

CURRENTS

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CVN 79's Flight Deck Complete



FORWARD
TRANSFORM BUSINESS
OPERATIONS

Last week's installation of the final piece of *John F. Kennedy's* (CVN 79) flight deck is yet another example of how Newport News Shipbuilding is using transformative construction methods and the latest industrial technology to improve the way the ship is being built.

CONTINUED ON PG 2



The superlift that completed *Kennedy's* flight deck weighed 780 tons. Photo by Ashley Cowan

to the significant build strategy changes we have made — and to the men and women of Newport News Shipbuilding who do what no one else in the world can do.”

Weighing 780 tons, the superlift took 18 months to build.

Kennedy is being built with an improved build strategy that includes the increased use of digital tools to build superlifts that are much larger and more complete at ship erect than on prior carriers. Leveraging lessons learned and key build strategy changes, *Kennedy* is on track to be built with considerably fewer man-hours than the first ship in its class, USS *Gerald R. Ford* (CVN 78).

CVN 79's Flight Deck Complete

CONTINUED FROM PG 1

The addition of the upper bow section is one of the last steel structural units, known as a superlift, to be placed on *Kennedy*. The unit was built using digital technology, such as visual work instructions to install piping during construction on the final assembly platen instead of on the ship.

“We are very pleased with the progress being made on *Kennedy* as we inch closer to christening the ship later this year,” said **Mike Butler**, CVN 79 program director. “The upper bow is the last superlift that completes the ship’s primary hull. This milestone is testament

More than 3,200 shipbuilders and 2,000 suppliers from across the country are supporting the construction of *Kennedy*. The ship is in the early stages of its testing program and is on schedule to launch during the fourth quarter.

The christening is planned for late 2019. Watch a highlights video of the superlift on MyNNS, the NNS to Go app or company social media pages.

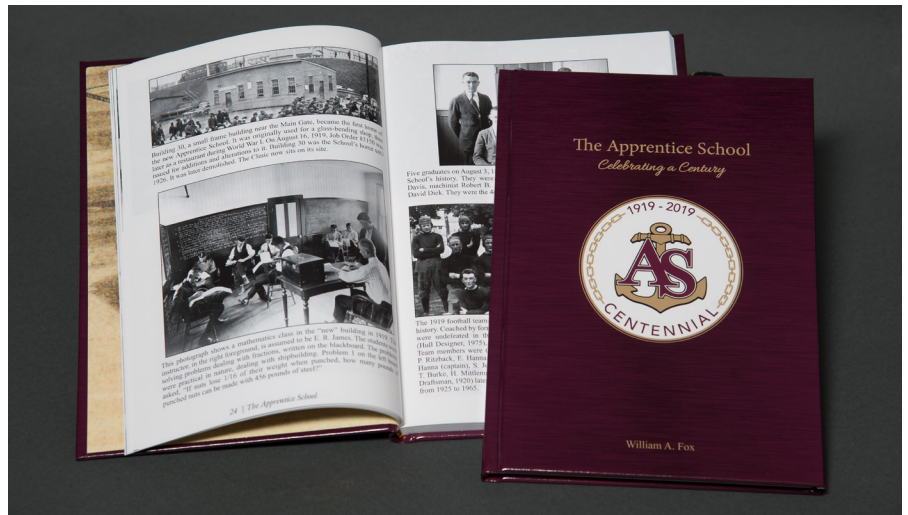
Apprentice School Foundation Selling Centennial Bricks

The Apprentice School Foundation’s “The Legacy Continues Centennial Brick Campaign” is part of The Apprentice School’s centennial celebration. For a donation of \$125 or \$250, supporters can have a personalized 4- by 8-inch or 8- by 8-inch brick displayed on the plaza in front of The Apprentice School.

Small memorabilia bricks are also available. The mini version of a 4- by 8-inch brick is 1.5 by 3 inches and costs \$25. The mini version of an 8- by 8-inch brick is 3 by 3 inches and costs \$30.

Supporters can leave a permanent legacy while also supporting the vision and mission of the foundation. Proceeds from the brick program will support scholarships, historic preservation of the school, The Apprentice School Student Association and underrepresented and financially constrained youth in Hampton Roads.

