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NPS in the News Weekly Media Report - November 23-29, 2021

Naval Postgraduate School (U.S.)

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NPS IN THE NEWS

Weekly Media Report – November 23-29, 2021

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EDUCATION:

[2021 ‘ASTORS’ Award Winners & 9/11 Special Guests \(Part 5 Excellence\)](#)

(American Security Today 28 Nov 21) ... Tammy Waitt

The 2021 ‘ASTORS’ Homeland Security Awards Presentation Luncheon was an exclusive event featuring two hundred representatives of law enforcement, public safety, and top industry leaders who came together to honor the selfless service of those who stand on the front lines, and those who stand beside them – providing the capabilities and technologies to create a safer world for generations to come.

Naval Postgraduate School and the Center for Homeland Defense and Security offers programs developed in partnership with and are sponsored by the National Preparedness Directorate of FEMA, focused on assisting current and emerging leaders in Homeland Defense and Security to develop the policies, strategies, programs, and organizational elements needed to defeat terrorism and prepare for and respond to natural disasters and public safety threats across the United States.

ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING:

[MatterHackers Awarded \\$5M Navy Contract for 3D Printers](#)

(3D Natives 29 Nov 21) ... Madeleine P.

MatterHackers, the largest US-based retailer of desktop 3D printers and materials, has announced that the company was awarded a 5 year NAVAIR (Naval Air Systems Command) Tier 1 Additive Manufacturing System Contract by the US Navy. Over the course of the contract, the company would provide printers, filament, IT and support, and maintenance as well as on-the-ground training by Building Momentum. As the largest contract award by the Navy for 3D printers, it shows the continued commitment to additive manufacturing by various branches of the armed forces in the United States and worldwide.

The Navy has been interested in the topic of AM for quite some time thanks to its speed but also for its ability to create spare parts. For example, back in February, we told you about the **Naval Postgraduate School** (NPS) who adopted Xerox’s 3D printer, ElemX, for a collaborative research project into the capabilities of additive manufacturing for the Navy and Marine Corps. One of the applications being studied included the possibility of creating spare parts especially on boats in open sea, though they also noted tooling work. Now, with the awarding of this a five-year IDIQ contract, it is clear that the Navy continues to see the value of additive manufacturing. Or as Mr. Robert Kimble, NAVAIR’s Naval Sustainment Group Director, commented “The IDIQ brings the much needed capability of printing parts at the point-of-need to our Warfighters.”

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Hosts Guy Johnson & Alix Steel speak with Brenda Shaffer, U.S. **Naval Postgraduate School** professor & Senior Advisor for Energy at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, Damian Sassower, Bloomberg Intelligence Chief Emerging Markets Strategist, and John Authers, Bloomberg Opinion Columnist.



[The Naval Postgraduate School's Sam Buttrey is part of the Jeopardy! 2021 Professors Tournament](#)

*(Monterey County Weekly 25 Nov 21) ... Agata Popeda
(Jeopardy 29 Nov 21)*

Sam Buttrey, an associate professor of operations research at the Naval Postgraduate School, and his wife, Elinda Hardy, have been fans of the classic TV game show Jeopardy! for years. He remembers watching the first incarnation from the '60s as a 7-year-old in his grandmother's house. The show returned in the '80s and has been on pretty much ever since. "We watch it constantly," Buttrey says. "It's very comforting. The rules don't change. It's very G-rated, family-friendly and I find it very entertaining."

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ALUMNI:

[Gov. Pritzker Announces Three Appointments to Boards](#)

*(MyRadioLink 23 Nov 21)
(Effingham Radio 26 Nov 21)*

Building on a strong team of diverse experts in their fields, Governor JB Pritzker announced the following appointments in his administration:... Damon Arnold will continue to serve as a Member of the State Board of Health. He received an M.D. from the University of Illinois Medical School in 1987, an M.P.H. from the University of Illinois School of Public Health in 1992, and an M.A. in Security Studies from the U.S. **Naval Postgraduate School**.

[Sudbury Resident Gets 2021 Salem State Alumnus Award](#)

(Patch 23 Nov 21) ... Neal McNamara

A Sudbury resident is this year's recipient of a Salem State University award for service. Douglas Tamilio directs the United States Army's Combat Capabilities Development Command Soldier Center... A decorated Army veteran, Tamilio holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Salem State, a Master of Science degree from the **Naval Postgraduate School** and a Master of Arts degree from the Naval War College.

[This Naval Aviator Was the First Enrolled Member of a Native American Tribe to Fly in Space](#)

(Were the Mighty 23 Nov 21) ... Miguel Ortiz

John Bennett Herrington was born on September 14, 1958 in Wetumka, Oklahoma, into the Chickasaw Nation. As a child, he moved to Colorado, Wyoming, and eventually Texas where he graduated high school. Herrington studied applied mathematics at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, a degree that would serve him well in his career as a Naval Aviator and NASA astronaut... During his time as a test pilot, Herrington evaluated the Joint Primary Aircraft Training System, multiple variants of the P-3 Orion, the T-34C Turbomenter and the de Havilland Canada Dash 7. His exceptional performance led to his selection as an Aeronautical Engineering Duty Officer and Herrington reported to the **Naval Postgraduate School**. He earned a Master of Science degree in aeronautical engineering in June 1995.



