

THE PERISCOPE

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard news and information since 1942

June 2025

Farewell 87th Shipyard Commander *Capt. Michael Oberdorf*





CAPTAIN'S CORNER

As my time as the 87th Commander of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard comes to an end, I find myself reflecting on these past few years.

When I assumed command in 2022, mask mandates and social distancing practices were still in place, as the shipyard was still navigating the challenges of minimizing the spread of the COVID-19 virus while continuing to maximize the mission.

Soon after, recurrent work performance issues related to improper preparation and processes were revealed across the shipyard. This was a challenging time in PNSY history. We needed to refocus on safety and day-to-day quality in order to return this shipyard to the level of excellence it's known for. With this goal in mind, I began my time as Shipyard Commander focused on driving process compliance, building a culture of preparedness, and closing the gap between the leadership and the worker – because no one has the power to change PNSY except us.

My priority, and what was always at the forefront of my mind through challenging times, was what was best for the workforce. It was

important to me, from day one, to foster a culture in which the people of this shipyard feel heard and supported in getting what they need to effectively contribute to our mission of getting boats down the river. These past few years on this island have proven that you win when you empower your people.

We've reimagined the production process through the lens of the mechanic with initiatives like Model Line, and Batch Manufacturing – Initiatives that began with the workforce speaking up and have progressed to the highest levels of support from leadership.

There has been significant progress made in offsetting high cost of living with a Special Salary Rate in at PNSY Detachment-San Diego and aligning Wage Grade in Kittery to Boston locality. This was a huge collaborative effort from shipyard leadership and union presidents, who all worked together to push this through.

In prioritizing the needs of our warfighters, this shipyard increased its safety posture and productivity by 10%, became self-regulating, and developed an operating system that had come to be adopted by all four shipyards. We returned USS Santa Fe (SSN 763), USS Virginia (SSN 774) and

USS Alexandria (SSN 757) back to the fleet to support combatant commander requirements. And, embracing the “Get Real, Get Better” mindset, we delivered USS Texas (SSN 775) more than three months early, and in time for its Sailors to be home for Christmas 2024. And all of this was achieved while coordinating a complex, large-scale construction project in Dry Dock 1.

I was asked recently, what is my favorite view on this shipyard. The answer is without a doubt, our industrial waterfront. Walking our deck plates among you talented workers, Sailors, and civilians, you can't help but feel the pride and patriotism. There is a unique beauty in thousands of empowered individuals rolling up their sleeves in a unified effort to deliver excellence for our country – and that is what goes on here every day. I can honestly say that these past 40 months in command of this shipyard have been some of the proudest in my career. It has truly been a pleasure to lead you. Thank you for all you do. Stay diligent, keep speaking up, and continue to deliver greatness in pursuit of our mission. America is counting on it!

WE ARE PORTSMOUTH
NAVAL SHIPYARD!

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



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**On the cover: 87TH Shipyard Commander
Capt. Michael Oberdorf visits with PNSY workers
at a PROs on the Mall event.**

**Photo by Shipyard Photographer Branden
Bourque**

Fair Winds...



“ THERE IS A
UNIQUE BEAUTY
IN THOUSANDS
OF EMPOWERED
INDIVIDUALS
ROLLING UP THEIR
SLEEVES IN A UNIFIED
EFFORT TO DELIVER
EXCELLENCE FOR OUR
COUNTRY ”

*Capt. Michael Oberdorf
“The People’s Commander”*



Following Seas

CELEBRATING 225 YEARS



OF DELIVERING EXCELLENCE



Article by Deputy Public Affairs Officer Gary Hildreth

Across Portsmouth's historic seacoast lies an island silhouetted with cresting cranes and a bustling waterfront. This is Seavey Island, home to America's leader in attack submarine modernization – Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

