



# NPS IN THE NEWS

## Weekly Media Report – Oct 18 - 24, 2022

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### RESEARCH:

#### [County Executive Bellone Announces Emergency Management Tabletop Exercise with Naval Postgraduate School](#)

*(Long Island 19 Oct 22) ... Chris Boyle*

Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone has announced that Suffolk County department leaders and employees will take part in an Emergency Management Tabletop Exercise on Thursday, October 13th, conducted in partnership with the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS).

### FACULTY:

#### [The Provenance Problem: Research Methods and Ethics in the Age of WikiLeaks](#)

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#### [Naval Postgraduate School's Glenn E. Robinson Wrote an Award-Winning, Comprehensive History of Global Jihad](#)

Recently retired professor Glenn E. Robinson, who spent almost 30 years at the Naval Postgraduate School, earned both his bachelor's degree (1982) and PhD (1992) from UC Berkeley. After co-authoring several publications on Palestine, he published *Global Jihad: A Brief History*, proclaimed Best Book of 2021 by both *Foreign Affairs* and *Foreign Policy*.

#### [How Iran's Ethnic Divisions Are Fueling the Revolt](#)

*(Foreign Policy 19 Oct 22) ... Brenda Shaffer*

The escalating wave of protests shaking Iran since Sept. 17 isn't the first time the country's theocratic regime has faced mass unrest. However, the current upheavals are exceptional in scope and they show no signs of slowing down. The protests—which followed the death of a 22-year-old Kurdish-Iranian woman under custody of the morality police—aren't confined to Tehran and other cities in the Iranian heartland but have engulfed remote border provinces as well. Within the provinces, demonstrations are taking place outside the capital cities in dozens of locations. Industrial workers and bazaar shopkeepers—important constituencies for the regime—have joined in as



well. In another departure from past unrest, protesters have been fighting back against and even targeting police and security forces, who have killed hundreds of protesters. Over the weekend, Tehran's notorious Evin prison was on fire with gunshots heard and several reported deaths. As it continues to intensify, this wave of demonstrations may pose the most formidable challenge to the regime since the immediate aftermath of Ayatollah Khomeini taking power in 1979.

## [Beyond the Shelf: La Jolla Library's 'So You Want to be a ?' Lets Kids Expand Their Dreams](#)

*(La Jolla Light 22 Oct 22)* ... Katia Graham

Beyond the Shelf is a monthly column about the activities and people at the La Jolla/Riford Library... The La Jolla/Riford Library's "So You Want to be an Astronaut?" program was led by James Hansen Newman, a La Jolla High School alumnus who flew on four space shuttle missions and teaches at the **Naval Postgraduate School** in Monterey.

## **ALUMNI:**

### [NASA Astronaut and USD alumnus Matthew Dominick Returns to Campus for Homecoming Weekend](#)

*(San Diego 19 Oct 22)*

In his first official visit back to his alma mater, NASA astronaut Matthew Dominick '05 (BS/BA) offered some salient advice to current Toreros: dream big and never be afraid of failure... Dominick is one of 12 members of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) 2017 Astronaut Candidate Class. Following graduation from USD, Dominick earned a Master of Science in systems engineering from the **Naval Postgraduate School** and then graduated from US Naval Test Pilot School.

### [Secretary Del Toro Awards Posthumous Promotion](#)

*(Navy.mil 19 Oct 22)*

Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro posthumously promoted Cmdr. Brian Bourgeois, commanding officer, SEAL Team 8, to the rank of Captain earlier this month... Following his graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2001, Capt. Bourgeois joined the Naval Special Warfare community where he deployed in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM, ODYSSEY DAWN, and ENDURING FREEDOM – earning the Bronze Star Medal with Valor. He also received the Pat Tillman Leadership Award while earning a Master of Science degree in Defense Analysis from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

### [Profiles in Professionalism: Lieutenant Junior Grade Gregory Favre](#)

*(Navy.mil 19 Oct 22)* ... MC1 Lawrence Davis

Navy Reserve Lt.j.g. Gregory Favre, a 41 year-old native of St. Louis, Missouri, is a fourth-generation military service member. His family's dedicated service to the Nation spans more than 100 years... "The **Naval Postgraduate School** has an advanced education program for senior public safety professionals, which him and I were both attending as students," said Favre. "During our time there, we had several conversations about the Navy, including its traditions, history and heritage. Given my family history and professional experience, he suggested I consider joining the Navy Reserve."

### [Military Families in California Struggle to Make Ends Meet](#)

*(American Greatness 21 Oct 22)* ... Josiah Lippincott

Sky-high inflation raging across the country is driving a serious cost-of-living crisis for middle class American families. The military is not immune.

Recently, a number of officers stationed at the **Naval Postgraduate School** in Monterey, California—about 80 miles south of Silicon Valley—reached out to me anonymously with data and stories of the immense challenges they face just trying to stay afloat financially. Not only that, but the hyper-liberal environment of coastal California is deeply alienating to many military officers just trying to go about ordinary life.



## [Navy Commander Receives Top Award for LGBTQ+ Advocacy](#)

*(Navy.mil 21 Oct 22)*

Cmdr. Emily Shilling received the 2022 LGBTQ+ Corporate Advocate of the Year Outie Award from Out & Equal, a global organization working exclusively on LGBTQ+ workplace equality, at the annual Workplace Summit Oct. 20 in Las Vegas... In 2015, Shilling graduated from the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School and also received a master's degree from the **Naval Postgraduate School**. She then served as a project officer for Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX) 23 at Patuxent River. In her current role, Shilling manages the information, tools and decision aids needed to rapidly and accurately plan aircraft, weapon and sensor missions.