[Training Squadron 31 Change of Command at NAS Corpus Christi](#)

(DVIDS 18 Nov 21) ... Ensign Jahanna Conner

The “Wise Owls” of Training Squadron (VT) 31 held a change of command ceremony at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi involving an aerial flyover and a ground-based ceremony segment, November 18... Rhodes is a native of Pendleton, Oregon. He received his commission in 2002 from the University of Rochester in New York. He began his career flying the E-2C Hawkeye at Naval Station Norfolk, and flew multiple combat missions in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has since attended the **Naval Postgraduate School** (NPS) and served aboard USS George Washington and USS Ronald Reagan. He completed multiple training evolutions aboard these ships including Rim of the Pacific in 2014. Before taking command of VT-31, he reported to the Joint Staff at the Pentagon, serving in various positions such as the Joint Chiefs of Staff’s aide de camp. He reported for duty as executive officer for VT-31 in June 2019 and assumed command in September 2020.

[Tim Kao: Infusing Data Science to Revolutionize the Functionalities of Navy and Marine Industries](#)

(Analytics Insight 23 Nov 21)

The Center for Naval Analyses (CNA), a Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC), is sponsored by the Department of the Navy and headquartered in Arlington, Virginia. CNA’s mission is to help Navy and Marine Corps leaders ensure America’s defense in the 21st century. CNA is unique because of its real-world, empirical, and data-driven approach to operations and analyses and use of data scientists as expert observers of military operations. CNA is the nation’s oldest operations research organization with lineage tracing back to World War II (1942) when CNA scientists went to sea aboard Navy ships to observe and analyze anti-submarine warfare operations in order to help defeat German U-boats. The company’s research staff has diverse educational disciplines with nearly 70% holding Ph.D. degrees and 92% having graduate-level degrees.

Tim Kao is the Vice President of Data Science, CAN. He has served in the United States Marine Corps for 20 years, including being a part of two combat tours to Iraq and Afghanistan. During those two decades, Tim served in the artillery, special operations, space, jungle warfare, and operations analysis commands. He received a B.S from the Air Force Academy, an MBA from the University of Colorado, and a Master’s in Operations Research from the **Naval Postgraduate School**. Tim started working at CNA in 2015 and is currently the Vice President of Data Science. As the VP, he has the privilege of leading over 25 data scientists who are collaborative partners with Navy and Marine Corps sponsors and committed to supporting America’s naval services.

[Who was the first Brazilian astronaut?](#)

(Siv Telegram Media 27 Nov 21) ... Andrea Houle

More than 560 people have already gone into space, penetrating the Earth’s atmosphere. Among them is a Brazilian who became an astronaut 15 years ago and had the opportunity Earth Curvature Monitoring View from the International Space Station (ISS). But who was the first Brazilian astronaut?... Additionally, he holds a degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the Technical Institute of Aviation (ITA) in São José dos Campos, São Paulo, and a Master’s degree in Systems Engineering from the **Naval Postgraduate School** in California. In his stint as a pilot with the Brazilian Air Force (FAB), Pontes amassed more than 2,000 hours of flights on 25 different ships.

UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS:

December 6-10: [Navy Senior Leader Seminar \(NSLS\)](#)

December 7: [Defense Energy Seminar](#)

December 7: [Fall Quarter Awards](#)

December 9: [Women in Computing](#)

December 17: [Fall Quarter Graduation](#)

December 25: Christmas Day (Federal Holiday)

December 26: International Report Date

December 27: Reporting Date

December 31: New Years Day (Federal Holiday)



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Naval Postgraduate School

Excellence in Homeland Security

Center for Homeland Defense and Security

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Through CHDS graduate and executive-level coursework, seminars, and research, homeland security leaders gain the analytic and critical thinking skills and substantive expertise they need to create innovative solutions that address the threats facing the nation and local communities.

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[Return to Index](#)

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The Contract Between MatterHackers and the US Navy

The contract will make MatterHackers a one-stop-shop for additive manufacturing needs for NAVAIR, Naval Air Systems Command. And it is no mistake the company was chosen but rather thanks to its extensive relationships with vendors in the industry due to its status as the largest 3D printing retailer in the US. Additionally, it has also had a previous relationship with the US military as it fulfilled a



previous contract award that delivered 3D printers and training to the I MEF Additive Manufacturing Training Center at Camp Pendleton.

The deal will include not just the shipping of additive manufacturing systems to US Navy and Machine bases across the US and overseas, but also components like training. This is crucial as one of the biggest obstacles that has been identified for the proper implementation of AM has been a lack of education in critical matters like design for AM (DfAM). MatterHackers' partner, Building Momentum, an immersive training and interactive learning company that often uses 3D printers, will provide the hands-on training for any base receiving a Tier 1 Additive Manufacturing System. According to the press release, the company will also provide follow-on training for advance materials and problem solving throughout the five-year contract period.

In terms of actual printers provided, the Ultimaker S5 was identified by MatterHackers as the best for the effort. According to MatterHackers this was due to a few reasons including, but not limited to, "Its large-scale build volume, catalogue of compatible materials with NFC-chips for ease of use, IT-secure design options, and powerful Cura software." Ultimately, the deployment of the Ultimaker S5 desktop polymer system to Fleet Readiness Centers, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadrons and associated Expeditionary Units, represents the first step in a three-tiered approach to implement AM in the Fleet. Further down the line they are also interested in the deployment of Industrial Polymer and Metal part printing systems. If you would like to learn more about the contract, you can find more information [HERE](#).

[MatterHackers Awarded \\$5M Navy Contract for 3D Printers - 3Dnatives](#)

[Return to Index](#)

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[Euro Stocks Slide, PMIs, Turkey, Oil - Bloomberg](#)

[Return to Index](#)

The Naval Postgraduate School's Sam Buttrey is part of the Jeopardy! 2021 Professors Tournament

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Sam Buttrey, an associate professor of operations research at the Naval Postgraduate School, and his wife, Elinda Hardy, have been fans of the classic TV game show Jeopardy! for years. He remembers watching the first incarnation from the '60s as a 7-year-old in his grandmother's house. The show returned in the '80s and has been on pretty much ever since. "We watch it constantly," Buttrey says. "It's very comforting. The rules don't change. It's very G-rated, family-friendly and I find it very entertaining."

