

ALSO FEATURED: NNSY RECOGNIZED AS LEADING APPRENTICESHIP IN THE REGION

# SERVICE TO THE FLEET

Norfolk Naval Shipyard

We Are America's Shipyard

May 2023



**NORFOLK NAVAL SHIPYARD CUTS RIBBON  
ON \$191 MILLION RENOVATION OF  
HISTORIC DRY DOCK 4**





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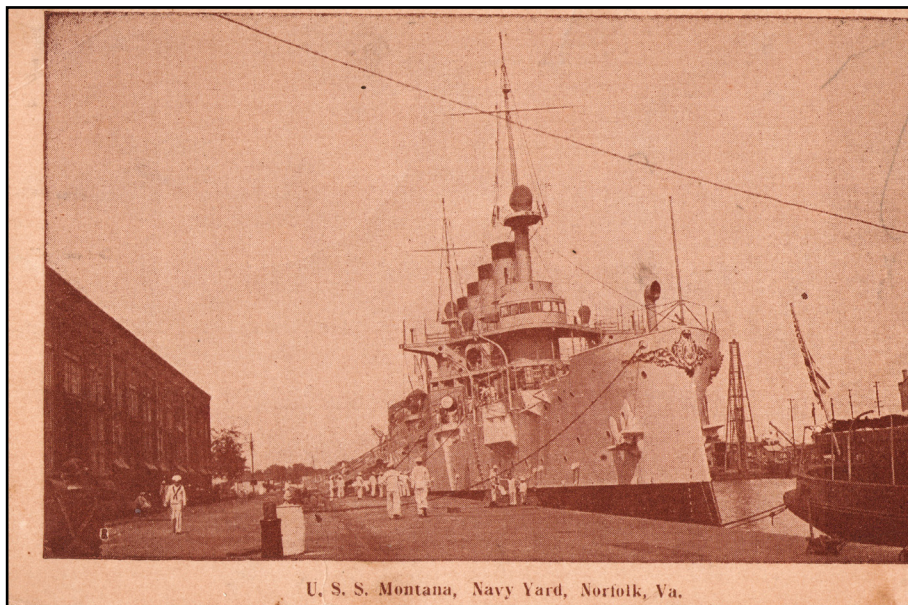
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# SHIPYARD TRIVIA

BY MARCUS W. ROBBINS • SHIPYARD HISTORIAN



U. S. S. Montana, Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va.

In the days well before Naval Station Norfolk came into existence, the old Norfolk Navy Yard (as Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) was then known) received most of local builder yard's warship product and finished the outfitting before ultimately hosting the commissioning of same into Uncle Sam's Navy.

In this case, the first USS Montana (Armored Cruiser No. 13) was laid down by the Newport News Shipbuilding Co. on 29 April 1905; launched on 15 December 1906 and was commissioned at the Norfolk Navy Yard on 21 July 1908.

The image of the ship within today's Wet Slip #1 adjacent to our Building 59 in the northern section of NNSY is also the probable location of the ship's commissioning ceremonies.

This rare postcard view has an actual USS Montana ship's post office cancellation with a December 19, 1909 date atop a one-cent stamp. I would think it must have been stocked in the ship stores for the Sailors to write home as this one has a simple pencil note written on the reverse, "love and best wishes to you."

And yes, I realize the traditions of the era are so hard to break as this location was still referred to as the Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va.

## NORFOLK NAVAL SHIPYARD

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## From the Commander, Capt. Dianna Wolfson:

### Building for the Future, Puget Partnership and WINS!



Hello, America's Shipyard! This has been an exciting month, cutting the ribbon on our renovated Dry Dock 4! More than three years and \$190 million dollars has culminated in a completely refurbished dock with new walls, flooring, and caisson, a restored pumpwell and upgraded mechanical and electrical equipment. Thank you to everyone, including our NAVFAC and contracting partners, supporting this vital investment in America's Shipyard under the Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program that will pay great dividends decades into the future.

Throughout our time together, I've talked about the importance of the ONE MISSION—ONE TEAM mindset. On that front, we have an exciting opportunity beginning this August. Upwards of 200 Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility employees will be temporarily assigned to Norfolk Naval Shipyard (as well as Portsmouth Naval Shipyard) to support needed ship maintenance. Fleet operational tempo and our workload over the next couple of years exceeds our commitments; for the first time ever, we are working an enterprise solution of this scale that brings all of our corporate partners together to achieve our ONE MISSION. Puget teammates will help different shops across our waterfront, and be of great assistance on our aircraft carrier and submarine availabilities including USS GEORGE H.W. BUSH (CVN 77), both during her Window of Opportunities this fall at Naval Station Norfolk and her Planned Incremental Availability at NNSY in 2024.

The skilled maintenance and modernization work we provide is central to our national security strategy and ensures our Navy's strategic advantage in the face of our adversaries' advancing sea power. It is imperative that we excel in pursuit of our mission, now and in the future. You comprise a uniquely capable, world-class problem solving workforce. When partnering, we become even stronger in our knowledge sharing to maintain our Nation's strategic assets. We must welcome the Puget team into our home with open arms and a gracious heart, appreciating the personal sacrifices they are making

to support us achieving our mission... protecting our country today and every day!

Now, onto our WINS!

NNSY and Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic (CNRMA) conducted a major shipboard fire drill on USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) April 5. Partnering with Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) Fire and Emergency Services, CNIC Emergency Management, COMSUBLANT and COMNAVAIRLANT, we incorporated much learning from the past year regarding major fire response. The evaluation team commended the significant preparation and execution between the shipyard, carrier and CNRMA, which readies us to effectively combat a major fire as ONE TEAM! Special thanks to TRUMAN Ship's Force and their leadership, as your support and investment were critical to making this a successful evolution! WIN!

