

Volume 62, Number 13

 $https://www.cnic.navy.mil/meridian \sim www.facebook.com/NASMeridian \sim Twitter: @nasmeridianms = 1.000 + 1.000$

June 27, 2024

On Base



Freedom Fest
June 28
5-9 p.m.
Family activities,
games, food trucks
and fireworks
extravaganza!!

Gutter Ball League at McCain Lanes! Sign up by calling 601-679-2651. League starts June 17



Sip and Spin June 18 at 5 p.m. at Pottery Studio behind the Library

Get Connected



SCAN for NAS Meridian App



SCAN for City of Meridian App





NAS welcomes new CMDCM

From NAS Meridian Public Affairs

Naval Air Station Meridian welcomes our new Command Master Chief Randy Griffeth to the command June 24.

A native of Yantis, Texas, Master Chief Griffeth enlisted in the U.S. Navy in August 1999 and attended Airman Apprenticeship Training School in Pensacola, Florida.

His sea duty assignments include duty in a helicopter squadron, an amphibious ship, and a littoral combat ship. During these tours, he deployed to multiple theaters throughout the world. He



served as a maintenance technician in Helicopter Anti-Submarine Six (HS-6), Leading Petty Officer in Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron Seven One (HSM-71), and IM-2/IM-3 Leading Chief Petty Officer onboard USS Makin Island (LHD 8).

His shore duty assignments include maintenance technician and temporary flight orders tours Helicopter Sea Combat THREE Squadron (HSC-3), maintenance technician Helicopter Combat Support Special Squadron (HCS-4), a student in the Defense Intelligence Agency, operations assistant in the Defense Attaché Office Paris, and Maintenance Assessment Lead/Readiness Team

Leading Chief Petty Officer in Commander, Fleet Logistics Multi-Mission Wing.

His previous command tour was with LCS Crew 210, permanently stationed aboard USS GABRIELLE GIFFORDS (LCS 10).

Master Chief Griffeth is designated Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist and Enlisted Aviation Warfare Specialist. His personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (six awards), and various campaign and service medals.

New Attire Standards for Galley Patrons Established

From CNIC

Effective May 2024, a new policy establishes professional and sanitary standards for attire within all Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) operated Galleys (hereafter referred to as "facilities") to promote personnel well-being, health, and safety while maintaining a respectful and inclusive environment.

This policy applies to all personnel using the facilities, including active-duty military personnel, civilian employees, and authorized guests. Navy schoolhouse students or recruits may be subject to additional dress code requirements without waiver to this policy. Students should be afforded the opportunity to dine in relaxed civilian attire if the curriculum allows. Clean, appropriate civilian clothing is authorized to be worn to the galleys if Sailors, and other service members, are in non-duty status.

Clothing must not have come into direct contact with excessive oil, grease, chemicals, or other contaminants that could pose a health risk in a food service environment. Heavily soiled clothing from working with machinery, harsh chemicals or covered in dust, dirt, or debris is not authorized. Other specifics include:

-Clothing with profanity, pornographic content, advocacy of illegal substances, offensive language, or imagery, or otherwise violates Department of Defense or Department of the Navy instruction, directive or policy is strictly prohibited.

-Undergarments must always be covered.

-Footwear. Both sandals and closed-toe shoes are permitted. Bare feet are strictly prohibited for safety and sanitation reasons.

-Headwear. Hats, caps, and non-religious head coverings must be removed upon entering the facility.

-Shirts. Shirts should be worn in a manner to prevent excessive exposure.

-Gym Attire. Clean physical training (PT) attire is authorized to be worn in the facility during any mealtimes, including the times in between meals for Grab and Go Meal Hours.

Clothing items with rips, tears or are extremely short in length (exposes significant part of the upper thigh area) are not permitted. Swimwear. Board shorts and rash guards are acceptable, must

be clean, and dry. Bikinis and speedos are strictly prohibited.

-Outerwear. Heavy coats, jackets, or parkas should be left in designated clothing areas to prevent congestion in the dining area.

For more information, see CNIC Notice 4061 for Policy for Shore Galley Attire. Reference NAVPERS 156651 and CNICINST 4061.1A.



Photo by MC2 Zachary Behrend

Sailors from Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay wait in line at the Pirates Cove Galley. The Kings Bay galley reopened after being closed for more than two years for renovations.

