

THE SKYLINE



Volume 60, Number 17

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August 18, 2022

NEWS BYTES

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Over-the-counter hearing aids expected this fall in US

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CDC director announces shake-up, citing COVID mistakes

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Mississippi Wing Stop to pay back wages for labor violations

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IEP Workshop at FFSC on Aug. 30

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DOD releases first department-wide Social Media Policy

By C. Todd Lopez

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

The Defense Department today released a policy that for the first time spells out, from the highest levels of the defense community, how DOD military and civilian personnel should use official social media accounts to best advance the mission of the U.S. military and further instill trust in the credibility of the DOD.

DOD Instruction 5400.17, titled "Official Use of Social Media for Public Affairs Purposes," provides principles for social media use within DOD, direction regarding records management procedures for social media accounts, and guidance to ensure personal social media accounts are not misrepresented or misinterpreted as official accounts.

While some of the military services and other agencies published social media policies years ago, DODI 5400.17 is the department's first instruction that provided Pentagon-level, department-



Graphic by Patrick Buffett, Air Force

The Defense Department released a new policy that, for the first time, spells out how military and civilian personnel must use social media to best advance the mission of the U.S. military and to avoid pitfalls that could damage the department's credibility.

wide guidance that specifically addresses the use of social media. The DOD chief information officer previously issued DODI 8170.01, "Online Information Management and Electronic Messaging," to provide broad policy guidance on the secure and appropriate use of social media. The new policy specifically addresses public affairs uses and responsibilities.

"It's long overdue," Andy Oare, director of digital media for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, said. "There have been efforts in the past to do this, but in an organization of this size and magnitude, you need to fully coordinate and ensure all viewpoints are heard and represented. We wanted to make sure the services were collaborators from the very beginning."

[To view instruction, click here](#)

[Read more, click here](#)

RADM Garvin visits NTTC



Photo by Penny Randall

CDR Karen Teague, commanding officer, Naval Technical Training Center (NTTC) Meridian, left, speaks alongside Rear Adm. Pete Garvin, commander, Naval Education and Training Command, right, during an all-hands call at Naval Air Station Meridian, Aug. 11. NTTC Meridian provides entry-level "A" school training to students in administration and supply ratings, as well as extensive training to top-performing naval personnel in the yeoman rating to qualify as flag writers.

NMRTU Meridian welcomes new Officer in Charge

From Staff Reports

CDR Edward "Eddie" Brinston assumed duties as the officer-in-charge of Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Unit at the medical clinic onboard Naval Air Station Meridian, Aug. 3.

Brinston enlisted in the Navy in January 1989. While enlisted and as an officer he completed his masters of science degree in human resources and a master's in business education with a minor in psychology.

His enlisted assignments included: Machinist Mate aboard the Guided Missile Cruiser USS Belknap (CG-26), COMSIXTH Fleet deployed in Gaeta, Italy, Legalman/Paralegal "A" School at Naval Justice School, Newport, Rhode Island, Command Legalman Staff Judge Advocate's Office to Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET) Pensacola, Florida,



Brinston

Student in the Enlisted Education Advancement Program (EEAP). Command Legalman and Vieques Tiger Team Member for Base Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) Office, Naval Station Roosevelt Roads Ceiba, Puerto Rico.

● NMRTU, page 2

Lets 'Talk Turkey' at NAS Meridian



Submitted photo

AC1 Patrick Kiger holds a "gobbler" (adult male turkey) that he harvested onboard NAS Meridian during the spring 2022 turkey season. To harvest the gobbler, Kiger used a call to replicate the sounds of a female turkey to draw the gobbler within shooting range.

By Jeff Mangrum
NAS Meridian Wildlife Biologist

Hunting is probably not the first thing that comes to a person's mind when one thinks about a military installation, such as Naval Air Station (NAS) Meridian.

After all, the primary mission of NAS Meridian is to train the warfighter, in particular naval aviators. To accomplish our nation's military training objectives, large tracts of land and associated waters have been established as military installations.

Like many of our military installations, NAS Meridian encompasses a large area which includes valuable natural resources.

Congress established the Sikes Act in 1960 in recognition of the need to implement management strategies to conserve and protect the natural resources on these lands.

Under the Sikes Act and its subsequent amendments, the Secretary of Defense is directed to integrate conservation measures and military operations to allow for the sustainable, multipurpose use of natural resources without compromising the military mission or security.