The Naval Foundry and Propeller Center successfully assembled the lead ship Columbia rotor, allowing finish machining to begin. This was a first-of-a-kind assembly procedure completed correctly the first time, due to excellent planning and teamwork between machinists, inspectors, riggers, engineers, technicians and program managers. This is an important milestone for the rotor tracking towards an early delivery in summer of 2024. WIN!

As a follow-up to discussion in February regarding fire safety concerns in our production Buildings 163, 202 and 234 (the Triplex), the Public Works Department and C980 have completed several major improvements. This includes replacing 24 doors, installing new fire alarm horns to improve notification, creating a new exterior door to improve egress, demolishing structures made of combustible material, modifying two saltwater risers to provide new firefighting connections, and painting fire sprinklers, and piping throughout the facilities. WIN!

NNSY's Micro Market has been a tremendous success, now #1 in sales among all NEX Micro Markets worldwide! Building on that, another Micro Market opened in our Production Training Facility April 5. Sales have been



strong there as well, and products offered are being expanded to meet demand. WIN!

NNSY has volunteered to join the OSHA Challenge Program to help promote employee engagement and bring focus to our current Safety Management System (SMS). This builds on our DoD Safety Management Center of Excellence evaluation in February. The SMS Executive Steering Committee (ESC), which includes our labor partners, is leading this initiative educating our workforce, including our Ship's Force and contractor partners, on this program. Thank you to all who share in the commitment of making America's Shipyard the safest shipyard it can possibly be for our workforce! WIN!

ONE MISSION – ONE TEAM!



**Capt. Dianna Wolfson**  
Commander,  
Norfolk Naval Shipyard

**Have an idea for a  
story for Service to  
the Fleet?**

**Want to nominate  
someone for Shipyard  
Spotlight?**

**Need to advertise an  
upcoming event?**

**Email the NNSY  
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**ONE MISSION • ONE TEAM**

**NE**





## CODE 900 CONFERENCE ROOM RENAMING CEREMONY: APRIL 2023

Code 900 Production Resource Officer Capt. Frank Gasperetti congratulates Erica Miranda as part of the monthly conference room naming initiative Apr. 11. She was chosen for her continuous support of her fellow shipyarders and helping to build a better culture throughout America's Shipyard. The Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) Employee Resource Group (ERG) Chair helps lead community outreach efforts for the shipyard, bringing STEAM programs to children in Hampton Roads and inspiring tomorrow's future engineers and scientists. "One of my missions at NNSY is to further improve both the culture and quality of work life. It's become a diehard passion that I just go, go, go without taking a second to see the fruit of that labor, holistically. This recognition has taught me to slow down, reflect, and check on improvements I've been a part of and celebrate the wins. So, thank you so much for the recognition and for humbling me," said Miranda.

Code 900 Production Resource Officer Capt. Frank Gasperetti congratulates Josh Wannemacher as part of the monthly conference room naming initiative Apr. 14. He was recognized for his efforts as the President of Norfolk Naval Shipyard's Veteran Employee Readiness Group (VET-ERG), his outstanding contributions to Norfolk Naval Shipyard veterans and his constant abilities to go above and beyond in whatever is being asked of him. "This is truly a humbling gesture and I am grateful to those that I have had the privilege to serve with throughout my time as the President for the Veterans ERG," said Wannemacher.

(Photos by Danny DeAngelis, NNSY Photographer)

## A MATTER OF ETHICS -- FROM THE SHIPYARD OFFICE OF COUNSEL

There are 14 General Principles of Ethical Conduct that apply to Government employees (5 CFR 2635.101). Ethics rule #6 states that employees shall not make unauthorized commitments or promises of any kind that purport to bind the Government. Do you have the authority to make legally binding commitments on behalf of the Government? Probably not! If you do have the authority, you will know. What does this mean? In short: Don't sign anything that an outside entity (contractor, vendor, etc.) asks you to sign. This includes nondisclosure agreements, software licenses, equipment bailment agreements, etc. If you are unsure if you can sign such a document, or are told that it is necessary before a company will work with you, consult an attorney in the NSWC PCD legal office for guidance and possible options at 850-235-5169. If you have any questions, please contact the Shipyard Office of Counsel (Code 107) at 757-396-8625.

## NNSY VET-ERG U.S. FLAG DONATIONS

In honor of the annual celebration of Flag Day, the Norfolk Naval Shipyard Veteran Employee Readiness Group (VET-ERG) is collecting old or worn U.S. flags to be donated to Sturtevant Funeral Home now until June 9th. As part of the Retire Your Flag Program, the flags will be draped over fallen veterans at the time of cremation. For more information or to schedule a donation, contact Nicholas Boyle at [nicholas.e.boyle.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:nicholas.e.boyle.civ@us.navy.mil). Learn more about the Retire Your Flag Program at <https://www.sturtevantfuneralhome.com/retire-your-flag/retire-your-flag>.





## MARK YOUR CALENDARS: CHANGE OF COMMAND

Join us for the Norfolk Naval Shipyard Change of Command Ceremony June 29 at 10 a.m. in Bldg. 163 to say farewell to our Shipyard Commander Capt. Dianna Wolfson as she departs for the next step in her career and to welcome Capt. James "Jip" Mosman as our next Shipyard Commander. Adm. James F. Caldwell, Jr., Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program Director, and Vice Adm. William J. Galinis, Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command, will provide special remarks during the ceremony. Those who cannot attend in person can livestream the event from the NNSY Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/norfolknavalshipyard1/](https://www.facebook.com/norfolknavalshipyard1/).

