

CURRENTS

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A weekly publication of Newport News Shipbuilding



NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING - A DIVISION OF HUNTINGTON INGALLS INDUSTRIES

 **Welcome to
Family Day** **NNS
FAMILY
DAY**

"Always Good Ships"

Family Day

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NNS FAMILY DAY 2019



Thousands Attend Family Day



Newport News Shipbuilding welcomed thousands of employees, families and friends to the shipyard Saturday, May 18, for Family Day.

A line formed early in the morning as employees came out for the rare opportunity to bring their families behind the shipyard gates. Six-year-old Jaxson Tugman was at the front of the line.

“Jaxson wanted to make sure he could get on the carrier today so we came early,” said **Jonathan Tugman** (E35), Jaxson’s father. “He has been jumping up and down with excitement since he woke up this morning at 6:30.”

Family Day festivities included the opportunity to board *Enterprise* (CVN 65) and access the aircraft carrier’s hangar bay, windshield tours of the shipyard, division booths and demonstrations, games for children and other activities at The Apprentice School and the HII Family Health Center.

TJ Watson (O51) was among the shipbuilders volunteering at divisional tables near The Rock. She said she enjoyed connecting with fellow shipbuilders and telling guests what she does at NNS. “It’s a great event,” she said.

James Kelly (X11), who has worked on *Enterprise*, wanted his wife to experience the shipyard. “It’s good to have days like this where families can come inside the shipyard. It helps to build camaraderie. It helps to build the family environment,” he said. “I would much rather have my wife come into the shipyard to see what I do as opposed to me just telling her about it.”

Watch a Family Day highlights video on MyNNS, the NNS to Go app or company social media channels. To see more photos from the event, visit the Huntington Ingalls Flickr page.



Photos by Ashley Cowan and Matt Hildreth



Program Develops Leaders



Newport News Shipbuilding has introduced another way for shipbuilders to further their careers. The Future Leader Xperience (FLX) is a program designed to help employees advance into leadership roles.

The multiphase program prepares both hourly and salaried employees who are interested in a first-line leadership position. To participate, applicants must complete an online values assessment. Participants and supervisors then work together to create an action plan. Classroom and on-the-job training are also provided to aid in the development of communication skills and leadership behaviors.

Kimberly Worton (O52) is a production planner in the final phase of the program. "It takes me out of my comfort zone and challenges me to think from a different perspective," she said. In the final phase of the program, participants apply concepts learned throughout the experience by assigning work, demonstrating responsibility for performance outcomes and team leadership.

"I considered it a privilege to be in the FLX program," said **Michael Davidson** (E85), an engineering manager. "It was an instrumental piece of my leadership development. The program was very collaborative."

FLX is open to all aspiring leaders at NNS and requires a minimum of six months experience. All probationary requirements must be completed prior to starting the program. Shipbuilders without computer access will be accommodated. For more information, visit the FLX website on MyNNS or contact **David Adams** (O35) at 380-7810, **Mark Gillette** (O35) at 688-7755, or email FLXProgram@hii-nns.com.



Kaizen team members discuss improvement opportunities. Photo by Matt Hildreth

SFA Conducts Third Kaizen Event

As part of Newport News Shipbuilding's NNSFORWARD Strategy, Structural Fabrication and Assembly (SFA) and Industrial Engineering are conducting Kaizen events, which are rapid, team-based activities to achieve focused continuous improvement.

A series of Kaizen events are being held to help Ring Module Shop shipbuilders apply Lean principles and reduce the construction duration for the different *Virginia*-class submarine modules they build. Kaizen team members are selected and provided training in Lean principles. The team then applies the training to optimize construction processes and develop action plans.

Craftsmen and craftswomen make up the majority of the Kaizen team and are joined by representatives from support departments such as Waterfront Support Services, Production Planning, Inspection and Engineering.

Ring Module Shop shipbuilders reduced the more than 14-month build duration for a particular VCS module to less than eight months. Apart from reducing construction duration, Kaizen events provide team members insight into the obstacles other departments experience. "During the Kaizen event, I learned the problems other departments run into," said **L.D. Holstien** (X18) a welder in the Ring Module Shop.

The construction supervisor for the module, **Nicole Smith** (X10), believes that the Kaizen event will have long-term success. "My biggest benefit was the team building that we were able to do; this allowed us to strengthen connections and develop a better understanding of the needs of other departments. The Kaizen was successful in providing a space to iron out longstanding issues in a constructive way."

Industrial Engineering is responsible for post-Kaizen project management. The department maintains the action plans and reconvenes with the Kaizen teams regularly to review performance, document lessons learned and collect new ideas.

