



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services Articles of Interest 15 February 2019

DACOWITS NEWS

DACOWITS member, [Dr. Jackie Young](#), passed away unexpectedly on Sunday after suffering from a stroke. Dr. Young served two 4-year tenures on DACOWITS (1993-1997 and 2015-2019). In December 2018, she was presented the Office of the Secretary of Defense Exceptional Public Service Award for her second term as a DACOWITS member.

1. [Former state lawmaker was influential feminist, advocate for Native Hawaiians](#)

(13 Feb) Hawaii News, By HNN Staff

Former state lawmaker Jackie Young, an influential feminist in Hawaii, died on Sunday. She was 84 years old. Young, an advocate of civil rights, was elected to the state House in 1992 and represented Kailua to Waimanalo.

2. [Former Hawaii lawmaker Jackie Young dies at 84](#)

(13 Feb) Star Advertiser, By Kevin Dayton

State Sen. Rosalyn Baker, a longtime Maui lawmaker, a member of the Women's Legislative Caucus with Young, said "She was an amazing woman. She was one of the early feminists, and I really think of her as a trailblazer. She was just an incredible role model of a can-do person who works collaboratively with others and stood up for women."

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

3. [Senior leaders gather to honor the Army's top recruiters in a Pentagon ceremony](#)

(5 Feb) Army Times, By Meghann Myers

The recruiters who brought in the most prospective soldiers over the last three months of 2018 earned a trip to Washington, D.C., and some face time with many of the service's top officials, including a Monday ceremony in the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes.

4. [Report: Recruiting challenges might have pushed the Army's end strength plans back a few years](#)

(7 Feb) Army Times, By Meghann Myers

Top Army officials have expressed confidence that the service will be able to get back on track in its push to build end strength over the next few years, following a recruiting shortfall in 2018 that negated a planned manning increase of 7,500 soldiers.

5. [How to confront the "unique pressures" fueling anxiety among young girls](#)

(12 Feb) CBS This Morning

A 2017 study in BMC Psychiatry found 31 percent of girls and young women have symptoms of self-reported anxiety compared to 13 percent of boys and young men.

6. [Sailors will see more meritorious promotions in 2019](#)

(14 Feb) Military.com, By Gina Harkins

Navy leaders will be rewarding more top-notch sailors with merit-based advancements this year. The program allows leaders to identify and advance the best enlisted sailors in their commands.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

7. [**Navy rethinks 355-ship fleet: CNO Richardson**](#)
(1 Feb) Breaking Defense, By Paul McLeary
The Navy's top officer said this morning he's rethinking the service's previous plans to field a 355 ship fleet and expects a study with "a new number" later this year.
8. [**As a Woman Serving Alongside Green Berets, I Had No Problem Keeping Up. It Wasn't Enough.**](#)
(5 Feb) The New York Times Magazine, By Jackie Munn
As a woman who had worked in Afghanistan alongside two teams of Green Berets — one open-minded and mission-oriented, the other prone to sexism and insularity — my success had been dependent on whether I was supported and respected by my male colleagues.
9. [**Army aims for more combat-ready troops with new fitness test**](#)
(7 Feb) The Associated Press, By Lolita C. Baldor
Unlike the old fitness test, which graded soldiers differently based on age and gender, the new one will be far more physically demanding and will not adjust the passing scores for older or female soldiers.
10. [**A new PFT: Why the Corps might adopt the Royal Marines' fitness tests**](#)
(12 Feb) Military Times, By Shawn Snow
The American Marines are looking to their fellow brothers and sisters across the pond for advice on overhauling their own fitness program — as an internal debate rages in the Corps on the best way to mold troops for combat: strength and short bursts of speed or muscular endurance and agility?
11. [**Retired general: Train, pay Army and Marine infantry as an elite force**](#)
(14 Feb) Military.com, By Matthew Cox
A year after the launch of the Defense Department's Close Combat Lethality Task Force, Army and Marine infantry may be moving closer to being transformed into an elite force, much like the 75th Ranger Regiment.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