## MINDFUL MINUTES -- FROM THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMAND RESILIENCE TEAM

May is mental health awareness so let's focus on mental health. According to [mentalhealth.gov](https://www.mentalhealth.gov), mental health "includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act." If mental health affects the way we think, feel and act, how does mental health impact our daily interactions with others? When our mental health is compromised more energy is required to carry out day to day functions which results in less energy being available to guide us in our daily interactions. Take a moment to take a personal inventory of your most recent interactions. Ask yourself, "In the last month, have my interactions been characteristic of who I am? Have I been more irritable than I usually am? Am I finding less pleasure in the things I used to enjoy? Am I having issues sleeping? Is my energy decreasing? Am I having more challenges performing daily tasks?" If you answer yes to many of these questions, these are early warning signs that you might be experiencing mental health problems. Experiencing mental health problems is nothing of which you should be ashamed. Most, if not all, people experience some level of mental health problems. One way to help yourself is to establish good, proactive practices in dealing with negative stress and seek help when help is needed. Most insurance plans now have benefits for mental health. Check with your health insurance company to see if your plan has mental health benefits.



## WELCOME ABOARD!

Welcome aboard to Code 501 Deputy Supply Officer Christine Johnson-Buono! She recently joined the Norfolk Naval Shipyard team and has over 33 years combined corporate and Navy broad based logistics experience to include Operations and Supply Chain Management.





## Norfolk Naval Shipyard Cuts Ribbon on \$191 Million Renovation of Historic Dry Dock 4

STORY BY MICHAEL BRAYSHAW • NNSY DEPUTY PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER  
PHOTOS BY SHELBY WEST • NNSY PHOTOGRAPHER

Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) cut the ribbon for the completion of its Dry Dock 4 renovation April 19.

Spanning more than three years, this \$191 million project will allow NNSY to continue servicing a variety of submarine classes decades into the future. This is the biggest completed dry dock project yet across the nation's four public shipyards under the Navy's Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program (SIOP). SIOP oversees infrastructure investments modernizing the nation's public shipyards through upgraded dry docks and facilities, new equipment and improved workflow.

The renovated dry dock includes a new caisson for sealing the facility, replacement of the dock walls and floor, complete restoration of the pumpwell and upgrading all mechanical and electrical equipment. Additionally, improvements to the facility greatly safeguard against a major flooding event.

"Becoming the shipyard our Nation needs requires investment—in our dry docks, in our infrastructure, and in our industrial plant equipment," said NNSY Operations Officer Capt. Lawrence Brandon at the ribbon-cutting. "It takes a coordinated combination of dedication, design and dollars in all these areas to enable America's Shipyard to deliver ships



back to the Fleet on time, every time, everywhere to protect America. Combined with the amazing power of our people in our 10,000-plus member workforce, facilities like Dry Dock 4 are what will help our nation maintain its maritime dominance.”

To deliver the first fully renovated dock under SIOP, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) established a Resident Officer in Charge of Construction (ROICC) for NNSY. The ROICC office, led by Cmdr. Kendall Chapman, provided dedicated oversight to the project and will share learning with the other public shipyards to leverage on other large-scale construction projects.

“As we look back on all that was accomplished, I think it is important to reflect on two key items that enable projects like this to be successful: one, a common mission in support of national security; and, two, our industry partnerships,” said

Rear Adm. Lore Aguayo, commander, NAVFAC Atlantic, at the event. “Partnerships like we have here are a model for what NAVFAC strives to achieve around the world as we build the infrastructure the Navy needs for strategic competition. I am proud of what our combined teams have accomplished, and thank everyone who worked so hard to execute this impressive and critically important project for the Navy.”

First opened in April 1919, Dry Dock 4 is the first of three dry docks built at NNSY during its World War I-era expansion. Notable ships the dock has hosted include USS Langley (CV 1), the nation's very first aircraft carrier; USS Texas (BB 35), a battleship that fought in both World Wars; the battleship USS Arizona (BB 39) that received its modernization at NNSY a decade prior to its tragic loss in the attack on Pearl Harbor; and the British aircraft carrier HMS Illustrious, one of many Allied fleet repairs conducted at NNSY during World War II.

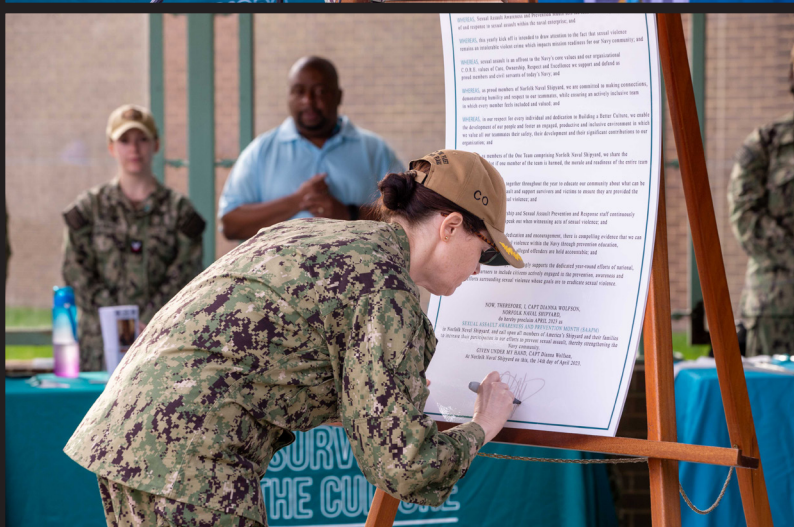




# Norfolk Naval Shipyard Kicks off Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month

STORY BY SUSANNE GREENE • NNSY PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

PHOTOS BY COLE FRASER • NNSY VISUAL INFORMATION SPECIALIST



Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) commenced Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM) with a proclamation signing and kick-off ceremony April 14.

The shipyard participated in command-sponsored events and other activities designed to raise awareness throughout the month of April and put a focus on the prevention of sexual assaults.

“We each play a pivotal role in preventing sexual assault from occurring in the first place, but if it does, we must also help and advocate for those in need by providing all available support and resources,” said Shipyard Commander Captain Dianna Wolfson. “We must care for and respect all our teammates, doing everything in our power to stand with and elevate them.”

