



June 9, 2021

Island Insight

This publication is published weekly and contains information about, for, and of interest to the Island Workforce.

Island Insight Submission: <https://home.army.mil/ria/index.php/contact/public-affairs>

Sections:

- [Arsenal Traffic/Construction](#)
- [Building/Space Closures](#)
- [Active Duty/Reserve Zone](#)
- [Safety Spotlight](#)
- [Equal Employment Opportunity Focus](#)
- [Morale, Welfare & Recreation \(MWR\)](#)
- [MWR Leisure Travel Office](#)
- [Child & Youth Services](#)
- [Army Community \(ACS\)](#)
- [MWR Outdoor Recreation](#)
- [Employee Assistance Program](#)
- [Education/Training Review](#)
- [Defense Commissary Agency/PX](#)
- [Arsenal Archive](#)
- [Healthbeat](#)
- [Notes for Veterans](#)
- [Around the Q.C.](#)

DEVCOM Chemical Biological Center Helps DoD Ensure Carbon Supply

A new qualifying standard for military grade carbon used in gas masks and protective filters has been developed by a partnership of experts in chemical and biological protection, eliminating U.S. reliance on a single source for this critical material. Experts at the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Chemical Biological Center (DEVCOM CBC) joined forces with the Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense (JPEO-CBRND) and other defense agencies to solve a problem nearly 30 years in the making. The team of nine Center branches performed the necessary testing and established a current data set over the course of 2018, and in 2019 they started updating the specifications for MIL-DTL-32101B. The architect for all this was Ryan Bearekman, the Center's program manager for the effort. "The work spanned a lot of areas and disciplines," said Bearekman. "We needed chemists who could design and perform tests to challenge the carbon using a wide range of live chemical agents. And, we needed people



Upcoming Dates

- June:** Army Heritage Month
- June:** LGBT Pride Month
- June:** National Caribbean American Month
- June:** National PTSD Awareness Month
- June:** National Safety Month
- June 4-13:** National Fishing and Boating Week
- June 10:** Thirsty Thursday, Lock & Dam Lounge, 3-7 p.m.
- June 11:** ~~ImpactLife Blood Drive, donor bus in Commissary parking lot, 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. (Cancelled)~~
- June 12:** U.S. Merchant Marines 246th Birthday
- June 14:** [U.S. Army 246th Birthday](#)
- June 14:** Flag Day
- June 14:** Garrison Town Hall, MS Teams, 10 a.m.
- June 15:** ASC Assumption of Command, 10 a.m.
- June 16:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' 246th Birthday
- June 16:** U.S. Army Adjutant General's Corps 246th Birthday
- June 16:** U.S. Army Finance Corps' 246th Birthday
- June 16:** U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps' 246th Birthday
- June 16:** Workforce Wednesday, Lock & Dam Lounge, 3-7 p.m.
- June 17:** Ammunition & Explosives Amnesty Day, outside of Bldg. 25, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- June 17:** Thirsty Thursday, Lock & Dam Lounge, 3-7 p.m.

trained in how to stress the carbon in our unique environmental chambers that simulate arctic, desert, and tropical conditions.” Bearekman also needed engineers who understood the supply chain and experts in quality control and quality assurance of materials. He got both from the **Center’s Rock Island, Illinois research campus**. “The Sustainment Engineering Protection Branch provided the experts who were the real authors and architects of MIL-DTL-32101B. They have been working on military specifications for decades and knew exactly how to codify them so that they would be understandable to all.” Bearekman said. (More: www.dvidshub.net/news/397972)

Installation Grounds Maintenance

On April 30, 2021 the US Army Garrison vetted with the Labor Union and sent the Island workforce a message regarding the specifics of noticeable reductions in custodial and grounds maintenance that would impact Rock Island Arsenal. In recent weeks and days the Garrison has received numerous important workforce feedback through the [Interactive Customer Evaluation \(ICE\) system](#), as well as word of mouth, regarding grounds maintenance concerns across the installation. That important feedback and concern is more than appreciated, respected and encouraged. We are already using this feedback to effectively reassess our reductions and advocate for unfunded requests and other avenues for grounds maintenance toward the best upkeep of recreational areas, landmarks, memorials, and other tourism areas on Rock Island Arsenal. Once we have resolution on this reassessment expected in late June we will keep the RIA workforce and community updated through messaging and town halls. Thank you to the entire workforce for relaying your first hand insight and concerns about the grounds maintenance across the Island. We are working diligently and toward resolution that you will see begin to place in the immediate coming days. Please continue to take the time to give us your feedback about Garrison services through ICE at the following direct link:

https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=site&site_id=520&dep=DoD – COL Todd J. Allison, Commander, U.S. Army Garrison Rock Island Arsenal, usarmy.ria.imcom-central.mbx.usag-agc@mail.mil



U.S. Army Birthday 2021 Events

This year marks 246 years of the U.S. Army serving and defending our country. No matter the challenges the Army has faced along with our nation, Army Soldiers and Civilians have had the courage and patriotism to answer the call to serve. Join in the virtual celebrations across the Army, as we honor the courage of the American Soldier and the total Army force. Checkout the list of the 2021 Army Birthday events below. The links to each virtual event can be found in the descriptions.

Check back as we get closer to each event for updates or additional links. Since its official establishment, June 14, 1775 — more than a year before the Declaration of Independence — the U.S. Army has played a vital role in the growth and development of the American nation. Drawing on both long-standing militia traditions and recently introduced professional standards, it won the new republic's independence in an arduous eight-year struggle against Great Britain. At times, the Army provided the lone symbol of nationhood around which patriots rallied. (More: www.army.mil/article/245293)



New Army Business Management Plan Critical To Readiness, Modernization

The Army has recently rolled out the Army Business Management Plan, or ABMP, an initiative designed to systematically improve business practices and processes while changing approaches to talent management to optimize the capability and capacity of its workforce. Army leaders collaborated with each Army command to build the ABMP, which will allow the service to provide better stewardship of its spending. “The challenge facing the Army is that we have a fixed budget and how we apply that budget toward priorities is through critical decisions made by Army senior leaders,” said Robin Swan, director of the Army’s Office of Business Transformation, or OBT.

