

THE PERISCOPE

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard news and information since 1942

May 2025

SECNAV VISITS PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD





CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has seen lots of excitement this past month.

On March 25, we had the pleasure of welcoming delegates from AUKUS, the trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The visit was a great opportunity to share with key personnel from the AUKUS partnership, which strengthens the participating nations lethality, warfighting capabilities, and enhances readiness.

We proudly welcomed Commander, Naval Submarine Forces Vice Adm. Robert Gaucher back to PNSY, March 27, to share how we are continuing our commitment to enhance our critical warfighting capabilities, drive innovation and challenge delivery schedules.

On April 17, we had the honor of welcoming the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV), John Phelan, on his first visit to PNSY since he was sworn in as the 79th SECNAV, March 25. U.S. Senators Susan Collins, Jeanne Shaheen, and Angus King joined us for a roundtable discussion. The visit was a great opportunity to align on workforce

optimization efforts and share how Portsmouth is working to meet the Nation's call to increase fleet readiness, lethality and deterrence.

I would like to take a moment to share an important reminder. As we continue to navigate waves of change, it is easy to find ourselves falling into politically charged conversations. Now more than ever, I ask you all to remember the Hatch Act of 1939. At PNSY, we are an objective government facility that operates for the country, not a political party. The Hatch Act states a DOD employee may not engage in political activity while on duty, in a federal room or building, while wearing a uniform or official insignia, or using any federally owned or leased vehicle. Remember, our mission and commitment to our Sailors remains the same – that is what we need to focus on.

In April, we mourned the loss of the 129 brave souls aboard USS Thresher (SSN 593) with the 62nd Thresher Memorial Ceremony held at R.W. Traip Academy. This year marked the third Thresher Memorial I have had the honor of attending in my time as the 87th Shipyard Commander. The weight of those lost 62 years ago was felt deeply as the son of fallen Steward 3rd Class George Bracey shared the Thresher story from the view of those affected most directly. Sincere thanks to

the United States Submarine Veterans Thresher Base for their partnership and continuing to honor the Thresher legacy- our legacy, each year.

This month, we remember all who have been lost in service to the United States during peacetime and at war, with the recognition of Memorial Day. This is more than a long weekend; it is an opportunity to honor those who've paid the ultimate price for the freedom we enjoy as U.S. citizens each day. This year and every year, my heart is with those mourning a fallen loved one. Please continue to share their stories, keep their memories alive, and trust in the unmatched quality and expertise of our shipyard to provide our Sailors the best undersea warfare platform possible, so when in harms way, they can conduct their mission successfully and return home safely to their families.

Thank you all for continuing to support our warfighters at the tip of the spear with your work each day. Never forget, whether you work on the deck plate, in an office, or in uniform; you are serving your country.

**WE ARE PORTSMOUTH
NAVAL SHIPYARD!**

Michael Craig Oberdorf
**Captain Michael Oberdorf,
87th Shipyard Commander**



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On the cover: SECNAV John Phelan visits
Portsmouth Naval Shipyard

Photo by Shipyard Photographer Jim Cleveland

VICE ADM. GAUCHER VISITS PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD



Article and photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Charlotte C. Oliver

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard hosted Commander, Naval Submarine Forces Vice Adm. Robert Gaucher, March 27.

Gaucher met with Shipyard Commander Capt. Michael Oberdorf, Nuclear Engineering and Planning Manager Steve Fahey, Senior Executive Service, and Commodore, Submarine Squadron Two Capt. Jason Deichler to discuss critical capability upgrades on the Navy's nuclear-powered submarines. Gaucher then met with ships' commanding officers and project superintendents of the four fast-attack submarines currently undergoing maintenance and overhaul at the shipyard to receive updates on submarine platform readiness.

"It's an honor to have Vice Adm. Gaucher here at the shipyard to see how Portsmouth is continuing to push boundaries to drive innovation and challenge delivery schedules while maintaining a focus on our workforce and the Sailors as our customer," said Oberdorf. "We are proudly supporting the fleet by delivering fully modernized attack submarines enabling America's Warfighting Navy to get more ready players on the field to deter adversaries around the globe."

Gaucher toured USS Hampton (SSN 767) project spaces and crew workspaces on the pier with Hampton Commanding Officer Cmdr. Grant Wanier and Production Resources Officer Capt. William Sumsion. While pier side at North Dakota Gaucher received a project update from North Dakota Commanding Officer Cmdr. Trey Kennard and Project Superintendent Andy Stark. Gaucher recognized Machinist's Mate (Auxiliary) 2nd Class Brady McDonald for exhibiting exemplary watchstanding principles and his technical expertise as Auxiliary Division Leading Petty Officer.

Concluding the visit, Gaucher toured the Inside Machine Shop, led by Shop Superintendent Justin Orr where he received

a brief on major machining upgrades, optimization initiatives, the implementation of innovations, and highlighted the use of next generation technologies, including cold spray and additive manufacturing.

"Vice Adm. Gaucher's visit to PNSY underscores the Navy's commitment to warfighting readiness and technological innovation," said Deichler. "For 250 years, our Navy has led the world in maritime dominance—and that edge starts with the warriors here at PNSY. As the submarine force lead for additive manufacturing, I'm proud to highlight the strides our shipyard team has made. From sails to atoms to advanced manufacturing, PNSY and the Sailors at Squadron Two continue to lead the fleet in returning our submarines to sea—tougher, stronger, and ready to win," said Deichler.

As America's leader for attack submarine maintenance, repair and modernization, PNSY is enhancing critical warfighting capabilities by safely delivering first-time quality service, on budget, on time to the fleet and enabling warfighters to be battle-ready when called upon.



Commander, Naval Submarine Forces Vice Adm. Robert Gaucher presents Machinist's Mate (Auxiliary) 2nd Class Brady McDonald, assigned to the Virginia-class attack submarine USS North Dakota (SSN 784) with a challenge coin for exhibiting exemplary watchstanding principles and his technical expertise as Auxiliary Division Leading Petty Officer, during a visit to Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, March 27.



Secretary of the Navy Visits Portsmouth Naval Shipyard

Article by Periscope Editor Hanna Lanoie

Photos by Mass Communications Specialist 1st Class Charlotte C. Oliver

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard hosted Secretary of the Navy John Phelan, April 17.

Phelan met with Shipyard Commander Capt. Michael Oberdorf, Nuclear Engineering and Planning Manager Steve Fahey, Senior Executive Service; Commodore, Submarine Squadron Two Capt. Jason Deichler and other shipyard leadership to discuss workforce optimization efforts to ensure maximum value is delivered to the warfighter. With the current mission urgency, Phelan emphasized how imperative it is to accelerate decision making and prioritize mission-first alignment.

Alongside Commanding Officer Cmdr. Keith Turnbull and Project Superintendent Gabe Griego, Phelan received a topside tour of USS Washington (SSN 787) and had real-time engagement with the shipyard workforce and ship's crew.

