

SALUTE



PSNS & IMF

A JOB WELL DONE

USS Ohio, USS Pennsylvania project teams celebrate critical milestones in their efforts to support the fleet • PAGE 12



Team PSNS & IMF,

As we step further into the new year, I want to take a moment to reflect on what's ahead and the opportunities in front of us to come together as a team. January is a time to set the tone for the months to come. The events and efforts we're focusing on this month emphasize the values that unite us: service, reflection, and innovation.

Next week, we'll observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day, honoring Dr. King's enduring legacy of equality, justice, and service. Many of you will have the chance to participate in observances at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds or other community events.

Dr. King's teachings remind us of the importance of working together toward a shared purpose—values that resonate deeply with our mission here at PSNS & IMF. I encourage everyone to take a moment to reflect on his legacy and consider how we can continue to strengthen the bonds of teamwork and inclusion within our command.

On a more somber note, this past month, we said goodbye to former President Jimmy Carter, whose remarkable life of service began in the Navy. His dedication to public service—both in and out of uniform—serves as a reminder of the impact one person can make. President Carter's naval career is a testament to the enduring legacy of those who came before us, and his leadership and humility are qualities we can all strive to embody. As we continue our work maintaining and modernizing the fleet, let's draw inspiration from his example and remain committed to the values of service and dedication.

Closer to home, we've taken another step to improve quality of life for our workforce. A new food truck is now available on the shipyard, offering more convenient and accessible meal options. This addition is a small but meaningful way to support our team's well-being during the workday. I hope you'll take the opportunity to check it out and share your feedback. Investments like these reflect our commitment to ensuring that every member of our workforce has the resources and support they need to thrive.

As always, it's your hard work and dedication that make all of this possible. Whether through the improvements we make here at the shipyard or the mission-critical work we deliver to the fleet, everything we achieve is a result of the teamwork and professionalism of this command. Each of you plays an essential role in ensuring our Navy remains ready to respond whenever and wherever it's needed.

Thank you for everything you do every day to support our Navy and our nation. Let's carry Dr. King's lessons and President Carter's example forward as we continue building a stronger, more united team in 2025.

Stay focused, stay inspired and, as always, thank you for your hard work and dedication.

Honesty, Humility and Dedication, always.


Captain JD Crinklaw
Commander, PSNS & IMF

In this issue:



In memorium: Looking back on a life of service



Another milestone for USS George Washington



New automated pizza oven keeps prices down

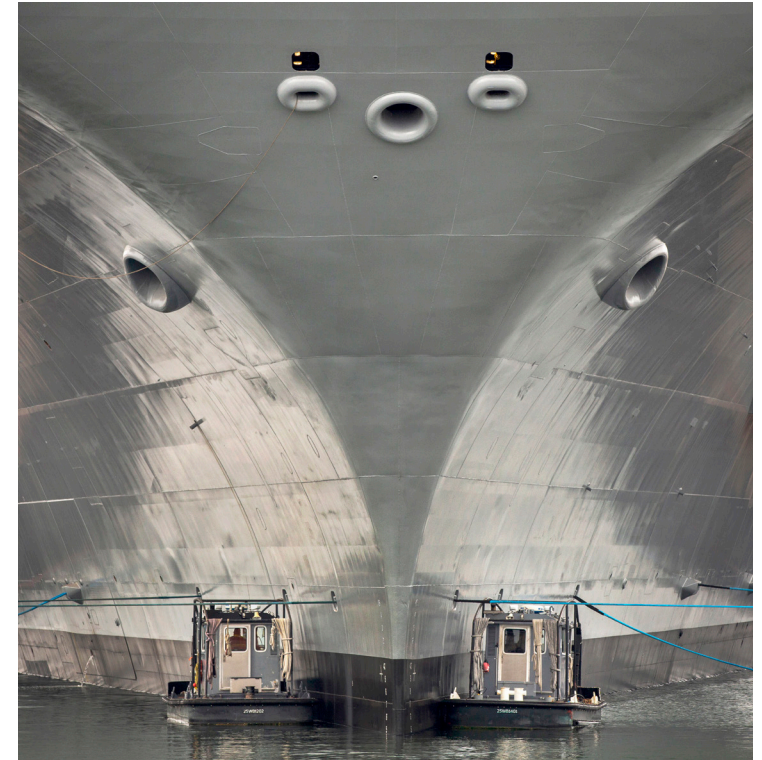
On the cover:

USS Pennsylvania (SSBN 735) departs Dry Dock 4 Dec. 17, after completing a complex dry-docking period at PSNS & IMF and taking a significant step toward returning to operations at sea.

