

THE ROCK



Civil Rights Activist
speaks at workshop
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Serving the employees and residents of Rock Island Arsenal.

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JANUARY

Sacrifice made on and off the battlefield

As we move forward in 2007, it is important for us to reflect on the steps we have taken to improve support to our troops in the field.

At Rock Island, ASC's Global Logistics Intelligence Center and the Distribution Management Center have expanded operations to provide field commanders with around the clock access to the Army's logistics arsenal. Armor kits produced by TACOM's Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center continue to prove their life saving importance. This month a national news reporter, embedded with



Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson

an Army unit, walked away from an IED attack on his HMMWV; as his news story showed, the armor saved everyone in the vehicle.

Each day we must remember that we are here to support our service members who put their lives on the line. Our task is never ending, so we must always strive to heed the call to duty. Our comrades' dedication must strengthen our resolve to provide the very best equipment, supplies and services to our Soldiers on the battlefield. People we will never meet are counting on us... As long as they are willing to make sacrifices, can we do any less?

By now, it's clear we're in a long and challenging struggle. Whether in the arid wasteland of the Horn of Africa, the craggy mountains of Afghanistan, or the mean streets of Iraq, our nation and our Army are facing a ruthless and implacable enemy.

All of us have chosen to serve, whether in uniform or as an employee. No one compelled us to do what we do; we serve because we want to. Our service members around the globe rely on us every minute of every day. When you look up at the clock the next time, think of how much what you do matters to people you will never meet. On your way to the parking lot, spare a thought for the Soldier mounting up his or her Humvee.

No matter your job title or grade, we all play a part in securing freedom and prosperity for America. Some of our Army comrades are risking all to secure our liberty. We must never forget those who have laid down their lives, nor can we forget those who mourn them. It is our duty to reach out and offer our support, for we can best show respect for our honored dead by caring for the loved ones they left behind – and by doing our best to see to it that their brothers and sisters in arms have the very best we can provide.

We can never repay the debt owed to those who defend our freedom and the thousands of others whose names are inscribed on our nation's roll of honor. But we can take heart from their example and carry on the work of building a safer world in their memory, finishing what they began.

Missed an issue of The ROCK? You can view past issues on the Rock Island Arsenal website at <http://www.ria.army.mil/sites/news/default.asp>.

AFAP Conference discusses, solves Army concerns

Twenty-two volunteers representing a cross-section of the Arsenal population gathered to talk about community issues at the annual Rock Island Arsenal Army Family Action Plan Conference held Nov. 9. AFAP is a program that encourages input from people who live and work at the Arsenal and gives commanders a gauge to validate concerns and measure satisfaction. The participants discussed issues submitted through the local community survey, questioned subject matter experts, researched policy and regulations, brainstormed ideas, considered solutions, prioritized issues and made recommendations to Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson, RIA Installation Commander and Alan Wilson, Garrison Manager.

Suzanne Himsl represented Rock Island Arsenal at the DA level Army Family Action Plan Conference held in Alexandria, Virginia the week of Nov. 12. She participated as a delegate in the Family Support work group discussing issues submitted from installations all over the world.

The AFAP takes input from the people of the Army to Army leadership. It's a process that lets soldiers, DoD employees and their families say what's working and what isn't – and what they think will fix it. It also alerts commanders and Army leaders to areas of concern that need their attention and it gives them the opportunity to quickly put plans into place to work toward resolving the issues.

The purpose of AFAP is to improve the standards of living for all military personnel and DoD employees.

"The AFAP Conference is more than just Army spouses coming together and complaining about problems. It is a forum where anyone can present an issue that they feel needs attention or improvement," Himsl said. "

"The entire AFAP process empowers the individual to get the attention of the Army senior leadership to improve the quality of life for all military personnel and DoD employees Army-wide."

Her work group, of nine delegates, discussed current issues regarding family support and she said it can be emotional when you have a passion for specific issues.

"We had to ask questions to understand the issue, discuss it, brainstorm ideas and make clear and concise recommendations for change," she said.

AFAP is a year-round program. Visit the Rock Island Arsenal website to follow up on issues discussed at the 2006 RIA AFAP Conference, go to the RIA Intranet site at: <https://home.ria.army.mil/> then go to the Services block and click on AFAP.