Both Buttrey and Hardy have tried to get in as contestants on a number of occasions. They got close. When you apply, you take an online test, he explains. If things go well, you're invited for a meeting at a local hotel where they screen you for your telegenic qualities. If you pass, you are on the list and you can



be called, but they only take about 500 players per year so Buttrey still considers it a total stroke of luck that he was selected for the 2021 Professors Tournament. “They had Teachers Tournament for many years,” Buttrey says, “but that’s the first time they have had professors.”

The tournament will air beginning Saturday, Dec. 6 – Buttrey’s appearance in the quarterfinals airs Monday, Dec. 8. “We have already done the taping,” Buttrey says. “It’s in the can, as they say. I can’t tell anything about the game and the results. But I can tell you it was a crazy experience. A community theater would be the closest thing to compare, I guess. The wardrobe, the makeup, the hair.”

Created by Merv Griffin (though arguably his wife came up with the “give them the answers, make them ask the questions” formula), Jeopardy! is an American favorite. The questions range in topic from pop culture to historical facts and beyond. Winning requires well-rounded knowledge.

“My training is in statistics,” Buttrey says of the last 25 years at NPS. “My wife helps me to train with ballet, arts and opera. I’m more of a science guy.”

One big challenge, Buttrey says, is mastering the buzzer – you can’t press it too early. “Most players know most answers,” Buttrey says. “It’s just who gets there first.”

A number of questions fall through and nobody gets them. So beating the buzzer is part of the game and so is the reaction time, and Buttrey was concerned about competing against younger professors at their physical prime. But “the other professors were great,” he adds. “It was a blast.”

[The Naval Postgraduate School’s Sam Buttrey is part of the Jeopardy! 2021 Professors Tournament. | Art, Theater & Culture | montereycountyweekly.com](#)

[Meet the 2021 Professors Tournament Contestants | J!Buzz | Jeopardy.com](#)

[Return to Index](#)

Naval Postgraduate School associate professor to make ‘Jeopardy’ debut

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It’s 7 p.m. and Sam Buttrey has just turned on the television as a familiar tune filters through his speakers. Standing straight up, he turns his full attention to the screen of clues with a pseudo buzzer — really the spring-loaded gizmo that holds toilet paper rolls — under his thumb and at the ready.

For the past few months, this has been the typical weeknight for the **Naval Postgraduate School** associate professor as he prepared for his “Jeopardy” debut in the quiz show’s first-ever Professor’s Tournament, which is set to air starting Monday, Dec. 6 and continue through next week.

Having grown up on “Jeopardy” jargon, and an avid watcher of the program to this day, the experience realized an aspiration Buttrey has long hoped would go beyond his living room.

“It was just a bunch of smart people having the time of their lives,” he said, reminiscing on his appearance that was taped back in October. “I’m just really grateful I got a chance to be there.”

Buttrey remembers watching “Jeopardy” as a kid at his grandmother’s house, where he and his brothers would often visit back in the ‘60s. First enamored with Art Fleming’s black-and-white iteration of the 57-year-old show and pretty much every version since, Buttrey described walking onto the set he has spent years picturing at home as nothing short of “wild.”

Even the news that he would appear on the program proved to be a surreal experience for the NPS professors of 25 years.

“It felt like a dream,” he said. “(My wife and I) were on vacation in Puerto Vallarta when we got the call, and we just couldn’t believe it.”

Sam Buttrey and his wife, Elinda Hardy, were quick to jump to disbelief, as both had applied to compete on “Jeopardy” — coming close but not close enough — on several occasions. This time, however, circumstances seemed to be in Buttrey’s favor.

In a typical year, the process for applying to Jeopardy takes place in two stages: an online test to qualify followed by an in-person meeting at a local hotel to screen for potential contestants’ telegenic qualities, Buttrey explained. With COVID-19 precautions in place, the process, though similar, happened primarily on Zoom, where telegenic qualities were tested 9 to 12 virtual applicants at a time.



During his callback, Buttrey let it slip that he was a professor at NPS. Not long after, he received an invitation to be one of 15 professors featured in the “Jeopardy” Professors Tournament, a three-round affair pitting educators from institutions across the country against one another.

Apart from the chance to compete, the invitation from “Jeopardy” also covered travel and hotel expenses, perks usual contestants aren’t offered. Buttrey explained everyday participants must pay their own way to play, but being a part of the Professor’s Tournament allotted some extra attention.

Each professor competing in next week’s tournament will even go home with a base prize of \$5,000 rather than the customary \$1,000 granted to anyone who makes it on air.

But Buttrey said he would have played for free. Describing the experience as not only bonding between him and other professors, but also eye-opening to topics he hadn’t really taken an interest in before preparing for the wide range of clues on “Jeopardy,” Buttrey left feeling lucky.

“You get to enjoy something that’s unlike anything else,” he said. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”

Buttrey’s quarterfinal appearance on the “Jeopardy” Professors Tournament will air Wednesday, Dec. 8.

[Naval Postgraduate School associate professor to make ‘Jeopardy’ debut – Monterey Herald](#)

[Return to Index](#)

That Sense of Freedom

(Bicycle Retailer 24 Nov 21) ... Dean Yobbi

E-bikes and the Sea Otter Classic have had a long relationship dating back to the first e-MTB race held here in 2016. Five years later, while e-bike racing continues to grow, the event is also featuring e-bikes for a greater good.