(U.S. Navy photo by Wendy Hallmark)



ABOVE: With a rapidly changing global landscape, the Chief of Naval Operations' Navigation Plan 2024 sets a clear course for navigating the challenges of tomorrow, including the critical role of maintaining the Navy's fleet. (U.S. Navy photos by Scott Hansen and Wendy Hallmark)



Navigating the future together: PSNS & IMF's role in the CNO's Navigation Plan

PSNS & IMF Public Affairs

At Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility, we're proud to be a cornerstone of the Navy's readiness and operational excellence. The Chief of Naval Operations' Navigation Plan 2024 set a clear course for how the Navy will navigate a rapidly evolving global landscape and prepare to meet tomorrow's challenges. Over the coming weeks, we're launching a series of articles, videos and interviews to dive deeper into how PSNS & IMF's people, teams and organizations are driving this vision forward through our mission and service.

A major focus of the CNO's Navigation Plan is Project 33, which spotlights the critical importance of maintenance and sustainment for the Navy's readiness. As one of the public shipyards leading the charge, PSNS & IMF plays a vital role in ensuring our fleet is always prepared to face the complexities of modern threats. Maintenance is not just a task we perform—it's a mission-critical function that



safeguards national security, enabling the Navy to respond to global challenges swiftly and effectively.

This series will explore how our work at PSNS & IMF aligns with the CNO's vision. You'll hear from the individuals and teams who make it happen every day, sharing their stories and insights about how we're innovating, collaborating, and delivering for the fleet. From the waterfront to project management offices, every part of PSNS & IMF contributes to ensuring that we remain the world's premier naval shipyard, and we're excited to highlight that journey.

All employees are encouraged to read the CNO's Navigation Plan in full on the CNO's official website. Making a connection to CNO's priorities is not just about sharing the work we do or the innovations we lead—we also want to highlight the people and the teams leading the charge. We want to hear from you! If you have

story ideas or know of teams making a difference, email us at psns.pao.fct@us.navy.mil. Together, let's showcase how PSNS & IMF is steering toward a stronger, more secure future.

Stay tuned!

President James Earl (Jimmy) Carter Jr. • Oct. 1, 1924 – Dec. 29, 2024

REMEMBERING A LIFE OF SERVICE

Naval History and Heritage Command

Former President James Earl (Jimmy) Carter Jr., died Dec. 29, 2024, after celebrating his 100th birthday in October. Carter was laid to rest Jan. 9 near his home in Plains, Georgia.

Carter, who became the nation's 39th president in 1976, was born Oct. 1, 1924. After graduating from Plains High School in 1941, he attended Georgia Southwestern College in Americus, Georgia before transferring to the Georgia Institute of Technology to study mathematics before his appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy in 1943. He graduated in June 1946 with distinction.

