



Retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel Dailey, right, will succeed retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston, left, as AUSA's vice president for NCO and Soldier Programs. (AUSA PHOTO)

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Dailey joins AUSA as NCO vice president

Retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel Dailey joined the Association of the U.S. Army on Monday as its new vice president for NCO and Soldier Programs.

"There is nobody better to continue the growth in our soldier programs," said retired Gen. Carter Ham, AUSA president and CEO.

Dailey retired from the Army effective Dec. 1 after 30 years of service, including a final four-year assignment as the 15th sergeant major of the Army.

He served as the senior enlisted adviser to two Army chiefs of staff, now-retired Gen. Raymond Odierno and Gen. Mark Milley, now the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

At AUSA, Dailey assumes an executive position held by retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston, who has been with AUSA since 2013.

While stepping down as an AUSA vice president, Preston will remain a senior fellow with AUSA's Institute of Land Warfare.

The transition between Dailey and Preston is expected to take about two months.

Preston was the 13th sergeant major of the Army who also served two Army chiefs of staff; now-retired Gen. Peter Schoomaker and Gen. George Casey.

Ham, who elevated Preston to vice president in a move to bring more attention to the position, said Preston "has made a tremendous impact across our association, just as he did while serving as the 13th SMA. We have all benefited from his experience, energy and thoughtful insights."

Dailey "is precisely the right leader to follow SMA Preston and to build upon the programs AUSA has established that focus on the 84% of the Total Army that serve in the enlisted ranks," Ham said.

"All of us at AUSA wish SMA Preston well in his richly deserved retirement, and we extend a warm welcome to SMA Dailey."

Dailey said he views his move to AUSA as part of a commitment to be a Soldier for Life.

"It is an honor and a privilege to have the ability to continue to serve our soldiers, Army civilians, veterans and their families as part of our Association of the United States Army team," he said.

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Army leaders pledge to continue fixing on-post housing

he Army is withholding incentive payments from privatized housing companies and creating 24-hour complaint hotlines in its efforts to improve on-post housing, but a lot more work remains to be done, the service's senior leaders said.

"It is our responsibility to provide housing, not simply to code but also to quality," Army Secretary Ryan Mc-Carthy said, adding, "we owe it to the 45% of our force who live on-post."

McCarthy and Army Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville testified Tuesday alongside the other service secretaries and chiefs before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

The hearing took place 10 months after a similar event before the committee in February that highlighted widespread reports of poor maintenance, black mold, pest infestations and other issues in privatized military housing.

The Army has more than 86,000 privatized homes on its installations, with one-third in poor condition, one-third in fair condition and one-third in good condition, McCarthy said.

Since February, more than 2,100 families have been displaced while their homes are being repaired, with almost 200 of them still in temporary housing as of Tuesday, he said.

"To displaced families, days can feel like weeks and weeks can feel like months," McCarthy said. "These aren't simply numbers; these are lives."

One way the Army has held priva-

Dailey

From Page 1

"I am joining a dedicated team of professionals that has built and preserved the best professional and representative association for the world's best Army," Dailey said.

"I will remain committed to the mission, vision and values of our association, continuing in the footsteps of SMA Ken Preston, who has done phenomenal work at AUSA," he



Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy, left, and Army Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville testify before the Senate Armed Services Committee. (U.S. ARMY/SGT. DANA CLARKE)

tized housing companies accountable is by withholding incentive fees, typically awarded for good performance.

The Army recently withheld "substantial fees" from the contractor on Fort Benning, Georgia, and Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, "because of poor performance, work order response time as well as quality," McCarthy said.

The average incentive fee "right now is about 77%," with some getting as little as 11%, McConville said.

"We see that making a difference in the performance of the contractors in executing their mission," he said.

The Army also has held town hall meetings with soldiers and families, created 24-hour help lines, empowered the chain of command, and created transparency in the work order process, McCarthy said.

Senior leaders made housing their

added. "I look forward to building on what he has done."

Preston said he's pleased that Dailey is his successor. "Everyone in the Army today, from private to general, knows and respects him. This new role enables him to continue his service to our nation and our Army."

"I cannot think of anyone more compassionate and dedicated to the thousands of soldiers, Army civilians and families who serve and support top quality of life priority and assigned housing operations to Gen. Gus Perna, commander of the U.S. Army Materiel Command.

The Army will continue to work to improve on-post housing, but the process will take time, McCarthy and McConville told the senators.

The work also will require money, McCarthy said, when asked about how a continuing resolution, which funds the Army at fiscal 2019 levels, is affecting the Army's efforts.

