

THE SKYLINE



Volume 60, Number 13

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June 23, 2022

NEWS

BYTES

~ Click ~

FDA authorizes 1st COVID-19 shots for infants, preschoolers

~ Click ~

Afghanistan quake kills 1,000 people, deadliest in decades

~ Click ~

President to call for 3-month suspension of gas and diesel taxes

~ Click ~

Rob Gronkowski retires, won't join Tom Brady for 3rd season

WHAT'S INSIDE

~ page 2 ~

NMCRS holds volunteer luncheon

~ page 3 ~

Check out local events on the community calendar



~ page 4 ~

Food Safety

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Teague assumes command of NTTC



Photos by Tom Childress

CDR Karen Teague, left, incoming commanding officer of Naval Technical Training Center Meridian (NTTC), salutes CAPT Robert Stockton, right, Center for Service Support commanding officer, during the change of command ceremony onboard NAS Meridian, June 10. Looking on is CDR Christy Sibley, the outgoing commanding officer of NTTC. Right: NAS Meridian's Ceremonial Detail Team presents colors as the National Anthem is performed during the ceremony. NTTC is the schoolhouse for enlisted service members who report directly from boot camp to learn a specialty in a field supporting the aviation community. Nearly 3,000 Sailors and Marines graduate from the school each year.

MATSS-1 welcomes new CO



Loughman



Harmon

Photos by Adam Prince

Marine Aviation Training Support Squadron One (MATSS-1) is set to change command during a ceremony onboard NAS Meridian, June 24. MAJ Shawn Loughman will relieve MAJ Nathan Harmon.

DOD official touts Sweden, Finland joining NATO

By Jim Garamone

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

A Department of Defense official strongly urged the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to quickly approve the request of Finland and Sweden to join NATO.

"The Department of Defense assesses that Finland and Sweden are ready for NATO membership," Celeste A. Wallander, assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs, said at a Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing.

Finland and Sweden would provide additional security and stability in Europe, Wallander

said. The two Baltic nations already have close bilateral defense relationships with the United States, she said. The two nations also have close working relationships and military interoperability with NATO militaries.

The fact that Sweden and Finland petitioned to join the defensive alliance is a sign of how much the security environment has changed with Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine. Both nations have been partners with NATO for decades, but really saw no need to join the treaty organization.

● NATO, page 4

Senate Defense Authorization Bill halts half of Navy's planned ship retirements

By Mallory Shelbourne

USNI News

Senate authorizers want to stop the Navy from retiring half the ships it planned to decommission next year, according to a summary of the bill.

The Senate Armed Services Committee's Fiscal Year 2023 defense authorization bill would halt the Navy's plans to retire 12 ships, half of the 24 the service proposed decommissioning in its budget request.

Should the upper chamber's bill become law, the Navy would need to keep four Dock Landing Ships, five Littoral Combat Ships, two Expeditionary Transfer Docks and one Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruiser.

The cruiser the Navy would need to keep in service is USS Vicksburg (CG-69), which is nearly finished with a modernization overhaul at BAE Systems Ship Repair in Norfolk, Va. The four LSDs are USS Germantown (LSD-42), USS Gunston Hall (LSD-44), USS Tortuga (LSD-46) and USS Ashland (LSD-48), while the two ESDs are USNS Montford Point (ESD-1) and USNS John Glenn (LSD-2). It's unclear which five LCSs the committee is saving in its bill. The Navy asked to decommission nine LCSs in the FY 2023 budget request.

Asked why the panel is preventing the Navy from retiring some of the ships, committee staff said the vessels still have years of service life left. Staff also noted that the committee included a requirement for 31 amphibious ships, meaning the service would need to keep the LSDs.

The LCSs are young ships, and the cruiser's modernization overhaul is almost complete and would give it more years of service life, according to staff.

The bill follows a similar provision in the House Appropriations defense subcommittee's legislation, which would also mandate the Navy keep five LCSs and allow the service to retire four. Meanwhile, the House Armed Services Committee seapower and projection forces subcommittee's mark of its policy bill would require the Navy keep Vicksburg and the four Whidbey Island-class amphibs.