“Every budget or programming cycle, every dollar that is freed through improvement in efficiency, is a dollar that they can apply to a higher readiness or modernization priority.” (More: www.army.mil/article/247109)



Feds Could Be Rewarded For Getting the COVID Vaccine

Federal employees with Blue Cross and Blue Shield Federal Employee Program insurance can get \$50 to spend on medical expenses by providing proof of their COVID-19 vaccination, the insurance company announced June 8. Members of the insurance plan who are over 18 years old and provide official documentation of their vaccination status will get the money loaded onto their MyBlue Wellness Card beginning June 11. “FEP remains committed to protecting the health of our members and we continuously look for innovative solutions to the challenges we face in our health care system,” said William A. Breskin, senior vice president of government programs for the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, in a news release. (More: www.federaltimes.com/management/pay-benefits/2021/06/09/feds-could-be-rewarded-for-getting-the-covid-vaccine)



RIA AUSA Night at the Blue Grass Drive-In

Calibre presents Rock Island Arsenal Association of the United States Army Chapter 5102 Night at the Blue Grass Drive-In on **Friday, June 11**. In celebration of the Army’s Birthday Soldiers, veterans, DA civilians and families are invited out for a family night – gates open at 6 p.m. There are 250 vouchers for unlimited popcorn/soda to give to personnel for that night. Pre-registration required - FCFS. Link: <https://forms.gle/MsBhpbgnSQeSNKJK7> There will be:

- 18-hole mini putt
- Swing set
- Bounce House

The first movie starts at 9 p.m. – Jumanji, Welcome to the Jungle

The second movie – Dunkirk

Army National Hiring Days

Army National Hiring Days is an all-Army effort to inspire young men and women across the nation to join the U.S. Army, the best trained, best equipped and most talented force in the world. The Army is also one of the most diverse organizations in the nation. Diversity in people, diversity in ideas and beliefs, diversity in skills – makes the Army the respected organization it is today. Joining the Army means being part of a team where People come First. The Army is conducting its

Army National Hiring Days campaign, **May 10 – June 14**, with the goal to hire 1,700 new Soldiers into the active Army, Army National Guard and the Army Reserve. The campaign uses digital media ads, social media content, media engagements, and community partner outreach to create a nation-wide conversation about the event. Since June 1775, the Army has always supported the nation. As a volunteer force, the Army has a continuous need for qualified, diverse, educated workforce to defend the nation, assist fellow citizens with pandemic relief, and respond when there are natural and manmade disasters. The Army offers opportunity. (More: www.army.mil/standto/archive/2021/05/07)

Army Sustainment Command Assumption of Command

The Commanding General United States Army Materiel Command requests the honor of your virtual presence at the Assumption of Command at which Maj. Gen. Christopher O. Mohan will assume command on **Tuesday, June 15**, at 10 a.m., on the Quarters One lawn on Rock Island Arsenal. For those attending in person, military dress is duty uniform with face mask (unless fully vaccinated) and civilian dress is business with face mask (unless fully vaccinated). Due to COVID 19, attendance is limited, you may view the event at www.facebook.com/armysustainmentcommand



Los Primos Returns to RIA

Los Primos returned to the Island serving up their delicious Mexican food during the lunch hour. They are located on Rodman Avenue in front of Building 350 parking lot. They are serving **Tuesday-Thursday** each week from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

RIA SHARP COVID-19 Impact

Questions can go to the USAG victim advocate, Linda Robertson, at 309-782-1455. Due to our current operating environment, there is limited staffing of the RIA SHARP office in Building 110. For support & assistance, please use the information below to contact a member of our RIA SHARP team and we will ensure care is provided promptly.

- 24/7 RIA SHARP Hotline: 309-229-8412
- RIA Lead SARC, Sgt. First Class Della Saffold: della.d.saffold.mil@mail.mil, C: 309-752-8388
- RIA Victim Advocate, Linda Robertson: linda.m.robertson.civ@mail.mil, C: 309-558-4283
- General inquiries: usarmy.ria.asc.mbx.sharp@mail.mil

June Hours for Attic Thrift Shop

The Attic Thrift Shop will be open in June from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Tuesday's - **June 15, 22 & 29**, Thursday's - **June 24**, and the 3rd Saturday - **June 19**. Follow us on Facebook at Arsenal Attic Thrift Shop where photos of new arrivals are posted. Your donations are welcome and greatly appreciated. No consignments at this time. All purchases must be paid with cash or check. No debit or credit cards at this time. Masks are required if unvaccinated.

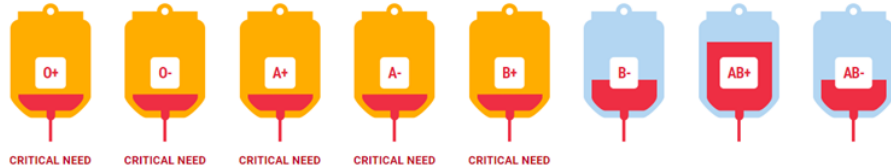
Ammunition & Explosives Amnesty Day

Rock Island Arsenal will host an Ammunition and Explosives (A & E) amnesty day on **Thursday, June 17**, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m., in the parking lot across from the Visitor Control Center and the test center (Building 25). Signs will be posted and no commercial ammunition to be turned-in. The intent of this process is to provide people a safe way to dispose of A & E. This process, by

regulation, allows this to happen anonymously, without fear of reprisal. POC: John Peniston, 309-782-6386.

Regional Critical Blood Shortages, ImpactLife Blood Drives

The ImpactLife Blood Center has ongoing critical shortages of the following blood types: **O positive, O Negative, A positive, A negative, and B positive**, but all types are needed. ImpactLife is hosting a blood drive in the ImpactLife Donor Bus in the Commissary parking lot, on **Friday, June 18**, 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.; as well as **Thursday, June 24**, in front of Building 390, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. If



you would like to donate at this blood drive, feel free to email bhancock@impactlife.org with the time you'd like to schedule, or call their Donor Center at 563-359-5401; you may also log on to www.ImpactLife.org and use code 029 to locate the blood drives. **ImpactLife is requiring masks for donors, staff, and volunteers in all of their facilities and donor buses.** ImpactLife encourages those working remotely to visit one of their three local donor centers.

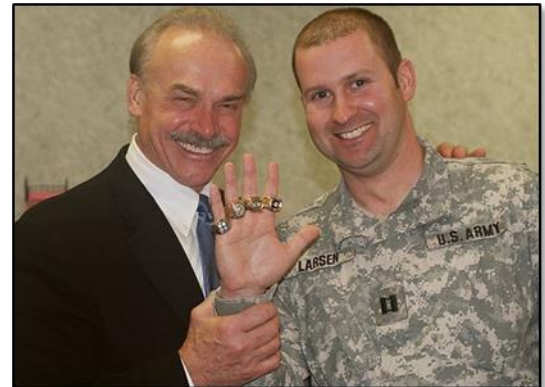
- Moline Donor Center – 3600 16th Street
- Davenport Headquarters – 5500 Lakeview Parkway
- West Davenport Center – 1320 W. Kimberly Road

ImpactLife will have a new donor promotion in May, this will be a \$10 electronic gift card redeemable at Amazon, Dunkin', Lowe's, Target, Starbucks, and Walmart.

