

# ON THE LEVEL

◊ BALANCING INDUSTRY & ASSOCIATION NEWS ◊

On The Level - August 2020



VPPPA Members Receive a  
10% Tuition Discount



## Upcoming Events & Deadlines

[Membership Renewal](#)  
Now

[Take Our Membership Survey](#)

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## Safety & Health News Round-Up

[COVID-19 and working women](#)  
(Safety+Health)

[Wellness-Equipped Office Makes Employees Feel Safer](#)  
(EHS Today)

[Senate bill aimed at limiting employer liability during COVID-19 pandemic](#)  
(Safety+Health)



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## VPPPA Lunch & Learn Lineup

You won't want to miss VPPPA's Lunch & Learn Webinar Series! Since we can't host an in-person event this year, we have lined up a week of great content. FREE for VPPPA members.

### Monday, August 24

"The Safety Man Movement"

**Speaker:** Terry D. Gray

**Tuesday, August 25**

"A Case Study on the Safety Gap: Leadership and Next Generation Workforce Competence"

**Speaker:** Daryl Brister

**Wednesday, August 26**

"Retaining Rescue Skills in the Midst of Coronavirus"

**Speaker:** Chris Carlsen

**Thursday, August 27**

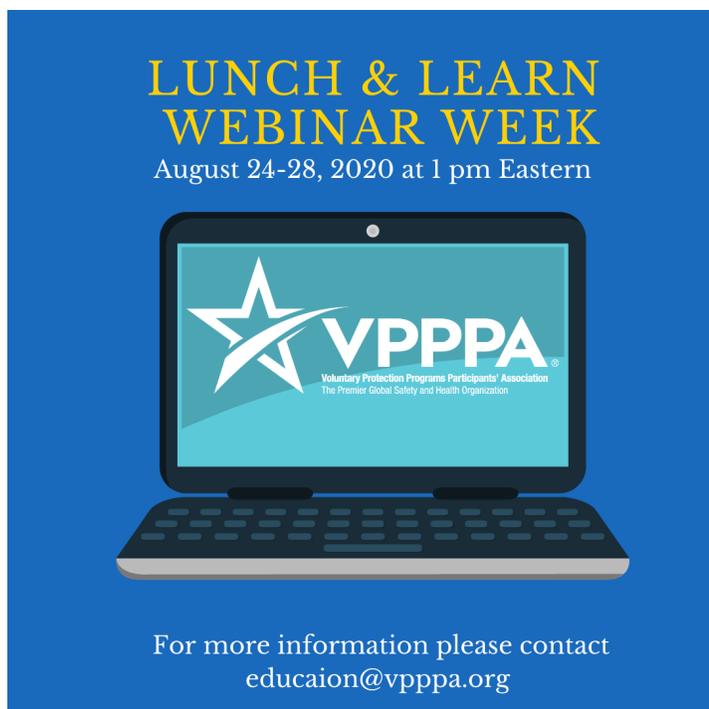
"Understanding and Avoiding the VPP Slump"

**Speaker:** Brad Baptiste

**Friday, August 28**

"Improving Safety Performance Through Safety Leadership"

**Speaker:** Susan Murphy



**LUNCH & LEARN  
WEBINAR WEEK**  
August 24-28, 2020 at 1 pm Eastern

**VPPPA**  
Voluntary Protection Programs Participants' Association  
The Premier Global Safety and Health Organization

For more information please contact  
[educaion@vpppa.org](mailto:educaion@vpppa.org)

**[Register!](#)**

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**7th Annual National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls September 14-18**

OSHA announced that the 7th annual National Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction has been rescheduled for **September 14-18, 2020**.

According to OSHA, "A Safety Stand-Down is a voluntary event for employers to talk directly to employees about safety. Any workplace can hold a stand-down by taking a break to focus on "Fall Hazards" and reinforcing the importance of "Fall Prevention." Employers of companies not exposed to fall hazards, can also use this opportunity to have a conversation with employees about the other job hazards they face, protective methods, and the company's safety policies and goals. It can also be an opportunity for employees to talk to management about fall and other job hazards they see."

*You can promote the event by using the **#StandDown4Safety** hashtag on social media.*

Additional Fall Prevention Stand-Down resources:

- [Social media graphics/posters to promote the Stand-Down](#)
- [5 Ways to Prevent Workplace Falls video](#)
- [Stand-Down FAQ's](#)
- [Join the Stand-Down](#)

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**National Board of Directors Elections**

National Board of Directors elections usually take place during VPPPA's annual Safety+ Symposium, but this year elections were held via a virtual platform on VPPPA's YouTube



**NATIONAL SAFETY STAND-DOWN  
TO PREVENT FALLS IN CONSTRUCTION**

**SEPTEMBER 14-18, 2020**

**Stop Falls Stand-Down**

- Plan a toolbox talk or other safety activity
- Take a break to talk about how to prevent falls
- Provide training for all workers

For more information:  
[www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown](http://www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown)  
#StandDown4Safety • 1-800-321-OSHA (6742)

U.S. Department of Labor **50** OSHA Protecting the American Workforce CDC MOSH Safety Pays. Falls Cost.

channel.