Looking to further engage in the community during the pandemic, the Sea Otter Classic Foundation donated two Pegasus Premio city e-bikes to the Veterans Transition Center of Monterey County in April. The center, which helps veterans dealing with anything from homelessness to substance abuse, then presented the e-bikes to two individuals based on need and progress in its program to use as transportation.

The initial success of the program has the foundation expanding fundraising plans to donate more e-bikes next year.

"When we were there providing the two bikes, one of the veterans that was a recipient said, 'This is a game-changer for me,'" said Rep. Jimmy Panetta (D-Calif.), a VTC Advisory Board member.

"He said from Marina to Monterey is a significant clip for him. And after he took a ride on the bike, he said, 'This is now not a problem. It takes away a hurdle in my life, and I have so many hurdles that I have to deal with regarding transportation.'"

Panetta was back in town last month as the official starter of the Sea Otter Classic E-MTB race Oct. 8. He became active in the VTC after returning from active duty in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with the Naval Reserve.

He's a firm believer in the VTC's mission.

"What you have to realize is some of these veterans, for unfortunate circumstances, may not have a license," Panetta said. "They may not have access to a car. They might have to rely on a bus to get them from A to B. (E- bikes) give them that sense of independence in which they can go beyond the corner store and use it for transportation. It provides them that sense of freedom that they're yearning to get back."

County program matches donations

The foundation's e-bike plan began in earnest when it reached out to the nonprofit Community Foundation of Monterey County and its annual Monterey County Gives program. The annual program solicits proposals from nonprofits for annual campaigns. It matches 30% of the money raised.



"The mission of the foundation has always been focused on veterans and kids," said the Foundation's executive director, Jeff Lindenthal. "The emphasis on both grew out of Sea Otter. The military community is a huge contributor to this event in terms of providing volunteers."

In fact, Sea Otter Classic's director, Frank Yohannan, who served 22 years in the Marines and as a lieutenant colonel before teaching at the **Naval Postgraduate School** in Monterey, noted the event's registration program is largely operated by the local Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center.

That so many veterans volunteer at Sea Otter is not a surprise when considering it's held in an area steeped in military history. Nearby Fort Ord, now the Fort Ord Monument, in its heyday was home to upward of 50,000 troops and served as a staging area for Korean and Vietnam war soldiers during its nearly 80 years as an active base.

"In some cases, they are fulfilling community service requirements," Lindenthal said of the volunteers. "In all cases, their hours contribute to a financial grant that the foundation makes to charitable organizations on base. The **Naval Postgraduate School** has a cycling club, so they're here raising money for their cycling club by providing volunteers. ... With nothing happening during the pandemic, we looked at the veterans' aspect of our mission."

Bikes for veterans a long-standing goal

Yohannan said one of the classic's aims from the beginning in 1991 was to encourage the active duty, retirees, and other veterans to get on bikes to experience the picturesque Monterey County area. Now, the foundation's mission takes that further in conjunction with the center's aim to end homelessness among veterans in the county. The center aids that quest with housing, job-skill training, and medical services. With transportation also being a need, Lindenthal said providing e-bikes fit the cause.

"I knew transportation was an issue," he said. "A lot of these guys and gals don't have vehicles. And it's relatively flat in Marina, but it's windy, and I thought an e-bike would be a really accessible form of transportation that also would overcome the challenges associated with weather, wind, fog and what have you."

The foundation submitted its application to Monterey County Gives and it was accepted, and \$5,638 in donations and matched donations later, Bulls Bikes, Pegasus' U.S. distributor, provided the bikes at a discount.

"As the e-bike community started growing and continues to grow, it made sense to do this," Yohannan said. "And to Jeff's credit, he's the one who said 'Frank we really should get some e-bikes out there to the Veterans Transition Center.'"

Lindenthal said the foundation has been selected for a second year, and the fundraising received a boost at the classic with the selling of 1,000 \$15 steel pint cups, including the first Sierra Nevada beer. The cups sold out early Sunday, and the project raised \$10,000. Lindenthal said the 2022 goal is \$20,000 raised and the donation of at least eight more e-bikes.

"There's definitely a need for them," Lindenthal said of e-bikes. "They had last year more than 100 people in their housing program, which includes veterans and their families. And this year they were awarded a federal grant to allow them to buy more housing at the Fort Ord National Monument."

Part of Yohannan's quest while making his rounds to Sea Otter booths was to get the word out to brands about the program, its benefits, and to secure more e-bikes.

Networking "is one of Frank's strong suits," Lindenthal said. "Along with our director of sponsorship, Kathy Giger, both of them are going to approach some of the companies."

While involved with the VTC from the start, Panetta also has become a champion in Washington, D.C., for e-bikes for transportation, co-sponsoring the Electric Bicycle Incentive Kickstart Act (E-BIKE ACT). Among other benefits, it would create a tax credit for the purchase of an e-bike.

"Growing up around here, and being close to Fort Ord, you realize we have a large veteran community," Panetta said. "We have a number of military installations that are still active here. It was important to serve our veteran community but also to see the veterans that needed that extra help."

Bulls Bikes, a Sea Otter Classic sponsor, said it is open to participating in the program next year and values the impact it has had on the VTC.



"As much as e-bikes are fun, e-bikes are far more important to many people," a Bulls Bikes spokesperson said. "In the e-bikes for vets program, we see the vital nature of providing e-bikes to our unhoused neighbors, particularly those who have served our country so selflessly. We feel e-bikes represent a huge step toward self-sufficiency and independence, and we are proud to partner to make this happen."