12. [**"A cultural rot": Sex assaults spike at U.S. service academies**](#)
(1 Feb) CBS This Morning
A disturbing new Pentagon report indicates sexual assault at three prestigious U.S. military academies spiked 50 percent in the past school year. An estimated 747 West Point and Air Force Academy cadets, and Naval Academy midshipmen told an anonymous survey they were sexually assaulted in the last academic year — up from 507 three years ago.
13. [**Air Force Academy cadet convicted of sexual assault**](#)
(3 Feb) The Associated Press
Cadet 2nd Class Armis was convicted of sexual assault in a military trial. His attorneys say an appeal is planned based on evidence that the judge barred them from discussing at the trial.
14. [**New Army policies aim to enhance lives of soldiers, spouses**](#)
(6 Feb) Military.com, By Patricia Kime
Soldiers and their families could see improvements in child care services and spouse employment, as well as changes to assignments under the Exceptional Family Member Program this year.
15. [**Junior officer pleads guilty to sexual harassment and assault charges**](#)
(6 Feb) Navy Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
A Norfolk-based junior officer entered a guilty plea at court-martial last week to charges involving sexual harassment and assault, according to charge sheets and officials.
16. [**Top enlisted military leaders pressed on unsafe housing, sex assault**](#)
(7 Feb) Military.com, By Patricia Kime
Members of a House subcommittee on Thursday chided senior leaders of the Army and Air Force for failing to provide safe housing for military families, and urged all services to work harder to reduce sexual assault in their ranks.

17. [Army secretary: 'I want to put dollars' into child care for families](#)
(7 Feb) *Military Times*, By Karen Jowers
Soldiers' challenges in finding good child care may be one of the biggest issues that Army Secretary Mark Esper hears about when he visits installations, so he's tackling that issue with dollars and policies, he said.
18. [Air Force Academy cadet sentenced to 75 days for sexual assault](#)
(7 Feb) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey
An Air Force Academy cadet who was convicted of sexual assault in a court-martial last week has been sentenced to 75 days of confinement. Cadet 2nd Class Armis Sunday was convicted of groping a female cadet while she was asleep in her dorm room.
19. [The military's lingering readiness problem: Lack of daycare](#)
(8 Feb) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III
Defense leaders told Congress Thursday that if they want to improve military readiness, they have to think about bettering military daycare. Defense officials emphasized that family support programs — and childcare in particular — are critical to keeping the force free of stress and focused on their missions.
20. [MCPON debuts on Capitol Hill, urges help for sailors and their families](#)
(8 Feb) *Navy Times*, By Mark D. Faram
In his first appearance before Congress, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Russ Smith told lawmakers that sailors and their families need more child care services. "One common thread I hear at every fleet visit among sailors in all pay grades is the accessibility and affordability of quality child care," he said. "Lack of available and affordable child care is a national issue for our generation. For our Navy it is a critical readiness issue."
21. [Fired wing commander who reached plea deal to retire as major; defense plans appeal](#)
(8 Feb) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey
Col. John Howard, who was fired from command of the 375th Air Mobility Wing at Scott Air Force Base in Illinois in 2017 and was later punished for conduct unbecoming and fraternization with a junior enlisted airman. Howard initially also faced charges of sexual assault and cruelty and maltreatment, but those charges were dropped.
22. [Junior officers are now tracked in Air Force's misconduct probes database](#)
(8 Feb) *Military.com*, By Oriana Pawlyk
The Air Force has quietly expanded a database used to keep tabs on airmen under investigation to include all of its officer ranks. The Automated Case Tracking System, or ACTS, in use by the service since 2003, previously had applied only to field-grade officers -- majors, lieutenant colonels and colonels -- in line for promotion. Last year, the Air Force expanded the database tracking to second lieutenants and above.
23. [Who urinated in her boots? A mystery at a California military base brings cover-up claims](#)
(9 Feb) *Los Angeles Times*, By Alene Tchekmedyan and Paul Pringle
Staff Sgt. Jennifer Pineda, a 15-year veteran of the California Air National Guard, was about to dress into a uniform she had stored overnight in a stall in the women's bathroom when she made a foul discovery. In the backdrop of the #MeToo movement, guard leaders are concerned about the degrading nature of the act aimed at a woman, according to two sources close to the investigation, who requested anonymity because they are not authorized to publicly speak about the matter.
24. [America's Insanely Expensive Child Care Is a Serious Economic Problem](#)
(11 Feb) *Slate*, By Jordan Weissmann
American women's labor force participation peaked in the year 2000, then declined. In other wealthy countries, it continued to rise. Today, the U.S. doesn't simply lag Western Europe on this measure. We're behind most of the developed world.
25. [Woman awarded more than \\$1.5M in breastfeeding discrimination case against KFC](#)
(11 Feb) *The Hill*, By Brooke Seipel
A jury has ruled that a KFC franchise must pay a former employee more than \$1.5 million in a discrimination case. Autumn Lampkins, who was hired a few months after giving birth in 2014, claimed in the lawsuit that she was demoted and faced discrimination from co-workers and supervisors for trying to pump breast milk at work. Lampkins said in the lawsuit that she was only allowed to pump about once during each 10-hour training shift resulting in her milk supply ultimately drying up. She had been recommended to pump once every two hours.

