

# "Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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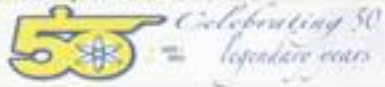
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**Early November 2011**  
**Deposit Balance \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Decommissioning USS**  
**Enterprise CVN-65**



While a date has not yet been set for the Decommissioning of the USS Enterprise, details of the removal of her nuclear reactors are already in the works.

From the Kitsap Sun (Oct. 25) in Bremerton: The Navy announced Friday that it has prepared a draft environmental assessment on disposing defueled reactor plants from the USS Enterprise. That's never been done. Enterprise, the Navy's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier and its oldest operating ship, was commissioned in 1961. Its useful life will end in 2012. The Navy's preferred alternative, according to the draft environmental assessment, is to dispose of Enterprise's reactor compartments the same way it has for 144 other ships — primarily submarines — since 1986: Remove them at the shipyard and barge them up the Columbia River to a designated Navy trench at the Hanford nuclear waste dump. Enterprise, the only ship of its class, is expected to enter dry dock at Newport News Shipbuilding in Virginia in 2013, where it will be inactivated and have its spent fuel removed. Then, the Navy will tow it to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. Reactor compartment disposal would begin in 2018 or

2019 and take six to eight years, the assessment says. The rest of the ship will be recycled.

**No Bremerton WA pictorial for USS Constellation anniversary**



Independence, Constellation, Ranger and USS John C. Stennis (partially visible) at PSNS 2006

Plans were tentative for a pictorial cancel at Bremerton WA on October 27 for the 50<sup>th</sup> Commissioning anniversary of the mothballed carrier ex-USS Constellation CV-64. The carrier is tied up at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard awaiting the Navy's plans for her. While a design was in place, the cancel was never requested from the Bremerton post office. But, you can still send to Brooklyn NY where the carrier was built and Commissioned. Covers for the Brooklyn NY cancel go to:

Postmaster, USPS  
Pratt Station  
524 Myrtle Ave  
Brooklyn NY 11205



50th Anniversary of  
Commissioning and  
Navy Day  
October 27, 2011  
Brooklyn, NY 11205

**Keel Laid for Future USS**  
**Milwaukee LCS-5**



From Program Executive Office Littoral  
Combat Ship Public Affairs

MARINETTE, Wis. (NNS) --  
Workers at the Marinette Marine  
Corp. shipyard in Marinette, Wis.  
authenticated the keel for LCS 5,  
the future USS Milwaukee,

during a ceremony Oct. 27, recognizing the beginning of the ship's construction. "Starting construction on the fifth ship of the class is a significant step in the life of the program," said Rear Adm. Jim Murdoch, program executive officer for Littoral Combat Ships. "We've learned a number of key lessons from the construction of LCS 1 and 3 which will improve production of these vital fleet assets. We're committed to controlling shipbuilding costs and delivering these ships on time and within budget." Milwaukee is expected to deliver to the fleet in 2014. The ship will join USS Freedom (LCS 1), commissioned in 2008; USS Independence (LCS 2), commissioned in 2009, and the future USS Fort Worth and USS Coronado, both under construction.

The ship, named in honor of the Wisconsin city, will be 417 feet in length and capable of reaching speeds in excess of 40 knots.

**Coast Guard Yard promised**  
**61M for future work**

With cuts to budgets across the government, workers at the Coast Guard Yard at Curtis Bay MD were pleased to hear that \$61 million dollars has been budgeted for future repairs to the USCG fleet. The news came from Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) who visited the yard on Oct. 27. The 2012 appropriations bill also includes \$26 million to support two new avenues of potential work for the yard: a \$6 million project to repair icebreaking tugboats and begin work on new buoy tenders, as well as \$20 million to fund the maintenance of the Coast Guard's medium- and high-endurance cutter fleet.