

DEOMI NEWS LINKS 31 MARCH 2023

SPECIAL: Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War

[The End: War's impact persists 50 years after U.S. exit from Vietnam](#) [Wyatt Olson, *Stars and Stripes*, 28 March 2023]

By the time the U.S. called home its last troops from South Vietnam on March 29, 1973, veteran Don Ballard was working as a police officer and attending college. Ballard's role in the Vietnam War—as a Navy corpsman who treated hundreds of casualties during the 1968 Tet Offensive—had concluded when he left active service in 1970. That final troop withdrawal 50 years ago Wednesday marked the end of a long and politically contentious war that had left 58,000 U.S. service members dead and another 304,000 wounded. But like many of the other roughly 2.7 million troops who were sent to Vietnam starting in 1964, Ballard's return to civilian life did not “end” the war for him—just as that spring withdrawal did not conclude the war's impact on American society.

[SEE ALSO]

[Vietnam Unchronicled](#) [*Military Officers Association Magazine*, 29 March 2023]

[“I came back a different person”:](#) Vietnam vet recalls returning home 50 years later [Angie Angers, *Spectrum News 9 (Tampa, Fla.)*, 29 March 2023]

[Black Vietnam veteran from Fayetteville reflects on different times 50 years after pullout](#) [Akilah Davis, *ABC News 11 (Fayetteville, N.C.)*, 27 March 2023]

[A time to remember and thank Veterans on Vietnam War's 50th Anniversary](#) [Jerry Michaud, *VA News*, 27 March 2023]

HIGHLIGHTS

[The Federal Government Paid Out Nearly \\$70 Million From Discrimination Cases in 2020](#) [Erich Wagner, *Government Executive*, 23 March 2023]

EEOC's [annual report](#) on the federal workforce stated that federal agencies paid \$66 million in monetary benefits through settlements and findings of discrimination at the complaint stage in fiscal 2020, which marks a 25% increase over the previous year. The government paid out \$3.6 million in pre-complaint settlements in 2020, an increase from the \$3.1 million paid in fiscal 2019. The total number of findings that an agency discriminated against an employee or job applicant increased 39.4% from 175 in fiscal 2019 to 244 in 2020. That marks the highest number of cases where discrimination was substantiated since fiscal 2015.

[Female Navy pilot makes historic debut with the Blue Angels](#) [Alan de Herrera, *Navy Times*, 26 March 2023]

Warm desert winds blew calmly out of the west as Lt. Amanda Lee climbed into the cockpit of her blue and gold F/A-18E/F Super Hornet for her historic first public flight as member of the Navy's Blue Angels. Lee and Lt. Cmdr. Thomas Zimmerman were selected for the renowned flight demonstration team in September 2022, making her the first woman to earn a coveted spot on the team. In her new role as the Left Wing No. 3 demo pilot, she will further the legacy of female aviators proudly serving in the Navy around the world. For over 55 years, hundreds of women have served with the Blues in a variety of capacities.

CULTURE

[5 Women Honored by U.S. Mint](#) [Mónica Bentivegna, *AARP Magazine*, 24 March 2023]

Five renowned and multifaceted women will appear on the new 25-cent coins in 2024. The honorees in the [U.S. Mint's American Women Quarters Program](#) are Celia Cruz and four others, (Patsy Takemoto Mink, Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, Pauli Murray and Zitkala-Ša), who played a key role in the country's history and culture.

