

CURRENTS

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Photo by Ashley Cowan

Montana's Keel Plate Installed

The crew of *Montana* (SSN 794) has permanently affixed a steel plate – welded with former Secretary of the Interior and Ship's Sponsor Sally Jewell's initials – to the *Virginia*-class submarine.

The plate, welded by Montana-born **Jacob McNulty** (X18) during a May 2018 ceremony at Newport News Shipbuilding, signified the submarine's keel had been "truly and fairly laid."

Montana was christened in September 2020. Shipbuilders launched the submarine into the James River in 2021.



Standout ED&I Champions Honored

Newport News Shipbuilding honored a group of standout Engagement, Diversity and Inclusion champions during a virtual ceremony last week. The celebration recognized **Paula Young**, who was named ED&I Champion of the Year for 2021, and 13 other nominees.

ED&I champions are fully engaged shipbuilders who work to remove obstacles and provide awareness and education for fellow employees. Champions take action throughout their various departments and divisions to drive the company forward and support its core values.

Young, the O68 ED&I champion, was recognized for her willingness to always serve. In addition to her service on the ED&I Team, Young is on the...

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NNS to Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day Virtually

Newport News Shipbuilding is celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day virtually instead of the traditional in-person event. A video will be released for all employees via MyNNS and the NNS to Go app Friday, Jan. 14.



Program Takes Shipbuilders to Sea

Newport News Shipbuilding employees who work on aircraft carrier programs have the opportunity to participate in familiarization tours on active *Nimitz*- and *Ford*-class aircraft carriers during actual underway periods.

The tours are made possible through the Shipbuilders to Sea program, formerly known as Engineers to Sea. They usually last three to four days while the ship conducts carrier landing qualifications off the East Coast. Participants get a broad understanding of the Navy's needs and an increased knowledge of the operation, maintenance and interaction of the systems they design.

The first cohort of NNS employees to participate in this program in more than four years toured USS *George H.W. Bush* (CVN 77) in October. "The voyage was an eye opener and a tremendous learning experience," said participant **Janice Boone** (E68). Other shipbuilders included in the first cohort were **Kyle Custer** (E70), **Patrick Bogue** (E70), **Deborah Jennette** (E44), **Jason Dery** (E79), **Bryan Silver** (X57) and **Joseph Dellapenta** (E70). **Christopher Brown** and **Ken**



Newport News Shipbuilding employees participated in the Shipbuilders to Sea program in October aboard USS *George H.W. Bush* (CVN 77).

Gray served as guides, and **Ron Rancourt** coordinated pre-sail information.

For consideration to participate in future trips, contact **Renae Myles** (E01) via email.



USS *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72) transits San Diego Bay for a regularly scheduled deployment. U.S. Navy photo

Lincoln Carrier Strike Group Departs for Historic Deployment

USS *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72), under the command of Capt. Amy Bauernschmidt, and its carrier strike group left San Diego earlier this month for a regularly scheduled

deployment in support of global maritime security operations. It marks the first time a U.S. Navy aircraft carrier has gone to sea with a female commanding officer.

Bauernschmidt assumed command of *Lincoln* in August 2021. "These sailors are incredible professionals who have trained exceptionally hard to ensure they are ready for any operational obligations required of us on deployment," she said. "They are absolutely prepared for today's deployment, and I have no doubt they will represent our nation proudly as we defend our national interests."

In another historic first, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 314 of 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing departed with Carrier Air Wing Nine aboard *Lincoln* as the first Marine squadron to deploy the F-35C on an aircraft carrier.

The F-35C was designed and built specifically for aircraft carrier operations and brings with it the ability to enhance the inherent battlespace awareness of all naval aircraft it operates alongside.

Built at NNS, *Lincoln* was commissioned in 1989 and returned to the shipyard in 2013 for its mid-life refueling and complex overhaul. NNS redelivered the carrier to the Navy in 2017.

Standout ED&I Champions Honored

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...boards of L.E.A.R.N., the Generational Integration Focus Team (GIFT), Women in Shipbuilding Enterprise (WiSE) and the Veterans Employee Resource Group (VERG). She also serves on the O68 Safety, Engagement, and Communication Action (SECA) Committee.

"This is quite the honor," Young said during the ceremony. "We don't just build great ships. We build lasting and valued

relationships."

Other nominees for champion of the year were: **Chauncy Jones, Emily Kodl, Christina Neale, Allison Whipkey, Maria Benton, Marshall Hearst, Malana Hayes, Melyssa Briggs, Kennedy King, Eric Twum-Ampofo, Fran Dunn, Alissa Weathers and Taylor Chamberlain.**

Newport News Shipbuilding President

Jennifer Boykin congratulated Young and the rest of the nominees for their contributions and for "modeling the way" for those around them.

"The impact you have on people who see, watch or hear you is going to be permanent," she said. "You'll never know all of the ways you're impacting people's lives."

AROUND THE YARD

Logo Contest Winner Named

After reviewing the votes, the SharePoint Community of Practice (CoP) is proud to announce that the winner of its logo contest is **Rachel Jones (X55)**. For her outstanding work, Jones won a Newport News Shipbuilding promotional item and her logo design will be featured on the CoP SharePoint site.



The Sharepoint Community of Practice (CoP) thanks everyone who participated and voted in its logo contest. Everyone who designed a logo did a fantastic job and it was hard to determine a winner.

Interested in joining the CoP? The mission is to create an interactive community where users of all skill sets can learn, develop and communicate all things SharePoint. All are welcome. Join the SharePoint CoP today.