## [Monroe Hosting Veterans Day Parade](#)

*(Monroe News 23 Oct 22) ... Ray Kisonas*

For the first time in recent history, Monroe will host a Veterans Day Parade... Garland, 62, is a Navy veteran. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1982 from the United States Naval Academy and his Aviation Safety Degree in 1995 from **Naval Postgraduate School**. He retired from the Navy after 24 years as a U.S. Naval Officer.

## **UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS:**

**November 7-11:** [JIFX 23-1](#)

**November 11:** Veteran's Day (Federal Holiday)



## RESEARCH:

### County Executive Bellone Announces Emergency Management Tabletop Exercise with Naval Postgraduate School

*(Long Island 19 Oct 22) ... Chris Boyle*

Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone has announced that Suffolk County department leaders and employees will take part in an Emergency Management Tabletop Exercise on Thursday, October 13th, conducted in partnership with the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS).

“We never know when or where an emergency might strike, that is why we must do our best to ensure we are as prepared as possible to protect the health and safety of our residents,” said Suffolk County Executive Bellone. “Tabletop exercises have been vital to the County’s response during previous emergencies, including during the COVID-19 pandemic, and this latest event will help us sharpen our disaster response and ensure all departments work in a coordinated fashion.”

“Planning and coordination are integral aspects to ensuring the safety and well-being of residents and first responders in the event of an emergency,” said Patrick Beckley, Commissioner of the Suffolk County Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services (FRES). “Through extensive cooperation with our private and public partners, including the County’s partnership with the Naval Postgraduate School’s CHDS Executive Education Program, we are able to be prepared for evolving challenges related to public safety and homeland security while responding to emergencies, hosting large-scale events or catering to the everyday needs of our local communities.”

Dawn Wilson, Director, Executive Education Program, Naval Postgraduate School, Center for Homeland Defense and Security said: “The Center for Homeland Defense and Security works with local and state leaders around the country to prepare their communities for a variety of emergency management and homeland security threats. This week, Suffolk County is bringing together our national experts and a multi-disciplinary group of County leaders to do just that. These events will prepare local leaders as they plan for events and regional emergencies and disasters down the road.”

The multimedia scenario-based seminar, facilitated by experts in the field will explore homeland security risks and challenges that could threaten Suffolk County. The content has been designed specifically for Suffolk to help strengthen the County’s capability to plan for, prevent, respond and recover from catastrophic events such as earthquakes, snow storms, food shortages and terrorism. During the exercise, County leaders will analyze how they would be able to respond to a natural disaster without the assistance of outside agencies.

The roundtable discussions will take place in a non-attributive and neutral forum where County employees can identify and address dynamic homeland security issues.

The objective of the tabletop exercise is to strengthen the overall response plan and review associated response procedures through guided discussion of various emergency scenarios. The tabletop exercise can also help identify any potential gaps in response plans and how to meet those critical needs.

Multiple County departments will participate in the exercise including the Suffolk County Police Department, the Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services, the Department of Public Works, the Department of Health, the Parks Department, the Department of Information Technology, and the Medical Examiner’s Office.

Suffolk County has previously hosted tabletop seminars focused on pandemics and Cybersecurity. These tabletop exercises help employees and those in leadership positions to be better prepared in the event of an emergency situation.

[County Executive Bellone Announces Emergency Management Tabletop Exercise with Naval Postgraduate School | LongIsland.com](#)

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## FACULTY:

### **The Provenance Problem: Research Methods and Ethics in the Age of WikiLeaks**

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How should political scientists navigate the ethical and methodological quandaries associated with analyzing leaked classified documents and other nonconsensually acquired sources? Massive unauthorized disclosures may excite qualitative scholars with policy revelations and quantitative researchers with big-data suitability, but they are fraught with dilemmas that the discipline has yet to resolve. This paper critiques underspecified research designs and opaque references in the proliferation of scholarship with leaked materials, as well as incomplete and inconsistent guidance from leading journals. It identifies provenance as the primary concept for improved standards and reviews other disciplines' approaches to this problem. It elaborates eight normative and evidentiary criteria for scholars by which to assess source legitimacy and four recommendations for balancing their trade-offs. Fundamentally, it contends that scholars need deeper reflection on source provenance and its consequences, more humility about whether to access new materials and what inferences to draw, and more transparency in citation and research strategies.

[The Provenance Problem: Research Methods and Ethics in the Age of WikiLeaks - \(politicalsciencenow.com\)](https://politicalsciencenow.com)

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### **Naval Postgraduate School's Glenn E. Robinson Wrote an Award-Winning, Comprehensive History of Global Jihad**

*(Monterey County Now 19 Oct 22)* ... Agata Popeda

Recently retired professor Glenn E. Robinson, who spent almost 30 years at the Naval Postgraduate School, earned both his bachelor's degree (1982) and PhD (1992) from UC Berkeley. After co-authoring several publications on Palestine, he published *Global Jihad: A Brief History*, proclaimed Best Book of 2021 by both *Foreign Affairs* and *Foreign Policy*.

In many ways, the book is a detailed and reliable history of resentment that started with the Muslim Brotherhood, at its birth in 1928 a largely apolitical organization – its motto “prepare yourself” was taken straight from the American Boy Scouts. Reactions to the U.S. involvement in the Middle East were inflamed by negative experiences that people like Sayyid Qutb had in the U.S.