To submit a new issue, go to this MWR link: <http://riamwr.com/AFAP/>. For additional information contact the AFAP Program Manager at (309)782-0831.



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THE ROCK

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Acknowledging the past is key to future

Last month, this country observed the birthday of one of this country's most influential peacemakers, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He had a dream and the one thing about this country is that dreams can come true. Everyone has the opportunity to make their dreams come true because of the work of men and women like Dr. King.

Rock Island Arsenal had the opportunity to have Rev. Walter Fauntroy here as our guest speaker the MLK Civil Rights Observance Workshop.

The Arsenal was honored to have a distinguished gentleman such as Rev. Fauntroy here to share some of his experiences and lessons learned from his years working in the civil rights movement. He was involved in some of the most significant events in the civil rights movement.

When you read about the civil rights movement in the history books, they say that the movement spanned from 1955-1965. But if you have the opportunity to speak to people who were in the marches, sit-ins and the other non-violent protests they will probably tell you the movement began long before then. It started in the minds of those who had the courage to stand up and say, "This isn't right." Because any significant change starts in the minds of people before it can be put into action. That's why it's important for all of us to be able to hear accounts from people like Rev. Fauntroy who were actually a part of our Nation's history. It was an honor for me to have met him.



Alan G. Wilson
Garrison Manager

CFC has record year

"Every one of us can be the miracle," was the theme of the 2006 Combined Federal Campaign and it certainly was a miracle year. Federal and postal employees across the Illowa Bi-State Combined Federal Campaign broke the record for the ninth year in a row, donating \$614,191 to local, national and international charities, which will allow these organizations to continue and improve their services in the Quad Cities and across the globe during 2007.

"History shows that following a national or natural disaster charitable giving increases. Last year, thank goodness we didn't experience anything as catastrophic as in the past and yet we as government employees still managed to break an all time record of giving," said Charles Cervantes, 2006 campaign chairperson.

"It makes me proud to say I am part of such a generous brotherhood of government employees, with whom I share the success of the 2006 campaign."

Thirty-eight percent of the federal and postal workers in the 12 county campaign area in western Illinois and eastern Iowa were "miracle workers," giving \$14,191 more than the goal of \$600,000 and \$25,526 more than the 2005 campaign.

These "miracle" employees chose to donate to 905 of the approximately 2000 charities that they had to choose from. The three highest federation recipients were the United Way of the Quad Cities Area and its partner agencies, \$117,000; Community Health Charities (national partnership), \$39,000; and Community Health Charities of Iowa, \$28,000. The top three individual agencies with the highest donations were the United Way of the Quad Cities Area, \$20,000; American Red Cross (National), \$14,000; and the American Red Cross of the Quad Cities, \$13,000.

Overall donors decided that 50 percent of the monies will be staying in the local area while the other 50 percent will be going to national and international organizations. Following the Office of Personnel Management's guidelines and master CFC calendar, the Illowa Bi-State CFC will mail the first checks to the recipient charities in March.

Vehicle Safety Inspection Checks

During December, the Rock Island Arsenal Law Enforcement Division conducted random vehicle safety inspection checks on the installation. They checked for seat belt usage, current driver's license, insurance cards, vehicle registration and decals. These safety checks were not a one time occurrence, but will continue.

Law Enforcement Division is also giving citations for motorists who are not stopping at stop signs. Many Arsenal motorists are rolling through stops signs. You must come to a complete stop. *Illinois Rules of the Road*, the driver's handbook published by the state, says that a motorist must make a complete stop at the stop line. If there is no stop line, stop before entering the crosswalk. If there is no crosswalk, stop before entering the intersection. Let us all adhere to these rules as we drive on the Arsenal. We want the Arsenal to be a safe place for everyone to work and visit.

Smoking Policy

I want to remind Arsenal employees that the Department of the Army policy on smoking says that the only designated smoking areas are at least 50 feet away from building entrances and exits. (See GM on page 5.)

Outdoor Rec has items for wintertime fun

Let Rock Island Arsenal's Outdoor Recreation help you enjoy the snow. Whether your outdoor adventure requires Alpine ski equipment, shaped skis, snow boards, sleds, toboggans, ice skates or snow shoes, Outdoor Recreation has it all. Quality equipment at incredibly low prices is exactly what you will find there and the great staff is ready to help you find exactly what you need.

