

CURRENTS

2 | 10 | 2020

A weekly publication of Newport News Shipbuilding



Photo by Ashley Cowan

NNS Launches Industrial Vending Machines



Newport News Shipbuilding employees can now dispense personal protective equipment (PPE) via industrial vending machines.

NNS transitioned the distribution of the most commonly used PPE from tool rooms to industrial vending machines to eliminate travel and tool room wait time. PPE is used to prevent serious injuries or illnesses for employees and contractors.

There are more than 300 industrial vending machines across the shipyard, including some onboard *John F. Kennedy* (CVN 79). Items available in the machines include: safety glasses, ear muffs, eyeglass covers, coveralls, gloves, knee pads and welding jackets. Shipbuilders simply scan their NNS badge to receive items and they are not charged.

“I think it’s a good idea,” said **Eugene Moore**, a general foreman in the Joint Manufacturing Assembly Facility (JMAF). “You don’t have to wait in line at a tool room. The vending machines let you get right back to work. Most of the items my team uses daily are in these machines. It’s a step in the right direction.”

The machines are refilled daily between second and third shifts. NNS will continue to install machines in more locations and add vending options.

For more information, visit Vending Machine Implementation website on MyNNS, email Vending.Machines.NNS@hii-nns.com or call 688-5841.



Nominations Underway

The Model of Excellence (MOE) award is presented to any individual or team demonstrating extraordinary performance that aligns with Newport News Shipbuilding’s core values, operational strategy and direction, and business objectives that align with the NNSFORWARD Strategy.

Any NNS employee may nominate a person or project for an MOE award. Nominations for this year’s MOE program may be submitted to division representatives using form NN 9134, available in Forms Viewer or on the MOE website on MyNNS.

For more information about the program, visit the MOE website or contact **Heather Land** (O29) at 688-8496.



**Newport News
Shipbuilding
Gives**

United Way Campaign Continues

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

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 (nns.YourCause.com) makes giving easier than ever before and provides greater transparency and access to donors' contributions.

For more information about the campaign, contact your United Way department coordinator or **Katie Schubert** (K18) at 380-2416 or via email.

A HERO for Your Relationship

HERO: HII Employees Reach Out offers free, confidential marital and relationship counseling for all employees and their families. HERO offers referrals, insight and more on topics such as:

- Open communication
- Marriage and taxes
- Successfully blending families
- Adjusting to marriage as newlyweds
- Parenting

Just like life, relationships have ups and downs. Call HERO at 1-855-400-9185 or visit www.hiihero.com, code "Huntington Ingalls," to get valuable, confidential advice.

All support provided by HERO is 100% confidential and never shared with anyone.



Administrative assistants participated in 10-minute mentoring sessions and rotated to executive assistants from NNS and HII.

Administrative Assistants Participate in Speed Mentoring Event



Executive assistants and administrative assistants from Newport News Shipbuilding and Huntington Ingalls Industries' corporate office participated in the first speed mentoring event sponsored by the NNS Mentoring Program.

During the event, the administrative assistants participated in 10-minute mentoring sessions and rotated to executive assistants from NNS and HII.

"It was a wonderful experience, and I am glad that I accepted the invitation. It gave me clarity in areas where I was on the fence, it confirmed for me work ethics and philosophies that I share with my peers and it served as a great boost to my self-esteem and thoughts about career paths within the organization," said **Michele Isaacson** (K18). The NNS Mentoring Program plans to host another speed mentoring event in the fall.

Addressing Time Certifications

Certifications are generated when someone other than the employee – a foreman or supervisor, for example – makes a modification to an employee's time record. When this occurs, the employee needs to certify whether or not the modifications are accurate. Employees should review and either agree or disagree with each certification within five days.

Salaried employees should address their certifications within five days or MyTime will prevent any further time entry until the expired certifications are addressed. If MyTime has prevented the employee from entering any further time, the employee's supervisor can enter the employee's time. However, this will generate additional certifications.

Employees should discuss any concerns regarding time record changes with their foreman/supervisor before addressing the certification. For questions related to the certification process, contact your foreman/supervisor or Labor Compliance (O73) at 534-4147.

Enrollment Open for Engineering Systems and Industrial Engineering Certification Program

Enrollment is open for the Engineering Systems and Industrial Engineering Certification Program, developed jointly between Newport News Shipbuilding and Old Dominion University (ODU). The program's next cohort will begin in September.

The program emphasizes effective application of training to the practical problems routinely faced by shipbuilders. Shipbuilders are invited to attend an informational session from 4:15 until 5:15 p.m. on March 9 in the Alumni Room on the first floor in The Apprentice School. During this session, an ODU representative will also discuss opportunities associated with earning a master's degree.