[\[SEE ALSO\]](#)

[Black female athletes: Having Black female coach is crucial](#) [Alanis Thames, *The Associated Press*, 28 March 2023]

*South Carolina senior guard Brea Beal knew she could trust Dawn Staley before she even suited up for the Gamecocks. It wasn't just Staley's coaching accolades, which include fueling South Carolina's meteoric rise in women's basketball that sold Beal. Beal knew that Staley—a Black woman like her—would best understand how to guide her as she navigated both life and playing basketball on a big stage. Black female representation in the coaching and sports administrative ranks has existed on a minute scale—even in a sport like basketball, which along with track and field has the highest concentration of Black female college athletes. Black female players who have been coached by a Black woman told *The Associated Press* that it was crucial to their development.*

[Blood, oil, and the Osage Nation: The battle over headrights](#) [Sam Yellowhorse Kesler, Amanda Aronczyk, Keith Romer and Willa Rubin, *NPR*, 24 March 2023]

The history behind the headright system begins in the late 1800s, when the Osage were driven off their reservation in Kansas. They ultimately settled in Northern Oklahoma, purchasing new land with the blessing of the federal government. Then, in 1887, the Dawes Act was enacted in order to break up Indian land into parcels and allot those smaller pieces to individuals. Because the Osage had bought their land outright, though, they were better situated to resist the changes than many other tribes. When the U.S. government finally passed a statute in 1906 to allot Osage land, it included two important provisions. First, land would only be distributed to members of the Osage tribe. Second, no matter who owned that land, the rights for mineral resources like coal, gas and oil would still be owned collectively by the tribe. The rights to the oil, in particular, would turn out to be incredibly valuable.

[Ft. Hood to officially drop its Confederate name and become Ft. Cavazos](#) [Suzanne Gamboa, *NBC News*, 24 March 2023]

Fort Hood, the sprawling Army base in Central Texas, will be officially renamed Fort Cavazos on May 9, base officials announced Friday. From that day on, Fort Hood will carry the name of Gen. Richard Cavazos, a highly decorated war veteran who was the first Latino four-star general and first Latino brigadier general. It currently bears the name of a Confederate general, John Bell Hood.

[Indigenous artists help skateboarding earn stamp of approval](#) [Terry Tang, *The Associated Press*, 24 March 2023]

Skateboarding, which has Native Hawaiian roots connected to surfing, no longer is on the fringes. It became an Olympic sport in 2020. There are numerous amateur and professional skateboarding competitions in the U.S. And on Friday, the U.S. Postal Service is issuing stamps that laud the sport—and what Indigenous groups have brought to the skating culture. Di'Orr Greenwood, 27, an artist born

and raised on the Navajo Nation in Arizona whose work is featured on the new stamps, says it's a long way from when she was a kid and people always kicked her out of certain spots just for skating.

[Is the Army's \\$117 million rebrand dead after Jonathan Majors' arrest?](#) [Davis Winkie, *Army Times*, 27 March 2023]

Mere weeks after an elaborate rollout ceremony at the National Museum of the U.S. Army, the service's marketing office yanked its first two advertisements, the only ones released so far in the new campaign, from airwaves. Army Times first reported the move, which followed actor Jonathan Majors' Saturday arrest in New York City on charges of assault, strangulation and harassment against a 30-year-old woman. The new "be all you can be" advertisements were ubiquitous throughout the early rounds of March Madness, the NCAA men's basketball championship tournament, and the Army's marketers will be on the ground for the Final Four fan festival in Texas to do in-person experiential marketing that goes beyond recruiters manning a table.

[Navajo Tech 1st among tribal universities to offer PhD](#) [Susan Montoya Bryan, *The Associated Press*, 24 March 2023]

A university on the largest Native American reservation in the U.S. launched its accredited doctoral program, becoming the first among more than 30 accredited tribal colleges and universities across the country to offer such a high-level degree. The program at Navajo Technical University will be dedicated to sustaining Diné culture and language. Diné is the Navajo word meaning "the people" and is commonly what tribal members call themselves.