Frocking and Awards





Photo by MC2 Molly Tice

Left: Congratulations AC2 Garrett Fitzsimmons who reenlisted recently. Right: Congratulations to both MA3 Marc Morin and AC3 William Woody, who were frocked to their new rank, and AC2 Michael Hobbs, who was awarded for his performance at NAS Meridian with a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.





Say Something...
Onboard NAS Meridian contact

Detective Paul Stowe
Command Investigator
601-679-2502

HEAT STRESS INJURIES

HEAT RASH

- · Red raised rash
- Impairs sweating and decreases effectiveness of sweating

HEAT CRAMPS

 Muscle cramps, pain or spasms in the abdomen, arms or legs

HEAT EXHAUSTION

- Moist, clammy skin
- Dilated pupils
- Normal or subnormal temperature
- Dizziness, confusion and/or nausea
- Weak pulse
- · Rapid breathing

HEAT STROKE

- Dry. red. hot skin
- Pupils constricted
- Very high body temperature Dizziness, confusion and/or
- Pulse rapid
- Unconciousness
- Coma
- Death

HOW TO PREVENT

- Hydrate. Drink 8 to 16
 Except a day
- cups of water a day. Salt foor

 Keep a lookout for Limit ho
 shipmates and watch and sod
- Get plenty of rest, at least 6 hours every 24 hour period
- Limit how much coffee and sodas you drink.

to taste, 6 hours every 24 period.

$The \ Skyline \ \hbox{$\sim$ Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss.}$

Command Staff
Commanding Officer ~
CAPT Luke H. Davis
Executive Officer ~
Vacant

Executive Officer ~
Vacant
Command Master Chief ~
CMDCM Randy Griffeth

Editorial Staff
Public Affairs Officer ~
Penny Randall
Public Affairs Specialist~
Vacant
Photographer~
MC2 Molly Tice

See NEXCOMINST 3006.2H, HQ/Hampton Roads Area Heavy Weather Plan, for further details

Hotlines & Helpful Numbers
SAPR Victim Assistance: 601-604-3037

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Local Happenings

JUNE

27: Country Night at the Holbrook - 6 p.m.-10 p.m. at Holbrook lawn 2508 Fifth St. Age 21+ event. For more information visit: https://visitmeridian.com/event/country-nightat-the-holbrook/

29: Patriotic Day at Mississippi Children's Museum -Meridian, 403 22nd Avenue. Wear your red, white, and blue and join us at the museum for a patriotic celebration of Independence Day on Saturday, June 29! Event activities will take place from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. while the museum is open.

JULY

4: Fourth of July Celebration - 3 p.m. at Bonita Lakes. Food vendors open at 4 p.m. Fireworks, food and entertainment! Music by Daniel Houze and Vibe Tribe. For more information call Terrence Davis: 601.485.1905

6: Earth's Bounty - 8 a.m. - noon at Singing Breakman Park, 1801 Front St. The festival runs the first Saturday of every month, April – November. It features local grown produce, homemade baked goods, canned goods, fresh cut flowers. mushrooms, coffee drinks, eggs, honey, jams and jellies.

6: First Saturday - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience. Join us for FREE admission every First Saturday. Enjoy live music from Jax Moore, a regional favorite, performing from noon-2 p.m. Bring your family and friends for a day filled with live music and touring of exhibits in historic downtown Meridian.

Area Happenings

JULY

11: Chris Brown - 7:30 p.m. at BJCC, Birminham. For tickets visit: https://www.bjcc.org/upcoming-events/chris-brown/

AUGUST

17: Luke Bryan - 4 p.m.-11:30 p.m. at Truist Park, Cobb County, Ga. For tickets visit: https://www.mlb.com/braves/ tickets/concerts/luke-bryan

AUKUS Shines Spotlight on Power of Partnerships, Pentagon Official Says

The security partnership among Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States, known as AUKUS, is aimed at promoting a free and open Indo-Pacific and represents a tangible example of the Defense Department's longstanding commitment to deepening alliances, a senior Pentagon official said today.

Madeline Mortelmans, acting assistant secretary of defense for strategies, plans and capabilities, underscored the core role allies and partnerships serve in carrying out

the 2022 National Defense Strategy and the lasting impact AUKUS will have on DOD's approach to strategic competition.

"When I talk about the NDS, the 2022 NDS, and what's different about it, I always highlight and observe that almost every U.S. strategy, for years, has emphasized the importance of our allies and partners," Mortelmans said during a panel discussion hosted by the Center for a New American Security, a public policy think tank in Washington, specializing in national security issues.