The RV Storage Lot has also been expanded due to high demand. The lot provides secure, affordable, convenient access 24 hours, seven days a week. It is designed for the use of privately owned and licensed motor homes, campers, boats, trailers and cars. At only \$15 a month for vehicles less than 16 feet long and \$20 a month for vehicles longer than 16 feet there is no more affordable way to store your vehicle.

Call (309) 782-8630 or stop by the Outdoor Recreation Office in Building 333 adjacent to the Post Exchange to inquire about our winter equipment or to reserve one of the new spaces in the RV storage lot.

Firing it up!



Ted Cavanaugh

Janet Bean, director of the TACOM Integrated Logistics Support Center, was on target when she fired an M4 carbine at Rock Island Arsenal's firing range during a familiarization and demonstration session Nov. 16. Prior to firing the weapon, she was shown a cut-away of the weapon and its principles of operation.

Living history



Rhonda Bunning

Rev. Walter E. Fautroy signs a photo, which he presented to the Arsenal, of the 1964 Civil Rights Act signing. Fautroy was the guest speaker at the MLK Civil Rights Observance Workshop on Jan. 26. He was the Washington, D.C. coordinator of the 1963 March on Washington; and directed the 1965 Selma to Montgomery March and the 1966 Meredith Mississippi Freedom March.

A building block to continuous improvement

Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) ensures rapid response to our customers. ICE Comments Cards are available for you to provide feedback on over 100 different USAG - Rock Island Arsenal services and functions. Your feedback leads to new methods and practices and provides a means to meet our customers' expectations. Here's an example:

Concern: The vending machines in Bldg.102, 1st floor West are not filled regularly. The candy machine was practically empty earlier, after a complaint, it was filled. However, the Coke machine has not been filled this week -- I've been trying to purchase a Coke, but it is sold out. Please help.

Outcome: A coordinated effort is in place to work with the vendors and contractors to better meet the needs of all of our customers.

Help us improve our services by filling out RIA ICE comment cards today @ www.ice.disa.mil

Survey shows knowledge of emergency procedures

(Journey to Leadership- Synergy Seven)
The Journey to Leadership Team, Synergy Seven, conducted a survey of the Rock Island Arsenal workforce almost a year ago to canvass employees of their knowledge of 10 emergency procedures. The web based survey link was e-mailed to all employees as an integral part of the team's overall project concerning emergency procedures at RIA. The mission of this team was to inform the employees of what to do in case of an emergency at work.

More than 1,600 completed surveys were received, along with 947 written comments. The results showed that a significant portion of the respondents knew the established procedures for what to do in the following situations: injury, property damage, fire, tornado, severe weather and power failure.

A significant portion of the respondents did not know the established procedures for what to do in the following situations: earthquake, flood, toxic spill, terrorist attack.

The Synergy Seven team presented these survey results to senior leaders and others. As part of their graduation presentation in

August, the Synergy Seven team provided many recommended actions that included:

- validating emergency procedures on a regular basis
- ensuring supervisors are well trained in emergency procedures and educating their employees in these procedures
- broadening the Fire Marshall Warden Program into an Emergency Marshall Warden Program (to include all emergencies, not just fire)
- developing web pages and pamphlets to

make procedures more available.

The team also suggested similar follow-up surveys be conducted to keep abreast of current workforce knowledge of such procedures. This massive effort is important for the entire workforce, and will take a great deal of communication, education, and collaboration by all commands/tenants located on Arsenal Island.

For additional information about the Journey to Leadership Program, log on <https://www2.osc.army.mil/hr/jtl>.

What should you do in the event of a power failure in your building?

The answer is on page 20 of the Rock Island Arsenal Employee Emergency Guide, August 2006 edition. You can access the emergency guide on the RIA intranet website under Security, there will be a link for the Employee Emergency Guide.

GM

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Signs will be posted indicating no smoking and designated smoking areas.