[NHL team won't wear Pride jerseys, citing new Russian law](#) [Jay Cohen and Stephen Whyno, *The Associated Press*, 23 March 2023]

*A National Hockey League team with a Russian player has decided against wearing special warmup jerseys to commemorate Pride night, citing an anti-gay [Kremlin law](#) that could imperil Russian athletes when they return home. The Chicago Blackhawks, who have at least two more players with connections to Russia, will not wear Pride-themed warmup jerseys before Sunday's game against Vancouver, a person with knowledge of the matter told *The Associated Press*, because of security concerns involving the law, which expands restrictions on supporting LGBTQ rights.*

[Patriots' owner Robert Kraft campaigns against antisemitism](#) [Deepa Bharath, *The Associated Press*, 27 March 2023]

New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft faced the camera during a video call, pointing to a small, sky-blue lapel pin on his blazer. The pin is the symbol of a \$25 million "Stand Up to Jewish Hate" campaign launched Monday by the 81-year-old billionaire through his Foundation to Combat Antisemitism, aiming to raise awareness nationwide about soaring incidents of antisemitism online and in person. "This little blue square represents the Jewish population in the United States—2.4%," said Kraft, who was raised in Brookline, Massachusetts, in an observant Orthodox Jewish family. "But we're the victims of 55% of the hate crimes in this country."

[Pentagon Critics Blame Diversity Policies and Fitness Standards for Recruiting Woes](#) [Konstantin Toropin and Rebecca Kheel, *Military.com*, 30 March 2023]

Conservative politicians and critics of the Biden administration have released a report that offers a solution to the recruiting issues facing the military: Ditch efforts to add diversity, fight extremism, or combat climate change. It specifically names critical race theory, known as CRT, as a key example, and

cites the choice by the Navy's top officer to include Dr. Ibram X. Kendi's book "How To Be An Antiracist" among other titles on a reading list in 2021. Kendi argues that there is no such thing as "non-racist," and his book has become a flashpoint in the ongoing U.S. culture wars.

[A Proclamation on César Chávez Day, 2023](#) [Joseph R. Biden, Jr., *White House Press Office*, 30 March 2023]

Today, we honor César E. Chávez by carrying on the cause—"La Causa"—to which he dedicated his life: championing the dignity and rights of every worker, using nonviolence to fight for justice, and standing with organized labor to build an economy that rewards work and not just wealth. César E. Chávez came of age picking produce and cotton in the fields of California. And he learned early on about the power of organizing for basic dignity and respect through his work with Fred Ross and the Community Service Organization. Working alongside trailblazing labor activist Dolores Huerta and inspired by heroes like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Mahatma Gandhi, he founded the United Farm Workers of America in 1962.

[A Proclamation on Transgender Day of Visibility](#) [Joseph R. Biden, Jr., *White House Press Office*, 30 March 2023]

Transgender Day of Visibility celebrates the joy, strength, and absolute courage of some of the bravest people I know—people who have too often had to put their jobs, relationships, and lives on the line just to be their true selves. Today, we show millions of transgender and nonbinary Americans that we see them, they belong, and they should be treated with dignity and respect. Their courage has given countless others strength, but no one should have to be brave just to be themselves. Every American deserves that freedom. Transgender Americans shape our Nation's soul—proudly serving in the military, curing deadly diseases, holding elected office, running thriving businesses, fighting for justice, raising families, and much more.

DISCRIMINATION

[Detective files discrimination claim against Seattle police](#) [*The Associated Press*, 17 March 2023]

A Black woman who has worked for decades as a Seattle police officer filed a \$10 million claim with the city against its Police Department on Friday, alleging racial and gender discrimination. Detective Denise "Cookie" Bouldin says in the claim that she has faced daily discrimination during her 43 years with the department, including instances where her loyalty was questioned because of her relationships in Seattle's communities of color. Bouldin alleges a hostile work environment including overtly racist remarks by White supervisors and being ordered to perform menial tasks that were "degrading, humiliating and (with) racist overtones."

