

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 13

Bloodmobile
Building 600
8:00-11:30 a.m.
Appointments: 8-8939
Questions: 0-3011

September 14

Bloodmobile
Building 902
8:00-11:30 a.m.
For Appts. 902-903 / 8-4792
For Appts. 901-905 / 8-0308

September 19

Family Fun Day at Paramount's
Kings Dominion
Tickets are available at all NNS
Employees' Credit Union
locations. The cost is \$18.50
and includes free parking,
exclusive use of the water park
from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., and a
Nickelodeon Celebration with
some favorite Nickelodeon
characters. Special group hotel
rates are available at Kings
Quarters Best Western. Call 1-
800-625-4647 for rates and
reservations. For more
information, call Brenda Roth at
380-3011.

September 23

Building 103
7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
For Appts. 8-9191
Option "9"
Questions: 0-3011

Currents is a weekly
publication for employees
of



Please send information for
Currents to Jennifer Dellapenta
(0-3558) at
Jennifer.Dellapenta@ngc.com

✿ Shipyard Receives Va. Productivity and Quality Award from U.S. Senate

Northrop Grumman Newport News has been selected to receive the 2004 U.S. Senate Productivity and Quality Award (SPQA). The company was honored with the Medallion of Excellence award, the highest level of recognition, for organizational excellence and performance. According to Bob Bowles, SPQA director for Virginia, it is highly unusual for an organization to be recognized at the top level in its first year in the program.

A team of examiners from the SPQA program evaluated the Newport News sector's operations group in the areas of leadership, strategic planning, customer and market focus, measurement, analysis and knowledge management, human resource focus, process management and organizational results - the same criteria used to evaluate recipients of the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, administered by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The Newport News sector was identified as a model organization, with demonstrated excellence and maturity in each of the award criterion, leading to outstanding performance results. The sector has received an invitation from U.S. Senators John Warner (R-Va.) and George Allen (R-Va.) to the 2004 Virginia Forum for Excellence luncheon on September 29th, where it will be presented the award.

"It was great to have an independent team of Baldrige experts come in and evaluate us, and we were thrilled to hear the news that we were selected for the highest-level U.S. Senate award recognizing organizational excellence," said **John Shephard**, senior vice president of operations at Northrop Grumman Newport News. "It validates how far we've come. They told me they were especially impressed with how much our hourly associates have embraced key management initiatives like Lean and safety. We look forward to receiving their full report so we can address areas for improvement."



John Shephard

The "Big E" is Back!

The *USS Enterprise* (CVN 65) passed by the *USS Eisenhower's* bow as it made its way to the shipyard on September 3. *Enterprise* will spend the next nine months at Newport News undergoing maintenance work that will include modernizations to the F/A-18 Super Hornet aircraft equipment and weapons stowage systems; enhancements to crew living areas; repairs and inspections on a variety of ship systems; and scheduled maintenance on propulsion plant systems.



Photo by Mike Dillard

❖ Computer Use Guidelines for Company Sponsored Development

Northrop Grumman Newport News views company provided computers and related equipment as tools to be used by an employee for work as well as tools to assist with the completion of company sponsored development activities. Company sponsored development activities include courses pre-approved for tuition reimbursement and provided, optional, on-line training. Please visit Yardnet at http://yardnet/news/nn/computer_use.html for complete guidelines and additional information.

❖ Apprentice Presents Apprentice School with American Flag from Operation Iraqi Freedom

Rigger Apprentice **Daniel Martinez** presented the Apprentice School with a flag he received while deployed as a reservist in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The flag was flown above Camp Patriot at the Kuwait Naval Base and was presented along with a certificate in tribute to the men and women who are serving at the base. Martinez was attached with the 359th Transportation Battalion from May 2003 – May 2004. He is currently in the process of going back to active duty and making the Army a career. His last day at the shipyard is Sept. 28, and he will report to Fort Bragg with the 82nd Airborne Infantry Division.

Pictured from left are Director of Trades, Education and Training Management Danny Hunley; Director of Education and Workforce Development Bob Leber, X36 Rigger Apprentice Daniel Martinez; Apprentice Trade Instructor Corey Berger; and Manager of Training Dan Brookman.



Photo by Mike Dillard

❖ Apprentice School Honors Former Football Coach Jimmy Wilson at Season Opener

The Apprentice School honored former player and head football coach **Jimmy Wilson** on September 4 during pre-game ceremonies for the Builders' season opener. Wilson, a former shipyard director, served as the head football coach for the Apprentice School from 1971-73. He was instrumental in getting the bleachers and press boxes that have stood at Apprentice Field for the past 31 years.

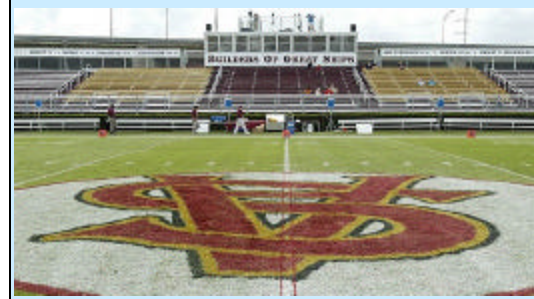
During the festivities, a new press box and bleachers were unveiled. The new press box was dedicated to Wilson and he was given a copy of a plaque that is affixed to the new press box. Wilson received a trophy made from pieces of the former

bleachers that he helped install back in 1973. Wilson was also honored with The Builder Award, a bronze eagle statue with the following inscription:

"For your years of dedicated service as an athlete, coach, and loyal supporter. Your devotion to the Builders inspires everyone around you. Your leadership, integrity, and spirit of teamwork is a model for those who follow. Given with pride: The Apprentice School Athletic Department."



The Builders' new home grandstand and press box made their debut Saturday, on what was called "Jimmy Wilson Day."



(From left) Director of Trades, Education and Training Danny Hunley presents Jimmy Wilson with The Builder Award.