



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

September 2021



DACOWITS IN THE NEWS

1. [After Outcry from Female Vets in Congress, Pentagon Revives Committee on Women in Service](#)
(2 Sep) *Military.com, By Hope Hodge Seck*
One of the Pentagon's oldest advisory committees has been spared from elimination after female veterans in Congress got wind of the move and protested.
2. [Pentagon restarts 16 advisory boards after 7-month pause](#)
(2 Sep) *The Associated Press, By Lolita C. Baldor*
Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin has agreed to restart 16 defense advisory boards, after halting activity by all the panels in February and essentially purging a number of members who were appointed in the final days of the Trump administration.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

3. [First group of Space Force recruiters begin training](#)
(30 Aug) *Space Launch Delta 30 Public Affairs, By Airman Kadielle Shaw*
Being the newest of the U.S. Armed Forces branches, it is important to begin growing a vast group of intellectually trained Guardians to protect the nation. To begin that journey, Space Force must train a group of recruiters to scout for Guardians, as scouting for Guardians will be very intricate.
4. [Can the military boost recruitment by allowing more tattoos?](#)
(1 Sep) *Military Times, By Leo Shane III*
Congress wants to know if tattoos and piercings are keeping too many potential recruits out of the military.
5. ['We need everybody': Plans to make women register for potential military draft advance in policy bill](#)
(2 Sep) *Military Times, By Leo Shane III*
Plans to require women to register with the Selective Service System for the possibility of a future military draft took another step forward after a key congressional panel backed the change as part of a must-pass military budget policy bill.
6. [Congress Moves Closer to Making Women Register for the Draft](#)
(3 Sep) *Military.com, By Patricia Kime*
The House Armed Services Committee voted to expand registration for the Selective Service System, commonly known as the draft, to include women, a move that brings the requirement one step closer to becoming law. As part of the debate on the fiscal 2022 defense policy bill, committee members voted 35-24 to require all Americans ages 18 to 24 to register for the draft, not just men.
7. [9/11 had the biggest effect on military recruiting since Pearl Harbor](#)
(7 Sep) *Fox News, By Peter Aitken*
In the aftermath of the September 11 attacks on the United States, the landscape of the country's military shifted and saw the biggest boon in recruitment since World War II.
8. [GOP lawmakers press CNP for answers on how Navy's promotion photo policy impacts diversity](#)
(8 Sep) *Navy Times, By Diana Stancy Correll*
A group of Republican lawmakers is pressing Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. John Nowell Jr. to expand on comments he made in August suggesting that removing photos from promotion and selection boards has harmed diversity.



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9. [**Air Force finds hurdles to success for women, Hispanics, other minorities in second disparity review**](#)
(9 Sep) Air Force Times, By Rachel S. Cohen
Minority and female airmen and guardians face more hurdles to entering and progressing in military service compared to their white and male counterparts, and are underrepresented in officer jobs, leadership roles and in combat operations, the Air Force Inspector General's Office confirmed in a new report on race- and gender-related career disparities in the Air Force and Space Force published Thursday.
10. [**The Marines are looking for a few older people**](#)
(16 Sep) Defense One, By Caitlin M. Kenney
The Marines are looking for a few older people—at least, a few years older than typical recruits. That's because the Corps will need troops with new combinations of tech skills and mature judgment to meet the challenges and threats expected by 2030, according to the service's trainer-in-chief.
11. [**When America's all-volunteer force loses a war**](#)
(21 Sep) War on The Rocks, By David Barno and Nora Bensahel
This defeat will have many strategic consequences, but it also may have a deeply corrosive effect on the nation's all-volunteer military.
12. [**Legislation calling for surface warfare officer specialization is dead in the water**](#)
(23 Sep) Navy Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
A progress report, due a year after the defense policy bill's passage, must outline actions being taken to improve SWO retention, particularly among women.
13. [**Gilday outlines goal for Navy to become the most diverse service**](#)
(24 Sep) Navy Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
The number of enlisted women across the military branches has gradually expanded.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

