



Jan. 12, 2022

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>

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Garrison Recognizes Employees

The Rock Island Arsenal Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation hosted a formal garrison award ceremony recognizing three employees held in the Fitness Center on Jan. 12 to include two of its employees who earned awards for Garrison Civilian of the Quarter,

and a Civilian Human Resources Agency employee for her work with FMWR. On Dec. 16, the garrison announced the winners of 4th Quarter FY21 Garrison Civilian of the Quarter Recognition Program to include the employee and supervisor of the quarter. The employee award was earned by Chassity Morse in Army Community Service who serves as the ACS Relocation Readiness Program manager, Army Family Action Plan Program manager, and Army Volunteer Corps coordinator; and the supervisor award earned by Tina Bevier in Child & Youth Services who serves as the director of Community/Installation Outreach Services. As the host of the ceremony, FMWR also recognized an employee outside the garrison organization, Mallory Wetzel with the



Upcoming Dates

Sept. 1-Jan. 15: [2021 Combined Federal Campaign](#)

January: National Operations Security Month

January: National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month

January: National Mentoring Month

January: National Blood Donor Month

Jan. 15: Do-It-Yourself Saturday, Auto Service Center, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Jan. 17: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Federal Holiday)

Jan. 17: Desert Storm 31st Anniversary

Jan. 19: Active Duty Out Processing Levy Brief, MS Teams, 9:30 a.m. – noon

Jan. 19: Workforce Wednesday, Lock & Dam Lounge, 3-7 p.m.

Jan. 20: Thirsty Thursday, Lock & Dam Lounge, 3-7 p.m.

Jan. 21: ImpactLife Blood Drive, donor bus in Commissary Parking Lot, 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Jan. 21: USO Frank'n Friday, Bldg. 110, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Jan. 22: Do-It-Yourself Saturday, Auto Service Center, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Jan. 22: Do You Want To Build A Snowman, Heritage Hall, Bldg. 60, 10 a.m.

Jan. 25: 77th Anniversary of the end of Battle of the Bulge

Jan. 25: 100th Anniversary U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own" is formed

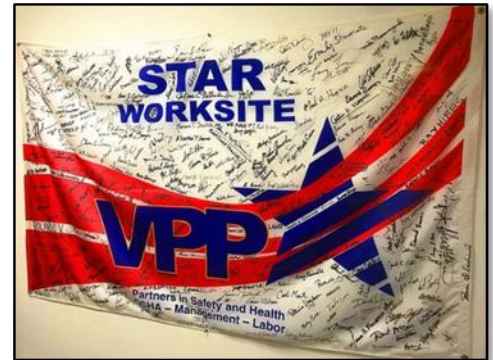
Jan. 25: National Have Fun at Work Day

Jan. 26: National Spouses Day

Civilian Human Resources Agency, for the support she has offered as the nonappropriated fund human resource officer, CHRA, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation from September 2014 to December 2021. Throughout her tenure, she established high service standards for recruitment strategies, personnel security checks, effective use of USA staffing, attending countless job fairs, ensuring employee benefits awareness, and advocacy for management-employee relations. (More: www.army.mil/article/253299)

ASC Embraces OSHA VPP to Enhance Employee Safety, Preserve Limited Resources, Sustain Army Readiness

In the workplace, safety is everyone's business. Without safety, the workforce would shrink due to illness, injury or death, and costly equipment damage could ensue adversely affecting mission completion. Likewise, the U.S. Army Sustainment Command takes safety very seriously and has embraced a program to address this by asking everyone to take a proactive approach toward it. ASC has chosen the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's Voluntary Protection Program as its primary safety management system. "Safety is vital to our Army mission for a variety of reasons," said Bob Petty, chief, G4 (Logistics), Safety & Occupational Health Division, ASC. "As an employer, ASC leaders are mandated by law to provide a safe and healthful workplace for all of our employees. Accident prevention initiatives are paramount in preventing employee injuries and property damage and are critical to maximizing Army readiness," Petty said. "An active Safety Management System – SMS -- puts systemic programs in place that provide a battle rhythm of recurring leader/employee engagements that enhance organizational command and safety culture." (More: www.army.mil/article/253301)



RIA SAMC Delivers Donations to Local Animal Shelter, Embraces Community

Three U.S. Army Sustainment Command noncommissioned officers delivered donations received by community members to a Quad Cities animal shelter, Dec. 17. Sgt. Maj. Andy Hardy, Master Sgt. Conchetta McCregg, and Sgt. 1st Class Mikaela Clark, members of the Rock Island Arsenal Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, conducted a two-week pet rescue donation drive for King's Harvest Pet Rescue No Kill Shelter, located in Davenport, Iowa. They later dropped off the donations, sneaking in a chance to pet, walk, and play with the animals there. The SAMC is a private organization outside the Army that was originally created at Fort Hood, Texas, in 1986, to honor Sgt. Audie L. Murphy, the most decorated combat Soldier of World War II. It spread Army-wide in 1994, with other installations retaining the selection process for their own NCOs. Today, the SAMC raises money through innovative activities and projects, and at times accepts various types of donations to support events either within the Army, the local community, or both. (More: www.army.mil/article/253295)



AMC Reimagines Supply Chain Management

Army Materiel Command and its Life Cycle Management Commands are posturing, synchronizing and optimizing supply chain management to build resiliency. Each LCMC — Aviation and Missile Command, Communications-Electronics Command, Joint Munitions Command, and Tank-automotive and Armaments Command — has its own unique culture and way of doing business, according to Deacon Maddox, AMC's supply chain management director. Maddox said while all the LCMCs use Enterprise Resource Planning Systems like the Logistics Modernization Program, which houses supply chain data, AMC wants to further unify the commands. "We want standardized processes using best practices shared across AMC that make us more efficient," Maddox said. "A huge part of this will be about putting our data at the center of the effort and designing roles and responsibilities that can maximize LMP and the data it produces." (More: www.army.mil/article/253022)