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: www.militaryblood.dod.mil

Rocky Bleier – The Play

Rocky Bleier, a halfback for the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1968 and from 1970 to 1980 earning four Super Bowl championships and rings with the Steelers, will tell his story called “The Play” on **Friday, June 25**, at Rhythm City Casino Resort in Davenport beginning at 7 p.m. Rocky Bleier's story - a gripping tale of courage on both the football fields of America and the battle fields of Vietnam - has held audiences in rapt attention for years. Yet, the motivational message behind it, detailing how ordinary people can become extraordinary achievers, defines success in the new American century. With the same optimism, sense of humor and steadfast determination that were his trademarks as a Pittsburgh Steelers running back, Rocky Bleier takes audiences from his early years through his professional career and talks about the lessons he learned along the way... lessons from which we can all benefit. If you need ADA seating be sure to let a member of our team know when you arrive. A photo ID and the credit card used to [purchase the tickets](#) must be presented upon ticket pick up. Tickets are available for pick up at The Market gift shop inside Rhythm City Casino Resort during normal business hours from the date of purchase until the performance time. Tickets must be purchased in sets of 2 and 4 seats. Tickets are Tier priced with Tier 1 being \$65, Tier 2 tickets will be \$50, and Tier 3 tickets are \$35. VIP Meet & Greet \$100 (+ticket price) includes Call Drinks and appetizers from 8:30P-11P. Rocky will be the guest of an honor during this event and photos as well as



autograph opportunity will be available at the VIP Meet & Greet only. All proceeds after expenses goes to the QC Vietnam Veterans Area Veteran Scholarship.

<https://rhythmcitycasino.showare.com/ordertickets.asp?p=124>

Red, White and Boom Fireworks Display Set To Return July 3

The annual bi-state Red, White and Boom fireworks display in downtown Davenport and Rock Island will return this year and is scheduled for **Saturday, July 3**. Red, White and Boom is the largest fireworks display in the Quad Cities shot from two barges in the middle of the Mississippi River. “We are thrilled to welcome people back to the riverfront for our regional celebration of America’s Independence Day” said Mike Matson, Mayor of Davenport. “Our new Quinlan Court will be open, and activities in Modern Woodmen Park and LeClaire Park are being planned.” Mike Thoms, Mayor of Rock Island, agrees.



“Red, White and Boom will be a great opportunity to for the community to come together again and celebrate with fireworks on the riverfront in Schwiebert Park and beyond.” The event will continue to embrace recommended COVID-19 protocols this summer; festival planning will pivot as needed as health and safety precautions evolve in 2021. Visit www.redwhiteandboomqc.org for the latest updates. Red, White and Boom is presented by the Regional Development Authority (RDA) in partnership with the City of Davenport and the City of Rock Island, supported by the Downtown Davenport Partnership – an affiliate of the Quad Cities Chamber, CBI Bank & Trust, St. Ambrose University, Riverfront Improvement Commission and Upper Mississippi Fleeting.



Arsenal Traffic/Construction



C

Blunt Drive Paving Project

Monday, June 7, through Sunday, June 13, the Directorate of Public Works will close Blunt Drive from East Street to King Drive for contract personnel to mill and repave approximately 1,300 feet of the roadway. Signs and barricades will be used to warn and direct traffic. The closures may be extended due to weather or other unforeseen issues.

Levee Bike Path Closure to Thru Traffic, West of Arsenal Bridge

City of Rock Island Government - Beginning at 7 a.m. on **Monday, June 14** the City of Rock Island will close the Great River Trail Bike Path to through traffic for the Levee Maintenance Riprap Placement Project just west of the Arsenal Bridge. This maintenance project is part of the City of Rock Island’s Flood Risk Management System (FRMS). The path closure is necessary for the safety of the crews performing the improvement as well as the non-motorist traveling public. Pending favorable weather, this area should be reopened on **Monday, June 28**. Travel delays can be expected at or near this location. Please follow all posted signs for detour directions when needed and watch for trucks entering and leaving the area. The City of Rock Island is sorry for any inconvenience due to this work and appreciates the patience and consideration of the non-motorist traveling public.

Rodman Avenue Construction/Closure Notice (3rd Street to East Street)

Monday, June 7 through Friday, July 16, Directorate of Public Works will replace curb, gutter and sidewalk on the north side of Rodman Avenue between 3rd Street and East Street. This construction work will include concrete and storm inlet removal and replacement. Work will begin at 3rd Street and progress toward East Street. Expected Impact: The northern lane of Rodman Avenue will be closed to vehicles intermittently and the north-side sidewalk will be closed to pedestrians during construction. Signage will be placed for safety and to direct traffic.

East Street Road Closure

Effective **April 5 through Friday, June 18**, East Street from Blunt Road to the South parking lot entrance of Building 56 will be closed to conduct Phase one of sewer, sidewalk and road replacement work. CDC users will be able to cross East Street using Ramsey Road for drop-off and pick-up at CDC buildings 11, 15, and 16. Ramsey Road will be used for traffic in both directions.

Building 90 North Parking Lot Closure

Effective **May 3 to Friday, June 18** the Directorate of Public Works (DPW) will close the north half of the Building 90 parking lot for contract personnel to conduct sewer, sidewalk, and parking lot replacement work. Access and parking will still be available in the south half of the parking lot via the south entrance of Building 90.

Partial Closure, Building 90 Parking Lot

Effective **May 3 through Friday June 18**, the Directorate of Public Works (DPW) closed the north half of the Building 90 parking lot for contract personnel to conduct sewer, sidewalk, and parking lot replacement work. Access and parking will still be available via the south parking lot entrance.

Closure of Parking Spaces to Accommodate Handicap Parking (Building 90-South)

Effective May 20, the Directorate of Public Works (DPW) will block off the first four parking spots of the Building 90 South parking lot and designate these spaces as handicap parking. These temporary handicap spaces will remain in effect until Building 90's permanent handicap spaces are restored on/about **Wednesday, June 30**.

Closure of Parking Lot 2C (Adjacent to Building 227)

Parking Lot 2C adjacent to Building 227 closed June 2. The closure is to accommodate asbestos remediation, establishment of a clear zone and the staging of equipment and supplies for the demolition of Building 227. Parking lot 2C is anticipated to remain closed until the building demolition is complete O/A **December 2021**.

Closure of Parking Lot 2C (Building 227)

Parking Lot 2C closed June 2. The closure is to accommodate asbestos remediation, establishment of a clear zone and the staging of equipment and supplies for the demolition of Building 227. Parking lot 2C is anticipated to remain closed until the building demolition is complete O/A **December 2021**.

Building/Space Closures



Building 212 Fire Suppression System Flushing Project

Nov. 9 through **Monday, July 5**, the Directorate of Public Works (DPW) began the Fire Suppression System Flushing Project in Building 212. This involves temporary closure of some areas which will be isolated by barriers in coordination with JMTC Facilities department.

