

Currents

Please post or route

March 31 – April 4, 2003

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 5

Peninsula Fine Arts Center
Gathering of Communities
Celebration of Native
American Culture
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Event is free with admission to
the arts center.

Discover methods used to
cook, weave, create
beadwork, basketwork and
more! Dancers and drummers
will appear throughout the day.

April 6

Peninsula Fine Arts Center
Community Days
Admission: Free
The center celebrates Native
American culture
3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

The Medicine Painter: George
Catlin's World. Program
offered in conjunction with the
exhibition *Themes Worthy of
the Lifetime of One Man:
George Catlin's Views of
Native American Life*

April 6

Apprentice School Athletics
Baseball vs. Danville Comm.
College; noon
War Memorial Stadium

*Currents is a weekly
publication for employees
of*

NORTHROP GRUMMAN
Newport News

Please send information for
Currents to
Stephanie McCall, 8-4962
Dept. O29; B520/1
mccall_sl@nns.com

Great Company

✦ Defense Contractor of the Year

Northrop Grumman Newport News received in March the Defense Contractor of the Year Award from the Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce (GLAAACC). The award was presented to the Newport News sector for its long-standing practice of contributing to the economic growth and development of the African American Community. John Shephard, senior vice president, Operations for Newport News, accepted the award on behalf of the company.

The award is a testimony to the effectiveness of the sector's small and disadvantaged business program. The program expands the sector's diverse supplier base and provides small and disadvantaged suppliers the opportunity to compete on an equal basis with other suppliers in the market place.

✦ First superlift of the *Bush* hoisted into dry dock

Construction on the *George H. W. Bush* (CVN 77) reached a milestone on March 28 when a team of employees worked to lower the double bottom unit of the ship into dry dock 12. This unit, weighing more than 800 tons, represents the first of 162 superlifts that will occur during construction. A team of employees, including X36 Lead Rigger Curtis Eley, ensured the successful movement of the gigantic unit. Eley was among those who stayed close to the unit as the shipyard's 900-ton crane hoisted it for more than two hours before it



Above are X11 shipwrights who were among employees involved with the superlift. Left to right: Henry McDuffie, Greg Connor, Will Kemp, Rob Parker and Kenny Turner.

✦ Steam supply for heating to be reduced

The main Power House will begin reducing steam supply to buildings for heating purposes starting the week of March 31 and should be completed by April 5. This will not affect buildings requiring steam to support a process or hotel steam for shipboard service. If you have special heating needs for a building, call the Facilities Service Desk at 8-9888. For other energy or utility related issues, call O41 Energy, Mac MacPherson at 8-4388.

Below left to right: Gene Hale, GLAAACC chairman; Veasey Wilson, Northrop Grumman Newport News executive director for Supply Chain Management; John Shephard, Northrop Grumman Newport News senior vice president, Operations; and Michael Spells, Sourcing manager



X36 Lead Rigger Curtis Eley



rested gently on keel blocks in the dock. Equipped with a whistle, Eley tracked the progress of the superlift and ensured everyone's safety. "They know when they hear the whistle that something big is coming their way," Eley said. Five more superlifts will follow this summer and a formal keel-laying ceremony will take place in September 2003.

CURRENTS continued

✿ Extension of Benefit's policy for active duty reservists

Northrop Grumman Newport News is committed to supporting our military at all times and especially during the current conflict. Some of our employees who are in the reserves or National Guard have previously been called to active duty. As a result of the current military activity more of our employees are being activated or reactivated. We previously announced that the company had extended the period of compensation and benefits for employees called to active duty from one year to 18 months. The company is now extending compensation and benefits to these employees for the duration of their activation.

✿ National Society of Black Engineers Professional Development Day

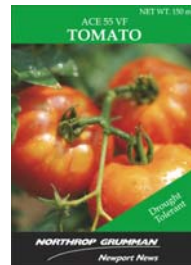
The Hampton Roads Alumni Extension of the National Society of Black Engineers will host the 4th Annual Professional Development Day at Hampton University's McGrew Towers Conference Center April 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. This year's theme is "Developing Your Professional Toolkit." The program, which is free and open to college students and professionals in all career fields, will feature workshops on diversity in the workplace, financial planning, entrepreneurship, seeking an MBA degree, and more. This event is being offered in partnership with the Hampton University Chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers. Although Professional Development Day activities are free, registration by April 7 is requested. Contact Greg Dudley at (757) 218-0996 or via email at mrdudley06@msn.com to register, or for more information.

✿ Dispute Resolution Program launched March 1, 2003

On March 1, 2003, Northrop Grumman Newport News initiated a Dispute Resolution Program (DRP) for full-time non-supervisory salaried employees who have completed 120 days of service. The DRP covers disputes over formal disciplinary action (formal warnings and suspensions), terminations, and claims of discrimination under state or federal law relating to formal disciplinary action or termination. Employees hired before March 1, 2003 may choose to have their disputes on these topics reviewed by an Administrative Officer, a Management Appeals Committee and an impartial arbitrator. For employees hired after March 1, 2003, the DRP is mandatory. Details of the DRP are posted on the Human Resources website. Please address any questions regarding this procedure to a Human Resources manager.

✿ Earth Day events

Earth Day is celebrated on April 22, 2003. Northrop Grumman Newport News participates in several activities to show a commitment to the environment. Volunteers are needed to hand out tomato seeds and join in a cleanup at Christopher Newport Park. There are other activities, too, including a coloring contest for children ages 1-15. To learn more about Earth Day activities being held in April, go to <http://yardnet/divisions/humres/O27/index.stm>.



✿ Discount to Dragon Tales Live!

Northrop Grumman Newport News employees will receive \$2.50 off for Dragon Tales Live, which runs April 10 through April 13 at Old Dominion University's Constant Convocation Center. The discount excludes opening night (April 10) tickets, which are \$10. The normal pricing: \$19 and \$16. **Northrop Grumman prices:** \$16.50 and \$13.50. The show schedule is as follows:

- April 10; 7 p.m.
- April 11; 7 p.m.
- April 12; 10:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 5:30 p.m.
- April 13; 2 p.m.

Contact Jen Henley at 757-683-6545 or at jhenley@odu.edu.



✿ Support for spouses of deployed military members

Fort Eustis Community Services Center is holding support groups for spouses, and children ages 6 to 13, of deployed military members. This is not specific to the Army, but instead open to all military families. Contact Regina Nelson at 757-878-0912 or nelson2@eustis.army.mil.