Army Leaders Synchronize the Equipping, Modernization of Units

The Army is working to synchronize and integrate its force employment and modernization across the Total Army. With the Regionally Aligned Readiness and Modernization Model —or ReARMM — in its initial operational capability, the Army's top leaders continue to strengthen its foundation and work together to best equip the force. "If you were the commander of a unit at echelon, what would you like to have?" said Army Materiel Command Commanding General Gen. Ed Daly during the December 2021 Army Modernization and Equipping Conference, or AMEC. "I think it's important to think about it from that perspective." In ReARMM, a unit transitions through modernization, training and mission phases, each lasting about eight months. In an optimal process, a unit would receive equipment and have the right people on hand as they enter the modernization phase, said Daly. (More: www.army.mil/article/253193)



Pentagon Drops New Quarantine Guidance for COVID-19 Exposure, Diagnosis

Any troops who have tested positive, or come in close contact with someone positive, for COVID-19 will now self-quarantine for at least five days, [according to guidance released Friday](http://www.armytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2022/01/07/pentagon-drops-new-quarantine-guidance-for-covid-19-exposure-diagnosis). The guidance, which also applies to Defense Department civilians and contractors, will apply to both asymptomatic and symptomatic cases, in line with recent guidelines published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Much of the guidance hinges on the honor system: Personnel have to report their symptoms and/or exposures, submit to testing and then keep their masks on for several days after they return to work. The five-day quarantine is a bare minimum, according to the memo from the defense under secretary for personnel and readiness. Here's how it should go: Anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19 — including cough, congestion and shortness of breath — must immediately report them to a commander, then begin a five-day quarantine. (More: www.armytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2022/01/07/pentagon-drops-new-quarantine-guidance-for-covid-19-exposure-diagnosis)



Army Offers Up To \$50k in Enlistment Incentives

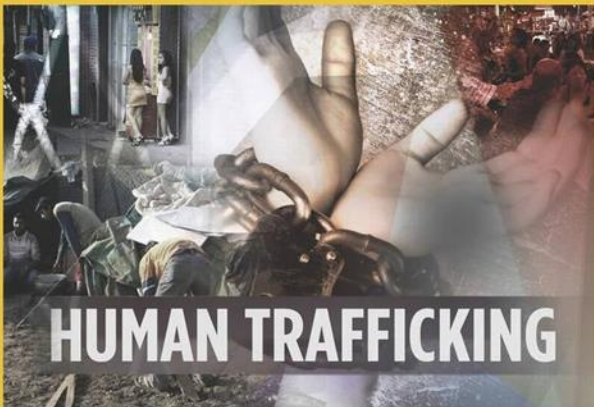
The U.S. Army is offering its largest bonus ever for new recruits with up to \$50,000 available to qualified individuals who sign on for a six-year active-duty enlistment. The total incentive package for a new recruit is based on a combination of incentives offered for the selected career field, individual qualifications, length of the enlistment contract, and the ship date for training. In the past, enlistment incentives for full-time Soldiers could not exceed \$40,000. The Army is competing for the same talent as the other services as well as the private sector and must have the ability to generate interest in the current employment environment, according to Maj. Gen. Kevin Vereen, who leads U.S. Army Recruiting Command in its mission to fill full-time and part-time vacancies in about 150 different career fields in the Regular Army and the Army Reserve. (More: www.army.mil/article/253221)



January is National Human Trafficking Awareness & Prevention Month

Human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labor or commercial sex act. Every year, millions of men, women, and children are trafficked worldwide – including right here in the United States. It can happen in any community and victims can be any age, race, gender, or nationality. Traffickers might use violence, manipulation, or false promises of well-paying jobs or romantic relationships to lure victims into trafficking situations. Language barriers, fear of their traffickers, and/or fear of law enforcement frequently keep victims from seeking help, making human trafficking a hidden crime. Traffickers use force, fraud, or coercion to lure their victims and force them into labor or commercial sexual exploitation. They look for people who are susceptible for a variety of reasons, including psychological or emotional vulnerability, economic hardship, lack of a social safety net, natural disasters, or political instability. The trauma caused by the traffickers can be so great that many may not identify themselves as victims or ask for help, even in highly public settings. Some indications that a person may be a victim of human trafficking include (especially in the case of women and children):

- Appearing malnourished
- Showing signs of physical injuries and abuse
- Avoiding eye contact, social interaction, and authority figures/law enforcement
- Seeming to adhere to scripted or rehearsed responses in social interaction
- Checking into hotels/motels with older males, and referring to those males as boyfriend or “daddy,” which is often street slang for pimp
- Small children serving in a family restaurant



HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**If you suspect Human Trafficking
REPORT IT!**

Contact the DoD Hotline at:


dodig.mil/hotline
or call toll-free 800-424-9098

**Visit ctip.defense.gov
for more information.**

For 24/7 assistance, call the
National Human Trafficking
Resource Center at 1-888-373-7888.

Send written complaints to:
Defense Hotline
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1900

Email your local CTIP office at: 375.amw.ctip@us.af.mil

- Security measures that appear to keep people inside an establishment - barbed wire inside of a fence, bars covering the insides of windows
- Not allowing people to go into public alone, or speak for themselves

To report suspected human trafficking to federal law enforcement:

1-866-347-2423

National Human Trafficking Resource Center

1-888-373-7888 OR text HELP or INFO to BeFree (233733)

Brought to you by your RIA SHARP Program Office; RIA 24/7 Hotline: 309-229-8412

DoD 24/7 SAFE Helpline: 877-995-5247.