● Turkey, page 3

Three aviators earn ‘Wings of Gold’ in August pinning ceremony

There was a naval aviator designation ceremony Aug. 12 onboard Naval Air Station Meridian.

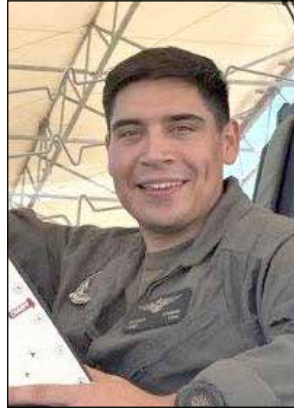
Three naval aviators received their “Wings of Gold” during the ceremony. The naval aviator designation ceremony is not prescribed specifically by U.S. Navy regulations, but has emerged as an honored product of the rich heritage of naval tradition. It marks the culmination of nearly two years of specialized training, which has prepared these officers for the rigorous demands of aerial combat and carrier operations -- earning each the title of “Naval Aviator” and the right to wear the coveted “Wings of Gold.”



LTJG Dirk Gillespie



LTJG Caleb Hiller



1STLT Esteban Serrano

Golden Stick



Photo by Adam Prince

Roger Burke, left, President of the Mississippi Council of the Navy League presents 1STLT Esteban Serrano, with the Golden Stick award during a winging ceremony in the chapel onboard NAS Meridian, Aug 12. The Golden Stick is presented to the student with the highest composite score during flight training.

ASF Graduation



Photo by Adam Prince

OS2 James Hall, AC3 Mark Ledowski and AC3 Riley Pfeiffer pose for a group photo during a graduation ceremony in the lobby of the Administration building onboard NAS Meridian, Aug. 5. These Sailors completed the Naval Security Reaction Force - Basic course.

PWO Award



Photo by Adam Prince

CAPT Brent Moore, left, commanding officer of NAS Meridian, presents LCDR Marvie Wonsia with a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation M^edal during a ceremony in the Public Works building onboard NAS Meridian, Aug. 10. Wonsia served in a temporary duty capacity as the Public Works Officer over the past few weeks.

• NMRTU

Brinston was commissioned as an ensign into the Medical Service Corps via the MSC In-Service Procurement Program (MSC-IPP) in June 2022. His first officer assignment was at Naval Hospital, Guam as Department Head, Patient Administration Department Head.

CDR Brinston served at Naval Operational Medicine Institute (NOMI) Pensacola, as the Command Facilities Officer, Emergency Management Officer, Legal Officer, and HIPAA Privacy Officer in June 2004. He led the command in re-constituting operations after two natural disasters.

In May 2007, Brinston reported to U.S. Naval Hospital Naples, Italy as the Division Officer for Healthcare Business Operations and shortly thereafter, volunteered for a 15-month Individual Augmentation (IA) deployment to ARSIC-West Herat, Afghanistan as an Embedded Training Team.

Following the deployment, Brinston transferred to Naval Hospital Pensacola, as the Chief Information Officer (CIO), Management Information Department, where he led numerous new initiatives such as a new Operating Room, Medical Home Port (MED-HOME), and the in-patient electronic health record.

In 2013, Brinston reported to Naval Hospital Lemoore, as the CIO and command legal officer playing a pivotal role in transitioning the Hospital to an Ambulatory Care Clinic; and May 2016 - Student at the Army's Command and General Staff College Fort Leavenworth, KS.

CDR Brinston reported to Naval Health Clinic Cherry Point, as the director for administration/director, Platform Support Directorate in June 2017, serving 452 staff personnel in the care to over 34,000 active duty, retired and civilian beneficiaries.

Brinston's previous assignment was at Chief of Naval Personnel Command (CNPC) as the Deputy Division Director Benefits Issuing Authority, Medical Benefits/Transition Division.

CDR Brinston decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (five awards), Army Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (four awards), Navy Good Conduct Medal (three awards), Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Navy Expert Rifle and Navy Expert Pistol, and various service and campaign awards and holds the 1800P, 1803S, and the 1801V subspecialty codes. In addition, he is a member of the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives and a member of the American College of Health Care Executives (ACHE).



The Skyline ~ Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss.