-- From Joseph Clark, DOD News

Read more, click here

SECNAV Names Future Guided Missile Frigate USS Galvez (FFG 67)

MADRID – Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro announced that a future Constellation-class Guided Missile Frigate, FFG 67, will be named USS Galvez, June 21.

Secretary Del Toro made the announcement while joining U.S. Ambassador to Spain Julissa Reynoso Pantaleón and Chief of Staff of the Spanish Navy, Admiral Antonio Pineiro, in Madrid, Spain, for the U.S. Embassy's Fourth of July Celebration.

The future USS Galvez honors Conde

Bernardo de Gálvez y Madrid and his service during the American Revolutionary War. This will be the first U.S. Navy vessel named for Gálvez

"Gálvez wasn't just a supporter from afar-his actions directly influenced the course of the war and helped secure American Independence," said Secretary Del Toro. "That is why, in his homeland, I am incredibly pleased to announce that our next Constellationclass frigate, FFG 67, will be named the USS Gálvez."

-- From Navy.mil Press Office

Read more, click here

Today in Naval History—Korean War Begins

On June 25, 1950, North Korea invaded South Korea, beginning the Korean War. Two days later, President Harry S. Truman authorized U.S. naval and air operations south of the 38th parallel in support of the United Nation's call to assist South Korea. During the invasion, in four main avenues of approach, an armored brigade and six divisions with approximately 89,000 North Korean soldiers poured across the South Korean border. Spearheaded by about 200 Soviet T-34 medium tanks and 120 fighter and ground-attack aircraft,

along with heavy artillery and with the advantage of tactical surprise, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's military quickly overwhelmed the 38,000 Republic of Korea troops in the northern part of South Korea. The South Korean forces who had no tanks, anti-tank weapons, or air support, very little training, and zero warning. The North Korean armored brigade and two divisions (3rd and 4th Infantry Divisions) marched directly toward the capital city of Seoul, only 30 miles south of the 38th parallel.

-- From Brent A. Hunt, Naval History and Heritage Command Communication and Outreach Division

Read more, click here

Sale... Or

21 foot - 2021 Jayco Travel Camper. Like new; beige & walnut interior and mattress kept in original plastic. Selling to upgrade to larger size - Price is \$15,000 some accessories included. To view or request pics please contact: Gary 601-575-5062.

2018 Mallard M185 Travel Trailer. Sleeps 4 with 1 queen bed/2 bunks. Easy to tow at 3,575 lbs; only selling because military member is moving overseas. Great living quarters with lake view. Hooked up and ready to live in, including cables, hoses,

Asking \$17,000. Call 360-434-3035

AUTOMOBILES, ETC.

2018 Subaru Outback 2.5 limited, 12k miles; Subaru safety features and warranties included. Asking \$29k. Call 601-480-5100.

2017 Dodge Challenger, grey with racing stripe. \$24k. Call 601-880-3237.

HOMES/APARTMENTS

NEW! For Rent: Available July 1, 2024. 3 BD/2 BA, only 5 mins from main gate of NAS Meridian. Nice size private yard / gas and water provided. Pets Contact 601-480-1324.

For Rent: Water front home in Dalewood. Spacious two-story home facing the Lake; great for fishing and relaxing. Remodeled kitchen and new appliances. Rent is \$1,800; please call 813-406-9687.

For Rent: Fully furnished home in Dalewood. \$1,500 a month; \$50 application fee; \$900 Dalewood membership fee. Trailer, washer and dryer included. Call Jim 601-480-4865

For Rent: 4 BD/2.5 BA home 3632 sq ft, just over 6 acres with workshop attached to 2-car carport.

plus the \$500 towing kit. permitted with deposit. Owners will consider a Road. Furnished in quiet Bosch dishwasher \$500. lease of 12-36 months, and rent is negotiable the longer the term. Call (601) 517-1707 or (601) 517-1707.

> For Rent: 3BD /2BA home near North Hills. Spacious yard, concrete patio for gatherings, home gym and covered car garage. Rent \$1,100 per month. Call Jeremy at 601-410-8555.

> For Rent: 3 BD/1.5 BA home 15 minutes from NAS at 4814 36th Ave. New refrigerator and 2-year old AC & furnace. Call Terrance at 469-318-9769.

For Rent: 3BD/2BD Causeyville home near

neighborhood. \$900 per month. 954-895-5485, 601-692-4048 or 606-571-0820.