Active Duty/Reserve Zone



Soldiers to Pin on Corporal after BLC

Soldiers soon will shoulder the responsibilities of noncommissioned officers earlier in their careers, following a new Army directive that will promote all junior enlisted members to the rank of corporal prior to making sergeant. Beginning July 1, all Soldiers with the rank of specialist who have been recommended for advancement by a promotion board and completed the Basic Leader Course, or BLC, will be laterally promoted to corporal, a junior NCO. (More:

www.army.mil/article/247183)

Promotion Boards to Receive Adverse Information Earlier When Considering Officers

Army officer promotion boards will be provided more adverse information when considering leaders for promotion starting this month, according to the Army's director of military personnel management. The new, standardized rule aligns with Department of Defense Instruction 1320.14, which was updated to comply with the fiscal year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act, or NDAA. (More: www.army.mil/article/246156)

RIA Health Clinic Advertises New Appointment Number, Now Operational

Rock Island Arsenal Health Clinic's patient appointment line has changed. Appointments should be made by calling 1-866-524-4677 (HOSP) or by using TRICARE Online at www.tricareonline.com. Effective June 7, the old appointment line is no longer available and patients must use the central appointment line to speak with appointment personnel. Rock Island Arsenal Health Clinic hours are the same, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. "This central appointment line booking will help with access to care and better customer service for our patient population," said Sgt. First Class Matthew Brockway, Rock Island Arsenal Health Clinic noncommissioned officer in charge.

USO New Hours

The USO is open 8 a.m. – 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. Join us for Muffins on Mondays and Olde Towne Bakery items on Wednesdays. Stop by to see our newly renovated USO Center. Note: the USO is closed on training holidays and federal holidays. USO Illinois Rock Island is located on Rock Island Arsenal in Building 110. USO Illinois Rock Island provides a vital connection to USO programs and services for nearly 50,000 troops and their families in the Quad Cities. All amenities

are offered free, daily, to active duty, guard and reserve military and their dependents, and retired military members. The center features a Cyber Canteen furnished with computers, printer and fax, as well as free WI-FI access. (More: <https://illinois.uso.org/rockisland>)

Free Entry to Bix 7 Race

Active military receive free entry into the upcoming Bix 7 race. Contact Michelle Juering at Bix7michelle@gmail.com for more details.

Over the Edge 2021

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Mississippi Valley is hosting the annual “Over the Edge 2021 on **Saturday, Aug. 21**. “Over the Edge 2021” is a major fundraising event to support their one to one youth mentoring program in the Quad Cities. For the month of May, active duty / reserve / National Guard Soldiers, Retirees, ROTC, and veterans will be exempt from the \$100 registration fee to become an “Edger.” Edgers must raise \$1,000 through donations to rappel from the eleventh story of the Blackhawk Hotel. Points of contact are either Kayla Kiesey, kkiesey@bbbs-mv.org; Ally Sweeney, asweeney@bbbs-mv.org, or Beth Clark, bclark@bbbs-mv.org. Kayla/Ally/Beth can also be contacted at 563-323-8006 or check out the web page: www.bbbsmv.org/overtheedge.



C

The top priority of the installation safety office is to safeguard and protect service members, their families, civilian employees and Army property as well as to create the safest workplace and living environment possible. Website:

<https://home.army.mil/ria/index.php/about/Garrison/safety-office>

Just In The Nick of Time: June Is National Safety Month

This June marks the 25th anniversary of National Safety Month, and it comes at a time when mishaps are on the rise across the Army. The 71 Soldier mishap fatalities recorded thus far in fiscal 2021 represent a 29 percent increase from the same time frame last fiscal year. Even accounting for the impact of COVID-19 restrictions in place much of the last 15 months, current year-to-date fatality totals are already higher than fiscals 2015-2017, when training was unhampered by factors like social distancing and Soldiers had greater freedom to travel. (More:

https://safety.army.mil/Portals/0/Repository/MEDIA/NEWSRELEASES/USACRC_Release_NSM_June_is_National_Safety_Month_210603.56f1f7e8-5719-4ab1-a0a0-a5647e6f2019.pdf)

Equal Employment Opportunity Focus



C

It is the policy of the Department of Army to provide equal opportunity in employment for all people and to prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age (40 and over), disability, genetic information, and/or reprisal for prior EEO activity. Any Department of the Army employee, former employee, or applicant for employment, and certain contract employee, who believes they have been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex (includes pregnancy, equal pay, gender identity, and sexual orientation), national original, age (40 and over), mental or physical disability, genetic information, and/or reprisal for prior EEO activity in an employment matter, subject to the control of the Army, may initiate the EEO complaint process.

To file an EEO complaint, you must contact the Garrison EEO Office within 45 calendar days of the alleged discriminatory incident and express your intent to initiate the complaint process. The Garrison EEO office is currently providing services virtually. Please contact EEO staff at 309-782-2548.

Austin: 'No One Should Have to Hide Who They Love to Serve the Country They Love'

The Defense Department celebrates the extraordinary achievements of its LGBTQ+ service members, civilian employees and their families' sacrifices during Pride Month, Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III said today at the Pentagon. Speaking to an audience that included the department's senior-most leadership, the secretary said as DOD reflects on the progress it's made in making sure that everyone who wants to serve and is qualified, can do so with dignity and respect. "We know we have more work to do, but thanks to your courage, advocacy and dedication, the Department of Defense has been able to do more to secure LGBTQ+ rights than at any other time in history," Austin said. (More: www.defense.gov/Explore/News/Article/Article/2651424)

LGBT Pride Month

The month of June is LGBT Pride Month, which commemorates the proud legacy of LGBT men and women who are the fabric of the nation and the U.S. Army. This tribute was first celebrated in 1994 and commemorates the anniversary of the June 28, 1969, Stonewall riot in New York City that initiated the modern gay rights movement in the United States. Since repeal of its "Don't ask, don't tell" policy in 2011, LGBT service members serve openly and proudly and live the ideals that all are created equal and are endowed with unalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Army senior leaders are leaning forward in their commitment to make military service a model of equal opportunity for all, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation or national origin, or sexual orientation. The Army continues to ensure its service reflects the rich diversity of America; subsequently, enhancing its connection to the country its service members protect and live up to the American ideals and values that set an example for the world. The Army values the honorable service of all its Soldiers and strongly embraces diversity as a way to create a system that maximizes



individual talents, increases morale and greatly enhances military effectiveness. Qualified and talented Americans who commit to military service in the Army must be allowed to serve without barriers unrelated to their ability to meet training and mission standards. Civilians who join the Army and qualify as Soldiers become “Soldiers for Life,” as lifelong members of the Army team that has had a positive impact with contributions worldwide that includes protecting people from discrimination.

Morale, Welfare & Recreation



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. Visit the MWR website at <https://rockisland.armymwr.com> for information on all MWR programs. How is MWR doing? Tell us by going to <https://ice.disa.mil>, navigate to "Rock Island Arsenal" and search "MWR" for a full listing of all our programs and services.

Quad Cities Marathon Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to join the team in support of the 24th Annual QC Marathon that is taking place on **Saturday, Sept. 26**. More than one-third of the marathon or more than eight miles of the race are run on historic Rock Island Arsenal. Sign up to be a part of an all-volunteer team today and/or volunteer to bring your unit out and support one of the four aid stations on the Island and promote your command's esprit de corps. Contact Morgan Meseke at 563-340-9683 or email at morganmeseke@gmail.com.

Regular Part-Time Manager/Auto Service Center

MWR is hiring for a regular part-time manager at the Auto Service Center. Do you have experience and knowledge working on automobiles? Want a rewarding career working with the Arsenal community and helping keep soldiers, families, retirees and civilians on the go? If so, please go to this link: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/603468300> You will need to right click on the link and select open hyperlink this will take you to USAJobs where you can build your account and apply for the position. For more information, please call, Trent Mundy, business and recreation chief, at 309-782-8603.