The SASC bill, which the committee approved on Thursday, authorized a \$45 billion increase to the topline, about half of which will go toward inflation, according to committee staff. The bill authorizes \$858 billion for national defense, including \$817 billion for the Pentagon and \$30 billion for the Department of Energy.

The panel met the Navy's request for ship procurement by authorizing eight battleforce ships: two Virginia-class attack boats, two Arleigh Burke-class destroyers, one Constellation-class frigate, one San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock, one T-AO-205 John Lewis-class oiler and one T-ATS 6 Navajo-class towing, salvage and rescue ship.

CFS Graduation



Photo by Adam Prince

From left: RP2 Michael Halloran, LS1 Craig Forest, MMA1 Christopher Shaw, SGT Lalo Carrillo and ET2 Brandon Ingram pose for a photo after completing the Command Financial Specialist course at Fleet and Family Support Center, June 17.

NMCRS Volunteer Luncheon



Photo by Adam Prince

Sailors and civilians gathered at the Roy M. Wheat Galley for the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) volunteer recognition luncheon, June 14. NMCRS volunteers gave hundreds of hours last year helping Sailors, Marines and their families.

Ranatza Reenlistment



Photo by Adam Prince

CWO5 Mitch Allen, left, NAS Meridian admin officer, present a certificate to ABE2 Nicholas Ranatza during a reenlistment ceremony in the admin building, June 10.

Awards Quarters



Photo by Penny Randall

Several Sailors and one civilian were presented certificates during awards quarters at Air Operations, June 16. Those receiving awards included: ACC Eugene Murphy, AC1 Patrick Kiger, ABE2 Payton Cetrulo, AC2 Stephen Roe, ABE2 Abraham Amoateng, ABE2 Derek Watt, MA3 Matthew Kornegay, MASN Carter Rigggenbach and Daniel Boswell.

Kornegay Reenlistment



Photo by Adam Prince

CDR Jamie Epps, left, NAS Meridian executive officer, present a certificate to MA3 Matthew Kornegay during a reenlistment ceremony in the admin building, June 21.

BEAT THE HEAT

STAY HEALTHY & SAFE THIS SUMMER

Drink water
Stay hydrated & don't wait until you're thirsty.

Wear sunscreen
Apply sunscreen before going outdoors. Reapply every 2 hours.

Avoid peak times
Stay indoors during the hottest time of the day from 10AM - 4PM if possible.

Protect your eyes
Wear sunglasses to protect your eyes from UV rays.

Keep cool
Protect your skin from direct sunlight to prevent sunburn.

Look before you lock
Never leave children or pets inside the car. Protect them from heatstroke.

Seek shade
Use a tree, umbrella or tent to protect you from the sun.

<h2 style="margin: 0;">The Skyline ~ Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss.</h2>		<p>Hotlines & Helpful Numbers SAPR Victim Assistance: 601-604-3037 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 CEAP (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</p>	<p>This DoD newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The Skyline are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or NAS Meridian, Mississippi. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the NAS Meridian Public Affairs Office. The Skyline solicits news contributions from military and civilian sources. It reserves the right to edit material selected for dissemination. The deadline for material is 4:30 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Send submissions to: The Skyline, 255 Rosenbaum Ave., Suite 163, Public Affairs Office, Naval Air Station, Meridian, MS 39309-5003 or e-mail: penny.randall@navy.mil or adam.prince@navy.mil. For more information, call (601) 679-2318 or (601) 679-2809. The appearance of any advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or NAS Meridian of products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.</p>
<p>Command Staff Commanding Officer ~ CAPT Timothy B. Moore Executive Officer ~ CDR Jamie Epps Command Master Chief ~ CMDCM Craig Johnson</p>	<p>Editorial Staff Public Affairs Officer ~ Penny Randall Public Affairs Specialist~ Adam Prince</p>		

Local Happenings

JULY

14-16: Distinguished Young Women of Mississippi from 7-9 p.m. each night at The Evangel Temple. Reserved: Tickets are \$60 (3 nights); \$15-\$20 General Admission. Email Susan Keith at sedk@hotmail.com for more information.

