copayment amounts for each tier would be fixed and vary depending upon the class of outpatient medication in the tier. ([More](#))

New Law Allows Injured Veterans to Recoup Erroneous Severance Taxes

Thousands of veterans injured in combat could soon be able to recoup taxes erroneously collected from their disability severance pay due to a new law signed by President Barack Obama. About 13,800 veterans separated from the military due to their injuries might have been affected, the nonprofit group National Veterans Legal Service Program estimates. Due to an accounting error, as much as \$78 million in taxes deducted over decades from the lump sum payments. Federal law considers the severance payments tax exempt. But the nonprofit group said the Defense Finance and Accounting Service system was automatically making deductions since 1991, meaning troops injured in conflicts spanning from the Gulf War to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan might have been taxed thousands of dollars improperly. ([More](#))

VA Study Confirms High Cure Rates With New Hepatitis C Drugs

A Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) database study shows that new drug regimens for hepatitis C have resulted in "remarkably high" cure rates among patients in VA's national health care system. Of the more than 17,000 Veterans in the study, all chronically infected with the hepatitis C virus at baseline, 75 percent to 93 percent had no detectable levels of the disease in their blood for 12 or more weeks after the end of treatment. The therapy regimens lasted 8 to 24 weeks, depending on patient characteristics. "This promising news comes as VA is dedicating significant funds to help greater numbers of patients with hepatitis C," said David Shulkin VA Under Secretary for Health. "In March, we announced our ability to fund care for all Veterans with hepatitis C for fiscal year 2016 regardless of the stage of the patient's liver disease. VA has long led the country in screening for and treating hepatitis C. As of mid-September 2016 alone, the Department treated more than 100,000 Veterans infected with the virus. More than 68,000 of these patients had been treated with these new highly effective antivirals." The VA researchers analyzed data from four subgroups of patients infected with hepatitis C—genotypes 1, 2, 3, and 4—and found that genotype 1 patients showed the highest cure rates and genotype 3 the lowest. Genotype 1 was by far the most common type of infection among the four subgroups. ([More](#))

VA National Cemeteries Now Offering Pre-Need Eligibility Determinations

VA announced today that it now provides eligibility determinations for interment in a VA national cemetery prior to the time of need. Through the Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility Program, upon request, individuals can learn if they are eligible for burial or memorialization in a VA national cemetery. “MyVA is about looking at VA from the Veterans’ perspective, and then doing everything we can to make the Veteran Experience effective and seamless,” said VA Secretary Bob McDonald. “This new program reaffirms our commitment to providing a lifetime of benefits and services for Veterans and their families.” Interested individuals may submit VA Form 40-10007, Application for Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility for Burial in a VA National Cemetery, and supporting documentation, such as a DD Form 214, if readily available, to the VA National Cemetery Scheduling Office by: toll-free fax at 1-855-840-8299; email to Eligibility.PreNeed@va.gov; or mail to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office, P.O. Box 510543, St. Louis, MO 63151. VA will review applications and provide written notice of its determination of eligibility. VA will save determinations and supporting documentation in an electronic information system to expedite burial arrangements at the time of need. Because laws and personal circumstances change, upon receipt of a burial request, VA will validate all pre-need determinations in accordance with the laws in effect at that time. ([More](#))

Around the Q.C.