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 SAPR Civilian Victim Assistance: 601-486-3122
 SARC: 601-481-4274
 SAFE Helpline: 877-995-5247
 Suicide Hotline: 800-273-8255
 Military OneSource: 800-342-9647
 CEAP (DoN Civilian): 844-366-2327
 EAP (NAF Civilian): 800-932-0034
 FFSC Meridian: 601-679-2360
 Chaplain: 601-604-2015
 NMCRS Duty Cell: 601-604-2206
 EEO (NAF): 866-295-0328
 EEO (GS): 904-542-2802

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Local Happenings

AUGUST

21: American Legion Legacy Run from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Lauderdale County Agri-Center. This five-day, 1150-mile, cross-country motorcycle ride raises awareness and funds for the American Legion Legacy Scholarship. Proceeds support the children of fallen military personnel and the children of disabled veterans who served in the post 9/11 era. Free to public; call 601-352-4986.

SEPTEMBER

3: First Saturday at The MAX from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Mississippi Arts + Entertainment Experience. First Saturday of each month at The MAX has reduced admission: \$5 adults, \$1 ages 6-17 and free for 5 and under; call 601-581-1550, ext 35.

8: Mingle with the Maestro from 6-9 p.m. at the Meridian Museum of Art. Start the new concert season by celebrating Maestro Rubardt's 10th Anniversary. The Meridian Museum of Art will be displaying the work of renowned regional and Mississippi artists. Single tickets \$50/couples \$90; call 601-693-2224.

8: Full Moon on 5th from 6-9 p.m. at Dumont Plaza on 5th Street between 22nd and 23rd Ave. Join the Arts and Community Events Society for a magical night in Downtown Meridian. String lights and two giant, illuminated moons set the mood for a unique block party that you don't want to miss.

10: Stronger Together 5K at 8 a.m. at City Hall. Stronger Together is an organization that provides support to family and friends of veterans who were lost to suicide. 5K run, 5K walk and fun run; fees are \$22; call 601-934-7119.

10: CowKids Youth Rodeo is an all day event at the Lauderdale County Agri-Center. CowKids Youth Rodeo is a ministry based, non-profit organization established to give children an opportunity to experience the sport of rodeo. For information, email Cokidsyouth@gmail.com.

23: EMBDC Golf Classic from 7:30 a.m.- 5 p.m. at the Northwood Country Club. More details to come. Entry fee \$125; call 601-693-1306.

• Turkey

Accordingly, NAS Meridian maintains an active hunting program that contributes to outdoor recreation, promotes ecosystem management, and supports the installation's mission by enhancing safety for naval aviators through the reduction of white-tailed deer and other game animals which constitute potential strike hazards.

Military personnel have hunting access to nearly 9,000 acres of land onboard the main installation. The hunting program is no exception to the Navy's priority on safety. Prior to hunting on the installation, hunters must complete a state-approved, hunter education course and attend a safety briefing designed to familiarize hunters with state and federal laws and NAS Meridian's regulations for hunting on the installation. Also, hunters are required to obtain a state hunting license and installation hunting permit.

People hunt for many reasons. Some hunt for food, sport, or recreation, while others may hunt to interact with nature, to enjoy the solitude of the outdoors, or for other personal motivations.

NAS Meridian maintains an active hunting program for the men and women who protect and defend our nation. In doing so, this program provides quality outdoor recreation that is compatible with the training mission, complements flight safety hazard initiatives, and promotes ecosystem management.

First woman takes command of Naval Test Wing Atlantic

Capt. Elizabeth Somerville became the Navy's first woman to command Naval Test Wing Atlantic after a change of command ceremony at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Aug. 11.

Somerville relieved Commodore Col. Richard Marigliano, who oversaw the developmental air wing – the Navy's largest – that conducts testing for every aircraft in the Navy and Marine Corps.

"Over the past few years, this Wing delivered our Navy and Marine Corps capabilities including Next Generation Jammer, the CH-53K heavy lift helicopter, and the Joint Air-to-Ground munition to name a few," said NAW-CAD Commander Rear Adm. John Lemmon who presided over the ceremony. "Its leadership and our people make this team world class."

Capt. Elizabeth Somerville shakes hands with Col. Richard Marigliano after taking command of Naval Test Wing Atlantic during a ceremony at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Aug. 11. Somerville is the developmental test wing's first woman commodore. During the ceremony, Marigliano retired from the U.S. Marine Corps after 27 years of service. (U.S. Navy photo by Paul Lagasse)

Somerville takes command alongside the wing's first woman civilian director, Deb Salamon.

"This test wing is charged with an important mission: deliver lethality to our Sailors and Marines," said Somerville. "It's a huge challenge but this team is up for it – flight test is the ultimate team sport."