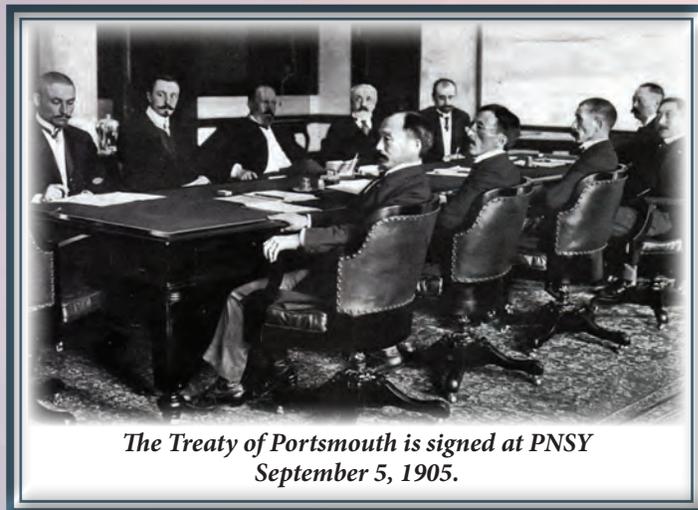
Established June 12, 1800, the shipyard's formative years were spent developing an untamed terrain into an industrialized landscape that would soon support the construction of sailing warships. As young America entrenched into the War of 1812, the shipyard's first warship, USS Washington (1814) with its intimidating 74 cannons, was purposely launched early to deter any British invasion of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Already faced with a gauntlet of firepower from a well-fortified harbor, the British thought it best not to tempt any additional resistance from a floating fortress.



The launching of USS Washington (1814), at PNSY on October 1, 1814. The 74-gun ship of the line was the first warship built at PNSY.

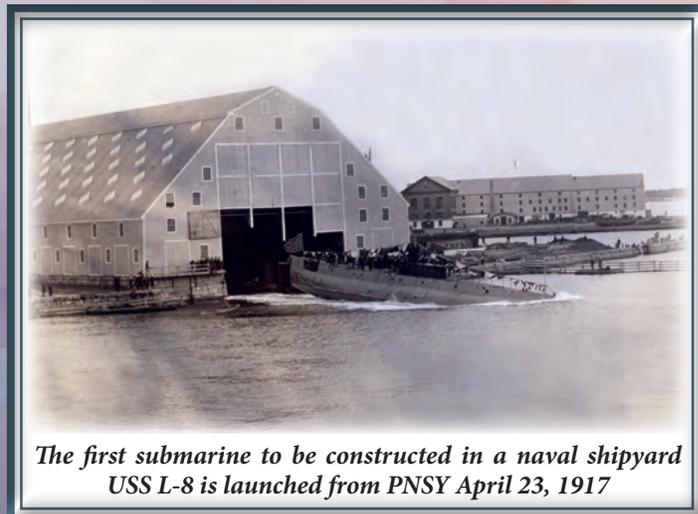
Over the following decades, advancements in warship design saw wooden hulls yield to the strength of steel. With limited acreage, the shipyard was spatially challenged to fabricate and construct these larger warships. Concurrently, with the Navy's commissioning of the undersea vessel USS Holland (SS 1) in 1900 from a private shipbuilder, the prospect of building submarines in naval shipyards generated increased interest. Enthusiastic about being at the forefront of this ground-breaking initiative, PNSY welcomed the opportunity.

Meanwhile, across the globe, Russia's aggressive advancement through eastern Asia was vehemently met with Japanese opposition. Escalating into war, President Theodore Roosevelt called upon the shipyard to provide a secure venue conducive to facilitating negotiations. Without delay, PNSY rolled out the red carpet and on Sept. 5, 1905, after a month of conferences and social engagements, the Treaty of Portsmouth was signed bringing peace and an end to the Russo-Japanese War.



The Treaty of Portsmouth is signed at PNSY September 5, 1905.

Following this international achievement, the shipyard was full speed ahead with its maritime mission. In 1917, PNSY launched the first submarine constructed in a naval shipyard, the L-8, and was now poised for a future in submarine research, construction, and repair.



The first submarine to be constructed in a naval shipyard USS L-8 is launched from PNSY April 23, 1917

America's entrance into WWII intensified the Navy's demand for a submarine fleet capable of undersea warfare and the protection of global sea lanes. Rolling up their sleeves, a ready and mission focused workforce not only met the challenge but far exceeded any expectations. In 1944 alone, PNSY constructed 32 diesel-powered submarines and at war's end, was credited with building nearly half of America's submarine force, finishing 79 newly constructed submarines.

As a result, in 1958, PNSY built the first nuclear-powered submarine in a naval shipyard, USS Swordfish (SSN 579), later constructing nine others. With the delivery of USS Sand Lance (SSN 660) in 1971, the Shipyard's mission changed to overhaul, repair, and modernization.



Three submarines USS Ronquil (SS 396), USS Redfish (SS 395) and USS Razorback (SS 394) are set to launch from PNSY January 27, 1944.



The first nuclear powered submarine to be built in a naval shipyard USS Swordfish (SSN 579) is launched August 27, 1957.

Soon after the war, diesel-powered submarines surrendered to the operational advantages of nuclear power. In response, PNSY designed and constructed USS Albacore (AGSS 569), the prototype leading to the first nuclear-powered submarine. This was game changing and afforded the advantage to safely operate a warship fully submerged for extended periods of time.