Each class is seven weeks long and meets at NNS from 4:30 until 7 p.m. one day per week. Students will receive a certification for each class completed. Each class carries 2.1 continuing education units (CEUs) and 21 contact hours.

Upon completion of the program's six classes, students will receive

an Advanced Certification in Engineering Systems and Industrial Engineering from the Engineering Management and Systems Engineering (EMSE) Department at ODU. Students will also have the opportunity to pursue admission into an EMSE graduate program at ODU with nine elective credit hours toward a graduate degree in EMSE. For more information, contact **Rob Gies** (E02) at 688-6446 or via email.

Shipbuilders can take advantage of the NNS Education Assistance Program to cover the cost associated with the certification program by completing the Educational Assistance Program Request form (NN 9736). Contact **Mindi Trantham** (O44) at 688-8236 or via email for more information about the Education Assistance Program.

Note: Completing the certification program does not automatically qualify a candidate for a systems engineering position at NNS. Applicants must still meet the requirements listed for that position.

Supply Chain Management Recognizes Small Business Champions



Newport News Shipbuilding Supply Chain Management recognized six team members as NNS Small Business Champions for the first quarter of 2020 – **Shannon Morris** (Small Business Champion), **Nicholas Duvall** (Small Disadvantaged Business Champion), **Tess Newkirk** (Women-Owned Small Business Champion), **Lamiaa Batten** (HUBZone Small Business Champion), **Lindsay Balson** (Veteran-Owned Small Business Champion) and **Connor Clark** (Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Champion).

Small Business Champions were evaluated and selected based on their compliance with small business requirements in NNS' federal government contracts.

As a government contractor, NNS is required to solicit and award subcontracts to small businesses. Each year, the government establishes subcontracting goals, and the company is required to report its performance against those goals. Small Business



Pictured on the top row from left are **Nicholas Duvall**, **Lindsay Balson** and **Connor Clark**. Pictured on the bottom row from left are **Shannon Morris**, **Lamiaa Batten** and **Tess Newkirk**.

Champions embody NNS' initiatives and commitments to engage and subcontract with responsible suppliers in support of its customers' small business goals.

During the first quarter of 2020, Small Business Champions subcontracted almost \$9 million to small businesses. First quarter 2020 began on Oct. 1, 2019, with the start of the government fiscal year. The government has not published subcontracting goals for fiscal year 2020. To view subcontracting goals for prior years, visit business.defense.gov/about/goals-and-performance.

In-Yard Blood Drives Planned in March

Newport News Shipbuilding and the American Red Cross are hosting in-yard blood drives from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. March 4 in Bldg. 1744 and from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on March 12 in Bldg. 4931 (PCU Assembly Room).

Shipbuilders who would like to donate should fill out the Blood Drive Donation Form and return it to corporatetcitizenship@hii-nns.com by email or fax it to 688-7060.

DATEBOOK

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 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 (AASA) will host its annual Black History Month program at 4:30 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 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 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

Attend a women's learning event from 4 until 6 p.m. in the PCU Assembly Room (Bldg. 4931) to hear thought-provoking leaders share their experiences about leadership and the power of choice. Learn, share, network and practice leadership skills with others. This event is open to all NNS shipbuilders. RSVP on MyNNS or contact **Kathy Hansen** (E35) at 534-3893.

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.

MARCH 19

Women in Shipbuilding Enterprise (WiSE) is hosting a Women's History Month roundtable from 4 until 6 p.m. in Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room). Female leaders from Newport News Shipbuilding will lead discussions. Attendees will participate in intimate, up close and personal conversations. Seating is limited. RSVP on MyNNS or contact **Kathy Hansen** (E35) at 534-3893.

SEEKING SHIPBUILDERS

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

Job Title	Req Number	Dept.	Location
Business Planning Analyst 3	33653BR	X48	Newport News
Business Planning Analyst 4	33652BR	X48	Newport News
Database Administrator 3	32761BR	X51	Newport News
Engineer Project 5	34155BR	E83	Newport News
Engineer Structural 3	31826BR	E70	Newport News
Facility Security Officer (FSO)	34008BR	E05	Washington, D.C.
Machinist Instructor/Product Trainer 1	33081BR	O26	Newport News
Machinist Technical Instructor	32310BR	O26	Newport News
Manager, Test Inspection 2	34308BR	O68	Newport News
Product Trainer 1 (Pipefitter Instructor)	31298BR	O26	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.