-- From US Navy

[Read more, click here](#)

U.S. Navy Installations to conduct Citadel Pacific 2022 Exercise

Navy installations will exercise their security forces during Citadel Pacific 2022 (CP22), an annually reoccurring force protection exercise assessing emergency response in Navy Region Japan, Navy Region Korea, Joint Region Marianas

Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) and Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet conduct the exercise to enhance readiness of Navy security personnel and better prepare Navy installations for potential force protection situations. The exercise also establishes a learning environment for security personnel to exercise functional plans and operational capabilities.

"Citadel Pacific simulates threat scenarios such as active shooters, gate runners and improvised explosive devices so that our personnel are prepared to respond for such events, should they occur onboard our installations,"

said Mark Sinder, Director of Operations for CNIC. "This training approach ensures U.S. Navy security forces maintain a high level of readiness in a dynamic security environment."

CNIC conducts annual force protection exercises at each of its 70 installations, which are distributed across the globe. Citadel Pacific is not in response to any specific threat.

Measures have been taken to minimize disruptions from Citadel Pacific to local communities and normal base operations, but there may be times when the exercise causes traffic congestion or delays at installation gates. Area residents may also see or hear unusual activities associated with the exercise including smoke, simulated gun fire, explosions and Giant Voice announcements. Advanced coordination has taken place with local law enforcement and first responders.

-- From Commander, Navy Installations Command

[Read more, click here](#)

Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike group returns to homeport

The Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group (ABESCG) returned home Aug. 11, marking the end of a seven-month deployment to U.S. 3rd and 7th Fleet area of operations.

The strike group's flagship, Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), arrived at Naval Air Station North Island this morning, while Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruiser USS Mobile Bay (CG 53) and Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer USS Spruance (DDG 111) also arrive at Naval Base San Diego today. USS Gridley (DDG 101) and USS Sampson (DDG 102) return to Naval Station Everett, Wash., today.

After departing their homeport in San Diego, the ABESCG conducted dual carrier operations in the South China Sea with the Carl

Vinson Carrier Strike Group to demonstrate the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command's ability to deliver a powerful maritime force with a combined 14,000 Sailors and Marines.

While underway for 220 days, ABESCG sailed over 65,000 nautical miles conducting deterrence and presence operations and multinational exercises, including maritime security operations, integrated training between surface and air units, long-range maritime strike, anti-submarine warfare, information warfare operations, maritime interdiction operations, personnel recovery, air defense operations, multiple ship navigation, formation maneuvering and refueling-at-sea operations.

-- From USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) Public Affairs

Sale... Or

BOATS/CAMPERS/TRAILERS

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, plus the \$500 towing kit. 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

For Rent: 1BD/1BA furnished apartment; 12 minutes from the base. Perfect for single Sailors. \$500 per month. Call 601-480-1601.

For Rent: 3BD/2BA home with 1 car garage, all new appliances and flooring. 13 miles from NAS. Rent \$1200, security deposit will be half of 1st month

rent. Move in ready June 1st. Call 757-589-2174.

For Rent: Lake Cabin near NAS Meridian. 1 BD/1 BA; \$700 month. Unfurnished. More info and photos can be viewed at: <https://www.facebook.com/marketplace/item/851262408853834/>

For Rent: 2BD/1.5BA single family home in Dalewood - fully renovated. Pets allowed. Pet deposit \$300. \$1,300 rent

per month. Call 973-876-5006.

For Rent: 2BA/1BA on the water at Dalewood \$600 per month. Call 601-683-6038.

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.

MISCELLANEOUS

Service for Hire: Dixie Perfect Lawn LLC, lawn care in Meridian. Call 850-376-4499. Military owned company.

To submit an item to the "Sale...Or" column, e-mail adam.prince@navy.mil. Deadline is the Thursday prior to publication.

Listings in the "Sale...Or" column are free for anyone who works at NAS Meridian. To include your announcement, email adam.prince@navy.mil

Ukrainian forces make some gains in North, South

By David Vergun

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

Ukrainian forces in the north saw some gains in territory recaptured, including areas near Kharkiv, a senior Defense Department official said recently.

In the Ukrainian city of Kherson, Ukraine's forces continue to press hard against the Russians, the official said. As an example, they inflicted damage on bridges used by the Russians.

On Aug. 9, a series of explosions took place at an airbase in Russian-occupied territory. While the United States does not know what caused the explosions, the official said, what is clear is that they caused significant damage to Russian aircraft and munitions used to attack Ukraine.

The Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant in eastern Ukraine is currently under Russian control. According to the International Atomic Energy Agency, there is no immediate threat to nuclear safety, but that could change.