Enhanced Use Lease

On January 16, we signed a memorandum of agreement that will result in a 50 year enhanced use lease with the Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club. As part of this lease, the golf club will operate and maintain approximately 190 acres on the Island, which will include the golf course, Quarters One and the Morale, Welfare and Recreation driving range. This will increase availability of the golf course to Morale, Welfare and Recreation patrons. More information and details will follow as the plan is developed. So, as always: think safe, work safe, play safe and be safe.

If you have a suggestion for the Army Suggestion program, log on <https://armysuggestions.army.mil>.

MML program offers challenges and rewards

By

REBECCA MONTGOMERY
TACOM LCMC RI Public Affairs

(Editor's Note: This is an online interview with Robert Jurkowski, a student in the Master of Military Logistics program at North Dakota State University, Fargo, N.D. He is a logistics management specialist, and his most recent assignment was leader of the Armaments Readiness Team at TACOM LCMC Rock Island.

"The Master of Military Logistics is a 36 graduate credit professional degree program targeted specifically at career military officers, Department of Defense civilians, and other logistic professionals. He is scheduled to graduate in the summer of 2007.)

How did you hear about the program?

In November 2005, I learned of the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute and North Dakota State University Masters of Science in Military Logistics Program when the application package was posted on the TACOM Rock Island Career Development Bulletin Board. I reviewed it and decided to apply.

Why did you sign up for it?

The time was right for me to do this, both professionally and personally. Professionally I felt the MML Program would be the means by which I could best deal with the change management process driven by last year's BRAC decision. It would also improve my

(See LOGISTICS on page 6.)

Logistics

Continued from page 5

ability to add further value to Army and DoD logistics.

On the personal side, the last of my four children would graduate from high school and go off to college about the same time I'd begin the MML program. My wife Peggy was rock-solid in supporting my decision. My kids have been great in supporting this, as well. We communicate and relate to each other now on a whole new level. I too am experiencing what they're facing as they maneuver through the minefields of mid-terms, research papers, late night studying, and those dreaded upcoming final exams.

What kinds of activities do you do in class?

Our classes are primarily structured around lectures, discussions, case studies, applied problem solving, and group projects covering the course materials. We

have guest speakers, seminar opportunities, and field trips to enhance our understanding of emerging transportation and logistics concepts.

Our MML class is comprised of three Army civilians and 14 Army officers. Collectively, we bring a wealth of practical knowledge to animate the concepts taught in the courses. In turn, the professors, the MML Program Manager, and Academic Coordinator actively seek to make this the best logistics educational experience possible.

What is the most challenging thing about the course?

It would be really great if there was *just one* "most challenging thing" about the program. Naturally, being separated from my wife, family, friends, and work teammates is very difficult. Also high

on the list is balancing all the course requirements. To meet that challenge, I decided early-on to treat this as a 7-day-a-week job. It's pretty much turned out to be just that. But, the hard work has its rewards, especially when I can keep pace with the younger students in the program – at least that's what I keep telling myself.

What do you envision will be the effects/benefits to your career?

It's not as much about my individual career, as it is about improving my abilities for the benefit of Army and DoD logistics. I know I'll be better prepared to deal with both the challenges and opportunities the BRAC presents.

But, I'll also have developed a network of contacts with an amazing group of soldiers, Army civilians, and UGPTI/NDSU professors and staff, which at some point may be mutually beneficial.

Workplace Safety: A matter of good housekeeping

(This article was originally published by AT&T Corp.)

In the ongoing battle to eliminate hazards in the workplace, general housekeeping often takes a back seat. However, safety can never be taken for granted. The basic rule of good office housekeeping is that individuals are responsible for themselves and responsible to their co-workers. The National Safety Council lists slips, trips and falls as the most common cause of injuries in the office. In fact, office workers are twice as likely to be injured in a fall as workers outside the office environment. Falls happen so suddenly many people are unable to react in time to prevent serious injuries. But with proper housekeeping, office workers can reduce the risk to themselves and their co-workers.

Don't wait - take action. Report defective flooring. Worn spots in carpets, chipped tiles and uneven raised flooring are trip hazards. If you see broken or missing floor tiles, or worn carpet and stair treads, contact the Work Order Desk at (309) 782-2387/2388 for assistance. Pick up dropped pencils, paper clips and rubber bands. They can cause you to skid. Move it out. Do not leave boxes and other items unattended in walkways, even if you plan to come right back. Walkways should never be blocked, not only to prevent falls, but to facilitate escape in a fire or other emergency.