"The work being done at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is incredibly important to the Navy," said Phelan. "Getting in, seeing it firsthand, and having honest conversations with shipyard workers gives me an opportunity to really understand what's working well and what can be improved."

Phelan then toured the P-381 Multi-Mission Dry Dock construction site alongside Officer-in-Charge of Construction – Portsmouth Capt. Ben Wainwright, who provided updates on the \$2 billion project that will help reduce the Navy's nuclear-powered submarine maintenance

backlog. Phelan also met with Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program (SIOP) Director Russ Gagner to discuss future PNSY SIOP projects including Water and Power Resiliency; Berth 11 and 13 Extension; Waterfront Production Facility and Dry Dock 3 Modernization.

"It's an honor to welcome Secretary Phelan to the shipyard to see firsthand, how Portsmouth is working to meet the Nation's call to achieve fleet readiness in the event of a conflict with our adversaries," said Oberdorf. "It is our priority as the Navy's center of excellence for submarine maintenance, repair and modernization to deliver the maximum support to our warfighters on the frontlines."

Concluding the visit, Phelan led a roundtable discussion with U.S. Senators Susan Collins, Jeanne Shaheen, and Angus King.

"The Secretary of the Navy's visit to Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and USS Washington reinforced his clear message: the Nation expects our submarines to return to the fight on schedule, fully capable, and without delay," said Deichler. "At Submarine Squadron Two, that mandate echoes in our daily work – ensuring each boat comes back tougher, more resilient, and ready to win."

As America's leader for attack submarine maintenance, repair and modernization, PNSY is enhancing lethality and readiness capabilities by safely delivering first-time quality service, on-budget and on time to enable warfighters to be battle-ready when called upon.



SECNAV Phelan meets with Shipyard Commander, Capt. Michael Oberdorf and USS Washington (SSN 787) leadership during topside tour.

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Secretary Phelan greets Sailors during a topside tour of USS Washington (SSN 787)



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Secretary Phelan leads a roundtable discussion with PNSY Employees



AUKUS and PNSY

Partnering for Enhanced Deterrence in the Indo-Pacific

Article by Shipyard Photographer Branden Bourque

Photos by Shipyard Photographer Jim Cleveland



(l to r) Head Nuclear Submarine Capability Rear Adm. Thomas Phillips, ASA, Shipyard Commander Capt. Michael Oberdorf, Head Virginia, Workforce and Commercial Rear Adm. David Mann, ASA, and Naval Sea System Command Capt. Jonathan Kim.

Strong alliances and partnerships have played a key role in the United State's efforts to promote peace and stability around the world. No where is that more evident today than in the enhanced trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States known as AUKUS. AUKUS focuses on promoting a free, open, secure and stable Indo-Pacific region while building on strong trilateral ties. Those ties were on display at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine, as the facility welcomed a delegation from Australia, March 25.

"Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is proud to play a pivotal role in supporting the AUKUS partnership and its critical initiatives," said Shipyard Commander Capt. Michael Oberdorf. "As we work together, we are committed to leveraging our world-class infrastructure, expertise, and technical capabilities to help ensure the success of this historic collaboration. The continued modernization of our facilities and our dedication to excellence in submarine maintenance and repair will be essential in advancing the defense and security goals of AUKUS, strengthening not only our own national defense but also the security of the Indo-Pacific region and beyond."

Rear Adm. Thomas Phillips, Head Nuclear Submarine Capability, Australian Submarine Agency (ASA), and Rear Adm. David Mann, Head Virginia, Workforce and Commercial, ASA met with shipyard leadership for a command overview and a presentation on the Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program (SIOP). Following the presentation, the group was presented a SIOP visualization, which focused on the modernization of Dry Dock 1, including the Super Flood Basin and Multi-mission Dry Dock. This provided the Australians with an

in-depth understanding of the shipyard's infrastructure upgrades that are critical to supporting the U.S. Navy and our allies.

"Engaging with the AUKUS team here at the shipyard underscores our commitment to not only enhancing our infrastructure but also to strengthening international partnerships in defense," said PNSY Nuclear Engineering and Planning Manager Steve Fahey, Senior Executive Service. "We are grateful to have the opportunity to share information relative to successful planning and execution of a nuclear-powered attack submarine availability. Additionally, the advancements we are making through SIOP are vital for maintaining the readiness of our fleet and supporting our allies, particularly as we collaborate on nuclear-powered submarine capabilities. Together, we are paving the way for a more secure and technologically advanced defense posture."



Personnel from allied nations tour
USS North Dakota (SSN 784).

AUKUS is driven by two core initiatives, known as pillars. Pillar I initiative is a commitment to support Australia in acquiring conventionally armed, nuclear-powered attack submarines for the Royal Australian Navy. Portsmouth Naval Shipyard plays a key role in supporting this effort, with the AUKUS team visiting the shipyard to collaborate on the necessary infrastructure, expertise, and resources required to advance the project.

Pillar II focuses on the collaborative development of advanced capabilities in six critical technological areas: undersea capabilities, quantum technologies, artificial intelligence and autonomy, advanced cyber, hypersonic and counter-hypersonic capabilities, and electronic warfare. This initiative also covers two broader functional areas: innovation and information sharing. With its established history of cutting-edge research and technical expertise, the shipyard is positioned to play an essential role in these areas as well, contributing to the continued advancement of these capabilities and fostering integration among the allied nations.

The Australian delegation also toured USS North Dakota (SSN 784) and several production shops to witness firsthand the technical expertise and resources PNSY offers. The team also participated in a detailed production briefing, which included discussions on the planning and execution of nuclear-powered submarine maintenance availabilities. These efforts align directly with the AUKUS

initiative, showcasing how PNSY's ongoing modernization and its technical capabilities will play a pivotal role in supporting the acquisition of nuclear-powered submarines for the Royal Australian Navy and advancing key defense technologies under Pillar I and Pillar II of the partnership.

As America's leader for attack submarine maintenance, repair and modernization, PNSY is enhancing critical warfighting capabilities by safely delivering first-time quality service, on budget, and on time to the fleet, enabling warfighters to be battle-ready when called upon.



Personnel from our allied nations tour the Inside Machine Shop.

COMMANDER, SUBMARINE SQUADRON TWO CELEBRATES 125 YEARS OF THE SILENT SERVICE

Article and photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Charlotte C. Oliver

Commander, Submarine Squadron Two hosted the 125th Submarine Birthday Ball in Portland, Maine, April 5. The Submarine Ball is traditionally held in conjunction with National Submarine Day April 11, which commemorates the U.S. Navy's acquisition of its first submarine, USS Holland (SS-1), in 1900.

From the early diesel-powered submarines to the Navy's newest Virginia-class attack submarine, the "silent service" has proudly served the nation for 125 years.