In *Global Jihad*, Robinson proposes to see Islamic fundamentalism as an extreme social movement. He also defines the movement in four waves, from jihadism triggered by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979, through the 1996 declaration of war on America when Osama Bin Laden found a home in Afghanistan, followed by the “Caliphate Now!” project by ISIS and U.S. involvement in Afghanistan.

Robinson has been working within the orbit of the U.S. Department of Defense, serving as a senior political scientist at the RAND Corporation, and an expert adviser to the U.S. Agency for International Development. He is currently working on his next book, *Understanding the Middle East*.

#### **Weekly: How do you get interested in the Middle East?**

Robinson: At Berkeley, I spent my junior year abroad. I was an exchange student in Iran in 1978, the year of the Iranian Revolution, living with an Iranian family until the university closed due to student riots. Then I studied at the American University in Cairo. I have been a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Jordan. And since then, I have visited every Arabic-speaking country.

#### **Jihad became a buzz word after 9/11, followed by an avalanche of books. How is yours different?**

My first argument is that you can distinguish four types. The second thing is seeing jihadism as one among a number of movements of rage. They are nihilistic and apocalyptic – you can see those elements in white nationalism in the U.S. I believe in understanding the totality of the problem. For example, while



the U.S. couldn't have changed the anti-American flavor of the Middle East, and couldn't have changed Bin Laden's mind, we overreacted. There needed to be a reaction [to 9/11], but there was an overreaction.

### **What are the biggest foreign policy challenges now?**

Russia and China are the most complex. Russia is declining economically. It's an oil state that doesn't really produce any goods or services for the 21st century. The fact that it has been declining makes it so dangerous. China is developing and while this relationship has to be managed, it can be useful to both sides. The Middle East is one of the regions in competition with China and Russia. That's why it's important to have friends in the region.

### **Let's talk about Iran. Trump withdrew from the nuclear deal and the Biden administration never returned to it.**

It was a mistake with Iran, especially that they played by the rules. And now, they are months away from being able to produce enough material to build a nuclear weapon. In terms of why the Biden administration didn't get back to the deal, I guess nobody wants to be soft on Iran.

### **How do you assess the 2021 U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan?**

Both administrations agreed they wanted out. I'm fine with that; I'm not a fan of nation building. But the execution and the results were sloppy.

### **Quick reactions. Saudi Arabia...**

A horrible regime that murdered a journalist from The Washington Post and paid no price. Frankly, we should be outraged.

### **Israel and Palestine...**

It's a matter of asymmetry of power. And the fact that the U.S. lets Israel do what it does.

### **One good and one bad thing about the Middle East?**

The lack of good governance is still a problem. At the same time, the digital evolution continues. Information in those countries used to be controlled by guns. Not anymore.

[Naval Postgraduate School's Glenn E. Robinson wrote an award-winning, comprehensive history of global jihad. | Face to Face | montereycountyweekly.com](#)

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## **How Iran's Ethnic Divisions Are Fueling the Revolt**

*(Foreign Policy 19 Oct 22) ... Brenda Shaffer*

The escalating wave of protests shaking Iran since Sept. 17 isn't the first time the country's theocratic regime has faced mass unrest. However, the current upheavals are exceptional in scope and they show no signs of slowing down. The protests—which followed the death of a 22-year-old Kurdish-Iranian woman under custody of the morality police—aren't confined to Tehran and other cities in the Iranian heartland but have engulfed remote border provinces as well. Within the provinces, demonstrations are taking place outside the capital cities in dozens of locations. Industrial workers and bazaar shopkeepers—important constituencies for the regime—have joined in as well. In another departure from past unrest, protesters have been fighting back against and even targeting police and security forces, who have killed hundreds of protesters. Over the weekend, Tehran's notorious Evin prison was on fire with gunshots heard and several reported deaths. As it continues to intensify, this wave of demonstrations may pose the most formidable challenge to the regime since the immediate aftermath of Ayatollah Khomeini taking power in 1979.

Perhaps the most important aspect to the current uprising is the major role played by Iran's ethnic minorities. According to BBC News, security forces have targeted and killed a disproportionate number of minority protesters, with a significant concentration of deaths in Baluchistan and the Caspian region in northwest Iran. Security forces perpetrated an outright massacre in Zahedan, a city near the border with Pakistan largely populated by Baluchs. On Sept. 30, regime forces killed over 80 Zahedan residents as they were leaving Friday prayers. Security forces wore traditional Baluch dress to avoid detection before opening fire on the worshippers. That this massacre was perpetrated on the Baluch minority went



unmentioned in many Western media reports. Despite the massacre, the Baluchs held more anti-regime protests after prayers.

Iran's history of ethnic grievances—especially in the non-Persian provinces dominated by Tehran—adds additional fuel to a highly combustible mix, and the regime's harsh crackdown in Zahedan and elsewhere suggests that the regime is aware of this. Iran's multiethnic nature is also an important part of Iranian politics, and it's a source of potential upheaval that has been largely left out of debates outside Iran. Western experts and commentators tend to look at Iran through the eyes of its Persian elite, just like the West has long looked at Russia through the imperial eye of Moscow with little space for Ukrainian views, let alone Dagestani or Tatar ones. We ignore these realities—and the potential for internal conflict and disintegration—at our peril.

