



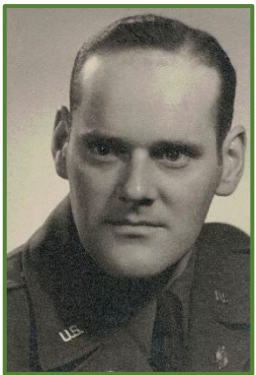
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The AMPHIBIAN May 2024

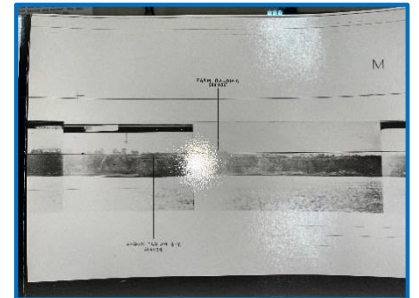
Summer comes early to the Florida Panhandle! Visitor numbers increase as schools let out and families visit the beautiful Franklin County Beaches. We have developed a mobile Gold Star Wall to allow us to honor Franklin County residents who gave everything in the defense of their country in four foreign conflicts; this wall made its debut at the Franklin County Memorial Day observance in Apalachicola. We had 426 visitors in the month of May.



Serviceman of the Month: CPT John E. Mellen (Oct 17, 1917 - Feb 22, 2007) commanding officer of the 818th Amphibious Truck Company. This all-Black company trained at CGJ from Sep 1943 to Mar 1944, and was deployed as part of the 1st Engineers Special Brigade that landed on Utah Beach with the 4th Infantry Division on June 6, 1944. Mellen's daughters are enthusiastic supporters of the museum, and it is their donation of his papers that helped us learn so much about the men of this company.

Artifact of the Month: These top-secret panoramic photos taken by submarine of the Normandy coast in the Winter/Spring 1944 helped invasion planners identify the features of Omaha Beach.

These were donated by the family of Captain Aden Unger, USCG, who commanded an LCI group on D-Day.



This month's Exhibit: (until July 20):
The 80th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings in Normandy

Coming on July 23: The 8th Air Force in WWII

Be sure to visit the Carrabelle History Museum and see the new exhibit! Tate's Hell, The Legend, Tate's Hell, the Place.

D-DAY
80th ANNIVERSARY



1944 - 2024

Did you know? Commando Training was included in the CGJ programs. There was a mock German village located at Harbeson City just north of Carrabelle where urban combat was taught.