COVID-19 Hotline Update

As Newport News Shipbuilding's COVID-19 Hotline continues to experience high call volume, caller wait times and return calls are taking longer than usual. Below is a caller guide to help ensure shipbuilders get the information they need in the timeliest manner possible:

Tested Positive for COVID-19?

Do not report to work. Call 1-844-243-8749, Option 3.

Experiencing Symptoms of COVID-19?

Do not report to work. Call 1-844-243-8749, Option 4.

Exposed to someone in the last five days who has tested positive for COVID-19?

Do not report to work. Call 1-844-243-8749, Option 4.

Additionally, shipbuilders are asked to refrain from calling and leaving multiple messages. This slows the process more for everyone. The team is working through the surge in COVID-19 cases as quickly as possible.



Newport News Shipbuilding Gives/YourCause Contributions Tax Receipt

Thank you to all shipbuilders who used the NNS Gives platform (nns.YourCause.com) to contribute to nonprofit organizations throughout the community and those who served and assisted those in need throughout a difficult year.

Contributions are tax deductible, and a receipt can be printed for tax purposes. Sign in at nns.YourCause.com and click on "Tax Time: How to Generate Your 2021 Tax Acknowledgement" located on the home page to access and print your 2021 contributions tax receipt. Email questions to corporatecitizenship@hii-nns.com.

REMINDER: Know Your Numbers Program

Salaried Newport News Shipbuilding employees and Huntington Ingalls Industries corporate employees enrolled in an HII Anthem medical plan must complete a Know Your Numbers health screening and a wellness profile by March 31 to secure savings of \$600 on their medical premiums. Visit myquadmed.com/kyn for step-by-step instructions to complete the program.

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.

Blood drives will be held from 7:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. in Bldg. 520-6 (James River Room) on the following dates.

- Jan. 25
- Feb. 3
- Feb. 8

To schedule an appointment, contact **Natasha Eck** or **Sunny Lee** via email.

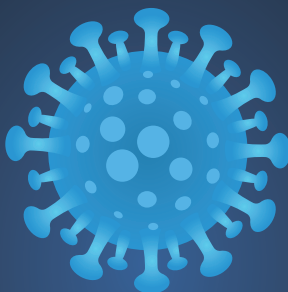
Confirmed Cases of COVID-19

Cases reported last week: **312**

Total cases at NNS: **5,594**

NNS employees medically cleared to return to work: **4,272**

NNS employees vaccinated: **78%**



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

DATEBOOK

JANUARY 11

Interested in getting your Project Management Professional certification through the Project Management Institute in 2022? Classes are forming for January and February. If you are interested in learning how to use Ed Assist to obtain funding for the prep course and exam, attend "How to Obtain your PMP in 2022 – Prep Course Opportunities and EdAssist" via WebEx from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Sign up on the PMSA website. For more information, visit the PMP Training and Ed Assist page or contact PMSA Boot Camp Lead **Debra Brand** via email. Don't forget to check the "Do I Qualify" button prior to signing up in Ed Assist.

JANUARY 26

Join STRIDE Chair **Ariel Matthews** from noon until 12:30 p.m. for a Virtual Learning Session on the Shipbuilders Together Realizing Inclusion, Diversity and Equality (STRIDE) employee resource group. Since 2016, STRIDE has operated for the advancement of the social welfare and equal treatment of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender employees at Newport News Shipbuilding and at each of its subsidiaries. Register on MyNNS to receive a calendar invite to attend. For more information, contact **Ariel Matthews** at 688-0220 or via email.

JANUARY 27

The L.E.A.R.N. Program and Shipbuilders of Huntington Ingalls Professionals (SHIPs) will host an after-work presentation with Newport News Shipbuilding President **Jennifer Boykin** from 4 until 5 p.m. via WebEx. The event is open to all employees by reservation only. Sign up on MyNNS. No charge is provided. For questions, contact **Tanika Vasquez** (E08) at 688-7916 or email LEARN@hii-nns.com.

FEBRUARY 10

The Project Management Shipbuilders Association (PMSA) will host "Project Management Lessons from the *Titanic* Disaster" with **Rick Aiken** from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. via WebEx. The event is open to all employees by reservation only. Sign up on the PMSA website. For questions, contact **Sandra Valentine** or email PMSA@hii-nns.com. No charge is provided.

PMSA Congratulates Shipbuilders

The Project Management Shipbuilders Association (PMSA) congratulates the following shipbuilders and PMSA members on becoming newly certified Project Management Institute (PMI) project management professionals (PMP).

- **Deborah Jennette**
- **Michael Bridwell**
- **Jasmine Curry Brandt**
- **Zachary Roegiers**
- **Mallory Keough**
- **Kimberly Grubb**
- **Crescent Islam**
- **Jose Gonzalez Nieves**
- **Christopher Frank**
- **Delcenia Wright**
- **Shane Hinson**

After many hours of reading, studying and taking practice exams, these shipbuilders successfully passed the PMP exam.

SEEKING SHIPBUILDERS

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

Job Title	Req Number	Dept.	Employee Referral Cash Bonus
Burner	14164	X11	Eligible
Engineer Electrical 2	11625	E70	Eligible
Fitter (Entry-level & Experienced)	13451, 13464	X11	Eligible
Mgr Occupational Health & Safety 2	14888	O27	Not Eligible
Shipwright	14165	X11	Eligible
Summer 2022 Hourly Trade/Craft Internship	14168	K21	Not Eligible
Welder (Trainee, Entry-level & Experienced)	13584, 12784, 12744	X32	Eligible

All positions are located in Newport News unless otherwise noted.

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.huntingtoningalls.com/hii-careers/refer-a-friend for more information.