Before the celebration began, Electronics Technician (Nuclear) 2nd Class Michael Needham, assigned to the Virginia-class attack submarine USS North Dakota (SSN 784), earned his dolphins. He became the newest enlisted Sailor to earn his submarine qualification at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. This qualification distinguishes and identifies the members of the submarine community and is one of the Navy's oldest warfare devices.

Capt. Jason Deichler, Commodore, Submarine Squadron Two, welcomed more than 400 attendees, including current submariners, veterans and their guests. He introduced keynote speaker, Director of Undersea Warfare Rear Adm. Mark Behning.

"It is my absolute honor to stand here tonight and tell you that without question we have the most capable, credible, and effective submarine force the world has ever seen," said Behning. "While our unmatched technology is certainly part of our dominance, the real power and advantage comes from you, the men and women, who design, develop, maintain and operate these truly amazing boats here at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard."



Rear Adm. Mark Behning, Director, Undersea Warfare, far left, Electronics Technician (Nuclear) 2nd Class Michael Needham, newest qualified submarine enlisted Sailor, Ens. Michael Owens, newest qualified submarine officer, and Capt. Roy Springer, retired, the oldest qualified submarine officer, in attendance cut the cake at the 125th Submarine Birthday Ball.

~ This Month in Shipyard History ~

USS Penacook and the Squalus Rescue

Article by Shipyard Historian Joe Gluckert

Built by the New York Navy Yard, Brooklyn, New York, and launched October 29, 1898, USS Penacook (Harbor Tug No. 06) made history for serving a pivotal role in rescuing the 33 men trapped aboard sunken USS Squalus (SS-192) in May 1939.

By 10:30 a.m. on the morning of May 23, the USS Squalus' routine surfacing report was more than an hour overdue. As attempts to contact Squalus by radio went unanswered, the Shipyard Commandant, Rear Adm. Cyrus W. Cole decided to dispatch USS Sculpin (SS-191) to Squalus' last reported location.

At 12:41am, Sculpin reported that a lookout had sighted a red signal flare and proceeded to the area. Additional messages from Sculpin relaying the location of the sunken submarine's deployed telephone marker buoy, confirmed Squalus' Captain, Lt. Naquin was able to briefly communicate with Sculpin that men were trapped alive before that telephone line in the marker buoy broke. Rear Adm. Cole notified the Chief of Naval Operations that he was proceeding to the area to oversee rescue operations. The Commandant departed the Shipyard onboard Penacook at 1:30 p.m. and proceeded to rendezvous with Sculpin at the sunken submarine's position by 3:13p.m.

As rescue officer, Rear Adm. Cole directed Penacook to position a buoy 100 yards north of the suspected location of Squalus and another 100 yards to the south. Rear Adm. Cole and other officers then transferred to Sculpin, and Penacook was ordered to begin dragging operations to physically locate the downed Squalus. Once Penacook began dragging, it became quickly apparent that the grapnels onboard the tug were not heavy enough to sink the line and therefore one of Sculpin's boat anchors was pressed into service. At 7:30 p.m., Penacook hooked the borrowed anchor on what they hoped was the Squalus and buoyed the dragline with a wooden grating.

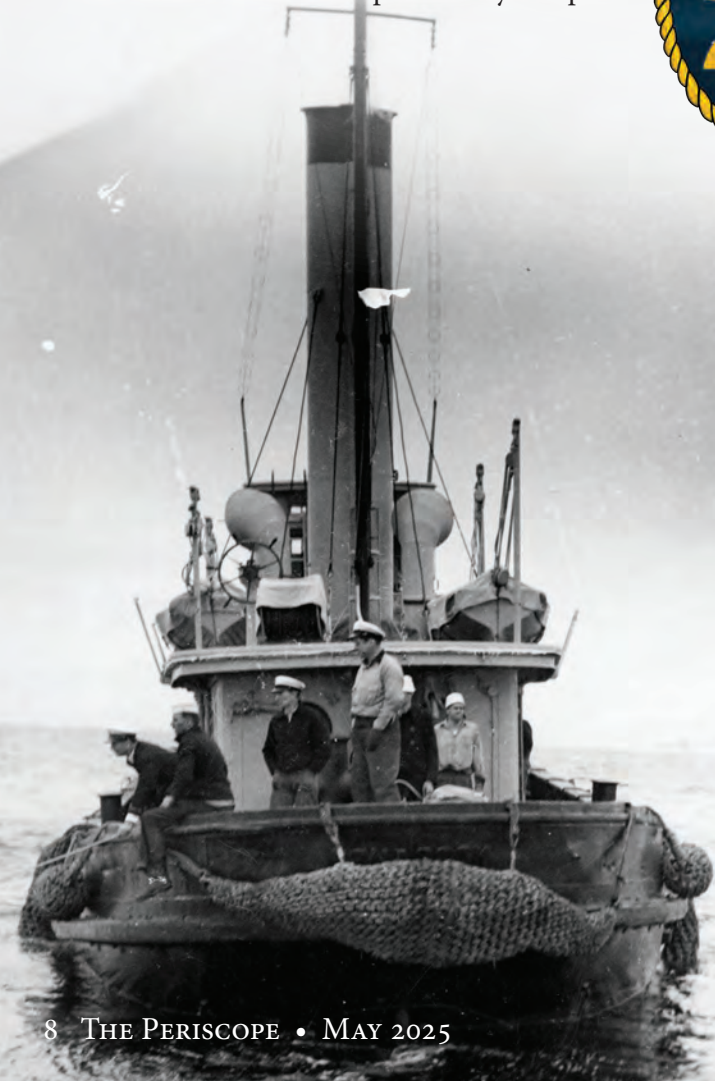
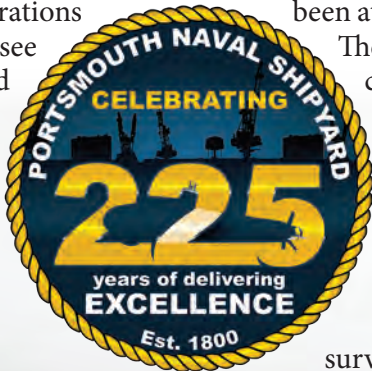
The following morning, the Submarine Rescue Ship, USS Falcon (ASR-2) arrived on site from Groton, Connecticut, having traveled all night at top speed. Using four anchors, Falcon secured a position above Squalus and the first diver, Martin C. Sibitzky, was sent down at 10:14 a.m., using the buoy line as his descent line, which had been attached to the drag anchor by the Penacook.

The diver reported that the line the Penacook's crew had dragged hooked the submarine roughly six feet aft of the forward torpedo room hatch. The extremely skillful work of the Penacook's crew had resulted in one of the first important steps in the rescue operation and contributed greatly to its ultimate success.