All-The-Time Fitness Expansion: “Always Open”

The Fitness Center expanded All-the-Time Fitness access effective June 1 to include weekdays as well as weekends and federal holidays. Patrons who have already registered for All-the-Time Fitness can now access the facility during the week and the weekends. Patrons who have not yet registered for All-the-Time Fitness can register at the Fitness Center during the Fitness Center's new registrations and sales hours (10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.). Access to the facility are for registered patrons only outside the new registrations and sales hours. Call the Fitness Center at 309-782-6787 for questions.

Lock and Dam Lounge is Open

Now open for Workforce Wednesdays and Thirsty Thursdays from 3-7 p.m., face mask and social distancing required. Join us for specials to include \$5 craft beers, \$2.50 domestics and \$1 sodas. We have some great new local beers on tap this week including Peanut Butter Porter from Contrary Brewing in Muscatine, Raging River IPA and Cherry Bomb Blonde from Front Street Brewery in Davenport, Ruthie from Exile Brewing in Des Moines, and Bikini Bottom from Five Cities Brewing in Bettendorf. Support the local brew scene at the coolest bar on the Arsenal! Also, for all you PBR fans, enjoy \$3 pints and \$6 pitchers of your favorite Milwaukee brew, Pabst Blue Ribbon. Stick around for dinner too, we'll be serving up burgers, grilled pork tenderloins, pizza, wings, and more. Please call 309-782-6319 for more information on the Lock & Dam Lounge.



Theme Nights at the Lock & Dam Lounge

Calling all Arsenal units, organizations, offices, etc. – we're going to let your team take over the Lock & Dam Lounge for the night. You choose your own theme, music and decorate the Lounge to fit your theme. Choose anything from 90s retro, luau, Hollywood glamour, superheroes, Harry Potter, masks and mimosas or glow in the dark; or choose your own theme, you're only limited by your own imagination. Come battle it out and let's see who can get the most participation all while enjoying an evening with your co-workers enjoying great food and drink specials at the Lock & Dam. Contact Cathy Harris at 309-782-6319 for more info and to reserve your Wednesday or Thursday date. Please note, the first Thursday of every month is Right Arm Night and as such is not available for your theme night.

Company Kitchen Temporary Closure

All three Company Kitchen café locations in buildings 60, 212 and 350 are temporarily closed effective May 1. Company Kitchen has been committed over the past year to providing limited services to the Arsenal workforce during the pandemic. Continuing service under the existing conditions is no longer feasible. Company Kitchen will continue to re-evaluate returning as the daily population continues to increase across the Arsenal. USAG Rock Island Arsenal, Family and MWR would like to thank them for their dedicated service they have provided to Rock Island Arsenal through this pandemic and we look forward to their return in the coming months. MWR is seeking interim breakfast and lunch options during this temporary closure. The Island Oasis located at the Fitness Center (Building 67) is open daily Monday-Friday from 11 a.m. -1 p.m. serving fresh off the grill and the Lock and Dam Lounge (Building 60) is open with food options on Wednesday and Thursday from 3-7 p.m. For more information please contact the MWR management assistant at 309-782-6319.

Appointments Now Available at the Auto Skills & Service Center

Is your vehicle clunking, thunking, grinding, whining or squealing? Tired of looking at the check engine light? Stop by the newly repainted Auto Skills and Service Center (Building 351) and make an appointment for our skilled team of mechanics to diagnose that noise or error code and fix it at a fair and honest rate. Whether you're simply due for an oil change or tire rotation or you have something more major that needs repair, give us a call at 309-782-8631 and let our skilled and trustworthy mechanics keep you rolling down the road. If you're more hands on and like to work on your own vehicles, schedule time for self-help service and get your ride fixed while saving money. For more information and appointments, call 309-782-8631.

MWR Leisure Travel Office



We offer substantial discounts on tickets to local attractions, concerts, amusement parks and regional bus trips to exciting destinations. Check with us first for all your entertainment needs, we can save you money. Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:15 a.m. – 4 p.m., Bldg. 333. The office is closed for lunch from 10:30–11 a.m., 309-782-5890. **Face masks and appointments are required for service. The maximum facility capacity is five people. Contact the office at 309-782-5890. (email: anna.winters@us.army.mil) (website: <https://rockisland.armymwr.com/programs/leisure-travel-office>)**

Flea Market Saturday, June 26

Do you have things to sell? Are you a collector or bargain hunter? You won't want to miss this! MWR is hosting a Flea Market at the Rock Island Arsenal for patrons and vendors to sell just about anything, aside from non-approved items. The Flea Market will be held **Saturday, June 26** from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Memorial Field Pavilion parking lot. Patrons/vendors may pull in with their vehicle to unload their items and may also bring a 10x10 pop up tent if they wish. Collectors and bargain-hunters will not want to miss this. Cost to be a vendor is \$10.00 for a 10x10 spot, which includes a 6 ft. table and chair. Additional tables may be requested for \$5 each and additional chairs are \$1 each. Please contact us by 3 p.m. on **Wednesday, June 23** to reserve your spot. Rain date is Saturday, July 10. For more information, please contact the Leisure Travel Office at 309-782-5890.

Story Time with Princesses

Join the princesses at Historic Quarters One on **Saturday, July 17**, 10 a.m. – noon or 1-3 p.m. Tickets limited to ensure a safe and comfortable event. Cost is \$25 per princess. Your princess will enjoy a meet and greet during cupcakes and lemonade. Followed by a story being read, dancing and photo opportunities with our MWR princesses. Once our magical activities are complete, event will end with a princess parade. Contact MWR Leisure Travel at 309-782-5890.

Adventureland Resort and Waterpark Tickets

The Leisure Travel Office once again has discount tickets to Adventureland Resort and Waterpark in Altoona, Iowa. Call 309-782-5890 or visit the Leisure Travel Office in Building 333 (next to the Exchange) to get your discounted tickets for just \$45 each. Also new this year, your tickets purchased through LTO gets you access to the new hospitality suite where you'll enjoy free pop and popcorn.

Great Entertainment at Great Prices

The Leisure Travel Office (Building 333, next to the Exchange) has great discounted ticket prices for Disney World, Universal Studios, and many other attractions including the return of discount Adventureland tickets in 2021 for just \$45 each. For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact the Leisure Travel Office at 309-782-5890.

