

CURRENTS

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A weekly publication of Newport News Shipbuilding



Josh Smith is among the college students currently participating in a co-op at NNS. Photo by Matt Hildreth

Co-ops Fill Need for Student Talent at NNS

In an effort to employ as many students as possible after the cancellation of 2020's summer internship program, Newport News Shipbuilding Talent Acquisition worked with several divisions to offer co-op opportunities to local college students. The summer co-op assignments will continue in the fall.

"The summer internship and co-op programs have been great sources of pipeline candidates for entry-level positions in Business Management and Contracts and Pricing," said **Mary Ellen Nealy**, director of Contracts and Pricing. "We were disappointed when the 2020 summer internships were canceled, but delighted when Talent Acquisition presented us with an opportunity to convert some of the local students to co-op employees. We leveraged the opportunity by establishing our fall co-op early and added five 'would be' summer interns to the cohort."

There are 26 active student co-ops at NNS working in the Business Management and Contracts and Pricing, Business Transformation and Technology, Engineering and Design, Information Technology, Nuclear Propulsion and Quality Engineering divisions.

"It's been a win-win summer for the students and our departments. The ability to work full-time over the summer has these students fully prepared to continue working part time when they return to school in the fall. They are making great contributions while gaining valuable experience in the workplace," Nealy said.

Applications are currently being accepted for fall co-op opportunities. Students enrolled in business, engineering, IT and supply chain programs are encouraged to review qualifications and apply at buildyourcareer.com. Search for requisition Nos. 227, 231 and 263. To learn more, visit huntingtoningalls.com/hii-careers/co-op-internship-opportunities. For additional questions, contact **Shauntel Bridges** (K21) at 688-0224 or **Rosetta Rolan** (K21) at 688-1962.

NNS to Offer Unpaid COVID Leave of Absence

Newport News Shipbuilding will offer an Unpaid COVID Leave of Absence for parents through Sept. 30. **Susan Jacobs**, vice president of Human Resources and Administration, announced the option in an Aug. 6 letter to shipbuilders.

"Since March, we have closely monitored local school systems and their reopening plans. We know that many of our shipbuilders have young children and are faced with the difficult challenge of how to balance their responsibilities as a parent with their career responsibilities," she wrote.

The Unpaid COVID Leave of Absence is available to shipbuilders with children under 15 and/or with special needs. Dependents must be verified. Employees can apply from Aug. 17 until Aug. 27. All leave requests will start on or before Sept. 1 and end Sept. 30. Employees will be required to return to work on Oct. 1.

Visit nns.huntingtoningalls.com/411 to read Jacobs' full letter and see a list of frequently asked questions.



Virtual Christening Set for Sept. 12; National Anthem Singer Needed

Newport News Shipbuilding will virtually christen *Montana* (SSN 794) on Saturday, Sept. 12. The Communications Division is looking for a shipbuilder to sing the national anthem during the ceremony – preferably an employee working in the *Virginia-Class* Submarine Program or from the state of Montana.

Interested shipbuilders should email shipbuildingevents@hii-nns.com or call 688-9932 as soon as possible. All employees will be required to audition and should be prepared to sing a cappella.



Members of the *John F. Kennedy* (CVN 79) Advanced Weapons Elevator Team pose for a photo. Photo by Matt Hildreth

Action Planning in Practice

Shipbuilders should know the one thing their team is working on to improve daily business operations and progress toward that goal. Whether you are scratching your head in uncertainty, or know exactly how you and your team are doing, the story of **Cliff Edwards'** team may provide inspiration.

In his four decades at Newport News Shipbuilding, Edwards has learned a lot about what it takes to build ships. One of the most important components is an engaged workforce that values inclusion and diversity.

“Without inclusion and diversity, you can’t create a fully engaged environment,” said Edwards, *John F. Kennedy* (CVN 79) Advanced Weapons Elevator superintendent.

When it came time to build his team, Edwards looked for a variety of skill sets, experience levels and backgrounds. “I get excited when I think about the team. We all learn from each other. We’re all dependent upon each other, and that is what brings us closer together. We know we can reach out to each other for help. Everyone brings a different perspective, which helps to inspire creativity,” he said.