Remember, emergencies don't usually come with advanced warning. They are not likely to leave you time to clear cluttered escape paths. Don't even think of leaving loose cords. Keep telephone, data and electrical cords under wraps. "No-trip strips" can only be used as short-term fix.



Wipe up spills immediately, whether you caused them or not. In wet weather, a dripping umbrella can be as hazardous as a large coffee spill. If a spill is too large to clean up quickly, use safety cones or other appropriate safety barriers to isolate the area, and contact building management.

We all are busy doing our jobs. But that should not be an excuse for causing or allowing hazardous working conditions. Take a little time each day to straighten up your workplace.

The I-Forces Center, located in Building 109, third floor, provides opportunities and resources to assist Rock Island Arsenal employees who may be effected by BRAC. For more information call (309) 782-8581/8582

Are you flexible?

By
MARY COLEMAN
Public Works

Did you know that Congress passed the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to reduce our nation's dependence on imported petroleum? With the passage of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, federal vehicle fleets were required to purchase (or lease) vehicles capable of operating on non-petroleum fuels. These vehicles were defined as dual-fuel vehicles, but are commonly called flexible-fueled vehicles. They are designed to operate on any mixture of gasoline and ethanol blends up to 85 percent ethanol by volume. As of 2000, the act required that 75 percent of RIA's light-duty vehicle acquisitions had to be FFVs. LDV's are vehicles that weigh less than 8,500 pounds gross vehicle weight rating.

Are you still wondering what being "flexible" has to do with all this? You are "flexible" if you currently drive a flex fuel vehicle. Regardless of whether you like Chevy or you are Ford tough, E85 compatibility is the ticket.

If you are not "flexible," did you know that flex fuel vehicles are available and affordable? If you are a flex fuel vehicle owner and still using gasoline, have you

heard that the renewable, non-petroleum fuels made from agricultural crops, that flex fuel vehicles can run on, are more environmentally friendly than imported petroleum?

Individuals become "flexible" by choice. Why would individual vehicle owners want to become "flexible?" The comprehensive, long term energy policy will only be achieved with help from everyone. The future of American energy consumption and energy freedom is not only in the hands of a few but in the hands, and the vehicles, of many.

So what can you do? First, start by finding out if your GSA vehicle is "flexible." If so, once procedures and/or infrastructure are in place, start using alternative fuels if you operate a GSA leased flex fuel vehicle on the RIA. If you personally own a flex fuel vehicle become more aware of the fueling options in your area and evaluate your ability to make the switch to alternative fuels.

To determine locations of ethanol fueling stations in your vicinity, visit either of the following websites: in Illinois: <http://www.illinoisgreenfleets.org/stations/index.html>; in Iowa: http://www.iowarfa.org/ethanol_e85refueling.php. If you are currently shopping for a new vehicle, explore the advantages and

disadvantages of purchasing a flex fuel vehicle.

If you are currently driving a vehicle manufactured by Daimler Chrysler, Ford, General Motors, Isuzu, Mazda, Mercury, or Nissan, you can find out if you are "flexible." Call the National Ethanol Vehicle Coalition's automated phone system at (573) 635-8445 or toll free at (877) 485-8595 and follow the prompts. You will need to have the following information available: the vehicle's make and model, year of manufacture, engine size (for example, 3.0 liter), and the vehicle identification number. You can also visit NEVC's website at <http://www.e85fuel.com/information/vin.php> to determine if your vehicle is E85 compatible and take a look at the 2007 Flexible Fuel Vehicles List.

Establishing a national energy policy, enhancing energy security, and improving environmental quality does affect everyone at the Rock Island Arsenal, and will for many years to come.

NOTE: Additional information on alternative fuels and flex fuel vehicles can be found at the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Website at http://www.eere.energy.gov/afde/resources/curr_68.html.

