

# CURRENTS

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Photo by Lena Wallace

## Foundry Pours for the Future

The brass shop crew in Newport News Shipbuilding's Foundry poured its first casting for the Navy's 35th *Virginia*-class submarine, SSN 808, in December. The pour came exactly one year after the Navy awarded NNS and its teaming partner, General Dynamics Electric Boat, the Block V contract, which includes SSN 808.

The Block V contract allows NNS and Electric Boat to continue

the modernization of the fleet of nuclear-powered fast-attack submarines. The companies have built and delivered 19 *Virginia*-class submarines; 10 Block IV boats are currently under construction, with *Utah* (SSN 801) as the last. The Navy has not yet named SSN 808.

Watch a video of the pour on MyNNS.

## New Electrical Composites Help Craftsmen and Craftswomen on CVN 74

As work began to prepare for the refueling and complex overhaul of USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74), Newport News Shipbuilding's Aircraft Carrier Engineering Department (E63) looked for new ways to provide the craftsmen and craftswomen with a new type of drawing to make their job easier.

E63 designers developed an electrical composite that would detail all the electrical removals in a compartment. These composites used images from the laser scans performed on CVN 74 during shipchecks. The marked-up images detail what equipment is required to be removed. The composites are converted to a Visual Work Document (VWD) and loaded into the Shipyard Work Integrated Management System (SWiMS).

From SWiMS, foremen and mechanics can download the composites onto their computer or tablet for use on the deckplates. The composites are searchable and have links that make them easier to navigate than a traditional drawing.

Electrical Foreman **Antawn Cooper** (K45) and his crew are using the composites for electrical removals in CVN 74's arresting gear rooms at Naval Station Norfolk. He said the composites have been a tremendous help for his team and take the guess work out of their jobs.

"With a workforce that is new to the shipbuilding industry, the



USS *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74), is shown transiting the Atlantic Ocean in 2019. The ship is expected to arrive at Newport News Shipbuilding for its refueling and complex overhaul later this year. U.S. Navy photo

composite drawings have proven to be a critical part of our success and are driving performance to reach attainable goals every day on CVN 74," Cooper said. "In hindsight, reducing the amount of time executing job assignments in a time-constrained environment is always a positive step for our X31 team and the company."

E63 has developed 175 of these composites for craftsmen and craftswomen to use for removals and installs on CVN 74 to support the RCOH.

## New Performance Management Tool

Effective with the 2021 Performance and Development Agreements (PDA), Newport News Shipbuilding has implemented an enhancement to the current performance management process in MyHR called Continuous Performance Management (CPM). This tool will not replace or change the current performance agreement form.

CPM is an easy-to-use computer and mobile-friendly tool that provides many benefits. It will promote ongoing electronic communication between managers and employees, and it will allow date-stamped activities to be linked to performance goals. Features will help ease the mid-year and year-end performance management processes. The three main components of using CPM are activities, achievements and feedback.

Managers and employees are not required to use CPM; however, it is strongly encouraged.

To learn more about CPM, Human Resources and Administration is hosting 30-minute lunch and learn training sessions via WebEx. No charge will be provided. All salaried NNS employees are invited to sign up for a session at noon on the dates listed below. Shipbuilders who are unable to attend a training session can review CPM user guides and videos on the performance management webpage.

- Jan. 13
- Jan. 25
- Feb. 16
- March 12

## Company Leaders Affirm Commitments to Civility, Democracy

Following unrest and violence at the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, Jan. 6, Newport News Shipbuilding President **Jennifer Boykin** and Huntington Ingalls Industries President and CEO **Mike Petters** sent messages to shipbuilders Jan. 7 upholding commitments to democracy and civility, while also expressing hope for the future.

In her message, Boykin wrote that it was critical for shipbuilders to continue to treat each other with respect, dignity and compassion.

"I, along with our entire leadership team, stand united in our

commitment to ensure a workplace free of harassment, intimidation and discrimination, where civility and teamwork are foundational. My expectation is that every individual, regardless of position, actively demonstrate civility in the workplace and strive to be a role model of respectful behavior," she wrote.

Read the messages from Boykin and Petters on MyNNS or on the NNS to Go app.

## AROUND THE YARD

### Apprentice School Foundation Awards Scholarship

The Apprentice School Foundation awarded its fourth 2020 scholarship to **Xavien Hunter**. A Louisa, Virginia, native, Hunter started his apprenticeship on Aug. 3, 2020, as a shipfitter. He is a 2020 graduate of Louisa County High School, where he had a 3.2 GPA.

Hunter was active in his community, putting in over 138 hours of service. He was an active member of the Our Brother's Keepers program, providing leadership to younger students and kids in his community. Hunter also played football and basketball that provided opportunities to develop his leadership skills.

The Apprentice School Foundation provides a tax-deductible opportunity for alumni, friends and community partners of The Apprentice School to help fund scholarships, historic preservation and



Joe Sabol, trades director, left, presents the scholarship to **Xavien Hunter**, center. Also pictured are Apprentice School Foundation board members **Jessica Walker** and **Stan Best**.

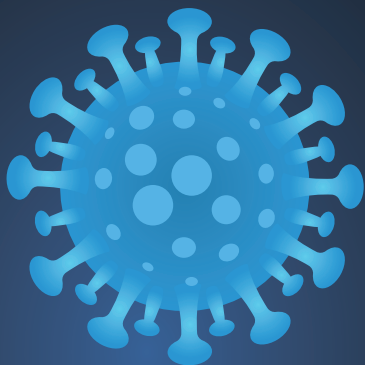
community service projects that carry on the school's legacy. The foundation awards four scholarships annually. Visit The Apprentice School Foundation's website ([www.tasfd.org](http://www.tasfd.org)) for more information.