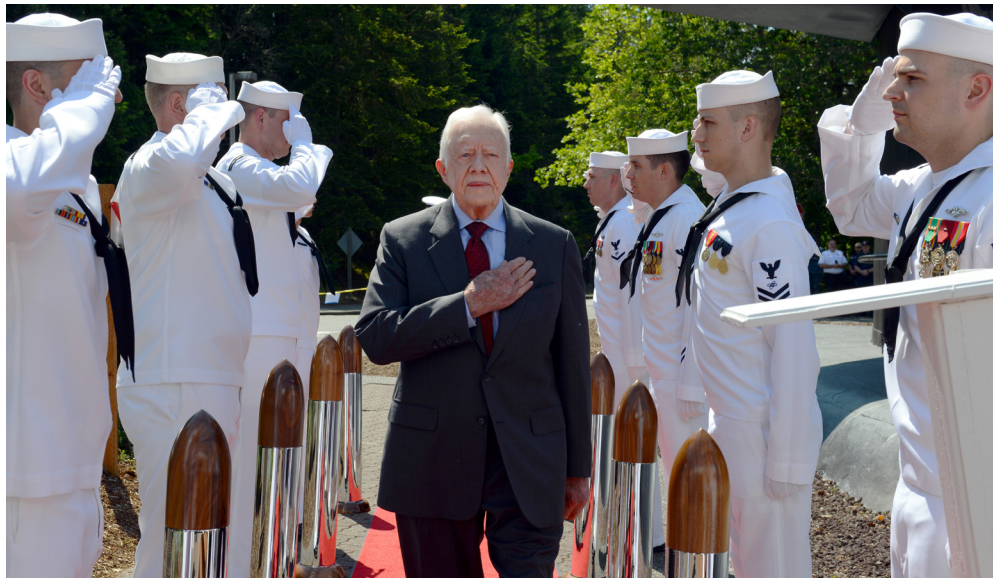
After completing two years aboard surface ships, Carter applied for submarine duty. He served as executive officer, engineering officer and electronics repair officer on the submarine SSK-1. When Admiral Hyman G. Rickover (then a captain) started a program to create nuclear-powered submarines, Carter applied and was selected by Rickover. Carter was promoted to lieutenant and served with the Naval Reactors Branch, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D.C., to assist "in the design and development of nuclear propulsion plants for naval vessels."

In 1953, while Carter was preparing to become engineering officer for USS Seawolf (SSN-575), his father died. As a result, Carter resigned from the Navy and returned to Georgia to manage his family interests. Carter was honorably discharged Oct. 9, 1953, and transferred to the retired reserve at his request with the rank of lieutenant. The Seawolf-class submarine USS Jimmy Carter (SSN-23) bears his name.

TOP: Former President Jimmy Carter participates in a change of command ceremony for USS Jimmy Carter (SSN 23) at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor in 2015. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Kenneth G. Takada)

MIDDLE: Former President Jimmy Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, christen USS Jimmy Carter (SSN 23) in 2005. (U.S. Navy photos)

BOTTOM: Former President Jimmy Carter visits PSNS & IMF in 2015. (U.S. Navy photo by Jason Kaye)



EMPLOYEE SUPPORT

Command working to expand food options for workforce

Ben Hutto
PSNS & IMF Public Affairs

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility continues to bring more lunchtime food options into the shipyard's Controlled Industrial Area.

PSNS & IMF welcomed Sourced, a food truck specializing in Filipino, Hawaiian and Mexican cuisine into the CIA for the first time, Oct. 4.

Sourced set up shop between Dry Dock 6 and Building 455. The truck will be selling food in between Dry Dock 6 and Building 455 every Wednesday and Friday moving forward.

"Everyone has been telling me this is a great place to be," said Mathew Ritualo, owner. "I'm really looking forward to serving our service members and the people that serve them."

Ritualo, the son of a U.S. Marine, was born at Camp Pendleton, but grew up in the local area. His truck has also been operating at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor and in Poulsbo. According to Ritualo, PSNS & IMF seemed like the next place to try and build a clientele.

"We are a family business with ties to the area, so I was interested as soon as I heard coming here was a possibility," he explained. "It's always great to go somewhere you've never been before. I'm excited to be here."

Sourced is just one of many initiatives that Para Kan, management and program analyst, Code 1101.2 Executive Support, has been working on to expand lunch options for members of Team Puget.



ABOVE: Cook and driver Brando Jativa and server Elizabeth Ritualo await their next customer inside the "Sourced" food truck Nov. 13, at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor. The food truck specializes in Filipino, Hawaiian and Mexican cuisine. (U.S. Navy photo by Wendy Hallmark)

"Sourced is the first civilian food truck in the CIA," he said. "We are working to give our workers options that are fast, high quality and fairly priced. We are looking for more vendors to provide our workers more options."