Visit www.tasfd.org for more information or to purchase bricks.



Apprentice School Centennial Books Available

The Apprentice School: Celebrating a Century, a book that chronicles the history of Newport News Shipbuilding’s Apprentice School, is now available at the school store. The book, written by William Fox, is on sale for \$30.

The store also has a variety of other commemorative centennial items for sale, including T-shirts, polo shirts and blankets. The store – located in the lobby of The Apprentice School – is open from 11:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Employees can purchase items using credit cards or payroll deduction.

Delaware (SSN 791) Crew Celebrates First Meal

Newport News Shipbuilding moved one step closer to delivering *Delaware* (SSN 791) to the U.S. Navy last week when the first meal was served aboard the nuclear-powered fast attack submarine.

On the menu: spaghetti with a choice of meat sauce or Alfredo, sausage and salad.

“The first meal is a significant event in construction for both shipbuilders and the Navy crew,” said **Bob Bolden**, director of *Virginia*-class submarine construction. “This is a result of shipbuilders and sailors working side by side, and is one of the last steps in the journey to bringing the ship to its operational state to support sea trials and delivery.”

The *Virginia*-class submarine is pierside at NNS, and is in the final stages of construction and testing.

Delaware is the 18th *Virginia*-class submarine built as part of the teaming agreement with General Dynamics Electric Boat.



Delaware (SSN 791) crew members enjoy the first meal served on the submarine. Photo by Ashley Cowan

More than 10,000 shipbuilders from Newport News and Electric Boat have participated in *Delaware*'s construction since the work began in September 2013; more than 5,000 suppliers across 48 states have provided parts and materials critical to the submarine's construction.

Following successful sea trials later this year, *Delaware* will be the ninth *Virginia*-class submarine delivered by NNS.

First Meal an Important Milestone for Shipbuilders

Areas like the galley and crew's mess may not initially come to mind when people think about *Virginia*-class submarines. However, the Newport News Shipbuilding employees responsible for these sections know just how important they are to the sailors who will call *Delaware* (SSN 791) home for months at a time.

“In a nutshell, the galley brings them the comforts of home,” said **Dan Space** (X31), who is part of the *Virginia* Class Submarine Program's delivery team. “It's not the guns blazing part of the boat, but it's a necessity. The sailors need a little bit of comfort because they are deprived of a lot during deployments.”

The galley includes equipment and appliances typically found in a restaurant kitchen, including fryers, ovens, grills, coffee pots, dishwashers and even an ice cream machine. The crew's mess includes cushioned seats and Formica table tops. Last week, shipbuilders were happy to see their hard work pay off when the first meal was

served aboard *Delaware*.

“We had a good crew, and there was a lot of teamwork. It takes a ton of coordination to do the galley. You would think it was something simple, but we need construction, trades and Test Engineering (E25) on board. There's a lot involved. It all went as smooth as could be for as much as we had to do,” Space said. “It's up to the cooks now. We've done our part.”

Gerald “Cowboy” Robertson (X32), who has worked at NNS for nearly four decades, said the first meal is an important milestone. “To me, the first meal signifies that the ship has been brought to life,” he said, alluding to the traditional command – “man our ship and bring her to life” – given by Ship's Sponsors during commissioning ceremonies.

Robertson was even invited to attend the first meal on USS *Indiana* (SSN 789). He said it was nice to see the sailors enjoy the facilities shipbuilders had worked so hard

to build. “You could tell how excited they were by the expressions on their faces,” Robertson said.

Andrew Uransky (X42) has been a part of the VCS delivery team for six years, helping to put finishing touches on several submarines. “You would think it would be the same every time, but it's almost never the same,” he said. “Of course you come across issues that are consistent with each boat, but each one also gives you a new challenge to attack.”

Construction Superintendent **Bill Davis** praised shipbuilders for their great work leading up to the first meal, despite a tighter-than-usual timeline and a number of new shipbuilders. “Our schedule after launch was very aggressive, and the amount of work that we had to do was more than previous ships,” he said. “Even though we had a lot of new people down here, we still managed to spread enough expertise with those newer people to hold the schedule and get all of this work done.”