An important step in fostering an engaged team is action planning.

New Shift Schedule Begins Aug. 17

Newport News Shipbuilding will return to a three-shift schedule Monday, Aug. 17. As a result, there will be adjustments to no drive times, the whistle schedule and Hampton Roads Transit routes that service NNS.

No Drive Times

Beginning Aug. 17, no drive times will change to the following:

- 5:50 until 6:10 a.m.
- 12 until 12:10 p.m.
- 3:20 until 3:40 p.m.
- 12:50 until 1:10 a.m.

During these times, operating vehicles or bicycles inside the

shipyard is prohibited.

Whistle Schedule

Beginning Aug. 17, NNS’ whistle schedule will also change to align with the new schedule. Whistles for the beginning and end of lunch – as well as warnings – will also resume on all three shifts.

Hampton Roads Transit

HRT is making route changes to accommodate most bus routes to and from NNS for the new three-shift schedule, effective Aug 24. HRT will send customer alerts to all NNS-employee users who provided their email address to HRT. It also will post schedule changes at terminals, hand out flyers, and post the information on gohrt.com and social media platforms.

Edwards’ action plan for this year – aptly named “Success through Diversity” – is based on the diverse skill sets of his team, which includes X11, X31, X43 and M53 shipbuilders. When someone joins his team, he meets them, shares expectations and assigns a mentor. Edwards also included StrengthsFinder exercise as part of his team’s performance agreements. There is also a focus on recognition for shipbuilders at all levels.

“When you create an action plan, you’re inspiring a shared vision,” Edwards said. “How can you all move in the same direction if the rest of the team doesn’t share your vision?”

Danyelle Saunders, manager of NNS’

Engagement Office, said it’s important that all shipbuilders participate in action planning and understand their team’s plan. “Shipbuilders helping to create their action plan and seeing the progress in their business operations is a key component in building an inclusive, diverse and engaging work environment where everyone has the opportunity to belong, give, get and grow. It provides great opportunity to build trust within the team,” she said.

Edwards is confident his team’s engagement will lead to success for CVN 79’s advanced weapons elevators. “The people on USS *Gerald R. Ford* (CVN 78) went into battle for us. They brought back lessons learned, and they’re putting them in the hands of an engaged group of diverse professionals. That’s what is going to make the difference,” he said.

AROUND THE YARD

NNS Announces Leadership Changes

Newport News Shipbuilding President **Jennifer Boykin** recently announced a number of changes to the company's leadership team.

Charles Southall, current vice president of Engineering and Design, will become vice president of *Columbia*-Class Submarine Construction.

Dave Bolcar, who currently serves as vice president of *Virginia*-

Class Submarine Construction, will become vice president of Engineering and Design.

Jason M. Ward, who currently serves as vice president of *Columbia*-Class Submarine Construction will become vice president of *Virginia*-Class Submarine Construction.

These changes are effective Sept. 7.

COVID-19 Updates

Newport News Shipbuilding President **Jennifer Boykin** has discontinued her weekly COVID-19 updates that were sent each Friday. However, the question and answer portion will continue and now appear in *Currents* each week. See this week's questions below.

Are N95 masks allowed to be worn while at work?

N95 respirators are allowed, but given they are critical supplies for healthcare workers and first responders, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance recommends that they be provided for healthcare workers only. For that reason, we are not providing N95 masks to our employees. However, employees who have personal N95 respirators may wear them at NNS.

Last week, you provided information about face coverings with exhaust valves. Can you provide additional clarification about why these face coverings are not permitted?

The CDC indicates masks with exhalation valves protect the wearer but may not prevent the wearer from spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to others. As such, NNS is aligned with the CDC in that masks with exhalation valves are not an effective means to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Why are some shops/areas of the yard returning to three shifts earlier than Aug. 16?

Some employees, including shipbuilders working in the Steel Production Facility, as well as the Covered Modular Assembly Facility, Ring Module Shop, and the *Virginia*-Class Submarine assembly trades supporting *Montana*, transitioned to the new shift early for business reasons. Some other shipbuilders will also need to work modified shifts to maintain critical operations.