In support of that goal, Sweet Dahlia, a bakery that operates out of Bainbridge, is looking to start operating in the CIA beginning in February. The vendor is tentatively set to be open Monday through

Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. As opening nears, more information will be available on "News You Can Use."

While outside vendors will provide a more varied lunch experience, Kan and his partners have also worked to upgrade the barista stand near Building 448, to improve the experience there. This expansion will provide more cover from the elements, a new seating area and expanded storage.

STAY CONNECTED.
BE INFORMED.

Employee News Notification System

PSNS & IMF employees can receive emergency alerts and breaking news specific to PSNS & IMF by site locations (e.g. operating status due to inclement weather), and opt-in to receive special event notifications by registering in the Everbridge Alert Portal.

Sign up now to receive alerts on your personal devices by the directions at the following link: Member.everbridge.net/306355722256718/event. Or text "PSNS" to 888777 (message and data rates may apply).



Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility
EVERBRIDGE ALERT PORTAL





ABOVE: Friends and family greet USS George Washington (CVN 73) as it arrives at Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan, Nov. 22. George Washington recently became the Navy's only permanently forward-deployed aircraft carrier. (U.S. Navy photo by Tetsuya Morita)

ANOTHER CARRIER MILESTONE

George Washington returns to Yokosuka, Japan, becoming Navy's only forward-deployed carrier

Ensign Kenadall Hill
USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73)

The Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) returned to Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan as the United States' only forward-deployed aircraft carrier, Nov. 22.

This marks the second time George Washington has served as the forward-deployed naval forces-Japan aircraft carrier. In 2008, it became the first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier to be forward-deployed to Japan before being relieved by USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) in 2015.



ABOVE: Sailors line the rails as USS George Washington (CVN 73) arrives in Yokosuka, Japan, Nov. 22. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Travis S. Hanes)



ABOVE: Sailors line the rails as Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) returns to Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan, for the first time in nearly nine years, Nov. 22. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Travis S. Hanes)

"A US carrier represents the most advanced maritime capability we have, and it's the most advanced investment we can make in the security of Japan and of the Western Pacific," said Vice Adm. Fred Kacher, Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet. "The George Washington returns with modernized, cutting-edge technology that represents our investment in deterrence and security in this region."

During George Washington's transit from Norfolk, Virginia to Japan, the crew completed Exercise Southern Seas in U.S. 4th Fleet and a seven-week transit from San Diego.

"Arriving here in Yokosuka has been a milestone for this crew for many months, and for some the journey started in April when we departed from Virginia," said Capt. Tim Waits, commanding officer of George Washington. "I could not be more proud of this team. Not only have we arrived safely and on time, but from day one of deployment we have met every goal, exceeded all expectations, and were ready for tasking the day we arrived in the 7th Fleet area of operations."

George Washington, with embarked Carrier Air Wing 5, recently participated in the multi-domain exercise Freedom Edge with the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force and Republic of Korea Navy in the East China Sea. U.S. participation included Strike Fighter Squadron 147, the first F-35C Lightning II squadron to join FDNF-J, adding



ABOVE: USS George Washington (CVN 73) pulls into Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan, Nov. 22. George Washington is 7th Fleet's premier forward-deployed aircraft carrier. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Quinton A. Lee)

fifth generation strike fighter jets to the roster of forward-deployed carrier-based aircraft in the Indo-Pacific region.

"We are proud to bring George Washington back to Yokosuka and back to the location of the most meaningful time in the ship's history," said Rear Adm. Greg Newkirk, Commander, Task Force 70 and the George Washington Carrier Strike Group. "Her crew is made up of both returning friends and many new to Japan, where they and their families will create lifelong memories and friendships in this magnificent Japanese city. Together, the combined community – back dropped by the JMSDF fleet and

America's only forward-deployed aircraft carrier – represents a shared vision of peace and prosperity across the region. We are truly allies, friends and family."

George Washington recently hosted distinguished visitors at sea, including U.S. Ambassador to Japan, Rahm Emanuel; Japan's Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Okano Masataka; and the mayor of Iwakuni City, Fukuda Yoshihiko.