SFA Continues Kaizen Events



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 SFA shipbuilders apply Lean principles and reduce the construction duration for the different Virginia-class submarine modules they build. Kaizen team members closest to the work are selected and provided training in Lean principles. The team then applies the training to optimize construction processes and develop action plans.

While participating in Kaizen events, Ring Module Shop shipbuilders were quickly able to identify an opportunity for reducing construction duration across all of their modules. Welders, inspectors and members of their support teams were selected to participate in a Kaizen event facilitated by Industrial Engineering to reduce magnetic particle (MT) inspection cycle time. By removing hand-offs and implementing technological solutions, the Kaizen team removed 33 steps from the MT process, which will increase throughput by 44%. Welding foremen

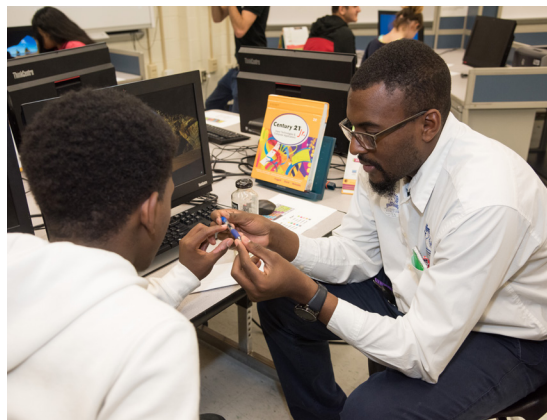


Shipbuilders participated in a Kaizen event to help reduce the construction duration for Virginia-class submarine modules. Photo by **Ashley Cowan**

Drew Humphrey (O63) and **Jovan Jackson (O63)** expect a reduction in the amount of MT repairs and improved team work.

“The Kaizen allowed both the welders and inspectors to get their concerns on the table and collaborate on what the ‘right’ solution is going forward. Since they were part of the solution, they will better understand each other’s role in the process,” said **Brandi Smith**, director of Quality Control.

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.



SEEKns volunteers and the EverFi team held a STEM event in June. Photo by **Matt Hildreth**

News and Portsmouth to explore science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers during the 2018-19 academic year.

The program, “Build Your Future: Endeavor,” engages students with interactive content that reinforces key STEM skills while revealing some of the STEM career opportunities that await, especially at NNS. Since its launch, the program has reached 802 students across the five middle schools.

To recognize the success of the program, the EverFi team and SEEKns volunteers facilitated a STEM event in June for the student participants at Hines Middle School in Newport News. The students provided feedback of the program, learned about career opportunities at NNS and participated in a backward engineering STEM activity.



NNS Participates in Capitol Hill Modeling and Simulation Expo

Newport News Shipbuilding employees represented the company at the Capitol Hill Modeling and Simulation Expo on July 10. In the photo above, **Jovan Celar (E59)** demonstrates technology used at NNS with U.S. Rep. Bobby Scott.

NNS Helps Middle School Students Explore STEM Careers



Newport News Shipbuilding partnered with education technology company EverFi Inc. to implement an interactive program that allowed middle school students at five schools in Newport

AROUND THE YARD

Know Your Numbers Screenings Available



Through Huntington Ingalls Industries' Know Your Numbers program, salaried employees enrolled in an HII medical plan can qualify for a \$600 discount on their medical premiums if they complete a wellness profile and health screening by Sept. 30. The program is operated by QuadMed and all personal medical information is confidential.

Shipbuilders can choose to complete the health screening onsite with QuadMed during one of the following sessions:

July 17 Bldg. 884 (Conference Room 102A) 8 until 11 a.m.	July 24 Bldg. 79 (First Floor Conference Room) 8 a.m. until noon
July 18 Bldg. 4911 (Third Floor Conference Room) 8 until 11 a.m.	July 26 Bldg. 86 (IE-2 and IE-3) 8 until 11 a.m.
July 19 Bldg. 160 (EOC Conference Room) 7 until 11 a.m.	July 31 Pier 3 (Conference Room 206) 7 until 11 a.m.

Mentoring Program to Launch New Module



Newport News Shipbuilding's Mentoring Program is launching a new MyHR mentoring module making it easy for salaried individual contributors, managers, superintendents, foremen and hourly employees who are enrolled in the Future Leaders Experience (FLX) to obtain a mentor.