14. [**First female with 1st Special Forces Group \(Airborne\) rejects failure, graduates U.S. Army Ranger School**](#)
(27 Aug) 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne), By Spc. Thoman Johnson
A new legacy begins at 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) as the first female Soldier from the unit graduates one of the toughest courses in the U.S. military, the U.S. Army Ranger School on August 27, 2021. With an attrition rate of more than 60 percent, not everyone who strives to earn the tab has what it takes.
15. [**Navy unveils series of uniform updates on hairstyle, earrings, high heels and smartwatches**](#)
(1 Sep) Navy Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
The Navy has unveiled a wave of uniform and grooming updates — including multiple hairstyle updates for men and women, and guidance regarding earrings, high heels and smartwatches.
16. [**Female Engagement Team provides community outreach**](#)
(12 Sep) Operation Allies Welcome - Operation Allies Refuge, By Sgt. Christina Westover
Soldiers serving on female engagement teams at Fort Bliss' Doña Ana Complex in New Mexico are working hard to ensure Afghan females get the assistance needed to navigate their transition to the United States as part of Operation Allies Welcome.



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17. [**New Army and Air Force body armor gets fielded to the 82nd Airborne Division**](#)

(17 Sep) Army Times, By Todd South

The Modular Scalable Vest fielding isn't the first to soldiers — that went to the Security Force Assistance Brigades — but paratroopers are getting new plates with the “shooter’s cut” as well as a range of different sizes and tailorable fits for smaller stature and female soldiers.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

18. [**A top Navy recruiter touched a colleague’s breast without her consent. He wasn’t charged.**](#)

(1 Sep) Navy Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz

After investigators determined that one of the Navy’s senior-most recruiters likely violated military sexual assault laws when he touched a female chief’s breast in 2019, leadership declined to charge Master Chief Navy Counselor Franklin Tiongco and instead disciplined him for sexual harassment and assault.

19. [**Maine Guard soldier accused of sexually abusing colleague while deployed to southern border**](#)

(3 Sep) The Associated Press, By Staff

Bret Chapman, a Maine National Guard soldier has been charged with sexually abusing a colleague while serving on the southern border, officials said.

20. [**"It was severe betrayal": Military has failed to address domestic violence, survivors say**](#)

(8 Sep) CBS News, By Norah O'donnell, Kristin Steve, Len Tepper, Adam Verdugo, and Caitlin Yilek

Army Major Leah Olszewski also reported being physically assaulted to the Air Force. "I had been strangled. He had also threatened to break my neck, bust my front teeth out," she said. Olszewski, who has become a champion for survivors, told her story to Congress in 2019. She had a miscarriage that she believes was the result of domestic violence. "He kicked me in the side of the stomach. And I flew off the bed into the closet doors. And then he walked off like nothing had happened."

21. [**The Pentagon has spent \\$1 billion on a program for domestic abuse victims since 2015. Survivors say they couldn't get help.**](#)

(8 Sep) CBS News, By Norah O'donnell, Kristin Steve, Len Tepper, Adam Verdugo, and Caitlin Yilek

The Pentagon has spent more than \$1 billion on a program meant to help survivors of domestic abuse since 2015. But advocates and survivors told CBS News that they couldn't get help. Erica Johnson, a retired Air Force master sergeant who reported being physically and sexually assaulted, said the lack of support "is a pretty extensive epidemic."

22. [**Minorities and women in the Air Force face harassment and bias, a study finds**](#)

(10 Sep) The Associated Press, By Staff

About a third of the female service members in the Air Force and Space Force say they've experienced sexual harassment and many can describe accounts of sexism and a stigma associated with pregnancy and maternity leave, a study released Thursday has found.

23. [**Women in Marine Corps have come a long way since 1918: 'honestly beautiful to see'**](#)

(14 Sep) Spectrum News 1, By Ryan Martin

For the past six years, Sgt. Courtney Montecalvo has been enlisted in the Marine Corps, but her journey hasn't been easy.

24. [**Here’s why the command master chief of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy was fired**](#)

(14 Sep) Navy Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz

Coast Guard Investigative Service agents discovered that U.S. Coast Guard Academy Command Master Chief Brett VerHulst had a history of inappropriate physical contact with female cadets, enlisted personnel and officers.



