

Currents

Please post or route

December 8 – 12, 2003

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 12

Apprentice School men's and women's basketball.
Apprentice School gym.
Women play at 5 p.m.
Men play at 7:30 p.m.

December 18

Red Cross Bloodmobile
Building 103
7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Appointments: Call 8-9191, select option 9. Questions: Call 0-3011.

Through December 12

Holiday Food Drive.

Donations needed include
canned products such as

vegetables, chunky soups, fruits, fruit juices and packaged meals. Other items include baby food, sugar, flour, peanut butter, jelly and cake mixes. Drop off food donations at labeled boxes that will be placed inside buildings, warehouses, at piers, docks and trailers. Employees may donate money that the Foodbank can use to purchase fresh foods such as meats, dairy products and fresh fruits. Make checks payable to the Foodbank of the Virginia Peninsula and deliver to **Brenda Roth** of O18 at building 520/first floor before noon, December 12. Call Brenda Roth at 0-3011 for more information.

Currents is a weekly
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Newport News

Please send information for
Currents to
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✪ USS Ronald Reagan returns to shipyard for post shakedown availability

The *USS Ronald Reagan* returned to Northrop Grumman Newport News on December 2 for post shakedown availability, or PSA. The PSA allows the Navy the opportunity to incorporate last-minute changes, system upgrades and enhancements to the ship. PSA work will be done over the next four and a half months. Some of the work includes changes to the combat system and radar equipment, a third physical fitness center for sailors and an upgrade to allow the carrier to accommodate the Navy's new tactical fighter, the F/A-18 E/F Super Hornet. Below are some pictures of the *Reagan* arriving at pier 2.



Photo by Chris Oxley



Photo by Chris Oxley

Right: As tugboats ease the *Reagan* into pier 2, X36's **David Robinson** awaits orders to begin securing the ship.



Photo by John Whalen

Right: The *Reagan's* island house towers above the heads of X36 riggers (left to right) **David Robinson** and **Cecil Lewis**.



Photo by John Whalen

✪ USS George Washington contract awarded

The Navy has awarded Northrop Grumman a contract valued at \$27.9 million for work on the aircraft carrier *USS George Washington* (CVN 73). Work on this contract consists of advanced planning for a Dry Dock Planned Incremental Availability, which is scheduled for 2005 at the Newport News shipyard. It will include work scheduling, engineering and design work, material procurement, ship checks and personnel training. "The planning contract is very important to us in preparation for the ship's arrival in 2005," said Bob Gunter, senior vice president of the Aircraft Carrier program at Northrop Grumman Newport News. "It enables us to work closely with our Navy customer to develop a framework to ensure successful execution of the project." *USS George Washington* (right) is the sixth nuclear-powered *Nimitz*-class aircraft carrier built by Northrop Grumman Newport News. It was launched in 1990 and delivered to the Navy in 1992. The *George Washington* is 1,092 feet with a flight-deck width of 252 feet and a displacement of 97,000 tons. It can travel in excess of 30 knots.



Currents continued

Great People

✿ M32 sheet metal worker earns safety award

M32's **Troy Ramsey** recently won a \$250 award for a safety suggestion he submitted to the South Tidewater Association of Ship Repairers (STASR) of Portsmouth. The STASR safety suggestion award program allows employees of member companies to submit safety ideas for a cash award. Ramsey, a sheet metal worker, earned the fourth quarter Safety Suggestion Program cash award at a STASR meeting held November 18 at the Renaissance Hotel in Portsmouth. He fabricated and installed a raised sheet metal drop table on the backside of a shear machine about 14 inches off the shop floor. His idea is an ergonomic improvement because he and other employees who work with the shear machine will no longer need to bend over or get on their knees to retrieve sheared material. M32 managers are using this safety idea to make improvements on shears in building 5, the Sheet Metal Shop. In the picture above, **Troy Ramsey** (right) of M32 received a cash award from **Leroy Smith**, a Northrop Grumman Newport News senior safety engineer and chairman of the South Tidewater Association of Ship Repairers (STASR) Safety Suggestion Award Program. Smith presented the check to Ramsey at the STASR's general membership lunch meeting on November 18. **"Our people are what make us great..." is one of the six company values. Read about the values on the Yardnet home page.**



✿ Texas merchandise to be on sale

The crew of the *Texas* will be at building 520 on December 10 during lunchtime to sell merchandise for the crew's Morale, Welfare & Recreation Program. Various merchandise, such as hats and coffee mugs, will be available.



✿ More discounts to Washington Wizards tickets available employees

Two additional Washington Wizards games are now available at a discounted rate to Northrop Grumman Newport News employees, and their family and friends. Those games are:

- *Wizards vs. Atlanta Hawks – December 30 at 7 p.m.
 - *Wizards vs. Golden State Warriors – January 2 at 7 p.m.
- The original special discounted ticket nights follow:
- *Wizards vs. Miami Heat – December 26 at 7 p.m.
 - *Wizards vs. Philadelphia Sixers – January 10 at 7 p.m.
 - *Wizards vs. Seattle Supersonics – January 17 at 7 p.m.
 - *Wizards vs. Indiana Pacers – January 24 at 7 p.m.



See more details about this, including prices, on the home page of Yardnet.

✿ History Channel's Shipyards Program available for check out

Several employees from Northrop Grumman Newport News were interviewed last spring for an episode of the History Channel's series "Modern Marvels." The episode, called "Shipyards," aired November 5 and featured Northrop Grumman Newport News as one of the most modern shipyards in the world. Visit the Communications office between 7:30 a.m. and 8 a.m. or 3:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. to check out the "Shipyards" video. Please call 0-3552 in advance to check on video availability.

✿ Benefit service announcement for non-represented (salaried) employees

A Delta Dental representative will be available to answer about the new Delta Dental plan options that are effective January 1, 2004. Employees with questions should visit the Employee Benefits Office at 210 39th Street, building 625/first floor. Enter through the building's center door. A representative is available on:

- *December 10 at 10:30 a.m.; 1 p.m.; 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- *December 15 at 7:30 a.m.; 1 p.m.; 2 p.m.; and 4:30 p.m.
- *December 17 at 10 a.m.; 1 p.m.; 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Employees unable to meet with a Delta representative during one of the times listed above may speak with a Delta Dental representative by calling (757) 534-0607 or 4-0607 (within the company).