NNSY is committed to educating service members, Department of Defense (DoD) civilians, and contractors about the prevention of sexual assault while also providing a work environment built on mutual respect and inclusion for all.

“Respect, protect, and empower” are key strategies in preventing sexual assault.

“We all have the ability and responsibility to eliminate behaviors that promote sexual assault and to create a healthy work environment,” said NNSY Suffolk Complex Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) Shalise Figueroa. “When we gather at events like the annual SAAPM month kickoff, we are given a golden opportunity to come together as a shipyard community, and take responsibility for stepping forward and emphasizing the key Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) messages of ‘respect, protect, and empower.’”

The DoD Safe Helpline can connect individuals to their local SAPR program and provide support. Services are available to members of the DoD community and their families 24/7 via telephone 1-877-995-5247, text 55-247 if CONUS, 571-470-5546 if OCONUS, and online at <https://www.safehelpline.org>.





Norfolk Naval Shipyard  
Technology Showcase 2023



# Technology SHOWCASE

- Network with colleagues and supervisors about workplace ideas
- Learn first-hand about new technologies that can increase workplace efficiency and safety

**MAY 10-11  
2023**

**SHOW TIMES  
8 AM - 4 PM**



## Production Training Facility Building 1763

- Ask questions directly to industry experts
- Get hands-on information about the latest technologies to increase efficiency

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for more information

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# Norfolk Naval Shipyard Recognized as Leading Apprenticeship in the Region

STORY BY KRISTI BRITT • NNSY PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST  
PHOTOS BY DANNY DEANGELIS AND SHELBY WEST • NNSY PHOTOGRAPHERS

For more than 100 years, Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) has welcomed thousands of individuals into the Apprentice Program, a four-year program that offers selected candidates a chance to earn a competitive salary while they learn a trade through theory training and on-the-job experience. And recently, the NNSY Apprentice Program was recognized by the Department of Labor (DoL) as the leading registered apprenticeship in its region within the Commonwealth of Virginia for 2022 as well as for 57 years of service as a registered Apprenticeship within the DoL.

The program is run by a staff of dedicated instructors and facilitators across 23 trades within the shipyard as well as

works through a partnership with Tidewater Community College (TCC) so apprentices can receive their Technician Career Studies Certification alongside their apprenticeship within the shipyard. The apprentices are also given on-the-job training from mentors within the shop to aid in the growth and learning of each apprentice that comes through the gates, helping to build a talented workforce aimed to deliver our Navy's fleet on time, every time, to protect America.

"Our program is built on quality training that is continuous throughout their time here at the shipyard, with a huge support from our instructors and the shops that work with our apprentices to give them the best experience on the job," said





Apprentice Program Director Colby Tynes. "It's a ONE TEAM effort to build the quality mechanics that tackle the hard work we accomplish at America's Shipyard daily."

NNSY was recognized for its continuous successes with apprenticeship classes, with retention rates at a consistent high, innovating in the training provided to their apprentices to ensure competency in their abilities, and building a diverse workforce of skilled mechanics who go above and beyond the call of duty.

"This award marks a celebration for all the hard work everyone – from our instructors to our apprentices – has put into the program," said Apprentice Program Trade Theory Supervisor Jeff Butler. "We push out qualified, quality mechanics each and every year and this is a reflection of everyone in the program and the job they do."

Production Resources Officer Capt. Frank Gasperetti said, "It is a tremendous honor and a testament to our team. NNSY is an

employer of choice and is truly one of the best places to work towards a lasting career for our nation."

Since receiving this honor, the team members have been looking for ways to improve the way they do business.

"We are excited to build on the momentum of this award by now having the opportunity in our new Production Training Facility (Bldg. 1763) to really expand on the practical portion of our program," said Butler. "Having a dedicated area for hands-on learning will only increase the learning experience for our apprentices and hopefully lead to an even more successful workforce."

Tynes added, "We're always learning something new from each of our classes and take that feedback to improve the program as a whole. Whether it's adjusting the learning processes, bringing in new equipment, or finding new and exciting methods for learning on the job – we're always open to do what's best for the team."

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NNSY APPRENTICE PROGRAM STAFF AND SUPERVISORS:

Brian Madison, Sheet Metal Trade Theory Instructor	Michaela Taylor, NNSY / TCC Apprentice Liaison	April Jones, Shop 57 Supervisor
John Saboo, Outside Machinist Trade Theory Instructor	Joan Suiter, Apprentice Program Timekeeper	Laura Herrin, Shop 06 Equipment Tooling Branch Head
Mike Harmon, Boat Builder / Woodcrafter Trade Theory Instructor	McCoy "Pete" Powell, Apprentice Program Timekeeper	Blanche Tetzlaff, Shop 06 Non-Nuclear Tool Room Supervisor
Francis Boldt, Pipefitter Trade Theory Instructor	Jeff Butler, Apprentice Program Trade Theory Supervisor	Tanya Sparrow, Shop 71 Supervisor
Tony Beckwith, Welder Trade Theory Instructor	Tony Carter, Apprentice Program Administrative Supervisor	Tyrone Rounds, Shop 64B/64W Supervisor
Gene Bundy, Fabric Worker Trade Theory Instructor	Colby Tynes, Apprentice Program Director	JaLauna Anderson, Shop 71 Resource Manager
Mike Mosca, Boilermaker Trade Theory Instructor	Michael Matusiak, Shop 11/17 Supervisor	Nicole Kirsch, Code 970 Non-Nuclear CTD Manager
Ronnie Ramos, Inside Machinist Trade Theory Instructor	R. Byron Pate, Code 920 Non-Nuclear CTDL and Training Supervisor	Jonathan Burchett, Shop 99 HV/IEM Supervisor
Tiffany Felton, Painter Trade Theory Instructor	Joey Bottum, Shop 26 Supervisor	Brian McPherson, Shop 89F/89S (64) Supervisor
Kwamne Baker, Shipfitter Trade Theory SME	Donald E. Mason, Shop 31 Supervisor	Thomas Clark, Shop 99 Supervisor
Steve Morgan, Electrician/Electronics Trade theory Instructor	Roslyn Hern, Shop 38 Supervisor	LaToya Diggs, Code 990 Resource Manager
Manny Arcelona, Electrician / Electronics Trade Theory Instructor	Desiree Manley, Shop 41 Supervisor	Ebony Perry, Shop 72 Supervisor
David Rymer, Electrician / Electronics Trade Theory Instructor	Tywanda Hall, Code 930 Lead Resource Manager	Jeffrey Shunk, Shop 72 Nuclear Resource Manager
Giovanni Sorbello, Insulator Trade theory SME	Timothy Sanders, Shop 31 Resource Manager	Chris Parker, Shop 72 Non-Nuclear Resource Manager
Latoya Taylor, Assistant Apprentice Program Administrator	Lance Corwin, Shop 51/67 Supervisor	Tia Hudgins Reid, Shop 98 Supervisor
Troy Williams, Assistant Apprentice Program Administrator	Donyell White, Shop 51/67 Supervisor	Leon Benjamin, Shop 98 Resource Manager
Jennifer Cousette, NNSY/TCC Apprentice Liaison	Vanity Desince, Shop 67 Supervisor	Faith Kinnaird, Code 135 Supervisor
	Suzanne Fizzano, Shop 56 Supervisor	Daniel Hardison, Code 135 Technical Support Branch Head (Acting)
	Amber Beatty, Shop 56 Supervisor	