Eligible employees should watch for more information to take advantage of this opportunity to obtain a mentor to help guide and develop their careers. To learn more about the new mentoring module, visit the announcements tile on the Mentoring Program website.

Research and Development Seeks Proposals

Do you have a project idea for Research and Development? Newport News Shipbuilding has begun a continuous call for proposals. Ideas can now be submitted at any time by visiting the R&D Ideation website. The current campaign is for National Shipbuilding Research Program (NSRP) panel project ideas and will run through Aug. 2. Panel projects are 12-month-long projects that are \$150,000 or less in effort.

Any research ideas that support reduced total ownership cost, improved quality, enhanced workforce excellence, increased materials and process commonality, and identification of best practices should be submitted for NSRP funding consideration. Information regarding this solicitation, specific focus areas and the panel project white papers format can be found at www.nsrp.org. For questions or assistance in submitting an idea, contact **Elmer Dickens** (E32) at 688-9079.

NOTICE: Grilling Inside the Shipyard

As a reminder, personally owned grills are not authorized for use inside the shipyard. To support in-yard grilling operations, Facilities Maintenance maintains a small inventory of grills that are approved by the fire marshal. To reserve a grill and schedule a site inspection, use form NN9393 and contact **Shawn Timm** (O43) at 380-4704. See the Distribution A memo for more information.



**Newport News
Shipbuilding
Gives**

School Tools Drive Begins Soon

Children across the area depend on the generosity of Newport News Shipbuilding employees to provide the materials they need to succeed in school. To ensure these children are prepared to learn, shipbuilders are encouraged to support Newport News Shipbuilding's 2019 School Tools Drive.

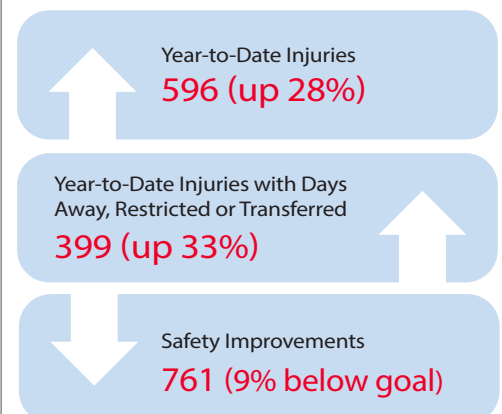
Desired donations include:

- Notebooks and notebook paper
- Report covers
- No. 2 pencils, erasers, pens, markers, highlighters, colored pencils and crayons
- Glue/glue sticks, child-safe scissors, compasses and protractors
- Backpacks

This year, collection containers will be located inside gate entrances from July 29 until Aug. 9. Boxes will be delivered to outlying buildings and departments that are planning competitions. Send requests for competition collection boxes to volunteer@hii-nns.com. Online giving is from July 27 until Aug. 7. Look for more information in upcoming editions of *Currents*.

NNS SAFETY REPORT

Compared to figures from June 2018



DATEBOOK

JULY 17

Shipbuilders are invited to attend the Operations Division Fun at the Park event at the HII Family Health Center from 2:30 until 5 p.m. Activities will include cornhole and fitness dancing. Shipbuilders can register to win a YETI cooler and learn about programs and initiatives available to improve their health and financial wellbeing. The rain date for the event is July 24.

JULY 19

As The Apprentice School celebrates its 100th anniversary, the Apprentice Alumni Association will host its 77th annual crab feast from 4 until 8 p.m. at the Columbian Center, 100 Columbus Way, Newport News. Advance tickets are \$30 each for active alumni and their sponsored guest. Purchase tickets from alumni delegates and officers, or by contacting **Liz Moriarty** (O22) at The Apprentice School at 688-2513.

JULY 20

Active and alumni apprentices are needed to support the Children's Fishing Clinic at the James River Fishing Pier. Volunteers will set up tents, put together fishing rods and reels for the children, and teach children how to fish. Volunteer hours are from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch will be provided. For more information, contact **Anita McCray** (X78) at 380-3322

JULY 23

NNS Spear & Gear, the online store featuring a wide variety of company-logoed apparel and products, will host a pop-up sale from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. in Bldg. 903. A number of products offered online will be available for purchase at the pop-up. All items featured in the online store – which is open to the public and accessible at www.nnsSpearAndGear.com – are available for purchase 24/7 and ship for free.