After a nearly 40-hour ordeal, the 33 survivors of the Squalus sinking had all been returned to the surface using a submarine rescue chamber in a series of four lifts. It was the first successful rescue operation from a sunken submarine.

Penacook and its crew continued to assist in the subsequent salvage operations which led to Squalus' return to the surface and to Portsmouth Naval Shipyard by September 1939. On May 15, 1944, Penacook was redesignated District Harbor Tug, Medium (YTM-6) and in September 1945, was removed from Navy service after a 47-year career.

This year marks 225 years of shipbuilding excellence for PNSY. Penacook's rescue of the Squalus crew is a proud chapter of that history.



USS Penacook (YT-6) circa May 23-24, 1939 with the USS Sculpin (SS 191) in the background. Penacook's crew dragged a grappling line off the Isle of Shoals in 240 feet of water to locate the downed USS Squalus (SS 192) prior to the arrival of the US Navy's Rescue Ship, USS Falcon.

Honoring USS Thresher with 62nd Annual Memorial Ceremony

Article by Periscope Editor Hanna Lanoie

Photo by Shipyard Photographer Jim Cleveland

Thresher Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI), in partnership with Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, hosted the 62nd USS Thresher (SSN 593) Memorial Service at Robert W. Traip Academy, Kittery, Maine, April 12.

Shipyard Commander Capt. Michael Oberdorf provided introductory remarks. "It's the third year that I've had the honor of providing remarks as the 87th Shipyard Commander of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, and I am humbled by your outpouring support towards one another and the fond remembrance of your loved ones for more than six decades. It's truly amazing and heartwarming to see," said Oberdorf. "It's been my privilege as Shipyard Commander to work alongside the finest Sailors, engineers, and skilled craftspeople in this nation. I can assure you that by their hard work and dedication, your loved ones did not die in vain."

The aftermath of the Thresher loss led the Navy to implement extensive changes in design, procedure, operations, and processes. The Thresher would become synonymous with a new approach to submarine safety through the creation of the Submarine Safety Program, known as SUBSAFE.

Capt. Joe Meier, the Commanding Officer of the Submarine Maintenance Engineering, Planning and Procurement program (SUBMEPP), served as the keynote speaker.

Addressing the crowd of Thresher families, friends, and ceremony guests, Meier shared how the memories of those they've lost have fueled the current and future success of submarine safety. "We cannot forget what happened," said Meier. "As the Commanding Officer of SUBMEPP, my job

is to ensure the Navy's submarines remain safe and reliable via a cost-effective lifecycle maintenance plan - the right maintenance at the right time. One of the keys to success in that endeavor is having a strong SUBSAFE culture."

The SUBSAFE program and the era of safety that followed its development, is the legacy of those lost on Thresher. It is due to the dedication and expertise of those involved that the program has successfully kept the Nation's submarine force safe from a similar event for more than 60 years.

And though the first-hand accounts of the Thresher loss are dwindling after six decades, it is today's submarine community and the descendants of those lost that are keeping their memory alive. Representing the Thresher families in offering remarks was Michael Bracey, son of Steward 3rd Class George Bracey who was among the 96 enlisted Sailors to perish on Thresher.

Bracey, who was merely four years old at the time of the tragedy, shared photos from his father's life, offering ceremony guests a look into a life cut short by the unthinkable. Despite being so young when his father passed, Bracey became emotional as he spoke of moments he was most affected by his death. "I never got to know him," said Bracey.

The service was concluded with the family of lost Quartermaster 1st Class Julius Francis Marullo Jr., casting a wreath along the water's edge.

The SUBSAFE Program will continue to be an integral part of the submarine community to guard against complacency and rigidly uphold the highest standards of design, operation, and training lest we be reminded by the power of the sea and the loss of irreplaceable loved ones.

USS Thresher (SSN 593) - We will never forget.



The family of lost Quartermaster 1st Class Julius Francis Marullo casts the wreath along the water's edge.

P R O F I L E S

Zachary Kofman



Photo by Shipyard Photographer Branden Bourque

Sheet Metal Mechanic Zachary Kofman is proud to play a role in Portsmouth Naval Shipyard's essential mission: the safe overhaul, repair and modernization of the U.S. Navy's nuclear-powered attack submarine fleet.

Three years into the five-year Worker Skills Progression Program apprenticeship, Kofman works in PNSY's Structural Shop. "To condense my job to one sentence, I am a metal carpenter and HVAC mechanic working on submarines," said Kofman. "I work on the rip-out, repair, and reinstallation of elements on the boats such as lockers, stowage and foundations, as well as the ventilation systems and fan units."

A typical day-in-the-life for Kofman begins with mustering with his crew and aligning on the tasks for the day, as well as any risks associated with the tasking. "Safety is of the utmost importance on the day-to-day," said Kofman. "We're making sure that not only do all mechanics get to make it home safe to their families at the end of the day, but that they get to come back and continue the work that is essential to keeping all Americans safe."

For Kofman, his job at PNSY is much more than the daily tasking of a sheet metal mechanic. "My favorite part of my job is the pride of knowing what I do every day is vital to performing maintenance on the Navy's assets, which are the number one deterrent in keeping America safe," said Kofman. "We are maintaining the safety of these vessels so the men and women in uniform out on the water will be safe, and can protect us in return."

Article by Periscope Editor Hanna Lanoie

Ryan Pennell

With a mission-focused mindset, Sheet Metal Mechanic Ryan Pennell is proud to support Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in getting submarines back to the fleet to deter adversaries and secure the nation's safety.

Pennell, an apprentice in the Worker Skills Progression Program, has spent the last three years working in Code 920 working on lockers, stows and miscellaneous metal components for submarines. "What I like most about my job is working with an amazing team that work together to get the job done," said Pennell. "It's also a great way for me to serve my country as a civilian."

Pennell has an outward mindset when fulfilling his role in the safe overhaul, repair and modernization of the U.S. Navy's nuclear powered attack submarines. That is why Pennell ensures he is taking all the necessary precautions to do his job safely while producing first-time quality. "Safety is my main priority. I've always been told that the main goal should be to go home exactly how you came into work that day."

A typical day for Pennell involves a team meeting to plan out the day's tasks and gather his tools to go shipboard, modifying, repairing and installing submarine components. Pennell loves what he does, and the opportunity for advancement at PNSY. "There's definitely room for growth at the shipyard. From the apprenticeship program you can move your way up to a work leader, a subject matter expert, a supervisor, and eventually become a zone manager," said Pennell. "I feel extremely proud to assist the Navy and DoD in protecting our Nation."

Article by Periscope Writer Alana Demo



Photo by Shipyard Photographer Branden Bourque

Monica Lockett



Photo by Shipyard Photographer Jim Cleveland

Monica Lockett is currently assigned as a worker leader and machined parts inspector in the Inside Machine Shop at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. With more than a year of experience managing parts fabrication, Lockett is responsible for overseeing the quality of parts produced by the shop. Alongside her dedicated team, she focuses on conducting final inspections and plays a crucial role in closing out work packages. “I work with skilled machinists, mechanics, and planning and engineering teams to inspect vital components, ensuring that boats are properly prepared to be sent down the river and successfully complete their mission,” said Lockett.