**And to the thousands who've been part of the NNSY Apprentice Program in the past and present, and the thousands that will join in the future – THANK YOU AND A JOB WELL-DONE!**



# Get Prepared for Hurricane Season and Know Your Zone

STORY BY SUSANNE GREENE • NNSY PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST | PHOTO COURTESY OF NOAA NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

We never know when we are going to get the next hurricane in Hampton Roads, but it is always wise to prepare and know which flood zone you work and live in. For the seasoned citizens of Hampton Roads, we've learned that a severe thunderstorm, tropical storm and Nor'easter can do just as much damage as a category one hurricane.

"Preparing before the storm arrives means making sure you and your family have what you need in order to safely ride out the storm," stated Nicole Roten, Norfolk Naval Shipyard Emergency Management Officer. "Make an evacuation plan, know your zone, and determine where you will stay if you need to evacuate."

Planning ahead for hurricanes and tropical storms is key to the safety and security of you and your family.

To determine which flood zone you live in, visit <https://www.vaemergency.gov/know-your-zone/>. Please check your zone each year and make sure you have the most recent information.

Now that you know how to identify your flood zone, do you have an evacuation plan for your family and pets? Do you know what to include in an emergency kit for not only your family, but pets too? If not, here are some helpful websites:

1. <https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes>
2. <https://www.ready.gov/pets>
3. <https://www.noaa.gov/hurricane-prep>
4. <https://www.weather.gov/wrn/hurricane-evacuation>
5. <https://www.ready.navy.mil>

Do you have an emergency kit? Here is a list of quick essentials to get you started: tarps and duct tape, non-perishable food and bottled water (enough for up to 7-days per person/pet), medications, First-Aid kit, flashlights (new batteries), light sticks, weather radio, and money. Why money? If the power is out, stores are going to be cash only and the ATMs will be unavailable.

Power outages can happen with a thunderstorm or any severe weather. You may only lose power for a few hours or it could be out for two weeks, depending on the storm. Before severe weather hits make sure to charge all of your tablets, laptops, and cell phones. Laptops and tablets are great back up power for charging your smart phones.

Are you registered with Norfolk Naval Shipyard's AtHoc alert system? If not, sign up via the self-service app. You may also choose to download weather apps to your smart phone so you can receive timely weather alerts.

Staying informed and planning ahead will help you be better prepared for hurricane season.

For more information on hurricane preparedness and safety, visit:

1. <https://www.weather.gov/safety/hurricane-plan>
2. <https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/before.html>
3. <https://www.defense.gov/Spotlights/Hurricane-Preparedness/>

*Hurricane Preparedness*

[weather.gov/hurricane](https://weather.gov/hurricane)



## Prepare Before Hurricane Season



Develop an evacuation plan



Assemble disaster supplies: food, water, batteries, charger, radio, cash



Get an insurance checkup and document your possessions



Create a communication plan with a hand-written list of contacts



Strengthen your home







Norfolk Naval Shipyard  
Honors

# Memorial Day

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May 29, 2023



# Norfolk Naval Shipyard Celebrates Culture Standouts from the Workforce

STORY BY KRISTI BRITT • PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST | PHOTOS BY SHELBY WEST • NNSY PHOTOGRAPHER

The Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) Departmental Command Resilience Team (DCRT) hosted the quarterly Culture Standout Recognition Ceremony to celebrate the individuals who work daily to help build a better culture at the shipyard and exemplify good work standards in everything they do.

Twenty individuals from across the shipyard were recognized as Culture Standouts – each going above and beyond the call of duty in their everyday workplace. Each individual was highlighted for their individual efforts for the shipyard and received a signed certificate of appreciation from Shipyard Commander Capt. Dianna Wolfson and Nuclear Engineering and Planning Department (NEPD) Director Jeremy Largey.

“We’ve been working hard at America’s Shipyard to build a better culture, and we’ve seen significant improvements in our alignment as a team and strength in our foundation,” said Capt. Wolfson. “As we look to our Strategic Framework, it’s critical that we have a strong foundation at our shipyard, built with trust and confidence in ourselves as a team. Culture is our foundation, and if there are holes in that foundation, we

won’t be able to sustain it. I feel that we’ve reached that level of sustainability because we’re organized in the work we do and we’re working together as a team. And that’s because of you – our people – who work hard each and every day and inspire others to follow by your example. You are the fire that ignites us all, making it contagious to be our very best.”