[Supreme Court takes up case concerning Americans with Disabilities Act "tester" of hotels](#) [Devan Cole, *CNN*, 27 March 2023]

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday agreed to hear a case concerning whether a self-appointed "tester" of the Americans with Disabilities Act has the right to sue hotels over alleged violations of the civil rights law. The court was asked to take the case by Acheson Hotels, which owns and operates a hotel in coastal Maine. The company was sued by Deborah Laufer, who they say has filed hundreds of lawsuits against hotels across the country, claiming their websites are not in compliance with ADA rules that require hotels to disclose information about how accessible they are to individuals with disabilities.

Though Laufer doesn't intend to visit the hotels she's suing, the lawsuits are brought in an effort to force the hotels to update their websites to be in compliance with the law.

[This Soldier Led the Charge for Troops to Be Able to File Malpractice Cases. The Army Just Denied His Claim.](#) [Patricia Kime, *Military.com*, 29 March 2023]

Master Sgt. Richard Stayskal received word last week that the Army had rejected his \$2 million claim after doctors missed a large tumor in his lung, delaying a diagnosis of lung cancer that wasted precious time in his fight against the disease. Following his diagnosis, Stayskal became an advocate for service members to file medical malpractice claims against the government—a process they have traditionally been denied as a result of a Supreme Court ruling known as the Feres Doctrine, which bars troops from suing the federal government for injury or harm that occurs while they are doing their duty.

DIVERSITY

[2023 Camp Lejeune Women's History Month Panel](#) [Cpl. Zeta Johnson, *Marine Corps News Service*, 24 March 2023]

Earlier this month, the Equal Opportunity Office on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune hosted A Walk Through History, a Women's History Month event that included a static display of female Marine uniforms and memorabilia from 1943-2023, remarks from a panel of female Marines, and a discussion about female Marine history. Throughout the years, women in the military have stepped into leadership roles and paved the way for future generations to make history as the first women in their fields. MCB Camp Lejeune takes time every March during Women's History Month to honor women through a panel where female Marines can reflect on their time in the Marine Corps. These women take the time to answer questions and pass on knowledge to others about their experiences as women in the Marine Corps.

[\[SEE ALSO\]](#)

[Breaking barriers, enduring advocacy: These Army women made a mark](#) [Todd South, *Army Times*, 24 March 2023]

The 2023 inductees to the [Army Women's Foundation Hall of Fame](#) and separate awardees included three-star generals, a staff sergeant and even a male Navy commander. The foundation, established in 1969, held its 15th annual induction ceremony at the National Museum of the United States Army at Fort Belvoir, Virginia on March 22. This year's ceremony honored the service, sacrifice and contributions of female Army servicemembers and veterans and those who have served and those whose work has made a difference in the lives of female soldiers. The foundation selected eight individuals for recognition.

[First female-founded, publicly-traded space company aims to bring more women into the industry](#) [Will Robinson-Smith, *Spectrum News*, 24 March 2023]

Florida's Space Coast is known for pioneering moments, projects and people in the space industry with contributions from players both large and small. As the industry continues to race into the era of commercial companies leading the charge, new barriers continue to be broken. Carol Craig, the founder of Sidus Space made history on Dec. 14, 2021, when she became the first female founder of a space-based company that is publicly traded. During a factory tour with Spectrum News 13 in February, she said with that success must come the responsibility of helping others succeed as well, especially when it comes to bringing more women into the STEM fields.

[It's "a go" for the girls: SpaceX celebrates first all-women recovery crew](#) [Shawnie Caslin, *Spectrum News*, 30 March 2023]

It takes a set of highly skilled and educated individuals to send a rocket into space. But in today's field of space exploration, it takes just as much skill and education for the rocket's recovery. Male-dominated crews carry out most of these recovery missions, but not anymore. On March 14, the privately owned corporation successfully launched CRS-27, an unmanned mission intended to deliver important experiments and supplies to the astronauts working on the International Space Station (ISS). Less than 10 minutes after blasting off from Cape Canaveral, Falcon 9 successfully landed for the seventh time—all thanks to an intelligent group of women. It marked the first time that an all-female crew performed the recovery operations. They landed the Falcon 9 safely on the drone ship A Shortfall Gravitas, located out in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Florida.