['That sense of freedom' | Bicycle Retailer and Industry News](#)

[Return to Index](#)

ALUMNI:

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(MyRadioLink 23 Nov 21)

(Effingham Radio 26 Nov 21)

Building on a strong team of diverse experts in their fields, Governor JB Pritzker announced the following appointments in his administration:

ILLINOIS STATE POLICE MERIT BOARD

Michael Clark will serve as a Member of the Illinois State Police Merit Board.* Clark has served as an Account Executive with the Travelers Insurance Company in Naperville for over fifteen years, managing a multi-million dollar portfolio within the agency. Clark is a devoted member of his community, serving as the President of the NAACP's Joliet Branch, a role in which he has substantially increased membership and organizational programming within the community. He also serves as Chairman of the African American Business Association. Clark received his Bachelor of Science from Illinois Wesleyan University in 2003, and Master of Business Administration from the Keller Graduate School of Management at DeVry University in 2015.

ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

Michelle Gibson will serve as a Member of the Illinois Pollution Control Board.* Gibson is the Supervisor of the Boone County Health Department. Prior to assuming this role, she was a Solid Waste and Recycling Specialist for DeKalb County, and a Field Trip Coordinator for the Field Trip Factory. She also worked as an Environmental Services Resource Manager at Veioal North America, LLC where she managed recycling vendors for large auto manufacturers to ensure waste was properly recycled. Gibson is a registered Environmental Health Specialist and Registered Sanitarian, a Licensed Environmental Health Practitioner, and a Licensed Lead Abatement Assessor. She received a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health from Illinois State University in 2004.

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Damon Arnold will continue to serve as a Member of the State Board of Health.* Arnold is a Medical Director of Government Programs at the HCSC Blue Cross Blue Shield Company. Prior to working in this role, he was the Medical Director at U.S. Health Works and the Medical Director of the Occupational Medicine Program at the Mercy Hospital and Medical Center. He has also acted as the Assistant Dean of Health Sciences at Chicago State University. He also acted as the Director of the Illinois Department of Public Health for four years. Arnold is a licensed Physician and Surgeon and a licensed Physician of Controlled Substance Abuse. Arnold served in the Army National Guard as the Illinois State Surgeon and has received three Army Commendation Medals for his service. He received an M.D. from the University of Illinois Medical School in 1987, an M.P.H. from the University of Illinois School of Public Health in 1992, and an M.A. in Security Studies from the U.S. **Naval Postgraduate School**.

[Gov. Pritzker Announces Three Appointments to Boards | MyRadioLink.com](#)

[Gov. Pritzker Announces Three Appointments To State Boards | Effingham Radio](#)



[Return to Index](#)

Sudbury Resident Gets 2021 Salem State Alumnus Award

(Patch 23 Nov 21) ... Neal McNamara

A Sudbury resident is this year's recipient of a Salem State University award for service. Douglas Tamilio directs the United States Army's Combat Capabilities Development Command Soldier Center.

Here's more from a Salem State press release:

Douglas A. Tamilio '85, of Sudbury, has been named the 2021 recipient of the Salem State University Alumni Association's Dr. Marilyn E. Flaherty '54 Distinguished Alumnus Award for his lifetime service to the nation and for his work as the director of the United States Army's Combat Capabilities Development Command Soldier Center.

In his present role, he is responsible for the planning, programming, coordination, and execution of the Soldier Center's science and technology innovations.

Prior to joining the Soldier Center, Tamilio served as chief of staff for the Program Executive Office Command, Control and Communications-Tactical. In this role, he managed an annual budget of more than \$3 billion and had oversight of 200 local staff and 1,600 personnel worldwide.

In addition to his many years of civilian service, he served in a variety of roles throughout a 27-year career in the United States Army.

"Early in life I was privileged to attend Salem State University. My professors had such an impact on my education. My time at Salem State inspired me to learn, grow and get to know myself and what I wanted to achieve in life. Salem State played a critical role in that, for me," said Tamilio.

A decorated Army veteran, Tamilio holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Salem State, a Master of Science degree from the **Naval Postgraduate School** and a Master of Arts degree from the Naval War College.

Established in 1976 by the Salem State University Alumni Association, the Dr. Marilyn E. Flaherty Distinguished Alumnus/a Award recognizes an individual who upon graduation from Salem State University has distinguished themselves through outstanding professional accomplishments. To learn more about the Alumni Association or to nominate a graduate for an award, please visit salemstate.edu/alumni/awards.

[Sudbury Resident Gets 2021 Salem State Alumnus Award | Sudbury, MA Patch](#)

[Return to Index](#)

This Naval Aviator Was the First Enrolled Member of a Native American Tribe to Fly in Space

(Were the Mighty 23 Nov 21) ... Miguel Ortiz

John Bennett Herrington was born on September 14, 1958 in Wetumka, Oklahoma, into the Chickasaw Nation. As a child, he moved to Colorado, Wyoming, and eventually Texas where he graduated high school. Herrington studied applied mathematics at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, a degree that would serve him well in his career as a Naval Aviator and NASA astronaut.

In March 1984, Herrington earned a commission in the U.S. Navy through the Aviation Officer Candidate School at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida. He proceeded to flight training and was designated a Naval Aviator in March 1985. Herrington reported to Patrol Squadron Thrity-One (VP-31) at Moffett Field Naval Air Station, Mountain View, California, for training in the P-3C Orion maritime patrol aircraft.



The first of Herrington's operational assignments was with VP-48 where he made three operational deployments; two to Alaska and one to the Philippines. During his time with VP-48, Herrington was designated a Patrol Plane Commander, Mission Commander and Patrol Plane Instructor Pilot.

After his first operational tour, Herrington returned to VP-31 as a Fleet Replacement Squadron Instructor Pilot. While assigned to VP-31, he was selected to attend the United States Naval Test Pilot School at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland, in January 1990. Herrington graduated in December of that year and reported to the Force Warfare Aircraft Test Directorate as a test pilot.