The USS Sand lance (SSN 660) is launched at PNSY November 11, 1969.



The USS Albacore (AGSS 569), launched from PNSY on September 1, 1953. The Albacore's evolutionary teardrop-shaped hull design became the prototype for the Navy's nuclear powered submarine force.

Since laying the first keel on a wooden warship over two centuries ago, to today's mission 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. Our dedicated workforce continues to proudly serve this nation and personify the cherished theme – "From Sails to Atoms."

THE LIFTING AND HANDLING DEPARTMENT GETS TESTED AND PREVAILS

Article by Lifting & Handling Department Secretary Laurel Pollard and Periscope Writer Alana Demo
Photos by Shipyard Photographer Jim Cleveland

On April 15, the Lifting and Handling Department successfully conducted its annual crane maintenance and load tests on Portsmouth Naval Shipyard's Portal Crane 34 (PC 34). Through the collaborative effort of Lifting and Handling's Engineering, Quality Assurance and Inspection, Crane Maintenance, Crane Operations and Rigging divisions, Naval Facilities (NAVFAC) and Navy Crane Center (NCC), they were able to get certified on time and ready to work on availabilities despite the limited space due to ongoing construction projects at PNSY.

Portal Cranes (PCs) across PNSY undergo rigorous, annually scheduled maintenance that includes a testing and inspection period. Once the crane completes the maintenance and the load test is verified, the Load Test Director compiles the final test package for certification.

Dry Dock 1 project underway, our crew was unaffected by these hurdles. They performed the work safely and kept our expansive maintenance schedule on track, while meeting deadlines in anticipation of upcoming availabilities.

The Lifting and Handling department's Engineering division was tasked with determining where maintenance for PC

34 would be completed. Crane Engineering Branch Head Cameron Guild took the lead on facilitating work outside of the load test area. "We quickly realized that we had to work in-place and got to work reviewing the Navy's governing load test requirements and provided supplemental engineering instructions to complete the work," said Guild.

Chief Engineer Steve Perrucci was impressed with the high level of professionalism and attention to detail required to negotiate this intricate work. "Mr. Guild was able to work extremely well with other commands, like NAVFAC, and develop a safe and executable plan to complete the necessary testing without additional



The Crane Maintenance division managed the schedule, as well as outlining and executing the work. Traditionally, crane maintenance and load testing are performed in a designated location called the Load Test Area (LTA). However, this year's maintenance for PC 34 coincided with ongoing work on PC 79 in the LTA. As a result, the maintenance and testing of PC 34 had to be completed at the head of Dry Dock 1.

"I couldn't be happier with our team," said Crane Maintenance Division Head Matt Charland. "We faced some big challenges while tackling the scheduled maintenance on PC 34. With the P-381 Multi-Mission



impact to the workforce and the current construction of P-381 Multi Mission Dry Dock 1.”

NAVFAC expedited the analysis of rail measurements and was pivotal in providing timely approval to use a section of the work area. Thanks to their quick turn-around, the preparation process was completed in a short time.

Several other divisions played an active role in the success of the Load Test. The Crane Operators and Rigging division provided the expertise needed to perform crane operation tests and checks beforehand. The Quality, Inspection, Testing and Training division delivered ongoing quality assurance and inspection of the crane while also organizing and directing the workflow.

Test Director Matt Marston worked closely with the crane operator in the cab, directing the execution of the load and personnel movements. He remained in constant radio communication with crane inspectors, mechanics and electricians, who monitored equipment at each action site, as well as each of the riggers assigned to support.



ongoing availabilities and the P-381 construction. Major kudos to the work team for facilitating this shipyard win.”

“This project really embodies the spirit of what we’re capable of here, at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard,” said Lifting and Handling Department Director Ricky Powers. “When all parties are focused on solving the problem, we come to the best solution to safely support the mission. Great collaboration, coupled with our innovative nature, garnered huge gains by returning PC 34 to work on ongoing availabilities, while minimizing impacts. I’m proud of the Lifting and Handling Department’s continued contribution at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.”



“With the help of our Rigger-in-Charge Andrew Nostrom and his team, we were able to pick up the load, while maintaining the weight between the rail, in the midst of the crew working around construction on the shipyard,” said Marston. “Red barrier tape only goes so far, so we really needed to be on our game.”

NCC Representative at PNSY, Joshua Mills, reviewed the test plan in advance and inspected the crane.