C

- Dec. 27:** [2016 Santa Shootout - Youth Indoor Soccer Tournament](#) (River's Edge)
- Dec. 31:** [New Year's Eve at Colona American Legion Post 1233](#) (312 Broadway St., Colona, Illinois)
- Jan. 1:** [The Resolution Run](#) (YouthHope's Moline Youth Center)
- Jan. 6-8:** [Bald Eagle Days](#) (QCCA)
- Jan. 7:** [The Integrative Lifestyle Forum](#) (Rhythm City Casino)
- Jan. 11:** [Davenport Parks and Recreation's Parks Job Fair](#) (River's Edge, 700 W River Dr, Davenport)
- Jan. 13:** [Davenport Autism & Asperger's Conference with Dr. Temple Grandin](#) (RiverCenter)
- Jan. 13-16:** [16th annual Be a Tourist in Your Own Backyard Weekend](#) (Greater Quad Cities)
- Jan. 14:** [City of Bettendorf Presents Winter Carnival 2017](#) (Various locations across Bettendorf)
- Jan. 14:** [5th Annual Icestravaganza](#) (Freight House Farmer's Market)
- Jan. 14:** [Martin Luther King Celebration](#) (Centennial Hall, Augustana College)
- Jan. 15-17:** [25th Quad Cities Farm Show](#) (QCCA)
- Jan. 18:** [12th Annual Big Brothers Big Sisters Putt-A-Round](#) (RiverCenter)
- Jan. 18:** [Guerrilla Girls at Augustana](#) (Augustana College Centennial Hall, 3703 7th Ave, Rock Island)
- Jan. 20-22:** [Rod and Custom Show](#) (QCCA)
- Jan. 28:** [Hand in Hand Chili Cook-off](#) (Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds)
- Jan. 28:** [Jaycees of the Quad Cities Bridal Expo](#) (RiverCenter)
- Jan. 29:** [37th Annual Motorcycle Parts Swapmeet](#) (QCCA)
- Feb. 3:** [Bacon & Beer Festival](#) (RiverCenter)
- Feb. 3-5:** [Quad Cities Home Builders Home Show](#) (QCCA)
- Feb. 14:** [Valentine Walk](#) (Watchtower Lodge, Black Hawk State Historic Site, Rock Island)
- Feb. 16:** [Bush Construction Presents Martini Shake Off™](#) (RiverCenter)
- Feb. 16-18:** [GAS Feed & Seed Fest](#) (Village of East Davenport)
- Feb. 16-19:** [Fishing, Hunting, and Outdoor Adventure Show](#) (QCCA)
- Feb. 18:** [Family Bird-Watching Trip to Credit Island Park](#)
- Feb. 24-26:** [RV/Camping Show](#) (QCCA)
- Feb. 24-26:** [Winter Iowa Senior Games](#) (PepsiCo Recreational Center, Augustana College)
- Feb. 27-March 5:** [5th Annual Quad Cities Restaurant Week](#) (Greater Quad Cities)
- March 3:** [2nd Annual Evening of Hope to Cure SMA](#) (St. Ambrose University Rogalski Center)
- March 3-4:** [Daytrotter Downs](#) (Daytrotter, Downtown Davenport)

