

CURRENTS

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A weekly publication of Newport News Shipbuilding



Current apprentices help mentor high school students in the Youth Builders program. Photo by Ashley Cowan

Building a Pipeline for Shipbuilding Careers



Ten high school seniors are getting an inside look at what it is like to be an apprentice at Newport News Shipbuilding, thanks to the Youth Builders pre-apprenticeship program.

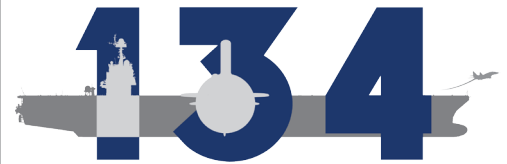
“Industry has to go back and step into the high school space to build a pipeline for shipbuilding careers,” said **Gilbert Adams** (O22), Youth Builders’ program lead. “We are building high school career pathways for Generation Z to enter the shipbuilding and repair industry.”

The partnership between The Apprentice School and New Horizons Regional Educational Centers is intended to reduce time-to-talent for future shipbuilders by exposing them to Integrated Digital Shipbuilding (iDS) technologies and other workplace learning activities. New Horizons serves students in school divisions across the Peninsula.

“We have a team that consists of faculty craft instructors as well as apprentices who are working collaboratively to foster relationships with these high school students to let them know what to expect if they get into the school,” said **Latitia McCane**, director of education at The Apprentice School. “The beauty of it is in the collaboration. They also get an opportunity to interact and do some hands-on activities around our 19 trades.”

CONTINUED ON PG 2

NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING



YEAR ANNIVERSARY

NNS to Celebrate Anniversary on Jan. 28

Newport News Shipbuilding was founded as Chesapeake Dry Dock and Construction Co. on Jan. 28, 1886. To commemorate the company’s 134th anniversary, the shipyard whistle will sound for one minute at 1:34 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 28.

Employees are encouraged to wear NNS attire on Jan. 28 to showcase shipyard pride.

Shuttle Changes Begin at Hidens



Due to *John F. Kennedy’s* (CVN 79) move to the South Yard and the start of construction on an expansion to the Joint Manufacturing and Assembly Facility (JMAF) in the North Yard, several parking and shuttle changes went into effect to better support employee transportation needs.

Since changes went into effect, the Parking and Transportation team has reviewed employee feedback and conducted audits. As a result of information collected, further adjustments to shuttle services are going into effect.

Beginning Monday, Jan. 27, the following shuttle services from the Hidens parking lot will be adjusted:

- Conex Box 1: Direct route to 34th Street
- Conex Box 2: 50th, 46th, 43rd and 34th streets
- Conex Box 3: North Yard and 50th Street

Shuttle services listed above run continuously from 5 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. Monday through Friday, with a larger quantity of vehicles supporting routes during peak shift changes.

CONTINUED ON PG 2

Building a Pipeline for Shipbuilding Careers

CONTINUED FROM PG 1

The 10 students meet on Tuesdays for tutoring, mentoring and other activities, with a particular focus on math enrichment and workplace learning. They also frequent the Brooks Crossing Innovation Lab, a collaborative workforce development center for STEM enrichment activities.

Karmen McKnight, a senior at Heritage High School in Newport News and a Youth Builder participant, is grateful for the experience and hopes to attend The Apprentice School.

“Although New Horizons has given me a push toward my career as a welder, Youth Builders gave me even more of an opportunity and another foot in the door to get into The Apprentice School,” she said. “It has been a lot of fun to sit down with the mentors to see their view, what they’ve done in the yard and how they’ve progressed.”

As-Saboor Hasan (X33), who completed his apprenticeship at NNS last year, serves as a mentor for the Youth Builders program. He said it “would’ve been incredible” to have a program like this in place when he was thinking about attending The Apprentice School.

“Having gone through the apprenticeship and knowing the ins and outs of it, I know the questions I had going into it, so I try to facilitate some of those questions,” Hasan said. “I think my role is to try to get them to feel connected and comfortable so they could potentially see themselves here at The Apprentice School at some point in time.”

The Youth Builders program is working with New Horizons and accepting applications for the program’s next cohort. Adams said there are also plans to start a pilot program on the Southside with Tidewater Community College.



2019 L.E.A.R.N. Recognition Class Honored

Congratulations to members of the 2019 L.E.A.R.N. Recognition Class who received a certificate and acknowledgement at the L.E.A.R.N. year-end event. Shipbuilders can be a part of a future recognition class after attending their first five L.E.A.R.N. events. Will you be part of the 2020 L.E.A.R.N. Recognition class? Visit the L.E.A.R.N. website on MyNNS for more information.