Central US Earthquake Awareness

While rare, earthquakes do happen in the central U.S. The most famous example is the New Madrid Seismic Zone (NMSZ). This zone had a recorded history of severe earthquakes in 1811 and 1895. The 1811 earthquake was felt over 1,100 miles away. This zone is still active and a FEMA study in 2004 estimates damage from the next NMSZ quake to be \$296 billion, 730,000 people displaced, and 87,000 buildings destroyed. The disaster recovery will likely cause 75% of businesses to fail within the three years after the disaster, many cannot recover. For more information on the NMSZ, visit the U.S. Geological Survey at: The New Madrid Seismic Zone | U.S. Geological Survey (usgs.gov). While there are many things you can't change, you can make yourself safer before the event and less vulnerable after the event. The Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium <http://cusec.org> describes the real hazards during an earthquake Earthquake Safety & Preparedness (cusec.org) and offers a seven step preparation guide that covers the steps you can take before, during, and after an incident. Seven Steps to Earthquake Safety (cusec.org). Be sure to review the seven steps and implement as many as you can. Several of these steps like securing moveable items (such as dressers and bookshelves), moving heavy objects to lower shelves, etc. are prudent safety precautions anyway. Dressers and bookshelves that are secured to walls won't tip for other reasons, like opening more than one drawer or a child climbing them. Moving heavy or sharp objects like trophies or displays from higher shelves to lower one minimizes risk as well. Disaster plans, organizing supplies, and having documents ready are the same steps you'd take for tornados and floods. Practicing an earthquake drill reinforces other lessons like fire drills by reminding yourself and your loved ones that bad things can happen. Simply having the conversation, "remember our fire drill, and how we go to the basement for tornados? These are the steps we'd take for an earthquake." The reminder helps all the lessons stay strong. If you're interested in participating in the world's largest earthquake drill, you can register at www.shakeout.org. It will give you information and a chance to practice and be ready. – By Thomas Rutherford, safety and occupational health specialist, Army Contracting Command

What to do

Before, During, and After an earthquake.

Before:

- ✓ Make an emergency supplies kit: www.ready.gov/build-a-kit



During:



DROP!



COVER!



HOLD ON!

After:

- ✓ Get help for injuries and illness
- ✓ Get support for stress



National Operations Security (OPSEC) Month

January is National Operations Security (OPSEC) Month, created by the National Counterintelligence and Security Center. All organizations should assess and protect public and private data that could expose vulnerabilities. Do you know how to protect yourself or your organization? Protecting critical information is vital to the success of any mission. Examples include information on capabilities, intentions, manpower, personnel, places, procedures, technology, and equipment. Foreign adversaries aren't just interested in U.S. government secrets. Unclassified information -- including proprietary data, R&D, emerging tech & personal data -- are all key targets today. Protecting your organization has never been more important. #ThinkOPSEC #OPSECMonth (More:

www.dni.gov/files/NCSC/documents/SafeguardingOurFuture/12.13.2021%20Protect%20Your%20Org%20from%20the%20Foreign%20Intel%20Threat.pdf)



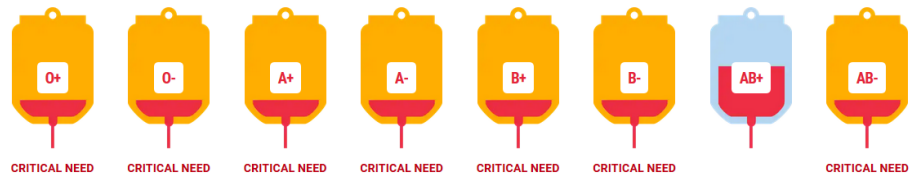
Weingarten Notice

It is time once again for the annual reminder of Weingarten Rights provided by 5 USC 7114. The information below applies to all bargaining unit employees: An exclusive representative of an appropriate unit in an agency shall be given the opportunity to be represented at any examination of an employee in the unit by a representative of the agency in connection with an investigation if the employee reasonably believes that the examination may result in disciplinary action against the employee, and the employee requests representation. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your labor relations specialist or ombudsman.



Blood Donors Urgently Needed During National Blood Donor Month, Throughout the Winter

Both nationally and here within this region, we are experiencing an urgent need for blood to prevent shortages for patients and hospitals. As the local blood provider for 126 hospitals in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri,



and Wisconsin, ImpactLife shares in the concern over the state of the blood supply both nationally and within our region. Within their service region, they strive to collect an average of 3,600 donations on a weekly basis. In recent weeks, however, the donation rate has ranged from 2,500 to 2,800 donations per week. Christmas and New Year's holidays, as well as winter weather and the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic have combined to decrease the rate of donation. Blood products are perishable and must be used for transfusion within a short window of time, so they strive to keep a 5-day supply in their inventories to meet anticipated and unanticipated needs. Currently most blood products and types are less than 3-day supply. Urgent need for all donations & blood types especially Type O, AB and all types for Platelets. ImpactLife has a blood drive scheduled on Arsenal Island for the month of January:

- **Friday, Jan. 21:** 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Building 333, conference room left of MWR lobby; donor promo – shamrock t-shirt or \$5 gift card.
- Gift card options: Amazon, Home Depot, Lowe's, Target, Subway, Starbucks, Walmart

If you would like to donate at either of these blood drives, feel free to email

bhancock@impactlife.org with the time you'd like to schedule, or call the Donor Scheduling Team

at 800-747-5401; 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.