“I’m proud of what our workforce does every day,” said Lifting and Handling Deputy Director Phil Boyd. “This is a great example of our team coming together to solve a challenging problem. They really focused on finding a solution that worked for all parties and put together a plan that was able to keep PC 34’s crane maintenance on schedule, while minimizing impact to



Springing into Station Beautification

Photos by Mass Communications Specialist 1st Class Charlotte C. Oliver and Public Affairs Support Services Specialist Neil Boorjian



Portsmouth Naval Shipyard hosted a base cleanup day, April 23. Sponsored by the Energy Task Force, the event saw dozens of employees and Sailors from across the base working together to clean PNSY. Participants collected more than 2,000 pounds of trash and debris which is no longer a risk of entering the Piscataqua River.

The Energy Task Force extends their appreciation to all the volunteers who made this event a success. Through recycling and conservation, we can make this planet cleaner, one piece at a time.



Photo by Neil Boorjian



Photo by MC1 Charlotte C. Oliver



Photo by Neil Boorjian

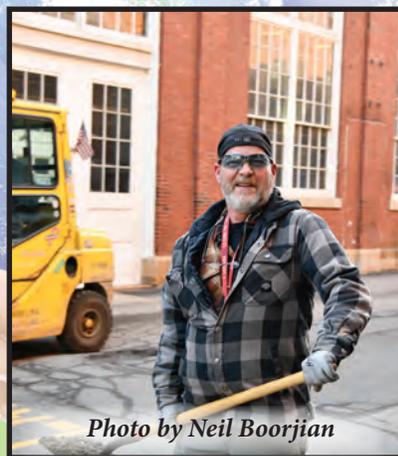


Photo by Neil Boorjian



Photo by MC1 Charlotte C. Oliver



Photo by MC1 Charlotte C. Oliver



Photo by MC1 Charlotte C. Oliver

P R O F I L E

Cameron Boynton



Photo by Shipyard Photographer Branden Bourque

Piping Replacement Team Supervisor Cameron Boynton's favorite part of working at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is the opportunity to collaborate with other employees to achieve a common goal. "Everyone is part of the same mission here," said Boynton. "What I like most about working at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, is the opportunity to be a part of something important, like modernizing attack submarines for the Navy to keep our Nation safe. You don't have to serve in the military to serve your country. It's a good career and I'm proud of that."

Boynton grew up learning finished carpentry from his father who was a cabinet maker. By the time he was in his early twenties Cameron had worked on anything from ground up residential buildings to large scale commercial facility construction. "I got to bring that experience of building something from start to finish to Portsmouth Naval Shipyard," said Boynton.

After a few years of working in the private sector in Maine and New Hampshire, Boynton got into the Worker's Skills Progression Program at PNSY. Over the last eight years, he has worked as a pipefitter, grinding instructor and now pipe and replacement team supervisor.

"What I like most about my job is those days when you come in and everything you and your team have been working on for weeks, taking the preliminary steps to plan and follow through on, all falls into place," said Boynton. "It's the satisfaction of seeing a plan come together after a lot of hard work."

Boynton feels lucky to be working at PNSY and is proud to be a part of a vigilant workforce that focuses on the mission of lethality, readiness and strategic deterrence.

Article by Periscope Writer Alana Demo

SAILOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT: MA2 MORSE

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

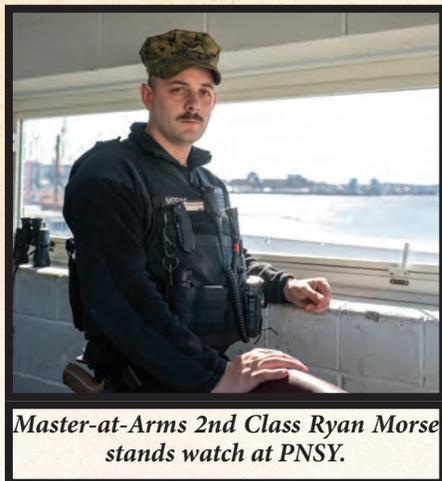
Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Ryan Morse enlisted in the Navy in January 2022. Originally from Florida, he moved to Maine when he was still young. Like many Sailors, he joined the Navy to travel and see the world. He arrived at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in early 2025.

Morse works side-by-side with his fellow Navy security forces personnel and DoD police. He can be spotted around PNSY checking IDs, inspecting commercial vehicles at the gate, and patrolling the base in unit vehicles.

"I like interacting with people when I'm in the field," said Morse. "Being in a position where I can help others is always a good feeling." Playing an integral role in promoting the warrior ethos at PNSY and contributing to the continued safety of the workforce as it carries out its mission, Morse takes great pride in ensuring he and his fellow security personnel are ready to respond to any situation.