During his time as a test pilot, Herrington evaluated the Joint Primary Aircraft Training System, multiple variants of the P-3 Orion, the T-34C Turbomenter and the de Havilland Canada Dash 7. His exceptional performance led to his selection as an Aeronautical Engineering Duty Officer and Herrington reported to the **Naval Postgraduate School**. He earned a Master of Science degree in aeronautical engineering in June 1995.

In April 1996, Herrington was selected by NASA for the astronaut program. He reported to the Lydon B. Johnson Space Center in August to begin his training. After two years of training and evaluation, Herrington qualified as a mission specialist. His first assignment was to the Flight Support Branch of the Astronaut Office where he served as a member of the Astronaut Support Personnel team responsible for Shuttle launch preparations and post-landing operations.

Herrington was selected as a Mission Specialist for STS-113, the 16th Space Shuttle mission to the International Space Station. Prior to his 13-day space flight, Herrington was presented with the flag of the Chickasaw Nation by Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. Herrington proudly carried the flag with him, along with personal traditional Chickasaw items, into space to honor his Native American heritage.

On November 23, 2003, Endeavour launched from Kennedy Space Center. The mission successfully delivered a P1 Truss segment for the ISS and exchanged the Expedition 5 crew for the Expedition 6 crew before safely returning to Earth on December 7. Over the course of the mission, Herrington performed three spacewalks totaling 19 hours and 55 minutes. His historic achievement is commemorated on the reverse of the 2019 Sacagawea dollar coin.

In July 2004, Herrington served as the commander of the NEEMO 6 mission aboard the Aquarius Underwater Laboratory. During this mission, he lived and worked underwater for 10 days. In July 2005, he retired from the Navy and NASA. He logged over 3,800 flight hours in over 30 different types of aircraft as well as 13 days, 18 hours and 47 minutes in space.

Herrington was inducted into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame for his historic space flight in 2002. In 2017, he was also inducted into the International Air & Space Hall of Fame. The next year, Herrington was one of the inductees in the first induction ceremony held by the National Native American Hall of Fame. He continues to speak across the country on the topics of STEM, space and aviation and the Chickasaw Nation.

[This Naval Aviator was the first enrolled member of a Native American tribe to fly in space - We Are The Mighty](#)

[Return to Index](#)

Training Squadron 31 Change of Command at NAS Corpus Christi

(DVIDS 18 Nov 21) ... Ensign Jahanna Conner

The "Wise Owls" of Training Squadron (VT) 31 held a change of command ceremony at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi involving an aerial flyover and a ground-based ceremony segment, November 18.

During the aerial flyover segment, Cmdr. Joseph Karaffa relieved Cmdr. Quinn Rhodes as commanding officer of VT-31 by taking the lead of a formation flight. Karaffa then demonstrated a carrier break in a formation flight with Rhodes.



“I am honored to have led the Wise Owls for the past 14 and a half months,” Rhodes said. “All of VT-31’s success is a testament to the hard work and dedication of my IPs (instructor pilots) and civilian staff — they truly represent the best of the Navy. I wish the best of luck to Skipper Karaffa and XO (executive officer) Stochel as they begin the next chapter in the storied history of the Wise Owls.”

Rhodes is a native of Pendleton, Oregon. He received his commission in 2002 from the University of Rochester in New York. He began his career flying the E-2C Hawkeye at Naval Station Norfolk, and flew multiple combat missions in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has since attended the **Naval Postgraduate School** (NPS) and served aboard USS George Washington and USS Ronald Reagan. He completed multiple training evolutions aboard these ships including Rim of the Pacific in 2014. Before taking command of VT-31, he reported to the Joint Staff at the Pentagon, serving in various positions such as the Joint Chiefs of Staff’s aide de camp. He reported for duty as executive officer for VT-31 in June 2019 and assumed command in September 2020.

Karaffa is a native of Great Falls, Montana. He received his commission from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in January of 2004. After completing initial training in the P-3C Orion in April 2007, he reported to the “Screaming Eagles” of Patrol Squadron (VP) 1 in Oak Harbor, Washington. While attached to VP-1, he completed multiple deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He then reported to VT-31 in June 2010 as an instructor pilot (IP). He has since graduated from NPS and completed Joint Professional Military Education I through the Navy War College. In May 2013, he reported to USS Nimitz serving as a tactical action officer and then reported back to VP-1 as a department head. Before taking command of VT-31, he served as operations officer for Commander Task Force (CTF) 67 in Sigonella, Sicily. He reported as executive officer of VT-31 in September 2020 and assumed command in November 2021.

“I could not be more excited and honored to be back at VT-31 to command the Wise Owls,” Karaffa said. “It was a privilege to serve as XO under Cmdr. Rhodes, and I hope to continue the culture of excellence the squadron experienced under his leadership.”

Capt. Jeremy Rifas served as the guest speaker for the event. Rifas serves as Commodore of Training Air Wing Four (TW4) and assumed command in June 2020.

“It was great to work with Cmdr. Rhodes and I congratulate him on a fantastic tour,” Rifas said. “I wish him the best as he goes on to his next adventure.”

Rhodes’ next assignment is to USS Nimitz (CVN-68) where he will serve as air boss.

VT-31 is one of two advanced multi-engine training squadrons under TW4, based at NAS Corpus Christi. VT-31 trains student naval aviators from the United States Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard as well as international students from allied nations to include Italy, the Netherlands, Denmark, and Norway.