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

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

Eagle Watch/Clock Tower Tour

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District will host multiple eagle watch events this season in January and February. For each event, participants will meet at the Mississippi River Visitor Center on:

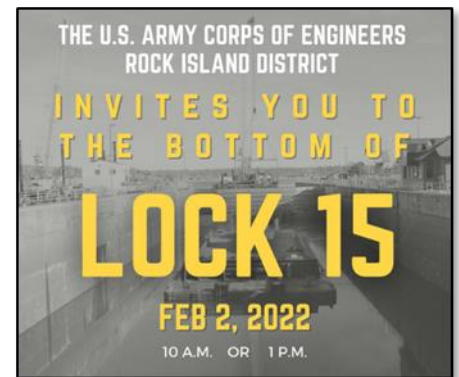
- **Jan. 15 & 29:** 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.
- **Feb. 5 & 12:** 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Climb back in history as you ascend the Clock Tower Building on Arsenal Island. The upper floors offer a great view of the Mississippi River around Locks and Dam 15 where there is a good opportunity to view bald eagles in the wild. At the height of the tour, we will be six floors up in the clock room looking at the inner workings of the historic clock installed in the tower in 1868. Reservations are required which can be made by calling the Mississippi River Visitor Center at 309-794-5338.



See the Bottom of Lock 15

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District invites you to the bottom of Lock 15 on **Wednesday, Feb. 2**, 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District is offering two unique opportunities for local area high school and college students, interested in science, technology, engineering and math, to tour the inside of Lock 15 in its dewatered state. Reservations are required and space is limited. Participants will travel to the bottom of the chamber where they will observe work crews actively performing critical repairs to our aging inland waterway navigation infrastructure. Tours will last approximately one hour and will be conducted outside in the cold. Participants should dress appropriately for the weather and be prepared to wear provided safety gear. Contact the Mississippi River Visitor Center at 309-794-5338 for reservations and details – reserve your spot today.



True Lifestyle Medicine Wellness 9-Month Series

Army Contracting Command – Rock Island (ACC-RI) is proud to announce a 9-month Health and Wellness series presented virtually via MS Teams by Dr. Cheryl True of True Lifestyle Medicine, LLC which will start next month in February. This series is geared toward individuals who wish to embrace a healthier lifestyle and increased benefits of self-care. Schedule and topics are presented below with this [MS Teams link](#) (link is the same for each session). You must register in TEDs no later than the day prior to the event and self-certify in TEDs after the event to receive credit. Those that do not self-certify within one week will be deleted from TEDs. If you do not register in

advance, you are welcome to attend using the teams' link, but you will need to add it to your TEDs history after the fact. TEDs key word: "True Lifestyle Medicine,"

1 CLP. The sessions will not be recorded.

- **Feb. 14:** [Foundations of Health & Wellbeing. Thinking Outside the Clinic: An Intro to Lifestyle Medicine](#), 1-2 p.m.
- **March 14:** [Setting Up for Success: Defining and Achieving Your Goals](#), 1-2 p.m.
- **April 11:** [Exploring the Pillars: Nutrition "Fueling Your Future"](#), 1-2 p.m.
- **May 9:** [Cooking Demo: "Whole Food Plant Based Recipes and Meal Preparation"](#), 1-2 p.m.
- **June 13:** [Exploring the Pillars: Physical Activity "Moving Through Your Day"](#), 1-2 p.m.
- **July 11:** [Exploring the Pillars: Stress & Resilience "The Human Capacity to Adapt and Thrive"](#), 1-2 p.m.
- **Aug. 8:** [Mindfulness, Meditation & Relaxation "Putting Your Mind to Work. Your Body is Listening"](#), 1-2 p.m.
- **Sept. 12:** [Exploring the Pillars: Social Relationships "The Power of Connections"](#), 1-2 p.m.
- **Oct. 17:** ["The Basics: Incorporating Lifestyle Changes at Home and at Work"](#), 1-2 p.m.

Health and Wellness POC: Theresa Fahrenkrug, 563-650-2093, theresa.m.fahrenkrug.civ@army.mil; TEDs POC: Rebecca Peterson, 563-210-4436, Rebecca.a.peterson.civ@army.mil.

AMC Looks to BEYA as Valuable Tool to Build Diversity in Workforce

When the goal is building a diverse workforce of scientists and engineers, one of the best places to start is with graduating college students. But, with efficiency in mind, recruiters from both private industry and government organizations need ways to quickly introduce their job opportunities to a wide range of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)-educated students from higher educational institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Enter the Black Engineer of the Year Awards STEM Global Competitiveness Conference (also known as the Becoming Everything You Are conference). For 36 years, BEYA has been a leading venue for introducing the nation's minority STEM-educated students to the workplace. During that time, several government agencies – including the Army Materiel Command – have partnered with BEYA to connect with the most recent graduates in science and technology fields. This year, the BEYA STEM Global Competitiveness Conference is set for **Feb. 17-19** and will be virtual. (More at: www.beya.org)



Emergency Leave Transfer Program to Assist Federal Employees Affected by Hurricane Ida

If you are interested in donating annual leave, [complete OPM Form 1638](#) and submit to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Building 104, no later than **Monday, March 14**. You must state on the 1638 which Emergency Leave Transfer Program you are donating to. If you have any questions contact the CPAC at 309-782-2430. This initiative has been directed by the President. The POC is Jaime Slocum at jaime.l.slocum.civ@army.mil OPM Form 1638: https://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/opm1638.pdf

VIOS Scheduling Eliminated, Garrison PA Assumes Limited Command Photos

The Visual Information Ordering System (VIOS) will no longer be available to schedule official Department of the Army photos previously taken monthly by a representative from Fort Eustis' Multimedia Visual Information Center and coordinated through the Garrison's Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization & Security (DPTMS) Visual Information section. This was due to the impact of COVID-19 and former Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy and former Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville's direction to suspend the use of the photos from officer promotion board packages effective Aug. 1. Official U.S. Army "head and shoulders" command photos (**leadership photo board photography**) duties have been assumed by Garrison Public Affairs for on-Island commands that do not have a public affairs office; this will take place by appointment only at 309-782-1121. The scheduled photos will be taken at the Photo Studio in Room B11 in the basement of Building 90. The 8"x10" head and shoulders – command photos will not be printed, but will be made available digitally. The previous service administered through VIOS and Fort Eustis personnel included government passport photography, which is suspended along with service record/DA Photos. Walk-in appointments are not available.