"I stay mission-ready by taking care of myself physically as well as mentally," said Morse regarding daily operations at PNSY. "I carve out time in my day-to-day to go to the gym to maintain my physical fitness and I try to spend any down time either outside or reading to take care of my mental fitness as well. Finding the balance can be tough sometimes, but it's a necessity for a healthy mission-ready lifestyle."

Morse was not expecting to be stationed this close to home, but it's been worth it. "My favorite thing about being stationed at PNSY is the location," said Morse. "Maine is a beautiful place and offers an abundance of outdoor activities and beauty. I've had the opportunities to travel and see a lot of different countries around the world and never quite found a place like Maine."



Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Ryan Morse stands watch at PNSY.

Living the Pipe-dream: New Pipefitters Learning Center Improves Work Flow and Builds a Stronger Workforce

Article by Periscope Writer Alana Demo
Photos by Shipyard Photographer Branden Bourque

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard's Pipe Shop launched its new learning center August 2024, giving new employees a chance to learn their job hands-on before getting to the deckplates to ensure a safe and seamless work environment.

The creation of the learning center, which contains a life-size mockup combination of piping systems that are similar to the real workspaces, was a collaborative effort. "There were many different key players in getting this mockup built," said Pipefitters Learning Center Training Coordinator Travis MacDonald. "All Shop 56 instructors helped, from brazing, to fit-up and welding, to the mechanical joints, and the Paint, Blast and Rubber Shop painted the mockup to provide a realistic environment.

The Inside Machine Shop personnel supported with training material. According to Pipe Shop Training Supervisor Austin Levesque, the Pipe Shop reached out to the Inside Machine Shop's training department to build connecting pipe parts, known as unions. "We got the unions we needed, and they were able to use the manufacturing as a training opportunity, which was a win-win," said Levesque. "They were also able to provide us with some extra components they no longer needed for their training but were still perfectly good for us to use for mechanical joint makeup."

Environmental Systems Mechanical Engineer Nathan Ouellette from the Planning and Engineering Department assisted the project by creating blueprints to accompany the Training Task Group Instructions. "Mr. Ouellette provided the majority of engineering support to the shop in generating the plan drawings they used for the mockup," said Planning and Engineering Department Air and Hydraulics Mechanical Engineer

Mike Freeman. "I am glad to see the training mock-up in the Pipe Shop. It was a great idea that was put in place by the shop."

Several years ago, the training was done in a shared, open-concept space in another building but with some innovative thinking the learning center was developed in its own space and in the same building as the worksite. The feedback was positive. "Most learning styles of the PNSY workforce are hands-on and it was evident that just having the classroom learning without the hands-on wasn't as effective," said MacDonald. "With this learning center it not only teaches mechanics how to disassemble and reinstall components, but it teaches them how to maneuver throughout the boat safely and without damaging components. It's a risk-free and safe environment to fail and practice."

The learning center operates on a well-planned system: training, application, evaluation and feedback. Some key features of this learning center are the various types of mechanical joints. It covers all the major joints the mechanics encounter while working



Pipe and Replacement Team members (l-r): Pipefitter Matt Day, Supervisor Cameron Boynton and Pipefitter Derrick Easter

on the deckplates.

Mentoring newer employees onsite is crucial, and having some knowledge prior to working the actual job is important. "It's great when the mechanics have that 'aha moment' when doing work and remember seeing it up in training," said MacDonald.

Overall, having the learning center impacts the PNSY workforce by giving them a better chance for success in a safe learning environment. It allows them to learn how to do it correctly, ensuring first-time quality. New mechanics can be hands on with piping and components before working on the deckplates. This process builds greater efficiency, confidence and

warfighter readiness. To be able to brief the work correctly, know what to look for and what questions to ask prior to performing the work is a game changer for the mechanic.

“The main focus is to give employees a safe-to-fail environment, setting them up for success in the future,” said MacDonald. “Giving them the tools and knowledge to be successful, resulting in a safer workplace and delivering these submarines back to the fleet on time, under budget and with first-time quality, to show our adversaries our lethality, readiness and strategic deterrence.”



PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE VIDEOGRAPHERS RECEIVE NAVY-WIDE RECOGNITION

Two Visual Information Specialists from the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Public Affairs Office received second place Navy Public Affairs Awards (NPAA) in recognition of outstanding achievement in communication efforts that advance Department of the Navy objectives. Entries were judged on professional excellence, communication impact, originality and military relevance, as well as caption and description. BRAVO ZULU Jordon and Joel!