### ISCVN Team Supports the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank

Every year the X11 and X18 refueling and complex overhaul (RCOH) teams at Newport News Shipbuilding donate to the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank for the Christmas season. Given the strain on the Foodbank due to COVID-19 related job losses, the team thought it would be appropriate to pose the challenge to the In-Service Aircraft Carrier Program team as a whole to see which

group could raise the most. At the end of the fundraising drive, the K45 team finished on top and raised \$430. Thank you to those who donated. The team looks forward to posing the challenge again during the upcoming holiday season and raising even more funds for local families in need.

## Confirmed Cases of COVID-19



Cases reported last week: **201**

Total cases at NNS: **1,832**

Total number of NNS employees medically cleared to return to work: **1,173**

See case details at [nns.huntingtongalls.com/411](https://nns.huntingtongalls.com/411).

- The NNS COVID Test Center will operate on limited hours (8 a.m. to 3 p.m.) on Monday, Jan. 18, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- Due to an unusually high call volume, the COVID Hotline's response time is longer than usual. NNS is adding additional representatives to improve the response. Calls are answered in the order in which they are received. Shipbuilders are asked to remain on hold when calling. Hanging up before a call is answered and calling again only increases call wait times. We are also implementing a virtual hold feature. When wait times get to a certain threshold, the system will give the caller the option to have the system save their spot in line and call them back as opposed to them sitting on hold. We expect to have these changes in place by the end of the week.

### COVID-19 Updates

- Newport News Shipbuilding is diligently exploring the possibility of receiving a COVID-19 vaccine for employees. As information becomes available, it will be communicated to all employees.

## DATEBOOK

### JANUARY 12

A regular sleep schedule is essential to your overall well-being. Pick up healthy sleep habits for 2021 by attending a virtual sleep lunch and learn at noon or 4:30 p.m. To register, visit [www.myquadmed.com/BeWell](http://www.myquadmed.com/BeWell).

### JANUARY 26 AND 27

Join PreventT2 to reverse prediabetes. PreventT2 is a free virtual group support program designed to prevent or delay Type 2 diabetes for individuals with prediabetes or those at risk of developing diabetes. Led by a trained BeWell for Life coach, attendees will learn the skills needed to lose weight, get active and manage stress. Virtual sessions begin Jan. 26 and 27. Visit [www.myquadmed.com/hii/T2](http://www.myquadmed.com/hii/T2) for details and to enroll.

### JANUARY 27

Get your money right this year with SmartPath, a free benefit for all Newport News Shipbuilding employees. Register for a webinar at noon to learn how you can better manage your financial life. To register, visit [www.joinsmartpath.com/hii/classes](http://www.joinsmartpath.com/hii/classes). If you can't attend live, register anyway and SmartPath will email you a recording of the webinar.

### JANUARY 28

Join Engineering and Design and guest speaker **Cailee Helmick** from 12 until 12:30 p.m. for a Virtual Learning Session (VLS) on FITNNS. FITNNS is an employee resource group (ERG) dedicated to promoting physical, mental, and financial fitness for all shipbuilders. Their mission is to encourage shipbuilders to live a healthy, well-rounded lifestyle by providing resources and highlighting opportunities. Sign up on MyNNS to receive a calendar invite to attend. No charge is provided. For questions and concerns, email [EDConnections@hii-nns.com](mailto:EDConnections@hii-nns.com).

### FEBRUARY 1

Newport News Shipbuilding's United Way campaign will kick off Feb. 1 and run through Feb. 19. It takes the entire community working together to bring about lasting change. By focusing on common goals that are the basic things everyone needs for a good life, shipbuilders can help create a better tomorrow for everyone. Look for more information about the campaign in future editions of *Currents*.

## Upcoming Blood Drives

Newport News Shipbuilding is hosting the following blood drives in support of the American Red Cross. A time charge will be provided for employees who donate.

All blood drives will be held from 7:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. in Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room).

- Thursday, Jan. 28
- Thursday, Feb. 4
- Wednesday, Feb. 10
- Tuesday, March 2
- Tuesday, March 30

To schedule an appointment for any of the dates listed above, contact **Natasha Eck**, **Sunny Lee** or **Christina Charnock** via email.

## SEEKING SHIPBUILDERS

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

Job Title	Req Number	Dept.	Location
Automation Software Test Engineer	2907	E44	Newport News
Engineer Electrical 3	2949	O05	Newport News
Engineer Lead Test 2 – Work Control REC Team	1514	E25	Newport News
Engineer Lead Test 3 – Senior Work Control REC Team	1515	E25	Newport News
Engineer Quality 3	3694	O05	Newport News
Engineer Test Operations 2	2691	E84	Newport News
Designer 3	977	E83	Newport News
Manager Engineering 3 – Lean Leader	4227	K95	Newport News
Manager Product Training 1	3221	E91	Ballston Spa, NY
Structured Threat Analyst 5	3790	T51	Newport News

Employees are encouraged to use **MyHR** or the “**Current HII Employees Job Search**” button at [www.buildyourcareer.com](http://www.buildyourcareer.com) to apply. The company continues to offer cash bonus awards for referrals to select positions, visit [www.huntingtoningalls.com/hii-careers/refer-a-friend](http://www.huntingtoningalls.com/hii-careers/refer-a-friend) for more information.

