

# CURRENTS

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Shipbuilders play a "Jeopardy"-themed safety game at the expo. Photo by Matt Hildreth



## United Way Campaign Kicks Off



Newport News Shipbuilding's 2020 United Way "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" campaign runs through Feb. 21.

"We should show kindness through giving. Kindness creates change and community," NNS President **Jennifer Boykin** said in a message to shipbuilders during a kickoff breakfast for the campaign. She is challenging employees to increase participation by 10% this year.

Dozens of local organizations that impact the health, education and financial stability of residents across the area benefit from United Way contributions. Giving online through the NNS Gives application makes giving easier and provides greater...

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## Expo Brings Hollywood to NNS



The "Live Like Legends" Safety and Engagement Expo turned to Hollywood for inspiration with booths decorated in movie-themed displays on Jan. 28 and 29.

Safety Task Team members and engagement champions from across Newport News Shipbuilding manned booths during the event, which combined elements from the EH&S and Enable Our Workforce expos that had been held in the past.

"When it's interactive, it's more fun and folks are more likely to listen," said **Rosa Steward** (X33), who manned a "Happy Gilmore"-themed booth. Shipbuilders could test their hand and eye coordination by putting a golf ball on the green and into the cup. After answering a question about safety, they received a prize.

"We are here educating employees on the potential hazards involved in ventilation in surface prep and treatment. Understanding the chemical hazards involved is extremely important in our jobs," she said. "This format makes it more engaging."

Several booths down, **Courtland Myles** (O53) stood waiting on the red carpet eager to share his message of safety with shipbuilders. "You have to live safety. Live it every day. Not just by your words but your actions," he said. "Something as small as stretching when you wake up each day for 10 minutes can make a huge difference on how you feel at the end of your shift."

Another interactive display was SuitX, a support exoskeleton designed to increase strength and productivity, while reducing the risk of injury. The O43 task team has worked on expanding awareness of what the device can offer to shipbuilders.

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## NNS Day at the General Assembly

A group of Newport News Shipbuilding employees traveled to Richmond Tuesday, Jan. 28, to meet state legislators and tell them about the good things happening at the shipyard. The ultimate goal is to encourage support for policies that positively impact the company.

This is the second year shipbuilders have gone to the capital city during the General Assembly session for NNS Day. Shipbuilders talked with state senators and delegates who represent Hampton Roads and surrounding areas.

"It's important that legislators hear from their constituents about issues that impact the company. They need to know that people in their districts care," said **Tom Cosgrove**, NNS' manager of Corporate Citizenship and Government Relations. "Bringing employees to Richmond gives us a great opportunity to have conversations not just about NNS' legislative interests but also about the great things we do for our employees and our communities."

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Shipbuilders **Brett Cash** and **Stephanie Simmons** talk with Delegate **Marcia Price**, right, whose district includes Newport News Shipbuilding. Photo by **Ashley Cowan**

## NNS Day at the General Assembly

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Shipbuilders also had a chance to hear from the Virginia Manufacturers' Association, the Virginia Chamber of Commerce and two members of Gov. Ralph Northam's cabinet – Secretary of Commerce and Trade **Brian Ball** and Chief Workforce Development Advisor **Megan Healy**.

**Tanya M. Howard**, senior manager, Workforce Development at NNS, said she was excited for the opportunity to connect with elected leaders. "Workforce development was top of mind with elected officials as we visited the state Capitol today," she said. "It's of critical business importance not only to Newport News Shipbuilding, but to the commonwealth of Virginia."

This year's NNS Day fell on the company's 134th anniversary. Local legislators recognized NNS from the floors of both the state Senate and the House of Delegates. NNS' Mobile Experience (MX) trailer was also onsite at the Capitol for legislators, staff and visitors to learn about the company's digital transformation.

Cosgrove said he hopes to continue bringing shipbuilders to the General Assembly in the coming years. In addition to educating and influencing lawmakers, it also helps participating employees understand the role of government in NNS' day-to-day business.

"We're a government contractor. We depend on our federal government partners for contracts. We depend on our state and local government partners for workforce development, capital support, business climate and regulatory matters. It's important for our employees to understand those connections and how we work with our government leaders to advance our business."