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25. [America's 'unworkable' child-care system is failing families, Treasury Department says](#)
(15 Sep) *MSN, By Ylan Mui*
The Treasury Department has determined that the nation's child-care system is "unworkable," saying it is plagued by market failures that put quality care out of reach for many families.
26. [New Army office to take sexual assault cases from commanders](#)
(15 Sep) *Army Times, By Davis Winkie*
Army Secretary Christine Wormuth announced the service's plan to establish an independent office for handling sex crimes in public comments last week.
27. [Sexual assault prevention in the military needs these two fixes](#)
(16 Sep) *CNN, By Ashley Merryman*
For years, there had been little progress made when it came to the ongoing tragedy of military sexual assault. However, that all changed last year, following the brutal killing of Army Specialist Vanessa Guillen at Fort Hood by a fellow soldier. Since Guillen's death, proposed reforms for how the US military prosecutes sex-related crimes have garnered widespread support.
28. [Commencing Department of Defense Actions and Implementation to Address Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment in the Military. Independent Review Commission Recommendation-Implementation Roadmap](#)
(22 Sep) *Immediate Release*
Today, the Department of Defense announced the Independent Review Commission Actions and Implementation to Address Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment in the Military.
29. [Hicks Outlines Strategy to Thwart Sexual Assault in Military](#)
(22 Sep) *DoD News, By Terri Moon Cronk*
The Defense Department announced its strategy as approved by the secretary of defense to act on the recommendations of the 90-day Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment in the Military, Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen H. Hicks said.
30. [Pentagon unveils new sexual assault response plan - with a deadline of up to 8 years](#)
(22 Sep) *Military Times, By Meghann Myers*
The Defense Department is rolling out an eight-year plan implement dozens of recommendations from its Independent Review Commission on sexual assault, chief among them standing up an independent organization to prosecute sexual assaults, harassments and related crimes, taking them outside the chain of command.
31. [Sens. Gillibrand, Ernst call House defense legislation 'inadequate' on military prosecutions](#)
(23 Sep) *Politico, By Claire Rafford and Connor O'Brien*
Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand on Thursday called defense legislation in the House "inadequate" because it doesn't overhaul how the military prosecutes major crimes, including sexual assault.
32. [Female service member assaulted by Afghan evacuees, Army says](#)
(25 Sep) *NBC News, By Dennis Romero and Juliette Arcodia*
A female service member was assaulted by international "evacuees" being housed at Fort Bliss in New Mexico, the Army said in a statement Friday night.
33. [FBI investigating reported assault of female Fort Bliss soldier by Afghan refugees](#)
(27 Sep) *Army Times, By James R. Webb*
Officials at Fort Bliss confirmed Monday that the FBI is investigating the alleged assault of a female soldier at Fort Bliss, Texas, by several male Afghan refugees.



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SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