[Like father, like daughter: Army Major swears his daughter into the U.S. Army from Europe](#) [Spc. Anthony Sanchez, *Army News Service*, 22 March 2023]

U.S. Army Maj. Troy Schuffert, the officer in charge of the 326th Military History Detachment, swore his daughter, Gracie Schuffert, into the Army on Feb 10, 2023, via video call. Leading the oath of enlistment through a video call isn't typical, but when Gracie chose to sign the dotted line and raise her right hand, Maj. Schuffert knew he wanted the honor of swearing in his daughter by any means necessary. Maj. Schuffert is currently deployed to Camp Kosciuszko, Poland with V Corps, but he decided that no amount of distance would keep him from being a part of this monumental moment for his daughter.

[Military Leader, Astronaut Inducted into Maryland Women's Hall of Fame](#) [Dana Munro, *The Capital Gazette (Annapolis, Md.)*, 30 March 2023]

Brigadier General Janeen Birkhead, commander of the Maryland Army National Guard, was inducted this month into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame, the second Anne Arundel County resident to receive the honor in the past two years. Birkhead was among five Maryland women inducted this year. Last year, scientist Mary Cleave, a former astronaut and the 10th woman in space, received the honor. Both women live in the Annapolis area. Some of the hall's more famous inductees include conservationist Rachel Carson and American Red Cross founder Clara Barton.

[\[REPRINT\]](#)

["No one ever felt good after giving up": Airman to compete in sports clinic for disabled vets, troops](#) [Gianna Gronowski, *Stars and Stripes*, 26 March 2023]

Airman 1st Class Lauren Arduser said her life changed in one night when a car that she was riding in unexpectedly flipped several times, crushing her vertebrae, breaking her neck and collapsing her lung. Arduser, now a quadriplegic, plans to ski for the first time in her life down the slopes of Snowmass, Colo. She is one of just two active-duty service members who will participate in the [2023 National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic](#). "Normally the active-duty who participate are in transition out of the service," said Jason Strickland, the communications director for the clinic. Arduser and her fellow active-duty service member will join more than 400 veterans with qualifying disabilities at sports clinic out from Saturday through March 31.

[TRADOC commanding general speaks on diversity and inclusion at local ROCKS conference](#) [Nina Borgeson, *Army News Service*, 28 March 2023]

Gen. Gary M. Brito, commanding general, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, was the guest speaker at the Hampton Roads Chapter of the ROCKS organization luncheon held Mar. 24 at the Fort Eustis Club. Organizations, like ROCKS, are an asset to maintaining the Army's goal of incorporating diversity, equity, and inclusion into the force. Having a supportive group of Active Duty, Reserve, and retired officers to mentor and develop junior officers can encourage them to continue striving for a more diverse Army.

[Women joined together under “eight point cover”](#) [2nd Lt. Tiana Jackson, *Marine Corps News*, 27 March 2023]

The yellow footprints at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., and yellow name tags at the Republic of Korea Army Officer Candidate school in Goesan-gun, ROK, training was the beginning of a new opportunity for two women who were seeking to serve their country. Although their childhoods looked vastly different, Republic of Marine Corps Chief Warrant Officer Kim Sat Byeol and U.S. Marine Corps Kristi Boseman both grew up knowing there was a higher calling. Both women started their journey following in the shadow of a family member and distinguished by their gender.