Non-Persian ethnic minorities—Azerbaijanis, Kurds, Arabs, Turkmens, Baluchs, and dozens more—make up more than half of Iran's population, and they dominate vast regions of the country outside the Persian heartland that surrounds Tehran. Most of these minorities live in the border provinces and share ties with co-ethnics in neighboring states, such as Iraq, Azerbaijan, and Pakistan. Tehran forbids minorities to educate their children or receive government services in their native languages, but even so, according to Iranian government data, 40 percent of the country's citizens aren't even fluent in the Persian language. The official media and school textbooks often mock Iran's minorities and employ racist tropes. Compared to the Persian-dominated center, Iran's ethnic minorities face severe hardships—including poverty, poor access to government services, environmental degradation, and water shortages—likely reinforcing their sense of discrimination and deprivation. Minorities experience higher rates of incarceration and execution. Activists and cultural figures who campaign for language and cultural rights are frequently arrested and convicted of national security crimes.

Western experts and commentators tend to look at Iran through the eyes of its Persian elite, just like the West has long looked at Russia through the imperial eye of Moscow.

As anti-regime activity continues to progress, the role of the ethnic minorities will play an increasingly important role. The regime knows that many of the Persians dominating the Iranian opposition might hate the regime, but they hate the idea of losing control over the provinces even more. Tehran is already trying to appeal to Persian nationalist sentiment to try and split the opposition, stating that only the current government can keep control of the provinces. In playing the ethnic card, media and social media accounts linked to the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps have published maps of Iran broken up into ethnic provinces, warning the Persian nationalist opposition what could happen if the regime falls. Tehran's missile strikes against Kurds in Iraq, which killed 13 people, were likely an attempt to tar-brush a homegrown uprising among Iranian Kurds as foreign interference. The regime is also trying to pit groups against each other, like Kurds and Azerbaijanis, who have longstanding disputes over land, water, and other resources.

Many Western journalists reporting on the protests seem to assume that since both Persians and non-Persians are calling for the end of the regime, they are united in their goals and that there is therefore no ethnicity-based challenge to the mullahs. These observers might remember that Russians, Ukrainians, Balts, Georgians, and others were also aligned in supporting the fall of the Soviet Union. But as soon as Moscow's hold on its subjects was weakened, many of these groups pursued their national agenda, with local bonds of ethnicity, language, and culture stronger than the imperial center that once held its various conquered peoples together. Like Russia, Iran has its own imperial history, of which one legacy is the multiethnic tapestry spread across the map of Iran. And just like Western analysts largely ignored the imperial aspect of Moscow's policies, Western observers are now largely ignoring the ethnic component of Tehran's rule. Should the regime topple, there is no guarantee that the various groups will see their future with Tehran.

In recent years, confrontation between Iran's ethnic minorities and the ruling regime has been on the rise. The violence is reciprocal: The regime targets ethnic minorities and vice versa. Since 2017, there has been an uptick in attacks on government targets, including the army and Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps. Most of the attacks occur in largely non-Persian regions, including Sistan-Baluchistan, Khuzestan, Kurdistan, and West Azerbaijan. Baluch, Arab, and Kurd groups frequently strike Iranian forces stationed on the country's borders. For instance, in October 2018, a Baluch group abducted 12 security personnel in



Sistan-Baluchistan, which borders Pakistan. Kurdish insurgents have conducted attacks on Iranian soldiers and Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps members.

In Iran's border provinces, the personal security of the police and security service members is under direct threat. In the provinces, police officers and Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps troops live in the towns they preside over, where they are less anonymous than in Tehran or other large cities. Local activists in many locations have made direct threats to police and security service members, warning of personal retribution if they harm the demonstrators. From abroad, opposition media has published the pictures and personal details of various local security officials participating in attacks against protesters, threatening the officers with retribution in hopes of intimidating government forces from further violence. In November 2021, Ahwaz Arab militants killed Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps Col. Hadi Kanani, one of the main perpetrators of the deadly crackdowns against Ahwaz demonstrators in November 2019 and July 2021. According to Ahwaz activists in Iran, Kanani had been personally involved in the investigations and torture of Ahwaz political prisoners.

Significantly, the current wave of anti-regime unrest is taking place in provinces that have rarely witnessed anti-government demonstrations since the consolidation of the Islamic revolution in the early 1980s. This includes not just Baluchistan on the Pakistani border, but the Caspian Sea provinces of Gilan, Mazandaran, and Golestan, where the dominant ethnic groups are Gilaks, Mazandarani, and Turkmens, respectively. In recent decades, the regime could count on the passivity of these provinces, even as anti-regime activity emerged in Tehran and other locations. Not this time.

Iran's ethnic minorities could have a supersized impact on the success of anti-regime activity. Many of Iran's most important strategic locations are located in areas inhabited by ethnic minorities. Iran's main oil and natural gas production—and its major export ports—are in Khuzestan, where over half the population is ethnically Arab, with a long history of attempts at self-rule, in addition to a large Lur community. Iran's strategic Chabahar Port lies in a Baluch majority area, and anti-regime activity in the port city has already created instability there.

If the regime collapses or loses the ability to control the provinces, elements of some of the ethnic groups could try to establish self-rule. This would not be new: It happened during the 1979 Islamic Revolution, when some of the major non-Persian ethnic groups—including Kurds, Turkmens, and Arabs—attempted to break away from Iran after the departure of the Shah, and the Azerbaijanis attempted to establish autonomy. The current regime and any potential replacement will oppose any change in Iran's borders. In contrast to Moscow, which allowed most of the republics to go their own way after the Soviet collapse, the Iranian opposition cannot even agree on allowing minorities to teach their mother languages in schools, let alone have self-rule. That paves the way toward violent struggle should the regime collapse, affecting every state that borders Iran and leading to large-scale emigration to Europe and elsewhere. The United States, Europe, and Iran's neighbors should keep a close eye on the relationship between the regime and Iran's minorities—and prepare for a number of potential outcomes.