March 4: [TPQC's Annual Red Ribbon Dinner](#) (Radisson Quad City Plaza)
March 9-12: [Missouri Valley Conference Women's Basketball Tournament](#) (iWireless Center)
March 11: [Rock Island-Henry County Pheasants Forever Free Youth Hunt](#) (Boyd's Birds Hunting Preserve, Hillsdale, Illinois)
March 17-18: [St. Patrick's Parade Weekend](#) (Downtown Rock Island, Downtown Davenport)
March 19: [Wick's Lake Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics Illinois](#) (Jumer's Casino & Hotel, 777 Jumer Dr, Rock Island)
March 24-26: [Lawn and Garden Show](#) (QCCA)
March 24-26: [National Congress of Old West Shootists](#) (Radisson Quad City Plaza)
March 25: [PaintWar Tour](#) (Davenport)
March 30: [Taco Dinner Fund Raiser for QCA Stand Down](#) (The Viking Club, 1450 41st Street, Moline)
April 1: [Havanna Daydreamn' by The Quad City ParrotHead Club](#) (RiverCenter)
April 9: [19th Annual In-Fisherman Swap Meet](#) (QCCA)
April 16: [QC on Tap](#) (QCCA)
April 23: [9th Annual Bridal Emporium](#) (Jumer's Casino & Hotel, Rock Island)
April 29: [Masquerade: A Rivermont Collegiate Gala](#) (Figge Art Museum)
April 29: [Dr. Seuss Family Concert](#) (Adler Theatre, Davenport)
May 1-6: [Quad Cities Beer Week](#) (Greater Quad Cities)
May 6: [Village in Bloom: Festival of the Arts](#) (Village of East Davenport)
May 13-14: [Beaux Arts Fair](#) (Figge Art Museum plaza)
May 14-15: [Scott County Kennel Club AKC Dog Show](#) (QCCA)
May 14-19: [NAIA Men's Golf National Championship](#) (TPC Deere Run)
May 29: [Quad Cities Criterium](#) (Village of East Davenport)
May 30-June 3: [Quad Cities Senior Olympics](#) (1800 3rd Avenue, Suite 304, Rock Island)
June 2-3: [Rhubarb Festival](#) (Aledo, Illinois)
June : [Gumbo Ya Ya](#) (The District of Rock Island)
June : [Greek Cultural Fest](#) (Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, 4900 Kennedy Drive, East Moline)
June 17-25: [Quad Cities Museum Week](#) (Greater Quad Cities)
June 18: [Ride the River Bike Ride](#) (Mississippi River bike paths)
June 25: [Blossoms at Butterworth](#) (Butterworth Center)
June 30-July 1: [31st Annual Mississippi Valley Blues Festival](#) (LeClaire Park, Downtown Davenport)
July 3: [Red, White & Boom!](#) (Downtown Rock Island, Downtown Davenport)
July 4: [Firecracker Run & Parade](#) (East Moline)
July 4: [Bettendorf Old-Fashioned 4th of July](#) (Downtown Bettendorf)
July 10-16: [John Deere Classic PGA Tour](#) (TPC Deere Run)
July 13-15: [Walcott Truckers Jamboree](#) (Iowa 80 Truckstop, Walcott, Iowa)
July 18-22: [Rock Island County Fair](#) (Fairgrounds in East Moline)
July 28-29: [Downtown Street Fest](#) (Downtown Davenport)
July 29: [Bix 7 Run/Walk](#) (Downtown Davenport)
Aug. 1-6: [Great Mississippi Valley Fair](#) (Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds)
Aug. 3-5: [Bix Beiderbecke Memorial Jazz Festival](#) (Rhythm City Casino Resort)
Aug. 10-12: [Tug Fest](#) (LeClaire, Iowa and Port Byron, Illinois)
Aug. : [Ya Maka My Weekend](#) (The District of Rock Island)
Aug. 17-19: [ACA Central Division Fall Meet](#) (Isle Casino Hotel, Bettendorf)
Aug. 19: [Floatzilla](#) (Sunset Marina, Rock Island)
Aug. : [Quad City Symphony Riverfront Pops](#) (LeClaire Park, Downtown Davenport)
Aug. 25-26: [River Roots Live](#) (LeClaire Park, Downtown Davenport)
Aug. 26: [Vettes on the River](#) (LeClaire, Iowa)
Aug. 17-19: [ACA Central National Antique Car Show](#) (Quad Cities Waterfront Convention Center)
Sept. 2-3: [Rock Island Grand Prix](#) (The District of Rock Island)
Sept. 9: [QCA Heritage Tractor Parade & Show](#) (John Deere Pavilion, Moline)
Sept. 9-10: [Beaux Arts Fair](#) (Downtown Davenport)
Sept. 9: [Row the Miss Regatta](#) (Mississippi River in Moline)
Sept. 15-16: [Celtic Festival & Highland Games](#) (Centennial Park, Davenport)
Sept. 16: [Taming of the Slough](#) (Empire Park in East Moline)
Sept. 16: [Brew Ha Ha](#) (LeClaire Park, Davenport)
Sept. 16-17: [Riverssance Festival of Fine Arts](#) (Lindsay Park, Village of East Davenport)

Sept. 22-23: [Hot Air Balloon Festival](#) (Rock Island County Fairgrounds, East Moline)

Sept. 24: [Quad Cities Marathon](#) (Downtown Moline)

Oct. 8: [Apple Fest](#) (Downtown LeClaire, Iowa)

Oct. 26: [Fright Night](#) (The District of Rock Island)

Oct. 28: [Lagomarcino's Cocoa Beano 5K Race](#) (Village of East Davenport)

Oct. 28-29: [Boo at the Zoo](#) (Niabi Zoo)

Oct. 28: [Witches Walk & Costume Parade](#) (Downtown LeClaire, Iowa)

Nov. 17-26: [Quad City Arts Festival of Trees](#) (RiverCenter)

Nov. 18: [Festival of Trees Parade](#) (Downtown Davenport)

Dec. 3: [19th Century Christmas](#) (Butterworth Center, Moline)

Island Insight



[Col. Kenneth Tauke, 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 PhotoShop using Portable Document Format reproduction for online distribution with the use of federal funds under provisions of [AR 360-1](#) by the Rock Island Arsenal-Garrison Public Affairs Office. Contents of Island Insight are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Army.*

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