EXTREMISM

[New Federal Website Offers Grants Info and Research to Counter Domestic Terrorism](#) [Chris Riotta, *Government Executive*, 24 March 2023]

The federal government has launched a new tool to equip the public with easier access to grants and resources across 17 agencies as part of its ongoing efforts to counter domestic terrorism nationwide. The Homeland Security Department said the new website [PreventionResourceFinder.gov](https://www.preventionresourcefinder.gov) was developed in collaboration with a wide array of federal partners, including the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the Health and Human Services Department, to provide visitors with more than 100 federal resources supporting research and local projects aiming to prevent targeted violence and terrorism. The [strategy](#) called for improved information sharing around domestic terrorism-related activities and enhanced domestic terrorism analysis to better prevent violence and recruitment among domestic terror groups.

[Robert Rundo: U.S. White supremacist arrested in Romania](#) [Nick Thorpe, *BBC News*, 31 March 2023]

A prominent member of a California-based White supremacist group has been arrested in Romania and will be extradited to the U.S. Robert Rundo, 33, co-founder of the Rise Above Movement, was arrested on Friday at a Bucharest gym following a tip-off, Romanian police said. He was accused of violence in 2017 and indicted by a U.S. court in 2018. Mr. Rundo and others were accused of rioting and conspiracy by recruiting and training members for violence and taking part in violence across the U.S. in 2017.

HUMAN RELATIONS

[How young people are shaking off gender binaries](#) [Jessica Klein, *BBC Worklife*, 29 March 2023]

Many Gen Zers are increasingly breaking out of the idea that gender means only “man” or “woman”—and these attitudes are having an impact. Attitudes around gender were already changing from Baby Boomers to millennials, but as Gen Z has grown up, they've helped facilitate even larger cultural and social shifts in these notions. It's not that younger people are no longer identifying as cisgender or male or female—rather, they're less likely to take for granted that gender is binary. These views have helped

some young people find their voices, and also opened a dialogue about the complexities of gender identity across generations.

[\[SEE ALSO\]](#)

[Why friendship makes us healthier](#) [Christine Ro, *BBC News*, 30 March 2023]

It's well-established that romantic relationships can improve your health and even help you to live longer. But does friendship bring the same benefits? Science journalist Lydia Denworth, who wrote a [book](#) about the science of friendship, marvels at how social isolation affects your immune system. For example, [when you're lonely](#) your white blood cells change their behaviour, leading to more inflammation and a weakened immune response. "I think it's just amazing that our bodies work this way," Denworth says. It's not just the immune system that is bolstered by social connection. Socially integrated people tend to [have longer and healthier lives](#)—they're at lower risk for hypertension. Friends can also help people to [sleep better](#) and even [heal faster](#), as research involving skin puncturing suggests.

INTERNATIONAL

[AFL star Jamarra Ugle-Hagan responds to racist abuse with iconic gesture](#) [*BBC Sport*, 29 March 2023]

An Aboriginal Australian Football League (AFL) player has performed a powerful protest against racism, recreating an iconic sporting moment after abuse from spectators. After kicking a goal on Thursday night, Jamarra Ugle-Hagan lifted his shirt and pointed to his skin. It is a gesture made famous by AFL legend Nicky Winmar under similar circumstances 30 years ago. The abuse of Ugle-Hagan, 20, comes amid a string of racism scandals in the AFL.

[Human rights groups call on Premier League to ban abusers amid new ownership rules](#) [James Olley, *ESPN News*, 31 March 2023]

Human rights groups have challenged the Premier League to robustly enforce new rules aimed at tightening club ownership by ensuring abusers and nation states are banned from controlling teams in England. At a shareholders' meeting held Thursday, the division's 20 clubs voted unanimously in favour of a series of alterations to strengthen the Premier League's owners' and directors' test (OADT). Human rights abuses—as defined by The Global Human Rights Sanctions Regulations 2020, legislation introduced by the United Kingdom government—will now be deemed a “disqualifying event” preventing such individuals from acting as an owner or director of a Premier League club.