[How Iran's Ethnic Divisions Are Fueling the Revolt \(foreignpolicy.com\)](https://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2022/10/22/how-iran-ethnic-divisions-are-fueling-the-revolt)

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## **Beyond the Shelf: La Jolla Library's 'So You Want to be a \_?' Lets Kids Expand Their Dreams**

*(La Jolla Light 22 Oct 22)* ... Katia Graham

Beyond the Shelf is a monthly column about the activities and people at the La Jolla/Riford Library.

The jar resting on my desk at the start of the school year begged a simple question: "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

It was a pleasure to review the 41 responses on the slips of paper submitted by children, especially because the most popular answer was "teacher." There were many other replies, including biologist, veterinarian, singer, Olympic skier, movie maker and ninja turtle.





Why did I pose this question, you ask? Well, it's because children spend quite a lot of time mulling it over, and who am I but someone who is there to encourage them to be whatever they want to be when they grow up? That's the logic behind the series of kids' programming at the La Jolla Library.

Now in its second year, "So You Want to be a \_?" calls for different professional guests each month during the academic year to showcase their jobs to elementary-age children. The guests read an appropriately themed picture book, discuss what they do and why they do it, and present visuals.

The La Jolla/Riford Library's "So You Want to be an Astronaut?" program was led by James Hansen Newman, a La Jolla High School alumnus who flew on four space shuttle missions and teaches at the **Naval Postgraduate School** in Monterey.

These programs are very popular. To date, "So You Want to be an Astronaut?" drew the most people, with 96. The program was led by James Hansen Newman, who currently teaches at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey. The La Jolla High School alumnus shared a riveting PowerPoint with some of his most special photos from his four space shuttle missions and discussed helping build the International Space Station. Library patrons were delighted when he played the astronaut song to simulate what it's like to be in space.

Sometimes, guests like the San Diego Humane Society veterinarian bring animals. Others, like the Natural History Museum paleontologist, bring fossils. And still more, like local firefighters, bring their magnificent work vehicles so kids can get up close to them.

The guests in 2021-22 also included Neda Iranpour of CBS/8 news, La Jolla Historical Society board member and architect Marouane Abdaoui and, thanks to the La Jolla Music Society, award-winning bass player Xavier Foley.

It's fair to say even adults come away having learned something. When we teamed up with Torrey Pines Elementary School to bring master beekeeper Kendal Sager of Sager Family Farm and her transparent beehives loaded with thousands of bees to the library, we learned facts like how the bees we see on flowers are female worker bees and how male bees, or drones, don't have stingers. I can still hear the groan from parents when Sager explained that the queen bee lays up to 2,000 eggs a day!

September saw our first guest of the 2022-23 academic year — an officer from the San Diego Police Department's Northern Division Juvenile Services Team.

As I write this, we are getting ready for "So You Want to be a Scientist?" at 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27, and "So You Want to be an Archaeologist?" at 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 3, in partnership with the San Diego Archaeology Center.

Senior research scientist Callen Hyland tells me she has just the book to read about the organism she studies at the University of San Diego (kids also should expect to see a hydra via microscope), while the archaeologist is excited to show off tools and relics at the November presentation.

More and more, the role of public libraries is to connect the people who come through our doors with their interests. The "So You Want to be a \_?" series exposes kids to a variety of professions, not only to encourage them to follow their dreams but also to allow them the opportunity to check out various dreams.

We are still planning the lineup for winter and spring, but rest assured a teacher will be part of it!

[Beyond the Shelf: La Jolla Library's 'So You Want to be a \\_?' lets kids expand their dreams - La Jolla Light](#)

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## ALUMNI:

### NASA Astronaut and USD alumnus Matthew Dominick Returns to Campus for Homecoming Weekend

*(San Diego 19 Oct 22)*

In his first official visit back to his alma mater, NASA astronaut Matthew Dominick '05 (BS/BA) offered some salient advice to current Toreros: dream big and never be afraid of failure.

“You can afford to make mistakes your first couple of years of college — this is the place to do it,” said Dominick, who majored in electrical engineering with minors in both physics and math. “It took a couple of years for me to really narrow my focus. The converse of that, though, is that I learned a lot, I got to see a bunch of things and I was in so many different clubs. This is the place to learn and explore and figure out who you are.”

Along with meeting with various student groups around campus, Dominick was the special guest of “Toreros in Space,” a homecoming event hosted by the Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering that featured a meet-and-greet brunch with the USD community and a live one-on-one interview inside the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice Theater with engineering dean Chell Roberts, PhD. He also made an appearance during halftime of the homecoming football game against Presbyterian with USD President James T. Harris III, DEd.

“It’s great to be back at USD,” said Dominick. “It’s been 17 years — I’ve been back a couple of times, but obviously not in my astronaut costume. It’s great to see the student body doing their things and the incredible new laboratories that are here for engineering.”

Dominick is one of 12 members of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) 2017 Astronaut Candidate Class. Following graduation from USD, Dominick earned a Master of Science in systems engineering from the **Naval Postgraduate School** and then graduated from US Naval Test Pilot School.

He has more than 1,600 hours of flight time, 400 carrier landings and has flown 61 combat missions.

During his time on campus, Dominick marveled at the new learning spaces, even commenting on his jealousy for the plethora of resources available to current college students.

“I’d love to go right back into their shoes today and be back in the academic world,” said Dominick. “I miss it a lot.”

