

CALENDAR

- ☑ The Apprentice School men's basketball team will play in the Las Vegas D3 "Desert Shootout" tournament on **Tuesday** and **Wednesday**. The men's and women's teams will resume play on Jan. 5. For more information, visit: <http://www.gobuilders.com/>.
- ☑ Newport News will begin its holiday shutdown on **Thursday**. Regular work shifts will resume on **Jan. 3, 2005**.
- ☑ The Mariners' Museum will host "Holidays At Sea," a corporate appreciation day, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Dec. 29**. Newport News employees and members of their immediate families will receive free admission; single employees may invite up to three guests. For more information, call 591-7757.
- ☑ Newport News' Payroll Dept. (O95) reminds all employees to review the name and address on their pay stubs. Address changes may be faxed to the Human Resources Dept. (O12) at 8-1837; name changes should be called in to the Employment Dept. (O20) at 0-4878. All changes submitted by **Jan. 6, 2005** will be reflected on the 2004 W-2.

Currents is a weekly publication for employees of Northrop Grumman Newport News.

Submissions may be sent to Jim Roberts at jim.roberts@ngc.com

❖ Newport News Participates In Workforce Investment Project

Mike Petters and **Bob Leber** represented Newport News at a Dec. 20 ceremony at which the U.S. Department of Labor presented a grant of \$1.965 million to the Greater Peninsula Workforce Investment Board (WIB) to recruit and train Virginia workers for career opportunities in manufacturing industries.

The WIB and 10 partners, including Newport News and Thomas Nelson Community College, will use the grant to recruit and train more than 5,000 new, transitioning and incumbent workers for advanced manufacturing jobs in southeast Virginia.

"As president of the largest employer in Hampton Roads, one of my biggest challenges and something I worry about is having the right people with the right skills at the right time to perform the work," Petters said. "Today, because of this grant, I can worry less."

Leber, who serves as chair of the WIB, said, "This grant will not only assist us in



(Left to right) Mike Petters and Bob Leber join Mason Bishop, deputy assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor, and Charles Taylor, president of Thomas Nelson Community College, for the Dec. 20 check presentation. *Photo by John Whalen*

upgrading the skills of the industry's current workforce but also help us in developing the workforce of the future."

The grant is part of the President's "High Growth Job Training Initiative." For more information, visit <http://www.doleta.gov/BRG/JobTrainInitiative/>.

❖ Ermatinger Named Vice President For Human Resources

Northrop Grumman announced on Dec. 14 that **William R. "Bill" Ermatinger** has been promoted to sector vice president of Human Resources and Administration, effective Jan. 3, 2005.



Ermatinger

Ermatinger will be responsible for Newport News' human resources operations and employment, environmental, health and safety, labor relations, community relations, security, equal employment opportunity and diversity, benefits and employee services, leadership, professional and technical development and ethics and business conduct.

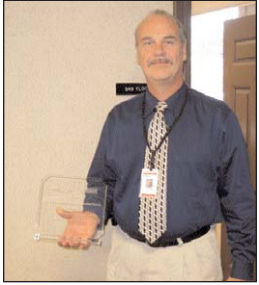
"Bill brings nearly two decades of experience in human resources and administra-

tive management to this position," said Sector President **Mike Petters**. "I believe people are the most important component of our success, and I am confident that Bill will bring strong leadership to the human resources division and add value as a member of my team."

Ermatinger joined the company in 1987 as an associate human resources representative at Electronics Systems. Since then, he has held a number of human resources management positions with increasing responsibility. Most recently, he was director of employee relations for the Electronic Systems sector in Baltimore.

❖ CM Receives Environmental Responsibility Award

The Industrial Environmental Association and the California Manufacturers and Technology Association recently presented the California Environmental Responsibility Award to Northrop Grumman. Continental Maritime (CM), a subsidiary of the company's Newport News sector, was honored for demonstrating a commitment to environmental protection and resource conservation. The award signifies a perfect compliance record for 2004.



Dan Flood displays the California Environmental Responsibility Award.

CM was recognized as the first shipyard in the nation to achieve a zero environmental discharge rate. The shipyard achieved this by eliminating all discharges, including storm water, to the San Diego Bay.

"This award is a tribute to the men and women of our shipyard," said **Dan Flood**, general manager of CM. "Their commitment to protecting the environment and preventing pollution is of great benefit to both our company and the San Diego community."

🔑 *"We Regard Our Suppliers As Essential Team Members."*

❖ Sectors Announce Supplier Awards

Northrop Grumman recently presented six shipbuilding suppliers with awards recognizing their consistency in delivering top-quality products to the company's Newport News and Ship Systems sectors. The top recipients were selected from more than 2,000 suppliers that provide shipbuilding commodities utilized on U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard ships.