Map of Ukraine

DoD Photo

Russia continues to fire indiscriminately on Ukrainian territory, resulting in massive civilian casualties, the official said.

"That's largely due to the indiscriminate bombing that the [Russian forces] conduct," the official said.

Although the Russians have a significantly larger force than Ukraine, "the things going against the Russians are the continued impacts [of Ukraine's progress] on their morale, their ability to sustain themselves — all of which have been impacted by the Ukrainians' ability to get after [Russian] command and control, ammunition, sustainment and logistics locations," the official said.

The official said that on a scale of zero to 10, the effectiveness of Ukraine's armed forces would be a 12 "just based on how impressive they've been to us in so many different ways. ... They have found ways to do things that we might not have thought were possible."

Awards Quarters



Photo by Adam Prince

From left: NC1 Lorraine Watkins, RP2 Alex Varner, MA1 Craig Palmer, ABE2 Zachery Duerdoth and Michael Mengarelli pose for a group photo during an awards ceremony at Air Operations onboard NAS Meridian, Aug. 17.

A colorful promotional graphic for an event. At the top left is a yellow star. In the top right is the logo for 'The Fleet & Family Support Center'. The main title is 'STEPS FOR SUCCESS' in large white letters, with the subtitle 'Making IEP Meetings Work' in orange. Below that, it says 'REGISTRATION REQUIRED' and 'AUGUST 30TH 10-1130'. The location is 'Fleet and Family Support Center, 405 Rosenbaum Avenue'. It mentions 'Mississippi Parent Training Information - MSPTI will provide this great information.' and 'Call (601) 679-2360 to register.' At the bottom, there are logos for 'mspti PROJECT' and 'EFMP Exceptional Family Member Program'. On the right side, there is a photo of a smiling man with glasses and a bow tie pointing towards the text.

Secret revealed: 'Bowling league was my inspiration'

I've been telling a lie for twenty years and it's finally time to come clean. On my office wall, there's a framed clipping of an essay I wrote about marriage that appeared in *The Washington Post* in 2010. It was the first thing I ever published ... or at least that's what I've been telling everyone.

Truth be told, I'd published before.

But those facts aren't as glamorous as the story about launching my column-writing career after authoring an essay for a huge international publication. So, for the last two decades, I've been lying about it.

But now, in honor of National Bowling Day (August 13), I'm telling the real story about how I became a military spouse columnist. Prepare for the dull, mundane, unremarkable truth.

COLUMN



Molinari

It all started when our military family was stationed in Stuttgart, Germany. I was going through my pathetic post-move-will-you-be-my-friend-stage. Sensing my desperation, an Army wife approached me in our neighborhood on Patch Barracks and asked if I'd join her bowling team. As a Navy wife, I wasn't familiar with Army spouses' bowling leagues, but I would've joined a naked bobsled team if it meant I'd make new friends.

With no bowling knowledge whatsoever, I wrote a check for the league membership fee and joined the team "Great Balls of Fire." However, I soon found out that the mostly-Army wives league members did not take kindly to Navy wives intending to sit around and chit-chat at the bowling alley. Unfortunately, they actually wanted me to bowl ... competitively.

For the first few months, I tried my best, but just couldn't improve my abysmal bowling skills. I wondered, what else could I do to win the approval of league members?

One week, I showed up with an idea and told my teammates. "You know how we're always complaining about packing on pounds from all this heavy German food? And we sit here each week eating nachos and pizza? Well, I have a

fun idea for a league-wide weight-loss competition! Everybody's gonna love it!"

The following week, I announced my new weight-loss contest, which I had cleverly dubbed "B.U.T.T.O.K.S" (Bowlers United To Take Off Kilograms Sensibly) to the league. The plan was simple. My teammate, a registered nurse, would bring a scale and confidentially record and track competitors' weights. Each week, and at the end of the season, weight loss winners would receive prizes. Genius!

I thought the league would hail me as "creative," "witty," and "fun-loving," but I was met with blank stares, defensive scowls, and shaking heads. Now, I was not only a bad bowler, I had just insulted the entire league by implying they all needed to diet.

Too late to turn back, I lobbied a few league members to join the challenge and carried on, bringing healthy recipes each week, and issuing prizes for those who lost pounds.

One month into the contest, I spawned another "brilliant" idea. I'd pitch a story to the base newspaper — *The Stuttgart Citizen* — about our bowling league diet competition, ill-fated as it was. Desperate for content, they agreed, and soon, my first feature appeared

with the headline "Women bowlers sign on for B.U.T.T.O.K.S. challenge."