Child & Youth Services



Child & Youth Services provides a full range of child care programs and services for children ages six weeks through senior year in high school. Services include full-day, part-day, hourly, pre-k, school outs, summer programming, sports and fitness, and instructional classes. All CYC programs/facilities will be closed all federal holidays, CYC CDC/CD Home/FCC staff in-service day and any other additional days/installation closures approved by the garrison commander. Fees will not be reduced, refunded, or prorated for these days. (Website: <https://rockisland.armymwr.com/programs/cy>) (Facebook: www.facebook.com/RIACYSS)

Summer Youth Sports

Register now for summer CYC Sports and Fitness Programs. All RIA-affiliated active duty, retirees, reservists, civilian, and/or contractor families are eligible to participate. Age-specific sessions start June 21 or 22 or and are held at either the RIA Sports Complex (off of Blunt Road) or the Ramsey Street tennis court. Comfortable shorts/sweatpants, t-shirts, and tennis shoes are required. COVID-19 mitigation practices will be in place for all classes and families will be sent COVID-19 expectations and other specific information upon registering. Please call Parent Central Services in Building 110, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. at 309-782-0791 starting at 9 a.m. June 3-18 to register.

- **Summer Tennis – Class Dates: June 21 – Aug. 4**

7-17 year olds: Mondays/Wednesdays, 8:30-9:45 a.m., Cost: \$65

Summer Tennis teaches children ages 7-17 basic skills and rules of the game of tennis, including, but not limited to: strokes, serving, net play, scoring, and emphasizing fitness. Each session builds off the last, as the learning of basic sports rules and scoring knowledge, mechanics are weekly goals. Equipment for the class is provided, but if you have a favorite tennis racquet then go ahead and bring it. Kids receive a t-shirt, and class is held at the RIA Ramsey Road Tennis Court.

- **Summer Golf – Class Dates: June 22 – Aug. 5**

5-9 year olds: Tuesdays/Thursdays 8:30-9:45 a.m., Cost: \$70

10-17 year olds: Tuesdays/Thursdays 10-11:15 a.m., Cost: \$70

Summer Golf teaches children ages 5-17 basic skills and rules of the game of golf, including but not limited to: club use, pitching, chipping, driving, putting, scoring, and emphasizing fitness. Each session builds off the last, as the learning of basic sports rules and scoring knowledge, mechanics are weekly goals. Equipment for the class is provided, but if you have your own set of clubs then go ahead and bring them. Kids receive a t-shirt, and class is held at the RIA Sports Complex off of Blunt Road.

POC: Andy Milton, sports and fitness director, andrew.a.milton2.naf@mail.mil, 309-782-6793

Army Community Service



Army Community Service is an Army-wide community, social service program that provides services that assist Soldiers, Family members, and Department of the Army civilians maintain readiness, develop self-reliance, resiliency and stability. U.S. Army Installation Management Command provides these services through a network of programs that support goals related to recruitment, retention, morale, and operational readiness of the force. ACS on RIA is located in Bldg. 110, 1st floor SE; visit our ACS website

<https://rockisland.armymwr.com/programs/army-community-service> or phone 309-782-0829. Call ahead for special accommodations when attending ACS classes. Find us on Facebook click here: www.facebook.com/RIAACS. 24/7 Domestic Violence Crisis Line: **309-912-6089**. The ACS center is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Appointments are strongly encouraged and can be made by calling 309-782-0829. ACS Rock Island virtual office hours are 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on [MS Teams](#).

ACS Virtual Office Hours

ACS is back in the office each day from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Based on interest and availability we will no longer be hosting Virtual Office Hours each Wednesday effective June 1.

TSP Training

With the move back to the office many people want to know more about their TSP. TSP offers a number of classes including classes regarding how TSP works, TSP for new hires, and TSP withdraws and retirement among others. You can find these classes (and a complete set of instructions on how to sign up) at www.tsp.gov/agency-service-reps/tsp-educational-resources.

Domestic Violence Support Group Offered Twice Weekly

R.S.V.P. with the Domestic Violence Advocate at: crystal.l.bartholomew2.ctr@mail.mil or 309-782-3773

Parenting During COVID-19

Kids are returning to school, and parents are returning to work, but life is far from “normal.” Join Army Community Service and Child and Youth Services each month as we discuss how to manage as parents through the pandemic. Bring your questions and tips to the group, parents of all ages of children are welcome. Classes are held the second Tuesday of the month from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., and can be accessed through Teams at the following link:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3a90c8afc5e9a34120989982d78eb42e8f%40thread.tacv2/1615312862051?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2221acfb3-32be-4715-9025-1e2f015cbbe9%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%220943c39e-a114-4645-84a8-55d91c3efb99%22%7d>

If you do not have Teams, you can still access the meeting by calling 571-388-3904 and entering the passcode: 458005087#. Meeting date is **June 8**. For more information, call 309-782-6515 or 309-782-3049.

Out Processing Levy Brief

The out processing levy brief is designed to provide service members and their spouses with critical information regarding policy and procedures as well as resources available during PCS process. The brief will be delivered virtually through MS Teams. To receive a meeting link for one of the following Thursdays taking place 9:30 a.m. – noon, please contact MPD at 309-782-1526; **June 24 and July 22.**

MWR Outdoor Recreation Office



Outdoor Recreation is your one-stop rental shop for all your outdoor adventures, special events, home maintenance and repair. No matter the season, we have the equipment to get you out into the great outdoors. From skis and snowboards to campers and canoes, we have you covered. Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:15 a.m. – 4 p.m., Building 333, Phone: 309-782-8630. **Appointments are once again required for service in order to limit the number of customers in the lobby at any one time. The maximum facility capacity is five people and masks are still required for service. (email: robert.l.lampert.naf@mail.mil), Website: <https://rockisland.armymwr.com/programs/outdoor-recreation>**

We're Celebrating 50 Years of Outdoor Recreation with #ArmyODR50!

Participate in one of our upcoming events throughout June, July, and August and receive an Outdoor Recreation key chain 'token' to be entered in to the photo sweepstakes for a chance to win some cool prizes such as a Schwinn bicycle, stadium chairs, a Go-Pro, and more. Register now for our upcoming meet ups:

- **June 16:** Recreational Bike Ride – Meet at the Lindsey Park parking lot at 4:30 p.m. for a 6 mile ride including a stop at the Freight House Farmer's Market.
- **June 17:** Kayaking – Meet at Lost Grove Lake in Princeton, Iowa at 6 p.m.
- **July 1:** Kayaking – Meet at Sunset Marina in Moline at 5 p.m.
- **July 15:** Mountain/Dirt Bike or Road Bike Ride – Meet at Sylvan Island for the option of an on-road or off-road ride at 5 p.m.

Stay tuned for additional meet-ups being held throughout the summer. Please register by calling MWR Outdoor Recreation at 309-782-8630. Limited rental availability so sign up now. #STRONGBANDS #ArmyODR50 Commit-Stay Fit.