Lockett values the variety her job offers. “Each day presents new opportunities to work with different parts and assemblies, allowing me to continually expand my knowledge,” said Lockett. “This constant exposure to diverse projects enables me to deepen my understanding of the machining process.”

As a worker leader, safety is a very important aspect of her job. “Safety is a top priority for me, both personally and for my colleagues,” said Lockett. “I believe that everyone should leave work in the same condition they arrived, unharmed and fully healthy.”

Being a lifelong learner enhances Lockett’s day-to-day duties. She comes to work prepared to use her skills to meet the mission, leaving each shift with a sense of pride in a job well done.

Lockett and the shipyard workforce are the backbone of the PNSY warfighting platform that directly supports the fleet’s mission to enhance stability, promote security cooperation, deter aggression, and win any conflict. “By upgrading and maintaining critical assets, we ensure the Navy remains a pillar of peace, acting as a stabilizing force in the world,” said Lockett. “Knowing that my efforts contribute to securing our great nation motivates me every day.”

Article by Support Service Specialist Neil Boorjian

STEM DIVES DEEP AT ANNUAL SEACOAST SEAPERCH REGIONAL COMPETITION

Article by Periscope Writer Alana Demo

On April 11, 2025, middle and high school students from across Maine and New Hampshire participated in the Annual Seacoast SeaPerch Regional Competition at the Swasey the University of New Hampshire (UNH) Swasey pool in Durham, NH. SeaPerch is one of the many programs offered by Portsmouth Naval Shipyard’s Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Outreach.

The event included teams consisting of two to six students, and the competition involved their handmade Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROVs) completing an underwater obstacle and mission course. As part of the Seacoast SeaPerch alliance, PNSY STEM Outreach Program partners with the UNH Extension to execute SeaPerch across New Hampshire and Southern Maine.

The goals of these competitions are to provide opportunities for students to experience real-world engineering challenges and to develop the skills needed to solve those challenges. “I could have taught my kids about these things in the classroom, but

Students operating their ROV through the obstacle course.

this partnership has provided a real-world education,” said educator, Sarah Rice.

Most importantly, this event is only possible due to the efforts of volunteers. Plastic Fabricator Freddy Agnello

has been volunteering with the STEM

Outreach Program for more than two

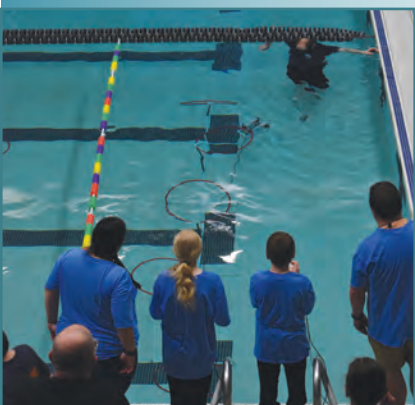
years. He enjoys seeing students getting to work outside of what they normally do, like handling tools and working on a project as a team. “I like volunteering for SeaPerch because you get to work with the kids on a project from start to finish,” said Agnello. “It’s really rewarding.”

Likewise, the students are equally excited about this opportunity. Seventh grader, Layla said that STEM is her favorite club at school. “I learned a lot about building, soldering, cutting PVC [pipe] and putting it together using different tools I’ve never used before,” said Layla. “It’s a lot of fun!”

Photos by Public Affairs Office Supervisor Libby Hite



Students maneuver ROVs through the mission course.





A Fair 'Trade' Off: Career Technical Education Directors 3rd Annual Visit to PNSY

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Directors from New Hampshire schools visited Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, April 18, 2025, for a tour, information session and roundtable discussion. The purpose of the visit was for educators to walk away with a better understanding about the PNSY hiring process and training programs, visit multiple worksites, hear about new Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) initiatives, and participate in group discussions regarding how to build relationships between PNSY and schools.

"The Seacoast School of Technology deeply values its robust partnership with Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, whose STEM Outreach program enriches our classrooms with invaluable industry expertise while creating direct pathways to meaningful careers through student employment opportunities," said Principal for Seacoast School of Technology (SST), Dr. Pamela Carr. "This collaboration ensures our students benefit from real-world insights and hands-on experience, preparing them for successful futures in technical fields. The Directors of NH Career and Technical Centers are very excited to learn more about PNSY and are thankful to have participated on Educator Day."



CTE Directors

The morning kicked off with the CTE Directors receiving a tour of the Pump House and Caisson at Dry Dock 2, Materials Test Lab, and Shipyard Heritage Center. Afterward, the Directors reconvened in the Thresher Conference Room for a

roundtable discussion with Executive Director Chris Pollard; Deputy Executive Director Matt St. Pierre; Management Analyst Kristine Welch, Strategic Planning Branch Head Sarah Buttrick, STEM Outreach Program Manager Tiffany Towning, Inside Machine Shop Operations Manager Cory Madore, Inside Machine Shop Training Coordinator Phil Self, Production Resources and Planning Manager Todd Weiner, Workforce Development Manager Justin Roy, Recruiting and Hiring Team Supervisor Michael Millet, and Public Affairs Specialist Libby Hite in attendance.

The main focus of the roundtable discussion with shipyard leadership and CTE's is workforce readiness.

The discussion also aims to demystify PNSY and what is done here. "This partnership is really important to our workforce development," said Kristine Welch. "We want the CTE Directors to walk away with a better understanding of PNSY and the Apprenticeship program and create future engagement opportunities to connect PNSY Subject Matter Experts (SME) with students."



CTE Directors at a roundtable discussion with PNSY management

The topic of discussion focused on increasing PNSY's quality engagement in the schools. The PNSY managers and supervisors shared knowledge of the Apprenticeship Programs, and the STEM Outreach Program.

The directors were informed that there are programs for students of all ages to get them engaged in learning skills that they can use in a future technical career. Tiffany Towning and Libby Hite shared details on the partnerships they have at the University of New Hampshire and how that's helped to extend their reach by providing resources for schools that are outside the shipyard's local commuting distance. Overall, the session shed light on the many opportunities working at PNSY has to offer students who are transitioning out of school and into the workforce.

PNSY hosted an annual Educator Day to discuss best practices and share resources for guidance counselors and teachers to use when assisting a student in their plan for the future. In return, CTE's provided feedback to PNSY on how the shipyard can be a strong industry partner and bring awareness to students the opportunities offered at the shipyard.