Terry Schulte from NuStar Energy in Elk Grove, CA, was elected as the new Chairperson of the National Board of Directors. In addition, Christina Ross from Morton Salt and Rocky Simmons from Mission Support Alliance joined the board as Directors-at-Large.

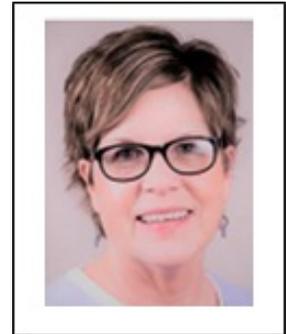
You can see the entire Board of Directors and their contact information [here](#).

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## Congratulations to Kathy Spanjer: Special Government Employee of the Year

On August 11, during VPPPA's Virtual Annual Meeting of the Membership Doug Kalinowski, Director of the OSHA Directorate of Cooperative and State Programs, announced Kathy Spanjer, CSP, from Schneider Electric, as the winner of the Special Government Employee of the Year for 2019. Kathy is also the OSHA Region VIII SGE of the Year for 2019.

In 2019, Kathy Spanjer participated in six VPP evaluations. In addition, she coordinated a VPP outreach and best practice sharing, presented a session on mentoring at the VPPPA conference, she mentored six sites, evaluated five VPP annual reports, hosted a group of college students at her plant to teach them about safety/health and VPP, and she presented an ergonomics training program to a group of manufacturers. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!



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## Behavioral Health Q&A Column - August 2020

VPPPA has partnered with experts at MindWise Innovations to present a monthly Q&A article addressing questions that members might be hesitant to ask about. These columns will address your questions about mental health, substance abuse, brain injuries, family issues and more. You can read the [column for August, here](#).



This month's article discusses substance abuse and relapse during quarantine. Including:

1. I'm worried about my kids learning virtually this school year and how isolating it will be.
2. How can I tell if they're struggling emotionally?
3. What should I do if I'm concerned that my child is depressed?

***To submit your own question (your information will not be shared),  
[fill out this form.](#)***

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## New OSHA COVID-19 Resources for Food Manufacturing Industry

### **North American Meat Institute + OSHA Alliance**

OSHA has signed an alliance with the North American Meat Institute to provide information, guidance and access to training resources for protecting workers in the meatpacking and processing industry from exposures to the coronavirus. During the two-year alliance, participants will develop information on recognizing coronavirus transmission risks and best practices for preventing transmission, and on challenges for exposure control in meatpacking and processing facilities. Alliance participants will also conduct outreach to small- and medium-sized facilities on available guidance and compliance assistance resources, including the On-Site Consultation Program, and will work together on other outreach activities, including providing information on OSHA's enforcement policies and procedures relevant to the meatpacking and

processing industry. You can read more about the alliance, [here](#).

### **FDA + OSHA Checklist**

OSHA and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have developed a [checklist for human and animal food manufacturers](#) to consider when continuing, resuming or reevaluating operations due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The [checklist](#) is useful for persons growing, harvesting, packing, manufacturing, processing or holding human and animal food regulated by FDA. The checklist includes the following considerations:

- Ensure employee health and a safe workplace;
- Investigate exposure and determine when an employee should be tested for the coronavirus; and
- Configure the work environment to help minimize the risk of spreading the coronavirus among workers.

In addition, the checklist provides examples of ways to align workstations to include social distancing practices. Food manufacturers can use this checklist in conjunction with other sector-specific information, such as guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and OSHA for agriculture and meat and poultry processing workers and employers.

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## **Free Webinar from OSHA Region VI - Respiratory Protection & COVID-19**

A new webinar developed by the Region VI OSHA Training Institute Education Centers offers guidance on the proper implementation of a respiratory protection program and its relationship to the current pandemic. The webinar is intended to raise awareness among both employers and workers about the hazards of COVID-19 and the need and proper use of respiratory protection.

### **The one-hour video focuses on the following topics:**

- What is COVID-19?
- Respiratory Protection
- Respirator Written Program Requirements
- Education and Training
- Tools and Resources

[\*\*\*Access this FREE webinar video here\*\*\*](#)

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## **Association Announcements**

### **Write for a VPPPA Publication**

Have you checked out the [VPPPA Blog?](#) Send us an article regarding any safety or health topic, and we will consider adding it to our blog schedule.

If you would like to write for a VPPPA publication, or know of someone who is interested, please email [communications@vpppa.org](mailto:communications@vpppa.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

### **Membership News**

If you have any news or pictures from your site that you would like to share (an award, a VPP approval, a member who went above and beyond, etc.), please send it to [communications@vpppa.org](mailto:communications@vpppa.org). We would love to add your updates to the next On The

Level newsletter or post it on our social media pages.

### **Member of the Month**

Make sure you visit the [Member of the Month](#) section on our website? If you would like to nominate someone as the VPPPA Member of the Month, please fill out our [nominations form](#) and email it to [membership@vpppa.org](mailto:membership@vpppa.org).



**The August Member of the Month is Vicky Stansifer! You can read about Vicky, [here](#).**

Congratulations, Vicky!

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**Thank you to our Star level sponsors!**



Stay Connected



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VPPPA, Inc., a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization, promotes advances in worker safety and health excellence through best practices and cooperative efforts among workers, employers, the government and communities.

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