34. [From surviving 'Don't Ask' to Space Force: An epic journey for Gen. Lauderback](#)
(25 Aug) Washington Blade, By Chris Johnson
Maj. Gen. Leah Lauderback assumed the role as head of the office overseeing intelligence for Space Force last year shortly after the previous administration created it. With a record of intelligence-gathering roles in her three decades of serving in the Air Force, the sister service to Space Force, Lauderback is a natural fit for the crucial position in the new service.
35. [Marine corporal discharged over refusal to wear a mask](#)
(31 Aug) Military.com, By Steve Beynon
Marine Cpl. Whitney McHaffie refused to comply with a mask mandate and doesn't want to be vaccinated against COVID-19.
36. ['You could see how passionate she was': Family, community honor Sgt. Nicole Gee, killed in Kabul attack](#)
(1 Sep) Sacramento Bee, By Molly Sullivan
Richard Herrera's voice shook as he looked out at the crowd of more than 1,000 people who gathered in Roseville Tuesday night to honor his daughter, Marine Sgt. Nicole Gee.
37. [Meet the first woman from Hawaii to become a US Army Ranger](#)
(2 Sep) Hawaii News Now, By Jim Mendoza
Ranger School is the U.S. Army's premier leadership builder. Only the strongest soldiers survive the grueling physical and mental demands that start from the get-go. "For my company alone, we started out with 120 people. We dropped to I think 85, just in the first four days," 2nd Lt. Allene "Ally" Somera-Zyko said. She just graduated from Ranger School at Fort Benning, Georgia, becoming the first woman born and raised in Hawaii to become a U.S. Army Ranger.
38. [Flag Officer Assignments](#)
(3 Sep) IMMEDIATE RELEASE
The secretary of the Navy and chief of naval operations announced today the following assignment: Rear Adm. (lower half) Jacquelyn McClelland will be assigned as vice director, Navy Staff, Washington, D.C. McClelland is currently serving as commander, Navy Expeditionary Logistics Support Group, Norfolk, Virginia.
39. [An infant girl and her older sister were in the Pentagon day care center on 9/11. Today they're in the U.S. military](#)
(7 Sep) CBS News, By Eleanor Watson and Natalie Brand
Second Lieutenant Hanna Born, just three years old at the time of the attacks, graduated from the Air Force Academy in 2019; her younger sister Heather is a midshipman in the Naval Academy's class of 2023.
40. [Meet the first woman to lead elite Army Rangers in combat](#)
(7 Sep) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky
Army Capt. Shaina Coss is the first woman to lead elite Army Rangers in combat. After graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 2016 where she competed on the powerlifting team, Coss completed Army Ranger School — one of the first 10 women to ever do so — and then moved on to Fort Bragg where she led an infantry rifle platoon in the 82nd Airborne Division. Just months into being a platoon leader, she applied to be a part of the 75th Ranger Regiment, the Army's elite special operations force.
41. [Army captain establishes Valkyrie Project to help women in the military](#)
(7 Sep) SOMD News, By Eli Wohlenhaus
Megan Cruz took some time to answer a few questions about the organization and her background in the military.



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42. [Petty officer's conviction for filing a false sexual assault report is upheld](#)
(8 Sep) *Navy Times*, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
A military appeals court has upheld the conviction of then-Machinist's Mate 3rd Class Micole A. Daugherty who went drinking, missed a pre-deployment class the next morning, asked a shipmate to "bruise her up" and then falsely reported a sexual assault to cover her tracks.
43. ['Get on my back. I'll carry you:' Army officers recall their escape from the Pentagon on 9/11](#)
(9 Sep) *Stars & Stripes*, By Rose L. Thayer
Lt. Col. Marilyn Wills sat in a 9 a.m. meeting on Sept. 11, 2001, waiting for her turn to speak. The 16 people in the conference room knew nothing about planes crashing into the World Trade Center in New York City that morning.
44. [Sheriff: Navy chief accused of fatally shooting husband](#)
(9 Sep) *The Associated Press*, By Staff
Navy Chief Petty Officer Bree Kuhn, 34, assigned to Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla, was arrested Wednesday in the shooting death of her husband.
45. [Major General Marcia Anderson honored with Women United Philanthropy Award](#)
(10 Sep) *Madison 365*, By David Dahmer
Major General Marcia Anderson will be honored Friday at United Way's Women United Brunch with the Women United Philanthropy Award, which pays tribute to a woman's achievements in educating, empowering and inspiring women and children to be philanthropic leaders in Dane County.
46. [Years after being injured in Iraq, this Army medic has shattered another Paralympic world record](#)
(10 Sep) *Task & Purpose*, By Haley Britzky
An Army combat medic just destroyed yet another world record for a women's swimming event at the 2020 Paralympics in Tokyo, Japan. Sgt. 1st Class Elizabeth Marks, a five-time Paralympic medalist and soldier in the Army's World Class Athlete Program, finished the 100-meter backstroke, S6 classification, with a time of 1:19.57 on Sept. 3 and took the gold medal, according to an Army press release.
47. [Citing OPSEC, Navy mum on sailor's overseas death](#)
(15 Sep) *Navy Times*, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
Nearly two months after a Navy petty officer died in the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations, the sea service is remaining largely mum regarding what happened. Command officials said Cryptologic Technician (Technical) 1st Class Robin Nicole Collins, 26, died July 18 while on duty.
48. [What you need to know ahead of memorial for fallen Sacramento-area Marine Sgt. Nicole Gee](#)
(17 Sep) *Sacramento Bee*, By Molly Sullivan
Large attendance is expected Saturday at the memorial service for fallen Marine Sgt. Nicole Gee as people from around the region are invited to gather and remember Roseville's "hometown hero."
49. [Trailblazing through glass ceilings: U.S. Marine Emily Zamudio](#)
(17 Sep) *12th Marine Corps District*, By Sgt. Tessa Watts
In a matter of months, one particular female Marine has made history not once, but twice, inspiring young girls and women throughout the United States that they can do whatever they set their mind to. U.S. Marine Pfc. Emily Zamudio, an infantry Marine currently assigned with Alpha Company, Infantry Training Battalion, School of Infantry (SOI) West, and scheduled to report to 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division, made history when she graduated recruit training from the very first female platoon to train at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, May 2021.