George Washington is 7th Fleet's premiere forward-deployed aircraft carrier, a long-standing symbol of the United States' commitment to maintaining a free and open Indo-Pacific region, and operates alongside allies and partners across the U.S. Navy's largest numbered fleet.

A LITTLE SLICE OF HEAVEN

New automated pizza oven keeps prices down while producing fresh pies for hungry shipyard employees

Ben Hutto
PSNS & IMF Public Affairs

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility leadership has found a way to make ordering a hot slice of pizza easier for command employees.

It is part of the command's effort to improve quality of service throughout the shipyard—in both big ways and smaller ways.

"This is a huge improvement for us," said Chad Davis, Morale, Welfare Recreation (MWR) Food and Beverage Activities manager. "This machine can do the work that would normally take six different people to do with only one percent waste. It's clean, safe and easy to maintain."

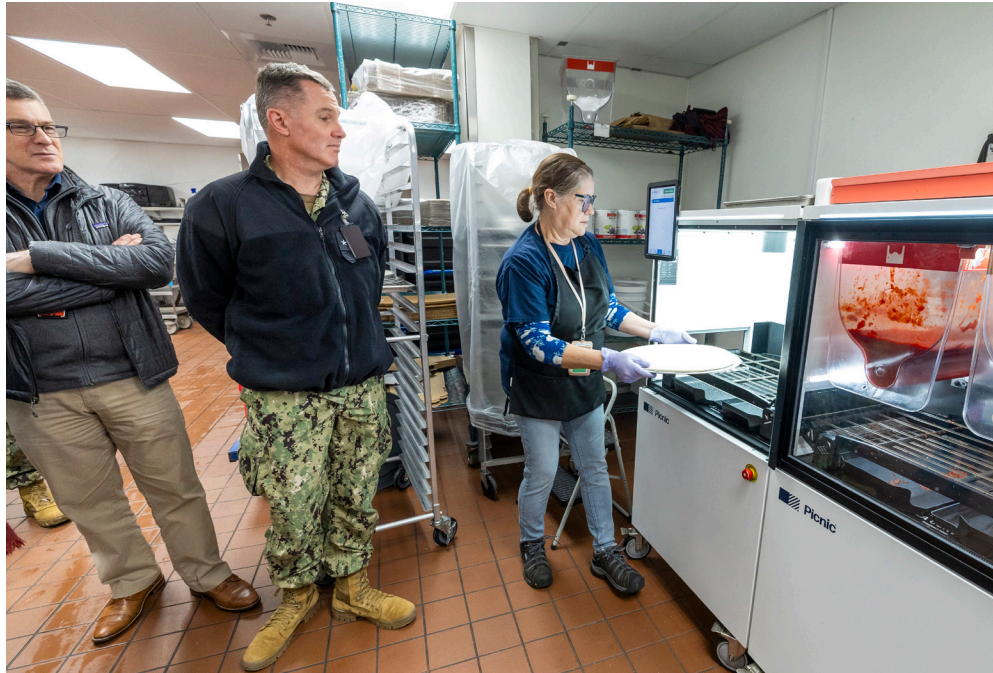
The device, The Picnic Pizza Station, is produced by Picnic, a company located in Seattle. It uses conveyor belts to move pizza dough through the device, where ingredients are placed on the dough, similar to a 3D printer. Pizza sauce is drizzled on dough from a nozzle in measured precise swipes before cheese and toppings are set in place with mechanical pods, in preparation for baking. The whole process is much more efficient than previous processes.

One of the oven's first uses was to provide slices for the Code 900S, Waterfront Safety, Pathway To Safety event in June. The oven was able to produce 500 pizzas that morning to support the lunchtime event. While that level of production isn't typical—the oven produces around 35-75 pizzas in an average week—it does show what the machine is capable of., it does show what it is capable of. Depending on the size of the product, the device is capable of working on 10-15 different pizzas at a time.

"Everybody loves it so far," Davis said to Rear Adm. Mark Sucato, commander, Navy Region Northwest, during a demonstration at PSNS & IMF. "The bottom line is that this will help keep the price low for our employees and our labor cost down. It's a win for everyone."