26. [**Pentagon Fails to Act on Woman Who Says Complaint Cost Her Job**](#)
(12 Feb) Bloomberg, By Anthony Capaccio
 The Pentagon has yet to decide on any disciplinary action 13 months after its inspector general backed allegations against Leidos Holdings Inc. for retaliating against a woman who had complained of a hostile work environment. The whistle-blower filed complaints with the Pentagon and Leidos that a supervisor made “inappropriate sexual and racial comments to her,” according to a heavily redacted Jan. 3, 2018, inspector general’s report.
27. [**As sexual assault cases rise, service academy superintendents struggle for solutions**](#)
(13 Feb) Military Times, By Leo Shane III
 Lawmakers on Wednesday angrily chastised military officials for not doing enough to address the “crisis” of sexual assault at the three service academies, noting that their promises for change have not resulted in better results so far.
28. [**Sexual misconduct has reached 'crisis' point at U.S. military academies, lawmaker says**](#)
(13 Feb) The Baltimore Sun, By Jeff Barker
 Sexual misconduct at the nation’s three military academies has accelerated at an alarming rate and become a “crisis,” a U.S. House subcommittee chairwoman said Wednesday at a hearing that included testimony from the Naval Academy’s superintendent.
29. [**West Point Plans Stand-Down**](#)
(14 Feb) AUSA
 The U.S. Military Academy will conduct a stand-down Feb. 25 as leaders look for ways to better combat sexual assault and sexual harassment on campus.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

30. [**Oklahoma Army National Guard promotes first female general officer**](#)
(25 Jan) KFOR-TV, By K. Querry
 Cynthia Tinkham just made history, becoming the first female general officer of the Oklahoma Army National Guard. “In our organization they can look around and see a female role model in just about every career field, and they can see a female leader at every rank... so that’s huge,” Tinkham said. “This is a significant milestone. Not for me personally, but for our organization and those who will follow me.”
31. [**Lawmakers demand answers in wake of Navy linguist’s death in Syria**](#)
(4 Feb) Stars & Stripes, By Claudia Grisales
 A group of key congressional members are demanding top military officials explain how they will update a series of medical rules and a failed waiver process that led to the deployment of a Navy linguist killed in Syria.
32. [**‘Higher, further, faster’: Air Force names first female fighter pilot to command F-16 Viper team**](#)
(4 Feb) Stars & Stripes, By Chad Garland
 The Air Force has named its first female commander of a single-aircraft demonstration team, as the service looks to leverage the anticipated popularity of an upcoming superhero movie featuring a female fighter pilot to spur recruitment.
33. [**Georgia Air National Guard prepares to deploy its first black female pilot**](#)
(7 Feb) Air Force Times, By Kyle Rempfer
 The Georgia Air National Guard is about to deploy its first black female pilot, Guard officials announced this week. 1st Lt. Andrea Lewis, an E-8C Joint STARS copilot with the 116th Air Control Wing, is already the first black female pilot in the history of the Georgia ANG.
34. [**General Officer Announcement**](#)
(8 Feb) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-021-19)
 Acting Secretary of Defense Patrick M. Shanahan announced today that the president made the following nomination: Air Force Lt. Gen. VeraLinn Jamieson for appointment to the rank of lieutenant general, and assignment as deputy chief of staff, Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance, and Cyber Effects Operations, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, District of Columbia. Jamieson is currently serving as deputy chief of staff, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, District of Columbia.