Largey added, “I think one of the coolest things about this ceremony is that there were a lot of submissions to highlight folks doing amazing things to build the environment and culture we need here. We’re seeing that positive influence more and more and it’s because you all are doing great things and making our shipyard such a great place to work and be proud to say you’re part of. Your individual efforts help us grow as a team and we thank you for going above and beyond.”

To nominate someone for a future Culture Standout Award, please email, containing the nomination justification to Talia Crockett at [talia.l.crockett.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:talia.l.crockett.civ@us.navy.mil) and Jacquelyn Singletary at [jacquelyn.d.singletary.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:jacquelyn.d.singletary.civ@us.navy.mil).

## CONGRATULATIONS NNSY CULTURE STANDOUTS!

**Daniel Prosser**  
**Mr. Paul “Shaggy”**  
**Wagnstrom**  
**Carter Yeingst**  
**Richard “Ricky”**  
**Vaughan**  
**Mustafa Black-Castle**  
**Brooke Hill**

**Virginia Eaton**  
**Catherine Hobbs**  
**Sasha Moore**  
**Nicole McGarry**  
**Mark De Angelis**  
**Ernest “Ernie” Vales**  
**Nancy Wilson**  
**Zoe Finke**

**Twandolyn Goldsmith**  
**Jerona Harris**  
**Lateisha Robinson**  
**Aaron Bass**  
**Crystal Slade**  
**Migca Oliveras Perez**  
**Justin Carpenter**







**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR  
CULTURE STANDOUTS!**





# Norfolk Naval Shipyard Highlights Employees Chosen for the NAVSEA NEXTGEN Leadership Program: Venita Scott and Colt Brinkman

STORY BY KRISTI BRITT • PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST  
PHOTOS BY THE SHIPYARD VISUAL DESIGN CENTER

Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) and its tenant locations recently saw the selection of seven individuals for the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) Next Generation of Leadership (NEXTGEN) Program, which offers participants the chance to learn about leadership throughout several different initiatives for the next year.

This enterprise-wide initiative takes civilian employees at a GS 7-11 level through a self-paced blended course approach through classroom and online studies to build up their skills through assessment, experimental learning, and individual development opportunities. At the completion of the program, the participants will have the skills to prepare them for future management roles throughout NAVSEA.

Congratulations to Inventory Management Specialist Colt Brinkman, Contract Specialist Brittany Tavassoli, Nuclear Engineering Technician Venita Scott, Quality Assurance Specialist David Leon, Fabric Worker Supervisor LaShonda Dunston, Naval Architect Technician Stacia Spath from NNSY, and Radioactive Material Controller Doug Mandell from Nuclear Regional Maintenance Department (NRMD) Kings Bay. For the next few months, we will be highlighting these individuals in a NEXTGEN series, celebrating their achievements as they work through the program.

Interested in becoming a future participant of the NEXTGEN program? Applications will be accepted until June 26 at 12 p.m. for all interested civilian employees (GS 7-11). For more information and to download an application, visit [https://flankspeed.sharepoint-mil.us/sites/NAVSEA\\_10D5](https://flankspeed.sharepoint-mil.us/sites/NAVSEA_10D5).

The NEXTGEN offers further leadership development through reading exercises, coaching, mentoring, and job shadowing opportunities.

"I'm learning about the NAVSEA organization as a whole," said Scott. "I never thought I would get to visit NAVSEA headquarters or engage with NAVSEA Commander Vice Admiral William Galinis or Executive Director Mrs. Giao Phan – but I did. I never thought I could influence positive change in an organization this size, but I will! My goal to be a change agent for the shipyard is still my lasting goal and with these programs I've sharpened my skills. Now I'm just awaiting the opportunity to make a positive impact."

When asked what advice she would give others in her position, Scott shared, "don't subscribe to leadership programs with expectations of promotions. Nothing is guaranteed. Instead, look for these opportunities because you are passionate about your future and your drive to bring positive change to the command."



Colt Brinkman is an Inventory Management Specialist at NNSY and applied for the NEXTGEN program to gain insight from high level educators, expanding his knowledge and bringing back what he learns to benefit the shipyard and the Navy.

"This program encompasses all of NAVSEA to incorporate leadership traits and qualities to help participants understand why we do what we do on a daily basis," said Brinkman. "Being able to learn directly from NAVSEA Commander Vice Admiral William Galinis and other figures really caught my attention to what this program brings to the table. Leaders are taking the time to share with us their advice on leadership and it's an experience that I'm thankful to be part of."

He continued, "Through this program, I'm hoping to garner more leadership traits that I'd previously lacked. I'm looking to preparing myself for the next step of my career, as well as preparing myself for the Journey Level Leadership (JLL) program that is the next step in NAVSEA's offerings for leadership development."

Brinkman's advice to his fellow shipyarders looking to join programs like this in the future – apply for whatever opportunities come your way. "Submit your packages and shoot your shot," he said. "Even if you don't think you'll make the cut, you may be surprised by the outcome. You are your biggest advocate for advancing yourself in your career; take the time to apply for whatever you can."



Nuclear Engineering Technician Venita Scott is with NNSY's Radiological Auditing and Surveillance Department. She began her leadership journey a few years ago with her completion of the Defense Civilian Emerging Leaders Program (DCELP), NEXTGEN being her second program on the path towards her future successes.

"I wanted to be a change agent for the shipyard but I didn't think

I was in a position to make any kind of impact," said Scott. "I felt small, too small to be recognized and valued. I needed to transform myself and I needed to start by changing the image I had for myself. So I looked into what programs were available and applied."

During her time in DCELP, Scott noted that she learned a lot about herself and how to build relationships with others.



# NWSY

## FAMILY DAY

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023  
9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

WANT TO VOLUNTEER  
FOR FAMILY DAY? EMAIL  
HOWARD.J.SATCHER2.  
CIV@US.NAVY.MIL.