[Piquet fined for racist, homophobic comments about Hamilton](#) [Eleonor Hughes, *The Associated Press*, 25 March 2023]

Retired Formula One champion Nelson Piquet has been ordered by a Brazilian court to pay \$950,000 in “moral damages” for making racist and homophobic comments about Lewis Hamilton. The 70-year-old Brazilian had referred to seven-time champion Hamilton as “neguinho,” a racially offensive term which means “little Black guy,” in 2021. In another interview, Piquet used racist and homophobic language. The court in Brasilia on Friday ordered Piquet to pay 5 million Brazilian reais “in collective moral damages, to be allocated to funds for the promotion of racial equality and against discrimination of the LGBTQIA+ community.” The charges were filed by several human rights groups, including Brazil's National LGBTI+ Alliance.

MISCELLANEOUS

[Bipolar disorder: my blessing and my curse](#) [Gregg F. Martin, *Military Times*, 30 March 2023]

[COMMENTARY]

World Bipolar Day commemorates the birthday of iconic bipolar artist Vincent van Gogh on March 30 each year. I have embraced the moniker, “Bipolar General,” taking great pride and gratitude in the fact that I have survived more than 20 years of bipolar disorder, a brutal disease of the brain that included thrilling mania, hopeless depression and terrifying psychosis (delusions and hallucinations). I survived bipolar hell. I’m on a miraculous journey of recovery, rebuilding my bipolar-shattered life into one of health, happiness and purpose.

[“Live free and die?” The sad state of U.S. life expectancy](#) [Selena Simmons-Duffin, *NPR*, 25 March 2023]

Just before Christmas, federal health officials confirmed life expectancy in America had dropped for a nearly unprecedented second year in a row – down to 76 years. While countries all over the world saw life expectancy rebound during the second year of the pandemic after the arrival of vaccines, [the U.S. did not](#). Then, last week, more bad news: Maternal mortality in the U.S. reached a high in 2021. Also, a paper in the [Journal of the American Medical Association](#) found rising mortality rates among U.S. children and adolescents.

[A secret deal between Justices John Roberts and Anthony Kennedy on gay rights and what it means today](#) [Joan Biskupic, *CNN*, 30 March 2023]

When the Supreme Court declared a constitutional right to same-sex marriage in 2015, Chief Justice John Roberts revealed extraordinary anger as he read aloud what for him was an unprecedented dissent from the bench. “Just who do we think we are?” he asked. Roberts emphasized the ancient understanding of marriage as between a man and woman and argued that any approval of same-sex unions should be left to state legislatures. It remains the only time in his 18 years as chief justice that he has taken the dramatic step of going beyond the words of his written opinion and orally dissenting.

[Squadron unveils one-stop website for enlisted promotion study materials](#) [Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs, *Air Force News Service*, 27 March 2023]

For many years, Airmen have had to search multiple websites and resources to find the necessary material for their enlisted promotion studies. This could be anything from learning what they need to study or finding audio files to help them prepare for the tests. However, all of this is now a thing of the past thanks to the Studies and Analysis Squadron at Air Education and Training Command. Members of the SAS have worked hard during recent months to create one comprehensive website where Airmen can access all their enlisted promotion study materials in one place—The Air Force Enlisted Promotion Study Guides [website](#).

RELIGION

[Holy Week and Easter 2023: How Christians observe the religious holiday](#) [Nadia Cantú, *The Arizona Republic* (Phoenix, Ariz.), 31 March 2023]

Holy Week, the most important celebration for Christians honoring the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ, is just around the corner. The religious week begins on April 2, Palm Sunday, and ends on April 9, Resurrection Sunday, more commonly referred to as Easter Sunday. Because the week usually

coincides with Spring Break, many take advantage to travel and meet with loved ones. However, for faithful Christians, this final stretch of the Lenten season, which began with Ash Wednesday, is reserved for prayer and abstinence, an ideal time to practice faith and devotion to Jesus Christ.