35. [CWA-66 Holds Memorial Service for Senior Chief Petty Officer Kent](#)
(8 Feb) CWA 66 Public Affairs, By Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Julia A. Williams
Cryptologic Warfare Activity (CWA) 66 held a memorial service for Senior Chief Cryptologic Technician (Interpretive) Shannon M. Kent at the U.S. Naval Academy Chapel in Annapolis, Maryland, Feb. 8. Kent was killed while supporting Combined Joint Task Force - Operation Inherent Resolve on Jan. 16. Nearly 2,000 people attended the ceremony to honor Kent and pay their respects to the Kent and Smith families. Kent was posthumously promoted to senior chief petty officer during the memorial service. She was also awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal and a Combat Action Ribbon.
36. [Transgender Sailor and Naval Academy Alumna Forced to Resign](#)
(8 Feb) The Capital, By Danielle Ohl
Alexandra Marberry, after graduating from the Naval Academy, became one of the nation's first transgender women allowed to transition while serving in the military. More than two years later, Marberry is fighting the Navy to clear her record of sexual misconduct she maintains she did not commit. She believes she was targeted for being transgender.
37. [She pointed her gun at a fellow sailor and pulled the trigger](#)
(9 Feb) Navy Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
Gunner's Mate Seaman Apprentice Khali K. Lane, 20, was arraigned last month at Naval Base San Diego, according to court records. The Navy has released only minimal details about the alleged incident and Lane's attorney did not respond to requests for comment made through a command spokesman.
38. [First female Viper demo team pilot relieved of command after two weeks](#)
(12 Feb) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
Capt. Zoe Kotnik, the first female pilot to head the F-16 Viper demonstration team, was relieved of command Monday, due to a loss of confidence in her ability to lead and command the Air Combat Command F-16 Viper demonstration team.
39. [Army selects 15 PT studs for new Warrior Fitness Team](#)
(12 Feb) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
The team narrowed the field down to eight men and seven women over the two-day tryout, held at Hard Knox CrossFit in Radcliff, where they lifted weights, walked on their hands and climbed ropes as part of their audition.
40. [Former Air Force tech sergeant who defected to Iran charged with spying](#)
(13 Feb) Air Force Times, By Kent Miller
Tech. Sgt. Monica Elfriede Witt, a former Air Force counterintelligence specialist, who defected to Iran about five years after leaving the Air Force, has been charged with revealing classified information as well as research about her former colleagues to representatives of the Tehran government, prosecutors said Wednesday.

WOMEN VETERANS

41. [Vet unemployment up in January](#)
(1 Feb) Military Times, By Natalie Gross
After a 2018 of record lows, the unemployment rate for veterans climbed up again in the first month of the year. Federal data also showed positive workforce trends for women and minority veterans.
42. [Support for making VA motto gender-neutral may be fading](#)
(7 Feb) Military.com, By Richard Sisk
The survey showed that 46 percent either "strongly" or "somewhat" supported changing the motto. Last November, Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-New York, and Rep. Kathleen Rice, D-New York, introduced a bill that would change the motto.
43. [Vets could soon get free child care during medical treatment](#)
(8 Feb) Military Times, By Natalie Gross
The Veterans Affairs Department could soon provide free child care for veterans undergoing treatment for mental health and other medical issues — a move some lawmakers hope will make it easier for veterans to get help.

44. [Marcelite Harris, the first African-American woman to serve as a two-star general, is buried at Arlington](#)

(12 Feb) Stars & Stripes

Marcelite Harris, who was the first female African-American major general, was buried last week with a tearful ceremony and a flyover at Arlington National Cemetery.

45. [We Want to Hear From Women Who Served in the Military](#)

(13 Feb) The New York Times Magazine

We're asking servicewomen and veterans to share their experiences in the military for a coming story. Tell us about your accomplishments, the challenges you faced, a fact about women in the military that would surprise most people or one unforgettable story you'll never forget from your time in the service.