As a current NASA astronaut, Dominick is one of 18 members of the Artemis Team, a project slated to send astronauts back to the moon beginning in 2024. Fellow USD alumnus Jonathan Kim '12 (BA) is also a member of the team.

“Artemis is an international effort to go back to the moon, and to go back to the moon to stay,” Dominick explained. “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. To me, that’s what Artemis is about — it’s building the infrastructure to go to the moon to stay and to build lunar bases and learn how to operate somewhere other than our own planet so that we can move ourselves to Mars.”

Mentally preparing for the eventual opportunity to leave earth on a course for the moon takes a particular mindset, one Dominick has been preparing for daily. It’s a marathon, not a sprint, he said.

“It’s important when you are working towards a big goal to take a chunk of each day, a specific block of time, when you learn something new. It’s taking little steps to progress each day. At my core, I’m a very curious person and always trying to learn something new is what drives me. When my kids go to bed, I go into my garage shop and try to learn something new.”

A USD education — especially in the Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering — is unique because it combines the liberal arts with technical aspects to create a well-rounded individual. It’s a distinctive academic experience that prepares USD graduates to both develop and share solutions with the wider world; a critical skill set that Dominick truly values and appreciates.

“You can design the most incredible thing in the world, but if you can’t communicate it and relate it to other people, if you don’t have an understanding of different cultures and religions and where different people come from, the thing that you built will never go anywhere,” he said.



Along with the curriculum at USD, Dominick acknowledged the mentors he has had in his life that said the right thing at the right time to help move him forward. His hope is that his message to current students may one day serve in the same capacity.

“I told them the things I did right and the things I did wrong,” he said. “It’s great to come back and maybe, there’s a small chance I was the person that said something to them that helped them in their lives.”

[NASA Astronaut and USD alumnus Matthew Dominick Returns to Campus for Homecoming Weekend - University of San Diego](#)

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## Secretary Del Toro Awards Posthumous Promotion

*(Navy.mil 19 Oct 22)*

Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro posthumously promoted Cmdr. Brian Bourgeois, commanding officer, SEAL Team 8, to the rank of Captain earlier this month.

Capt. Bourgeois died Dec. 7, 2021 after sustaining injuries while participating in a routine training event in Virginia Beach, Va.

“By all accounts, Brian was an exemplary leader and teammate. His death was an immense loss for the men and women of SEAL Team EIGHT and the Navy,” said Del Toro. “This promotion is a testament to his outstanding record of operational assignments, his character and dedication to service of our Navy.”

Following his graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2001, Capt. Bourgeois joined the Naval Special Warfare community where he deployed in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM, ODYSSEY DAWN, and ENDURING FREEDOM – earning the Bronze Star Medal with Valor. He also received the Pat Tillman Leadership Award while earning a Master of Science degree in Defense Analysis from the **Naval Postgraduate School**.

Title 10, United States Code, Section 1563a provides authority for the Secretary of Defense (SECDEF) to make an honorary promotion (whether or not posthumous) to any grade not exceeding O-8. SECDEF has delegated authority to the Secretaries of the Military Departments to make honorary promotions to the grades of O-1 to O-6.

“The loss of Brian is still felt throughout the Naval Special Warfare community,” said Rear Adm. Keith Davids, commander, Naval Special Warfare Command. “His promotion to captain is an absolute testament to his character, competence, and leadership. Brian was one of our very best leaders, who possessed all the attributes that make our force effective. He led by example, was a terrific teammate, and a committed father, husband, and friend.”

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## Profiles in Professionalism: Lieutenant Junior Grade Gregory Favre

*(Navy.mil 19 Oct 22)* ... MC1 Lawrence Davis

Navy Reserve Lt.j.g. Gregory Favre, a 41 year-old native of St. Louis, Missouri, is a fourth-generation military service member. His family’s dedicated service to the Nation spans more than 100 years.

Favre’s father, a former sergeant in the United States Air Force, served overseas in the Philippines during the early 1970s. His grandfathers, from both sides of the family, served during World War II; His mother’s father, a Navy Sailor in the U.S. Pacific Fleet. His father’s dad, a U.S. Army technical sergeant, who received a Purple Heart after being captured by German soldiers and detained for eight months as a prisoner of war (POW). Favre’s great-grandfather was a private first class in the Army who served as an infantryman during World War I.



Until joining the military, himself, in February of 2019, Favre explained he once thought he had missed his chance to serve in the armed forces, as he was already in his mid-30s with a career in the public safety field.

He recalled it was his friend, a retired Navy chief, who convinced him otherwise, and ultimately helped influence his decision to join.

“The **Naval Postgraduate School** has an advanced education program for senior public safety professionals, which him and I were both attending as students,” said Favre. “During our time there, we had several conversations about the Navy, including its traditions, history and heritage. Given my family history and professional experience, he suggested I consider joining the Navy Reserve.”

Favre submitted an officer package and was selected for direct commission into the Navy’s intelligence community. Currently, he is attached to Navy Reserve Central Command Joint Intelligence Center St. Louis (NR CENTCOM J2 STL).

As an intelligence officer, Favre and his assigned unit are responsible for the collection and analysis of various forms of information to deliver real-time intelligence assessments to high-level decision makers in the interests of national security.

“We know in order to make the best-possible decisions, leaders must have the best-possible information,” said Favre. “That’s paramount. So, my goal as a naval officer is to ensure I have the skills and abilities necessary to serve wherever the Navy needs me.”