After sampling a slice and discussing the logistics of how the machine is loaded and maintained, the commander walked away from the demonstration impressed.

"It's not what I expected, but I thought it was pretty cool," he said. "I'm really



impressed with its ability to scale and make products reliably. I think this will be a huge win for our workers here."

The device is now producing fresh pizza every day for lunch at all canteen locations at PSNS & IMF. In addition, employees can call ahead and get pies to take back to their

ABOVE: Rear Adm. Mark Sucato, commander, Navy Region Northwest and Chad Davis, business activity director, Morale Welfare and Recreation, Naval Base Kitsap-Bremerton watch as Joyce Embree, production lead, MWR, demonstrates how the Picnic Pizza Station, a new automated pizza machine, makes pizza, Dec. 9, inside the Building 435 Cafeteria at PSNS & IMF.

AT LEFT: Julia McLaughlin, director, Morale Welfare and Recreation, Naval Base Kitsap-Bremerton, dishes up a slice of freshly baked pizza from the Picnic Pizza Station, a new automated pizza oven, Dec. 9, inside the Building 435 cafeteria.

(U.S. Navy photos by Wendy Hallmark)

office or home for dinner; instead of eating there. It is just another option that will allow workers to get quality food without leaving the shipyard.

"We have received zero complaints on flavor so far," said Davis. "I hope our workers will continue to enjoy it."



ABOVE: Capt. JD Crinklaw, commander, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility, signs the transfer of custody paperwork for Ex-Chicago (SSN 721), along with Cmdr. Robert J. Gillis, commander, Ex-Chicago (SSN 721), and Jodi Brill, nuclear project business agent, Code 1200N, Nuclear Business Office, Dec. 20, during a signing ceremony alongside Dry Dock 3.

AT RIGHT: A Sailor lowers and removes the commissioning pennant for Ex-Chicago (SSN 721) Dec. 20, during a decommissioning ceremony for the Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine alongside Dry Dock 3 at PSNS & IMF. The lowering of the pendant signifies decommissioning and removes Ex-Chicago from the list of active submarines. Ex-Chicago was first commissioned Sept. 27, 1986.

(U.S. Navy photos by Wendy Hallmark)



Ex-Chicago (SSN 721)

Decommissioning process for former fast-attack sub takes another step

PSNS & IMF Public Affairs

Since its decommissioning ceremony at the U.S Naval Undersea Museum at Keyport, Washington, July 21, 2023, Ex-Chicago (SSN 721) has been going through the final stages of retirement at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Maintenance Facility. On Nov. 8, Capt. JD Crinklaw signed the transfer, officially taking custody of the Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine.

Since that time, the decommissioning of Ex-Chicago has continued at a steady pace. Employees with Code 321, Operations, finished the transfer of the submarine's fuel Nov. 19, the first defueling to incorporate the new seismic process changes at PSNS & IMF.

The 30-day effort was completed despite significant weather delays and hurdles to overcome. Adm. William J. Houston, director of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, highlighted this impressive effort in an email to the Chief of Naval Operations.

In a all-hands email, Capt. J.D. Crinklaw also thanked the team for their efforts and explained to the shipyard how the process will benefit future defueling and refueling projects.

Measuring in at 360-feet long, with a beam of 33 feet, USS Chicago (SSN 721) was commissioned Sept. 27, 1986. Chicago was the thirty-fourth Los Angeles-class submarine, and the fourth U.S. Navy ship to be named for the city of Chicago, Illinois.

ASBP
Armed Services Blood Program



**GIVE A GIFT OF LIFE —
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1st WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
Feb. 5, 2025