16: Red Hills Horse Show at 10 a.m. at the Lauderdale County Agri-Center. Red Hills Horse Show Association returns to Lauderdale County Agri-Center for its 2022 season. Judges events start at 10 a.m.; Speed events begin at 2 p.m. Free/admission varies; call Sedera at 601-562-5715.

21: Third Thursday in Downtown from 5-8 p.m. at Dumont Plaza. Live Music, Food Trucks, Beverages and Art Exhibitors in Dumont Plaza, Downtown Meridian. Call 601-693-2787.

23: Boz Scaggs at 7:30 p.m. at the MSU Riley Center. It's appropriate that Boz Scaggs' new album is Out of the Blues, since the blues is what first sparked his five-decade musical career. Tickets range from \$55 to \$125; call 601-696-2200.

30: CowKids Youth Rodeo All day event at the Lauderdale County Agri-Center. Cowkids Youth Rodeo, Inc. is a ministry based, non profit organization set out to provide youth with the best opportunity to transform into responsible adults through participating in the sport of rodeo, and all it has to offer at an affordable cost. fees vary; contact cowkidsyouthrodeo@gmail.com.

Special Donation



Photo by Penny Randall

The staff of the NAS Meridian Chapel were recently presented a donation of \$1,251.08 from the American Legion Auxiliary Post 125 in Meridian. The post is disbanding and wanted to give the remainder of their funds to help service members.

Pacific Partnership kicks off in Vietnam

Leaders from Vietnam and Pacific Partnership kicked off the mission during an opening ceremony at Nghinh Phong Square, June 20.

Now in its 17th year, Pacific Partnership is the largest annual multinational humanitarian assistance and disaster relief preparedness mission conducted in the Indo-Pacific.

In Vietnam, the Pacific Partnership 22 team, comprised of representatives from Australia, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States, will work together with their Vietnamese counterparts on a range of activities and projects benefiting the local community in Phu Yen and the people of Vietnam.

"This is a tangible reflection of the spirit of the Pacific Partnership mission: strengthening international ties throughout the Indo-Pacific region and fostering multilateral cooperation and partnership. In short, we are strengthening our growing friendships, like the one we share with Vietnam," said Capt. Hank Kim, Pacific Partnership mission commander.

"Through the Pacific Partnership engagements we have planned together with our Vietnamese colleagues – whether medical engagements, engineering projects, community outreach or band concerts – we are not only getting to know each other better, but also making a lasting impact in local communities."

While in Phu Yen, Pacific Partnership will provide tailored medical, dental care; construct new buildings for Lam Son Primary School, An Ninh Dong, and Phuoc Hau Primary School; and exchange expertise related to disaster response processes and procedures. Additionally, the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band will perform alongside Vietnamese musicians during a variety of community engagements.

"Throughout Pacific Partnership over the next two weeks, participants will share the wealth of each other's experiences and improve the lines of communication needed to work together," Kim said.

-- From Leslie Hull-Ryde

[Read more, click here](#)

Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (M&RA) commemorates Juneteenth

In observance of Juneteenth, the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Manpower and Reserve Affairs (ASN (M&RA)) released a video message from the Department of the Navy's (DON) Chief Diversity Officer Mr. Robert D. Hogue.

"Juneteenth is an opportunity for us to remind ourselves and each other that emancipation came too late for some," said Hogue. "Let us remember those who were enslaved, here and elsewhere, so that we might understand just a sliver of the joy that Juneteenth offers."

While the holiday offers the opportunity to celebrate resilience, resistance, and liberation,

Hogue believes it is important to note that although General Granger spoke in Galveston not just of freedom, but "an absolute equality of personal rights," absolute equality was not immediately realized.