"The time spent with the CTE Directors and Educators was a sound investment," said Todd Weiner. "An investment in not just the future of PNSY's production work force of skilled craftspeople, but an investment into the United States of America. We need to urgently strengthen America's industrial base of tradespeople who can manufacture, repair, overhaul and modernize Department of Defense assets. In my opinion, there is no better place to use that trade expertise than here at PNSY, focused on our Navy's nuclear-powered attack submarine fleet."

*Article by Periscope Writer Alana Demo
Photos by Shipyard Photographer Jim Cleveland*

Starting May 7, 2025,

A **REAL ID** will be required to access U.S. military bases or board federally regulated commercial aircraft for all non-affiliated individuals

The standard access requirements remain the same



What is needed to obtain a REAL ID?

- Proof of Identity
- 2 Proofs of Residency
- Proof of Social Security Number

To find a link to your state's DMV, visit: www.dhs.gov/real-id

AWARDS

During the month of March, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard issued 1,477 awards:

1335

On The Spot Awards

75

Time Off Awards

64

Special Act Awards

3

Safety Awards

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

During the month of March, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard issued 32 disciplinary actions including:

Non-Bargaining Unit Employees (Supervisors)

4
5
1

Letters of Reprimand

Suspension (14 days or less)

Change to Lower Grade

Bargaining Unit Employees (Non-Supervisors)

5
12
2
3

Letters of Reprimand

Suspensions (14 Days or fewer)

Counselings

Termination/ Removals

VANPOOL LISTINGS

All advertisers listed take part in the
Transportation Incentive Program (TIP).

Multiple Locations - WHITE KNUCKLE TRANSIT LLC: 1st shift 0630-1500, (3) 15-passenger vans serving the Brunswick area, Sanford/Springvale/Wells and Limington/Waterboro/Alfred. Space available. Contact Matt: (207) 252-0584 or wtnukltransit@gmail.com.

Multiple Locations - BINETTE BUS is looking for riders, 3 vans:

Biddeford - Mercedes bus has high-top roof and leather captain's chairs

Wells - High-top roof, individual leather captain's chairs w/cup holders and usb ports
Call/Text (207) 590-6954
Email: c.binette23@gmail.com.

Alfred/Lyman/Kennebunk/Sanford/Wells - CUNNINGHAM VAN, 10-hour van, 0600-1630, 5 days a week, 10 riders in a 15-passenger van. Contact Ken Cunningham: Call or text (207) 608-9402 or CunninghaVan@gmail.com.

Lebanon/Berwick/S. Berwick -
AT BUS 1: Lebanon, ME (Upper Cross Road), Berwick (via Long Swamp Rd), Berwick, Berwick Park & Ride, South Berwick (via Rte. 236) 0600-1430, M-F (8 hour day shift).
AT BUS 2: Lebanon, ME (Town Hall Park & Ride), Berwick via Long Swap Rd & Berwick (Park & Ride), South Berwick (Rte. 236) 0600-1530 5/4/9 shift
Call Lee for details: ext. 4531, daytime cell (207) 703-3769, evening cell (603) 312-7956

Biddeford - O'BRIENS VANPOOL: 0700-1530, Two vans, 1st picks up at Biddeford Park & Ride; 2nd picks up at Five Points Shopping Center in Biddeford. Pickups also available at homes on Village Lane, Westmore Ave. or near this area. Registered with TIP. Contact Mike: ext. 3737 or (207) 590-0546.

Biddeford/Saco - ACIN VANPOOL: 1st shift. Picks up at Biddeford Park & Ride, 10 passenger limit. Arrives on-yard by 0615. Contact Phil: ext. 1682 or (207) 423-6142.

Biddeford/Saco area - PERHAM VANPOOL: 1st shift, (2) vanpools. Meet at Biddeford Park & Ride. Second vanpool meets at Saco Park & Ride. Space available. Contact Chris: ext. 1821 or (207) 590-2378.

Portland/Saco - CHURCH VANPOOL: 1st shift, reliable drivers. Space available. Contact Randy: ext. 4790 or (207) 450-5824.

Biddeford - BENNER'S VANPOOL: 1st shift riders wanted. 0700-1530, pickup at Biddeford Park & Ride, registered with TIP, no out of pocket expense. Contact Jason: ext. 6480 or cell (207)-590-1955, call or text.

Dayton/Lyman/Kennebunk - DANLEY VAN POOL: (4) 15-Passenger vans with seats available. Can accommodate first shift 0600-1430 or 0630-1500. No out-of-pocket expense when enrolled in TIP. Contact Tyler: (207) 590-3279.

Biddeford/Gray - JOE'S VAN LLC: 1st shift riders wanted. 0630-1500. No out-of-pocket expense. Pickup at exits: 75 Auburn, 63 Gray, 53 Falmouth, 45 Portland, 32 Biddeford, 19 Wells
Contact Joe: ext. 5371, or (207) 320-0941

Biddeford - BENNER VANPOOL: 1st shift riders wanted. 0600-1500, pickup at Biddeford Park & Ride, registered with TIP, no out of pocket expense. Contact Jason: (207) 590-1955. Call or text.

Biddeford - SWANK VANPOOL LLC: Two 15-passenger vans from Biddeford
(1) 0600-1500 leaves Biddeford Park & Ride at 0500, (2) 0600-1530 5/4/9 Friday SDO leaves Biddeford Park & Ride at 0500. Please contact Kevin Swank 207-205-1311

Brunswick/Topsham/Yarmouth/Portland/South Portland - CRONIN VANPOOL: 1st shift 0600-1430. Reliable drivers, newer 12-passenger Chevrolet van. With Transportation Incentive Program, \$0 out-of-pocket cost. Space Available. For more info, call Kevin ext. 2531 or (207) 837-3561.

Hollis/Waterboro/Alfred/Sanford/Wells - MADORE VANPOOL: 1st shift, via Rt. 117/202/4/109/I-95. Non-smoking. Riders wanted. Contact Cory: (207) 752-6019 or (207) 423-3774.

W. Newfield - NEWFIELD EXPRESS: 1st shift (0630-1530). 15-passenger. Multiple pickup spots include W. Newfield, Shapleigh, Springvale, Sanford, N. Berwick, Berwick, Contact Ben x5873 or sign up on TIPS directly. newfieldexpress@gmail.com, (207) 806-7043

Lebanon/Berwick/South Berwick - POPLAR HILL TRANSPORTATION LLC: 1st shift. Picks up at Lebanon Park & Ride, Berwick Park & Ride, and South Berwick Park & Ride. Contact Jake: (207) 608-3879 or email at poplarhillllc@yahoo.com.

Lebanon-North Berwick/Berwick/South Berwick/Eliot/Kittery - FARREN TRANSPORTATION: 1st Shift; On schedule means on yard by 5:40. 15-passenger van. Berwick, South Berwick Park & Rides. Will pick up along Little River Rd., or Rt. 236. Contact Dan: (207) 451-7092, (207) 475-6325, email RidewithFT@gmail.com.