For Sale: 3BD/2BA Home with 2,560 sq. ft. Sits on 1 & 1/2 lots on dead end with privacy woods on 3 sides. Asking \$180,000. Contact: lucindawnichols@ gmail.com, call 601-527-7829 or 601-917-6145.

For Sale By Owner: 3BD/3BA brick home with sunroom, large fenced in yard. Convenient to shopping and base. \$139K. Call 601-513-3395 or 601-227-1870.

For Sale: Double wall Frigidaire oven

Both three years old. Call 601-616-4242.

MISCELLANEOUS

Nanny or caregiver services. Call Alice at 601-934-1866 or 601-679-8112. Has installation access; can take children to school and pick up and available days, nights and weekends.

Event Space for Rent: Deer Creek Banquet Hall. 6000 sq. ft. indoor with 1600 sq. ft. outdoor spaces for rent for gatherings and events. Call Reginald at 251-455-1559.

Listings in the "Sale...Or" column are free!

Submission deadline is the Wednesday prior to production. Emial information to molly.m.tice.mil@us.navy.mil

From Carrier Strike Group TWO
Public Affairs

RED SEA — Sailors assigned to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group (IKECSG) airlifted the crew of a merchant vessel attacked by Iranian-backed Houthis in the Red Sea, June 15.

The Liberian-flagged, Greek-owned bulk cargo carrier M/V Tutor was struck by an Iranian-back Houthi uncrewed surface vessel (USV) while sailing in the international waters of the Southern Red Sea, June 12. The attack caused severe flooding and damage to the engine room. One civilian mariner remains missing.

A helicopter from Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 74 airlifted 24 civilian mariners from Tutor to Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Philippine Sea (CG 58). From there, helicopters from Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 7 transported the group to USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69). After being medically checked on IKE, the mariners were flown ashore for follow-on care.

"It's humbling to watch the Strike Group provide assistance and rescue the crew of M/V Tutor," said Rear Adm. Marc Miguez, commander, IKECSG, Carrier Strike Group 2. "We are always prepared to help; it is the right thing to do."

"Despite these senseless attacks on innocent mariners just doing their job, the Philippine Sea crew stand ready to help preserve safety of life at sea, always," said Capt. Steven Liberty, Philippine Sea's commanding officer.

On June 13, HSM-74 aircraft from Philippine Sea medically evacuated a severely injured civilian mariner from M/V Verbena to a nearby partner force ship for medical attention. Palauflagged, Ukrainian-owned Verbena was sailing in the Gulf of Aden when it was struck by two anti-ship cruise missiles fired from Houthi-controlled territory in Yemen.

IKECSG is operating in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations to support maritime stability and security in the Middle East region.



U.S. Navy courtesy photo

Sailors from the Dwight D. Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group render assistance to distressed mariners at sea in the Red Sea, June 15. The Dwight D. Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group is deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations to support maritime security and stability in the Middle East region.

Reckless Behavior by Iran-Backed Houthis Threatens Regional Stability

From David Vergun, DOD News

The continued reckless behavior by Iran-backed Houthis threatens regional stability and endangers the lives of mariners across the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, said Sabrina Singh, deputy Pentagon press secretary, during a news conference today.

The Houthis claim to be acting on behalf of Palestinians in Gaza, and yet, they're threatening the lives of those who have nothing to do with the conflict, she said

Last week, the Yemen-based Houthis struck two cargo ships: the M/V Tutor, which is Liberian flagged and Greek owned, and the M/V Verbena, which is Palauan flagged, Ukrainian owned and Polish operated.

The June 12 attack on the Tutor resulted in severe flooding and damage to the engine room. One civilian mariner remains missing following the attack, Singh and

On June 14, the guided missile cruiser USS Philippine Sea responded to distress calls from the Tutor. Aircraft from the cruiser and partner forces helped evacuate all personnel from the vessel. This operation took place in the Red Sea and within range of Houthi weapons, making it a risky and complex operation, she said.

Iranian, Russian and Chinese naval vessels were among the ships within response distance that did nothing to assist the Tutor, Singh noted.

The Tutor remains in the Red Sea and is slowly taking on water while awaiting recovery by salvage vessels, she added.

The June 13 attack on the Verbena resulted in fires onboard. One civilian mariner was medically evacuated by aircraft from the Philippine Sea to a partner nation's ship for medical treatment, she said.