In fact, after nearly 250 years of slavery in America, Juneteenth was followed by brutally enforced segregation, Jim Crow, and legally enforced inequality.

Black Americans still had to fight for their freedom: their right to vote, to hold political office, to pursue education, to hold property, and to ensure their own safety and prosperity.

-- From U.S. Navy

[Read more, click here](#)

Supplanting to take effect at Navy Child Development Centers, School Age Care

In an effort to prioritize childcare access for families with higher needs, the Navy Child and Youth Programs will reinstate supplanting at Child Development Centers and School-Age Care beginning in June.

Supplanting, which is in alignment with Department of Defense (DoD) policy, occurs when a family with higher priorities replaces a family with lower priority from childcare with adequate notice.

"Childcare is a workforce issue that directly impacts the efficiency, readiness and retention of the total force," explained Maryann Coutino, director of Navy Child and Youth Programs, which is managed by Commander, Navy Installations Command. "The

Navy recognizes the importance of providing service members and families with access to quality childcare services."

Supplanting was paused during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Now that operations at Child Development Centers and School-Age Care programs are returning to normal operations, the Navy is re-implementing supplanting in order to prioritize childcare needs as required by DoD policy starting this month for fleet concentration areas with long waitlists. In July, the remaining Navy installations will implement supplanting.s.

-- From Commander, Navy Installations Command Public Affairs

[Read more, click here](#)

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

New! 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

New! 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

2021 Annual Consumer Confidence Report

Water Quality Report
Naval Air Station, Meridian
229 Allen Road Meridian, MS 39309, Lauderdale County
MSDH PWS ID # 0380026

June 8, 2022

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) for the consumers of Naval Air Station (NAS), Meridian. This report is designed to provide details about the quality of your water, where it comes from, what it may contain. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water is within the specifications, as set forth by the Mississippi State Department of Health. We are continually striving to improve the water treatment process and to protect our water resources.

Our water comes from three wells sourced by the Wilcox Aquifer. Our source water assessment has been conducted and is available at this time and copies of this assessment are available at our office. We want to keep you informed and up to date, about the water quality and service we provide. If you would like to learn more about this report or have any concerns about the quality of your water, please contact: William D. Chisolm or Merrilu Hurtt at (601) 679-2151, 0600-1630 Monday thru Friday. Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) and the Certified Operators of NAS Meridian routinely monitors for 86 different contaminants, in accordance with Federal and State laws and regulations. The 2021 Water Quality Data Table on page 2, provides the results of our water quality sample testing conducted for contaminants between January - December 2021, or as required by MSDH. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. The Water Quality Data Table, on page 2, contains monitored contaminants in which detectable levels were reported. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic compounds or chemicals, and radioactive substances.

All sources of drinking water, both tap water and bottle water, including rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or manmade, such as microbes, organic, or inorganic compounds or chemicals, etc... at least some contaminants are expected to naturally occur in trace amounts. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (1) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; (2) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; (3) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; (4) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; (5) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. However, some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population, such as, immune-compromised persons with cancer or undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections, and may need to seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. More information about any contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). In addition, EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines are available on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants through the Safe Water Drinking Hotline.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Deputy Public Works Officer - (601) 679-3940 or Maintenance Supervisor - (601) 679-2530. We ask that all our consumers help us preserve and protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.



Sincerely,
Britt Cooper
Deputy Public Works Officer
Water Plant Owner of Record

[Read more, click here](#)

● NATO

Obut Putin's invasion of Ukraine caused a seismic shift in public opinion in both countries, and the legislatures of both countries quickly debated and ratified a motion to join the 30-nation alliance.

Both Finland and Sweden are ready to contribute to alliance defense now, Wallander said. Finland maintains general conscription and has a well-manned and trained reserve that can be called up quickly, which is imperative since Finland shares a long border with Russia.