[DVIDS - News - Training Squadron 31 Change of Command at NAS Corpus Christi \(dvidshub.net\)](https://dvidshub.net)

[Return to Index](#)

Tim Kao: Infusing Data Science to Revolutionize the Functionalities of Navy and Marine Industries

(Analytics Insight 23 Nov 21)

The Center for Naval Analyses (CNA), a Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC), is sponsored by the Department of the Navy and headquartered in Arlington, Virginia. CNA’s mission is to help Navy and Marine Corps leaders ensure America’s defense in the 21st century. CNA is unique because of its real-world, empirical, and data-driven approach to operations and analyses and use of data scientists as expert observers of military operations. CNA is the nation’s oldest operations research organization with lineage tracing back to World War II (1942) when CNA scientists went to sea aboard Navy ships to observe and analyze anti-submarine warfare operations in order to help defeat German U-boats. The company’s research staff has diverse educational disciplines with nearly 70% holding Ph.D. degrees and 92% having graduate-level degrees.



A Visionary Leader with a Strong Background

Tim Kao is the Vice President of Data Science, CAN. He has served in the United States Marine Corps for 20 years, including being a part of two combat tours to Iraq and Afghanistan. During those two decades, Tim served in the artillery, special operations, space, jungle warfare, and operations analysis commands. He received a B.S from the Air Force Academy, an MBA from the University of Colorado, and a Master's in Operations Research from the **Naval Postgraduate School**. Tim started working at CNA in 2015 and is currently the Vice President of Data Science. As the VP, he has the privilege of leading over 25 data scientists who are collaborative partners with Navy and Marine Corps sponsors and committed to supporting America's naval services.

From a Learner to Teacher: An Incredible Journey

Data scientists rightfully focus on relationships between features and variables. However, leadership, even for data scientists, is fundamentally about relationships with people. As a young jumpmaster instructing parachuting at the Air Force Academy, Tim quickly learned that the safety and success of personnel learning to jump out of aeroplanes depended on the trust and relationship they had with him as their instructor. If that was lacking, the probability of having students that refused to jump increased significantly. In the Marines, Tim worked for some great leaders and some extremely bad ones. The difference between those two types of leaders came down to the relationships those leaders were able to establish with people they led. Leading data scientists is no different. Tim values a data scientist's technical skill and their ability to exhibit 'soft skills'. He says, "That is how CNA try to hire (and are hiring!), and it contributes to the team's success."

Keeping Up with the Trend to Defeat Odds

Tim presumes that the ever-evolving discipline of data science requires a constant refresh on emerging algorithms, technologies, and processes. He says that when he joined CNA, he was coming from a USMC assignment as the commander of the only jungle warfare training center in the Department of Defense as well as a recent deployment to Afghanistan. While Tim was able to use some of his data science knowledge to support those military units, his data science skills quickly atrophied as he did not use them regularly. According to him, overcoming this challenge required a growth mindset to catch up quickly on emerging machine-learning techniques and code. This continues to be a challenge even today as new things in data science are released every day. "A growth mindset is critical for a data scientist for continued success," highlights Tim.

Curiosity and Caring Behavior: Two Secrets of a Successful Leader

Tim opines that data science leaders have to be curious and caring. He adds that being curious is important because although leaders don't know everything, they need to know enough to search out an answer through research and collaboration with others. Being caring is also vital because Tim remarks that he really believes in the truism that no one cares how much you know until they know how much you care. "Leading data scientists really isn't much different than leading people in combat. You have to know yourself (what are your data science capabilities), know your enemy (what is the problem being solved), and take care of your troops (data scientists) so they want to do a good job for each other and you," asserts Tim.

Talented Data Scientists and Healthy Partnerships at the Core of Business Development

Tim explains that CNA uses concepts like developing minimum viable products (MVPs) to iterate with its Navy and Marine Corps sponsors. They are an integral part of the process in the creation of a data science solution CNA is developing. CNA not only works with them on the user interface, but collaborates with them to understand the data, how it is collected, what is missing, and assumptions the company needs to make. A successful data science effort requires both superb data scientists and a tight partnership with the end-users the analytics.



Facilitating New Learning Opportunities

Tim exclaims that leaders have to ensure that their data scientists have opportunities to leverage disruptive technologies in their work. Like other professions and even more so, data scientists want to innovative and do meaningful work. It's incumbent on data science leaders to provide that opportunity. He adds that even if data science team members think they are too busy doing work to learn new things, by definition, there is a major inherent risk from overlooking disruptive technologies. That risk will manifest itself by the team not being very busy much longer as their work will go to people that have learned those new things.

Entwining Hard Skills and Soft Skills for Better Outcomes

A rising tide lifts all boats, and such is the case for many data science organizations says Tim. The leaders that separate themselves in this environment are the ones that can couple the hard skills (i.e. statistics, programming, machine learning) with the soft skills (i.e. communication, empathy, collaboration). According to Tim, at CNA, the team works on both sets of skills every day so it can help provide a competitive advantage for America's defense.

Creating a Better Environment for Future Data Science Teams

"Don't forget about your people," asserts Tim. He continues that CNA spends more of its waking hours working than spending those hours with families. Tim insists emerging data scientists to do everything they can to help their people look forward to coming to work every day. Tim asks them to be the kind of leader that provides the psychological safety for people to share their ideas and problems with them. According to Tim, data scientists get better solutions and outcomes if they build an inclusive and learnable environment in their workplace where their team will work as long and hard as they take to accomplish the mission. He concludes by saying, "Mission first, people always."

[Tim Kao: Infusing Data Science to Revolutionize the Functionalities of Navy and Marine Industries \(analyticsinsight.net\)](#)

[Return to Index](#)

Who was the first Brazilian astronaut?

(Siv Telegram Media 27 Nov 21) ... Andrea Houle

More than 560 people have already gone into space, penetrating the Earth's atmosphere. Among them is a Brazilian who became an astronaut 15 years ago and had the opportunity Earth Curvature Monitoring View from the International Space Station (ISS). But who was the first Brazilian astronaut?