Lebanon/Berwick/South Berwick/Eliot - PERRY VANPOOL: 1st shift. Free rides for TIP members! Space available, contact Andrew: ext. 5407 or (207) 457-1986.

Springvale/Sanford/Berwick - MATHIEU VANPOOL: 1st shift. No overcrowding, 10 riders in a 15-passenger van. Dependable drivers, no out-of-pocket expense with TIP. 2 openings available, call Shawn: (207) 651-4975.

Gray - BENNER'S VANPOOL: 1st shift, (no stops). Accommodates 0600-1500 shift. Registered with TIP, no out of pocket expense. Contact Jason (207) 590-1955. Call or text.

Saco/Wells - LECLAIR VANPOOL: Always a free ride! 0600 to 1530 SDO shift. Comfortable new 15-passenger van, never overcrowded. Space available. Contact Kevin: ext. 5784, (207) 475-8245 or leclair.kevin@yahoo.com.

Lebanon/Berwick/South Berwick - DEVOLL'S VAN POOLS: 1st shift, non-smoking, 15 passenger van that only takes 12 passengers, TIP participant, Lebanon Park & Ride, Little River Road, Lebanon Road, Beach Ridge Road, Rt 9 to Berwick, Rt 236 to shipyard. Contact Kip (H) 457-1241, (C) 451-3257.

Dayton/Lyman/Kennebunk - DANLEY VANPOOL: 15-passenger OVERTIME van with seats available. Accommodates 0530-1530 shift. No out-of-pocket expense when enrolled in the TIP program. Contact Tyler: (207) 590-3279.

Gray, ME - TRACY VANPOOL: 1st shift, 1 (no stops). Accommodates 5 8-hour shifts and 5/4/9 schedules. Contact Derek (207) 615-4905. Call or text.

Lebanon/Berwick/South Berwick - DK TRANSPORTATION: 15 passenger van. Plenty of seats available! 10-hour shifts. 0600-1630. TIP participant. 1st pick up at Lebanon Park & Ride, into Berwick via Long Swamp Rd., stop at Berwick Park & Ride, into South Berwick via 236. Multiple stops along the way. Call or text Drew: (978) 305-0537

Wells area - PERHAM VANPOOL: 1st shift. Meet at Wells Park & Ride. Space available. Contact Chris: ext. 1821 or (207) 590-2378.

Farmington, NH - GRANITE STATE TRANSIT 25- Passenger, leaves daily from old Fire Station downtown 0515, leaves from Shipyard Mall 1500. Contact Lee: (603) 781-3402.

Lebanon, ME - GRANITE STATE TRANSIT 32-Passenger, 3 pickup locations: Lebanon corner of Depot Rd. and Rt. 202, Berwick Park & Ride - corner of Sullivan St. and Wilson St., bus stop - corner of Norton St. and Main St., (across from B&T Bank) South Berwick. Leaves from Shipyard parking garage 1500. Contact Lee: Personal (603) 781-3402, Work (207) 451-7497. Contact Lee: (603) 781-3402.

Rochester/Milton/Farmington/Barrington - SEACOAST EXPRESS: 3 buses running daily covering 0500-1530, 0600-1430, 0600-1530, 0700-1530 and "5/4/9" shifts. Seacoast Express users can switch buses at any time throughout the month if they would like to work overtime, switch shifts or leave early. All buses leave from Rochester Home Depot parking lot. Vehicle available at shipyard if passengers have an emergency situation and need to leave early. For more information, contact Aaron: (603) 337-5137.

Sanford/Wells/Kittery - CCR EXPRESS: 1st shift (0630-1500) pickup at Hannaford-Sanford (0445), Mardens-Sanford (0455), Hannaford-N. Berwick (0505), Aroma Joes-S. Berwick (0515), Kittery Masonic Lodge #184(0600). Either snooze or watch a movie on the way to work. Come give it a try. 100% Free ride to work with TIP. Contact Milton: (207) 604-4936.

Sanford/Wells - DELISLE VANPOOL: Sanford seats available, non-smoking 15-passenger van, M-F 0700-1530. Biddeford/Wells Park & Ride seats available, non-smoking 12-passenger van, M-F 0700-1530. Vans are very dependable, clean, and safe. Out-of-pocket cost: \$0 Call Matt work cell phone (207) 468-5280, personal cell (207) 289-8556.

Springvale/Sanford/North Berwick - HILLS NEW ENGLAND TRANSIT: 1st shift vanpool, M-F, 0630-1500 schedule with multiple locations available for pickup. 15-passenger van with only 10 riders and multiple open spots. Text or call James Hill (603) 337-5668.

Lebanon/Berwick/South Berwick - DK TRANSPORTATION: 15-passenger van. Plenty of seats available! 10-hour shifts. 0600-1630. TIP participant. 1st pick up at Lebanon Park & Ride, into Berwick via Long Swamp Rd., stop at Berwick Park & Ride, into South Berwick via 236. Multiple stops along the way. Call or text Drew: (978) 305-0537

Sanford/Springvale/Berwicks - COUSENS VANPOOL: 1st shift, comfortable, new 15-passenger van. Non-smoking. TIP participant. Space available, contact Mike: (207) 651-7411.

Sanford/Springvale/points south - TURNER VAN POOL: Arrives 0545 am, departs 1500, 8-hr shift. Contact Herv: cell (207) 432-3779, email herveyturner@gmail.com

Waterboro/Alfred/Sanford/Wells - AB VANPOOL: 1st shift. Clean, comfortable, and reliable. Arrives on yard around 0615. No out-of-pocket expenses for TIP participants once enrolled. For more information, contact Cory: ext. 1442 or (207) 651-1526.

Dover - J.R.'s VANPOOL: 1st shift. Departs from Exit 9 Park & Ride at 0540. Large comfortable van, space available. Contact J.R.: ext. 1123 or (603) 749-1409.

Manchester/Epping - QUEEN CITY AND EPPING VAN POOL: Commute for free, picks up in Manchester and the Epping Park & Ride (Exit 7, Rt-101) First shift (0630-1530). 15-passenger van. No smoking or out-of-pocket costs, fees covered by TIP program. Call or text Pete, cell (603) 505-5508, home (732) 397-0429.

Wells/Sanford/Alfred/Waterboro - SLICK VANPOOL: 15-passenger van looking for riders. For more info call or text: Jack Howard (207) 251-9292.

Springvale/Sanford/Wells - KGR RIDESHARE: 1st shift. Rt. 109 to Rt. 95, flexible stops. 10 passenger limit in 15-passenger van, never overcrowded. No out-of-pocket cost for commuters participating in TIP. Openings available. Contact Michael: (207) 651-2712 or soccergod007@yahoo.com for more info.