Shipbuilders in the 2019 Recognition Class include **Michael Altrogge (E84)**, **Troy Brinkley (X51)**, **Greg Burt (E44)**, **Jessica Burton (O51)**, **LaTonia Clay (X44)**, **Natasha L. Coston (K45)**, **Audrey Davis (X51)**, **Felicia N. Dean (O26)**, **Ken Hoffman (E70)**, **Cecilia Addison (E82)**, **David Horne (O61)**, **Ben Hudson (E83)**, **Cosmo Islam (X47)**, **Crescent Islam (E33)**, **Robert E. Johnson (X11)**, **Greg Marples (T56)**, **Joseph D. Martin (T54)**, **Vinod Mathur (E17)**, **James A. McDonald (E60)**, **Tim Moore (O51)**, **Alejandro Nava Moncada (O04)**, **Nelson Newman (E33)**, **Darlene Peele (O19)**, **Scott Stallings (T56)**, **Jeffrey Werner (O51)**, **John E. Witherspoon (O53)**, **Todd Wobig (X47)** and **Will Ziglar (X48)**.

Shuttle Changes Begin at Hidens

CONTINUED FROM PG 1

Employees are encouraged to visit the Parking & Transportation website for additional information. Feedback and questions should be sent to ParkingSolutions@hii-nns.com.

AASA Hosting Black History Month Program Feb. 20

The African American Shipbuilders Association (AASA) will host its annual Black History Month Celebration from 4 until 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, in Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room). All shipbuilders are invited to attend.

The theme for this year’s event is “Obstacles: The Birth of Opportunities and Dreams.” Janice Underwood, the first appointed director of Inclusion, Equity and Diversity for the commonwealth of Virginia will be the guest speaker.

AASA is seeking to showcase talent from Newport News shipbuilders and family members centered around photography, sculpturing, artwork, music, literature and calligraphy. Shipbuilders who would like to showcase their talents or help with planning should contact **Robin Lee (O53)** at 688-6059 or via email, or **Kecia Ballen (X01)** at 688-3532 or via email for more details. See page 4 for details about dance rehearsals for the program.

AASA Will Highlight African American History in February

Each week in February, the African American Shipbuilders Association (AASA) will display boards that depict and highlight pivotal points and events in African American history at various buildings across Newport News Shipbuilding. Boards will be on display in the lobbies of Bldgs. 86, 500, 520, 600, 901, 902 and 903. Shipbuilders who don’t have an opportunity to see the posters in person can see them on AASA’s website on MyNNS.



Huntington Ingalls Industries President and CEO **Mike Petters** speaks during a L.E.A.R.N. and SHIPs Network event in December. Photo by **Lena Wallace**

Petters Speaks at L.E.A.R.N. Event

L.E.A.R.N. partnered with SHIPs Network for its end-of-the-year event on Dec. 2 with guest speaker **Mike Petters**, president and CEO of Huntington Ingalls Industries.

Approximately 100 shipbuilders attended, asked questions and networked. Petters spoke about early childhood development and Newport News Shipbuilding being a company where you would be proud to have your children work.

“I love how personable Mike Petters was in answering my question about the direction and support of the Junior Achievement program at HII. Quality early childhood education makes up 25% of workforce development, and determines who actually produces and makes things happen. I felt a great sense of inclusiveness in this L.E.A.R.N. event,” said **Ka’ran Beche’t Benjamin** (E70).

For more information about L.E.A.R.N., SHIPs Network and the other employee resource groups (ERGs) at NNS, visit the ERG website on MyNNS. If you have topics for future L.E.A.R.N. events, email LEARN@hii-nns.com.

Shipbuilder Wins MVP Award

Foreman **Montrell Barbine** awarded the 2019 MVP award for his crew to **Jazmyne Tucker** (X11) on the last day of work before shutdown.

When he was promoted to supervisor, Barbine started this tradition, asking his team to write down who they thought deserved to be the MVP of the year. “It’s an opportunity for the team to recognize each other for their hard work throughout the year and encourage inclusion and comradery,” Barbine said.

The team looks forward each year to see who will win and how their thinking aligns with who they think deserves it.



Doris Miller’s relatives unveiled a plaque commemorating CVN 81, the aircraft carrier that will bear his name. U.S. Navy photo

CVN 81 Naming Ceremony

Last week, acting Secretary of the Navy Thomas B. Modly announced CVN 81, the fourth *Ford*-class aircraft carrier, will be named in honor of World War II veteran Doris Miller. To learn more about Miller’s heroic actions, watch a video on MyNNS.



**Newport News
Shipbuilding
Gives**

United Way Campaign to Kick Off Feb. 3

Newport News Shipbuilding’s 2020 United Way “Neighbors Helping Neighbors” campaign will run from Feb. 3-21.