The Army has requested about \$1.1 billion for housing restoration and modernization, plus millions in barracks improvements, and that money is being held up without a fiscal 2020 budget, McCarthy said.

"We can't initiate the projects, we don't have the funding. And existing ones are being funded at the previous levels, so the buying power is reduced."

our Army," he said. "In the Army, we have a proud tradition of senior leader transition in our units across the Regular Army, Army National Guard and the Army Reserve. We are doing the same thing here at AUSA. Dan Dailey is the right leader now to continue serving our Army team."

"I look forward to serving our association in other capacities as needed and will continue to be a Soldier for Life," Preston said.

Continuing resolutions delay Army's efforts to modernize, grow readiness



Additional stopgap funding in 2020 could cause a six-month delay or longer for the Army to continue growing readiness and improving modernization. (COURTESY PHOTO)

Affairs

By Mark Haaland

uch work remains to be accomplished by Congress as the government continues to operate under the current stopgap funding measure, or continuing resolution, which runs through Dec. 20—less than three weeks from now.

The Senate has not passed any of its 12 appropriations for fiscal year 2020. But there is some good news in that the House and Senate have jointly agreed to funding levels for each bill.

This is important for passing the final measures, but difficult challenges remain.

For example, border wall Government funding remains an issue and has implications for the

defense, military construction and homeland security appropriations.

Unfortunately, the ongoing continuing resolution funds the Army at last year's levels and does not permit the Army to begin new programs or expand current programs to modernize and grow overmatch capability.

Under a CR, new military construction projects for housing are not able to commence, either.

As mentioned last month, the 3.1% pay increase for our troops will still go into effect beginning Jan. 1.

Unfortunately, the defense appropriation is still needed for a final decision on a pay increase for the Army's civilian workforce, an increase the Association of the U.S. Army supports.

If the House votes to impeach the president, the Senate must take up impeachment without delay, which means the Senate will not consider any other legislation until the conclusion of the impeachment proceedings.

AUSA is strongly encouraging the Senate to complete the appropriations bills before any impeachment trial begins. Failing to do so will likely result in additional continuing resolutions into March or later, which would cause a six-month delay or longer for

> the Army to continue growing readiness and improving modernization at the new funding levels.

Disagreement over funding for the border wall is another main reason for the ongoing impasse between the House and Senate Armed Services Committees for a final National Defense Authorization Act.

AUSA is strongly advocating for and encouraging Congress to find a solution on the border wall disagreement and other remaining issues to pass the NDAA, as well as the defense, military construction and veterans appropriations, before the end of 2019.

Mark Haaland is AUSA's Government Affairs Director.

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Declining budgets could hinder future Army contracts

he health of the Army contracting enterprise is strong, a senior Army official said Wednesday at a one-day seminar sponsored by the Association of the U.S. Army.

A workforce of about 8,000 people works in 270 offices overseeing 300,000 contracts valued at about \$74 billion.

"We hire the best people and in a timely fashion," said Stuart Hazlett, the Army deputy assistant secretary for procurement. "That has not always been the case," he said, proudly describing a credentialed and certified force where the majority were hired in the last 11 years.

The Army Acquisition and Contracting Hot Topic event, held at AU-SA's headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, included a keynote speech from Heidi Shyu, a former Army assistant secretary for acquisition, logistics and technology who sees hope in new,



Heidi Shyu speaks at AUSA's Hot Topic event on Army contracts. (AUSA PHOTO)

faster and nontraditional contracting.

Shyu warned that some faster contracting has inadvertently created challenges for some companies, particularly smaller companies.

This can happen because of larger upfront costs for things like building prototypes, Shyu said.

"A prototype does not equal production-ready," she said. "It is proof of design without the details," such as reliability, maintainability, sustainability and even if it can be manufactured on a large scale.

Industry is looking for ways to quickly transition from prototypes to the next step of being a program of record, meaning it is a directed and funded project responding to an approved need.

Shyu worries that declining budgets could leave the Army with many prototypes that aren't being built because there is no funding.

Shyu sees the need for new systems that are quickly and easily upgraded, are less dependent on the current global positioning system, and have reduced sustainment costs.

She also warned there are hazards to buying off-the-shelf products, as the commercially built products may not be sustainable over the long term.

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By Susan Rubel

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Car rentals and hotels

Many of us travel quite a bit in December, so remember to use your discounts at Avis, Alamo, Budget, Enterprise, Hertz and National.

When you visit Avis, Budget and Hertz from www.ausa.org/savings, your discount is already applied. Scroll down to add an additional coupon.

The companies update these offers regularly, and it's often a free day, an upgrade or an additional discount. No matter which hotel brand is your favorite—Marriott, Wyndham, Hilton, Hyatt, IHG, Best Western or some of the popular boutique hotels you're likely to find a much better price in our exclusive wholesale hotel discount portal.