JULY 23

Investing can help make you money, but there are risks. Attend the "Investing 101" class offered by SmartPath to learn how to invest smart. One-hour sessions are offered to all employees at noon in Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room) and 4:30 p.m. in the VASCIC auditorium. Visit nns.huntingtoningalls.com/smartpath-registration to register for your preferred class time. PTO/flex is required during scheduled work hours.

JULY 23

Scott Payne, PMP, former NNS employee turned author of the *PMP Exam Master Prep Manual* and creator of the PMP Master Prep System, will speak on his journey and the importance of project management training and certification from 4:30 until 5:30 p.m. in VASCIC (2 West Dining Center). A practicing PMP and project deployment expert, Payne has more than 15 years of experience successfully designing and deploying lean six sigma project programs within multiple Fortune 500 companies. RSVP on the Project Management Shipbuilders Association (PMSA) website.

JULY 24 AND 30

Attend a personal self-care workshop from 4:15 until 5:45 p.m. in VASCIC on July 24 or 30. Attendees will receive a continuous improvement approach and begin their self-care journeys with hands-on practice, both individually and in groups. All journeys are different and bound to have peaks and valleys. In this workshop, attendees will learn techniques to handle the ups and downs along the way. The workshop is open to all shipbuilders. No charge will be provided. Participants who hold a PMI certification can claim one professional development unit (PDU) for attending the event. For more information or to RSVP, contact **Megan Windle** (T56) at 688-6291 or via email.

JULY 25

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 **Jamar Skyles** (X44) at 534-3826.

JULY 26

Newport News Shipbuilding and the American Red Cross are hosting an in-yard blood drive in Bldg. 4931 (PCU Assembly Room) from 7:30 a.m. until 1:30pm. Shipbuilders who would like to donate should fill out the blood drive donation form and return it to **Judy Fundak** (K18) via email or fax it to 688-7060.

APPRENTICE MOVIE TICKETS

Apprentices can purchase a pack of Regal Cinema movie tickets for \$10. The pack includes two tickets and a \$10 concessions gift card. All Regal Cinemas should accept, but purchasers should check with the theater to ensure they are accepted. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.apprenticestudents.com.



Shipbuilders and their families can win a variety of NNS prizes at the game.

Peninsula Pilots Hosting Shipbuilder Appreciation Night

Newport News Shipbuilding is a sponsor of the Peninsula Pilots baseball team. The team will host a shipbuilder appreciation night Thursday, July 25.

Gates open at 5:30 p.m., and the first pitch is at 7:05 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the gate. However, the Communications Division has a limited number of free tickets. Employees who are interested in free tickets should contact **Laurel Overby** (O29) via email or at 688-9932 as soon as possible.

The game will be held at War Memorial Stadium, located at 1889 W. Pembroke Ave. in Hampton.

SEEKING SHIPBUILDERS

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

Job Title	Req Number	Dept.	Location
Experienced Blaster	26320BR	X33	Newport News
Engineer Software 4	30014BR	E44	Newport News
Engineer Nuclear 4	28491BR	E82	Newport News
iDS Business Integration, Engineer Systems 1	28196BR	X57	Newport News
iDS Information Governance Lead Engineer 3	28182BR	X57	Newport News
iDS Information Governance Lead Engineer 3	28183BR	X57	Newport News
iDS Information Governance Professional Engineer 2	28186BR	X57	Newport News
Lean Sensei – Engineer Industrial 5	28498BR	X51	Newport News
Senior DevOps Engineer	29644BR	T54	Newport News
Engineer Manager 2	25282BR	E03	Newport News
Manager, Subcontracts Admin 2	31022BR	X69	Newport News
Construction Supervisor 2	29782BR	X09	Ballston Spa, NY
Construction Supervisor 2	30935BR	O87	San Diego, CA
Foreman – Boilermaker – KSO	29632BR	X09	Ballston Spa, NY
PGM Cost Control Analyst 3	30296BR	O96	Ballston Spa, NY

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.