Favre, who holds two master’s degrees, recently returned from the United Kingdom, where he attended a Magdalene College program at the University of Cambridge. The annual program, The Cambridge Security Initiative, is sponsored by the Department of War Studies at Kings College London.

“The Cambridge Security Initiative brings together some of the world’s foremost experts in the intelligence space both operationally and academically,” said Favre. “At any level as an intelligence professional, we have an obligation to be life-long learners in the execution of our tradecraft. So, I am both humbled and excited to bring back the knowledge gained to the Navy and our country.”

Favre began his civilian career in public safety in 1998 and has served since in a variety of local, state, and federal roles. He served as the St. Louis Fire Department’s command staff officer for Special Operations and Strategic Planning, the director of the Missouri State Highway Patrol and National Guard, and as the cabinet deputy director of public safety for the state of Missouri. He recently accepted a position working for a federal agency as a civilian intelligence officer.

“The primary lesson they teach your very first week in the fire academy is the importance of taking care of your fellow firefighters. You are responsible for each other’s success.” said Favre. “At base level, that’s what I try to bring to our Navy unit each time we meet. You can be an exceptional intelligence professional, but if you aren’t bringing your team up with you, making sure they have what they need to succeed, then you aren’t doing your job as an officer.”

Favre expressed great pride in having the opportunity to serve, and carry on the tradition set forth by his great-grandfather.

“I believe we all have an obligation to contribute in some way to the safety and security of our country,” said Favre. “Whether you’re on active duty or in the Reserve, it is an honor knowing you play a part in the greater collective effort.”

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## **Military Families in California Struggle to Make Ends Meet**

*(American Greatness 21 Oct 22) ... Josiah Lippincott*

Sky-high inflation raging across the country is driving a serious cost-of-living crisis for middle class American families. The military is not immune.



Recently, a number of officers stationed at the **Naval Postgraduate School** in Monterey, California—about 80 miles south of Silicon Valley—reached out to me anonymously with data and stories of the immense challenges they face just trying to stay afloat financially. Not only that, but the hyper-liberal environment of coastal California is deeply alienating to many military officers just trying to go about ordinary life.

The officers who reached out to me weren't junior, either. All were Marine Corps majors who had served at least 10 years before being stationed in California to complete mandatory education as part of their career progression. By and large, they had little say about where they would be stationed, which is one of the most expensive housing markets in the United States.

One officer complained of food prices at the on-base grocery store.

"The commissary is missing food," he said. "You can't access some food because of the shortages. You have to go out in town and pay outrageous prices anyways." Regulations stipulate the commissary food must be within a 10 percent margin of the local market.

"That's why items around here are so much more expensive than other commissaries," he told me. "We are paying 200 to 300 percent more money just on groceries than we were last year alone. Nine percent inflation is bullshit."

Another major pointed out that his basic allowance for housing (BAH)—supplementary pay intended to help with housing costs for servicemembers—wasn't nearly enough to cover the cost of rent out in town. It fell nearly \$1,000 short of what he needed for his family of four.

The average gas price in Monterey is nearly \$7 a gallon, as well. The cost of driving to and from work for a family with two cars can cost hundreds of dollars a month. One officer who lives a mile from work but whose wife drives across town for employment, pays well over \$300 a month just to drive.

Skyrocketing utility bills, including water, are another huge problem. One major described not being able to bathe his children on a daily basis because the cost of water was so high in the parched central California region.

"If you live on post your water is supposedly free, but if you're off-base the BAH doesn't offset the water and electric bills that we have here," he told me. "We only heat our house at night and only to 68 degrees and our electric bill is still over \$150 a month. Water is about \$150 a month for us and we don't bathe the kids every day."

In order to try and save money and water, the officer and his wife collect "our water when we run the shower as well as when it is warming up, we take a pitcher while it's running until it gets warm and then put that lukewarm water into a Brita container for our drinking water. It saves us about 15 bucks a month and while it's probably a good idea to conserve water anyways, it's outrageous that I need to do this."

The major added: "We are spending about \$400 to \$500 on utilities per month. That's conservative. Our neighbors can't even have plants or grass anymore. They were spending \$500 a month just on water. All the plants around us are dead now."

Back of the envelope math identifies the problem. The average Marine Corps major with 10 years experience can expect to make \$7,891 a month. After taxes he can expect to take home about \$5,400 a month. Take \$1,000 off the top for housing costs above and beyond his allowance, and he now has \$4,400 left. Take out the cost of utilities, \$500 a month (conservatively), and another \$1,000—the average cost for two car payments for used vehicles in 2022—and another \$1,300 for food (based on the average cost per month for a family of four in California) and this major is left with just \$1,600 a month to cover car insurance, house and vehicle repairs, clothing, cell phone and internet bills, debt payments, and school supplies, to name just a few.

Even military families with dual incomes are struggling to make ends meet, living paycheck to paycheck. Rising childcare costs can easily eat through that "extra" income. Put simply, these Marine Corps officers stationed in California are stuck between a rock and a hard place. They have no power to move out of the area, quit the military, or get pay raises.

And it gets worse.

Families that don't want to give the COVID vaccine to their children face serious social ostracization in school. From one Marine Corps father reporting on the treatment of his kids:



I came here to Central California during the pandemic because of Permanent Change of Station orders. There are major issues here for military families with children. From the healthcare aspect enrolling them in school is a huge problem. According to the state of California you are required to have children vaxxed at certain ages. If you don't get them inoculated against COVID then you have to forcibly mask your child. They are ostracized at school and there's nothing we can do about it. Some officers can afford private schools for their kids but most cannot. We didn't choose to be here—we are forced to be here. Meanwhile, our children are being forced to be social outcasts.