JORDON JOHNSON- SECOND PLACE, VIDEO SERIES

Winning series- Portsmouth Naval Shipyard PROfiles (2024)

PNSY PROfiles are a multi-part video series showcasing PNSY "PROs," an acronym standing for Pride, Responsibility and Ownership, used to represent and showcase the workforce. This award recognizes videos from the PROfile video series from 2024.



JOEL MESSER- SECOND PLACE, VIDEO MULTIMEDIA

Winning project- PROfile: Shipyard Historian Joseph Gluckert

This project showcases the PNSY Historian Joseph Gluckert, providing viewers an overview of his role as Historian, and look into Gluckert's life, from his prior service in the Massachusetts Army National guard and supporting the United States Army's 126th Military History Detachment, to his current role on the shipyard.

Photos by Shipyard Photographer Branden Bourque

National Day of Prayer

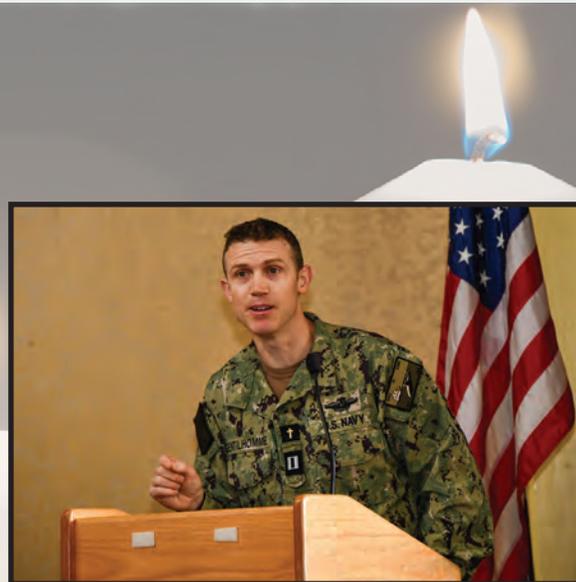
Article and photo by Public Affairs Support Services Specialist Neil Boorjian

On May 1, 2025, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard invited Sailors and civilians of all faiths to take part in the National Day of Prayer, an annual observance established in 1952 by a joint resolution of the U.S. Congress and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman.

In 1988, the law was amended and signed by President Ronald Regan officially designating the first Thursday in May as the National Day of Prayer.

Every year on this day, all at PNSY are invited to Tirante Tavern for coffee, breakfast, and fellowship. The event was led by Shipyard Chaplain Lt. Nathanael Gentilhomme, and featured Paster Chris Crowe of York Street Bible Church as guest speaker.

The event continued a long-standing PNSY tradition of recognizing the National Day of Prayer, and offered the community an opportunity to reflect, seek guidance, pray, and express gratitude for life's blessings.



Shipyard Chaplain, Lt. Nathanael Gentilhomme welcomes those in attendance at the National Day of Prayer breakfast held at PNSY, May 1.

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard TRADES APPRENTICESHIP

INFORMATION SESSIONS

JOIN US

When: First Tuesday of the month from 2-5pm

Where: Holiday Inn at Portsmouth Traffic Circle
300 Woodbury Ave, Portsmouth, NH

To ask questions or submit a resume,

please email PTNH-jobs@navy.mil



AWARDS

During the month of April, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard issued 1,413 awards:

1,117	On The Spot Awards
184	Time Off Awards
9	Special Act Awards
99	Special Act Awards for Qualifications
4	Safety Awards

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

During the month of April, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard issued 24 disciplinary actions including:

Non-Bargaining Unit Employees (Supervisors)

7	Letters of Reprimand
3	Suspension (14 days or less)
2	Terminations/Removals

Bargaining Unit Employees (Non-Supervisors)