Rochester/Somersworth/Dover - PLATT VANPOOL: 1st shift 4/10s, 0600-1630. Main pickups are Rochester Park & Ride and Tuckers off Exit 9 in Dover/ Somersworth. Route starts from Parsonsfield, ME; Newfield, ME; and Wakefield, NH; so if you are in the north country, call for details. Contact John Platt ext. 2912; text or call (603) 923-3979; email jpe.john@gmail.com.

Rochester/ East Rochester - COPPS TRANSPORTATION 1st Shift 0630-1500. Leaving out of Rochester, stops in East Rochester and Lowes. Arrive on yard 0550, home by 1545. No out-of-pocket cost. Call Jesse: 207-451-0973.

Saco/Biddeford/Wells - WISE MAN TRANSPORTATION: 10-hour days, 0600-1630, 5 days a week, non-smoking. 25-passenger limo bus from the Park & Rides with no out-of-pocket fee after TIP reimbursement. Pick up **Saco-0450**,

Biddeford-0457, Kennebunk-0505, Wells-0515 arrive at shipyard-0545. 2nd bus running 8-hour shift, 0630-1500, in a non-smoking 32-passenger bus with no out-of-pocket fee if signed up on TIP. Pick up at Park & Rides **Saco-0520** and **Biddeford-0530**. Contact Brad: ext. 1228, (207) 219-2474 or nascardriver_39@hotmail.com

Shapleigh/Sanford/Wells - TRIPLE C&K TRANSPORT: 1st shift. Participates in the Transportation Incentive Program (TIP). No out-of-pocket expense for riders once enrolled in TIP. For more information contact Darrell: (207) 752-7886.

Sanford/Lebanon/Berwick/South Berwick - SPR TRANSPORTATION: 15-passenger van working 10-hour shifts (0600-1630) free with TIP. Contact Rich (207) 608-3906

Hooksett/Candia/Epping/Exeter - CAPITAL CITY TRANSPORTATION: Commute for FREE with TIP debit card, servicing I-93, exit 11 and Rt. 101, exits 7 & 11, 1st shift (0600-1500) no overcrowding, 15-passenger van with bench seats, non-smoking. For more information call, text or on Facebook - Jeff (603) 682-6124.

Springvale/Sanford/Wells - FROMMIES FREIGHT LLC: 15-passenger van, 8-hour work days 0600 to 1430, 5 days a week. Clean, comfortable and reliable. No out-of-pocket expenses once enrolled in TIPS program. Contact Mike: 207-608-9964 and/or frommiesfreightllc@gmail.com.

Springvale/Sanford/Wells - DAVID BOMBARO TRANSPORTATION: 1ST shift. Departs Springvale Public Library 0505, Guerrero Maya (formerly Back Street Grill) 0515, Wells Park 'n Ride 0530. Will pick up anywhere along Rt. 109. No more than 2 riders per seat. Nothing out of pocket when registered with the TIP. Seats available. Call or text David: 207-210-2626

Shapleigh/Springvale/Sanford/South Berwick - S.S. TRANSPORTATION: 1st Shift. 15-passenger van. 1st pickup at Pine Springs, Shapleigh 0445; Boonies 0500; foot of Mousam 0506; stops at Springvale Courthouse, Sanford Hannaford, Mardens, North Berwick Hannaford, South Berwick Town Hall. Contact Shawn (207) 459-9536.

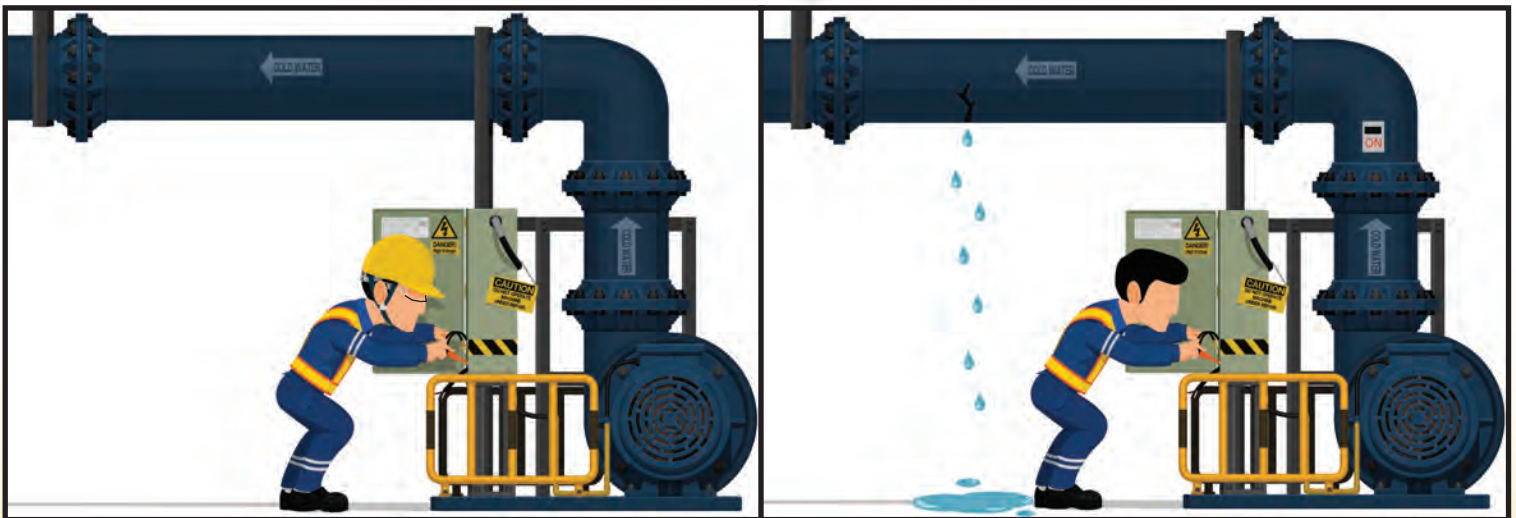
Southern NH/Berwick/Kittery - COAST Bus Public Transit Bus System - First arrival Gate 1 is at 0600, then 45 minutes past the hour every hour from 0745-2045. TIP-registered. Contact: COASTBUS.ORG, or call/text (603) 743-5777.

For more commuter information or information on the TIP, check out the 'Rides and Riders' section under the Resources tab on the PNS Intranet or contact the TIP coordinator at ext. 1586, or via email: PNS_TIPS@us.navy.mil

For posting, removing, or editing vanpool ads, email: submit_periscope@navy.mil

Workplace Safety

Hazard Identification: Spot the Difference



Before you perform your work, ask yourself...

- What could hurt me?
- Am I physically and mentally prepared for the job?
- What can go wrong? How can I prevent it & respond?
- Is the environment safe for performing the job?
- Do I have the proper PPE for the job?
- Do I have all the necessary tools?
- Does the working surface support doing the job?
- Is the equipment/machinery in the condition I expected?
- Is the worksite clean?
- Can I fix any issues? If not, who can?



Memorial Day

Remember & Honor