Giving online through the Newport News Shipbuilding Gives application makes giving easier and provides greater transparency and access to donors’ contributions than ever before. One hundred percent of United Way donations support the community. To schedule a nonprofit speaker for meetings and events in support of the United Way campaign, email UnitedWay@hii-nns.com.

Want to Improve Public Speaking Skills?

The Spear and Gear Toastmasters Club invites shipbuilders who want to develop their communication skills to attend the 2020 Division D SpeechCraft Program. SpeechCraft teaches non-Toastmasters members the fundamentals and basics of public speaking.

The presenters at each session will give participants the opportunity to learn and practice techniques to become more confident speakers. This event is offered during four Saturday sessions, starting Feb. 8 and ending on March 21. Sessions will be held from 2:30 until 4:30 p.m. at the Yorktown Library, located at 8500 George Washington Highway in Yorktown. There is a nominal fee of \$25. For more information, contact **Jamar Skyles** (X44) at 534-3826 or via email or **Sheila Carter** (X72) at 534-0207 or via email.

DATEBOOK

JANUARY 31

Jan. 31 is the deadline to apply for the 2020 Craftsman Summer Internship. The program is for college students enrolled in an associate degree or similar program related to shipbuilding. To qualify, students must be at least 18 years old, U.S. citizens, have a 3.0 cumulative GPA, have completed one year of their associate program and be available to work on either first or second shift for a minimum of 10 weeks this summer. For more information, search the "Students & New Graduates" portal of the Huntington Ingalls Industries Careers website (buildyourcareer.com) for job requisition No. 33710BR.

FEBRUARY 5

Learn how to manage and prevent back pain through the HII Family Health Center's We've Got Your Back program. Led by physical therapists and wellness staff at the health center, this free program addresses risk factors, pain management and more. Sessions start Wednesday, Feb. 5. Sign up at www.myquadmedical.com/hii. Employees who attend all three sessions will receive a voucher for a free physical therapy appointment.

FEBRUARY 7

The Brooks Crossing Innovation Lab is hosting an open house in conjunction with the city of Newport News' ARTech Lights celebration from 3 until 9 p.m. This will be a free, family friendly event. The rain date is Feb. 8.

FEBRUARY 8

Attend a lecture and book signing with William Fox, author of *The Apprentice School: Celebrating a Legacy*, from 2:30 until 3 p.m. at The Mariners' Museum and Park. The event is included with \$1 museum admission and free to Mariners' Museum members. For more information, visit marinersmuseum.org/lectures or contact Julie Murphy at (757) 952-0466 or jmurphy@marinersmuseum.org.

FEBRUARY 11

How could a potential recession impact your portfolio and what should you do about it? Attend a free webinar at noon to hear from SmartPath's CEO on tips to survive a recession. Visit www.hiibenefits.com for details and to register.

FEBRUARY 13

Shipbuilders looking for a way to sharpen speaking, listening and leadership skills can attend the "Spear and Gear" Toastmasters Club meeting from 4:45 until 5:45 p.m. in Room 247 at The Apprentice School (Bldg. 1919). For more information, contact **Jay Romulo** (O31) at 380-3768 or **Jamar Skyles** (X44) at 534-3826.

FEBRUARY 22

The graduation ceremony for The Apprentice School's Class of 2019 will be held at 11 a.m. at Liberty Baptist Church, located at 1021 Big Bethel Road in Hampton. Tickets are not required to attend the ceremony.

FEBRUARY 23

The Peninsula Engineers Council (PEC) will host the annual Peninsula Engineer of the Year Banquet at the Hampton Roads Convention Center from 2 until 8 p.m. Join fellow engineers and friends at a dinner, during National Engineer's Week, to honor this year's recipient. Tickets will be available through your engineering society or www.va-pec.org. The PEC is an inter-society council comprised of representatives from 18 engineering organizations.

FEBRUARY 27

Shipbuilders looking for a way to sharpen speaking, listening and leadership skills can attend the "Spear and Gear" Toastmasters Club meeting from 4:45 until 5:45 p.m. in Room 247 at The Apprentice School (Bldg. 1919). For more information, contact **Jay Romulo** (O31) at 380-3768 or **Jamar Skyles** (X44) at 534-3826.

MARCH 3

L.E.A.R.N. is hosting an after-work presentation with **Susan Jacobs**, vice president of Human Resources and Administration, from 4:30 until 6 p.m. in the VASCIC auditorium. 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, **Chris Porro** (E70) at 534-0332, or email LEARN@hii-nns.com.