On June 15, the crew of the Verbena issued a distress call, but was forced to abandon ship. They were then rescued by the M/V Anna Meta, which was in the vicinity. At the time, an Iranian frigate was 8 nautical miles away from the Verbena and did not respond to the



U.S. Navy by MC1 Jonathan Word

The guided-missile destroyer USS Gravely (DDG 107) launches Tomahawk Land Attack Missiles in response to increased Iranian-backed Houthi malign behavior in the Red Sea Jan. 12, 2024. As a part of the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group, Gravely is deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations to support maritime security and stability in the Middle East.

distress call, Singh said.

The Verbena is no longer on fire and is being towed toward a nearby port, she added.

Since Nov. 19, the Houthis have launched about 190 attacks. Only a handful have been successful, which speaks to the effectiveness of coalition forces at

stopping the attacks, she said.

Also on June 14, U.S. Central Command removed the temporary pier from the Gaza shoreline, due to heavy seas; it was towed back to Ashdod, Israel. The pier will most likely be re-anchored later this week in Gaza when the sea state subsides, Singh said.

First Military Fixed-Wing Aircraft Lands on Peleliu Recertified Airstrip

From 1st Lt. John Carter, 1st Marine Logistics Group

For the first time since its recertification in June, a military fixed-wing aircraft has touched down on the historic Peleliu airstrip, marking a significant and triumphant return to this iconic World War II site, on June 22, 2024. This landmark event was made possible by the tireless efforts of the Marine Corps Engineer Detachment Palau (MCED-P) 24.1, comprised of engineers from the 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group.

The MCED-P has been diligently rehabilitating the

The MCED-P has been diligently rehabilitating the WWII-era Japanese airfield on Peleliu, a mission critical to enhancing U.S. military strategic capabilities in the Indo-Pacific region. The successful landing marks the culmination of months of dedicated work by the Marine engineers.

The runway was named in honor of Eugene Sledge, a private first class with the 1st Marine Division during the Battle of Peleliu and author of the well-known book "With the Old Breed: At Peleliu and Okinawa," which provides a vivid account of the historic battle and used by many to explain what happened during the historic battle

"Today is a historic moment as we land a Marine Corps aircraft on the 'Sledge' runway," remarked Maj. Christopher Romero, MCED-P 24.1 commanding officer. "This remarkable achievement demonstrates the strategic importance of our mission and our dedication to regional stability and security."

Local leaders and community members, including Peleliu Governor Emais Roberts, attended the event, underscoring its significance for the island. "The landing of the C-130 on the resurfaced runway after many years hopefully begins a new chapter for a prosperous future of Peleliu island," remarked Governor Roberts. "On behalf of the Peleliu citizens, I thank the U.S. Department of Defense with U.S. Marines for making this long-awaited joint use airfield become a reality. Our small island community has benefitted immensely with the U.S. Marine presence. We value the great partnership, and we feel safe and protected with the support of the greatest country in this world."

"I feel privileged because I was in Peleliu in 2021 and saw the airfield transform into what it is now. It truly is an honor to have been a part of this mission and see it come to fruition with a KC-130 landing," says Sgt. Brandon Gonzalez, a MCED-P 24.1 combat engineer squad leader

The restored Peleliu airstrip stands as a testament to the resilience and innovation of Marine Corps engineers. It bridges the past and the future, honoring WWII sacrifices while enhancing regional security and cooperation. The successful landing is particularly poignant as the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Peleliu approaches in September. To commemorate this historic occasion, Combat Logistics Battalion 13, another battalion within 1st MLG, will be enhancing the Peleliu Civic Center Museum. This project aims to provide a new home for historic artifacts, ensuring the legacy of those who fought in the Battle of Peleliu is honored and remembered.

As MCED-P 24.1's rotation draws to a close, Maj. Romero extended his gratitude to Governor Roberts and the Peleliu community. "Thank you for taking care of the Marines and Sailors of the MCED mission. Your contributions have been key to our success. The 'Stray Dogs' feel right at home here in Peleliu."

The nickname "Stray Dogs" comes from the numerous stray dogs found in Peleliu, cherished and nourished by the community. This name reflects the locals' hospitality and the bond formed with the Marines and Sailors of MCED-P.

As the rehabilitation project continues, this successful landing represents a significant step forward in strengthening regional infrastructure. The engineers of MCED-P remain committed to their mission, ready to tackle challenges and contribute to ensuring peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific.

