Gear Up With Outdoor Recreation

Graduation and outdoor party event season is fast approaching. Outdoor Recreation has party canopies, tables, chairs, bounce houses, charcoal grills and other items to help make your event a success. To reserve these and many other outdoor recreation items please contact Outdoor Recreation at 309-782-8630. Got roped into helping a friend, family member or coworker move? Rent a trailer and take fewer trips. Outdoor Recreation has a fleet of various sized flatbed and enclosed trailers. As the weather continues to warm up and you want to be outside, don't forget about our inventory of mountain and fat tire bikes. Get out and explore the Quad Cities on one of our bikes and check out QC Trails: <https://www.qctrails.org>, it's a great resource to discover all the

various trail systems in the area. For a full listing of all rental gear available, check out our website at: <https://rockisland.armymwr.com/programs/outdoor-recreation>

Get Ready For Boating Season with Outdoor Recreation

Canoe and kayak season is just around the corner or here now, depending on your tolerance for chilly water and we want everyone to have a safe and fun season. Before renting a canoe or kayak from Outdoor Recreation, the State of Illinois requires each user to complete a boater safety class each year and for Outdoor Recreation to maintain on file a copy of your boater safety class completion certificate. Now is a great time to get your training done. We must have a copy of the completion certificate for everyone in your group who will be in or using the canoes and kayaks that you check out. There is a free online class at www.rentalboatsafety.com. Take the class for canoes/kayaks. On your completion certificate write your name, date of birth, driver's license number (if 16 years of age or older) and your signature. Without these certificates we are not allowed to rent canoes or kayaks to you. The canoes and kayaks can only be used on the water ways that we have listed and posted at Outdoor Recreation. See the full list of rental equipment available to you including bikes, campers, flatbed and enclosed trailers and much more on our website: <https://rockisland.armymwr.com/programs/outdoor-recreation> Stop in to see us and let us set you up with all the gear you need to get out and play in the great outdoors. Please call 309-782-8630 for more information about Outdoor Recreation.



The ASAP/EAP is dedicated to excellence in providing a standard of care that enhances the quality of life for its clients and the workforce of Rock Island Arsenal. We believe that personal, family, and workplace problems can affect an employee's well-being and job performance. The ASAP/EAP promotes healthy lifestyles. Our most important asset is our employees and we are committed to providing professional counseling, educational assistance, and intervention services in an effort to promote wellness and improve the climate of the Rock Island Arsenal. ASAP/EAP is located in Bldg. 56, 1st floor; visit our ASAP/EAP website <https://home.army.mil/ria/index.php/my-fort/all-services/army-substance-abuse-program> or phone 309-782-4357 or 309-782-HELP. Office hours are from 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. After Hour Emergencies: 309-782-6116. Rock Island Arsenal Emergency Services will contact an EAP counselor who will call you back promptly. Find us on Facebook click here: www.facebook.com/RIAEmployeeAssistanceProgram.

There are no announcements at this time.

Education/Training Review



Army Continuing Education System (ACES) is the Army's method for delivering educational opportunities to Soldiers that remediate, develop, and enhance skills needed for present and future jobs. The Army Continuing Education Division (ACED) promotes lifelong learning, readiness and resilience through flexible and relevant education programs, services and systems in support of the Total Army Family. The Rock Island Army Education Center is located in Bldg. 56, 1st floor, west end of the building. Office hours: 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Monday - Friday. Phone: 309-782-2065 Fax: 309-782-7901. **The RIA Army Education Center is only providing virtual services; contact Mary Hansarik at mary.p.hansarik.civ@mail.mil for Education Center requirements.** Please visit our website to learn more:

<https://home.army.mil/ria/index.php/my-fort/all-services/continuing-education-services>

There are no announcements at this time.

Defense Commissary Agency / Exchange



The Rock Island Commissary, www.commissaries.com/shopping/store-locations/rock-island-arsenal, and the Exchange, www.shopmyexchange.com/company/storeDetails.jsp?storeId=1074020, are for active duty military, retirees, service-connected disabled veterans, and Arsenal Island DoD employees. Check out local specials and get POC information here: www.commissaries.com/shopping/store-locations/rock-island-arsenal. For information on this and other Commissaries, visit: www.commissaries.com (Facebook: www.facebook.com/YourCommissary) **COVID-19 Store Policies:** <https://commissaries.com/coronavirus>

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: rockisland@deca.mil and type 'Subscribe' in the subject line.

Commissaries Honor Army's 246 Years of Service

Today, the Department of Defense (DOD) recognizes the commissary benefit as mission critical, and throughout the years it has gained the admiration and gratitude of soldiers and their families, said Marine Sgt. Maj. Michael R. Saucedo, senior enlisted advisor to the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) director. (More: www.commissaries.com/our-agency/newsroom/news-releases/commissaries-honor-armys-246-years-service)

Exchange Giving Away \$6,000 In Prizes for Army's 246th Birthday

To mark the United States Army's 246th birthday, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service is giving away more than \$6,000 in prizes through 10 sweepstakes. From **June 11 to July 8**, authorized Exchange shoppers 18 years and older, including honorably discharged Veterans, can enter at [ShopMyExchange.com/sweepstakes](https://shopmyexchange.com/sweepstakes). (More: <https://publicaffairs-sme.com/ExchangePost/2021/06/10/exchange-giving-away-6000-in-prizes-for-armys-246th-birthday>)

Exchange Celebrates Army's 246th Birthday with Savings on Food on June 14

The Army & Air Force Exchange Service is wishing the U.S. Army a happy 246th birthday. Military shoppers can join the celebration with special one-day savings at the Exchange. On **June 14**, Soldiers, Airmen, Guardians and military shoppers can use their MILITARY STAR® card to receive:

- 15% off at Exchange restaurants.
- \$10 off a purchase of \$25 or more at Exchange mall stores. The coupon required for this offer can be found at the Exchange main store customer service desk.

"It's an honor to celebrate our heroes on the Army's birthday and every day," said Exchange Director/CEO Tom Shull, an Army Veteran. "The Exchange is grateful to all Warfighters, past and present, for their service." (More: <https://publicaffairs-sme.com/ExchangePost/2021/06/09/exchange-celebrates-armys-246th-army-birthday-with-savings-on-food-fuel-on-june-14>)

Unveiling Summer Savings: Commissaries' Sales Promotions Help Recognize Fathers, The Army's Birthday and Flag Day In June

Throughout the month of June, the commissary will run a number of sales promotions to help customers save more as they observe the Army's 246th birthday, Flag Day and Father's Day. "As we celebrate these special days, the commissary is also delivering even greater savings to our service men and women and their families," said Marine Sgt. Maj. Michael R. Saucedo, the Defense Commissary Agency's senior enlisted advisor to the DeCA director. "We also remind our customers to visit their commissary website for more opportunities to save." (More: www.commissaries.com/our-agency/newsroom/news-releases/unveiling-summer-savings-commissaries-sales-promotions-help)

Feds Feed Families Underway Through August As Commissaries Continue Role as DOD's Lead

The USDA's Feds Feed Families (FFF) campaign for 2021 began June 1 and continues through Aug. 31 for federal workers and commissary customers and employees who want to donate to food banks and pantries in their area. For the second straight year, the Department of Defense has designated the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) the leader of the campaign for the military, said Randy Eller, the agency's director of logistics. (More: www.commissaries.com/our-agency/newsroom/news-releases/feds-feed-families-underway-through-august-commissaries-continue)