Arsenal Traffic/Construction



Building 227 Demolition and Partial Parking Lot 2C Closure

The Directorate of Public Works will block off 102 parking spaces in parking lot 2C (adjacent to Building 227) from **Nov.1 to March 4**. This closure is required for the demolition contractor to set up heavy lift equipment and provide requisite clear zone during the demolition and removal of material from Building 227. The personnel turn-style entry toward Building 220 will remain open and available at all times. Signage, fence and barricades will be in place for safety.

Extension of Sylvan Drive Construction Project at Beck Road Intersection

Sylvan Drive from the Beck Avenue intersection north to the Building 208 parking lot will remain under construction through **Thursday, June 30** in order to replace the road, sewers and railroad crossings. USACE, Navy Reserve Center, Commissary, the Exchange, and Outdoor Rec will follow Beck Avenue to Gillespie Street to Rodman Avenue. JMTC's employee parking lot will remain accessible via Rodman Avenue. There is no change to the previously published closure area and detour routes. Signage and barricades will be placed for safety and traffic control.

Building/Space Closures



There are no announcements at this time.

Active Duty/Reserve Zone



US Army Launches Annual Housing Tenant Satisfaction Survey

The Army began its annual housing tenant satisfaction survey today to gather feedback about living in Army housing. Survey results will guide the decisions the Army makes about future housing. “By responding to the survey, every resident will have a voice in how the Army and its partners continue to maintain and improve the quality of our housing,” said Lt. Gen. Jason Evans, Deputy Chief of Staff of G-9, which provides policies, programs, resources and expertise for services and installation infrastructure to enable total Army readiness. G-9 is the sponsor of the survey. An online survey link was emailed from CEL & Associates, Inc. — an independent, third-party company — on Jan. 11, 2022 to more than 110,000 tenants living in privatized, government-owned and government-leased housing on Army installations across the globe. Completing the confidential survey takes about 10 minutes, and tenants have 45 days (until Feb. 24, 2022) to do so. (More: www.army.mil/article/253145)

USO Geo Bachelor/Single Soldier Night

The USO and Rock Island Elks Lodge #980 present the January Geo Bachelor/Single Soldier Night. Join us **Friday, Jan. 28**, at the TaxSlayer Center in Moline for a night of Quad City Storm hockey. We will cheer on the QC Storm as they take on the Peoria Rivermen. This event is open to currently serving military members of all branches, active duty, Guard and Reserve with valid military ID. Please RSVP by 3 p.m., **Wednesday, Jan. 26** to mdavis@uso.org. 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>)

Safety Spotlight



**ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG**



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>

UPS vs Surge Protector vs Power Strip: What's The Difference?

What's the difference between a surge protector, UPS and power strip? Learn when you should use one instead of the other in this helpful guide. Computers rely on steady and constant power to provide a reliable working environment. Uninterruptible power sources (UPS), surge protectors (also known as surge suppressors) and power strips offer power and protection to your devices and PCs. But it's important to know how each of these devices works, so you can determine which you

need to protect your equipment. (More: www.cdw.com/content/cdw/en/articles/datacenter/ups-vs-surge-protector.html)

Equal Employment Opportunity Focus

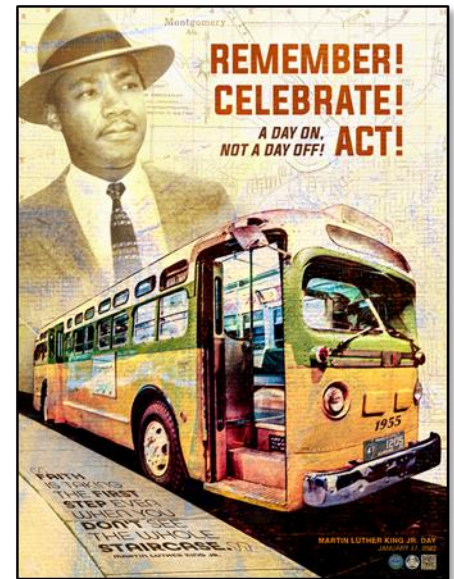


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It is the policy of the Department of Army to provide equal opportunity in employment for all people and to prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age (40 and over), disability, genetic information, 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.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, Jan. 17 this year is the federal holiday celebrating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The national theme of the day is, “Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On, Not a Day Off” to encourage individuals to dedicate the day to community service. This commemoration is an occasion to remember Dr. King’s remarkable life and to follow his principles of unity and equality. The Army is committed to the ideals endorsed by Dr. King – treating every individual with dignity and respect. Influenced by Dr. King, the U.S. Army is dedicated to leveraging the strength of its diverse force and ensuring equality for all its members. All Soldiers, Army Civilians and their Families are valued members of the Army team and their contributions continue to be vital to the Army’s success and history. Army leaders shape personnel policies and implement training that ensures every individual has the opportunity to use their skills and talent. Further, all members of the Army Family are encouraged to commemorate this holiday by participating in community service activities to honor Dr. King’s legacy of compassion. Past and present Soldiers and civilians have built a legacy of professionalism, selfless service, dignity and respect. There is no doubt this legacy will serve as a foundation for generations to come. This day of national community service promotes diversity, fosters inclusive behavior and demonstrates respect for others. When the nation celebrates Dr. King’s dream, it celebrates the American dream. Dr. King’s life and teachings helped to shape the history of the U.S. and the culture of the nation. He dedicated his life to a dream of equality and challenged the nation to recognize that individuals should not be judged by the color of their skin. The Army strongly embraces diversity as a way to create a system that maximizes individual talents, increases morale and greatly enhances organizational effectiveness. Dr. King’s leadership rallied people from all walks of life and awoke a nation to the need for equality,



tolerance and justice. The Army recognizes the timeless values of courage, truth, dignity, humility and serve Dr. King taught through his actions as words.