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50. [**21st TSC Female Engagement Team is Here to Help During Operation Allies Welcome**](#)
(17 Sep) 21st Theater Sustainment Command, By Eleanor Prohaska
Capt. Emily Cople, 23rd Modular Ordnance Ammunition Company Commander, 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, knows how to navigate delicate situations. As an explosive ordnance disposal officer, she is skilled in neutralizing explosive weapons and creating a safer environment. She does the same thing with people.
51. [**Marine amputee, paralympian keeps reaching new heights**](#)
(21 Sep) Defense News Weekly, By Staff <Video>
Kirstie Ennis is a Marine veteran amputee who is climbing mountains after the Paralympics. Here's her latest feat.
52. [**The Space Force's new service dress and PT uniforms have landed**](#)
(21 Sep) Air Force Times, By Rachel S. Cohen
NCAA steeplechase champion 2nd Lt. Mahala Norris made a cameo to debut the PT uniform.
53. [**Fort Hood soldier dies weeks after being shot by fellow soldier, who is the father of her child**](#)
(21 Sep) Stars & Stripes, By Rose L. Thayer
Sgt. Francine Martinez, 24, was shot Sept. 4 and spent the last two weeks in the hospital. She died Thursday, officials said.
54. [**Top Army spokesperson suspended after abysmal climate survey**](#)
(22 Sep) Army Times, By Davis Winkie and Meghann Myers
The Army's highest-ranking public affairs officer and top spokesperson has been suspended from her duties after 97 percent of respondents to a command climate survey for her office reported "workplace hostility."
55. [**Groveland celebrates homecoming for U.S. Olympics and Army sharpshooter**](#)
(22 Sep) The Union Democrat, By Guy McCarthy
Children at Tenaya Elementary School and teens at Tioga High School got to meet Sagen Maddalena on Friday, a homecoming kickoff for the 28-year-old world-class U.S. Olympics and Army sharpshooter who grew up in Groveland and became the world's fifth-best woman in 50m smallbore rifle marksmanship at the Tokyo Olympics in August.
56. [**'God needed an angel' says gunnery sergeant in moving eulogy for Marine killed in Kabul airport attack**](#)
(22 Sep) Task & Purpose, By Jeff Schogol
McClain, who later acknowledged on his Facebook page that he gave the eulogy, assured the Marines that Gee's death was not their fault and that she died doing what she loved.
57. [**Navy identifies five killed in helicopter crash near San Diego**](#)
(23 Sep) AUSN, By Staff
The Navy on Sunday identified five crewmembers of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 8 who died when their helicopter crashed as it was conducting operations off the USS Abraham Lincoln. Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Sarah F. Burns, 31, from Severna Park, Maryland (lower middle), was killed in the crash.
58. [**'Have a good day, make good choices:' Loved ones mourn corpsman who died of heat injury**](#)
(23 Sep) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey
Navy Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Samantha Rose Whitehead's heat-injury death came as an abrupt shock to all who knew her.



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59. **Federal court sides with Air Force academy over dismissed student**

(24 Sep) Colorado Politics, By Michael Karlik

A federal court has partially rejected a former U.S. Air Force Academy student's challenge to her disenrollment for an honor code violation, saying she had no constitutionally-protected interest in continuing as a cadet. Madison Smith filed suit against the U.S. Department of Defense following her 2019 dismissal, arguing it violated her right to due process under the law.

