

SEABEE COURIER

www.cnbc.navy.mil/gulfport
QUICK EDITION

Vol. 2 No. 30

Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi

August 29, 2019

USS Cincinnati to be commissioned at Port of Gulfport

By Brian Lamar
NCBC Public Affairs

The United States Navy has approved the commissioning date for Littoral Combat Ship 20 (LCS 20), the USS Cincinnati.

On Oct. 5, 2019, at the Port of Gulfport, Miss., the naval personnel are scheduled to host a commissioning ceremony.

The purpose of a commissioning ceremony is a symbolic gesture to publicly signify the acceptance of the ship for active service in the Navy fleet.

"With Gulfport's military installations and seafaring history, we are proud to have this opportunity to host the commissioning of the USS Cincinnati. The LCS 20 is a remarkable new class of ship, adding to the capabilities of our Navy fleet, joining the USS Jackson, which was also commissioned at Gulfport. LCS 20 is a highly maneuverable and adaptable vessel designed to support various types of missions," said Billy Hewes, mayor of Gulfport.

Former U.S. Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker is USS Cincinnati's sponsor. She will lead the time-honored Navy tradition giving the order to "man our ship and bring her to life" during the ceremony.

John Cranley, the mayor of Cincinnati, acknowledged the naming of LCS 20 as a source of pride for the residents of Cincinnati.

"To us at home, Cincinnati represents the will and determination of a force too resilient to be defeated, and that is why we accept



this ship with magnificent pride," said Cincinnati Mayor John Cranley.

The USS Cincinnati will be the fifth ship in U.S. Naval history to be named after the city, tracing the origins of the USS Cincinnati lineage to the civil war.

The Cincinnati was christened in Mobile, Ala., in October 2018 with a key welded to its hull to mark the historic moment and place where the ship started its Navy career.

After the commissioning, the ship will set underway to its new homeport, Naval Base San Diego, Calif.

Base leadership in planning stages for potential brush with Hurricane Dorian

By Brian Lamar
NCBC Public Affairs

"Prepare for the worst, hope for the best," -- Lew Fountain, Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) emergency manager.

NCBC is currently making preparations in the event of Hurricane Dorian continuing the westward path.

"We've been through this drill more than our fair share, but as the storm churns in the Atlantic Ocean, uncertainty of where it will head once it hits Florida is on the minds of base leadership.

"The smartest advice I have for residents in housing is to make it easier on yourselves in the near future and begin securing lawn furniture and other outdoor items before traveling this weekend," said Fountain.

Now is the time to start dusting off those emergency plans that you hopefully already created for your family. Understanding evacuation routes in the event of the worst-possible scenario and checking supplies of food, water, batteries and medicine should be a priority.

Update your NFAAS Personal Info

All military and civilian personnel are required to update and verify their contact information and all categories of dependents in the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) by March 30.

Log onto <https://navyfamily.navy.mil/>

Commanding Officer
Capt. William Whitmire

Public Affairs Officer
Brian Lamar

Assistant PAO
Ryan Labadens

Courier Staff
MCC Rosalie Chang
BU2 Mercedes Brotski
MC3 Kohen Gillis

The Seabee Courier content does not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the DoD or the U.S. Navy and does not imply endorsement thereof. All content in this publication shall be made available for

use without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. Phone, 228-871-3662.

Marine pulls Humvee solo during MWR vehicle drag

By Ryan Labadens
NCBC Public Affairs

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Fitness Center onboard Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport held a Humvee drag during the early morning hours of Aug. 21, 2019 – a team competition meant to give NCBC service members a creative and fun way to perform their physical fitness training that day.

One U.S. Marine, imbued with the 'Can Do' spirit of the Navy Seabees that morning, decided to see if he could pull the 12,100-pound vehicle on his own, just for the fun of it – and he did!

Staff Sgt. Rosendo Mendez, an electronics maintenance technician with Naval Construction Group (NCG) 2 and a native of San José, Calif., said he remembered seeing an advertisement for the Humvee drag previously but had forgotten about it until he happened to see other teams dragging the Humvee down the street in front of the Fitness Center that morning.

He thought it looked fun, so on a whim he asked one of the fitness coordinators if he could try pulling the Humvee by himself, just to see if he could do it.

"I saw everyone out there pulling the Humvee, and it looked pretty fun, so I just wanted to give it a try," said Mendez.

Straining and tugging on the ropes attached to the front of the Humvee, Mendez actually managed to pull the vehicle 145 feet by himself in about 90 seconds. The four- and five-person teams who competed had to drag the Humvee a total of 155 feet, so Mendez almost managed to pull the vehicle the entire length of the course on his own.

Even though he decided to go it solo that morning, Mendez said he's enjoyed the camaraderie and team-building activities that the Fitness Center has been putting on each month to try and get base's military members together for physical fitness.

"I really think what they're doing out there at the gym – the athletic trainers, the staff there – when they put on these events, they're pretty amazing. It helps build a sense of community – and it's just good, clean fun. Whether you're pulling a Humvee or running a 5K, you're participating with people from all over the base and not just from your own command or department, so it really makes me feel like I'm a part of the entire base," said Mendez.



Below: Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Rosendo Mendez, an electronics maintenance technician with Naval Construction Group (NCG) 2 and a native of San José, Calif., decided to compete against other teams during the NCBC Humvee Drag by himself. Mendez was just ten feet shy of the finish line of 155 feet.



Time is running out for Seabee Mud Run ticket sales

By Ryan Labadens
NCBC Public Affairs

Registration is underway for the annual Seabee Mud Run, which is scheduled to be held onboard Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport, Miss., Sept. 21, 2019. The five-mile run is overflowing with pools of sloppy-wet mud, not to mention obstacles that twist and turn around the Navy base. According to Tré Adams, NCBC Gulfport Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) fitness coordinator, this is the 24th year of the Seabee Mud Run, which is open not only to military members, but to the general public as well. As in years before, the mud run has been used to raise money to help fund the Seabee Ball that the base holds

annually for its Sailors. A portion of the funds raised from the mud run registration fees goes toward the Seabee Ball Committee to help them with paying for the ball. Adams noted that the Seabees on the Seabee Ball Committee design and lay out the course each year, and that each new committee that comes about tries to come up with new obstacles to spread throughout the five-mile course to make the experience new and fresh each year. Adams mentioned that if people want to register for the mud run, they would need to go to www.navymwrgulfport.com/mud-run; registration for the mud run ends Sept. 15, 2019 (check out the website for different registration categories and pricing). Early registration prices are still in effect through Aug. 31, but after that prices jump up

for all participants, so Adams suggested registering early before registration prices increase. According to Adams, there is also a one-and-a-half-mile Family Fun Run available for 6- to 12-year olds who are accompanied by an adult. The event is scheduled to take place from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Sept. 21, 2019, and will have vendors selling hamburgers, hot dogs, pop-sicles and other treats, and it will have a D.J. on hand to play music at the start and finish line, as well as medals for all participants and coins for the top racers. Adams said the Seabee Mud Run is designed to be both a challenge and a fun event for all who participate. "It's just a really good time – it's a good way to test out your physical capabilities but at the same time still have fun," said Adams.