"Finland's location on the Baltic Sea, diplomatic experience with Russia and advanced capabilities make it an asset to the alliance," she said. "Finland spends more than 2 percent of its [gross domestic product] on defense, and possesses unique military capabilities and expertise, particularly operating in the arctic environment."

Sweden's accession into NATO would bring "a first rate and rapidly growing military with a principled foreign policy that ardently defends democracy and human rights," Wallander said.

Sweden also maintains a world class defense industry. Sweden's "military expertise in the Arctic and undersea environments would substantially advance alliance capabilities," she said.

Sweden already has interoperability with NATO forces. The kingdom became a NATO Partnership for Peace member in 1994, and a NATO enhanced opportunities partner in 2014.

"Sweden has contributed to or supported NATO missions in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iraq, Kosovo and Libya," she said.

Finally, Wallander said both nations "are thriving democracies that share our values and fit the ideals of the North Atlantic Treaty."



What is summertime to children? Parents?

Summer has arrived. This season of sunshine and warm weather is a favorite for many; however, the emotions, associations and experiences conjured by the onset of summer are different for children and their parents.

The first thing that summertime brings to a child's mind is, "School's out!" Almost three whole months of summer break stretches out before kids like an eternity, with no scratchy clothes, no busses, no homework, no lunch trays, no scary vice principals. Only comfy shorts and shirts printed with blue sharks or pink unicorns, worn with flip flops. Popsicles and Sno-Cones. Orange tongues. Sticky fingers.

Sunny days at the community pool. Swim lessons. Whistling lifeguards that are scary, but also kinda cool. Double dares on the diving board. Floating Band-Aids and dead bugs. Blue

COLUMN



Molinari

lips and goggle marks. Concession stands. Not being able to swim for a half hour after lunch because Mom doesn't want you to get cramps. Seeing rainbows around lights on the way home.

Special trips. Long car rides. "Are we there yet?" Lunch at Cracker Barrel. Crayons and paper placemats. Too many French fries. Throwing up on Route 95. Motel pools and mouse ears. Hot dogs and pizza slices. Blue raspberry slushes with whipped cream on top. Roller coasters and log rides. Throwing up in the parking lot.

Hot, lazy afternoons back home with nothing to do. Fans whirring. Dogs panting. Bees buzzing. Dandelion bouquets for Mom. Lying in the hammock with Dad.

Goofing off in line at local soft serve joints. Rainbow sprinkles. Chasing moths that circle the lights. Dropped napkins and dripping ice cream. Wondering, "Why would anyone order a cup when they can get a cone?"

Scooters and bikes in the cul-de-sac at dusk. Stubbed toes, scraped knees and salty tears. Fireflies, fire pits, and flaming marshmallows. Dirty fingernails. Warm baths. Soft pajamas. The feeling of being carried to bed, eyes closed, draped over a parent's shoulder. Dreaming of

peg-legged pirates and mermaid princesses.

For parents summer is a welcome change from the school year grind, too, but it's not necessarily a break from responsibilities like it is for kids. Camp registration forms must be filled out. Summer leagues must be joined. Car pools must be arranged. Grass must be cut. Vacation weeks must be planned. New bathing suits must be tried on in harshly-lit department store dressing rooms with unforgiving fun-house mirrors. Dog sitters must be arranged. Cumbersome window air-conditioners must be carried up basement stairs. Sunscreen must be applied, and re-applied, then re-applied again.

Summertime is also the season of packing for parents. Packing towels, sunglasses, hats, swim shirts, water bottles, goggles, floaties, toys, and a book just in case you get a break while the kids are swimming. Packing clean clothing for sleep away camp — labeled clearly with kids' names — along with bug spray, first aid kits, asthma inhalers, and a dozen pages of signed release forms and emergency contact paperwork, knowing that all (with the exception of missing socks and the addition of someone else's shorts) will come back in a week needing to be washed. Packing the car with kids, suitcases, board games, boogie boards,

coolers, fishing poles, favorite blankets, Dramamine, extra sets of keys, and a "tinkle jar" just in case the rest area is too far away.