While senior Marine Corps officers in California are struggling to make ends meet, the Department of Defense is giving pregnant servicewomen special leave and travel reimbursements to get abortions in states where the procedure is legal. Priorities.

This state of affairs is unacceptable. Members of Congress, including the ranking Republican members of the House and Senate Armed Services Committees, Mike Rogers (R-Ala.) and James Inhofe (R-Okla.), should demand answers. They could start by ordering Captain Paul M. Dale, commanding officer of Naval Support Activity Monterey, to testify before Congress on the status of the financial situation of the Marines and sailors under his command.

Congress should pressure Marine and Navy generals and admirals higher-up the chain as well. America's servicemembers deserve better than this cost of living crisis. Instead of funding abortions, the Defense Department should relieve skyrocketing living costs for troops stationed in liberal, high cost-of-living states like California.

[Military Families in California Struggle to Make Ends Meet](#) › [American Greatness \(amgreatness.com\)](#)

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## **Navy Commander Receives Top Award for LGBTQ+ Advocacy**

*(Navy.mil 21 Oct 22)*

Cmdr. Emily Shilling received the 2022 LGBTQ+ Corporate Advocate of the Year Outie Award from Out & Equal, a global organization working exclusively on LGBTQ+ workplace equality, at the annual Workplace Summit Oct. 20 in Las Vegas.

The organization recognized Shilling for her efforts advocating for the LGBTQ+ community and working to improve the Navy's inclusion efforts.

“At a time when the rights of the LGBTQ+ community are at risk, workplace leaders have an important role in safeguarding our community,” said Erin Uritus, CEO of Out & Equal. “We are grateful for Commander Shilling's exemplary leadership in creating inclusive workplaces where everyone belongs.”

Shilling is the Naval mission planning system military deputy program manager for the Strike Planning and Execution Office (PMA-281) at Patuxent River and is also a member of NAVAIR's Diversity Action Team. She works with transgender personnel, senior leadership, Congress and the Defense Health Agency to provide mentorship, advocate for inclusive military service, improve access to medical care, and create a safe work environment.

“With SPARTA, a transgender military advocacy organization, MMAA [Modern Military Association of America], and my fellow service members, we are advocating and helping the military better understand our stories, our needs, and what unique experiences we bring to the fight,” Shilling said. “Above all we are showing that trans and gender non-conforming people cannot only serve in the military but are thriving in their service.”

Shilling is one of thousands of transgender identifying active duty and reserve military members currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces. Shilling and her fellow service members advocate for inclusive service by always upholding our core values, honor, courage, and commitment, she said.

Shilling received a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering from the University of Colorado and was wing as a naval aviator in 2007. She has flown EA-6B, EA-18G and F/A-18 E/F aircraft and



completed deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan where she conducted 60 combat missions operating from USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72).

In 2015, Shilling graduated from the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School and also received a master's degree from the **Naval Postgraduate School**. She then served as a project officer for Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX) 23 at Patuxent River. In her current role, Shilling manages the information, tools and decision aids needed to rapidly and accurately plan aircraft, weapon and sensor missions.

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## Monroe Hosting Veterans Day Parade

*(Monroe News 23 Oct 22) ... Ray Kisonas*

For the first time in recent history, Monroe will host a Veterans Day Parade.

The event is scheduled for 1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 12 and will begin at St. Mary's Park with a procession ending at the River Raisin Battlefield Visitor Center about a mile away at N. Dixie Hwy.

Organizer Wayne Blank, an Air Force veteran from the Vietnam era who is involved in numerous organizations, said he felt honoring the men and women of the military was needed in Monroe.

"We have a parade for everything else, why can't we have one for veterans?" he said. "It's been long overdue."

Grand Marshal will be James Baltrip, who is 102 years old and a WWII veteran. He served with the Army's 1st Infantry Division and was part of the second wave of D-Day at Omaha Beach, where the fighting was brutal.

In an interview with The Monroe News, Baltrip said when he made it to the beach, the bodies were piled "like stacks of cordwood" and the water of the English Channel had turned bloody red.

Baltrip fought in many battles during the war in Europe, including four major campaigns such as the Battle of the Bulge in Bastogne and defending the bridge at Remagen in Germany. Baltrip said he credited the hand of God for protecting him during those battles.

About 15 to 20 various organizations, such as the American Legion and the VFW Color Guard, will participate in the parade, including the Jefferson High School marching band. Blank said all veterans who served are encouraged to participate in the parade.

The march will conclude at the Monroe Exchange Club's Field of Honor where the flags are flying. At the conclusion of the parade, several veteran dignitaries will speak but the keynote speaker is Curtis Garland, pastor of East Ida Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Garland, 62, is a Navy veteran. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1982 from the United States Naval Academy and his Aviation Safety Degree in 1995 from **Naval Postgraduate School**. He retired from the Navy after 24 years as a U.S. Naval Officer.

He and his wife, Lu Ann, have three children and four grandchildren. He was called as pastor in Ida in 2016.

Brian Merkle, program chair with the Exchange Club, said the service is encouraging more youths to get involved with the parade and other community organizations. He added that it was natural for the Exchange Club to be involved with the Veterans Day Parade, which could be the first in Monroe.

"We encourage patriotism to our youth," Merkle said. "We owe a great deal of debt to our veterans."

[Monroe hosting Veterans Day Parade \(monroenews.com\)](#)

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