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.

Island Oasis Now Inside Only

The Island Oasis is serving lunch today from their indoor location, inside the Fitness Center lobby (Building 67) and is open Monday-Friday from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The soup today will be sent to the workforce each day. There are lots of other delicious items on the regular menu as well. Please remember to bring a mask as it is required for entry to the Fitness Center and please remember to social distance while waiting in line and for your order. Call 309-782-6319 for more info on the Island Oasis.

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. Contact the office at 309-782-5890. (email: anna.winters@us.army.mil) (website: <https://rockisland.armymwr.com/programs/leisure-travel-office>)

Do You Want To Build a Snowman

Join us for Do You Want to Build a Snowman on **Saturday, Jan. 22**, in Heritage Hall, Building 60, at 10 a.m. If you're the parent, grandparent or guardian of a little one, you are well aware of the power and allure of the princesses. If your little one knows all the words to all those animated fairy tale shows, than "Do you want to build a snowman" is the event for you. MWR Leisure Travel Office has contacted the wintery princesses and they will be making a special appearance to read a story, dance and take photos with your child. Other fun activities will be provided. Contact the Leisure Travel Office at 309-782-5890 to get your spot reserved. Cost is \$25 per child. Limited spaces – face masks are required.

Quarters One Historical Tour

Join us for Quarters One Historical Tour on **Saturday, Feb. 12**, at 10 a.m. Cost: \$10 per person. At 51 rooms and more than 20,000 square feet, Quarters One is the second largest government homes. Being behind only the White House. To learn more of the history behind this hidden treasure and a guided tour get your spots today. Contact 309-782-5890.

Galena Day Trip

Join us for a trip to Galena, Illinois, on **Saturday, Feb. 12**. Depart from the Moline Gate Visitor Control Center parking lot at 8 a.m.; departing Galena at 3 p.m. Cost is \$30 per person.

Transportation only. Masks required. Stroll along Galena, Illinois' Main Street and discover art galleries, home decor, antique stores, boutiques and kitschy treasures. The historic architecture provides the perfect background for you to shop until you drop. Take your time enjoying special sweet treats from our local bakeries, chocolatiers, and more while strolling down Main Street. Contact the Leisure Travel office at 309-782-5890 to reserve your spot.

Canoecopia Event

MWR is planning a van trip to the Canoecopia event held in Madison, Wisconsin, on **Saturday, March 12**. The MWR van will depart from the Visitor Control Center at 6 a.m. – departing from event 2 p.m. Cost is \$35 per person; 10 passenger van, masks are required, transportation only. Contact the Leisure Travel Office at 309-782-5890 to get your seat. Canoecopia is the largest paddle sports consumer event in the world. More than 250,000 square feet of kayaks, canoes, stand up paddleboards, outdoor equipment and clothing, with the best selection of the season, make Canoecopia a "must go" place for gear. More than 180 seminars and clinics make Canoecopia an educational event where you can learn about the perfect gear for your style of paddling, develop skills to get you where you want to go, and discover some of the many places to paddle, both near and far. Cost is one-day at \$15. Ages 17 and under are free. Cash or check only for tickets purchased at the event.

Cinch World's Toughest Rodeo

Cinch World's Toughest Rodeo will be returning to the TaxSlayer Center on **Saturday, April 2**, at 7:30 p.m., and **Sunday, April 3**, at 2 p.m. Fans are invited into the arena to a meet and greet with both contestants and specialty entertainers for autographs and photographs one hour prior to show. Enjoy the free preshow featuring interactive fun for adults and kids of all ages. Leisure Travel Office has discounted seats on sale for \$31, \$43 and \$61. Call 309-782-5890 to get your tickets.

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 CYS programs/facilities will be closed all federal holidays, CYS 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)

CYS Winter Sports and Fitness Opportunities

Enjoy these early winter sports and fitness opportunities through Child and Youth Services (CYS) Sports and Fitness. What better way to stay active in a safe and healthy environment!

With programs for children ages 3 to 17, there is something for all ages. Sign-ups begin very soon for many programs including:

- Archery (for children 8-17 years old, held indoors); Sign up dates **Jan. 10-21**
- Basketball Skills Clinic (for children 6-17 years old); Sign up dates **Jan. 10-11**
- Cheerleading (for children 6-9 years old); Sign up dates **Jan. 10-21**
- “Little Hoopsters” Parent/Child Basketball (for children 3-5); Sign up dates **Jan. 10-28**
- “Little Sluggers” Parent/Child Baseball (for children 3-5); Sign up dates **Jan. 10-28**

Help wanted – volunteer sports coaches needed within the sports and fitness program, especially to help with upcoming baseball/softball spring season (fliers coming soon). To sign up, call CYS parent central services at 9 a.m. during the sign up periods listed above at 309-782-0791, or stop in to the office on 1st Floor, Building 110. Each child must be registered with CYS in order to participate. Sports Physicals are required. Visit our website for more information on these offerings, including registration information, or on how to be a volunteer coach:

<https://rockisland.armymwr.com/programs/youth-sports>

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 Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., and Wednesdays from 12-4:30 p.m.

Active Duty Out Processing Levy Brief

Out Processing Levy Brief schedule - this briefing is designed to provide you with access to the information and resources you need to complete your permanent change of station move. Service members that are put on assignment will sign up for the next available briefing. Spouses are encouraged to attend with or without their sponsor and should bring a power of attorney in case specifics need be discussed or coordinated. Upcoming Levy Brief dates:

- **Wednesday, Jan. 19**
- **Wednesday, April 20**
- **Wednesday, July 20**

Delivered through MS Teams, 9:30 a.m. – noon; to register call MPD at 309-782-1526.