MARCH 19

The Virginia Ship Repair Foundation is looking for technical advisers to assist local middle schools during its 14th annual LEGO Competition. Volunteers will help students design, build and present their shipbuilding innovations in LEGO CAD at the competition, held from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. March 19 at Nauticus. To volunteer, visit the Newport News Shipbuilding Gives website. For more information, contact **Sallena Nikitas** at (757) 233-7034 or at SNikitas@VirginiaShipRepair.org.

AASA Looking for Dancers

The African American Shipbuilders Association (AASA) is issuing a call for volunteers who would like to dance during the employee resource group's annual Black History Month celebration on Feb. 20.

AASA is looking for volunteers who enjoy all types of dance to explore the various genres that express African American dance culture.

Rehearsals will be held from 4 until 5 p.m. on Feb. 3, 6, 13 and 17 in Bldg. 520-6. Rehearsals on Feb. 3, 6 and 17 will be held in the James River Room. The Feb. 13 rehearsal will be in the Huntington Room. For more information, contact **Danyelle Saunders** (K49) at 688-7762 or via email.

SEEKING SHIPBUILDERS

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

Job Title	Req Number	Dept.	Location
Craftsman Summer Internship	33710BR	TBD	Newport News
Designer Co-op	34018BR	TBD	Newport News
Engineer Shift Test 4	33804BR	E91	Ballston Spa, NY
iDS Computational Business Analytics Engineer 3	32750BR	X57	Newport News
iDS IT Software Engineer 3 – Siemens TeamCenter NX	25373BR	T53	Newport News
iDS Operations Research Engineer 3	32747BR	X57	Newport News
Industrial Hygienist 4	33695BR	O96	Ballston Spa, NY
IT Vendor Management Analyst 2	30929BR	T56	Newport News
Machinist Technical Instructor	32310BR	O26	Newport News
RCT Instructor	34025BR	E91	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.



FORWARD
ENABLE OUR
WORKFORCE

As part of the NNSFORWARD Strategy to Enable Our Workforce, Newport News Shipbuilding is committed to making various quality of life improvements for its employees. Below is an update on current initiatives and a preview of what is to take place over the next quarter.

Initiative

Today

Next Quarter

Parking

Initiatives focused on improving and increasing employee parking and company-offered transportation services.



- Established a new group rider area at 4700 Washington Avenue.
- Signed lease for a satellite parking lot at the Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport.
- Modified shuttle routes servicing Hidens to accommodate additional shipbuilders.
- Purchased charter buses to service offsite parking lots and provide shuttle options to employees.
- Replaced shuttle vans with newer vehicles.

- Add more satellite parking options for employees.
- Increase shuttle ridership from the Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport to 34th Street. For more information, email ParkingSolutions@hii-nns.com.
- Establish, implement and audit Zone 5 parking in the West Avenue Parking Garage.
- Develop a strategy for parking inside shipyard gates.

Facility Enhancements

Initiatives focused on reclaimed spaces, renovations and facility enhancements.



- Held a soft opening for the Tradewinds Café in Bldg. 64. A grand opening event was held during second shift on Jan. 14.
- The shipyard's first wellness pod is available for employee use inside Applebee's (Bldg. 227).
- Installed over 300 industrial vending machines across the shipyard.

- Begin a pilot and activate industrial vending machines across the shipyard.
- Open new "Reclaimed for You" spaces located in Bldg. 250 and Bldg. 1745.
- Continue with plan to renovate restrooms throughout the shipyard.

Employee Wellbeing

Initiatives focused on safety, health, work-life balance and financial wellbeing.



- NNS was a sponsor of the Hampton Roads Heart Walk.
- Efforts to open a new micro market in Bldg. 160-2 were postponed. A new opening date will be announced in the first quarter of 2020.
- Held a farmer's market event at the HII Family Health Center for employees in November.

- Launch new vegan and gluten-free catering menus at canteens across the shipyard.

Other Shipyard-Wide Initiatives

Initiatives associated with NNSFORWARD Strategy.



- Employees donated more than 70,000 meals to the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank during the NNS Food Drive.
- Held two NNS Days in which employees were encouraged to wear red, white and blue to work to showcase shipbuilder pride. The next NNS Days are scheduled for Feb. 21 and March 20.
- Successfully transitioned to an all-digital Gallup survey and achieved an 86% participation rate at NNS.

- Kick off this year's United Way campaign (Feb. 3–21).
- Teams across the shipyard should be working on Gallup action plans and should know the "one thing" their team has decided to work on in 2020.
- The "Live Like Legends" Safety and Engagement Expo will be held on all shifts at Bldg. 4900 on Jan. 28 and 29.
- A Food Truck Roundup is scheduled to take place March 4 (first shift) at the Supplemental Modular Outfitting Facility (SMOF). Information about the event will be published in *Currents*.