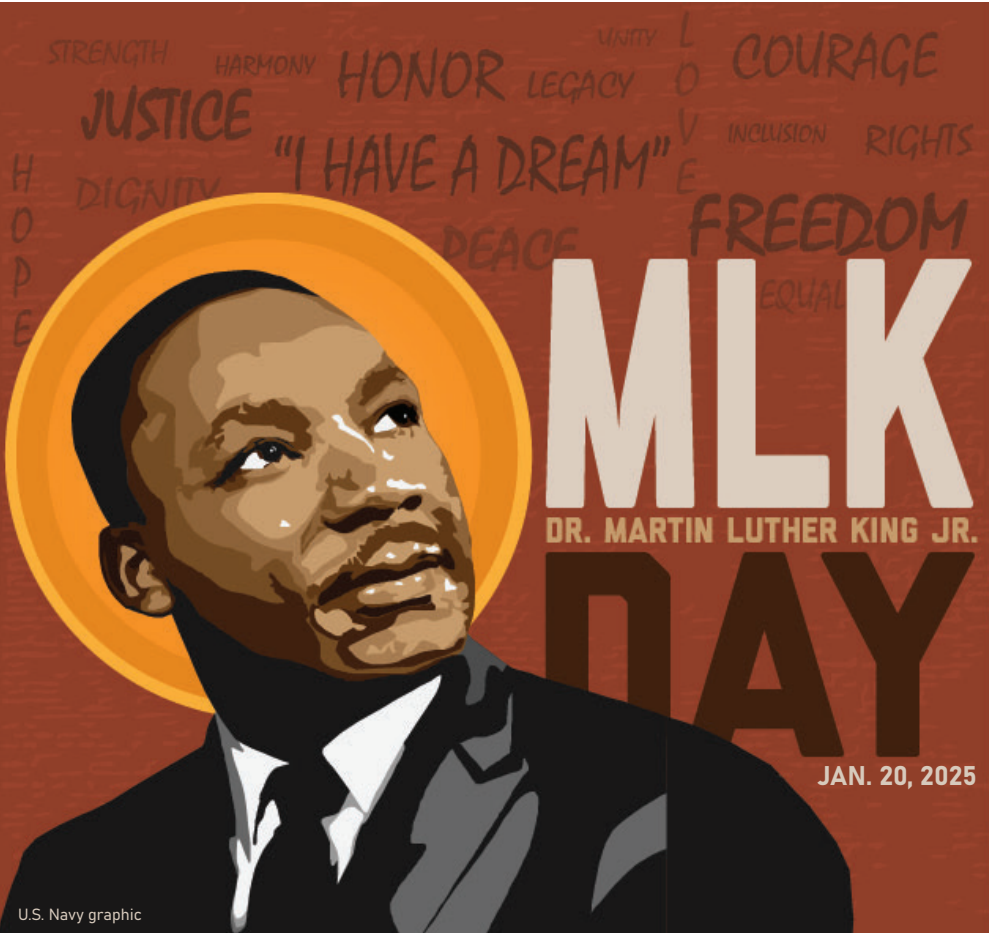
9AM - 3PM, BLDG. 850A, RM 160

For full details, visit News You Can Use on the PSNS & IMF
SharePoint home page.

RETIREMENT CEREMONY | Shipyard employees bid farewell



Capt. JD Crinklaw, commander, PSNS & IMF, poses with retirees Dec. 17, following a quarterly retirement ceremony for 15 longtime command employees at the Kitsap Conference Center in Bremerton. Employees include (from left): Mark Mullinix, Code 2300, Nuclear Engineering and Planning; Harlen Caldwell, Shop 11, Shipfitters; Jeffry Chamberlain, Code 200, Engineering and Planning; David Taylor, Code 200, Engineering and Planning; Andrew Manchester, Code 120, Ocean Engineering Office; Joe Randle, Code 130, Quality Assurance Office; Gayle Donahue, Code 700, Lifting and Handling; Frank Graham, Code 130, Quality Assurance Office; Brian Steffens, Code 300N, Nuclear Production; Patrick Dubos, Shop 56, Pipefitters; Richard Tomlinson, Code 300N, Nuclear Production; Michael Smith, Code 300N, Nuclear Production. Not pictured: Fritz Charles, Shop 56, Pipefitters; Steven Hall, Code 210.3, Fleet Technical Support; Linda Whitman, Code 200, Engineering and Planning. (U.S. Navy photo by Wendy Hallmark)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan. 20

- Federal Holiday:** The national Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance is Jan. 20.



Feb. 1-28

- Black History Month:** The annual National Black History Month observance begins Feb. 1.