In 2006, the centenary mission, the result of a partnership between Brazilian space agency (AEB) and the Russian Space Agency (Roscosmos), flew into space Bridge landmarks, Minister of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications (MCTI), and the only Brazilian astronaut to have visited the International Space Station so far. During his stay he conducted some scientific experiments in the microgravity environment developed by Brazilian institutions.

The first Brazilian astronaut

Long before I took command of the MCTI in 2018, Bridge landmarks He followed a professional path that led him to become the first Brazilian to leave Earth. Born in Bauru, São Paulo, Pontes holds a Bachelor's degree in Aviation Technology from the Air Force Academy (AFA).

Additionally, he holds a degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the Technical Institute of Aviation (ITA) in São José dos Campos, São Paulo, and a Master's degree in Systems Engineering from the **Naval Postgraduate School** in California. In his stint as a pilot with the Brazilian Air Force (FAB), Pontes amassed more than 2,000 hours of flights on 25 different ships.



But, despite all their technical and theoretical qualifications, none of them awarded Pontes the title of cosmonaut – a training he would have achieved only with NASA.

Marcos Pontes was trained by NASA

Thanks to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the International Space Station, which was established in 1998 to ensure commitment among the fifteen countries interested in participating in the construction of the orbital laboratory, Brazil had the right to a Brazilian application to the space program from the United States of America. In June of the same year, NASA selected Pontes.

However, before graduating as a real astronaut, he had to undergo a series of mandatory trainings. Then, in August 1998, Pontes began his preparations at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Agency.

There, he was part of NASA's Astronaut Training Group 17 – a class also known as “Penguins.” In December 2000, at the end of this preparatory course, the Brazilian was finally declared an astronaut for the US Space Agency, preparing for takeoff into space.

Initially, Pontes was flying to the International Space Station in 2001 to participate in the construction of the orbital station. The purpose of this trip will be the transportation and installation of a Brazilian responsibility unit, called the Express Pallet. Then a series of delays on the part of Brazil led to the mission being postponed to 2003.

As the new date approaches, Brazil is still facing financial and technical difficulties to deliver the unit it has committed to building – problems that indicate further delays. Inevitably, the mission was suspended in part due to The tragic accident of the space shuttle Columbia, in February 2003.

Enter the percentile task

NASA's space shuttle was the primary means of launching astronauts into space at the time, but the 2003 accident prompted the US agency to indefinitely suspend all scheduled flights. Once again, Brazil will have to wait for another opportunity to bypass the Earth's atmosphere.

Then, in October 2005, AEB Roscosmos signed a contract under which the Brazilian agency will invest 10 million US dollars to fly on the ship Naveh Rossa Soyuz. Thus, the Centennial mission, whose name refers to the centenary of the first manned flight of an aircraft – 14bis, whose flight was carried out by fellow Brazilian Santos Dromon, appeared in October 1906.

Pontes was then set up in the City of Stars, which is the name of the Cosmonaut Training Center near Moscow. On March 29, 2006, the crew of Pontes, Jeffrey Williams (NASA astronaut) and cosmonaut Pavel Vinogradov were launched into space aboard the Soyuz TMA-8 spacecraft from the Baikonur launch center in Kazakhstan.

The Centenary Mission Badge was produced by a partnership between MCTI, the Special Secretariat for Communications (SECOM) and AEB (Image: Public Domain)

The launch was successful, and for the first time a Brazilian reached Earth orbit. Pontes took with him about 15 kg of AEB payloads, which included eight scientific experiments carried out by Brazilian universities and research institutes, which the astronaut will experience during his stay on the International Space Station.

Studies have ranged from seed germination to damage assessment and DNA repair – all under the season's microgravity conditions. Some of the educational projects that Pontes implemented in space, such as planting bean seeds, were followed online by students from schools in São José dos Campos, while conducting the same experiments on Earth.

Marcos Pontes was the second of the three crew members to land on the International Space Station, representing our nation with the Brazilian flag he held in his hands — and who accompanied him throughout the mission, until his return to Earth.

back to earth

In all, the centenary mission lasted just over 9 days – Pontes spent two of them aboard the spacecraft – a period that allowed the Brazilian astronaut to orbit the Earth 155 times. The Brazilian cosmonaut returned to the planet on April 8, 2006 aboard the Russian Soyuz TMA-7 spacecraft, accompanied by two crews from Expedition 12: Russian Valery Tokarev and American William MacArthur.



After landing in Kazakhstan, they had to go through a period of gravity readjustment – after all, it took nearly ten days with their bodies experiencing a feeling of weightlessness. in your book mission accomplished (2001), published by publisher Chris McHillard, Pontes reported on his experience as the first and only Brazilian astronaut—until then.

Who will be the next Brazilian astronaut?

In an interview with Canaltech Awarded in July 2021, UEFA President, Carlos Moura, You mentioned that the Agency’s current budget does not allow for the planning of new activities Space like the one starring Marcos Pontes. “Although manned activities in our space program have not yet resumed, there are a lot of people motivated by the involvement of humans in missions of this kind,” he added.

More than 15 years after this unprecedented feat, Pontes remains the only Brazilian astronaut in history. Will it take long for this to change? I hope not – at least because in June 2021, a . file was released MCTI signed Brazil’s participation in the Artemis Agreements, a commitment to collaborate with NASA to return humanity to the Moon, through the Artemis Program, which provides human exploration of our natural satellite in a permanent and sustainable manner.

[Who was the first Brazilian astronaut? \(sivtelegram.media\)](https://www.sivtelegram.media)

[Return to Index](#)

