ALUMNI NEWS

Astronaut Flies on Endeavour's Final Mission

Gregory Chamitoff (B.S., Electrical Engineering, 1984) recently flew on the 25th and final mission for space shuttle Endeavour. The shuttle completed its 16-day mission and 19-year run as it landed June 1. One of Endeavour's three spacewalkers, Chamitoff has made one previous spaceflight, which included a six-month stay aboard the International Space Station in 2008. Read more about Chamitoff and his Cal Poly Connection from Reuters

Former Yahoo! CTO Appointed to Board of Directors of NextBio

Farzad (Zod) Nazem (B.S., Computer Science, 1981) has been appointed to the board of directors of NextBio, a platform provider for life science researchers. The platform allows researchers to search, discover and share knowledge locked within public and proprietary data. Using his past experience in growing Yahoo! as chief technology officer, Nazem will help NextBio enter its next stage of growth. Read more about Nazem in SYS-Con Media

All-Star Student Entrepreneur Creates iCracked

A.J. Forsythe (B.S., Psychology, 2011) decided after having his iPhone broken twice in a week that he needed an alternative to Apple's costly cell phone repair service. From that experience, a business idea was born. Forsythe decided to fix his iPhone himself and turned it into the repair service, iCracked, a company with a projected $200,000 annual revenue. Read more about Forsythe in Forbes

Food Science Grad Joins Chocolate Company

Kim Swisher (B.S., Food Science, 2011) was hired as a research and development technologist to work on product development for Blommer Chocolate Co. Swisher will focus on generating new products, innovations and technical services. Blommer is a chocolate and cocoa products manufacturer that serves customers around the world. Read more about Swisher in Candy Industry

Animal Science Grad is Cattliewoman of the Year

Debra Twisselman (B.S., Animal Science, 1986) was named Cattliewoman of the Year by the San Luis Obispo County CattleWomen. Twisselman was recognized as one of this year's cattle, agriculture and wine industry leaders during the California Mid-State Fair. Read more about Twisselman in the Paso Robles Press

New Senior Commander Named at Camp Roberts

Brig. Gen. Keith D. Jones (City and Regional Planning, 1975) has assumed command of Camp Roberts, the California National Guard (CNG) training base located just north of Paso Robles. Jones was previously commander of the CNG's Joint Forces Training Base, Los Alamitos. He began his military career as an enlisted infantry soldier in 1971 before receiving his commission in 1973 through the California Military Academy. More about Jones in The Tribune

Grad Finds Her Calling at Nonprofit Organization

Candace Milton (B.S., Social Sciences, 2007) spent a year doing volunteer work in England during college before being introduced to the Pregnancy Help Center of Stockton where she has been executive director the past two and a half years. Milton helps women and families facing crisis pregnancies and will help stage Step-N-Truth, a 2.2-mile walk that raises funds for the organization that counsels women and families and offers information on pregnancy and child care. Read more about Milton on Reconnect.com

Longtime Capitol Reporter Interviewed

Kevin Riggs (B.S., Journalism, 1978) was interviewed by the Capitol Weekly newspaper, talking about his career and covering politics at the capital. Riggs was a longtime KCRA-TV capital reporter and has taken the position of senior vice president at Randle Communications, providing consultation to corporate and political clients. Read more about Riggs in Capitol Weekly

Alum is New Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Obopay

William Scharringerhausen (B.S., Business Administration, 1978) has joined Obopay as executive vice president and chief financial officer. Obopay is a mobile banking and payment provider that transforms mobile phones to send and receive money get paid or pay small businesses, top-up accounts, buy via mobile and pay bills. Scharringerhausen will be responsible for the company's financial operations globally, including the U.S., India and Africa. Read more about Scharringerhausen on Marketswire.com
Teacher Earns Presidential Recognition

Anne Marie Bergen (B.S., Biological Sciences, 1985) has earned the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science. She traveled to the White House in May to receive the honor and meet with President Barack Obama. Bergen was one of 85 teachers chosen by President Obama to receive the award.

Read the San Luis Obispo Tribune story on Bergen
See the KCOY News story on Bergen