PAGE 12 **HOLMES** COUNTY THURSDAY, JULY

We met in the Baltic region

ready seen with his invasions

of Ukraine and the Republic

stopped from further aggres-

sion, but America cannot

Our NATO allies nearest

ald Trump is correct to say

tary spending. This comes at

a pivotal moment in Euro-

## THE WICKER REPORT By: United States Senator Roger Wicker

# **Wicker Underscores America's NATO Security Commitments**

A U.S. Congressional Hearing in Poland

As Co-Chairman of the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, because the greatest threat I recently convened the first- to stability in Europe now ever foreign field hearing in comes from Vladimir Putin's the organization's 43-year Russia, just 80 miles east of history. That hearing took Gdansk. The fall of the Soviet place in Gdansk, Poland, a Union brought a welcome city made tragically famous wave of freedom for millions when Hitler launched World of Europeans, but Mr. Putin War II by attacking it in 1939. has described that event as

Our hearing included seven the "greatest geopolitical caof my colleagues from the tastrophe of the [20th] cen-House and Senate. Together, tury." It is clear he wants to we underscored America's restore Russian imperialism mutual NATO commitments through force, as we have althat keep the peace today.

Those commitments advance our country's interests of Georgia. Putin should be and have fostered unprecedented freedom and economic growth since the end counter threats alone. of the Second World War. As Lt. General Stephen M. Twit- to Russia need to act in their ty, Deputy Commander of own defense. President Don-United States Europe Command, said at the hearing, they have become too depen-"The United States is safer dent on our strength and to when Europe is prosperous call on them to increase miliand stable."

Countering Russia's

tary professionals testified during the hearing that the area is more dangerous now than it was only a few years ago. I have been encouraged to see our partners grow their armed forces in light of this worsening security situation. They need to do more.

These actions will bolster every member of the alliance, not just the Europeans. It is important to remember NATO benefits America as well. The only time the organization's collective-selfdefense clause has ever been used was on September 12, 2001, after the terrorist attacks on this country.

pean history, as our own mili-

#### A Stable Funding Stream for Our Troops

However, the greatest force behind NATO's collective security guarantee will always be the United States of America. Our nation's military is the strongest in the world, and maintaining that edge over potential adversaries requires full congressional support.

Members from both sides of the aisle understand this. Providing for the common defense is typically one of the most bipartisan processes in Washington. To avoid the military budget uncertainty of

# Judging of the Dairy



The 2019 Holmes County Dairy Products Judging Team scored victory at the recent Northwest 4-H Project Achievement Day in Moorhead. Team members are (pictured from left): Lawson Nichols, Jordan Brooks, Hanna Hood and Wyatt Nichols. Presenting their award is (at right) Cobie Rutherford, MSU Extension 4-H Specialist. Nichols was also awarded the high point award in the contest and Brooks earned a first place blue ribbon for his Meat Goat Visual Presentation in a separate contest.

(Photo submitted)

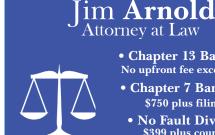
and the president need to take action in the next few weeks. Recent continuing resolutions and government shutdowns have actually wasted defense dollars. They also put a halt to military manufacturing, such as new aircraft, radars, the last few years, Congress and the shipbuilding we do

then-Secretary Mattis once lies and the rest of the world said, during continuing resolutions, "We actually lose and strength. Gdansk saw the ground." If America loses opening shots of the most deground militarily, the world becomes a more dangerous

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so well in Mississippi. As an important signal to our alabout American engagement structive war in history. It is quiet today because our country and our allies learned from Our hearing in Poland was the hard lessons of the past.

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