With the increase in COVID-19 cases at NNS, why not stagger lunches to reduce the number of people around each other at the same time?

If a shop or production area stops at the same time, everyone can spread out and have lunch. If lunch periods are staggered, employees must find someplace else besides the production area to eat safely. They may not have as much room to social distance. But your concern is valid. We are installing partitions at some lunch spaces where it's feasible, and are looking at other opportunities to promote social distancing during lunch.

What is the protocol for cleaning an area after an employee tests positive for COVID-19?

There is no single protocol. We consider when the affected employee was last in that space and the nature of the location. We have different cleaning protocols for shipboard, shop and office spaces. Facilities and waterfront trades work closely with Environmental, Health and Safety and our medical teams to determine what works best in each situation. For example, in office spaces we can fog the affected area with a fine mist of disinfectant solution, while onboard a ship we must use approved cleaners and apply by hand to protect sensitive components.

In the recent video, Dr. Steve Apostoles repeatedly mentioned the "6-foot" rule to be 6 feet for 15 minutes. I believe the rule is 6 feet for 10 minutes. Can you verify and perhaps issue a correction if it is indeed 10 minutes?

Your confusion is understandable. At one point in the life of the Coronavirus, CDC guidance for close contact was 6 feet for 10 minutes without PPE. Since then, CDC guidance has changed. Close contact is now defined as any individual who is within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes. CDC guidance changes daily as more is revealed about the virus.

The 411 website shows "total number of cases at NNS" and it also shows "total number of NNS employees medically cleared to return to work." Does the "return to work" figure only show NNS employees, or does it show non-employees as well?

We include as much information as possible. Due to privacy policies, our medically cleared number is only representative of NNS employees. It would be up to the Navy and other organizations to provide that data for their personnel.

Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 at NNS

Cases reported Aug. 3-9: **53**

Total cases at NNS: **515**

Total number of NNS employees medically cleared to return to work: **181**

See case details at nns.huntingtoningalls.com/411.

DATEBOOK

AUGUST 12

How do you know if you're ready to retire? Attend SmartPath's retirement readiness webinar at noon for a simple plan to determine if you're ready for retirement and how to get there if you're not. To register, visit www.joinsmartpath.com/hii/classes.

AUGUST 13

Shipbuilders looking to sharpen speaking, listening and leadership skills are invited to join an online "Spear and Gear" Toastmasters Club Zoom meeting from 5 until 6 p.m. RSVP by Aug. 12 to receive further meeting details. Contact **Jamar Skyles** (X44) and **Michael Miller** (E37) at spearandgeartoastmastersclub@gmail.com from a personal email address.

AUGUST 14

The Hispanic Outreach and Leadership Alliance (HOLA) is hosting the fourth session of its Hispanic Americans Lecture Series from noon until 1 p.m. via WebEx (meeting number 995 243 750). This session will focus on South America. The lecture series is aimed at educating and bringing awareness of the history, culture, successes, and challenges of Hispanic Americans. No charge will be provided.

AUGUST 19-SEPTEMBER 2

Attend virtual workshops with physical therapists from the HII Family Health Center that can help you identify and avoid neck, shoulder and lower back pain. You'll learn simple stretches and exercises to help with daily aches and pains. The webinars will be available on Aug. 19, Aug. 26 and Sept. 2 at noon and 4 p.m. Visit www.myquadmedical.com/hii for details and to register.

AUGUST 27

Shipbuilders looking to sharpen speaking, listening and leadership skills are invited to join an online "Spear and Gear" Toastmasters Club Zoom meeting from 5 until 6 p.m. RSVP by Aug. 26 to receive further meeting details. Contact **Jamar Skyles** (X44) and **Michael Miller** (E37) at spearandgeartoastmastersclub@gmail.com from a personal email address.

SEPTEMBER 15

Kick off Hispanic Heritage Month with Hispanic food trucks and entertainment at "The Rock" from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. The Hispanic Outreach and Leadership Alliance (HOLA) is hosting a series of events from Sept. 15 until Oct. 15 to celebrate the month.

Access Center Announces New Hours

The operating hours for Newport News Shipbuilding's Access Center will change beginning Aug. 17.