By the end of June, seven teams within SFA will have participated in Kaizen events.

Group Rider Parking Changes Take Effect Next Week



Beginning Tuesday, May 28, group rider parking lots at Newport News Shipbuilding will require vehicles to display a new decal. The Parking and Transportation team recently announced a plan to implement changes to the group rider system to maximize parking in company-owned lots and improve enforcement as NNS transitions to a zone-based parking system.

Changes will require current and potential group riders to reapply for a parking permit on the MyNNS Parking and Transportation website.

“By overhauling the current system, we are able to obtain an accurate account of group riders and ensure parking spaces are located in areas that make sense for the groups using them. To accomplish this, we added a section to the application to give groups the opportunity to select the gate to which they would prefer to park closest,” said **Heather Criner**, Transportation and Real Estate manager.

Approximately 850 employees have signed up to group ride. To accommodate requests, the Parking and Transportation team has evaluated current group rider parking lots and will make the following changes beginning May 28.

- Ten aqua spaces at 33rd Street and Washington Avenue will be converted to group rider.
- The first three rows of the existing group rider parking lot between 37th and 38th streets will remain unchanged. However, the remainder of the lot will be transformed from group rider to aqua parking.
- The first six rows of the group rider lot between 43rd and 44th streets will remain unchanged. The remainder of the lot will be transformed from group rider into silver parking.
- Forty-seven aqua spaces behind the HII Family Health Center will be converted to group rider spaces. The current group rider lot at 45th Street and Huntington Avenue will be converted into an aqua lot.
- Twenty aqua spaces on 49th Street will be converted into group rider spaces.
- Twelve aqua spaces on River Road, next to the Hampton Roads Transit stop, will be converted to group rider spaces.
- Group rider spaces in the North Yard will be relocated so they are closer to the gate. The first two rows of silver parking will be converted to group rider spaces and the existing gold group rider row will be converted to silver. Existing van spaces will remain in the current location.

Signage will be posted in the lots listed above to notify employees of changes. A parking notice regarding changes will also be distributed this week.

“By overhauling the system, we were able to provide all groups with a parking space near the gate of their choice and also give more than 300 group rider spaces back to aqua and silver,” said Criner. “We will continue to evaluate lots and make adjustments as additional group rider applications are received.”

Watch a video highlighting group rider changes. Send questions and parking feedback to ParkingSolutions@hii-nns.com.

Summer Interns Begin Arriving at NNS

The first group of this year’s summer interns begins arriving at Newport News Shipbuilding this week. More interns will arrive in the coming weeks.

Eventually, more than 200 interns from more than 50 colleges across the nation will be working at NNS.



Mindi Trantham, second from right, was recently honored with a Level One On-the-Spot Ethics award. Photo by Matt Hildreth

Shipbuilder Steering the Way



Mindi L. Trantham (O44) recently was honored with a Level One On-the-Spot Ethics award for going beyond the call of duty to help a fellow shipbuilder.

Trantham spends a few hours a week in the evenings at The Apprentice School helping students. During a conversation with a shipbuilder she was assisting, Trantham learned the employee was living in a shelter with his family.

Trantham told the shipbuilder about the NNS Employee’s Hardship Fund – which provides monetary assistance for employees following a natural disaster or other unexpected circumstances – and helped him apply.

Susan Jacobs, vice president of Human Resources and Administration, met with Trantham to thank her for her actions and to present her award.

AROUND THE YARD



New Posters Available

Two new “We Build Legends” posters – featuring submarines and aircraft carriers built at Newport News Shipbuilding – are available in the lobby of Bldg. 520.

Blasting and Painting Mobile Training Unit at NNS

The Society for Protective Coatings (SSPC) mobile training trailer will be onsite at Newport News Shipbuilding until Friday, May 31. The mobile training unit is a self-contained craft worker classroom armed with current blasting and painting equipment. It is intended to provide onsite hands-on training.

The training unit is located south of the Blast and Coat Facility and will be open during first shift the week of May 20 and during second and third shifts during the week of May 27. Shipbuilders from the Surface Preparation and Treatment Department (X33) will visit the unit. Shipbuilders from other departments also are welcome to visit.