## Expo Brings Hollywood to NNS

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Task team members **Lorenzo James** (O43) and **Vivian Lopez** (O43) agreed that the device is not only easy to use, but beneficial to one's health in the long run.

"Whether someone is doing overhead work or squatting in a position for long periods

of time, these devices can help take the pressure off of joints like knees, hips and elbows," Lopez said.

Along with SuitX, there are specific devices for certain body areas like shoulders and legs that undergo a lot of strain and pressure in many jobs.

## United Way Campaign Kicks Off

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...transparency and access to donors' contributions than ever before.

Shipbuilders often come up with creative ways to fundraise for United Way during the campaign. When **Sara Weiss** (X70) came up with the idea to introduce "PALentines" in her department last year around Valentine's Day to support United Way, she had no idea it would be so successful.

"I wanted to create a fun way to send Valentines throughout the yard along with a treat. It just seemed very practical and a great way to donate toward United Way," Weiss said. A PALentine is a message of kindness sent to anyone in the shipyard along with a treat with their \$5 donation. One hundred percent of the donations go to the United Way. Though Weiss has not set a monetary goal this year, she is confident the idea will catch on again and be successful.

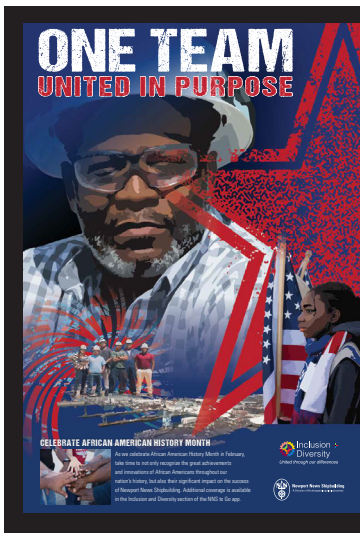
PALentines will be distributed throughout the yard Feb. 3-14. For more information on how to send a PALentine to a fellow shipbuilder, contact your United Way department coordinator or **Katie Schubert** (K18) at 380-2416 or via email.



## NNS Celebrates 134 Years

To celebrate Newport News Shipbuilding's 134th anniversary, the shipyard whistle sounded for one minute at 1:34 p.m. on Jan. 28. **Timothy Taylor** (E01), a distant relative of NNS founder Collis P. Huntington, sounded the whistle.





## Celebrating African American History Month

As we celebrate African American History Month in February, take time to not only recognize the great achievements and innovations of African Americans throughout our nation’s history, but also their significant impact on the success of Newport News Shipbuilding. Look for posters across NNS during the month. Additional coverage is available in the Inclusion and Diversity section of the NNS to Go app. See the Datebook for details about the African American Shipbuilders Association’s annual celebration, which is planned for Feb. 20.



Pictured from left are Propeller Club Treasurer Kelly Brown (K15); Propeller Club 2nd Vice President Willy Adams (O19); Rich Corey, who represented Hope and Happiness; and Propeller Club Chairman Rhonda King (O43).

## Brooks Crossing Hosting Open House

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. Friday, Feb. 7. At the heart of the free, family friendly event is a giant, animated, lighted double helix art installation and hands-on “Techtivities,” food and beverage vendors, a bonfire, a “silent disco,” fire performers, a DJ, and a skating rink. The rain date is Feb. 8.



Pictured from left are Rich Corey, who represented Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS); Propeller Club 2nd Vice President Willy Adams (O19); Propeller Club member Floyd Byrd (X51); and Propeller Club President David Batdorf (X01).



## Apprentice School Foundation’s Brick Campaign Continues

The Apprentice School Foundation’s “The Legacy Continues” brick campaign started in 2019 as part of the school’s centennial celebration. The first bricks were installed on the plaza in front of the school in December. There is space for several thousand bricks on the plaza, so the program can continue for years to come.

Bricks are available in two sizes and can be inscribed with personal messages. Replica bricks also can be purchased and are created with the same material and message as the bricks installed in the plaza. Visit [www.tasfd.org](http://www.tasfd.org) to learn more about the foundation’s mission, make a donation or place a brick order.

## REMINDER: Use “W” Job Orders for Indirect Charging

As a reminder, employees should use “W” job orders to charge to any indirect process and/or department overhead charge, with the exception of the following:

- Training labor costs (Business Conduct Training, Information Security Training, etc.)
- Legal proceedings
- Patents
- Unallowable activities (HIIPAC, lobbying, etc.)
- Other items per management direction (storm preparation, bloodmobile, etc.)