I'd like to think that the lady bowlers were awed by my mastery of media and my bright future as a journalist, but alas, they were unimpressed. However, the piece did cause excited chatter among the league ladies, who enjoyed reading about themselves in *The Citizen* between bowling turns.

At the end-of-season banquet, I distributed grand prizes to the B.U.T.T.O.K.S. winners while others looked on resentfully. My plan to find my friend group in the bowling league had backfired; however, writing for the tiny base newspaper (not *The Washington Post*) is in fact what originally inspired me to become a columnist.

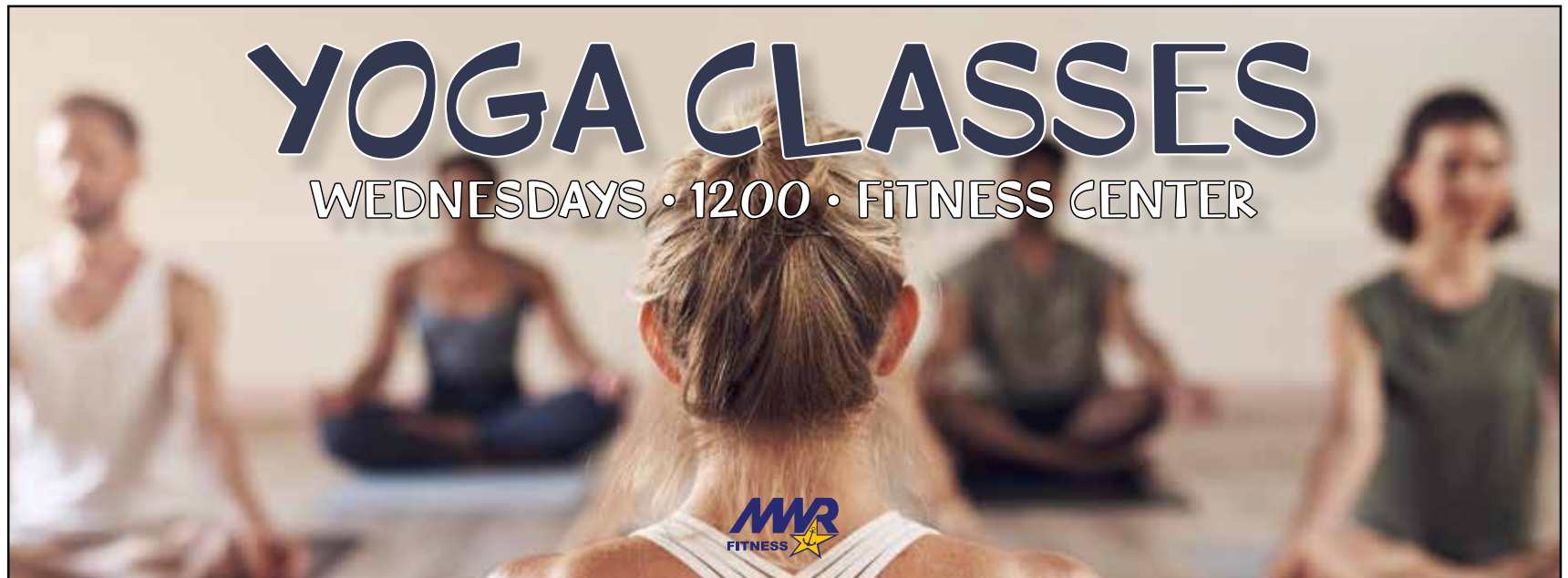
I offer this confession on National Bowling Day to clear my conscience, but while we're getting real, I'll also concede that no matter how many columns I'm inspired to write, the Spouses' Bowling League will never forgive me. Lisa Smith Molinari's self syndicated columns appear on her blog, www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com and she recently co-authored *Stories Around the Table: Laughter, Wisdom, and Strength in Military Life Follow Lisa@MolinariWrites*.



NAS Meridian, MS • Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Facility Phone Numbers

Fitness Center	679-2379	Library	679-2326	MWR Admin.	679-2551
Liberty Center	679-3760	Rudders Pub & Grill	679-2780	MWR Jobs Line	679-2467
Tickets	679-3773	CDC/CDH	679-2652		
McCain Rec Center	679-2651	SAC	679-5252		
Equipment Rental	679-2609	School Liaison	679-2473		



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