On-the-Spot Ethics Awards Announced

The following shipbuilders were recently honored with Level Two On-the-Spot Ethics awards: **Georgette M. Holland** (T54), **Evan Danz** (E42), **Tom Burden** (E25), **Sheila K. Harrison** (X33), **Hugh G. Green** (X67), **Bruce B. Hedlund Jr.** (E81), **Michael J. Rivera** (X36), **James K. Ferguson** (X36), **Vivian Lopez** (O43), **Gary L. Smith** (O22), **Joseph L. Umphlett** (X36), **John W. Fiedler** (O53), **Sean L. Dozier** (X43), **Nathaniel L. Young** (X43), **Ronnie S. Bergholz** (X43), **John W. Harris Sr.** (X15), **Angelo R. Soto** (X15) and **Steven D. Wells** (X15).

May is National Electrical Safety Month

Newport News Shipbuilding’s Electrical Department (X31) is participating in National Electrical Safety Month to raise awareness about electrical safety and prevent injuries and deaths. Electrical safety is important at all times – whether employees are at home or at work.

The Electrical Department’s goal is to educate employees on ways to improve the electrical environment around them.

Each year in the United States, about 325 people die as a result of contact with electrical current in the home. Another 400 deaths occur in the workplace. Roughly 2,500 children are treated for electrical shock accidents caused by contact with a wall receptacle. Home electrical fires account for an estimated 51,000 fires, more than 500 deaths, 1,400 injuries and \$1.3 billion in property damage.

At NNS, the risks associated with electricity are managed through Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) safety initiatives and various procedures and processes. One of the most important programs is lock-out/tag-out or red tags, which warn of hazards associated with the equipment to which they are attached. Equipment or components with red tags attached to them should never be operated. These tags should never be tampered with or removed by unauthorized employees. Violating these policies could result in serious injury or death.



Xavier Beale, vice president of Trades, left, and Joe Sabol, X11, X18 and O68 trade director, stand with some of the students who will begin their careers at Newport News Shipbuilding. Photo by Matt Hildreth

New Shipbuilders Celebrate Signing Day

High School students at the New Horizons Advanced Technical Careers Academy participated in the Good Life Solution signing day May 14 to commit to positions at Newport News Shipbuilding. The signing day, similar to events held for athletes to sign with their chosen teams, allowed students to publicly announce their employment in front of parents and peers.

This year, a total of 67 students and 28 employers – including NNS – participated in the event.

DATEBOOK

MAY 20

The Asian Shipbuilders Including All Nationalities (ASIAN) employee resource group will host the third annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Month event at 4:30 p.m. in the VASCIC auditorium. **John "Jay" Donnelly**, vice president of Advanced Technologies for Huntington Ingalls Industries, will be the keynote speaker. There will be a reception and a cultural exhibition. Cultural clothing is welcomed, and the event is open to all shipbuilders. RSVP on the ASIAN website on MyNNS or email ASIAN_ERG@hii-nns.com. For questions, contact **Crescent Islam** (E33) at 688-4334.

MAY 21

SmartPath is hosting part two of its retirement planning class at 5:30 a.m. in Bldg. 4777-2 (RSF Conference Room), from noon to 1 p.m. in Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room), and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the VASCIC auditorium. Missed part one? Come anyway. SmartPath will recap part one of the class and give tips for withdrawing retirement dollars. Email BeWell@hii-co.com to register for your preferred class time or ask your foreman to register you. PTO/flex is required during scheduled work hours.

MAY 22

Shipbuilders Together Realizing Inclusion, Diversity and Equality (STRIDE) will host guest speakers Vee Lamneck, deputy director of Equality Virginia, and Cole Werkheiser, president of Hampton Roads Pride, from 4 until 6 p.m. in the VASCIC auditorium. The event will be a panel-style interview with opportunities to learn more – and ask questions – about these organizations and how they are changing the Hampton Roads area and the state of Virginia. Topics of discussion will include gender binary, workplace trends/considerations, restroom concerns and much more. All shipbuilders are invited to attend.

MAY 23

The "Spear and Gear" Toastmasters Club will host a meeting from 4:45 until 5:45 p.m. in Room 247 of The Apprentice School (Bldg. 1919). The event is open to all Newport News Shipbuilding employees, and no RSVP is required. The event will provide a forum for employees to learn how to become more effective communicators and leaders. For more information, contact **Jason Paquette** (E83) at 534-2770.

MAY 24

Join the WellNNS employee resource group to bring attention to mental health by wearing green. Group photos of employees wearing green will be taken at *Dorothy* at noon and at The Apprentice School football field at 12:20 p.m. For more information, contact **Cailee Helmick** (E86) at 380-3896.

MAY 30

The "Spear and Gear" Toastmasters Club will host a speech-a-thon from 4:45 until 5:45 p.m. in Room 259 of The Apprentice School (Bldg. 1919). The event is open to all Newport News Shipbuilding employees, and no RSVP is required. The event will provide a forum for employees to learn how to become more effective communicators and leaders. For more information, contact **Jason Paquette** (E83) at 534-2770.