Parents work hard throughout the year, and summertime is no exception. However, summer offers its special brand of joys to those parents willing to carve out time to enjoy them.

Sneaking a nap in the sun while Dad watches the kids swim. Ripe watermelon slices. The glint of sea glass along the shore. Dandelions in a cup on the kitchen windowsill. The aroma of freshly-cut lawns, blooming jasmine, smokey barbecues. The bursting sweetness of hot, buttered corn on the cob. The feeling of sand between your toes. Finding a shell in your pocket. Lawn chairs in the back yard with neighbors. The crisp bite of cold beer. Watching your children's upturned faces flash with color and wonder at fireworks cascading in the night sky.

Carrying your sleeping child, warm, weighty and fulfilled, off to bed, to dream of peg-legged pirates and mermaid princesses.

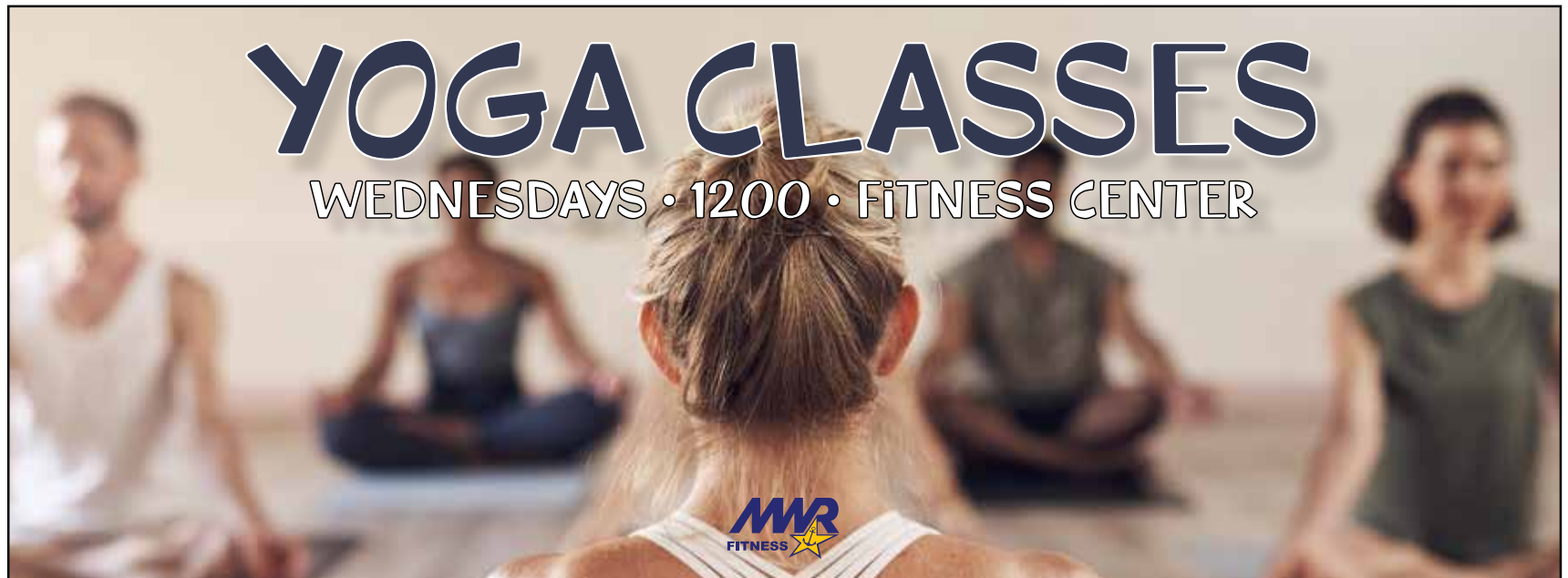
Lisa Smith Molinari's self syndicated columns appear on her blog, www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com and she recently co-authored *Stories Around the Table: Laughter, Wisdom, and Strength in Military Life* Follow Lisa@MolinariWrites.



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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DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT
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