The Access Center will be open for badging Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. until noon (with the last video shown at 11:30 a.m.) and from 12:30 until 4:30 p.m. (with the last video shown at 4 p.m.). Temporary badges needed outside of these hours will be issued at the 37th Street traffic gate.

The Clearance Office will provide on-site assistance Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. by appointment only. During this time, the following services will be provided:

- Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) issuance.
- Electronic fingerprinting. Fingerprinting for second-shift employees will take place between 3 and 4:30 p.m.
- Investigator phone interviews. Interviews for second-shift employees will be scheduled prior to the individual's shift. Interview start times will vary, depending on the amount of time requested by the investigator.

The O15 Security Access Control Center inbox will still be monitored throughout the day. Requests should continue to be sent to the inbox as normal.

Open Parking Remains in Effect

As a reminder, open parking is still in effect at Newport News Shipbuilding. However, private and city-owned parking lots – such as one of the parking lots at 46th Street and Washington Avenue – remain restricted and are not open to NNS employees unless they have an active lease for the space.

Open parking applies only to marked NNS parking spaces. This does not include spaces reserved for expecting mothers, handicap spaces, the HII Family Health Center, and spaces reserved for government personnel. Violators may be towed.

SCHOOL TOOLS DRIVE EXTENDED

Newport News Shipbuilding's annual School Tools Drive has been extended through Wednesday, Aug. 12. To purchase and donate supplies, visit yougivegoods.com/nns-2020 and select "shop now" to purchase and donate supplies. Donations will be distributed to departments of social services in Newport News, Hampton and York/Poquoson; Boys & Girls Clubs of the Virginia Peninsula; and ForKids, which serves families dealing with homelessness.

ENGAGEMENT EXPO PRIZE WINNERS

Newport News Shipbuilding employees who took part in the recent virtual engagement expo had the opportunity to take polls and surveys to win prizes. The following shipbuilders won prizes and had the opportunity to select either an NNS laptop bag, umbrella or T-shirt from the NNS Spear & Gear store: **Robert H. Wiegiers** (X43), **Dillon Barnette** (X18), **Albert Nelson** (X18), **Dennis Christian** (O14), **Ryan Willoughby** (O58), **Heather Edelman** (E17), **Marie Lawson** (E70), **Levi Scott** (O15), **Roger Smith** (O53) and **Tonya Himley** (O13).

SUPPORT HURRICANE ISAIAS RECOVERY EFFORTS

Shipbuilders who want to support families impacted by Hurricane Isaias can donate to American Red Cross Disaster Relief by visiting www.redcross.org/donate/cm/huntingtongalls-emp.html.

SEEKING SHIPBUILDERS

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

Job Title	Req Number	Dept.	Location
Coatings Inspector	1834	X67	Newport News
Cost Engineer 3	1620	O19	Newport News
Crane Inspector	1855	O48	Newport News
Database Administrator 3	1833	X44	Newport News
Engineer Industrial 3	1758	X44	Newport News
Operations Research Analyst 3	2155	X57	Newport News
Operations Research Analyst 3	2321	X57	Newport News
Sheetmetal Worker	2494	X32	Newport News
Systems Application Analyst 3	2426	T53	Newport News
Systems Engineer 2	2172	E82	Newport News

Employees are encouraged to use MyHR or the "Current HII Employees Job Search" button at www.buildyourcareer.com to apply. The company continues to offer cash bonus awards for referrals to select positions, visit www.huntingtongalls.com/hii-careers/refer-a-friend for more information.