BRAC: Road show helps TACOM LCMC RI employees learn about relocation areas and installation

By
REBECCA MONTGOMERY
TACOM LCMC RI Public Affairs

Representatives from the TACOM Life Cycle Management Command at Detroit Arsenal and from the Southeast Michigan metropolitan area held a BRAC Town Hall meeting and Road Show at Rock Island Jan. 30 in the Black Hawk Conference Center to share information about the Southeast Michigan area and the BRAC process.

During two town hall meetings, Jack Dugan, Deputy to the Commander, addressed members of the TACOM LCMC workforce on BRAC concerns.

Macomb County Sheriff, Mark Hackel, discussed the community in southeastern Michigan, and Macomb Intermediate School District superintendent, Mark DeVault, talked about his district's school choices.

Following the townhall meetings was an informational road show, where employees had the chance to talk to their counterparts from Detroit Arsenal and community representatives and gather relocation material from Southeastern Michigan. Information was available on schools, community involvement, recreational activities, housing, healthcare, and spousal job opportunities.



Jeanette Waterman, I-Forces Resource Center employee, gathers materials at the road show.



Turner

Soldier earns honors for promoting fairness and equality

By

MARY B. BAUSTIAN
ASC Public Affairs

Rock Island Arsenal's Master Sgt. Latisha Turner was named an Equal Opportunity Advisor of the Year for the Army Materiel Command on Dec. 14 at the Annual Worldwide Equal Opportunity Advisor Training Conference in Orlando Florida.

The purpose of the award is to recognize those Equal Opportunity Advisors whose exemplary leadership qualities have made significant contributions to human relations and equal opportunity programs within their organization and the Army.

Master Sgt. Turner, who has for the past two years been an Equal Opportunity Advisor for the Army Sustainment Command, has a history of leadership positions in her military career. She is also involved in several volunteer efforts. As the Unit School Liaison Non-Commissioned Officer for the Partners in Education Program, she coordinates volunteers within her unit to mentor school-aged, inner-city children in the community. She is also vice-president of Sisterhood Ministries, a non-profit organization outside of Ft. Campbell, Ky., that serves disadvantaged women and youth, and assists Soldiers and their family members. She also serves as a mentor in her local Big Brothers/ Big Sisters program.

Turner said a majority of her duties as an Equal Opportunity Advisor require frequent travel both stateside and overseas, to monitor what is referred to as the 'climate' for equal opportunity in the Soldiers' environment.

As an Equal Opportunity Advisor, Turner

travels frequently to southwest Asia in support of the Global War on Terrorism. She was most recently in Afghanistan, Kuwait, and Qatar in April 2006. While there, she analyzed equal opportunity programs through observation, by conducting surveys, and by conducting interviews one-on-one, and in small groups, with Soldiers.

Turner counts her frequent travel for site visits as one of the most important and enjoyable aspects of her job. She explained, "These site visits give me the opportunity to see firsthand the mission that's conducted out in the field. My site visits give me the opportunity to assess the command climate and address concerns that could possibly arise because of equal opportunity issues."

Stateside, she has also assisted in training for Soldiers and civilians within the Army Sustainment Command for the Army's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program.

Those selected for the award were also judged to have been successful in assisting their command in overcoming

discrimination and eliminating barriers that hinder equal opportunity, promoting training opportunities that support and contribute to the advancement of understanding and valuing diversity, and fostering a positive relationship between military and civilian communities.

What are your duties?

My duties include advising the commander on matters that impact equal opportunity in the command. I also assist subordinate commanders in determining their local EO climate by identifying issues of concern.

I not only provide equal opportunity support for ASC, but for the entire Arsenal. I am a change agent for cultural change and act as the eyes and ears for the commander. I am also responsible for recognizing and assessing indicators of institutional and individual discrimination in the command as well as recognizing sexual harassment in both overt and subtle forms. Additionally, I recommend appropriate remedies to eliminate and prevent unlawful discrimination and sexual harassment.

Length of military service - 12 years

What do you like most about being in the military?

One of the things that I like most about being in the military is that it enables me to grow. The military has been an avenue of growth for me professionally as well as personally. The military has taken me places and broadened my horizons on life in many ways.

What is one thing you would like people to know about your job?

My job is very important because it allows me to influence change, monitor the pulse of the EO climate and ensure fair treatment for all in support of readiness.

Hobbies: Working out, modeling and writing