Department of Defense Expands Access to Military Exchanges

The Department of Defense announced today the expansion of access to military exchanges. Starting May 1, 2021, DOD and Coast Guard appropriated fund and nonappropriated fund civilian employees are authorized to shop at military exchange stores in the United States and the U.S. territories and possessions. Online exchange access will also be available for active and retired DOD and Coast Guard appropriated fund and nonappropriated fund civilian employees by mid-October. **This shopping access does not include the purchase**

of military uniforms, tobacco products or alcohol. Previous in-store exchange access for DOD and Coast Guard civilian employees was limited to those on service agreements overseas (i.e., in foreign countries and the U.S. territories and possessions) and access was limited to overseas exchanges. The expansion will allow all DOD and Coast Guard civilian employees to shop in exchange stores in the United States and the U.S. territories and possessions. (More:

www.defense.gov/Newsroom/Releases/Release/Article/2590000)



Exchange Shoppers Can Score a Home Run with Sweepstakes

Army & Air Force Exchange Service shoppers can swing for the fences with the Ford Gum Big League Chew sweepstakes. From **May 14 to June 30**, authorized shoppers 18 and older can enter to win one of three prizes. The first-place winner will receive a \$2,000 Exchange gift card, the second-place winner will receive a \$1,000 gift card and the third-place winner will receive a \$500 gift card. (More: <https://publicaffairs-sme.com/ExchangePost/2021/05/13/exchange-shoppers-can-score-a-home-run-with-sweepstakes>)



Arsenal Archive



Information for the Arsenal Archive is made available by the Rock Island Arsenal Museum. (website: www.arsenalhistoricalsociety.org) (Facebook: www.facebook.com/RIAMuseum)

RIA Museum Closed For Renovation

The Rock Island Arsenal Museum is undergoing a \$1.5 million renovation. The project includes the biggest modernization of the museum in more than 50 years. The renovation will refocus the exhibits on the history of the U.S. Army's organic industrial base, Rock Island Arsenal, and the Arsenal's current role in producing Army readiness. It is part of the U.S. Army Museum Enterprise's five-year reform effort to refine its collection and enhance education and training capabilities at its 47 field museums. To provide a sneak peek of the new exhibits, a series of virtual presentations will be held this summer outlining the new interpretation and exhibit design. Stay tuned for updates on the [Museum's Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/RIAMuseum) or website, arsenalhistoricalsociety.org, as it undergoes this exciting process. The museum has been closed since March 2020 due to a nationwide surge in COVID-19 cases. "We look forward to reopening our doors to the Quad Cities community in the fall of 2022," said Patrick Allie, Rock Island Arsenal Museum director. For more information or questions contact 309-782-3518.



Healthbeat

RIA Remains at **HPCON Bravo**, Emphasizes Command Practices Across the Island Workforce -- the Rock Island Arsenal is maintaining the current Health Protection Condition Bravo and the "Return to the Rock" plan – the installation's planned recovery from the COVID-19 precautions instituted in March and April 2020 (meetings/gatherings limit at 50 people or 50 percent of sitting capacity, [masks required](#), six feet of distancing, and a continuation of practicing proactive personal hygiene). For a further details about individual commands, Island facilities and services, go to our [COVID-19 Local Impacts Page](#).

Safety Tips for the 101 Critical Days of Summer

As the restrictions of COVID-19 begin to relax, there will be an increase in families and friends out enjoying the sunshine and warm weather, swimming, boating, playing, and traveling. "Please be aware of the risks associated with your summer activities and take steps to mitigate that risk," said Catherine Hall, chief of Occupational Safety for the Defense Health Agency. "Always have a well-thought-out plan; that old adage of 'fail to plan, plan to fail' has merit." Harris added, "Success does not always happen by accident, but accidents do happen due to that failure to have a plan." The 101 Critical Days of Summer begin on Memorial Day weekend and end after Labor Day. With all those fun summer activities, the following safety tips are offered to make your vacation journey a safe and happy one. (More: <https://health.mil/News/Articles/2021/06/03/Safety-tips-for-the-101-critical-days-of-summer>)

Fully Vaccinated People Can Largely Be Unmasked On RIA Unless Otherwise Designated

Per the [Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, dated 13 May 2021, Updated Mask Guidelines for Vaccinated Persons](#) – in support of updated [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), subject to any applicable labor relations obligations, fully vaccinated DoD personnel (who are at least two weeks beyond their final dose) are no longer required to wear a mask indoors or outdoors at DoD facilities. The Arsenal Island workforce should continue to comply with CDC guidance regarding areas where masks should be worn, including within airports. **Personnel who are not fully vaccinated should continue to follow [applicable DoD mask guidance](#), including continuing to wear indoors.** The Department of Defense will review and revise all applicable Force Health Protection guidance to address the new CDC guidelines. Until this updated Force Health Protection guidance is issued, commanders and supervisors may make exceptions to this memorandum as necessary to ensure a safe workforce. Commanders and supervisors should not ask about an employee's vaccination status or use information about an employee's vaccination status to make decisions about how and when employees will report to a workplace instead of teleworking. All current protection measures, mask requirements for unvaccinated personnel, cleaning/sanitizing stations, and physical distancing guidance will remain in place. Don't Wait, Vaccinate! – Senior leadership and health personnel at the Rock Island Arsenal continue to highly encourage the Arsenal workforce and their families to get the first COVID-19 vaccine available to them from whatever resource they qualify to receive it, whether that's here at the Arsenal, a county vaccine clinic, the Veteran's Administration, their primary care provider, or a pharmacy. One resource for finding the vaccine outside of the installation is www.vaccinefinder.org. DoD is now at [Phase 2 in its schema for COVID-19 vaccine eligibility](#). If a member of the Island workforce wants to receive

the vaccine at the RIA Health Clinic they need to go through their command or organization or by [calling the Clinic](#) for times and availability.

Notes for Veterans



There are no announcements at this time.

Around the Q.C.



An interactive version of Around the Q.C. is now available at:
www.facebook.com/groups/275103093432020

Once you have joined you can see a listing a the Facebook events people have posted to the group at:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/275103093432020/events>

The impact to these events in light of COVID-19 is unknown. It is recommended that employees look at the event link for details.

Island Insight



Col. Todd J. Allison, Garrison Commander; Mark Kane, Public Affairs Officer and 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*

www.army.mil/usapa/epubs/pdf/r360_1.pdf by the Rock Island Arsenal-Garrison Public Affairs Office. **Contents of Island Insight are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the Army. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Garrison or the Department of the Army. The editorial content of Island Insight is the responsibility of the Rock Island Arsenal-Garrison Public Affairs Office.** Submission of announcements, articles, photos, letters, and graphic art of interest to the general readership is encouraged. All manuscripts are subject to editing and rewriting prior to publication. Postal address: Garrison Public Affairs, 1 Rock Island Arsenal, ATTN: IMRI-PA, Rock Island, IL 61299-5000. For submission of announcements to the Island Insight, use the following link: <https://home.army.mil/ria/index.php/contact/public-affairs>. To send comments email usarmy.ria.imcom-central.mbx.usag-ria-pa@mail.mil or phone 309-782-1121.