### Entertainment Provided by NNSY MWR:

- Live Music from The Deloreans
  - Face Painting
  - Games
- Bounce Houses
- Concessions

### Explore the Shipyard:

- Historical Showcase
  - Vehicle Show
  - Shop Tours
- Innovation Demonstrations
  - Carrier Tour

PLEASE NOTE:  
AGES 8 AND UP  
CAN NOW TOUR  
THE CARRIER!

AND MORE!



## ALL EMPLOYEES MUST REGISTER THEIR GUESTS IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN FAMILY DAY 2023!

Registration forms will continue to be accepted up to the day of the event. Employees can submit hard copies of their forms to [donald.l.ellis36.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:donald.l.ellis36.civ@us.navy.mil).

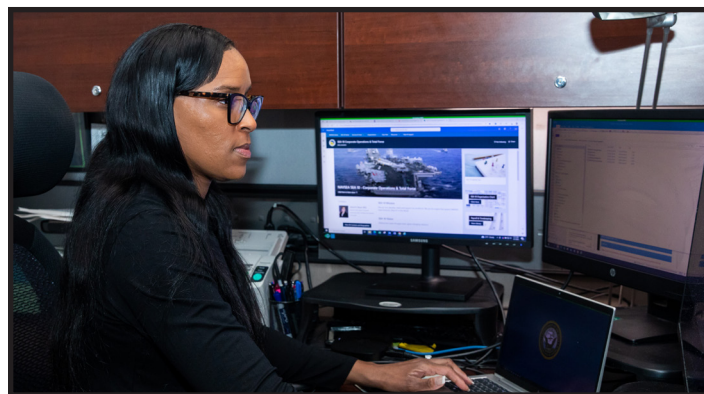
**REMINDER:** Open Space Request Forms and Non-United States Citizen Information Forms will no longer be accepted after the April 21 deadline.





## SHIPYARD SPOTLIGHT: ALESHA RAY

STORY BY TROY MILLER • PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST  
PHOTOS BY SHELBY WEST • NNSY PHOTOGRAPHER



When it comes to pulling her weight, Norfolk Naval Shipyard's (NNSY) Contracts Department (Code 411) Contract Specialist Alesha Ray has more strength than one might think upon meeting her.

"I love to weightlift," said Ray. "In 2015, I made it to Team USA for the Arnold World Classic. My best deadlift was close to 400 lbs. and I held the deadlift record for West Virginia in 2015 for the Strongwoman Middleweight Division."

Ray weightlifts because it's a chance to challenge herself and to push her beyond what she thought her limits are. This goes with her work ethic as well.

"Alesha never stops pushing herself when it comes to learning

new things about the world of government contracting," said Code 400 Contracting Officer Chad Godwin. "In doing so, she is able to provide professional and excellent service to her customers when it comes to get the contracts awarded."

"I have had the opportunity to work on some challenging requirements the last past years since I've been with NNSY, including the renovation of the Command Briefing Room and the High Density Mobile Shelving units for Building 297," said Ray. "These contracts required extensive research, documentation and scheduling. The contract was finally awarded in March 2023. I work through those challenges by praying, staying in constant communication with the customer,



and always documenting lessons learned.”

Ray was born in Richmond, Va., but was raised in the Hampton Roads area where her parents, the late Dr. Charles Green and Dr. Elizabeth Green, served as pastors in Chesapeake, Va.

She is a graduate of Norfolk State University, Troy University and Northcentral University. She has earned several degrees in the field of Public Administration, Business and Government Contracting.

“I always wanted to work for the government in a field that allowed me to serve,” said Ray. “Although I am not prior military, I have a close family member in the military and I was always interested in supporting our veterans and serving my community. Contracting allows me to do both, and it is challenging, yet a rewarding and fulfilling career!”

Ray recently completed her one-year term on Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) Inclusion & Engagement Council where the team created initiatives to support diversity, inclusion and engagement efforts that will be implemented across the entire NAVSEA enterprise. She had the opportunity

to brief NAVSEA leaders including Commander Vice Adm. William Galinis and Executive Director Giao Phan.

With service implanted in her heart, she is also an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc, the National Contract Management Association, the National Society of Leadership and Success, and NNSY’s chapter of the Federal Women’s Program.

“I always had an interest in serving, finding resolutions to problems, process improvement, and helping people,” said Ray. “My parents taught me while growing up that serving others is an action that shows people you care about them.”

Ray will continue to push herself beyond what she feels her limits in order to reach her goal of joining the ranks of leadership. “I am always preparing myself for the ‘next,’” said Ray. “I have learned that you cannot rush the process. Learn what you can and always add tools to your toolkit. I know doing this will allow me to be the best I can be for America’s Shipyard.”



## FIVE THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT

### *Alesha Ray*

1. She has a Shorkie named Chicago.
2. Her favorite books are *Secrets of the Millionaire Mind* by T. Harv Eker; *Becoming* by Michelle Obama; and *Tribal Leadership* by Dave Logan, John King, and Halee Fischer-Wright.
3. Her favorite actresses are Angela Bassett and Viola Davis.
4. Her favorite sports team is any team from Philadelphia, Pa.
5. Her dream vacation is a trip to Dubai.