LONG SERVICE

MASTER SHIPBUILDERS

JULY



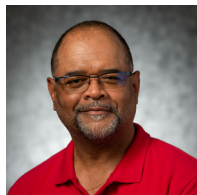
Tony Bagley
40 years



Keith Bailey
40 years



Richard Banks
40 years



Wendell Boone
40 years



John "Bo" Boutalis
40 years



Fred Boyd
40 years



Bill Boyd
40 years



Ulysses Brinkley
40 years



Billy Cannon
40 years



Harry "Cash" Cashdollar
40 years



Calvin Ceaser
40 years



Gary Derby
40 years



Bob Dubinsky
40 years



Jeff Elmore
40 years



Tom English
40 years



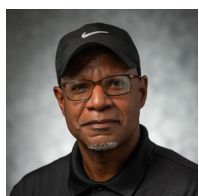
Jerry Fitchett
40 years



Ted Grandison
40 years



Mike Griffith
40 years



Keith Hamlin
40 years



Tim Hancock
40 years



Bobby Harrell
40 years



Jimmie Haselwood
40 years



Scott Horn
40 years



Troy Hudgins
40 years



Randy Kimrey
40 years



Mike Kronstain
40 years



Gene Matthews
40 years



Willie "Mac" Matthews
40 years



Paul McCrickard
40 years



Steve Menefee
40 years

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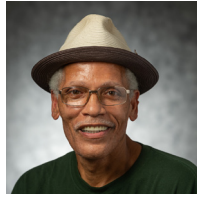
Chip Miller
40 years



Mike Newland
40 years



"Charlie O" Overton
40 years



Derrick "Pac-Man" Patterson
40 years



Terry Phelps
40 years



Val Phillips
40 years



John Price
40 years



Michael Rawles
40 years



Danny Reid
40 years



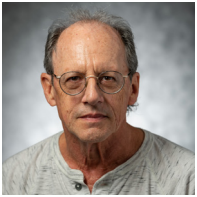
Jessie Rodriques
40 years



Kenneth Rountree
40 years



Michael "O.J." Simpson
40 years



Terry Smith
40 years



Neal Strickland
40 years



Allen Sutton
40 years



James Taylor
40 years



Wayne Thurnher
40 years



Heinz Trulley
40 years



Glenn Waiters
40 years



George Waters Jr.
40 years



Steve Wells
40 years



Scott Whitmore
40 years



Willie O. Wilkins
40 years



Reggie Williams
40 years



Percy "P.A." Wilson
40 years



Robert Windham
40 years

LONG SERVICE

JULY

45 YEARS

John Chappell X47
 Ronnie Gibbs K45
 Dale Howell X76
 Thomas Lambert X44
 Stanley Lane X11
 Charles Lassiter X64
 Alphonso Lovelace X36
 Samuel Massenburg X47
 Samuel Nester X47
 Glenn Norcutt O64
 Henry Peele Jr. X36
 William Savage III E83
 Clinton Sharpe X46

Randall Gonse K46
 Ted Grandison X33
 Michael Griffith K46
 Keith Hamlin E12
 Timothy Hancock O58
 Bobby Harrell K48
 Jimmie Haselwood X33
 Paul Hoppe Jr. X42
 Walter Horn X74
 Troy Hudgins X44
 John Ireland N910
 Gary Jones X33
 Timothy Kimrey O39
 Michael Kronstain O59
 Gene Matthews O53
 Willie Matthews X36
 Paul Mccrickard O46
 Steven Menefee K45
 Ronald Miller Jr. O67
 Edward Morris X42
 Donald Newland E83
 Charles Overton X36
 Derrick Patterson X33
 Roger Phelps O67
 Valdoie Phillips Jr. E08
 John Price Jr. O43
 Michael Rawles X36
 Danny Reid O87
 Rickey Rodgers X33
 Jessie Rodriques X43
 Kenneth Rountree X33
 Michael Simpson K47
 Terry Smith X32
 Neal Strickland O39

Allen Sutton X36
 James Taylor X11
 Wayne Thurnher K48
 Heinz Trulley K46
 Frank Vaughan X42
 Ernest Waiters O19
 George Waters Jr. X44
 Chester Welch X33
 Steven Wells X70
 Scott Whitmore X82
 Charles Wickline O05
 Willie Wilkins E70
 Reginald Williams X33
 Percy Wilson X36
 Robert Windham X43

35 YEARS

Lisa Adams O36
 Gregory Barb O68
 Anita Bethea E18
 Michael Branson X36
 Odell Brothers X33
 Marcia Capelli O53
 William Clifford O52
 Allen Conway E82
 Mary Cullen O11
 Alfred Derenske Jr. E15
 Jerry Diggs X33
 Bruce Easterson K15
 Herbert Fields X47
 Alan Fry E86
 Michael Gundy X33
 Curtis Hall K47
 Allen Hargrove X33