Discovery Time Playgroup

Discovery Time Playgroup will allow little ones to enjoy crafts, story time, games and more, while parents socialize in safe, friendly space. Join us! January events will feature:

- **Jan. 20** - Story Time
- **Jan. 27** - Hot cocoa and craft

Sessions will take place at Community Christian Fellowship, 1702 6th Avenue, in Moline; park in the rear of the building by the green awning. Cost is Free. Registration information, call 309-782-3049 for details.

Connect With ACS

Connecting with ACS has never been easier. Facebook, MS Teams, and in person are all available during our normal business hours. Our public Team on Microsoft Teams hosts handy flyers, discussions about common issues, and links you to all ACS training including opportunities to attend the new mandatory (for military) Touchpoint Financial Training. You can join our Public Team at:

https://dod.teams.microsoft.us/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2F_%23%2F%2Fteam%2F19%3Adod%3Af3f10f76250b4841b46fc866ffd659d8%40thread.tacv2%2Fconversations%3FgroupId%3D4599aea9-a639-4594-b287-ec2247363d19%26tenantId%3Dfae6d70f-954b-4811-92b6-0530d6f84c43&type=team&deeplinkId=780ef25c-87d5-4c2f-a3b0-5ff9305570c4&directDl=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true

Facebook provides steady updates about programs, tips for healthy relationships, and connects the Army Family beyond just those working here on island including Spouses and Dependents. Check out the ACS Facebook page at www.facebook.com/riaacs.

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.

Volunteer Orientation

Learn about volunteer opportunities every Tuesday, 9:30-11 a.m., in the RIA community and how to navigate the Volunteer Information Management System. Participants will also discuss rules and regulations for volunteering on a military installation. POC for this announcement is the Relocation Assistance program manager, Chassity Morse; 309-782-0816; chassity.r.morse.civ@army.mil.

Sponsorship Training

This mandatory face-to-face training will be the first Friday of the month, noon – 1 p.m. It provides sponsors with tools and resources to be effective in assisting in-coming personnel with correct and timely information and resources that they may need to make informed decisions during the PCS process and through community integration. POC for this announcement is the Relocation Assistance program manager, Chassity Morse; 309-782-0816; chassity.r.morse.civ@army.mil.

Overseas Orientation

Mandatory briefing for anyone who is being assigned to an OCONUS location. This training, held the first Tuesday of the Month, 9-10:30 a.m., includes the needs to know before you go, culture and customs, information on any applicable screenings, visas, and assistance with connections to gaining resources, as well as other information for specific needs. POC for this announcement is the Relocation Assistance program manager, Chassity Morse; 309-782-0816; chassity.r.morse.civ@army.mil.

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. (email: robert.l.lampert.naf@mail.mil), Website: <https://rockisland.armymwr.com/programs/outdoor-recreation>



Snow Days

Whether you're planning a trip to the mountains or getting out to explore the winter wonderlands of the Mississippi River Valley, Outdoor Recreation has the equipment you need. Downhill skis, snowboards, cross country skis, snowshoes, ice skates and fat tire bicycles are available for rental. Before your next winter adventure please stop by the Outdoor Recreation Office in Building 333 to see all the great equipment available for your use. Open Monday thru Friday 8:15 a.m. – 4 p.m. (closed all federal holidays). For more info please call 309-782-8630.

Winter Camping

For the more adventurous the camping trailers at Outdoor Recreation are available during the winter months. Many Iowa and Illinois state parks are open for winter camping with limited amenities. The plus side is that the campground will be much less crowded, quieter and at night around the campfire there will be a million stars in the sky. Check ahead with the state parks to see what kind of services are available at this time. With the Outdoor Recreation camper trailer and your own electric space heater you are sure to have a great great relaxing time. For more information please contact Outdoor Recreation at 309-782-8630.

Fat Tire Bicycles

Your bicycle riding does not need to stop when there is snow on the ground. There are miles of trails in the Quad Cities region and several fat tire bicycle riding events planned over the winter months by area bicycle clubs. Outdoor Recreation has five inch adult fat tire bicycles available for

rental. Come try something new and see how fun riding in the snow can be. For more information, contact Outdoor Recreation at 309-782-8630.

Employee Assistance Program



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.

WeCare Rock Island Arsenal App

The WeCare Rock Island Arsenal App (WeCare RIA) is available for download to mobile devices from the App Store. At the touch of a finger you can readily access vital tools and resources available to you and your family. The WeCare RIA App was developed to support the Rock Island Arsenal and US Army's Domestic Abuse, Resilience in the Workforce, Suicide and Sexual Harassment/Assault Prevention campaigns. It serves as an educational and resource tool for the user to recognize and reduce high risk behavior. The app allows all military, civilians, and family members who are aware of, witness to, or involved with a high risk behavior the ability to have points of contact and resources readily available with one click of a button. The main features include emergency phone numbers for local and national points of contact on a one-touch dialer. Go to the App store and download the WeCare Rock Island Arsenal App or from the below link:

- Apple's iOS: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/wecare-rock-island-arsenal/id1454377310?ls=1&mt=8>
- Android: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=mil.army.wecarerockisland&hl=en>

Tell your Family and friends.



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. 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



Rock Island Commissary information is located at: www.commissaries.com/shopping/store-locations/rock-island-arsenal; Rock Island Exchange information is located at: www.shopmyexchange.com/company/storeDetails.jsp?storeId=1074020.