[\[SEE ALSO\]](#)

[Jewish Religious Education Program connects families worldwide](#) [Anna Morelock, *Army News Service*, 29 March 2023]

When a Jewish teen saw the adult education classes at U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, he asked former Religious Education Program director Rebecca Powell why they couldn't have the same courses for youth his age. Powell went to work and began the Installation Management Command Europe Jewish Religious Education Program, which has now spread around the globe offering support for Jewish children, youth and adults.

SUICIDE

[U.S. Navy Deploys More Chaplains for Suicide Prevention](#) [Giovanna Dell'Orto, *The Associated Press*, 30 March 2023]

On Navy ships docked at this vast base, hundreds of sailors in below-deck mazes of windowless passageways perform intense, often monotonous manual labor. It's necessary work before a ship deploys, but hard to adjust to for many already challenged by the stresses plaguing young adults nationwide. Growing mental health distress in the ranks carries such grave implications that the U.S. chief of naval operations, Adm. Michael Gilday, answered "suicides" when asked earlier this year what in the security environment kept him up at night. One recently embraced prevention strategy is to deploy chaplains as regular members of the crew on more ships. The goal is for the clergy to connect with sailors, believers and non-believers alike, in complete confidentiality—something that has allowed several to talk sailors out of suicidal crises.

[\[REPRINT\]](#)

VETERANS

[One-Third of Military Veterans Have Been Arrested. To Help, We Need to Identify Them at the Justice System's Front Door.](#) [Carla Bugg, *Military.com*, 30 March 2023] [OPINION]

My time in the National Guard exposed me to new experiences and taught me the value of service and, after six years in the military, I thought I could handle anything that came my way. But then I was sexually assaulted, and I became lost. Overwhelmed by trauma, I turned to drugs to escape. I left the military, and my addiction deepened, overtaking every facet of my life. At 29, I was arrested for a drug-related crime and sent to prison. What I didn't realize was just how many veterans become incarcerated. [One in three](#) of our 19 million veterans report having been arrested and booked at least once, and roughly 181,500 are behind bars.

[These women survived combat, then had to fight for health care](#) [Hope Hodge Seck, *Stars and Stripes*, 27 March 2023]

Years before U.S. military women were formally authorized to hold ground-combat jobs, Jaclyn "Jax" Scott was conducting nighttime raids with special operations personnel in northern Afghanistan. In Afghanistan's conservative culture, her presence was intended to be a message of good faith to villagers frightened by the sight of armed American troops. Male colleagues seldom saw it that way, Scott said,

recalling what she and other women assigned to these cultural support teams, or CSTs, said was routine hostility from the Army Rangers and Green Berets with whom they were partnered. For many of these women, the reception back home felt equally discriminatory.

[Transgender vets call for more protections from Congress, VA](#) [Leo Shane III, *Military Times*, 29 March 2023]

Transgender veterans and advocates rallied outside the Capitol Wednesday to demand Veterans Affairs officials follow through on promises to provide gender-affirming surgery at department medical centers and to implore lawmakers to enact additional protections for transgender troops facing an uncertain future in the ranks. Church and other advocates said political attacks on transgender individuals have mounted in state legislatures and in Congress in recent months. At least 11 states have passed laws restricting transgender medical care or advocacy since the start of 2023, [according to data](#) from the American Civil Liberties Union.

[Why a Small Motto Change Could Have a Big Impact on Female Veterans' Health](#) [Andrea Renee Sandoval Rathbun, *Military.com*, 29 March 2023] [OPINION]

When I left the military, I met with a psychologist who told me, "You do not deserve care for your mental health. You are a woman." That psychologist's attitude, denigrating my service because of my gender, was emblematic of broader issues I would see in medical care, an entire system for veterans that didn't acknowledge the role women had played fighting for our country. Thirteen years later, I finally said more. This act of acknowledging my wounds, holding my country accountable for my care and knowing that I earned the care given, healed me in ways I can't fully describe. So, when I [read an article](#) describing a positive step the VA has taken to ensure that women veterans access the care they have earned, I felt a moment of validation.