David Hux E61
 William Jenkins E22
 Laura Jonas X51
 Rodney Jones E85
 Kenny Judkins X47
 Joseph Keller X18
 Gregory Kunsch T56
 Larry Lee K46
 Laura Lewis E85
 John Marshall III O43
 Deborah Martin E63
 John Mckinney X47
 William Mountford O53
 Robert Prount E84
 Willie Pressley X33
 Daniel Santrock O53
 Dion Smith O43
 Bari Smith K45
 Kenneth Sonders X18
 Jeffrey Speight O35
 Christopher Street E80
 Jacob Verhulst E11
 Paul Vukson E81
 David Waterfield X31
 Marvin Watkins X33
 Kevin Weber X18
 Timothy Wilkerson X10
 Cletus Womack X18
 Kathlene Wright E81

30 YEARS

Mark Allen X43
 Laddie Anderson K46
 Sharon Arrington X11

Deborah Askew X33
 April Barnes X73
 John Bazemore K48
 Oscar Bazemore Jr. O67
 Scott Blake K48
 Latonia Boyd X33
 Bernell Brown X33
 George Burrus Jr. O46
 Leo Carper Jr. X01
 Michael Chavez X73
 Annie Clayborne K45
 Leah Colvin X51
 Richard Couretet Jr. X70
 Ivory Ellison E85
 Helen Evans X33
 Curtis Gaines X33
 Learcher Gilliam X09
 Timothy Gilliam O43
 Mark Goodrich O26
 Antonio Harris E85
 Latiticia Henderson X62
 Paul Hoffmann O22
 Frederick Jenkins X36
 Clifford Kauffman Jr. X47
 Warren Manley X36
 Anthony Middleton X47
 Jerry Mitchell X42
 Tony Powell O53
 Charles Powell X01
 Burnell Pulley Jr. E85
 Joseph Purkett X47
 William Rew K21
 Richard Roach X43
 Frank Rogers X43

Dean Royal E10
 Vernon Silver K46
 Damon Skweres O96
 Rodney Smith X33
 Tracy Tann X33
 Fernando Veney E81
 Robert West II O43
 Robert Winslow X47
 William Wright X10

20 YEARS

Brian Ashley M10
 Mark Buttolph E81
 Michael Dabney Jr. E63
 Barbara Dalton X74
 Anthony Davidson X71
 Mary Kohlhoff T55
 Jennifer McCreynolds E26
 Madelyn Mendenhall E33
 Derrick Moore E08
 Jason Moore X47
 Alvin Powell O64
 Stephen Prescott E70
 Teresa Price E13
 Adrienne Soule X44
 Rex Spakes X71
 Daryl Stackhouse K46
 TC Tennial O14
 Amy Wells E21
 John Wells E21
 Keith Wilson O63
 Sarah Winstead E83
 Allison Wise N354
 Dexter Wright O19

RETIREMENTS

JUNE

Edward Artis X33
 Reginald Bagley X18
 George Blizzard X33
 Terry Bond O43
 Laverne Boone X36
 Melvin Boone X42
 Sharon Brooks X32

Beth Brown X47
 Moses Cherry X18
 Carolyn Cooper O54
 William Daniels X36
 Stanley Deloatch X36
 Ted Denney X11
 Glenn Dorsey E20

Henry Earl E85
 Allan Evans X46
 James Folz X44
 David Giunti X44
 Alvis Golden X18
 Stephen Gray X47
 Richard Gunderson E25

Morris Hughes X36
 Victor Jackson X18
 Donald Jones X32
 Donald Leviner X36
 Michael Luck M71
 Pasquale Matarazzo X32
 Henry Mcduffie O68

Eric Miller X74
 Christine Mitchell X32
 Herbert Moore X32
 Richard Porter X43
 Charles Ransom X10
 William Sealey X11
 Thomas Simmons X36

George Smith X11
 Percell Smith X42
 Thompson Sweeney X01
 David Sykes X11
 Bennie Woodard E27
 Ernest Young O14



40 Years Ago

This photo shows the Tidewater Safety Shoe store on Washington Avenue in July 1980. NNS photo archive