It Matters Where You Shop: Exchange Everyday Savings Help Military Shoppers' Budgets

Military shoppers can resolve to trim their budgets this new year through their earned Army & Air Force Exchange Service benefit. At Exchange stores worldwide and at ShopMyExchange.com, authorized shoppers receive tax-free shopping and military-exclusive pricing—benefits that make a difference every day. (More: <https://publicaffairs-sme.com/ExchangePost/2022/01/12/it-matters-where-you-shop-exchange-everyday-savings-help-military-shoppers-budgets>)

New MILITARY STAR Cardholders Save 15% on First-Day Purchases Jan. 13 to 27

Army & Air Force Exchange Service shoppers can start the new year with savings at exchanges and commissaries when they open and use a new MILITARY STAR® account. Through Jan. 27, new cardholders will receive 15% off first-day purchases, an increase from the regular 10% discount for new cardholders. The discount will be applied as a credit on the first monthly billing statement. (More: <https://publicaffairs-sme.com/ExchangePost/2022/01/13/new-military-star-cardholders-save-15-on-first-day-purchases-jan-13-to-27>)

Your Commissary Offers More Opportunities to Enjoy Special January Sales Promotions

Commissary shoppers who resolve to save more and eat healthier in 2022 can greatly help themselves by taking advantage of special in-store promotions and coupons, according to the Defense Commissary Agency's director of sales. (More: www.commissaries.com/our-

[agency/newsroom/news-releases/new-year-savings-your-commissary-offers-more-opportunities-enjoy\)](#)

Scholarships for Military Children Applications Open

Applications are now open for the Scholarships for Military Children Program for academic year 2022 – 2023. The program, now entering its 22nd year, recognizes the contributions of military families to the readiness of the fighting force and celebrates the commissary's role in enhancing military quality of life. It's administered by Fisher House Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping service members, veterans and their families. Thus far, the program has awarded more than \$21 million to 12,312 students, selected from a pool of nearly 109,000 applicants. (More: www.commissaries.com/our-agency/newsroom/news-releases/scholarships-military-children-applications-open-today)



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)

History of the Rock Island Arsenal - The Battle of the Rock Island Rapids

Military and history buffs are invited to learn about the Battle of the Rock Island Rapids at the Rock Island Public Library. In celebration of the 160th anniversary of the Rock Island Arsenal, learn about its history from Army Sustainment Command historians. The series kicks off with a presentation on the Battle of the Rock Island Rapids. The experts will be discussing the War of 1812 and the local conflicts that broke out during the war on the Mississippi River. "History of the Rock Island Arsenal – The Battle of the Rock Island Rapids" is **Wednesday, Jan. 12**, 2-3 p.m. at the Rock Island Public Library, located at 401 19th Street, Rock Island. (More at: <https://rockislandlibrary.librarymarket.com/events/history-rock-island-arsenal-battle-rock-island-rapids>)

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](#) 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

The Rock Island Arsenal transitioned from Health Protection Condition Alpha (HPCON A) to HPCON Bravo Plus (HPCON B+) effective Aug. 23. The decision to transition to HPCON B+ was made based on guidance outlined in the [Secretary of Defense memorandum dated April 29, 2021](#), which takes into consideration increasing case rates and community transmission levels in and around the Quad Cities. Implemented measures under HPCON B+ includes enforcing social distancing in all gathering places, to include reduced gathering sizes to 40 percent normal capacity. Additionally, RIA is maintaining the current DoD indoor mask mandate applicable to the workforce, visitors, and contractors, for both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals, per the DoD memorandum dated July 28, 2021 – "[Updated Mask Guidance for all DoD Installations and Other Facilities](#)," stating installations must reinstitute mandatory use of masks indoors in geographic areas of **substantial** and **high** community spread of the COVID-19 virus as defined and publically identified by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#).

Department of the Army Announces Updated COVID-19 Vaccination Rates

The U.S. Army announced updated COVID-19 vaccination rates and exemption requests as of Jan. 11, 2022. As of January 11, the Army has not involuntarily separated any Soldiers solely for refusing the lawful order to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. As previously announced, this month Army officials intend to issue further guidance for the mandatory initiation of separation for Soldiers who refuse this lawful order. To date, Army commanders have relieved a total of six active-duty leaders, including two battalion commanders, and issued 2,994 general officer written reprimands to Soldiers for refusing the vaccination order. As the Army accesses and discharges Soldiers and continues to refine data tracking processes, the vaccination percentages will vary slightly. (More: www.army.mil/article/253231)

Notes for Veterans

VA Health Records Now Display Gender Identity

The Department of Veterans Affairs began including gender identifiers in its national medical record system in December 2021 to help VA providers better understand and meet the health care needs of Veterans. Providing this option demonstrates the agency's commitment to delivering care fitting the individual needs of Veterans enrolled in VA health care, including transgender and gender-diverse Veterans. VA added transgender male, transgender female, non-binary, other or does not wish to disclose options to its new gender identity field. (More: www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5753)

VA, Civil Air Patrol Chaplain Corps to Support Families of Veterans at National Cemeteries

The Department of Veterans Affairs' National Chaplain Service teams up with the Civil Air Patrol Chaplain Corps to expand Veterans' families access to qualified faith leaders during committal and memorial services held at VA cemeteries. VA's National Chaplain Service provides administrative support, training and other services to assist CAP in supporting VA national cemeteries and

providing chaplain coverage when a VA chaplain is not available. “The partnership, implemented in December 2021, came about from increased requests from family members asking for chaplain support during burial services at NCA cemeteries,” said VA Chaplain Program Manager for Family Care and Bereavement Chad Maxey. “Working with Civil Air Patrol expands our ability to provide trained chaplains, whether from VA or CAP, to Veterans’ families when they need it most.” (More: www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5754)

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 at 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, Deputy 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@army.mil or phone 309-782-1121.