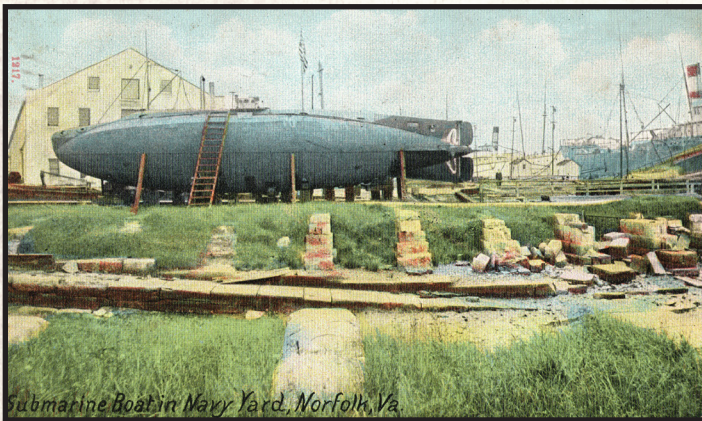
# Our Yard History:

## Creation of Wet Slip 2

**STORY BY MARCUS W. ROBBINS • SHIPYARD HISTORIAN | PHOTOS FROM THE SHIPYARD ARCHIVES**

At the turn of the 20th century, the shoreline of the old Norfolk Navy Yard still bore the scars of the Civil War and showed years of neglect. The area in-between the great 1840s mast house, ex-Building 28 to the site of the ruins of ex-Shiphouse "C" witnessed only one major improvement, a marine railway to haul submarines out of the water as those crafts (submarines) were still relatively small. Using the Marine Railway also saved vessels from entering any of three Dry Docks and lent greater capacity to the waterfront.

The following circa 1904 postcard image of an early submarine shows the old Marine Railway up close with the ruins of ex-Shiphouse "C" in the foreground. The USS Colorado is the only ship launched from this location in 1856. Ex-Building 28 the former 1840s Mast House, looms large in the background.



The March 1, 1905 glass plate image reveals the beginnings of the dredge (on right) as it cuts out the surrounding land in order to form what we know today as Wet Slip 2. The Marine Railway falls victim to the new slip and in due time a new safe harbor is formed.



The final image, a circa 1907 postcard, shows the same area totally completed and improved with a new mission, docking a multitude of torpedo boats.



Wet Slip 2 continues serving our shipyard approximately 116 years later in this same completed configuration, yet now you have journeyed back in time to see how it all started.

So fast forward to October 1, 1920, as this is how Pier 4 appeared as Wet Slip 3 to its north and Wet Slip 4 to its south were almost complete of final dredging. Also note the old Belt Line Railroad track bridge in the distance has a center swing span, not the high lift of today that we normally see in the raised position.

And finally, a real American icon of a ship, the USS Arizona that received modernization at the Norfolk Navy Yard along with a drastic physical makeover from May 4, 1929, to becoming fully re-commissioned on March 1, 1931. The location of this final the below photo is of course, Pier 4.

These great facilities and piers did not just happen. It took the physical labor of many unknown souls giving an honest day's hard work for Uncle Sam. The result of their physical efforts is evident both in photographs and the facilities we still use today. Pier 4 most likely outlived most of the men in these pictures but it is important to remember that their efforts supported our naval history and heritage at our shipyard because – "history matters."



# NOBODY GETS HURT T+DAY: SAFETY FIRST!



*This is how you handle working safely! Congratulations to Shop 98 of NNSY's Lifting and Handling Department (Code 700), winner of the January 2023 safety flag! The shop had no injuries or lost workdays for the month. Shop 98 has set the standard for waterfront safety in 2023 thanks to a commitment on employee ownership in Operational Risk Management, focusing on personnel development, and highlighting the importance of safety every day while achieving quality work on schedule. Individual certificates of appreciation were presented to Gavin Childress and Matt Anderson for their efforts in contributing to a safer shipyard. (Photos by Danny De Angelis, NNSY Photographer.)*





# C-FRAM FRAUD SCHEME AWARENESS

## MAY EDITION: FALSE INVOICES

Knowingly submitting false, inflated or duplicate invoices, acting alone or in collusion with contracting personnel as a result of corruption. "False invoices" refer to invoices for goods or services not rendered.

### DDO EXAMPLE

March 2022: Stephanie Dianna Elliott was sentenced to 108 months in prison. In Sept. 2021, she pled guilty in federal court to charges of wire fraud and money laundering arising out of schemes to defraud the DoD and North Carolina businesses. She used aliases and more than a dozen business entities to obtain more than 1,000 federal defense contracts valued at more than \$2.2 million.

According to the indictment, Elliott defrauded the DoD by obtaining contract payments after falsely certifying that she had shipped supplies to the U.S. military, when, in fact, the goods were not shipped. It is alleged that Elliott and/or businesses under her control were debarred from federal contracting on four occasions. Elliott circumvented the terms of her debarments by using aliases and various business names to continue bidding on federal contracts.

### NAVY EXAMPLE

April 2022: Raymond Lofthouse was sentenced to one month of probation to be followed by six months of home confinement for filing false claims on Navy Contracts. Judge Rambo also ordered Lofthouse to pay \$60,000 in restitution to the U.S. Navy. The Navy also debarred Lofthouse from receiving government contracts until June 2026.

According to the government, Lofthouse was awarded a contract for \$60,000 through company Soldiers Supply to repair three electric motors for the U.S. Naval Supply Systems Command, in Mechanicsburg, PA. Lofthouse billed the Navy for the contract, knowing the work was not complete and then never completed the work.

### INDICATORS (RED FLAGS)

Missing or copied purchase order or receiving documentation for invoiced goods/services. Submission of other than original or verified invoices. Invoice payment is a round number or is unusual in its circumstances. Total payment to vendor exceeds total purchase order or contract amounts. Unusually high volume of purchases from one vendor. Invoiced goods or services cannot be located in inventory or accounted for. Weak or not enforced internal controls in the receipt of goods and payment of invoices. Contractor's records do not show work was done or costs incurred. Invoice information does not agree to contract terms, purchase order, receiving records, or inventory/usage records.

### LEARN MORE TODAY

Check out the C-FRAM site on WebCentral under CIOOCE for more information.

Need to report fraud? Contact the NNSY Hotline today at 757-396-7971 or [NNSY\\_IG\\_HOTLINE@navy.mil](mailto:NNSY_IG_HOTLINE@navy.mil).