Feb. 5

- Blood Drive:** The monthly Armed Services Blood Drive will take place Feb. 5 in Building 850A, room 160, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Feb. 14

- Valentines Day:** The annual Valentines Day observance is Feb. 14.

Feb. 17

- President's Day:** The annual President's Day holiday will be observed Feb. 17.



March 1-31

- Women's History Month:** The annual Women's History Month observance begins March 1.

Corrective Actions

During the month of **December 2024**, the command had **14 actions**. The following are examples and associated behaviors.

1 **SUSPENSIONS**
(Non-supervisors)
for failure to follow instructions.

5 **TERMINATIONS**
(Non-supervisors)
for discharge during probation, performance-based adverse action, safety violation.

2 **REPRIMANDS**
(Non-supervisors)
for failure to follow instruction, wasting time.

The remaining
6 ACTIONS
consisted of:

Letters of Caution (3);
Medical Certification Letters (1); Removals (2).

DO YOU HAVE YOUR 2025 CALENDAR YET?

The 2025 PSNS & IMF Calendar is now available. Quantities are limited, so pick up your copy today. Visit the Salute Office in Building 850, fifth floor, Room 511.

For more information, call 360-476-2544.



VOLUNTARY
Leave Transfer
PROGRAM



This program authorizes federal employees to donate annual leave to other civilian federal employees. If you wish to donate annual leave or have any questions, please contact the Human Resources Office at 360-476-8289/7015, or visit Building 435, 3rd floor, Room 338, or fax your donation form to 360-476-8723.

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Tara Wilson

Code 106.2
Daniel Gilbert
Code 109
Shawn Fellows
Lueida Johnson
Christopher Lockhart
Code 200
Gennafer Litke
Code 244.1
Ciara Watkins
Code 246
Christian Carlson
Code 246.1
Jacqueline Lewis
Code 260
Krista Beyale

Code 260M
Paul Greil
Code 432
Rolf Jacobson
Code 600
Wayne Menard
Code 702
Gerrie Curry
Code 710
Natalie Denson
Code 900A
Robyn Rogers
Code 900F.12
John Quinene
Code 980
Coral Ledford
Code 1200N.42
Jodi Fitchett

Code 1212
Michelle Gilbert
Code 2320
Donna Taylor
Code 2340.2
Jessica Monzingo
Anders
Shop 06
Douglas Willis
Diana Macy
Shop 26
Robert Castillo
Shop 38
Brook Herrick
Wilbur Hinman
Tim Thompson
Kimberly Venezia

Shop 51
Jeffrey Frankowski
Michael Norgaard
Shop 56
Scott Joers
Shop 57
Jason Allen
Shop 64
Shane Anderson
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Rideshare

Gig Harbor Vanpool: Picks up at Gig Harbor Albertsons and Purdy Park & Ride, beginning at 6:30 a.m. Departs PSNS & IMF at 3:30 p.m. Call 360-373-2586.

Pierce Transit Vanpool: Picks up at downtown Puyallup Fred Meyer at 4 a.m. Departs shipyard at 4:05 p.m. Text 253-732-1958.

Tacoma Vanpool: Picks up at Parkland Park & Ride at 4:55 a.m., Tacoma Narrows Park & Ride at 5:15 a.m. Departs shipyard (G-Lot) at 3:05 p.m. Call 253-202-5819.

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SALUTE

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AROUND THE YARD

USS OHIO, USS PENNSYLVANIA PROJECTS REACH MILESTONES • (U.S. Navy photos by Wendy Hallmark)



TOP: USS Ohio (SSGN 726) undocks from Pier 5 Dec. 19, at PSNS & IMF, as it transitions to its final stage of testing and crew certification.

ABOVE LEFT: USS Ohio (SSGN 726) crew members salute during morning colors Dec. 19, before beginning the process of undocking from Pier 5 at PSNS & IMF.

ABOVE RIGHT: USS Pennsylvania (SSBN 735) crosses the sill Dec. 17 after undocking from Dry Dock 4, completing a complex dry-docking period at PSNS & IMF.