7	Letters of Reprimand
3	Suspensions (14 Days or fewer)
2	Terminations/Removals

2025 LENGTH OF

50 YEARS

45 YEARS



Daniel Chaloux
Code 990

NOT PICTURED

Edward Matheson
Code 900T



Thomas Ruel
Code 295

40 YEARS



Michael Daugherty
Code 980



Juan Rijo
Code 220.4

NOT PICTURED

Michael Campion
Code 105.5

Gary Neiman
Code 2340.3

Anna Nevers
Code 1104.1

35 YEARS



Norman Chaloux
Code 260.2



Bridget Church
Code 1225



David Dorman
Code 724



Edward Ganieri
Code 106.12

SERVICE AWARDS

35 YEARS, NOT PICTURED

John Dunbar
Code 956

Darryl Jenkins
Code 105.41

Gerald "Gary" White
Code 911

Thomas Harmon
Code 293

John Murray
Code 931

30 YEARS

NOT PICTURED



Stanley Norton
Code 109.2



Lugenia Wansley
Code 106.1

Dennis Bronson
Code 951

James Carroll
Code 920

Kevin Dodier
Code 990



Stuart Hotchkiss
Code 300.01



Robert Sullivan
Code 134.3

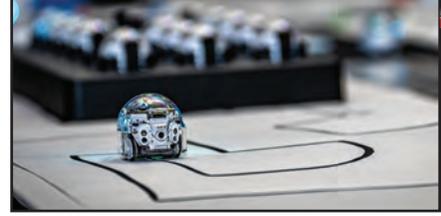


David Ballard
Code 105.52

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

Engineering the Future Today: STEM Robotics Expo at PNSY

Article by Periscope Writer Alana Demo



On May 2, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Outreach Program hosted the fourth annual Robotics Expo.

This event was organized by Robotics Mentor and PNSY Electrical Engineer Nick Piscitello. Piscitello mentors teams throughout Dover and was named mentor of the year in 2024. “The Robotics Expo is a fun way for Shipyard-supported teams to share their successes from the previous competition season – it’s my favorite outreach event of the year!” said Piscitello. “Being surrounded by the passion and creativity that students pour into their robots and team identity is awe-inspiring.”

The event allows students to showcase the robots they have been working on all year. “The Robotics Expo is proof of the significant positive impact the STEM Outreach Program has on local communities,” said Piscitello. “We had 12 teams in attendance, representing four separate competition programs and involving elementary, middle and high school students. Even with a packed house, that is only a fraction of the 47 robotics programs the Shipyard directly supported this year.”

The expo is also a chance for students to learn how some codes at the shipyard apply STEM in their work. The Lifting and Handling Department brought a virtual reality crane simulator for students to try, and the Engineering and Planning Department’s Mechanical Engineering division set up a valve demonstration.

Robotics mentor, and Submarine Maintenance Engineering Planning and Procurement Electronics Engineer Sue Hay, who mentors teams in Lee and Durham, New Hampshire, said that it’s not just about building a robot - it’s a process. “Mentoring robotics is not about teaching students how to build a robot, it’s all about helping the students grow – not just in their understanding of the technology around them; but more importantly learning how to ask the right questions, how to create a plan for success, and how to follow or modify that plan,” said Hay. Hay explained that it’s much like

based youth robotics program, travels across Maine and New Hampshire giving presentations to schools on how to start a robotics program. Herrick has mentored students from kindergarten through grade 12 and marvels at the progression. “As a mentor with the Blue Potato Lobsters Robotics Team, I have watched a group of students go from not understanding how to use simple hand tools to a group of students who are basically running a small business,” said Herrick.

Dover High School junior JP, who aspires to be an architect, said the STEM Outreach Robotics Program at PNSY has been a great opportunity for him to learn beyond the classroom. “It helps students try different things and learn what they like through experience,” said JP. “I was able to learn life skills, like how to work with other people as a team on a project and how to collaborate with other teams. I was also able to build connections and friendships.”

“It’s a way for kids to learn real-life skills and be exposed to something different,” said PNSY Production Resources Directives Coordinator and Robotics Mentor Kellen Brown. “This was the rookie season for the Shapleigh CyberSharks from Kittery, Maine, who formed a team made up mostly of those who graduated from the previous league and still had a drive for more robotics,” said Brown. “Everyone worked well together when facing challenges and is very excited to return again for next season to try and beat this year’s results.”



Students, mentors and PNSY employees gathered in the PNSY gymnasium for the 2025 STEM Robotics Expo

running a business, requiring students to do their own marketing and branding, build a website, present to sponsors and fundraise - along with developing code, acquiring parts and building and testing the robot.

Another facet of the robotics program is student outreach. Robotics Mentor and PNSY Assistant Chief Test Engineer Chris Herrick, who mentors the Blue Potato Lobsters, a community-

Students and mentors participating at the 2025 STEM Robotics Expo. Photos by Shipyard Photographer Branden Bourque



Cutting the Ribbon on Gate 2 Construction

Article and photos by Shipyard Photographer Branden Bourque

May 14, 2025: A ribbon-cutting ceremony marks the official opening of the newly upgraded Gate 2 Bridge. The bridge upgrade involved replacing the failed coating system, repairing structural steel, and installing a new vehicle guardrail system. These enhancements improve regional infrastructure, ensuring smoother and safer transportation while supporting the shipyard's growing workforce. The project also includes a designated bike path and pedestrian walkway. The investment in the bridge will improve traffic flow, material delivery, and installation resiliency for the shipyard.