60. **Fort Bliss: Female military service member assaulted by Afghan evacuees, FBI investigating**

(25 Sep) El Paso Times, By Aaron Martinez

A female U.S. military service member was assaulted by male evacuees at the Doña Ana County Range Complex where Afghan refugees are being housed, Fort Bliss officials said. The woman, whose name and age were not released, was assaulted Sept. 19 by a “small group of male evacuees” at the complex in New Mexico, Fort Bliss officials said. The incident is being investigated by the FBI

61. **Making history: All-female team commands Joint Base Anacostia Bolling for first time ever**

(28 Sep) ABC7, By Caroline Patrickis

History was made Tuesday at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling (JBAB). For the first time ever, the base is being led completely by an all-female command team. Tuesday, at a ceremony on the ceremonial lawn, Colonel Logan stood alongside Colonel Erica Rabe, JBAB and 11th Wing vice commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Christy Peterson, JBAB senior enlisted leader and 11th Wing command chief, the trio represents the first-ever, all-female wing command team for JBAB and the 11th Wing.

62. **Leading the Charge**

(28 Sep) Syracuse University, By Lisa Maresca

After completing ROTC Cadet Advanced Camp last summer, Madeline Messare '22 says she has exceeded her own expectations regarding her ability to lead. “I absorbed more knowledge than I ever could have imagined.”

63. **General Officer Assignments**

(29 Sep) Immediate Release

The chief of staff of the Army announces the following general officer assignments:

- Maj. Gen. Tracy L. Smith, deputy surgeon general for mobilization and readiness (Individual Mobilization Augmentee), Office of The Surgeon General, Falls Church, Virginia, to commander (Troop Program Unit), 807th Medical Command (Deployment Support), Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Brig. Gen. Michelle A. Link, deputy commander (Troop Program Unit), 416th Theater Engineer Command, Darien, Illinois, to executive director (Individual Mobilization Augmentee), Operational Contract Support, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, Washington, D.C.

WOMEN VETERANS

64. **The Only American Female POW in WWII Europe Had to Fight for Her Status**

(Sep) Military.com, By Blake Stilwell

Reba Whittle was ready to join the Army Nurse Corps long before the United States entered World War II. She had no idea that before the war was over, she would earn a place in World War II history but never be recognized for it in her lifetime.

65. **Soldier Who Admitted Killing His Wife on Schofield Barracks Faces Up To 65 Years in Jail**

(13 Sep) Civil Beat, By Jacob Geanous

Selena Roth, an Army veteran, was found dead on Jan. 13 on Schofield Barracks. Her husband has pleaded guilty to a charge of premeditated murder.



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66. [Former Latina Army sergeant shares her story of choosing pro boxing over Olympic fame](#)
(15 Sep) Yahoo Sports, By Staff
Rianna Rios is a former sergeant in the U.S. Army and a professional boxer. While in the Army, she competed at the national level in amateur boxing, balancing both of her passions: serving her country and boxing. She was widely respected as a top 10 female fighter coming out of the Olympic class and qualified for the 2020 Olympic team.
67. [Marine amputee, paralympian keeps reaching new heights](#)
(21 Sep) YouTube, By Military Times
Kirstie Ennis is a Marine Amputee who is climbing mountains after the Paralympics.
68. [How a local woman helped break the glass ceiling in the Navy](#)
(21 Sep) KMOV4, By Staff
An 86-year-old Navy veteran was honored on a recent Greater St. Louis Honor Flight to Washington DC. Joann Follupo was a Navy air traffic controller during the Korean War, from 1953-1955, and was part of the WAVES (Woman Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) program, which means she was one of the first women to be in the Navy.
69. [Military couple turned farmers helps veterans and other entrepreneurs sell their goods](#)
(26 Sep) Military Times, By Ben Mace
The Brants, members of the Farmers-Veterans Coalition, display products on custom wood furniture made by Fortitude Furnishings, owned by a U.S. Marine Corps veteran in Georgetown, and that furniture is also for sale.
70. [This Louisville Navy vet couldn't walk and had six months to live. Now she's in a pageant](#)
(30 Sep) Louisville Courier Journal, By Maggie Menderski
Practicing her walk has a whole different meaning for Arlena Johnson. Just two years ago, she couldn't put weight on her feet, let alone move them. And she only had use of one of her hands. Now she's headed for the runway and vying for the Ms. Veteran America 2021 crown.