Northrop Grumman's 2004 suppliers of the year:

- **Bestweld, Inc.**, located in Pottstown, Pa., manufactures fittings.
- **The L.C. Doane Co.**, located in Essex, Conn., manufactures shipboard lighting systems.
- **Metals USA**, located in Waggaman, La., distributes steel shapes.
- **Pima Valve, Inc.**, located in Chandler, Ariz., manufactures bronze, stainless gate and globe angle valves.
- **Revcar Fasteners, Inc.**, located in Roanoke, Va., distributes commercial and engineered fasteners.
- **Welding Engineering Supply Co., Inc.**, located in



🔑 *"We Must Perform Well On Our Contracts."*

❖ Final Foreman's Brief Held For Ike RCOH

(Left to right) Gail Sawyer, Tom Johnson and Bill Oss, employees in Newport News' Electrical Dept. (X31), were among the nearly 200 employees who attended the final foreman's brief on Dec. 16 for the *USS Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69) refueling and complex overhaul (RCOH), which is nearing completion. The program director, **Tim Racz**, has held monthly meetings with the leaders of the program since the ship arrived more than three years ago. The meeting was followed by dinner and a slide show of images highlighting various stages of construction during the last three years. Racz congratulated the team for its achievements. "There's a lot to celebrate in this program," he said. "Bottom line, you've raised the bar for this type of availability." *Photo by John Whalen*

Prichard, Ala., distributes welding supplies and consumables.

"We depend on over 2,000 suppliers nationwide to help build sophisticated warships in support of our U.S. Navy customer," said **Veasey Wilson**, sector vice president of supply chain management at Newport News. "These six are great examples of partners meeting, and at times exceeding, our expectations."

❖ Conserve Energy During Annual Shutdown

Newport News' Plant Operations Dept. (O46) reminds employees to turn off or unplug all unnecessary electrical equipment before the holiday shutdown begins. Employees who work during the shutdown and need additional heat should call the Service Desk at 8-9888. For more information, call **Mac MacPherson** at 8-4388.



❖ ECAB Hands Out Posters

Kevin Martin (left), a member of Newport News' Employee Communications Advisory Board (ECAB), hands out 2005 calendar posters to employees at the 37th Street gate on Dec. 17. The Communications Division (O29) has ordered more posters and is planning to distribute them after the holiday shutdown. *Photo by Chris Oxley*



❖ Six Tons Of Food Donated

Newport News employees donated 11,454 pounds of food and \$1,528 in cash and checks to the Foodbank of the Virginia Peninsula in the 2004 Holiday Food Drive. The Nuclear Overhaul Engineering Dept. (E81) collected the most food -- 4,455 pounds. Here, E81 employees (left to right) Dave Pinto, Mark Ronquillo, Ray Pagtalunan, Chuck Davidson and Jake Verbeck help collect the donated food items.



❖ Miracle On 37th Street

Eddie Lawson, an employee in the Machinery Installation Dept. (X43), donned his Santa Claus costume and greeted employees before and after first shift on Dec. 17. Lawson, who will retire in February 2005 after 43 years of service, plans to keep the tradition alive next year. "I'm just a happy, jolly guy," he says. "I like doing it for my heart." *Photo by Chris Oxley*

Holiday Spirit Alive And Well At Newport News



❖ Employees On Channel 13

Newport News employees will be featured in "Navy Christmas," an annual holiday show which will air at 8 p.m. Friday, 5 a.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday on WVEC-TV (channel 13). More employees are featured in commercials which are airing on WVEC throughout the holiday season. The commercials can be viewed on Yardnet at: http://www.wis/divisions/o29_new/Navy_Christmas_04.stm. *Photo by Chris Oxley*

❖ Mariners Club Donates \$3,020 To Head Start

Newport News' Mariners Club, a social club consisting of middle managers in the shipyard, donated \$3,020 to Head Start on Dec. 16. The money, raised during the club's annual Christmas silent auction, is earmarked to help pay for CreativeCurriculum.net, an online assessment, reporting and planning system designed for early childhood professionals. Pictured with four Head Start students are: (left to right) Richard Charles, club president; Marilyn Jones, club board member; Martha Stevens, club secretary; Ethel W. Snead, director of Head Start; Don Frederick, club vice president; Carol Gardner, club board member; Mike Allen, club board member; and Brenda Hayspell, education specialist supervisor.



❖ Platen Teams Donate \$1,052 To Toys For Tots

Instead of exchanging gifts, employees on Newport News' Platen Teams 20 and 21 collected \$1,052 this year and donated it to Toys for Tots. Roger Trent of the Structural Fabrication & Assembly Dept. (X10) credits Nolan Dandridge, an X18 welder, with coming up with the idea.