A library of “W” job orders is available to help employees understand which “W” job order should be used.

Employees should contact their division’s Business Management analyst for specific questions. A list of all division analysts is available on the Business Management (O97) website.

## Propeller Club Makes Charitable Donations

The Newport News Propeller Club made donations to Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) and Hope and Happiness on Jan. 22.

Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) is a U.S. Submarine Veterans Inc. community outreach program that brings comfort and joy to children battling challenging medical conditions, support for their parents and good feelings to the submarine veterans who visit the care facilities where the children are being treated. The contribution will provide hats, stuffed animals, crayons, coloring books and certificates naming children honorary submariners.

Hope and Happiness is a Suffolk-based group that provides recreational and social opportunities for the special needs population in Hampton Roads.

## DATEBOOK

### 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](http://www.myquadmedical.com/hii). Employees who attend all three sessions will receive a voucher for a free physical therapy appointment.

### 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](http://marinersmuseum.org/lectures) or contact Julie Murphy at (757) 952-0466 or [jmurphy@marinersmuseum.org](mailto:jmurphy@marinersmuseum.org).

### FEBRUARY 8 AND 22 MARCH 7 AND 21

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 of public speaking. This event is offered during four Saturday sessions, 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.

### 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](http://www.hiibenefits.com) for details and to register.

### FEBRUARY 13 AND 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.

### FEBRUARY 20

The African American Shipbuilders Association will host its annual Black History Month program from 4:30 until 6 p.m. in Bldg. 520-6. The guest speaker is Janice Underwood, director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for the commonwealth of Virginia. AASA is seeking to showcase talent from NNS employees 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.

### 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](http://www.va-pec.org). The PEC is an inter-society council comprised of representatives from 18 engineering organizations.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:SNikitas@VirginiaShipRepair.org).

### Kennedy Christening Posters Available

Posters commemorating the Dec. 7, 2019, *John F. Kennedy* (CVN 79) christening are now available in the Bldg. 520 lobby. Use the official *John F. Kennedy* christening app, available in the Apple App and Google Play stores, to enjoy exclusive augmented reality experiences in combination with the poster and the program.

As a reminder, it is against company policy to use the camera feature on personal devices at Newport News Shipbuilding. The *Kennedy* christening app requires access to a device's camera. Therefore, it should not be used on company property.

### Wellness Programs Available

#### Weight Watchers

Newport News Shipbuilding employees can still sign up for Weight Watchers. The program can help you lose weight and build healthy habits with a program that fits your life. Workshops are held Fridays from noon until 12:30 p.m. in Bldg. 903 (Conference Room 614 A/B). If interested in signing up, arrive at 11:45 a.m. For more information, email [HIIWellness@quadmedical.com](mailto:HIIWellness@quadmedical.com).

#### Tobacco Cessation

Thinking about quitting tobacco? Participate in the eight-week Freshstart program to stop smoking and save money on your medical premium. Call 327-4200 or email [HIIWellness@quadmedical.com](mailto:HIIWellness@quadmedical.com) to sign up.

Sessions will be held at 11 a.m. on Mondays in the Pier 3 Conference Room from Feb. 10 until March 30 and at 4 p.m. on Thursdays in the HII Family Health Center Conference Room from Feb. 6 until March 26.

### SEEKING SHIPBUILDERS

Visit [www.buildyourcareer.com](http://www.buildyourcareer.com) to search for the latest NNS job openings.

Job Title	Req Number	Dept.	Location
Business Management Co-op	34246BR	TBD	Newport News
Designer Co-op	34018BR	TBD	Newport News
Engineer Systems 1	28907BR	E47	Newport News
Engineer Systems Test 4 – TPS Lead Quality Engineer	33702BR	E25	Newport News
Experienced Marine Painter	33998BR	X33	Newport News
General Foreman – K46/X32	33668BR	K46	Newport News
International Trade Compliance Analyst 3	33213BR	O17	Newport News
IT Project Manager 3	33990BR	T56	Newport News
Manager Engineering 2	34317BR	E56	Newport News
Scrum Master 2	33563BR	T56	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](http://www.huntingtoningalls.com/careers/refer-a-friend) for more information.