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Susan Rubel is AUSA's Affinity Programs Director.

New podcasts highlight Expert Soldier Badge, resilience

he Association of the U.S. Army is releasing five new podcast episodes in December.

The first podcast in the "Army Matters" series features Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Grinston talking about the Expert Soldier Badge, which was developed to measure soldiers' expertise in warrior tasks and drills.

The episode was available Monday. On Dec. 9, the podcast will highlight ways veterans can cope with traumatic brain injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder and other challenges. The episode will feature guests from the Military Basketball Association and Operation Song, which are dedicated to supporting veterans.

Next up is an episode on how soldiers and family members can grow their skills, career or business.

The episode, available Dec. 16, features an interview with 1st Lt. Michael St. Germain, an Army Reserve platoon leader and UH-60 Black Hawk pilot who is also the marketing manager for Grow with Google-Veterans.

Grow with Google provides free

training, tools and resources to help individuals grow their skills, career or business

The next podcast, available Dec. 23, features an interview with David Roll, author of *George Marshall: Defender of the Republic*.

Finally, on Dec. 30, AUSA will release a special edition of the podcast where hosts from all four segments will come together to discuss the past year and what's to come in 2020.

Full details on the podcasts are available at https://podcast.ausa.org/





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AUSA members help build new home for Army veteran

By Kelcey Sexton

embers of the Association of the U.S. Army's West Alabama subchapter recently partnered with Habitat for Humanity of Tuscaloosa, Alabama, the Hillcrest High School Army JROTC program and other local organizations to build a home for an Army veteran and her family.

Gloria Burns, who was honorably discharged from the Army in 1981, had a 26-year career as a mental health worker in a local hospital before retiring due to complications from breast cancer.

Before being approved for the new home, she and her granddaughters

West Alabama

had been living in an unsafe neighborhood, and mold

in the house was causing health problems for all of them.

"It means a whole lot for me—for us—to just be in a clean, safe, nice environment," Burns said. "It just means the world to me."

Burns, 52, is raising her 3- and 5-year-old granddaughters, Zoe and Winter, while the girls' mothers attend school and work.



Gloria Burns, left center, and her two granddaughters at the groundbreaking ceremony for their new home. (AUSA PHOTO)

Burns takes care of the girls in order to give her adult daughters, Shaunte and Brittany, a chance to begin their careers and earn a steady income.

Shaunte, Zoe's mom, attends school to become a registered nurse and is also a member of the National Guard expecting to be deployed to the Middle East soon.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held Oct. 28, and the house was completed in a "blitz build" between Veterans Day, which was Nov. 11, and Nov. 16.

"Our goal is to create a partnership

with our community. By working together with Habitat for Humanity, we were able to make a difference for a disabled female veteran and her family," said retired Lt. Col. Nicholas Britto, the subchapter president.

"At the same time, we brought together members of our community, educators, veterans, politicians and businesses to help one of our own," he said. "It doesn't get any better than that."

Kelcey Sexton is a member of AUSA's West Alabama subchapter.

2019 Veteran of the Year honored for Vietnam service

he Association of the U.S. Army's Capital District of New York chapter recently honored Vietnam veteran John Sacca as the New York State Military Museum's 2019 Veteran of the Year.

In a Nov. 2 ceremony at the museum in Saratoga, New York, the chapter

Capital District of New York

partnered with the Friends of the New York State Military Museum and the

New York National Guard to present Sacca with a special proclamation and a flag from the U.S. Capitol building.

William Valenza, the chapter president, and retired Brig. Gen. Barry Hartman, a trustee of the Friends of



Chapter president William Valenza, right, congratulates John Sacca. (NEW YORK ARMY NA-TIONAL GUARD/COL. RICHARD GOLDENBERG)

the New York State Military Museum, were joined in honoring Sacca by Brig. Gen. John Andonie, director of the Joint Staff for the New York Guard, U.S. Rep. Paul Tonko and Meg Kelly, the mayor of Saratoga Springs. "Any one of you can and should be standing here in my place," Sacca said, as he asked his fellow veterans in the audience to stand and be recognized.

After enlisting in the Army in August 1966, Sacca was first assigned to 8th Army in South Korea.

In 1967, he requested a transfer to Vietnam and was assigned to the 79th Maintenance Battalion, where he served through the 1968 Tet Offensive.

He extended his tour in Vietnam to transfer to the 1st Cavalry Division (Air Mobile). Assigned to C Troop, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, Sacca served as a door gunner on a Huey gunship and later as radio operator in the troop's infantry platoon.

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