JUNE 1

The Hampton Roads chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation will host a golf tournament at Sleepy Hole Golf Course. NNS' Contracts and Pricing Department is supporting this community event to help find a cure for Type 1 diabetes. There will be a 1 p.m. shotgun start with a four-person Captain's Choice format. The cost is \$80 per person. Price includes green fees, cart, unlimited range balls, post tournament awards and dinner. Contact **Steve Speight** (O19) at 380-7381 for more information.

JUNE 5

June 5 is National Running Day, and the WellNNS employee resource group is hosting an event at Matteson Trail in Hampton. Participants will meet at 4:15 p.m. and hit the trail at 4:30 p.m. All shipbuilders and their friends and families are welcome. Participants may run or walk. Water and fruit will be provided. Parking is available at Hampton Youth and Aquatics Center, located at 300 Butler Farm Road. For more information, contact **Cailee Helmick** (E86) at 380-3896.

JUNE 6

Join the Hispanic Outreach and Leadership Alliance (HOLA), the African American Shipbuilders Association (AASA) and the Asian Shipbuilders Including All Nationalities (ASIAN) employee resource groups for a speed mentoring event from 4:30 until 6 p.m. in Bldg. 520-6. There will be opportunities to share and receive advice from company leaders. Mentoring sessions will occur in 10-minute intervals with attendees moving from one mentor to another. For more information, contact **Isaac Wigfall** (X51) at 380-4352.

JUNE 7

The Nuclear Propulsion 2019 Golf Tournament will be held at Cypress Creek Golfer's Club at noon. This is a four-person Captain's Choice tournament. The cost is \$75 per person. Checks should be made payable to **David Scarlett**. All entry fees must be paid by May 23 to secure a team spot. Tournament proceeds will support the Nuclear Propulsion division's end-of-year holiday party. For more information, contact **David Scarlett** (X73) at 380-4470.

JUNE 14

The F. Farrell Sanders 14th Annual Apprentice Athletic Club Builder Backer Golf Classic will tee off at 1 p.m. at Ford's Colony Country Club. This is the biggest fundraiser for the sports teams at The Apprentice School. To play, or to sponsor the event, contact **Kim Gibson** (N211) at 688-3167 or via email. The cost is \$80 per player with dinner, raffle prizes, silent auction and more.

JUNE 20

The L.E.A.R.N. Program will host an after-work presentation with **Brian Fields**, vice president of Business Transformation, from 4:30 until 6 p.m. in Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room). The event is open to all employees by reservation only. Sign up on the L.E.A.R.N. website on MyNNS. For questions, contact **Tanika Vasquez** (E08) at 688-7916, **Helen Dennie** (O28) at 380-4831, or email LEARN@hii-nns.com.

E-ZPASS UPDATE

Last November, more than 2,300 Newport News Shipbuilding employees signed up to receive free E-ZPass transponders preloaded with \$35 for tolls from Elizabeth River Tunnels (ERT). Each month, 200 employees who signed up are randomly selected to receive an application to register a transponder in their name. Once completed applications are received, they are sent to ERT for registration and transponders are delivered to NNS. Applicants are then notified that their E-ZPass is available for pick up.

SEEKING SHIPBUILDERS

Visit www.buildyourcareer.com to search for the latest NNS job openings.

Job Title	Req Number	Dept.	Location
Engineer Electrical 2	28369BR	E82	Newport News
Engineer Nuclear 3	29912BR	E82	Newport News
Engineer Nuclear 3	29955BR	E82	Newport News
Engineer Software 4	29824BR	E92	Newport News
Senior Metallurgist/Engineer Material Process 4	28595BR	A572	Newport News
Nuclear Procedure Writer Engineer 2	24607BR	E84	Newport News
Software Project Manager 3	26770BR	E44	Newport News
Senior QA Tester	27503BR	E44	Newport News
Cloud Architect Senior Level 4	28952BR	T53	Newport News
iDS Business Process Engineer 3	28190BR	X57	Newport News
iDS Information Governance Lead Engineer 3	28182BR	X57	Newport News
iDS Information Governance Professional Engineer 2	28186BR	X57	Newport News
IT Engineer Product Owner 2	24940BR	E59	Newport News
Foreman	30075BR	K46	Newport News
Material Handling Supervisor 1	30222BR	O53	Newport News

Employees are encouraged to use the "Current HII Employees" portal to apply. The company continues to offer cash bonus awards for referrals to select positions, visit www.huntingtoningalls.com/careers/refer-a-friend for more information.