The Shipyard infrastructure Optimization Program is a comprehensive, long-term recapitalization effort that delivers integrated investments in infrastructure and industrial plant equipment at the Navy's four public shipyards, expanding shipyard capacity and optimizing shipyard configuration to meet the Navy's fleet maintenance requirements.



KEEP AN EYE ON THE SKY AT PNSY

As the nice weather is finally on its way and finds us all looking forward to summer, remember that June 1 marks the beginning of Hurricane season.

A typical severe thunderstorm has 60-mph wind gusts, dime-size hail, lightning and heavy rains. These storms can be dangerous and can occur with little or no warning, so stay aware of the situation and keep a close eye on the weather.

At Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, we have methods in place to notify you of forecasted storms. However, if severe weather were to arrive unexpectedly, you must find shelter.

Finding Shelter means:

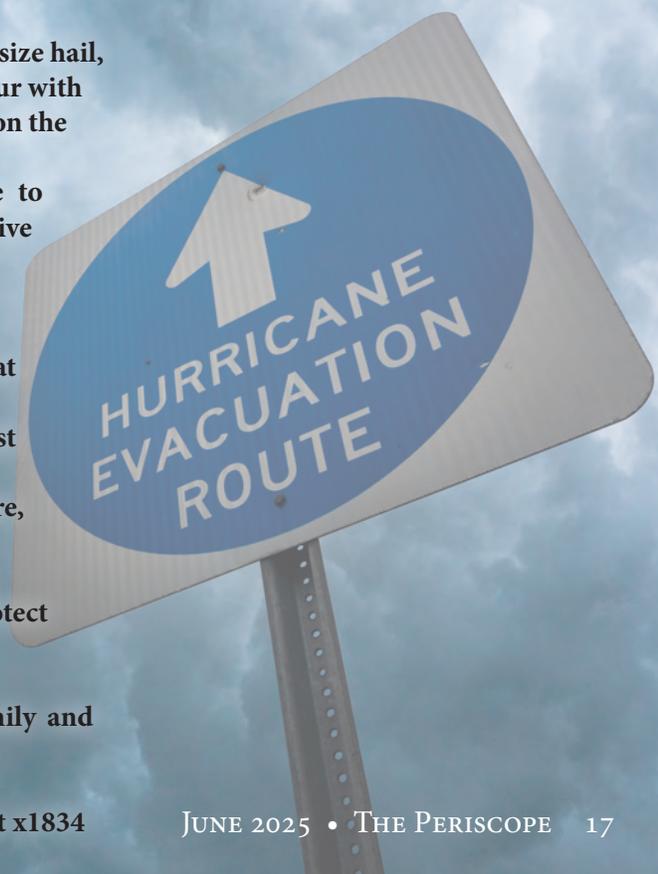
- Getting or staying indoors in a brick-and-mortar type structure that can withstand severe weather and has overhead cover.
- Shelter in temporary structures such as smoke shacks only as a last resort.
- Regardless of where you are, find the strongest part of the structure, such as a doorway, and get as low as possible.

Do not keep emergency information a secret. While taking action to protect yourself - ensure that others around you are also aware.

For more information on how you can better prepare yourself, family and workplace to be ready in a disaster you can visit:

<http://www.ready.navy.mil/>, or <http://www.ready.gov/>.

You can also contact the Installation Emergency Management Office at x1834



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 wtuktransit@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 - DEVOL'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

Operational Risk Management (ORM): Tool and Equipment Safety

Safety devices on machinery are mandatory for the protection of personnel.

Never alter or adjust machinery guards.

For damaged or loose guards, notify your supervisor and he/she will contact X06 machinery maintenance for repairs X 2498.

- Understand equipment operation
- Review the Job Safety Analysis (JSA)
- Never oil or adjust machinery in motion
- Clean up fluid spills immediately
- All spills are to be reported
- Contact the PNSY Fire Dept. at x2333
- Use scaffolding instead of a ladder or fall protection
- Use lock out tags plus when working with hazardous energy
- Tie up temporary services to avoid tripping hazards
- Use additional lighting to illuminate a dark working area

What can hurt me??
What am I going to do about it?
Who can fix it if I can't?

Applying the ORM process will reduce mishaps, lower injury and property damage cost, provide for more efficient use of resources, improve training realism and effectiveness, and improve readiness.

Save the Date

June 12, 2025

PROs on the Mall

Celebrating

225

**Years of
*Shipbuilding
Excellence***

